LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of TEXAS

1212 GUADALUPE • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

SEPTEMBER 1976

STATE BOARD REPORT

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This issue does not contain a report on the Education Fund

- REPORT ON THE EDUCATION FUND

Betty Anderson (Mrs. John A.)
President
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. Q.
Administration
President's Letters

MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT

When the state board met September 14-16, we recognized that the League fall schedule is a challenging one--to say the least. Many activities are being organized which relate to local, state, and national happenings, but we hope that you will take time from your busy schedules and read the State Board Report (SBR) so that you will be familiar with the full scope of the work of the League.

A large part of the board's attention was directed toward planning for the 65th session of the Texas Legislature. Entertaining the legislators, preparing for lobbying and studying proposed legislation were thoroughly discussed by both committees and the total board. We urge you to attend the regional Lobby Learn-Ins November 8, 12, 16, 17, and 20. Check Barbara Nobles' report for details. Also, your help with legislative interviews and other pertinent information is invaluable to the legislative director and the Capitol Corps. Be clipping articles about future legislators for the state legislative files. We especially need information on new legislators. Contributing to our information on the League's top priority, property tax reform, was Rep. Wayne Peveto, (D-Orange), who came to the board meeting to discuss the bill his committee is drafting to recodify the state property tax. Any local information you gain on this important issue should be sent to Jan Wilbur.

Related to all our membership concerns is the inescapable fact that unwavering attention must be given to getting and keeping members. We are pleased to announce that Kathy Leabo will be joining the organization core of the state board as Organization Specialist. Kathy is a past state public relations vice president and is currently adviser to the Provisional LWV of Eastern Bell County. Her experience and organizational "knack" are enthusiastically welcomed. Diana Tilley, who joined the board this summer, has spent the last few months in the print shop--and received her "initiation by fire." We urge you to utilize the attractive, informative publications being released. Let's not hide them under a bushel (or bed).

Water, Water Everywhere--Thanks for your contributions to the forums being held around the state on Texas water planning. The timing leaves much to be desired, but we appreciate your adding this to your busy schedules. Many Leagues are scheduling meetings to explain our opposition to Amendment #1 and the maintenance of our support for comprehensive water planning. We have joined the group called "Texans for Clean Water, Amendment #2", the water enhancement amendment. Please cooperate in supporting this amendment in your communities. For more information, read and share the enclosed brochures. If the amendment passes, the state will be authorized to issue an additional $100 million (most of the current $100 million fund has been expended) for water quality (sewage treatment) plant construction.

The Safe Drinking Water task force (Project Safewater), directed by Bobette Higgins, has prepared excellent materials which are being distributed to the other nine states involved in the project--because the national project director felt they were so well done. We hope you will help us spread the word about the Safe Drinking Water Act later this fall. Remember that name: PROJECT SAFEWATER.

Attorney General John Hill will keynote the Criminal Justice Conference, co-sponsored by the LWV-Texas Education Fund and the Dallas County Community College District. Carole Shlipak and Anne Pfaff are co-directing the conference which will be held at

El Centro College in Dallas, Thursday, November 11. Diana Clark is program consultant. The program is excellent, and we are very excited about the event; it can be a real bonus for the participants and the League.

State board members have been on the road--in addition to the state board members' annual visits for consultative services with local Leagues. Lucinda Headrick has been to Abilene and Plano speaking on water issues. Bobette Higgins has travelled to Dallas and Gainesville to speak to local Leagues as well as going to Coastal Management Program (CMP) hearings all over the state. Bobette's testimony to the General Land Office on the CMP was very well received September 1. Jan Wilbur is speaking to the Brazos Co. League on property tax reform. Fumi Sugihara testified before the Special Subcommittee on Presidential Primary Systems of the House Committee on Elections, September 24. I will be in Waco October 7 to speak during Baylor's Political Awareness Week, and then will be in the state office October 8-10.

Thanks for the great response to our appeal for funds for Texans for ERA. To date, $294.41 has been collected. We appreciate it!

Essentially, the September meeting laid the groundwork for this fall's work, as we head toward another session of the Legislature and Convention '77. We hope to hear from you about budget suggestions, program ideas, actions taken and bylaws changes. Please let Ethel Sturgis or a member of the budget committee (see the most recent President's Letter) know your ideas about state League income and expenditures. This committee will be meeting the last week of October. The vice-presidents and I will be meeting October 27 at Meg Titus' in Plano.

We do hope to hear from you.

Betty Anderson

P.S.: Please note in your files: Kathy Leabo, Org. Specialist

[redacted]

Change of address: Mary Ellen Salinas, President, Edinburg-McAllen LWV

[redacted]

Meg Titus (Mrs. D. L.)
Program Vice-Pres., Nat. Resources Coord.
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II.
Program

PROGRAM MAKING--If your local League wishes to propose new study items or amend wording of present items for consideration of Convention delegates in April, the following steps should be taken during October and November: (and on into January)

1) Criteria for choosing program should be reviewed. They are:
   A. Is the issue one on which state governmental action is needed?
   B. Does this issue fall within League principles?
   C. Is the issue important enough to inspire League interest and commitment?
   D. Will the timing permit the League to be effective?
2) Present program should be reviewed (see We Support and State Program for specifics).
3) Decide whether all items should be continued or if any should be amended or dropped.
4) Decide if any items should be studied further.
5) Study and discuss the program-making information and proposals from state program chairs that will be sent with the October third-Friday mailing to each LL president. PLEASE INCLUDE THAT INFORMATION IN YOUR NEXT VOTER in order that there can be membership discussion and local board evaluation of these proposals during November and December.
6) Notify me of your League's proposed changes, new study items or wording changes for further study by January 10th.

The state program committee will suggest program changes or additions based on your Jan. 10th reports. These will be considered by total state board at the January board meeting. Information on these state board decisions on recommended and non-recommended program items will then be sent to all local Leagues by March 7, 1977--six weeks prior to State Convention. The convention delegates will at that time consider and vote on adoption of these various proposed program items.

PROGRAM UPDATE KIT--State program chairs are preparing lists of important publications relating to each item in program. These lists will be included, along with We Support and State Program, in a Program Update Kit for provisional and new LLs. These will be sent to you with the October third-Friday state office mailing.

STATE PROGRAM--Each state program chair is writing an amplification of the positions under that portfolio with a new focus--the next legislative session as it relates to our program priorities. These single amplification sheets can easily be added to our three-hole-punched new publication, State Program, A Historical Perspective. This loose-leaf approach should make it easier to update information without pitching out the whole publication. These amplification papers will be included with the November third-Friday state office mailing.

Legislative Lobby Corps--I plan to meet with Barbara Nobles and her Capitol Corps the first week in October in Austin to develop legislative strategies, plan the Legislative Newsletter, and discuss the functioning of the legislative office and our communication network during the session, and-of course-the five regional Lobby Learn-Ins. If you have ideas or suggestions for making our efforts during the session run more smoothly please write to Barbara or me. In the meantime, utilize the issue-oriented legislative questions(sent out last month to LL presidents and in DPMs and Standing Orders this month) at candidates' meetings--large or small, informal or formal--and help our legislative chair build her pre-session files by sending Barbara the candidates' responses.

International Relations--Joan Kyre, our new off-board IR state chair, is preparing two 30-minute video taped programs on two aspects of the UN that we'll be studying this year: the US in the UN, and the Economic Issues. These will be suitable for use at unit meetings or small general meetings in preparation for our April 15th member agreement deadline. Details later concerning when they will be available. In the meantime, check your library or local corporate offices for video tape equipment that you might

borrow. You'll need to find access to one of these as we hope to have more video-taped program material for you later in the year.

Natural Resources--Will all LL presidents please send me the names and addresses of all your on and off board NR-related chairs as soon as possible, as we are hoping to receive a grant to expand both the content and the mailing list of Environotes. We hope to be able to direct-mail it to each Leaguer in the state with an NR portfolio. Would your League like to have us try to do a similar publication for updating your information on Human Resources items?

Convention--We're planning a smashing program workshop showing new techniques for handling program. Start making plans now to come to Fort Worth in April.

I'm concerned--Indeed, we're all concerned that several local Leagues are having guilt feelings about not taking part in all consensus (consensi?). Please don't berate your League or yourself, if you haven't done all of them. Just remember that we must have enough program study items to keep members interested and large Leagues busy. Relax and enjoy studying the ones your League feels it can handle.

Jan Wilbur (Mrs. Robert O.)
FSG/PSF/PTR Director
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 2.
Program
PTR/PSF/FSG

PTR/PSF/FSG

In June, we held a PTR workshop in Houston to which LWVs from Beaumont to Austin to Waco to Victoria were invited. In spite of vacations and sometimes short notice, 32 persons attended representing eight Leagues. We would like to have more. Please contact us if your LWV is interested in hosting a PTR workshop (funding would have to be worked out). Regional Legislative Workshops, scheduled for November, will devote some time to learning how to lobby for PTR. We hope they will be well attended.

PTR at the local level--Dallas zeroed in on PTR for their September units as did Houston--with emphasis on ACTION. Pearland has chosen PTR as the state item to which they will devote December, January, and February. Brazos Co. has invited me to speak (Sen. Bill Moore may be on the same program) and to tape a 30-minute TV show on October 27. Orange has scheduled two meetings and a public forum on PTR during October. The topic for Irving's Inform-a-Day, October 19, will be PTR. To date, 25 LWVs have named their PTR specialists. Material will be sent to the PTR specialists within the next two weeks.

Tentative plans for a PTR Forum in Austin in December have been shelved so that we can devote more time and effort to lobbying before the Legislature convenes in January.

Be watching for: Rep. Wayne Peveto anticipates that his Property Tax Subcommittee will finish the bill re-codifying property tax laws by mid-November. He hopes to have hearings around the state between then and January

The Houston POST, Sept. 19, 1976, reports that Comptroller Bob Bullock (along with the Texas House Ways and Means Committee and "some Texas senators") will hold a series of 16 "Texas tax forums" in 16 cities to "give irate citizens a chance to sound off about the state tax structure so Bullock can work up any necessary legislation before the session...".

FYI--There is a toll-free number for the Comptroller's office: [redacted]

Zero-Base Budgeting (ZBB)--Enclosed in LL presidents' packets is a copy (one per League) of a paper, The Budget - A State's Real Operating Plan, done by a consultant group at the request of the General Land Office. The paper looks at ZBB as a part of the overall budget process in Texas and points out what the authors consider to be weaknesses and/or misplaced responsibility in the process. We hope you will find this of interest. We did.

Fumi Sugihara (Mrs. Thomas)
Director, Voting Rights, Election Laws
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 3.
Program-Vertical
Voting Rights

Stage Center: County Election Administration Bill

This legislation (see September State VOTER) will be the focus of our efforts as far as election law is concerned. The McBee bill now satisfies most of our criteria for election administration, but we will have to be alert for weakening amendments introduced in committee and on the floor. A great deal will depend on your talking the bill up with your legislators before the session and making them aware of the importance of consolidating voter registration and elections functions into a single office under the direction of a capable person who can devote full attention to these matters. It is also essential that you try to get the active support of county officers, especially the tax assessor-collector, the county clerk, and the members of the county commissioners court, for this legislation. At least, try to get their opinions about how these proposals would affect your county, and send these comments to me. Remind them that the bill was drafted with the help of representatives of their state associations.

Waiting for a Cue:

The faithful adherents of recodification and revision of the election code are looking for the elements that would help this legislation survive the first act. League suggestions have been circulated to legislative staffs, and the responses have been favorable. Interest in eliminating the signature from the ballot stub is still fairly high in spite of the setback in federal court. We may be supporting one or more related bills on the subject. It is too early, however, to predict what our strategy would be.

Presidential Primary Elections

No, we do not have a position on presidential primaries, and I said so at the hearing on the subject on Sept. 24. I did stress, though, two things that were evident in the primaries this year: lack of training of the election judges and clerks, and lack of understanding of the system by the average voter.

If, as individuals, you have some comments to make on the presidential primary system as it was this year or as it should or should not be in the future, you should write to Rep. Sarah Weddington, chair of the subcommittee, or to the committee members: Reps. Lance Lalor, Susan McBee, Pike Powers, and Luther Jones. I personally think that if this system is to be made permanent, legislation must be passed at this coming session, so that there will be adequate time for voter education before the next presidential election year.

Attention: Voting Rights and Voter Service Chairs:

I have just seen the film strips produced by the Secretary of State's office for use in training election judges, clerks, and pollwatchers. A set will be sent to each county clerk in the state beginning October 1. Although they are not perfect, they are potentially a major step in providing uniform training of election personnel throughout the state. You can borrow them from the county clerk for your own training schools, League-produced television programs, or for updating your membership on election procedures. Be sure to preview them so that you will be able to respond to the questions that will result.

That election calendar for the November 2, 1976 election (compiled by the Secretary of State's office) sent to you recently was intended to help you in answering questions from the public. It can also be used to check on whether or not election procedures are being executed on time in your county.

TOLL-FREE NUMBERS FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE:

For voter registration information and supplies: [redacted]

For information about election laws or complaints: [redacted]

Joan Kyre (Mrs. Martin)
International Relations, Off-board
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
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II. B. 1. d.
Program
IR - UN

UNITED NATIONS

We are planning a rather ambitious project which hopefully will aid you in the international relations study concerning the United Nations. Our aim is to prepare two half-hour video tapes which could be used either in committee planning or unit meetings. One tape would concentrate upon the economic proposals of the developing nations and what we can do or should do in the way of expanding or refining League positions in the area of trade and aid. The other would involve a fresh look at the UN as an international governing body. Should we limit the expansion of our participation in various bodies of its system? Would placing conditions on American support help? Among the proposals for changing the UN system, are there any that the United States should support as being both desirable and achievable?

If you have access to a video tape player and if this type of program would be useful to your League, we would like to know as soon as possible. Please fill in the blank below.

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Carole Shlipak (Mrs. Louis)
Director, Development
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. I.
Administration-Development

1. Criminal Justice Conference - Plans for our Criminal Justice Conference are underway! It is being co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund (LWV/TEF) and the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD). The one-day conference, focusing on criminal justice bills coming before the legislature next session, will be held at El Centro College in downtown Dallas. The DCCCD is providing facilities, certain services, and payment for designated conference expenditures. Attorney General John Hill will be the keynote speaker, and all League members are invited to attend. Date and time: Thursday, November 11, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

2. Contributions - The Leland Fikes Foundation, a Dallas-based foundation, has contributed $5,000 to the TEF as an unrestricted contribution. $1500 has been designated as the LWV/Dallas share of the contribution. We are thrilled with this contribution.

3. Prospects - suggestions for state development calls are coming in on a regular basis from local Leagues. Don't forget to send your prospect suggestion.

4. Development Committee members - I am delighted to have the talents and expertise of Cynthia Biasca, LWV/Houston; Anne Dickson, LWV/Dallas; and Donna Green, LWV/Austin as members of the Development Committee.

5. Special Recognition to the following local Leagues which have added that "extra effort" to their finance campaigns:

LWV/Houston - for securing a $6700 grant from HEW to produce an environmental resource planning symposium, and a $2500 contribution from Shell Companies Foundation for a massive Get Out the Vote drive this fall.

LWV/Victoria - for an excellent finance campaign that included professional-looking brochures, printed envelopes, and business cards for solicitors.

LWV/Abilene - for a well-planned campaign, using excellent brochures and a positive attitude.

P.S. If you are interested in fuller details, write the above-listed local Leagues.

6. Now is the time to begin planning your 1977 Finance Campaign. Fund-raising experts stress that 80% of your time should be spent in thorough planning, and 20% in actual soliciting. Why? Because sound planning brings results! Start now!

Diana Clark (Mrs. Winthrop A.)
Director - Administration of Justice
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 1.
Administration of Justice

Administration of Justice

As a result of responses to my query in the May Board Report from a number of local leagues asked that the consensus questions proposed at that time be refined and expanded to include some which would relate to the proposals being recommended by Governor Briscoe and discussed by the Speaker's Task Force on Crime and its Control.

One reason for the delay of the materials was in developing information about these proposals from various sources. Included in the Leaders Guide supplement, enclosed in this mailing, are parts of the preliminary drafts of some of this legislation. Please consider these as working papers only, not final drafts, which will not be available until November at the earliest.

The State Board (and I) fully recognize the limitations on time and study by local leagues on the criminal justice subject. We are acutely aware of the problems inherent in attempting to react to current events with some consensus questions on narrow issues rather than on broad concepts. We project presenting for your consideration at the State Convention in April, a revised statement of positions on criminal justice concepts that will incorporate present and future consensus into a broader philosophy of change in the criminal justice system in Texas; a philosophy within which we can work on specific problems both in the legislature and with state agencies, but which will give the league more flexibility in influencing upcoming events.

Candidly, the inclusion of a juvenile justice study with the adult system, both to be covered in a two year period, has created problems unforseen at the time. In order to do justice (no pun intended) to the adult system, it has required local league members to absorb an overwhelming amount of information (not to mention the state board director!). in too short a time period. It is most unusual to have two 8 page Facts and Issues and 26 consensus questions within a year's time, and I am the first to recommend we never do it again. However, we believe that it is necessary to understand the complex and detailed criminal justice system before we take positions and I, for one, do not regret the time and work involved. I am much heartened by most of your expressions of enthusiasm about the subject and I am proud of the interesting and innovative things many of you have been doing in your communities. We will be an important citizen voice in the upcoming legislative session on our criminal justice concerns, and in the future we hope to be an initiator of proposals rather than reactors to those proposed by others.

Juvenile Justice

FLASH _ Local leagues have the option to extend the Juvenile Justice consensus deadline to October 15, 1977. The reason for having a May deadline was to complete the study within the original 2 year time period.

After consultation, I discovered that it would be possible to extend the deadline if the material was in hand by local leagues prior to the end of the program biennium.

The material will be coming to you as outlined in the Guide to Calendar planning - a Leaders Guide and Facts and Issues in January, a VOTER supplement in March. and those leagues who have already scheduled meetigs have the option of having them in the spring or postponing them until September. (One reason for the stretch-out was our discovery that some leagues were not doing the adult justice - courts, trials and sentencing because of the juvenile study.)

The Juvenile Justice Task Force (the Speaker is not the only one to have a "task force") is has been working hard all through the summer and will have a bibliography ready for you in late fall. There will also be a questionnaire for local leagues to use in interviews with juvenile officials. With the questionnaire will come a request for the answers to the questions to be returned to the committee. Results will be tabulated and recirculated to local leagues.

Lucinda Headrick
Director, Water & Solid Waste
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. g.
Program - Water

WATER

First of all-I've got to say--you all are doing an absolutely terrific job gearing up for the election on the amendments. Your VOTERS are crammed with info and announcements of special meetings on the water bond amendments. Some of you have done an outstanding job educating your local news media. (Enclosed in the mailing to the LL Presidents is a samp le press release you might want to take to the local newspaper and TV). So--RIGHT ON!

PUBLIC FORUMS

FLASH-------Note change of dates & times for Ft. Worth & Dallas area:

Dallas	Oct. 5	7:00 p.m.	Dallas Hilton, Embassy Room
Mid-Cities	Oct. 6	2:00 p.m.	Arlington Rodeway Inn, Hwy. 360
	(Presidential Debate wins out)		
Ft. Worth	Oct. 22	7:00 p.m.	Hilton Inn, Times Sq. Room

Reports are coming in from the few that have been held to date. The format seems to be: James Rose (Exec. Dir. of TWDB) gives a slide show and PR for TWDB water development projects. It is inferred that the work must go on and that financing is necessary. He does not mention Amendment No. 1. When opposition does bring it up, he trys to claim the Nov. 2 money is for "more of the same"--not the water plan. But then later he twists and does mix it all up....Get the picture? No doubt about it. The Public Forums are not for water planning. They are to push for approval (with free publicity) of Amendment No. 1. Even the TWDB hand-outs imply this push.

Now--League Strategy-- Everyone attendgng the forums has a position. These people are not the ones we are trying to reach. We want the press to pick up our cry. Go ahead and stress the League's SUPPORT of comprehensive statewide water planning (refer to previous Action Alert.) However, make sure we state our OPPOSITION to Amendment #1 and SUPPORT of Amendment #2. Stress the "blank check" idea. Why should we sign on Nov 2 a blank check before the plan has been completed and presented to the people?

Tid Bits--Galveston LWV made a short, snappy statement which made the front page, versus the Sierra's long and involved one. They even "thanked" the TWDB for giving them the opportunity to publicly voice opposition to No. 1--and invited them back later when the plan is ready!

Have several copies of your statement to hand out to the press and TV (and send me a copy. I'm getting terrific ideas from you!)

Remember to be proud. The League is a credible organization. We stick to the facts and our opposition knows it. They are worried!

FYI AND CLARIFICATION

1. Our position paper is holding firm. As soon as the press obtained it, the TWDB suddenly announced Palmetto Bend is a transfer basin. They changed. We can document their earlier denials.

2. An Austin news column is making the rounds stating that eventually the General Revenue Fund will be paid back. That is not necessarily true. There is no law that forces repayment of a previous call on the General Revenue Fund. If revenues from water projects do come in. the principal and interest are paid to the Texas Water Development Bonds Interest and Sinking Fund. Any profits (which TWDB makes from

charging communities higher interest) goes into the Texas Water Development Fund which is a revolving fund. Get all that?

3. Watch out for statements saying "bonds have all been paid back on reservoirs in 1961-2-3, etc--therefore we support No. 1..." It was not until 1967 that the TWDB began having to dip into the General Revenue Fund.

4. This summer the State Auditor officially released the figure of $26,200,634.08 as the amount the TWDB has taken from the General Revenue Fund to meet its current debt service requirements on Water Development Fund bonds. The Comptroller's office estimates this figure is to rise to $36 million by the end of this fiscal year.

REMEMBER--CALL, WRITE, SEND PIGEON--IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, A PROBLEM OR A JOY TO SHARE (AND WE'RE GETTING SOME TOO!).

KEEP THEM CLIPPINGS COMIN'

- -

Progress Report on PROJECT SAFEWATER Bobette Higgins, Project Director

Funded by a grant to the LWVEF from the EPA, an eleven-member task force, made up of Leaguers from all over the state, has been working like beavers all summer on some really excellent plans for a public information campaign blitz on the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974.

We met in Dallas in August for an all-day session and again in September in Austin for 2 1/2 days of intensive gettin'-it-together. Jean Anderson, EQ chair, LWVEF, and Fern Summer, SDWA Project Director at the national level, joined us.

We are having a letterhead designed with our own special PROJECT SAFEWATER logo, on which we will print several fact sheets concerning the SDWA, sample press releases, how-to information for holding successful meetings, promotional flyers, letters to specially affected groups (farmers, ranchers, mobile home operators, etc.). A slide show (with six copies) will be available, as will PSA announcements for TV and radio stations. Samples of all printed material will be included in a packet (also specially designed for the project) to be distributed to local Leagues and any interested organization, school, or group, to assist them in organizing public meetings. In this way we hope to help inform our largely-unaware state of the ramifications of this most important act. We'll send you this material as soon is it is available, and you may order as many extra copies of any of the various fact sheets, etc., as you wish, at no charge, for distribution at meetings (as long as supplies last). You might want to start lining up prospective program locations now. Plan on having material by the latter part of October.

Incidentally, Texas' program material was approved before any of the other state League awarded similar grants (10 in all) and was distributed to them as examples of "how-to-do-it-right." We've had beautiful cooperation from the state agencies involved, and from our regional EPA office in Dallas. I think you'll be proud of the results.

Thanks to the task force, whose superb diligence and cooperation got the job done, and thanks to the EPA for making it possible.

Barbara Nobles (Mrs. Donald)
Legislative Director
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

LEGISLATIVE

* SEE THE MAY '76 STATE BOARD REPORT

The five regional Lobby Learn-In workshops will be held in:

Midland	Monday, November 8
Harlingen	Friday, November 12
Houston	Tuesday, November 16
Austin	Wednesday, November 17
Dallas	Saturday, November 20

The workshops will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch.

The exact locations will be sent to you with the next LL President's mailing. Mark the day that you want to attend on your calendars now.

The importance of local League lobbying, the function of the Capitol Corps, priorities, how to handle opposition, and handy "where's" and "how to's" while in Austin will be discussed. An excellent film on "The Governmental Process: The State Legislature", prepared by the Connecticut LWV with Aetna Life and Casualty will be shown. One of your local legislators will be asked to speak to us about what it is like to be a legislator. We will discuss bills we know will be coming up and why we may or may not support them.

As you can see, we are planning a full and fun day for our Lobby Learn-In. I will be there to learn from you who your legislators are, what their main interests are, and the best ways to approach them.

See you there!

Bobette Higgins, (Mrs. Wilfred)
Director, Land Use
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. d.
Program - Land Use

LAND USE

It was the decision of the NR committee and the state board to make the implementation of the proposed Coastal Management Program the top legislative priority in the area of environmental concerns during the coming legislative session. This developing program, at present, seems very promising, and is certainly a great improvement over the present situation on the coast. Therefore, coastal Leagues, be considering action in this area during the legislative session, and plan accordingly. INLAND LEAGUES, WE NEED YOUR HELP, TOO!

The Citizen's Advisory Committee meets in Houston on the 6th and 29th of October, the 19th of November, and the 15th of December for the vital purpose of putting the current recommendations into a legislative package for the consideration of the legislature. This committee has worked together remarkably well so far, and I fervently hope this same condition prevails ws we get down to specifics.

If you coastal Leagues are willing, I will hold another briefing in Houston at the Airport Hotel on the 16th of December (I KNOW it's awfully close to the holiday season) in order to go over the legislative proposals, and to "strategize" for action. I'll invite a staff member to brief us, too, perhaps Jep Hill who will have the major responsibility in drawing up the new proposed legislation. LET ME HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT THIS IDEA.

I have read the statements of all Leagues who testified in the recent CMP hearings held over the state in August and September. You 're doing great work, and I hope yuu are joined by other Leagues in this effort. The San Antonio League gets the gold star for effort this round--not only did they testify at the hearing, they contacted other groups and solicited their testimony; they held a public meeting a few days before the hearing; they had TV showings of that lovely film, "Faces of the Coast,"; and got several newspaper articles printed. In fact, their efforts were so succesful that one article credited the LEAGUE with the Coastal Management Program, a bit of misinformation that brought a grin to the collective faces of the people in the General Land Office.

ABOUT SECTION 208

A call from Betty Williamson, Public Information Officer of the EPA Region VI, informed me that Texas local Leagues (SOME of them) would be receiving grants to participate in the development of programs for public involvement in the 208 decisions ahead. I hope ALL OF YOU who are asked will take on this exciting responsibility. I will explore the possibility of scrounging some grant money to coordinate some group get-togethers of those involved, so we each know what the other is up so, and can swap techniques and ideas. Please let me hear from those of you who are involved in this project. (I've already heard from Houston.)

Laura Keever (Mrs. Phillip)
Off-board Chair, Energy
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. b.
Program - Energy

ENERGY

Success!! I am very happy to report to you that the Governor has now applied for the planning funds available from FEA for developing state energy conservation plans under the Energy policy and Conservation Act. Your response to our Action Alert was great and obviously meaningful to the Governor's office. The fact that 49 states and 5 territories had applied on time also was a motivating factor. However, the Governor's office now knows that there are people out there who CARE about this program. Thank you for your telegrams, mailgrams, letters, and telephone calls.

The next s ep will be development of the plan itself, and we will know more clearly what is necessary with the issuance of the Final Guidelines--please watch for these to be published in the Federal Register sometime in October. The planning funds are to be received by the Office of Budget and Planning (in the Governor's Office); however, I expect that the Governor's Energy Advisory Council will be the agency that actually develops the plan. The plan will be due five months from the date of issuance of the Guidelines; I will keep you advised as developments occur.

For those of you who have not done so, I encourage you to obtain a copy of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, which President Ford signed on August 14. This is the so-called FEA Extension Act, but as the correct title conveys, there are several parts of the bill which relate to conservation. (See the last Report from the Hill). There is a title relating to rate design initiatives for electric utilities which requires that FEA develop proposals relating to (1) load management techniques which are cost effective; (2) rates which reflect marginal cost of service, or time of use of service, or both; (3) ratemaking policies which discourage inefficient use of fuel and encourage economical purchases of fuel; and (4) rates which encourage electric utility system reliability and reliability of major items of electric utility equipment. These proposals must be transmitted to Congress by February 14. Funds were authorized for demonstration projects relating to these areas as well as funds to allow FEA to intervene in any proceedings before a state utility regulatory commission on the request of a state or any participant in the proceeding. Grants are also provided for states to establish offices of consumer services to assist consumers in their presentations before utility regulatory commissions.

The Act also contains a title relating to energy conservation standards for new buildings, specifically providing for "performance standards for new residential and commercial buildings which are designed to achieve the maximum practicable improvements in energy efficiency and increases in the use of nondepletable sources of energy", and to "encourage States and local governments to adopt and enforce such standards through their existing building codes and other construction control mechinisms, or to apply them through a special approval process". The performance standards must be developed within three years.

Another title relates to weatherization assistance for low-income persons. FEA is to publish proposed regulations for this portion of the act by October 14 for public comment. The state may apply for these funds; however, if it does not submit an application,any unit of general purpose, local government of sufficient size (as determined by FEA), or a community action agency carrying out programs under Title II of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 may submit an application. Please watch for the proposed guidelines--as well as whether or not the Governor applies for the funds. I will be following this closely and keep you informed as well; we may have to both encourage him to apply for the funds, and then if he does not, approach this from the local level. The funding authorizations are $55 million for the fiscal year ending

September 30, 1977; $65 million for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978, and $80 million for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1979.

Another portion of this title authorizes supplemental state energy conservation plans and relates particularly to public awareness programs. There will be more guidelines (due February 14) and a supplemental state energy conservation plan must be developed. The authorized (not appropriated) funding includes $25 million for fiscal year 1977; $40 million for fiscal year 1978 and $40 million for fiscal year 1979.

Another provision of this title authorizes a $200 million HUD demonstration program to encourage homeowners to make energy conservation investments. This includes subsidies of up to $400 or 20% of a loan for conventional energy devices and of up to $2,000 or 25% of loans for renewable resource (solar, wind, etc.) investments.

The final provision of this title provides for an FEA-administered loan guarantee program of up to $2 billion for small business, industry, large commercial users, state and local governments, and private non-profit institutions. This program is designed to encourage investments in energy conservation and renewable resource technologies in order to meet federal energy efficiency goals. Individual loan guarantees are limited to 90% of the principal.

I anticipate reluctance on the part of some of our state officials to participate in these programs. Please give these programs your support at every opportunity.

Liz Davies (Mrs. Stanley)
Director, Human Resources
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 2. d.
Program - Housing

STATE-WIDE CONFERENCE ON FAIR HOUSING LAWS

When & where: October 19th &20th, 1976
Travelodge Motel, San Antonio
Sponsored by: Texas Department of Community Affairs and Coalition on Women & Housing.

In the next few days the presidents of each local League in Texas will receive an invitation to a conference addressing existing Fair Housing Laws. The conference is designed to bring together legislators, advocates, officials in the various agencies of government on the national, state, and local levels, and representatives from attending fields such as credit and mortgage bankers. Invited participants include Earlene Jewitt of TDCA, Joyce Skinner and James Blair of HUD. Penny Murn of the LWV of Houston is also on the program.

The invitations are being sent to all organizations with statewide membership which have indicated interest in the need for adequate administration and implementation of fair housing laws.

Background: This conference has been planned by a coalition of individuals and representatives of organizations who first came together in 1974 to plan and present the San Antonio public hearing on "discrimination against women in housing." That hearing was held in February, 1975, funded by HUD through a grant to the National Council of Negro Women. The League of Women Voters was involved with the project from the beginning on the national, state, and local levels. The publication, Women & Housing, A Report on Sex Discrimination in Five American Cities, documents the findings and is available for $3.40 from Supt. of Documents, U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C.. Publication # 023-000-00316-3.

As an outgrowth of the hearing, the San Antonio Coalition has stayed together, meeting on a monthly basis. This conference on Fair Housing Laws is the result of their continuing interest. I hope that local Leagues will send representatives...it will be worth the time & expense.

Diana Tilley (Mrs. Charles L.)
Publications, State Office Coordinator
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September 1976
State Board Report
Standing Order
I.R.
Administration
Publications

PUBLICATIONS

I. Old Business -- OR -- She's About To Give You The Business
I realize that your reaction to the following probably will be one of the following: 1) yes, we can try to distribute publications according to what's outlined; 2) yes, we've already done everything mentioned; 3) is she out of her mind!? We're lucky if we can manage to do the bare minimum in program, voters service and membership!
If your reaction is the latter, I want you to know that I understand--but don't like it any more than you do. I do think that with total board commitment publications can become a high priority as an important link between the national, state and local Leagues and the membership and community. Program committees can have a means of disseminating all the research they've dedicated months and years of their lives to gathering; CI/VS chairs can enhance their voter registration drives by promoting material on why to vote and how to use voting strategy; the Speakers Bureau can further punctuate their speeches by having related publications (or at least catalogues) available at speaking engagements; finance committees, using a variety of LWVUS, LWV-T and local League publications, can show a potential contributor that the League is doing SOMETHING that he or she might want to support financially; the treasurer will be delighted if you're able to turn a profit on publications sales, I don't think membership can survive without the show & tell publications provide; and on and on and on. My point is: relate what I've just said to your own portfolio, look through the national and state catalogues, and as a total board. begin to use publications (including multimedia) to your best advantage. And when budget time rolls around, don't forget that although publications used in citizen information/public relations ways will cost money and that the returns probably will be indirect, there will be lasting returns.

Update on Most Recent LWV-T Publications
Register and Vote in Texas: has been distributed through sales to local Leagues, LWV-T direct contact with military bases in Texas, statewide associations, large corporations, public utilities, groups with active voter registration drives. Remaining inventory to be used prior to spring elections.
We Support: Expect re-ordering by local Leagues for finance drives, new members, lobbying.
State Program, A Historical Perspective: Local Leagues should continue to promote as a "forever" publication every member will want to have. Also good for new member packet since it's informative, not too expensive, and big. (That may have been a self-revealing statement.)
HELP, Local League Program Directory: Be sure that at least your program vice-president (but preferably your program chairs too) has a copy of this. It's something you'll want to have available in your local office (which may be in a box under your bed) as part of your permanent files.
Criminal Justice System in Texas: Courts, Trials and Sentencing: Vitally important as a means of informing members prior to consensus. LWV-T has contacted the outside-of-League purchasers of the first AJ F&Issues (quantity orders). You might want to do the same locally--if you keep those kinds of records. For those of you who don't--I know, I know--"Is SHE crazy!? We're lucky if we can do the bare minimum ....."

SEE REVERSE FOR NEW BUSINESS

II. New Business

The state board has approved the creation of a LWV-T Public Subscription Service, a publications service to be offered to libraries of colleges, universities, and community colleges in Texas. The purpose of this subscription service is: 1) to disseminate League information, 2) to raise League profile, 3) to distribute current state League publications inventory, 4) to increase LWV-T income.

Within the next four weeks, we'll be sending a flyer describing this service, along with a sample of one LWV-T publication and one LWVUS publication, to possible subscribers. Based on what we could have made available this year, a subscriber would have received 44 select and timely LWV-T and LWVUS publications for $15.00 including tax and postage. The service will begin January 1 and will cost $15.00 per year, with publications to be mailed quarterly. We'll be sending a copy of the flyer in the October local League presidents mailing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: Although we're beginning with educational institutions, we're hoping to increase the number and scope of subscribers. Please submit names of local prospects as soon as possible.

Direct Sales: In order to share some of our fine research with others outside the League, we'll be sending sample copies of the most recent Facts and Issues to those appropriate department heads of colleges and universities. A cover letter will describe their potential use as curriculum material.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: I need success stories--quick. Galveston College ordered 500 copies each of last year's FSG and AJ F&I's so they obviously were required material. Let me know of other similar instances. There's nothing like a good testimonial. Also, you might consider using this same approach with your local high schools--in your spare time.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO--OR HOLD OVER MY HEAD

Library List: LWV-New Jersey has provided their local Leagues with a list of publications suitable for placing on local library shelves. I know some of you already do this, but for those of you who don't, I'll be sending you (in the next LL Pres. mailing) a similar list, appropriate for Texas Leagues.

New Publications Catalogue: A new catalogue will be published in late Dec., to be effective Jan. 1. The state board has approved a change in LWV-T pricing policies to conform with LWVUS policies. Postage will be included in the per copy price, however, we will not require pre-payment of orders. THIS WILL NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL JANUARY 1 AND WILL REQUIRE SOME PRICE CHANGES.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: First--the new catalogue will include a local-League want-ad section a la LWVUS' catalogue. Start thinking about what you might have to offer other local Leagues: local survey and study pubs., CI/VS information, pins, bumper stickers, etc. A want-ad form will be sent later. Last--I'd like to add a list of local League study and action publications (including slide shows, bus tours, etc.) to the HELP, LL Program Directory so that the booklet will better reflect the total activity of League program. I'd appreciate your sending me a list of those items you think are still current and/or would be of some use in terms of format, graphics, etc.

III. State Office Operations: Members change-of-addresses must be sent to the state office quickly. Return postage for the Texas VOTER is up to 25¢ a piece these days, and it's very painful to shell out those quarters. Also, please use those yellow LWVUS membership forms for reporting the changes.

I think it's important that members understand that to a great extent the efficiency of the state office is dependent on the information received from the local Leagues and state board. I can't tell you how lucky we are to have Joann Lovelace and her assistant, Sissie Potetz, in the office. The workload is tremendous, the pressure to meet promised deadlines is always there, and coffeebreaks and lunch hours are non-existent. In spite of this, friendliness and helpfulness are their top priorities. The next time you're in Austin, stop by and see for yourself. In the meantime, we can help by following procedures and meeting deadlines--and guess who's typing her own late board report. Do as I say, not as I do!

Peggy Farmer (Mrs. Lester)
Director, Membership
[redacted]

LWV-Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. K.
Administration-Membership

In order to increase the Members at Large (MAL), we are planning a contest among all MALs. Not only will we strive to increase the MAL membership, but we also encourage formation of Units at Large. A letter with all the details will go out to each MAL. The MAL who brings in the most new members will be given a prize and special recognition at the State Convention. We also hope to encourage attendance of all MALs at State Convention.

Will all Leagues please remember to send to the state office changes of address for all members who have moved to non-League areas of Texas. We know some Leagues do this on a routine basis but others never do. Please help us to keep the members we have.

Board members have all the fun--sometimes!! We know each League has a non-board member who works in the background and receives little credit, either by choice or by oversight. Now is the time to recognize that member. Will each League be thinking about your non-board members who have done something special for your League. Maybe one person has done many "invisible" but yet important things for your League. We hope to publish a two-page newsletter spotlighting members throughout Texas. This information sheet will either be given out at State Convention or be an every-member mailing, or both. We know there are so many special members that it would be impossible to spotlight each one. More than one name may be submitted. Tell us how this person has been special to your League. We shall try to make this as representative of as many Leagues as possible, but please don't be discouraged if we do not use all the names submitted. We also encourage you to send black and white pictures. Please help us to make this one of the most informative and interesting membership newsletter you have ever read.

I expect each League to submit at least one name. Start submitting those names right now!

The LWVUS has produced a new slide show entitled, "ARE YOU A POTENTIAL CANDIDATE: LEAGUE WOMEN IN POLITICS." This membership tool is a 35mm, color slide show that uses music and humor in revealing the League as the best training ground for women in politics. This new slide show will soon be available at the state office for loan to those Leagues which do not feel they can afford to buy this. Please reserve this by writing to the state office.

If your League has devised some successful membership ideas, why not share them with us so that other Leagues might benefit. Blow your horns a little.

Here's to a membership increase in every League during this year of the debates!

P.S. Your League would need to pay the postage if you desire to borrow the slide show mentioned above, but it will be less than the $10.00 cost of the presentation.

Be sure your equipment is kept in good repair. Take your time. Proofread. And then ENJOY the compliments that are sure to come your was as The Editor of your bulletin!

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AND NOW A WORD ABOUT SEX--
(NEUTRAL LANGUAGE, THAT IS)

McGraw-Hill Book Company, in its pamphlet, Guidelines for Equal Treatment of the Sexes in McGraw-Hill Book Company Publications, defines the word sexism as having been coined, by analogy to racism, to denote discrimination based on gender. In its original sense, sexism referred to prejudice against the female sex. In a broader sense, the term now indicates any arbitrary stereotyping of males and females on the basis of gender. The guidelines state further:

> "We believe that educational and reference materials...should reflect a deep conviction that every human being has a dignity and worth that is her or his own, no more dependent on sex than on race or color, but rather reflecting that individual's own inner being...What is important is not particular forms of expression as such, but this pervasive sense of equality, personal worth, and the unhindered development of potential. Particular words and ways of using them, however, do often express such a sense of dignity and equality, or, on the other hand, may betray an insensitivity to it of which the writer may be quite unaware...."

Here are some specific examples of sexist language vs. sex-neutral language:

Sexist	Sex-Neutral
Henry Harris is a shrewd lawyer and his wife, Anne, is a striking brunette.	The Harrises are an attractive couple. Henry is a handsome blond and Anne is a striking brunette.
	OR The Harrises are an interesting couple. Henry is a shrewd lawyer and Anne is very active in civic affairs.

"Women and men should be treated with the same respect, dignity, and seriousness. Neither should be trivialized or stereotyped...Women should not be described by physical attributes when men are being described by mental attributes or professional position..."

---

the girls)	
)--(when adult females are	the women
the ladies) meant)	
lady (used as a modifier, as in "lady lawyer")	lawyer ("The lawyer made her summation to the jury.")
libber (a put-down)	feminist or liberationist

When gender modifiers must be used, use "female" or "women."

Jan Moore (Mrs. Robert M.)
Texas VOTER Editor
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. W.
Administration-VOTERS

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION

Most local League bulletins are mimeographed, using typed stencils with hand-drawn illustrations. The great majority of bulletin editors care a lot about their publication and want to produce the best possible results. It is hoped that these tips will help you to achieve that desired end.

Read the directions provided in your package of stencils.

Be sure to set your typewriter ribbon control lever in the "stencil" position.

Use coated cushion sheet under stencil, glossy side up. Use typing film on top of stencil--it keeps your typewriter keys clean and produces a heavier-lined impression.

Try several settings of the "touch" regulator. A setting between 6 and 8 usually makes a good mimeograph impression.

Try to leave eye-pleasing margins on each page.

Give some thought to "matching up" pages which face each other.

Vary the arrangement of copy with columns, boxed items, varied widths of margins, etc.

Experiment with different characters on your typewriter to "draw" borders, divide columns, form boxes to call attention to special items.

Use a stylus with a firm, steady pressure when tracing, drawing, or printing.

Use a ruler to draw even the tiniest straight line in a picture.

Use a clear plastic protractor to make circles and curves in your drawings.

Invest in as many different sizes of styli, kinds of shading plates, and styles of letter guides as your budget will allow.

Basic and best investment: a mimeograph flexible writing plate and a mimeoscope, which is an illuminated drawing board.

Consider using an electronic stencil for your masthead. Check with office supply stores, office equipment or business machine firms, or the Yellow Pages, to find a place to cut the stencil. You can past up your own design. These stencils can be saved and re-used month after month, and are very reasonable.

Use stencil correction fluid to its maximum potential. If the directions on the box are carefully followed, and the fluid allowed to dry completely, a multitude of slips can be covered and many a stencil saved.

Keep an idea file of line drawings, layouts, and other samples from newspapers and magazines, advertisements, and other bulletins.

Note that lady and gentleman, wife and husband, and mother and father are role words. Ladies should be used for women only when men are being referred to as gentlemen. Parallel language should be used for women and men.

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congressman	member of Congress
businessman	business executive; business manager
statesman	leader; public servant
chairman	presiding officer; the chair; head; leader; coordinator; moderator

Insofar as possible, job titles should be nonsexist. Different nomenclature should not be used for the same job depending on whether it is held by a male or a female.

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you and your wife you and your husband	you and your spouse

Language that assumes all readers are male (or female) should be avoided.

The McGraw-Hill guidelines point out that since the English language lacks a generic singular pronoun signifying he or she, it has been customary and grammatically sanctioned to use the masculine pronoun he, but that various alternatives may be considered, such as:

1) Rewording to eliminate unnecessary gender pronouns:

The average American drinks his coffee black.	The average American drinks black coffee.

2) Recast into the plural: Most Americans drink their coffee black.
3) Replace the masculine pronoun with one, you, he or she, her or his, as is appropriate. It is suggested that one use he or she and its variations sparingly to avoid clumsy prose.

The fourth alternative suggests using he and making it clear it refers to both females and males. In League materials we so often assume that all members are female; we are sexist but discriminate against men! This alternative would mean continuing to use she and making it clear in the material that it refers to both men and women. This is clearly the least satisfactory alternative for us.

Remember that the concerns about sexist language are two-fold. It is important to consider how our words are heard by both males and females, but equally important to consider what sexist language says about the persons or organizations using it in their publications.

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CONSIDER THE MEMBER

The average member is not a member of the board of directors; may or may not attend a unit meeting every month; probably is not a member of a study or action committee; and, in some cases, depends solely upon your bulletin to keep informed about League activities on a local level, and on the Texas VOTER to keep abreast of statewide positions and action. When editing copy, look for the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, and HOW that makes the article understandable to all--including the public (which always contains potential members). Make your communications vehicle an outboard, not an inboard!

Barbara Materka (Mrs. Wm. J.)
Director, Communications
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September , 1976
State Board Report
I. S.
Administration - PR

TWO REQUESTS AND TWO RECOMMENDATIONS

First, a big thank you to those LLs which have been sending me copies of their newspaper clippings. Among the "regulars" have been Amarillo, Richardson, San Marcos, and Rockwall Provisional. Marshall/Harrison County Provisional recently sent some fine examples. I'm not mentioning all the names, but all efforts have been appreciated.

Request number one: Some of you have asked why League requests your clippings in the first place and what we do with them after receiving them, soI'll try to formulate a short answer. Of prime importance is the fact that it provides one more means, in addition to reading your VOTERS, of keeping in touch with, and informed about, what is going on at the local League level. Your activities are reported in your own VOTER, true, but the impact on your local community of those activities cannot be ascertained from the VOTER. Newspaper clippings, especially tear sheets, show this much more clearly. Also, in analyzing what was successfully newsworthy, we can be helpful to those local Leagues which ask for information on how to improve their newspaper image.

At a recent counterpart workshop in the Houston area, your Communications Chair assembled two posters of LL newspaper coverage to illustrate how different League portfolios can be the basis of good coverage and how that coverage benefits all portfolios. News photos were shown and discussed; illustrations of appropriate times to write letters to the editor were included. Examples of League-oriented editorials were featured. Without help from a number of you who sent in clippings, this section of the Media Workshop would have had to be eliminated.

So, in summary, please keep those clippings coming--they are useful and they are being used! One copy is all we ask, sent directly to me. This is an exception to the rule, "3 of everything to state office."

Request number two concerns the fact that LWV-T is trying to develop a "VIP list" of people around the state who, in addition to state legislators and elected officials, should be receiving the TEXAS VOTER on a regular basis. If you have a name or several names you would like to see included, will you please send those to me ASAP. Consider organizations and libraries.

The first recommendation is that, if you can spare $1.00 from your PR budget or from your Board Tools allocation, do order a publication called Media Action Handbook. It is a well-indexed, easy-to-read, concise but complete encyclopedia on everything you could possibly want to know about your PR job. The format and illustrations are superb. Veta Winick, public relations for LWVUS, recommended it in a memo, I ordered one, and couldn't be more pleased. Do order Media Action Handbook from:

National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing
1425 H St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036 (Cost: $1.00, prepaid)

Recommendation number two comes as a result of the aforementioned area workshop in Houston. I had asked Mae Martin of the Houston LWV to do an illustrated talk on how to prepare a slide show, since she was doing one for their Voters Srrvice use. Her presentation was so thorough and excellent that it seemed it should be shared with more League members. Therefore, she agreed to send information to any of you who might request it. Think of ways in which your League could utilize a slide show, then write for help to: Mae Martin, 5123 Sanford Rd., Houston, TX 77035.

Barbara Glickman-(Mrs. Barney)
Treasurer, LWV-T
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. D. 2. e.
Administration
State Budget

BUDGET ANALYSIS - 1st Quarter 1976-77
June 1, 1976 - August 31, 1976

INCOME		BUDGETED	ACTUAL	BALANCE
A. Pledges		33950.00	8137.52	25776.48
B. Members-at-Large dues		450.00	60.00	390.00
C. Publications		5700.00	2154.57	3545.43
1. DPM	1080.00			
2. Standing Order	1176.00			
3. Leg. Newsletter	5.00			
4. Other	253.57			
D. Interest		215.00	-0-	215.00
E. Contributions				
1. Members-Cash	-0-	250.00	10.00	240.00
2. Members-In kind		500.00	149.14	350.86
3. Non-members-Cash (net)		1416.00	1200.00	216.00
4. Non-members-Non cash		400.00	-0-	400.00
F. Election Night Reporting		2000.00	-0-	2000.00
G. Anticipated Cash Res. Ins. Acct.*		-0-	1278.04	(1278.04)
H. Convention '77		5000.00	-0-	5000.00
I. LWV-TEF Reimbursement				
1. Overhead Grants Adm.		120.00	-0-	120.00
2. General Administration				
a. Office Overhead, 1/4 SO Costs**		4975.00	273.60	4701.40
b. Trustees Mtgs., 1/4 SB Mtgs.**		1200.00	407.45	792.55
TOTAL		56176.00	13706.32	40669.68

* Balance in Gen. Oper. Acct.

** Actual Column reflects amount received for 1975-76 Fiscal Year

EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	IN-KIND	VARIANCE
A. State Office Operating Costs				
1. Equipment Maintenance & Maintenance Contracts	720.00	48.00		672.00
2. General Supplies	1810.00	370.25		1439.95
3. Postage	2400.00	694.65		1705.35
4. Telephone	750.00	164.56		585.44
5. Insurance & Bonding	230.00	17.00		213.00
6. Fixed Cost				
a. Rent	2700.00	800.00		1900.00
b. Salaries	9550.00	2715.90		6834.10
c. Payroll Taxes	717.00	249.47		467.53
7. Audit & Tax Report	300.00	16.15		283.85
8. New equipment (inc. accrual)	500.00	-0-		500.00
Sub total	19677.00	5075.98		14601.02
B. Board & Administrative Costs				
1. President				
a. Travel	775.00	148.30		626.70
b. Per Diem	200.00	10.00	16.50	173.50
c. Secretarial Assistance in Lubbock	-0-	-0-		-0-
d. Telephone	250.00	46.18		203.83
e. Representation	250.00	-0-		250.00
2. Treasurer	100.00	13.11		86.89
3. Board				
a. Tools & Material	400.00	315.50		84.50
b. State Board Meetings	4800.00	18.30		4781.70
c. Administration	200.00	58.56	2.60	138.84
4. Administrative Committees				
a. Development	200.00	4.50		195.50
b. Public Relations	175.00	-0-		175.00
c. Budget	150.00	-0-		150.00
d. Nominating*	150.00	28.40		121.60
e. Ad Hoc Financial Support	250.00	-0-		250.00
Sub total	7900.00	642.85	19.10	7238.05
C. Services to Local Leagues				
1. Organization				
a. Current Local Leagues	2100.00	358.82	34.78	1706.40
b. New Leagues	1075.00	115.77	62.25	896.98
c. Members-at-Large	315.00	7.33		307.67
2. Presidents Mailings	875.00	-0-		875.00
3. Local Program Supervision	25.00	-0-		25.00
4. Membership	150.00	.92		149.08
Sub total	4540.00	482.84	97.03	3960.13
D. Convention - Council				
1. State Convention '77	5000.00	-0-		5000.00
2. National Council, Delegate Exp.	800.00	-0-		800.00
Sub total	5800.00			5800.00
E. National Services				
1. Pledge	8654.00	2163.50		6490.50
2. PMP for MALs (30 @ 4.50)	135.00	-0-		135.00
Sub total	8789.00	2163.50		6625.50

EXPENDITURES (cont.)	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	IN-KIND	VARIANCE
F. VOTER	1600.00	109.90		1490.10
G. Publications-Prod. & Distr. Cost				
1. DPM (100 @ $15)	1500.00	-0-		1500.00
2. Standing Orders (200 @ $7)	1400.00	-0-		1400.00
3. Leg. Newsletter (100 @ $5)	500.00	-0-		500.00
Sub total	3400.00			3400.00
H. Position Support & Activities				
1. Program Supervision*	25.00	61.74		36.74
2. State Program Action				
a. PSF & PTR	125.00			125.00
b. Land Use	125.00			125.00
c. FSG	125.00			125.00
d. Administration of Justice	200.00	30.72		169.28
e. Human Resources				
1. ERA	25.00	11.53	1.50	11.97
2. Housing	25.00	1.17	1.50	21.33
3. Revenue Sharing	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
4. Welfare	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
5. Education	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
f. Natural Resources				
1. Air	50.00	6.25		43.75
2. Energy	75.00	17.06	7.50	50.44
3. Water & Solid Waste	100.00	48.66	10.00	41.34
4. Transportation	50.00	6.25		43.75
g. Voting Rights	50.00		8.01	41.99
h. State-Local Relations	-0-			-0-
i. Mod. State Govt.	15.00			15.00
j. TCR	-0-			-0-
3. National Program Action				
a. International Relations	30.00			30.00
b. Representative Govt.	40.00			40.00
c. Campaign Finance	-0-			-0-
4. Legislative Office				
a. Telephone	500.00			500.00
b. Director's Expenses	500.00			500.00
c. Secretary	1935.00			1935.00
Sub total	4070.00	190.86	33.01	3846.13
I. Professional Assistance	400.00			400.00
GRAND TOTAL	56176.00	8665.93	149.14	47630.93

* For 1975-76 expenses

BANK ACCOUNTS, ETC.	BALANCE 6/1/76	Deposits	Expenses	BALANCE 8/31/76
General Operating Account	1278.04	13015.07	9343.05	4950.06
TEF	652.47			652.47
Time Deposits	4212.84			4212.84
Reserves (Savings Account)	2228.43			2228.43
	8371.78	13015.07	9343.05	12043.80

TEF ACCOUNTS	
Legislative Research Material	553.51
Public School Finance	34.92
Financing State Government	28.67
Voters Keys	1.12
National Revenue Sharing	34.25
	652.47

The $652.47 in the TEF Account will be refunded to the LWV-T Ed. fund.

State Board Report, Sept., 1976

LOCAL LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR STATE AND NATIONAL SERVICES
June 1, 1976 to August 31, 1976

LEAGUE	Accepted 1976-77	Amount paid to: TEF	Gen. Op.	Balance
Abilene	$ 340.00			$ 340.00
Amarillo	770.00		$ 225.00	545.00
Austin	1770.00		442.29	1327.71
Bay Area	700.00			700.00
Baytown	555.00			555.00
Beaumont	315.00		204.25	110.75
Brazos County	750.00		375.00	375.00
Brownsville	310.00			310.00
Corpus Christi	1015.00		900.00	115.00
Dallas	4335.00			4335.00
Deer Park	300.00			300.00
Denton	810.00		202.25	607.75
*Eastern Bell County	225.00**			225.00
Edinburg-McAllen	320.00		160.00	160.00
El Paso	965.00			965.00
*Gainesville	300.00			300.00
Galveston	1600.00		400.00	1200.00
Garland	394.00			394.00
Harlingen	300.00		300.00	-0-
Houston	5500.00		1375.00	4125.00
*Huntsville	300.00			300.00
Irving	1380.00			1380.00
Lamar Co.	480.00			480.00
*Longview	200.00***		200.00	-0-
Lubbock	350.00			350.00
*Marshall-Harrison Co.	200.00***		200.00	-0-
Midland	535.00		535.00	-0-
Odessa	300.00		75.00	225.00
Orange Area	300.00			300.00
Pasadena	300.00		150.00	150.00
Pearland	300.00		75.00	225.00
Plano	300.00			300.00
Richardson	540.00		135.55	404.45
San Antonio Area	1500.00		750.00	750.00
San Marcos	420.00			420.00
Sherman	685.00		685.00	-0-
Tarrant Co.	2270.00		580.00	1690.00
Tyler	335.00			335.00
Victoria	600.00	150.00	150.00	300.00
Waco Area	510.00		254.18	255.82
Wichita Falls	500.00			500.00
Sub total	33879.00	150.00	8373.52****	25355.48
Added since Convention:				
*Rockwall	200.00		200.00	-0-
GRAND TOTAL	34079.00	150.00	8573.52	25355.48

* Provisional League
** Prorated for fiscal year
*** Paid in 1975-76 fiscal year
**** Included in 1975-76 fiscal year

Bobette Higgins (Mrs. Wilfred)
Public Relations VP, Land Use
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. S.
Administration
Public Relations

PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was decided by the state board to honor newly elected legislators at a reception in January, to which we will invite all legislators and the top state elected officials. The reception will be held during the regular meeting of the state board in January, which will coincide with the opening of the legislative session.

One of the many benefits of having our state office in Austin, and holding board meetings there, is the opportunity of making numerous important contacts such as this reception will provide. Since the board meets in a handsome, stately old home on the grounds of an Episcopal seminary, we will have a perfect setting for this event. And we are particularly fortunate in having members of the Austin League (hello, Donna Green) cater this reception, in addition to supplying meals for all our regular state board meetings, at considerable savings to the state League, and a profit for the Austin League coffers.

We look forward to this reception, and urge you to mention it to your legislators when you see them in December, and remind them to attend.

Another type of contact with governmental decision-makers which is becoming a tradition at state board meetings (well, we've done it twice, and plan to repeat it--"traditions" develop before your very eyes in our fast-moving world) is the practice of inviting a speaker or two to discuss a topic informally with us. Last time, Rep. Wayne Peveto (D-Orange) met with us to talk on our top legislative priority, property tax reform. At the previous board meeting, Senator Max Sherman (D-Amarillo) shed some light on the complexities of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Both of these are examples of what I call Purposeful PR. Let us know what kind of purposeful PR you're planning!

Adelyn Duke (Mrs. Ray)
Texas Constitutional Revision, Off-board
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 5.
Program - TCR

TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Although Texas Constitutional Revision is presently low on the priority list for action, this does not mean we are any less committed to it now than we were this time last year. Because we set aside everything else and worked on TCR as top priority the past two years, other items are now in the forefront for timeliness and possible accomplishment. Even so, it is still imperative that we keep our members reminded of our TCR positions so that we can be ready to act should the occasion arise. It is generally felt that this is not the time to push for overall revision and that more can be accomplished piecemeal through amendments, article by article replacement, and in some cases, statutory change. It may be that this process can sufficiently deal with those portions that aroused opposition from special interest groups, thus making complete revision a greater likelihood at some later date.

League members should not feel defensive or apologetic for our support of the defeated constitution, nor should we feel anything but proud of our long-standing effort along the revision highway. Many experts had warned us that it would not be easy and that constitutional revision is rarely successful on its first try. As you talk with your legislators, be ready to fill them in on League positions and be sure to report any information you glean relating to TCR, although there are no specific questions included for the interviews.

Someone in each Local League--be it program vice-president, state program chair, TCR, legislative action, or membership--should assume the responsibility for seeing that every person who joins the League is oriented in TCR and becomes converted to this long-standing commitment of ours. Start now to build that dedicated nucleus of informed citizens who can be relied upon for concerted effort the next time around.

Helen Hunter (Mrs. John)
Organization Vice Pres.
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. O.
Administration-Organization

Now is the time to check your calendars and notify the appropriate people about those once-a-year chores. If you have not sent three copies of your budget, bylaws, and policy guide to state office, please do so. Don't forget to send three copies of your board minutes and one copy of your VOTER each month to S. O. Check LWV-Texas bylaws and send suggested changes to state office by December 15.

As we start the new program year, I hope you are planning new approaches to the unit meetings. Why not try one month having each unit plan their own agenda? A night unit does not necessarily have to have the same program as the day units. Have them develop their own program; or act as a committee to develop a new program. Have you tried having one unit act as an action unit? or VS unit? Be flexible.

Jane Peterman (Mrs. Edwin D.)
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. O.
Administration
Organization

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Every local League in Texas has experienced, or has scheduled training or consultation with a state board member since Council. Remarkable, considering our geography and finances! The majority of Leagues requested "nuts and bolts" or individual portfolio training. Over one-third of the Leagues requested "leadership development training" to augment their own in-house portfolio exchange/training. The participant evaluation forms from the "area specialized" portfolio training included comments like:

...nice to become acquainted with state board
...great idea
...best one attended
...liked having Betty and Veta talk--gave a feeling of LWV unity on state and national level
...repeat two or three times a year

The leadership development committee plans to research additional training possibilities (such as management training) and attempt a course description prior to the round of training next year. All suggestions, comments, and training experienced with other groups will be researched and evaluated for use. Input from local League boards and members is welcomed.

Chris Brasher (Mrs. Thomas)
Director, off-board: Executive (MSG)
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 3. a.
Program - State
MSG - Executive

THE "HOBBY COMMISSION"

Toward the end of the 64th session of the Legislature, Senator Bill Patman of Ganado was successful in getting a bill through the Senate and House which somewhat reflected the purpose of the "Little Hoover Commission." After fruitless efforts in session after session for the past several years, Senate Bill 319, sponsored by Patman, was finally adopted.

SB 319 created the Joint Advisory Committee on Government Operations, now widely known as the "Hobby Commission." Just as the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government became known as the "Hoover Commission" after its chairman, former President Herbert C. Hoover, so has the Texas version adopted the name of its chairman, Lt. Governor Bill Hobby.

The purpose of the Act creating the Hobby Commission is to promote the economical delivery of the services provided by state government by means of a comprehensive review of governmental structure and administration.

The Commission consists of Lt. Governor Hobby as chair, House Speaker Bill Clayton as vice-chairman, secretary of State Mark White, and nine persons appointed by the governor who are not members of the House or Senate, three members of the Senate appointed by the Lt. Governor, and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker. Following are the appointed members of the Commission: Senator Grant Jones (Abilene), Senator Peyton McKnight (Tyler), Senator Bill Patman (Ganado), Rep. Charles Evans (Arlington), Rep. Bill Hollowell (Grand Saline), Rep. John Wilson (LaGrange), Alfred Davies, John Fainter, Herbert J. Frenslsy, Calvin R. Guest, Reagan Houston, III; Dr. June Hyar, R. J. Nunley, Harry M. Provence, Howard N. Richards.

The duties of the committee are to:

(1) examine and evaluate the organization and methods of operation of the departments and agencies of state government;

(2) develop proposals for improving the structure and administration of state government in order to assure the delivery of governmental services at the lowest possible cost;

(3) recommend policies and programs to minimize creation of new departments and agencies of state government and to control the growth of existing departments and agencies; and

(4) recommend suspension of government programs and services that duplicate and exceed in cost those same services offered by private business.

Upon request, staff assistance to the committee may be furnished by the Texas Legislative Council, the Legislative Budget Board, the Legislative Audit Committee, the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and the Division of Planning Coordination. Each department and agency of state government is also directed to furnish assistance and information to the committee upon request.

This Commission shall make its final report to the 65th Legislature when it convenes in January, 1977, not later than 30 days after that legislature is organized. Unless extended by the 65th Legislature, the commission is dissolved on May 31, 1977.

At the time of engrossment of the bill, it was estimated that an appropriation of $181,000 would be required for the 1976-77 biennium.

Making its first attempt at trimming the cost of state government, the Commission on Friday, August 27, recommended limiting the size and scope of the Texas Department of Community Affairs, as well as cutting its operations budget.

The Department of Mental Health-Mental Retardation fared better as the Health and Welfare Subcommittee decided not to limit MHMR spending for the next biennium to the 1977 appropriations level. Instead, it was suggested that the next session of the legislature "closely review" any increases in MHMR budget requests "in view of the increased appropriations for levels of care and the declining populations in institutions under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of MHMR."

At this same hearing the Commission recommended abolishing the Texas Youth Council, a portion of the state Welfare Board dealing with the aged, and the Governor's Committee on Aging, and replacing them with two new state agencies with more duties. The proposed agencies would be the Texas Department of Child and Family Resources and the Texas Dept. of Aging and Special Services. The new agencies would have boards of six members rather than three. A temporary three-member board would supervise the transfer of personnel, property and other resources from the Youth Council and Welfare Dept. to the new agencies. The new alignment, the commission said, would reduce fragmentation and increase efficiency.

However, we foresee objections from the agencies involved, along with other problems of change; i.e. the involvement of federal funds for several social services (Title XX funds). Federal enabling statutes and implementing regulations in programs administered by the Dept. of Public Welfare provide for a single state agency responsible for the administration of the programs. As a condition for receiving federal funds, a state agency is prohibited from delegating to other than its own officials, its authority for exercising administrative policies. Any changes in the state plan would have to have the approval of the Dept. of HEW or the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Raymond Vowell, Dept. of Public Welfare, claims that the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Health and Welfare to create two new welfare agencies would deliver about 95% of what the present DPW is doing. Adding additional service responsibilities of 5% in the form of institutions for delinquent youth and congregate feeding for the aged still would require independent delivery systems whether in a large or small agency. Therefore, any reduction of service fragmentation brought about by restructuring only the state-delivered services would be minimal.

In defending his position that a more objective view of restructuring the DPW be considered, Vowell cited that some of the accomplishments of his department include the lowest number of ineligibles and overpayments to Aid to Families with Dependent Children and the Food Stamp Program. He further stated that the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program and the Training and Education Program for employees are considered among the best in the nation. Alternate Care for the Aged and Disabled has received national attention. "No other state can compare with our efforts in fraud prevention" said Vowell, "and our Vendor Drug Program has had wide acclaim."

In a letter to Speaker Clayton about the proposed changes, Vowell said, "If we want to get serious about the reduction of welfare costs and other maintenance costs, I suggest we look at why Texas has the largest illiterate population in the nation, why 40% of the students entering elementary school this year will never complete high school, and why many of those who will graduate still won't be able to read or write. We need to look at areas of the state like Galvest on Indepentent School District which have demonstrated these problems can be overcome. I recommend that a statute be passed to mandate school districts to develop and implement plans to address these problems or lose their state financial support.

The "Hobby Commission" also recommended that the legislature not create any more senior colleges or medical schools without the approval of the College Coordinating Board.

And two members of the Texas Good Neighbor Commission, which was created in 1943 and was made an official state agency in 1945 to offset anti-American propaganda in Latin America

and particularly Mexico, vehemently defended the agency against an attack by Bill Hollowell on September 27. Hollowell, a persistent critic of the commission, questioned whether it had violated federal law by joining in the creation of the International Good Neighbor Council, which has approximately 1,200 members equally divided among Mexico and the U. S. In a curt exchange with two of the Good Neighbor commissioners, he stated that he did not think the agency should be retained. Commissioner M. M. Vicars of Brownsville responded that the commission had done many "good works" and "deserves the laud and praise of the legislature for what we have achieved on a very, very limited Mickey Mouse budget."

So it will be interesting to watch what happens to the recommendations of this commission which, like the original Hoover Commission, was established to seek ways of improving the efficiency of the executive branch, and of eliminating wasteful methods of operation. The Hoover Commission recommended sweeping changes in executive departments and agencies in its report to President Truman in 1949, little of which was ever realized. Will the Hobby Commission's recommendations also be relegated to a shelf to gather dust?

Another hearing was scheduled for September 29, and hopefully a final report will be ready for publication by November. As develcpments occur, you will receive an update so that you may better follow what action, if any, will be taken during the 65th Session of the Legislature.

Becky Moon (Mrs. Tom)
Director, Off-board - Air
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. a.
Program - Air

TENNECO SAGA, CONTINUED

Yup--there's still more--
Having sat out the storm and hopefully the calming of our adversaries, I have been actively working on the implementation of our joint effort with Tenneco.

Recall--Tenneco agreed to participate in and fund a fact-finding effort to look at the vital areas of concern when developing control strategies for chemical carcinogens (substances known to cause cancer).

It's called neutralizing the opposition: Tenneco & TACB--

1) I doubt that industry really wants any new controls
2) The TACB (Texas Air Control Board) staff rejected earlier the idea of others assisting them in the development of these control strategies.

A strained truce developed following the issuance by the TACB of the construction permit. We know there is more than one way to skin a cat, so we continued to build our relation ship with the health specialists, the biggest fish in the pond. I not only wanted them to know the aim of our effort--I set out to convince them that they should serve as members of our Steering Committee. Overly optimistic was I, but thought I'd give it a try. One of the big fish. Dr. Charles Shaw, who has worked behind the scenes from the beginning, moved into the forefront when he agreed to serve. The next big fish tackled is a member of the board of the TACB and a prominent member of the chemical industry, Dr. J. Kilian. The man most capable of bringing stature to the committee, Dr. M. Key (past director of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration) agreed to serve this past Wednesday. Other members of the committee include a lawyer and representatives from the TACB staff, Tenneco, and LWV-T.

The Steering Committee's objectives: Get the ball rolling--

1) Define the areas to be considered
2) Delineate and assist in obtaining individuals with appropriate expertise to serve on the full committee.

We had dared to hope that we could gather experts together to evaluate ways of controlling these emissions.

--We obtained funding
--Three of the best individuals we could think of are serving on our Steering Committee
--The TACB has joined the effort.

In the light of our recent successes will Tenneco join forces and participate in a more meaningful way?

Becky Moon (Mrs. Tom)
Coordinator, Study of Public
Participation
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 3. a.
Program - State
MSG - Executive
(Administrative Procedure Act)
Monitoring

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION--MYTH OR REALITY?

The League has long aspired to develop mechanisms for meaningful citizen participation. The environmental and consumer advocates have joined the chorus since the early 1960's. Many have believed provisions for citizen input are a vital element of procedural rules governing agencies. In 1953, Texas members of the State Bar expressed interest in drafting an act which would delineate uniform administrative procedure for state agencies. Renewed interest in 1968 led to the unsuccessful introduction of bills in the 1971 and 1973 Texas legislatures. Its time had come. In 1975 the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) passed the legislature with unanimous votes.

The APA, a reform statute, represents a reaction to, and an attempt to correct, unsatisfactory administrative practices which have arisen since government by administrative agency became important in the 1940's. The APA is affecting more than 200 state agencies in Texas, each touching your life.

Although administrative procedure is generally thought of as a rather dull topic, the events resulting from poor procedure have long received front page news coverage. How many Americans and how many of us have complained bitterly about unresponsive agencies? We have found ourselves playing a game without rules or mechanisms for appeal.

The Administrative Procedure Act mandates agencies:

1) adopt rules to govern formal and informal procedure
2) provide for public participation in the rulemaking process
3) provide public notice of proposed rules and action through publication of the Texas Register
4) provide judicial review of agency action.

--Will the APA lead to more responsible state agencies?
--Is our dream for meaningful citizen participation becoming a reality?

The answers to the above two questions can be found as we watch our state agencies implement the APA. As an off-board state LWV chair, I have participated in and observed adjudicative public hearings held by the Texas Air Control Board, but this is only one of more than 200 state agencies. Monitoring the impact of this legislation on citizen participation has been adopted as a special project by the state board.

Under the APA, will meaningful citizen participation develop or just receive continued lip service? Others are looking to Leaguers, champions of public participation, for an evaluation of this legislation.

You can help me. Watch your state agencies in action. Clip articles. If you become involved in activities with a state agency, let me know.
--An agency on the front page last month: Texas Insurance Commission--hearing to consider new car insurance rates. Affects you??
--An agency on the front page this week: Texas Utility Commission--hearing to consider new telephone service rates. Affects you??

Your observations are vital to the success of our study of the APA.

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of TEXAS

1212 GUADALUPE • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

SEPTEMBER 1976

STATE BOARD REPORT

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This issue does not contain a report on the Education Fund

- REPORT ON THE EDUCATION FUND

Betty Anderson (Mrs. John A.)
President
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. Q.
Administration
President's Letters

MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT

When the state board met September 14-16, we recognized that the League fall schedule is a challenging one--to say the least. Many activities are being organized which relate to local, state, and national happenings, but we hope that you will take time from your busy schedules and read the State Board Report (SBR) so that you will be familiar with the full scope of the work of the League.

A large part of the board's attention was directed toward planning for the 65th session of the Texas Legislature. Entertaining the legislators, preparing for lobbying and studying proposed legislation were thoroughly discussed by both committees and the total board. We urge you to attend the regional Lobby Learn-Ins November 8, 12, 16, 17, and 20. Check Barbara Nobles' report for details. Also, your help with legislative interviews and other pertinent information is invaluable to the legislative director and the Capitol Corps. Be clipping articles about future legislators for the state legislative files. We especially need information on new legislators. Contributing to our information on the League's top priority, property tax reform, was Rep. Wayne Peveto, (D-Orange), who came to the board meeting to discuss the bill his committee is drafting to recodify the state property tax. Any local information you gain on this important issue should be sent to Jan Wilbur.

Related to all our membership concerns is the inescapable fact that unwavering attention must be given to getting and keeping members. We are pleased to announce that Kathy Leabo will be joining the organization core of the state board as Organization Specialist. Kathy is a past state public relations vice president and is currently adviser to the Provisional LWV of Eastern Bell County. Her experience and organizational "knack" are enthusiastically welcomed. Diana Tilley, who joined the board this summer, has spent the last few months in the print shop--and received her "initiation by fire." We urge you to utilize the attractive,informative publications being released. Let's not hide them under a bushel (or bed).

Water, Water Everywhere--Thanks for your contributions to the forums being held around the state on Texas water planning. The timing leaves much to be desired, but we appreciate your adding this to your busy schedules. Many Leagues are scheduling meetings to explain our opposition to Amendment #1 and the maintenance of our support for comprehensive water planning. We have joined the group called "Texans for Clean Water, Amendment #2", the water enhancement amendment. Please cooperate in supporting this amendment in your communities. For more information, read and share the enclosed brochures. If the amendment passes, the state will be authorized to issue an additional $100 million (most of the current $100 million fund has been expended) for water quality (sewage treatment) plant construction.

The Safe Drinking Water task force (Project Safewater), directed by Bobette Higgins, has prepared excellent materials which are being distributed to the other nine states involved in the project--because the national project director felt they were so well done. We hope you will help us spread the word about the Safe Drinking Water Act later this fall. Remember that name: PROJECT SAFEWATER.

Attorney General John Hill will keynote the Criminal Justice Conference, co-sponsored by the LWV-Texas Education Fund and the Dallas County Community College District. Carole Shlipak and Anne Pfaff are co-directing the conference which will be held at

El Centro College in Dallas, Thursday, November 11. Diana Clark is program consultant. The program is excellent, and we are very excited about the event; it can be a real bonus for the participants and the League.

State board members have been on the road--in addition to the state board members' annual visits for consultative services with local Leagues. Lucinda Headrick has been to Abilene and Plano speaking on water issues. Bobette Higgins has travelled to Dallas and Gainesville to speak to local Leagues as well as going to Coastal Management Program (CMP) hearings all over the state. Bobette's testimony to the General Land Office on the CMP was very well received September 1. Jan Wilbur is speaking to the Brazos Co. League on property tax reform. Fumi Sugihara testified before the Special Subcommittee on Presidential Primary Systems of the House Committee on Elections, September 24. I will be in Waco October 7 to speak during Baylor's Political Awareness Week, and then will be in the state office October 8-10.

Thanks for the great response to our appeal for funds for Texans for ERA. To date, $294.41has been collected. We appreciate it!

Essentially, the September meeting laid the groundwork for this fall's work, as we head toward another session of the Legislature and Convention '77. We hope to hear from you about budget suggestions, program ideas, actions taken and bylaws changes. Please let Ethel Sturgis or a member of the budget committee (see the most recent President's Letter) know your ideas about state League income and expenditures. This committee will be meeting the last week of October. The vice-presidents and I will be meeting October 27 at Meg Titus' in Plano.

We do hope to hear from you.

Betty Anderson

P.S.: Please note in your files: Kathy Leabo, Org. Specialist [redacted]

Change of address: Mary Ellen Salinas, President, Edinburg-McAllen LWV [redacted]

Meg Titus (Mrs. D. L.)
Program Vice-Pres., Nat. Resources Coord.
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II.
Program

PROGRAM MAKING--If your local League wishes to propose new study items or amend wording of present items for consideration of Convention delegates in April, the following steps should be taken during October and November: (and on into January)

1) Criteria for choosing program should be reviewed. They are:
   A. Is the issue one on which state governmental action is needed?
   B. Does this issue fall within League principles?
   C. Is the issue important enough to inspire League interest and commitment?
   D. Will the timing permit the League to be effective?
2) Present program should be reviewed (see We Support and State Program for specifics).
3) Decide whether all items should be continued or if any should be amended or dropped.
4) Decide if any items should be studied further.
5) Study and discuss the program-making information and proposals from state program chairs that will be sent with the October third-Friday mailing to each LL president. PLEASE INCLUDE THAT INFORMATION IN YOUR NEXT VOTER in order that there can be membership discussion and local board evaluation of these proposals during November and December.
6) Notify me of your League's proposed changes, new study items or wording changes for further study by January 10th.

The state program committee will suggest program changes or additions based on your Jan. 10th reports. These will be considered by total state board at the January board meeting. Information on these state board decisions on recommended and non-recommended program items will then be sent to all local Leagues by March 7, 1977--six weeks prior to State Convention. The convention delegates will at that time consider and vote on adoption of these various proposed program items.

PROGRAM UPDATE KIT--State program chairs are preparing lists of important publications relating to each item in program. These lists will be included, along with We Support and State Program, in a Program Update Kit for provisional and new LLs. These will be sent to you with the October third-Friday state office mailing.

STATE PROGRAM--Each state program chair is writing an amplification of the positions under that portfolio with a new focus--the next legislative session as it relates to our program priorities. These single amplification sheets can easily be added to our three-hole-punched new publication, State Program, A Historical Perspective. This loose-leaf approach should make it easier to update information without pitching out the whole publication. These amplification papers will be included with the November third-Friday state office mailing.

Legislative Lobby Corps--I plan to meet with Barbara Nobles and her Capitol Corps the first week in October in Austin to develop legislative strategies, plan the Legislative Newsletter, and discuss the functioning of the legislative office and our communication network during the session, and-of course-the five regional Lobby Learn-Ins. If you have ideas or suggestions for making our efforts during the session run more smoothly please write to Barbara or me. In the meantime, utilize the issue-oriented legislative questions(sent out last month to LL presidents and in DPMs and Standing Orders this month) at candidates' meetings--large or small, informal or formal--and help our legislative chair build her pre-session files by sending Barbara the candidates' responses.

International Relations--Joan Kyre, our new off-board IR state chair, is preparing two 30-minute video taped programs on two aspects of the UN that we'll be studying this year: the US in the UN, and the Economic Issues. These will be suitable for use at unit meetings or small general meetings in preparation for our April 15th member agreement deadline. Details later concerning when they will be available. In the meantime, check your library or local corporate offices for video tape equipment that you might

borrow. You'll need to find access to one of these as we hope to have more video-taped program material for you later in the year.

Natural Resources--Will all LL presidents please send me the names and addresses of all your on and off board NR-related chairs as soon as possible, as we are hoping to receive a grant to expand both the content and the mailing list of Environotes. We hope to be able to direct-mail it to each Leaguer in the state with an NR portfolio. Would your League like to have us try to do a similar publication for updating your information on Human Resources items?

Convention--We're planning a smashing program workshop showing new techniques for handling program. Start making plans now to come to Fort Worth in April.

I'm concerned--Indeed, we're all concerned that several local Leagues are having guilt feelings about not taking part in all consensus (consensi?). Please don't berate your League or yourself, if you haven't done all of them. Just remember that we must have enough program study items to keep members interested and large Leagues busy. Relax and enjoy studying the ones your League feels it can handle.

Jan Wilbur (Mrs. Robert O.)
FSG/PSF/PTR Director
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 2.
Program
PTR/PSF/FSG

PTR/PSF/FSG

In June, we held a PTR workshop in Houston to which LWVs from Beaumont to Austin to Waco to Victoria were invited. In spite of vacations and sometimes short notice, 32 persons attended representing eight Leagues. We would like to have more. Please contact us if your LWV is interested in hosting a PTR workshop (funding would have to be worked out). Regional Legislative Workshops, scheduled for November, will devote some time to learning how to lobby for PTR. We hope they will be well attended.

PTR at the local level--Dallas zeroed in on PTR for their September units as did Houston--with emphasis on ACTION. Pearland has chosen PTR as the state item to which they will devote December, January, and February. Brazos Co. has invited me to speak (Sen. Bill Moore may be on the same program) and to tape a 30-minute TV show on October 27. Orange has scheduled two meetings and a public forum on PTR during October. The topic for Irving's Inform-a-Day, October 19, will be PTR. To date, 25 LWVs have named their PTR specialists. Material will be sent to the PTR specialists within the next two weeks.

Tentative plans for a PTR Forum in Austin in December have been shelved so that we can devote more time and effort to lobbying before the Legislature convenes in January.

Be watching for: Rep. Wayne Peveto anticipates that his Property Tax Subcommittee will finish the bill re-codifying property tax laws by mid-November. He hopes to have hearings around the state between then and January

The Houston POST, Sept. 19, 1976, reports that Comptroller Bob Bullock (along with the Texas House Ways and Means Committee and "some Texas senators") will hold a series of 16 "Texas tax forums" in 16 cities to "give irate citizens a chance to sound off about the state tax structure so Bullock can work up any necessary legislation before the session...".

FYI--There is a toll-free number for the Comptroller's office: 1-800-252-5555

Zero-Base Budgeting (ZBB)--Enclosed in LL presidents' packets is a copy (one per League) of a paper, The Budget - A State's Real Operating Plan, done by a consultant group at the request of the General Land Office. The paper looks at ZBB as a part of the overall budget process in Texas and points out what the authors consider to be weaknesses and/or misplaced responsibility in the process. We hope you will find this of interest. We did.

Furi Sugihara (Mrs. Thomas)
Director, Voting Rights, Election Laws
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 3.
Program-Vertical
Voting Rights

Stage Center: County Election Administration Bill
This legislation (see September State VOTER) will be the focus of our efforts as far as election law is concerned. The McBee bill now satisfies most of our criteria for election administration, but we will have to be alert for weakening amendments introduced in committee and on the floor. A great deal will depend on your talking the bill up with your legislators before the session and making them aware of the importance of consolidating voter registration and elections functions into a single office under the direction of a capable person who can devote full attention to these matters. It is also essential that you try to get the active support of county officers, especially the tax assessor-collector, the county clerk, and the members of the county commissioners court, for this legislation. At least, try to get their opinions about how these proposals would affect your county, and send these comments to me. Remind them that the bill was drafted with the help of representatives of their state associations.

Waiting for a Cue:
The faithful adherents of recodification and revision of the election code are looking for the elements that would help this legislation survive the first act. League suggestions have been circulated to legislative staffs, and the responses have been favorable. Interest in eliminating the signature from the ballot stub is still fairly high in spite of the setback in federal court. We may be supporting one or more related bills on the subject. It is too early, however, to predict what our strategy would be.

Presidential Primary Elections
No, we do not have a position on presidential primaries, and I said so at the hearing on the subject on Sept. 24. I did stress, though, two things that were evident in the primaries this year: lack of training of the election judges and clerks, and lack of understanding of the system by the average voter.

If, as individuals, you have some comments to make on the presidential primary system as it was this year or as it should or should not be in the future, you should write to Rep. Sarah Weddington, chair of the subcommittee, or to the committee members: Reps. Lance Lalor, Susan McBee, Pike Powers, and Luther Jones. I personally think that if this system is to be made permanent, legislation must be passed at this coming session, so that there will be adequate time for voter education before the next presidential election year.

Attention: Voting Rights and Voter Service Chairs:
I have just seen the film strips produced by the Secretary of State's office for use in training election judges, clerks, and pollwatchers. A set will be sent to each county clerk in the state beginning October 1. Although they are not perfect, they are potentially a major step in providing uniform training of election personnel throughout the state. You can borrow them from the county clerk for your own training schools, League-produced television programs, or for updating your membership on election procedures. Be sure to preview them so that you will be able to respond to the questions that will result.

That election calendar for the November 2, 1976 election (compiled by the Secretary of State's office) sent to you recently was intended to help you in answering questions from the public. It can also be used to check on whether or not election procedures are being executed on time in your county.

TOLL-FREE NUMBERS FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE:
For voter registration information and supplies: [redacted]
For information about election laws or complaints: [redacted]

Joan Kyre (Mrs. Martin)
International Relations, Off-board
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. B. 1. d.
Program
IR - UN

UNITED NATIONS

We are planning a rather ambitious project which hopefully will aid you in the international relations study concerning the United Nations. Our aim is to prepare two half-hour video tapes which could be used either in committee planning or unit meetings. One tape would concentrate upon the economic proposals of the developing nations and what we can do or should do in the way of expanding or refining League positions in the area of trade and aid. The other would involve a fresh look at the UN as an international governing body. Should we limit the expansion of our participation in various bodies of its system? Would placing conditions on American support help? Among the proposals for changing the UN system, are there any that the United States should support as being both desirable and achievable?

If you have access to a video tape player and if this type of program would be useful to your League, we would like to know as soon as possible. Please fill in the blank below.

- -

Send to: Joan Kyre
[redacted]

The LWV of _____ would like to use:

tape 1 tape 2 (please circle your preference) the week of

_____ for a

committee planning meeting or a unit meeting (please indicate which).

2nd choice of dates _____

Carole Shlipak (Mrs. Louis)
Director, Development
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. I.
Administration-Development

1. Criminal Justice Conference - Plans for our Criminal Justice Conference are underway! It is being co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund (LWV/TEF) and the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD). The one-day conference, focusing on criminal justice bills coming before the legislature next session, will be held at El Centro College in downtown Dallas. The DCCCD is providing facilities, certain services, and payment for designated conference expenditures. Attorney General John Hill will be the keynote speaker, and all League members are invited to attend. Date and time: Thursday, November 11, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

2. Contributions - The Leland Fikes Foundation, a Dallas-based foundation, has contributed $5,000 to the TEF as an unrestricted contribution. $1500 has been designated as the LWV/Dallas share of the contribution. We are thrilled with this contribution.

3. Prospects - suggestions for state development calls are coming in on a regular basis from local Leagues. Don't forget to send your prospect suggestion.

4. Development Committee members - I am delighted to have the talents and expertise of Cynthia Biasca, LWV/Houston; Anne Dickson, LWV/Dallas; and Donna Green, LWV/Austin as members of the Development Committee.

5. Special Recognition to the following local Leagues which have added that "extra effort" to their finance campaigns:

LWV/Houston - for securing a $6700 grant from HEW to produce an environmental resource planning symposium, and a $2500 contribution from Shell Companies Foundation for a massive Get Out the Vote drive this fall.

LWV/Victoria - for an excellent finance campaign that included professional-looking brochures, printed envelopes, and business cards for solicitors.

LWV/Abilene - for a well-planned campaign, using excellent brochures and a positive attitude.

P.S. If you are interested in fuller details, write the above-listed local Leagues.

6. Now is the time to begin planning your 1977 Finance Campaign. Fund-raising experts stress that 80% of your time should be spent in thorough planning, and 20% in actual soliciting. Why? Because sound planning brings results! Start now!

Diana Clark (Mrs. Winthrop A.)
Director - Administration of Justice
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 1.
Administration of Justice

Administration of Justice

As a result of responses to my query in the May Board Report from a number of local leagues asked that the consensus questions proposed at that time be refined and expanded to include some which would relate to the proposals being recommended by Governor Briscoe and discussed by the Speaker's Task Force on Crime and its Control.

One reason for the delay of the materials was in developing information about these proposals from various sources. Included in the Leaders Guide supplement, enclosed in this mailing, are parts of the preliminary drafts of some of this legislation. Please consider these as working papers only, not final drafts, which will not be available until November at the earliest.

The State Board (and I) fully recognize the limitations on time and study by local leagues on the criminal justice subject. We are acutely aware of the problems inherent in attempting to react to current events with some consensus questions on narrow issues rather than on broad concepts. We project presenting for your consideration at the State Convention in April, a revised statement of positions on criminal justice concepts that will incorporate present and future consensus into a broader philosophy of change in the criminal justice system in Texas; a philosophy within which we can work on specific problems both in the legislature and with state agencies, but which will give the league more flexibility in influencing upcoming events.

Candidly, the inclusion of a juvenile justice study with the adult system, both to be covered in a two year period, has created problems unforseen at the time. In order to do justice (no pun intended) to the adult system, it has required local league members to absorb an overwhelming amount of information (not to mention the state board director!). in too short a time period. It is most unusual to have two 8 page Facts and Issues and 26 consensus questions within a year's time, and I am the first to recommend we never do it again. However, we believe that it is necessary to understand the complex and detailed criminal justice system before we take positions and I, for one, do not regret the time and work involved. I am much heartened by most of your expressions of enthusiasm about the subject and I am proud of the interesting and innovative things many of you have been doing in your communities. We will be an important citizen voice in the upcoming legislative session on our criminal justice concerns, and in the future we hope to be an initiator of proposals rather than reactors to those proposed by others.

Juvenile Justice

FLASH _ Local leagues have the option to extend the Juvenile Justice consensus deadline to October 15, 1977. The reason for having a May deadline was to complete the study within the original 2 year time period.

After consultation, I discovered that it would be possible to extend the deadline if the material was in hand by local leagues prior to the end of the program biennium.

The material will be coming to you as outlined in the Guide to Calendar planning - a Leaders Guide and Facts and Issues in January, a VOTER supplement in March. and those leagues who have already scheduled meetigs have the option of having them in the spring or postponing them until September. (One reason for the stretch-out was our discovery that some leagues were not doing the adult justice - courts, trials and sentencing because of the juvenile study.)

The Juvenile Justice Task Force (the Speaker is not the only one to have a "task force") is has been working hard all through the summer and will have a bibliography ready for you in late fall. There will also be a questionnaire for local leagues to use in interviews with juvenile officials. With the questionnaire will come a request for the answers to the questions to be returned to the committee. Results will be tabulated and recirculated to local leagues.

Lucinda Headrick
Director, Water & Solid Waste
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. g.
Program - Water

WATER

First of all-I've got to say--you all are doing an absolutely terrific job gearing up for the election on the amendments. Your VOTERS are crammed with info and announcements of special meetings on the water bond amendments. Some of you have done an outstanding job educating your local news media. (Enclosed in the mailing to the LL Presidents is a samp le press release you might want to take to the local newspaper and TV). So--RIGHT ON!

PUBLIC FORUMS

FLASH-------Note change of dates & times for Ft. Worth & Dallas area:

Dallas	Oct. 5	7:00 p.m.	Dallas Hilton, Embassy Room
Mid-Cities	Oct. 6	2:00 p.m.	Arlington Rodeway Inn, Hwy. 360
	(Presidential Debate wins out)		
Ft. Worth	Oct. 22	7:00 p.m.	Hilton Inn, Times Sq. Room

Reports are coming in from the few that have been held to date. The format seems to be: James Rose (Exec. Dir. of TWDB) gives a slide show and PR for TWDB water development projects. It is inferred that the work must go on and that financing is necessary. He does not mention Amendment No. 1. When opposition does bring it up, he trys to claim the Nov. 2 money is for "more of the same"--not the water plan. But then later he twists and does mix it all up....Get the picture? No doubt about it. The Public Forums are not for water planning. They are to push for approval (with free publicity) of Amendment No. 1. Even the TWDB hand-outs imply this push.

Now--League Strategy-- Everyone attendgng the forums has a position. These people are not the ones we are trying to reach. We want the press to pick up our cry. Go ahead and stress the League's SUPPORT of comprehensive statewide water planning (refer to previous Action Alert.) However, make sure we state our OPPOSITION to Amendment #1 and SUPPORT of Amendment #2. Stress the "blank check" idea. Why should we sign on Nov 2 a blank check before the plan has been completed and presented to the people?

Tid Bits--Galveston LWV made a short, snappy statement which made the front page, versus the Sierra's long and involved one. They even "thanked" the TWDB for giving them the opportunity to publicly voice opposition to No. 1--and invited them back later when the plan is ready!

Have several copies of your statement to hand out to the press and TV (and send me a copy. I'm getting terrific ideas from you!)

Remember to be proud. The League is a credible organization. We stick to the facts and our opposition knows it. They are worried!

FYI AND CLARIFICATION

1. Our position paper is holding firm. As soon as the press obtained it, the TWDB suddenly announced Palmetto Bend is a transfer basin. They changed. We can document their earlier denials.

2. An Austin news column is making the rounds stating that eventually the General Revenue Fund will be paid back. That is not necessarily true. There is no law that forces repayment of a previous call on the General Revenue Fund. If revenues from water projects do come in. the principal and interest are paid to the Texas Water Development Bonds Interest and Sinking Fund. Any profits (which TWDB makes from

charging communities higher interest) goes into the Texas Water Development Fund which is a revolving fund. Get all that?

3. Watch out for statements saying "bonds have all been paid back on reservoirs in 1961-2-3, etc--therefore we support No. 1..." It was not until 1967 that the TWDB began having to dip into the General Revenue Fund.

4. This summer the State Auditor officially released the figure of $26,200,634.08 as the amount the TWDB has taken from the General Revenue Fund to meet its current debt service requirements on Water Development Fund bonds. The Comptroller's office estimates this figure is to rise to $36 million by the end of this fiscal year.

REMEMBER--CALL, WRITE, SEND PIGEON--IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, A PROBLEM OR A JOY TO SHARE (AND WE'RE GETTING SOME TOO!).

KEEP THEM CLIPPINGS COMIN'

Progress Report on PROJECT SAFEWATER Bobette Higgins, Project Director

Funded by a grant to the LWVEF from the EPA, an eleven-member task force, made up of Leaguers from all over the state, has been working like beavers all summer on some really excellent plans for a public information campaign blitz on the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974.

We met in Dallas in August for an all-day session and again in September in Austin for 2 1/2 days of intensive gettin'-it-together. Jean Anderson, EQ chair, LWVEF, and Fern Summer, SDWA Project Director at the national level, joined us.

We are having a letterhead designed with our own special PROJECT SAFEWATER logo, on which we will print several fact sheets concerning the SDWA, sample press releases, how-to information for holding successful meetings, promotional flyers, letters to specially affected groups (farmers, ranchers, mobile home operators, etc.). A slide show (with six copies) will be available, as will PSA announcements for TV and radio stations. Samples of all printed material will be included in a packet (also specially designed for the project) to be distributed to local Leagues and any interested organization, school, or group, to assist them in organizing public meetings. In this way we hope to help inform our largely-unaware state of the ramifications of this most important act. We'll send you this material as soon is it is available, and you may order as many extra copies of any of the various fact sheets, etc., as you wish, at no charge, for distribution at meetings (as long as supplies last). You might want to start lining up prospective program locations now. Plan on having material by the latter part of October.

Incidentally, Texas' program material was approved before any of the other state League awarded similar grants (10 in all) and was distributed to them as examples of "how-to-do-it-right." We've had beautiful cooperation from the state agencies involved, and from our regional EPA office in Dallas. I think you'll be proud of the results.

Thanks to the task force, whose superb diligence and cooperation got the job done, and thanks to the EPA for making it possible.

Barbara Nobles (Mrs. Donald)
Legislative Director
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

LEGISLATIVE

* SEE THE MAY '76 STATE BOARD REPORT

The five regional Lobby Learn-In workshops will be held in:

Midland	Monday, November 8
Harlingen	Friday, November 12
Houston	Tuesday, November 16
Austin	Wednesday, November 17
Dallas	Saturday, November 20

The workshops will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch.

The exact locations will be sent to you with the next LL President's mailing. Mark the day that you want to attend on your calendars now.

The importance of local League lobbying, the function of the Capitol Corps, priorities, how to handle opposition, and handy "where's" and "how to's" while in Austin will be discussed. An excellent film on "The Governmental Process: The State Legislature", prepared by the Connecticut LWV with Aetna Life and Casualty will be shown. One of your local legislators will be asked to speak to us about what it is like to be a legislator. We will discuss bills we know will be coming up and why we may or may not support them.

As you can see, we are planning a full and fun day for our Lobby Learn-In. I will be there to learn from you who your legislators are, what their main interests are, and the best ways to approach them.

See you there!

Bobette Higgins, (Mrs. Wilfred)
Director, Land Use
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. d.
Program - Land Use

LAND USE

It was the decision of the NR committee and the state board to make the implementation of the proposed Coastal Management Program the top legislative priority in the area of environmental concerns during the coming legislative session. This developing program, at present, seems very promising, and is certainly a great improvement over the present situation on the coast. Therefore, coastal Leagues, be considering action in this area during the legislative session, and plan accordingly. INLAND LEAGUES, WE NEED YOUR HELP, TOO!

The Citizen's Advisory Committee meets in Houston on the 6th and 29th of October, the 19th of November, and the 15th of December for the vital purpose of putting the current recommendations into a legislative package for the consideration of the legislature. This committee has worked together remarkably well so far, and I fervently hope this same condition prevails ws we get down to specifics.

If you coastal Leagues are willing, I will hold another briefing in Houston at the Airport Hotel on the 16th of December (I KNOW it's awfully close to the holiday season) in order to go over the legislative proposals, and to "strategize" for action. I'll invite a staff member to brief us, too, perhaps Jep Hill who will have the major responsibility in drawing up the new proposed legislation. LET ME HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT THIS IDEA.

I have read the statements of all Leagues who testified in the recent CMP hearings held over the state in August and September. You 're doing great work, and I hope yuu are joined by other Leagues in this effort. The San Antonio League gets the gold star for effort this round--not only did they testify at the hearing, they contacted other groups and solicited their testimony; they held a public meeting a few days before the hearing; they had TV showings of that lovely film, "Faces of the Coast,"; and got several newspaper articles printed. In fact, their efforts were so succesful that one article credited the LEAGUE with the Coastal Management Program, a bit of misinformation that brought a grin to the collective faces of the people in the General Land Office.

ABOUT SECTION 208

A call from Betty Williamson, Public Information Officer of the EPA Region VI, informed me that Texas local Leagues (SOME of them) would be receiving grants to participate in the development of programs for public involvement in the 208 decisions ahead. I hope ALL OF YOU who are asked will take on this exciting responsibility. I will explore the possibility of scrounging some grant money to coordinate some group get-togethers of those involved, so we each know what the other is up so, and can swap techniques and ideas. Please let me hear from those of you who are involved in this project. (I've already heard from Houston.)

Laura Keever (Mrs. Phillip)
Off-board Chair, Energy
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. b.
Program - Energy

ENERGY

Success!! I am very happy to report to you that the Governor has now applied for the planning funds available from FEA for developing state energy conservation plans under the Energy policy and Conservation Act. Your response to our Action Alert was great and obviously meaningful to the Governor's office. The fact that 49 states and 5 territories had applied on time also was a motivating factor. However, the Governor's office now knows that there are people out there who CARE about this program. Thank you for your telegrams, mailgrams, letters, and telephone calls.

The next s ep will be development of the plan itself, and we will know more clearly what is necessary with the issuance of the Final Guidelines--please watch for these to be published in the Federal Register sometime in October. The planning funds are to be received by the Office of Budget and Planning (in the Governor's Office); however, I expect that the Governor's Energy Advisory Council will be the agency that actually develops the plan. The plan will be due five months from the date of issuance of the Guidelines; I will keep you advised as developments occur.

For those of you who have not done so, I encourage you to obtain a copy of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, which President Ford signed on August 14. This is the so-called FEA Extension Act, but as the correct title conveys, there are several parts of the bill which relate to conservation. (See the last Report from the Hill). There is a title relating to rate design initiatives for electric utilities which requires that FEA develop proposals relating to (1) load management techniques which are cost effective; (2) rates which reflect marginal cost of service, or time of use of service, or both; (3) ratemaking policies which discourage inefficient use of fuel and encourage economical purchases of fuel; and (4) rates which encourage electric utility system reliability and reliability of major items of electric utility equipment. These proposals must be transmitted to Congress by February 14. Funds were authorized for demonstration projects relating to these areas as well as funds to allow FEA to intervene in any proceedings before a state utility regulatory commission on the request of a state or any participant in the proceeding. Grants are also provided for states to establish offices of consumer services to assist consumers in their presentations before utility regulatory commissions.

The Act also contains a title relating to energy conservation standards for new buildings, specifically providing for "performance standards for new residential and commercial buildings which are designed to achieve the maximum practicable improvements in energy efficiency and increases in the use of nondepletable sources of energy", and to "encourage States and local governments to adopt and enforce such standards through their existing building codes and other construction control mechinisms, or to apply them through a special approval process". The performance standards must be developed within three years.

Another title relates to weatherization assistance for low-income persons. FEA is to publish proposed regulations for this portion of the act by October 14 for public comment. The state may apply for these funds; however, if it does not submit an application, any unit of general purpose, local government of sufficient size (as determined by FEA), or a community action agency carrying out programs under Title II of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 may submit an application. Please watch for the proposed guidelines--as well as whether or not the Governor applies for the funds. I will be following this closely and keep you informed as well; we may have to both encourage him to apply for the funds, and then if he does not, approach this from the local level. The funding authorizations are $55 million for the fiscal year ending

September 30, 1977; $65 million for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978, and $80 million for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1979.

Another portion of this title authorizes supplemental state energy conservation plans and relates particularly to public awareness programs. There will be more guidelines (due February 14) and a supplemental state energy conservation plan must be developed. The authorized (not appropriated) funding includes $25 million for fiscal year 1977; $40 million for fiscal year 1978 and $40 million for fiscal year 1979.

Another provision of this title authorizes a $200 million HUD demonstration program to encourage homeowners to make energy conservation investments. This includes subsidies of up to $400 or 20% of a loan for conventional energy devices and of up to $2,000 or 25% of loans for renewable resource (solar, wind, etc.) investments.

The final provision of this title provides for an FEA-administered loan guarantee program of up to $2 billion for small business, industry, large commercial users, state and local governments, and private non-profit institutions. This program is designed to encourage investments in energy conservation and renewable resource technologies in order to meet federal energy efficiency goals. Individual loan guarantees are limited to 90% of the principal.

I anticipate reluctance on the part of some of our state officials to participate in these programs. Please give these programs your support at every opportunity.

Liz Davies (Mrs. Stanley)
Director, Human Resources
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 2. d.
Program - Housing

STATE-WIDE CONFERENCE ON FAIR HOUSING LAWS

When & where: October 19th &20th, 1976
Travelodge Motel, San Antonio
Sponsored by: Texas Department of Community Affairs and Coalition on Women & Housing.

In the next few days the presidents of each local League in Texas will receive an invitation to a conference addressing existing Fair Housing Laws. The conference is designed to bring together legislators, advocates, officials in the various agencies of government on the national, state, and local levels, and representatives from attending fields such as credit and mortgage bankers. Invited participants include Earlene Jewitt of TDCA, Joyce Skinner and James Blair of HUD. Penny Murn of the LWV of Houston is also on the program.

The invitations are being sent to all organizations with statewide membership which have indicated interest in the need for adequate administration and implementation of fair housing laws.

Background: This conference has been planned by a coalition of individuals and representatives of organizations who first came together in 1974 to plan and present the San Antonio public hearing on "discrimination against women in housing." That hearing was held in February, 1975, funded by HUD through a grant to the National Council of Negro Women. The League of Women Voters was involved with the project from the beginning on the national, state, and local levels. The publication, Women & Housing, A Report on Sex Discrimination in Five American Cities, documents the findings and is available for $3.40 from Supt. of Documents, U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C.. Publication # 023-000-00316-3.

As an outgrowth of the hearing, the San Antonio Coalition has stayed together, meeting on a monthly basis. This conference on Fair Housing Laws is the result of their continuing interest. I hope that local Leagues will send representatives...it will be worth the time & expense.

Diana Tilley (Mrs. Charles L.)
Publications, State Office Coordinator
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September 1976
State Board Report
Standing Order
I.R.
Administration
Publications

PUBLICATIONS

I. Old Business -- OR -- She's About To Give You The Business

I realize that your reaction to the following probably will be one of the following: 1) yes, we can try to distribute publications according to what's outlined; 2) yes, we've already done everything mentioned; 3) is she out of her mind!? We're lucky if we can manage to do the bare minimum in program, voters service and membership!

If your reaction is the latter, I want you to know that I understand--but don't like it any more than you do. I do think that with total board commitment publications can become a high priority as an important link between the national, state and local Leagues and the membership and community. Program committees can have a means of disseminating all the research they've dedicated months and years of their lives to gathering; CI/VS chairs can enhance their voter registration drives by promoting material on why to vote and how to use voting strategy; the Speakers Bureau can further punctuate their speeches by having related publications (or at least catalogues) available at speaking engagements; finance committees, using a variety of LWVUS, LWV-T and local League publications, can show a potential contributor that the League is doing SOMETHING that he or she might want to support financially; the treasurer will be delighted if you're able to turn a profit on publications sales, I don't think membership can survive without the show & tell publications provide; and on and on and on. My point is: relate what I've just said to your own portfolio, look through the national and state catalogues, and as a total board. begin to use publications (including multimedia) to your best advantage. And when budget time rolls around, don't forget that although publications used in citizen information/public relations ways will cost money and that the returns probably will be indirect, there will be lasting returns.

Update on Most Recent LWV-T Publications

Register and Vote in Texas: has been distributed through sales to local Leagues, LWV-T direct contact with military bases in Texas, statewide associations, large corporations, public utilities, groups with active voter registration drives. Remaining inventory to be used prior to spring elections.

We Support: Expect re-ordering by local Leagues for finance drives, new members, lobbying.

State Program, A Historical Perspective: Local Leagues should continue to promote as a "forever" publication every member will want to have. Also good for new member packet since it's informative, not too expensive, and big. (That may have been a self-revealing statement.)

HELP, Local League Program Directory: Be sure that at least your program vice-president (but preferably your program chairs too) has a copy of this. It's something you'll want to have available in your local office (which may be in a box under your bed) as part of your permanent files.

Criminal Justice System in Texas: Courts, Trials and Sentencing: Vitally important as a means of informing members prior to consensus. LWV-T has contacted the outside-of-League purchasers of the first AJ F&Issues (quantity orders). You might want to do the same locally--if you keep those kinds of records. For those of you who don't--I know, I know--"Is SHE crazy!? We're lucky if we can do the bare minimum ....."

SEE REVERSE FOR NEW BUSINESS

II. New Business

The state board has approved the creation of a LWV-T Public Subscription Service, a publications service to be offered to libraries of colleges, universities, and community colleges in Texas. The purpose of this subscription service is: 1) to disseminate League information, 2) to raise League profile, 3) to distribute current state League publications inventory, 4) to increase LWV-T income.

Within the next four weeks, we'll be sending a flyer describing this service, along with a sample of one LWV-T publication and one LWVUS publication, to possible subscribers. Based on what we could have made available this year, a subscriber would have received 44 select and timely LWV-T and LWVUS publications for $15.00 including tax and postage. The service will begin January 1 and will cost $15.00 per year, with publications to be mailed quarterly. We'll be sending a copy of the flyer in the October local League presidents mailing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: Although we're beginning with educational institutions, we're hoping to increase the number and scope of subscribers. Please submit names of local prospects as soon as possible.

Direct Sales: In order to share some of our fine research with others outside the League, we'll be sending sample copies of the most recent Facts and Issues to those appropriate department heads of colleges and universities. A cover letter will describe their potential use as curriculum material.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: I need success stories--quick. Galveston College ordered 500 copies each of last year's FSG and AJ F&I's so they obviously were required material. Let me know of other similar instances. There's nothing like a good testimonial. Also, you might consider using this same approach with your local high schools--in your spare time.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO--OR HOLD OVER MY HEAD

Library List: LWV-New Jersey has provided their local Leagues with a list of publications suitable for placing on local library shelves. I know some of you already do this, but for those of you who don't, I'll be sending you (in the next LL Pres. mailing) a similar list, appropriate for Texas Leagues.

New Publications Catalogue: A new catalogue will be published in late Dec., to be effective Jan. 1. The state board has approved a change in LWV-T pricing policies to conform with LWVUS policies. Postage will be included in the per copy price, however, we will not require pre-payment of orders. THIS WILL NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL JANUARY 1 AND WILL REQUIRE SOME PRICE CHANGES.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: First--the new catalogue will include a local-League want-ad section a la LWVUS' catalogue. Start thinking about what you might have to offer other local Leagues: local survey and study pubs., CI/VS information, pins, bumper stickers, etc. A want-ad form will be sent later. Last--I'd like to add a list of local League study and action publications (including slide shows, bus tours, etc.) to the HELP, LL Program Directory so that the booklet will better reflect the total activity of League program. I'd appreciate your sending me a list of those items you think are still current and/or would be of some use in terms of format, graphics, etc.

III. State Office Operations: Members change-of-addresses must be sent to the state office quickly. Return postage for the Texas VOTER is up to 25¢ a piece these days, and it's very painful to shell out those quarters. Also, please use those yellow LWVUS membership forms for reporting the changes.

I think it's important that members understand that to a great extent the efficiency of the state office is dependent on the information received from the local Leagues and state board. I can't tell you how lucky we are to have Joann Lovelace and her assistant, Sissie Potetz, in the office. The workload is tremendous, the pressure to meet promised deadlines is always there, and coffeebreaks and lunch hours are non-existent. In spite of this, friendliness and helpfulness are their top priorities. The next time you're in Austin, stop by and see for yourself. In the meantime, we can help by following procedures and meeting deadlines--and guess who's typing her own late board report. Do as I say, not as I do!

Peggy Farmer (Mrs. Lester)
Director, Membership
[redacted]

LWV-Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. K.
Administration-Membership

In order to increase the Members at Large (MAL), we are planning a contest among all MALs. Not only will we strive to increase the MAL membership, but we also encourage formation of Units at Large. A letter with all the details will go out to each MAL. The MAL who brings in the most new members will be given a prize and special recognition at the State Convention. We also hope to encourage attendance of all MALs at State Convention.

Will all Leagues please remember to send to the state office changes of address for all members who have moved to non-League areas of Texas. We know some Leagues do this on a routine basis but others never do. Please help us to keep the members we have.

Board members have all the fun--sometimes!! We know each League has a non-board member who works in the background and receives little credit, either by choice or by oversight. Now is the time to recognize that member. Will each League be thinking about your non-board members who have done something special for your League. Maybe one person has done many "invisible" but yet important things for your League. We hope to publish a two-page newsletter spotlighting members throughout Texas. This information sheet will either be given out at State Convention or be an every-member mailing, or both. We know there are so many special members that it would be impossible to spotlight each one. More than one name may be submitted. Tell us how this person has been special to your League. We shall try to make this as representative of as many Leagues as possible, but please don't be discouraged if we do not use all the names submitted. We also encourage you to send black and white pictures. Please help us to make this one of the most informative and interesting membership newsletter you have ever read.

I expect each League to submit at least one name. Start submitting those names right now!

The LWVUS has produced a new slide show entitled, "ARE YOU A POTENTIAL CANDIDATE: LEAGUE WOMEN IN POLITICS." This membership tool is a 35mm, color slide show that uses music and humor in revealing the League as the best training ground for women in politics. This new slide show will soon be available at the state office for loan to those Leagues which do not feel they can afford to buy this. Please reserve this by writing to the state office.

If your League has devised some successful membership ideas, why not share them with us so that other Leagues might benefit. Blow your horns a little.

Here's to a membership increase in every League during this year of the debates!

P.S. Your League would need to pay the postage if you desire to borrow the slide show mentioned above, but it will be less than the $10.00 cost of the presentation.

Jan Moore (Mrs. Robert M.)
Texas VOTER Editor
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. W.
Administration-VOTERS

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION

Most local League bulletins are mimeographed, using typed stencils with hand-drawn illustrations. The great majority of bulletin editors care a lot about their publication and want to produce the best possible results. It is hoped that these tips will help you to achieve that desired end.

Read the directions provided in your package of stencils.

Be sure to set your typewriter ribbon control lever in the "stencil" position.

Use coated cushion sheet under stencil, glossy side up. Use typing film on top of stencil--it keeps your typewriter keys clean and produces a heavier-lined impression.

Try several settings of the "touch" regulator. A setting between 6 and 8 usually makes a good mimeograph impression.

Try to leave eye-pleasing margins on each page.

Give some thought to "matching up" pages which face each other.

Vary the arrangement of copy with columns, boxed items, varied widths of margins, etc.

Experiment with different characters on your typewriter to "draw" borders, divide columns, form boxes to call attention to special items.

+ Use a stylus with a firm, steady pressure when tracing, drawing, or printing.

+ Use a ruler to draw even the tiniest straight line in a picture.

+ Use a clear plastic protractor to make circles and curves in your drawings.

+ Invest in as many different sizes of styli, kinds of shading plates, and styles of letter guides as your budget will allow.

Basic and best investment: a mimeograph flexible writing plate and a mimeoscope, which is an illuminated drawing board.

Consider using an electronic stencil for your masthead. Check with office supply stores, office equipment or business machine firms, or the Yellow Pages, to find a place to cut the stencil. You can past up your own design. These stencils can be saved and re-used month after month, and are very reasonable.

Use stencil correction fluid to its maximum potential. If the directions on the box are carefully followed, and the fluid allowed to dry completely, a multitude of slips can be covered and many a stencil saved.

Keep an idea file of line drawings, layouts, and other samples from newspapers and magazines, advertisements, and other bulletins.

Be sure your equipment is kept in good repair. Take your time. Proofread. And then ENJOY the compliments that are sure to come your was as The Editor of your bulletin!

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AND NOW A WORD ABOUT SEX--
(NEUTRAL LANGUAGE, THAT IS)

McGraw-Hill Book Company, in its pamphlet, Guidelines for Equal Treatment of the Sexes in McGraw-Hill Book Company Publications, defines the word sexism as having been coined, by analogy to racism, to denote discrimination based on gender. In its original sense, sexism referred to prejudice against the female sex. In a broader sense, the term now indicates any arbitrary stereotyping of males and females on the basis of gender. The guidelines state further:

> "We believe that educational and reference materials...should reflect a deep conviction that every human being has a dignity and worth that is her or his own, no more dependent on sex than on race or color, but rather reflecting that individual's own inner being...What is important is not particular forms of expression as such, but this pervasive sense of equality, personal worth, and the unhindered development of potential. Particular words and ways of using them, however, do often express such a sense of dignity and equality, or, on the other hand, may betray an insensitivity to it of which the writer may be quite unaware...."

Here are some specific examples of sexist language vs. sex-neutral language:

Sexist	Sex-Neutral
Henry Harris is a shrewd lawyer and his wife, Anne, is a striking brunette.	The Harrises are an attractive couple. Henry is a handsome blond and Anne is a striking brunette. OR The Harrises are an interesting couple. Henry is a shrewd lawyer and Anne is very active in civic affairs.

"Women and men should be treated with the same respect, dignity, and seriousness. Neither should be trivialized or stereotyped...Women should not be described by physical attributes when men are being described by mental attributes or professional position..."

---

the girls)	
)--(when adult females are	the women
the ladies) meant)	
lady (used as a modifier, as in "lady lawyer")	lawyer ("The lawyer made her summation to the jury.")
libber (a put-down)	feminist or liberationist

When gender modifiers must be used, use "female" or "women."

Note that lady and gentleman, wife and husband, and mother and father are role words. Ladies should be used for women only when men are being referred to as gentlemen. Parallel language should be used for women and men.

---

congressman	member of Congress
businessman	business executive; business manager
statesman	leader; public servant
chairman	presiding officer; the chair; head; leader; coordinator; moderator

Insofar as possible, job titles should be nonsexist. Different nomenclature should not be used for the same job depending on whether it is held by a male or a female.

---

you and your wife you and your husband	you and your spouse

Language that assumes all readers are male (or female) should be avoided.

The McGraw-Hill guidelines point out that since the English language lacks a generic singular pronoun signifying he or she, it has been customary and grammatically sanctioned to use the masculine pronoun he, but that various alternatives may be considered, such as:

1) Rewording to eliminate unnecessary gender pronouns:

The average American drinks his coffee black.	The average American drinks black coffee.

2) Recast into the plural: Most Americans drink their coffee black.
3) Replace the masculine pronoun with one, you, he or she, her or his, as is appropriate. It is suggested that one use he or she and its variations sparingly to avoid clumsy prose.

The fourth alternative suggests using he and making it clear it refers to both females and males. In League materials we so often assume that all members are female; we are sexist but discriminate against men! This alternative would mean continuing to use she and making it clear in the material that it refers to both men and women. This is clearly the least satisfactory alternative for us.

Remember that the concerns about sexist language are two-fold. It is important to consider how our words are heard by both males and females, but equally important to consider what sexist language says about the persons or organizations using it in their publications.

##########

CONSIDER THE MEMBER

The average member is not a member of the board of directors; may or may not attend a unit meeting every month; probably is not a member of a study or action committee; and, in some cases, depends solely upon your bulletin to keep informed about League activities on a local level, and on the Texas VOTER to keep abreast of statewide positions and action. When editing copy, look for the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, and HOW that makes the article understandable to all--including the public (which always contains potential members). Make your communications vehicle an outboard, not an inboard!

Barbara Materka (Mrs. Wm. J.)
Director, Communications
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September , 1976
State Board Report
I. S.
Administration - PR

TWO REQUESTS AND TWO RECOMMENDATIONS

First, a big thank you to those LLs which have been sending me copies of their newspaper clippings. Among the "regulars" have been Amarillo, Richardson, San Marcos, and Rockwall Provisional. Marshall/Harrison County Provisional recently sent some fine examples. I'm not mentioning all the names, but all efforts have been appreciated.

Request number one: Some of you have asked why League requests your clippings in the first place and what we do with them after receiving them, soI'll try to formulate a short answer. Of prime importance is the fact that it provides one more means, in addition to reading your VOTERS, of keeping in touch with, and informed about, what is going on at the local League level. Your activities are reported in your own VOTER, true, but the impact on your local community of those activities cannot be ascertained from the VOTER. Newspaper clippings, especially tear sheets, show this much more clearly. Also, in analyzing what was successfully newsworthy, we can be helpful to those local Leagues which ask for information on how to improve their newspaper image.

At a recent counterpart workshop in the Houston area, your Communications Chair assembled two posters of LL newspaper coverage to illustrate how different League portfolios can be the basis of good coverage and how that coverage benefits all portfolios. News photos were shown and discussed; illustrations of appropriate times to write letters to the editor were included. Examples of League-oriented editorials were featured. Without help from a number of you who sent in clippings, this section of the Media Workshop would have had to be eliminated.

So, in summary, please keep those clippings coming--they are useful and they are being used! One copy is all we ask, sent directly to me. This is an exception to the rule, "3 of everything to state office."

Request number two concerns the fact that LWV-T is trying to develop a "VIP list" of people around the state who, in addition to state legislators and elected officials, should be receiving the TEXAS VOTER on a regular basis. If you have a name or several names you would like to see included, will you please send those to me ASAP. Consider organizations and libraries.

The first recommendation is that, if you can spare $1.00 from your PR budget or from your Board Tools allocation, do order a publication called Media Action Handbook. It is a well-indexed, easy-to-read, concise but complete encyclopedia on everything you could possibly want to know about your PR job. The format and illustrations are superb. Veta Winick, public relations for LWVUS, recommended it in a memo, I ordered one, and couldn't be more pleased. Do order Media Action Handbook from:

National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing
[redacted]
(Cost: $1.00, prepaid)

Recommendation number two comes as a result of the aforementioned area workshop in Houston. I had asked Mae Martin of the Houston LWV to do an illustrated talk on how to prepare a slide show, since she was doing one for their Voters Srrvice use. Her presentation was so thorough and excellent that it seemed it should be shared with more League members. Therefore, she agreed to send information to any of you who might request it. Think of ways in which your League could utilize a slide show, then write for help to: Mae Martin, [redacted]

Barbara Glickman (Mrs. Barney)
Treasurer, LWV-T
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. D. 2. e.
Administration
State Budget

BUDGET ANALYSIS - 1st Quarter 1976-77
June 1, 1976 - August 31, 1976

INCOME		BUDGETED	ACTUAL	BALANCE
A. Pledges		33950.00	8137.52	25776.48
B. Members-at-Large dues		450.00	60.00	390.00
C. Publications		5700.00	2154.57	3545.43
1. DPM	1080.00			
2. Standing Order	1176.00			
3. Leg. Newsletter	5.00			
4. Other	253.57			
D. Interest		215.00	-0-	215.00
E. Contributions				
1. Members-Cash		250.00	10.00	240.00
2. Members-In kind		500.00	149.14	350.86
3. Non-members-Cash (net)		1416.00	1200.00	216.00
4. Non-members-Non cash		400.00	-0-	400.00
F. Election Night Reporting		2000.00	-0-	2000.00
G. Anticipated Cash Res. Ins. Acct.*		-0-	1278.04	(1278.04)
H. Convention '77		5000.00	-0-	5000.00
I. LWV-TEF Reimbursement				
1. Overhead Grants Adm.		120.00	-0-	120.00
2. General Administration				
a. Office Overhead, 1/4 SO Costs**		4975.00	273.60	4701.40
b. Trustees Mtgs., 1/4 SB Mtgs.**		1200.00	407.45	792.55
TOTAL		56176.00	13706.32	40669.68

* Balance in Gen. Oper. Acct.

** Actual Column reflects amount received for 1975-76 Fiscal Year

EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	IN-KIND	VARIANCE
A. State Office Operating Costs				
1. Equipment Maintenance & Maintenance Contracts	720.00	48.00		672.00
2. General Supplies	1810.00	370.25		1439.95
3. Postage	2400.00	694.65		1705.35
4. Telephone	750.00	164.56		585.44
5. Insurance & Bonding	230.00	17.00		213.00
6. Fixed Cost				
a. Rent	2700.00	800.00		1900.00
b. Salaries	9550.00	2715.90		6834.10
c. Payroll Taxes	717.00	249.47		467.53
7. Audit & Tax Report	300.00	16.15		283.85
8. New equipment (inc. accrual)	500.00	-0-		500.00
Sub total	19677.00	5075.98		14601.02
B. Board & Administrative Costs				
1. President				
a. Travel	775.00	148.30		626.70
b. Per Diem	200.00	10.00	16.50	173.50
c. Secretarial Assistance in Lubbock	-0-	-0-		-0-
d. Telephone	250.00	46.18		203.83
e. Representation	250.00	-0-		250.00
2. Treasurer	100.00	13.11		86.89
3. Board				
a. Tools & Material	400.00	315.50		84.50
b. State Board Meetings	4800.00	18.30		4781.70
c. Administration	200.00	58.56	2.60	138.84
4. Administrative Committees				
a. Development	200.00	4.50		195.50
b. Public Relations	175.00	-0-		175.00
c. Budget	150.00	-0-		150.00
d. Nominating*	150.00	28.40		121.60
e. Ad Hoc Financial Support	250.00	-0-		250.00
Sub total	7900.00	642.85	19.10	7238.05
C. Services to Local Leagues				
1. Organization				
a. Current Local Leagues	2100.00	358.82	34.78	1706.40
b. New Leagues	1075.00	115.77	62.25	896.98
c. Members-at-Large	315.00	7.33		307.67
2. Presidents Mailings	875.00	-0-		875.00
3. Local Program Supervision	25.00	-0-		25.00
4. Membership	150.00	.92		149.08
Sub total	4540.00	482.84	97.03	3960.13
D. Convention - Council				
1. State Convention '77	5000.00	-0-		5000.00
2. National Council, Delegate Exp.	800.00	-0-		800.00
Sub total	5800.00			5800.00
E. National Services				
1. Pledge	8654.00	2163.50		6490.50
2. PMP for MALs (30 @ 4.50)	135.00	-0-		135.00
Sub total	8789.00	2163.50		6625.50

EXPENDITURES (cont.)	BUDGETED	ACTUAL	IN-KIND	VARIANCE
F. VOTER	1600.00	109.90		1490.10
G. Publications-Prod. & Distr. Cost				
1. DPM (100 @ $15)	1500.00	-0-		1500.00
2. Standing Orders (200 @ $7)	1400.00	-0-		1400.00
3. Leg. Newsletter (100 @ $5)	500.00	-0-		500.00
Sub total	3400.00			3400.00
H. Position Support & Activities				
1. Program Supervision*	25.00	61.74		36.74
2. State Program Action				
a. PSF & PTR	125.00			125.00
b. Land Use	125.00			125.00
c. FSG	125.00			125.00
d. Administration of Justice	200.00	30.72		169.28
e. Human Resources				
1. ERA	25.00	11.53	1.50	11.97
2. Housing	25.00	1.17	1.50	21.33
3. Revenue Sharing	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
4. Welfare	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
5. Education	25.00	2.16	1.50	21.34
f. Natural Resources				
1. Air	50.00	6.25		43.75
2. Energy	75.00	17.06	7.50	50.44
3. Water & Solid Waste	100.00	48.66	10.00	41.34
4. Transportation	50.00	6.25		43.75
g. Voting Rights	50.00		8.01	41.99
h. State-Local Relations	-0-			-0-
i. Mod. State Govt.	15.00			15.00
j. TCR	-0-			-0-
3. National Program Action				
a. International Relations	30.00			30.00
b. Representative Govt.	40.00			40.00
c. Campaign Finance	-0-			-0-
4. Legislative Office				
a. Telephone	500.00			500.00
b. Director's Expenses	500.00			500.00
c. Secretary	1935.00			1935.00
Sub total	4070.00	190.86	33.01	3846.13
I. Professional Assistance	400.00			400.00
GRAND TOTAL	56176.00	8665.93	149.14	47630.93

* For 1975-76 expenses

State Board Report — Budget Analysis

BANK ACCOUNTS, ETC.	BALANCE 6/1/76	Deposits	Expenses	BALANCE 8/31/76
General Operating Account	1278.04	13015.07	9343.05	4950.06
TEF	652.47			652.47
Time Deposits	4212.84			4212.84
Reserves (Savings Account)	2228.43			2228.43
	8371.78	13015.07	9343.05	12043.80

TEF ACCOUNTS	
Legislative Research Material	553.51
Public School Finance	34.92
Financing State Government	28.67
Voters Keys	1.12
National Revenue Sharing	34.25
	652.47

The $652.47 in the TEF Account will be refunded to the LWV-T Ed. fund.

LOCAL LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR STATE AND NATIONAL SERVICES
June 1, 1976 to August 31, 1976

LEAGUE	Accepted 1976-77	Amount paid to: TEF	Gen. Op.	Balance
Abilene	$ 340.00			$ 340.00
Amarillo	770.00		$ 225.00	545.00
Austin	1770.00		442.29	1327.71
Bay Area	700.00			700.00
Baytown	555.00			555.00
Beaumont	315.00		204.25	110.75
Brazos County	750.00		375.00	375.00
Brownsville	310.00			310.00
Corpus Christi	1015.00		900.00	115.00
Dallas	4335.00			4335.00
Deer Park	300.00			300.00
Denton	810.00		202.25	607.75
*Eastern Bell County	225.00**			225.00
Edinburg-McAllen	320.00		160.00	160.00
El Paso	965.00			965.00
*Gainesville	300.00			300.00
Galveston	1600.00		400.00	1200.00
Garland	394.00			394.00
Harlingen	300.00		300.00	-0-
Houston	5500.00		1375.00	4125.00
*Huntsville	300.00			300.00
Irving	1380.00			1380.00
Lamar Co.	480.00			480.00
*Longview	200.00***		200.00	-0-
Lubbock	350.00			350.00
*Marshall-Harrison Co.	200.00***		200.00	-0-
Midland	535.00		535.00	-0-
Odessa	300.00		75.00	225.00
Orange Area	300.00			300.00
Pasadena	300.00		150.00	150.00
Pearland	300.00		75.00	225.00
Plano	300.00			300.00
Richardson	540.00		135.55	404.45
San Antonio Area	1500.00		750.00	750.00
San Marcos	420.00			420.00
Sherman	685.00		685.00	-0-
Tarrant Co.	2270.00		580.00	1690.00
Tyler	335.00			335.00
Victoria	600.00	150.00	150.00	300.00
Waco Area	510.00		254.18	255.82
Wichita Falls	500.00			500.00
Sub total	33879.00	150.00	8373.52****	25355.48
Added since Convention:				
*Rockwall	200.00		200.00	-0-
GRAND TOTAL	34079.00	150.00	8573.52	25355.48

* Provisional League
** Prorated for fiscal year
*** Paid in 1975-76 fiscal year
**** Included in 1975-76 fiscal year

Bobette Higgins (Mrs. Wilfred)
Public Relations VP, Land Use
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. S.
Administration
Public Relations

PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was decided by the state board to honor newly elected legislators at a reception in January, to which we will invite all legislators and the top state elected officials. The reception will be held during the regular meeting of the state board in January, which will coincide with the opening of the legislative session.

One of the many benefits of having our state office in Austin, and holding board meetings there, is the opportunity of making numerous important contacts such as this reception will provide. Since the board meets in a handsome, stately old home on the grounds of an Episcopal seminary, we will have a perfect setting for this event. And we are particularly fortunate in having members of the Austin League (hello, Donna Green) cater this reception, in addition to supplying meals for all our regular state board meetings, at considerable savings to the state League, and a profit for the Austin League coffers.

We look forward to this reception, and urge you to mention it to your legislators when you see them in December, and remind them to attend.

Another type of contact with governmental decision-makers which is becoming a tradition at state board meetings (well, we've done it twice, and plan to repeat it--"traditions" develop before your very eyes in our fast-moving world) is the practice of inviting a speaker or two to discuss a topic informally with us. Last time, Rep. Wayne Peveto (D-Orange) met with us to talk on our top legislative priority, property tax reform. At the previous board meeting, Senator Max Sherman (D-Amarillo) shed some light on the complexities of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Both of these are examples of what I call Purposeful PR. Let us know what kind of purposeful PR you're planning!

Adelyn Duke (Mrs. Ray)
Texas Constitutional Revision, Off-board
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 5.
Program - TCR

TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Although Texas Constitutional Revision is presently low on the priority list for action, this does not mean we are any less committed to it now than we were this time last year. Because we set aside everything else and worked on TCR as top priority the past two years, other items are now in the forefront for timeliness and possible accomplishment. Even so, it is still imperative that we keep our members reminded of our TCR positions so that we can be ready to act should the occasion arise. It is generally felt that this is not the time to push for overall revision and that more can be accomplished piecemeal through amendments, article by article replacement, and in some cases, statutory change. It may be that this process can sufficiently deal with those portions that aroused opposition from special interest groups, thus making complete revision a greater likelihood at some later date.

League members should not feel defensive or apologetic for our support of the defeated constitution, nor should we feel anything but proud of our long-standing effort along the revision highway. Many experts had warned us that it would not be easy and that constitutional revision is rarely successful on its first try. As you talk with your legislators, be ready to fill them in on League positions and be sure to report any information you glean relating to TCR, although there are no specific questions included for the interviews.

Someone in each Local League--be it program vice-president, state program chair, TCR, legislative action, or membership--should assume the responsibility for seeing that every person who joins the League is oriented in TCR and becomes converted to this long-standing commitment of ours. Start now to build that dedicated nucleus of informed citizens who can be relied upon for concerted effort the next time around.

Helen Hunter (Mrs. John)
Organization Vice Pres.
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. O.
Administration-Organization

Now is the time to check your calendars and notify the appropriate people about those once-a-year chores. If you have not sent three copies of your budget, bylaws, and policy guide to state office, please do so. Don't forget to send three copies of your board minutes and one copy of your VOTER each month to S. O. Check LWV-Texas bylaws and send suggested changes to state office by December 15.

As we start the new program year, I hope you are planning new approaches to the unit meetings. Why not try one month having each unit plan their own agenda? A night unit does not necessarily have to have the same program as the day units. Have them develop their own program; or act as a committee to develop a new program. Have you tried having one unit act as an action unit? or VS unit? Be flexible.

Jane Peterman (Mrs. Edwin D.)
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
I. O.
Administration
Organization

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Every local League in Texas has experienced, or has scheduled training or consultation with a state board member since Council. Remarkable, considering our geography and finances! The majority of Leagues requested "nuts and bolts" or individual portfolio training. Over one-third of the Leagues requested "leadership development training" to augment their own in-house portfolio exchange/training. The participant evaluation forms from the "area specialized" portfolio training included comments like:

...nice to become acquainted with state board
...great idea
...best one attended
...liked having Betty and Veta talk--gave a feeling of LWV unity on state and national level
...repeat two or three times a year

The leadership development committee plans to research additional training possibilities (such as management training) and attempt a course description prior to the round of training next year. All suggestions, comments, and training experienced with other groups will be researched and evaluated for use. Input from local League boards and members is welcomed.

Chris Brasher (Mrs. Thomas)
Director, off-board: Executive (MSG)
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 3. a.
Program - State
MSG - Executive

THE "HOBBY COMMISSION"

Toward the end of the 64th session of the Legislature, Senator Bill Patman of Ganado was successful in getting a bill through the Senate and House which somewhat reflected the purpose of the "Little Hoover Commission." After fruitless efforts in session after session for the past several years, Senate Bill 319, sponsored by Patman, was finally adopted.

SB 319 created the Joint Advisory Committee on Government Operations, now widely known as the "Hobby Commission." Just as the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government became known as the "Hoover Commission" after its chairman, former President Herbert C. Hoover, so has the Texas version adopted the name of its chairman, Lt. Governor Bill Hobby.

The purpose of the Act creating the Hobby Commission is to promote the economical delivery of the services provided by state government by means of a comprehensive review of governmental structure and administration.

The Commission consists of Lt. Governor Hobby as chair, House Speaker Bill Clayton as vice-chairman, secretary of State Mark White, and nine persons appointed by the governor who are not members of the House or Senate, three members of the Senate appointed by the Lt. Governor, and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker. Following are the appointed members of the Commission: Senator Grant Jones (Abilene), Senator Peyton McKnight (Tyler), Senator Bill Patman (Ganado), Rep. Charles Evans (Arlington), Rep. Bill Hollowell (Grand Saline), Rep. John Wilson (LaGrange), Alfred Davies, John Fainter, Herbert J. Frenslsy, Calvin R. Guest, Reagan Houston, III; Dr. June Hyar, R. J. Nunley, Harry M. Provence, Howard N. Richards.

The duties of the committee are to:

(1) examine and evaluate the organization and methods of operation of the departments and agencies of state government;

(2) develop proposals for improving the structure and administration of state government in order to assure the delivery of governmental services at the lowest possible cost;

(3) recommend policies and programs to minimize creation of new departments and agencies of state government and to control the growth of existing departments and agencies; and

(4) recommend suspension of government programs and services that duplicate and exceed in cost those same services offered by private business.

Upon request, staff assistance to the committee may be furnished by the Texas Legislative Council, the Legislative Budget Board, the Legislative Audit Committee, the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and the Division of Planning Coordination. Each department and agency of state government is also directed to furnish assistance and information to the committee upon request.

This Commission shall make its final report to the 65th Legislature when it convenes in January, 1977, not later than 30 days after that legislature is organized. Unless extended by the 65th Legislature, the commission is dissolved on May 31, 1977.

At the time of engrossment of the bill, it was estimated that an appropriation of $181,000 would be required for the 1976-77 biennium.

Making its first attempt at trimming the cost of state government, the Commission on Friday, August 27, recommended limiting the size and scope of the Texas Department of Community Affairs, as well as cutting its operations budget.

The Department of Mental Health-Mental Retardation fared better as the Health and Welfare Subcommittee decided not to limit MHMR spending for the next biennium to the 1977 appropriations level. Instead, it was suggested that the next session of the legislature "closely review" any increases in MHMR budget requests "in view of the increased appropriations for levels of care and the declining populations in institutions under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of MHMR."

At this same hearing the Commission recommended abolishing the Texas Youth Council, a portion of the state Welfare Board dealing with the aged, and the Governor's Committee on Aging, and replacing them with two new state agencies with more duties. The proposed agencies would be the Texas Department of Child and Family Resources and the Texas Dept. of Aging and Special Services. The new agencies would have boards of six members rather than three. A temporary three-member board would supervise the transfer of personnel, property and other resources from the Youth Council and Welfare Dept. to the new agencies. The new alignment, the commission said, would reduce fragmentation and increase efficiency.

However, we foresee objections from the agencies involved, along with other problems of change; i.e. the involvement of federal funds for several social services (Title XX funds). Federal enabling statutes and implementing regulations in programs administered by the Dept. of Public Welfare provide for a single state agency responsible for the administration of the programs. As a condition for receiving federal funds, a state agency is prohibited from delegating to other than its own officials, its authority for exercising administrative policies. Any changes in the state plan would have to have the approval of the Dept. of HEW or the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Raymond Vowell, Dept. of Public Welfare, claims that the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Health and Welfare to create two new welfare agencies would deliver about 95% of what the present DPW is doing. Adding additional service responsibilities of 5% in the form of institutions for delinquent youth and congregate feeding for the aged still would require independent delivery systems whether in a large or small agency. Therefore, any reduction of service fragmentation brought about by restructuring only the state-delivered services would be minimal.

In defending his position that a more objective view of restructuring the DPW be considered, Vowell cited that some of the accomplishments of his department include the lowest number of ineligibles and overpayments to Aid to Families with Dependent Children and the Food Stamp Program. He further stated that the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program and the Training and Education Program for employees are considered among the best in the nation. Alternate Care for the Aged and Disabled has received national attention. "No other state can compare with our efforts in fraud prevention" said Vowell, "and our Vendor Drug Program has had wide acclaim."

In a letter to Speaker Clayton about the proposed changes, Vowell said, "If we want to get serious about the reduction of welfare costs and other maintenance costs, I suggest we look at why Texas has the largest illiterate population in the nation, why 40% of the students entering elementary school this year will never complete high school, and why many of those who will graduate still won't be able to read or write. We need to look at areas of the state like Galvest on Indepentent School District which have demonstrated these problems can be overcome. I recommend that a statute be passed to mandate school districts to develop and implement plans to address these problems or lose their state financial support.

The "Hobby Commission" also recommended that the legislature not create any more senior colleges or medical schools without the approval of the College Coordinating Board.

And two members of the Texas Good Neighbor Commission, which was created in 1943 and was made an official state agency in 1945 to offset anti-American propaganda in Latin America

and particularly Mexico, vehemently defended the agency against an attack by Bill Hollowell on September 27. Hollowell, a persistent critic of the commission, questioned whether it had violated federal law by joining in the creation of the International Good Neighbor Council, which has approximately 1,200 members equally divided among Mexico and the U. S. In a curt exchange with two of the Good Neighbor commissioners, he stated that he did not think the agency should be retained. Commissioner M. M. Vicars of Brownsville responded that the commission had done many "good works" and "deserves the laud and praise of the legislature for what we have achieved on a very, very limited Mickey Mouse budget."

So it will be interesting to watch what happens to the recommendations of this commission which, like the original Hoover Commission, was established to seek ways of improving the efficiency of the executive branch, and of eliminating wasteful methods of operation. The Hoover Commission recommended sweeping changes in executive departments and agencies in its report to President Truman in 1949, little of which was ever realized. Will the Hobby Commission's recommendations also be relegated to a shelf to gather dust?

Another hearing was scheduled for September 29, and hopefully a final report will be ready for publication by November. As developments occur, you will receive an update so that you may better follow what action, if any, will be taken during the 65th Session of the Legislature.

Becky Moon (Mrs. Tom)
Director, Off-board - Air
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. A. 1. a.
Program - Air

TENNECO SAGA, CONTINUED

Yup--there's still more--
Having sat out the storm and hopefully the calming of our adversaries, I have been actively working on the implementation of our joint effort with Tenneco.

Recall--Tenneco agreed to participate in and fund a fact-finding effort to look at the vital areas of concern when developing control strategies for chemical carcinogens (substances known to cause cancer).

It's called neutralizing the opposition: Tenneco & TACB--

1) I doubt that industry really wants any new controls
2) The TACB (Texas Air Control Board) staff rejected earlier the idea of others assisting them in the development of these control strategies.

A strained truce developed following the issuance by the TACB of the construction permit. We know there is more than one way to skin a cat, so we continued to build our relation ship with the health specialists, the biggest fish in the pond. I not only wanted them to know the aim of our effort--I set out to convince them that they should serve as members of our Steering Committee. Overly optimistic was I, but thought I'd give it a try. One of the big fish. Dr. Charles Shaw, who has worked behind the scenes from the beginning, moved into the forefront when he agreed to serve. The next big fish tackled is a member of the board of the TACB and a prominent member of the chemical industry, Dr. J. Kilian. The man most capable of bringing stature to the committee, Dr. M. Key (past director of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration) agreed to serve this past Wednesday. Other members of the committee include a lawyer and representatives from the TACB staff, Tenneco, and LWV-T.

The Steering Committee's objectives: Get the ball rolling--

1) Define the areas to be considered
2) Delineate and assist in obtaining individuals with appropriate expertise to serve on the full committee.

We had dared to hope that we could gather experts together to evaluate ways of controlling these emissions.

--We obtained funding
--Three of the best individuals we could think of are serving on our Steering Committee
--The TACB has joined the effort.

In the light of our recent successes will Tenneco join forces and participate in a more meaningful way?

Becky Moon (Mrs. Tom)
Coordinator, Study of Public
Participation
[redacted]

LWV of Texas
September, 1976
State Board Report
II. C. 3. a.
Program - State
MSG - Executive
(Administrative Procedure Act)
Monitoring

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION--MYTH OR REALITY?

The League has long aspired to develop mechanisms for meaningful citizen participation. The environmental and consumer advocates have joined the chorus since the early 1960's. Many have believed provisions for citizen input are a vital element of procedural rules governing agencies. In 1953, Texas members of the State Bar expressed interest in drafting an act which would delineate uniform administrative procedure for state agencies. Renewed interest in 1968 led to the unsuccessful introduction of bills in the 1971 and 1973 Texas legislatures. Its time had come. In 1975 the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) passed the legislature with unanimous votes.

The APA, a reform statute, represents a reaction to, and an attempt to correct, unsatisfactory administrative practices which have arisen since government by administrative agency became important in the 1940's. The APA is affecting more than 200 state agencies in Texas, each touching your life.

Although administrative procedure is generally thought of as a rather dull topic, the events resulting from poor procedure have long received front page news coverage. How many Americans and how many of us have complained bitterly about unresponsive agencies? We have found ourselves playing a game without rules or mechanisms for appeal.

The Administrative Procedure Act mandates agencies:

1) adopt rules to govern formal and informal procedure
2) provide for public participation in the rulemaking process
3) provide public notice of proposed rules and action through publication of the Texas Register
4) provide judicial review of agency action.

--Will the APA lead to more responsible state agencies?
--Is our dream for meaningful citizen participation becoming a reality?

The answers to the above two questions can be found as we watch our state agencies implement the APA. As an off-board state LWV chair, I have participated in and observed adjudicative public hearings held by the Texas Air Control Board, but this is only one of more than 200 state agencies. Monitoring the impact of this legislation on citizen participation has been adopted as a special project by the state board.

Under the APA, will meaningful citizen participation develop or just receive continued lip service? Others are looking to Leaguers, champions of public participation, for an evaluation of this legislation.

You can help me. Watch your state agencies in action. Clip articles. If you become involved in activities with a state agency, let me know.
--An agency on the front page last month: Texas Insurance Commission--hearing to consider new car insurance rates. Affects you??
--An agency on the front page this week: Texas Utility Commission--hearing to consider new telephone service rates. Affects you??

Your observations are vital to the success of our study of the APA.