

Mrs. E. R. Blount  
Rm 1004



83¢ at 6:30

648 later

*League of Women Voters of Texas*



STATE CONVENTION - Fort Worth  
March - 1966

TO: Discussion Leaders, Resource Persons, Recorders  
FROM: Casperson  
RE: Little Meetings on Program preparations

Attached you will find materials that are needed by some or all of you in the Little Meetings on Program scheduled for Wednesday, March 23rd, 9:40 a.m. - 11 a.m.

- 1) Tentative Timed Agenda - This of course must be flexible, and is entirely dependent on the number of not recommended items voted consideration. It is very likely that one item will be voted for delegate consideration and it is always likely that there might be more. We will know about these (what they are) when we go into the Little Meetings. The Discussion Leader will have to exercise firm control over the discussion to see that all the necessary facets of each item are covered in the time allowed.
- 2) Discussion Guides - This is ALL they are: a guide for use in getting the discussion started and directed along lines that will bring out the most information for the delegates

Discussion and Action on bylaws immediately precedes these Little Meetings. The decisions about Program Structure could affect the format of discussion in our Meetings. Discussion will be held with the Proposed Single List format OR in the areas of CAs and CRs OR keeping present structure with all items under CA (this is being proposed by Dallas) LEADERS WILL NEED TO BE FLEXIBLE and very aware of the bylaw decisions made.

Items will be discussed in this order: 1) Legislature 2) not recommended items  
3) Texas Constitutional Revision 4) V State Reg Local Relations Ele 5) Voter Registration and Election Laws

The questions listed are leading questions only. You are expected to think of others as the discussion progresses. Actually the delegates should ask most of the questions and do most of the talking. The Resource Person has the answers.

- 3) Fact Sheets - These should provide some bits of background information for the Resource Persons that will supplement what they already have in their files .... and their heads. The material prepared by the Committee on Proposed Program, Workbook I and Workbook II, Committee and Board discussion plus personal experience and knowledge should be sufficient to qualify these people as EXPERTS.

- 4) Teams - In setting up the leadership of these Little Meetings, we are dividing the responsibilities of Discussion Leader and Expert. This worked most satisfactorily two years ago and makes the workload easier.

<u>DISCUSSION LEADER</u>	<u>RESOURCE PERSON</u>	<u>RECORDER</u>	<u>ASSIGNED ROOM</u>
Ballard	Nolle	Lancaster	Jr. Ballroom A
Pettis	Prashner	Brock	Jr. Ballroom B
Pollard	Ziegler	Rosenzweig	Jr. Ballroom C
✓ Brownscombe	✓ Winick	✓ Wackerbarth	✓ Santa Gertrudis Room
May	Casperson	Hausman	Shorthorn Room

*Recorder record each program item on a separate sheet*

- Preparations continued next page



*Let's all bring our coffee and make ourselves comfortable and start the meeting -*

Discussion Leaders: Each of you already knows how to do this with skill and ease, so that participants have a fruitful and fact finding experience. We think we have paired you with an "expert" who complements your own unique leading abilities as well as a Recorder who should be able to anticipate you.

You do not have to know any of the answers, but certainly a more than nodding acquaintance with the resource material will enable you to draw the participants out more. Let the Resource Person answer the questions that delegates themselves do not answer. Feel free to interrupt your Resource Person if she gets carried away with the sound of her own voice and the depth of her knowledge.

Resource Persons: You will need to be at least an expert on the State Board's proposals! <sup>responsibility</sup> The burden of discussion and knowledge for the not recommended items should rest primarily with delegates who are pushing these items. However, you should be prepared to supply additional information and insights into the meaning of the item for League study. And try hard not to let your personal preferences show through.

Recorders: You are receiving this material so that you will have a better idea about the direction the discussion might take. Each person who speaks in a Little Meeting should state her name and League - each time she speaks, and it will be part of your job to help the Discussion Leader see that this is done. If you can't get both....try for at least the name of the League.

While it is difficult to write legibly under these circumstances, do your best and don't worry about it. As soon as the meeting is over, turn your untranscribed notes over to your Discussion Leader. She will see that they get to me.

Please put at the top of your notes:

Little Meeting Room Santa Septudis  
Discussion Leader Mounescombe  
Resource Person Warrick  
Recorder Wackerbarth

TO ALL INVOLVED: Any ideas or suggestions that any of you have in regard to the procedure or information given to you, please speak up and we'll make an effort to assimilate your proposals.



*Now we have for a few of discussion on water*  
TENTATIVE TIMED AGENDA

Wednesday, March 23rd 9:40 a.m. - 11 a.m.

9:30

- Adjourn from General Session and move to Little Meeting Rooms; coffee to be served in each room.

9:40 - 9:45

- - Coffee time and getting settled - - with the coffee

9:45 - 9:50

- Introductions and announcements, if any

*Let's all bring out coffee + make ourselves comfortable + start the mtg.*

Leader introduces self, Resource Person and purpose, and the Recorder. She describes the purpose of the Little Meeting: to discuss in small groups the outlook for work for each item proposed for State Program.

Leader announces the division of time for discussion; she gives the speaking procedures (name and League and speak again only after everyone else has spoken) and the time limitations for each speaker -- two minutes, but there is no time keeper; the discussion is open to all, i.e. observers.

Leader describes what needs to be covered in discussion of each item: calendar of work, local League needs (material, etc.) techniques to be used, kind of consensus possible, legislative and community action including timing and scope.

*Emphasize*

(No discussion of PREAMBLE although if any changes had been proposed this would be the time and place for comments and questions)

9:50

- BEGIN PROPOSED PROGRAM DISCUSSION: Allow 15 minutes for each item with 10 minutes for one of the last two (SLR or VR and EL) assuming there will be 5 items. (4 State and 1 not recommended) If there are more or less adjust accordingly.

*3 non-rec items*

*10"  
10"  
10"  
10"*

9:50 - 10:05

- Legislature

*3 @ 10 mins not recommended new items*

10:05 - 10:20

- Not recommended new item

*Legislature @ 10 mins*

10:20 - 10:35

- Texas Constitutional Revision

10:35 - 10:50

- State-Local Relations

10:50 - 11:00

- Voter Registration and Election Laws

(Will have more time if SLR takes less than 15 minutes)

*When you start item tell them where it is in workbook*

*most important*

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTE - These meetings must stop on time since we immediately go back into Session. In keeping within time allotted, remind members there will be Discussion and Debate on Proposed Program immediately following the Little Meetings in Full Convention Session - 1 hour and 15 minutes before lunch with another hour and 5 minutes scheduled after Lunch and Free Time today.

Encourage expression from the floor during the General Sessions - and remind them sometimes important points mentioned in a Little Meeting are not brought before the entire membership attending Convention.



DISCUSSION GUIDE:

LEGISLATURE

(Proposed by State Board as only new item for Program with Single List structure)

Begin by asking delegates to turn to pages 14 - 15 in Workbook I

1. Ask for comment on reasons for adopting this as new Study Item
2. Discuss Outlook for Work:
  - 1) First year study - Is it clear what the study involves?
  - 2) Second year study - Ask for comments on the specific topics mentioned as likely to be studied? Others?
  - 3) Legislative action - None is foreseen in the 60th Legislature.  
It is expected later if there is consensus on the topics mentioned.
  - 4) Do they see unusual opportunities for community action of an educational nature during this study? for building understanding concerning the functions and problems of the Legislature?
  - 5) Consensus possibilities - do delegates foresee any problems here?
3. Discuss format and timing of study materials:
  - 1) What about material for members? Voter? Facts & Issues type?
  - 2) What for Resource committees?
  - 3) When? ~~It can't be ready before about mid-August~~, if there is only one new item. If more than one new item should be adopted then budget would not permit fact-to-face resource committee work, and material can't be ready before October. Be sure they do not misconstrue this as a threat - but just the facts of League life in preparation of material by State Board people who are volunteers on a limited amount of money.
  - 4) Do they understand the Proposed Program makes Legislature the principal item for study?



DISCUSSION GUIDE: ALL NOT RECOMMENDED ITEMS

We cannot plan in detail for discussion on these items...or item. But the questions below should be covered as quickly and as much in detail as the time allows.

Because there are always Convention first-timers, you might begin with a few brief remarks on LWV program-making procedures: suggestions from members; lobbying to get consideration for a not recommended item; discussion here and on Convention floor; and then final choices made on those items that reflect League members' interest in the most lively, basic and attention-getting issues in Texas today, etc.

You might also remind the delegates that in discussing not recommended items whether they wish to add this to the proposal of the State Board or substitute for it, etc. always keeping in mind the workload, the budget, the goals of the item and the LWV, and the ability of the LWV to make an effective contribution at this time.

In considering our final choices for State Program for the next biennium there are some questions that need discussion in relation to each item voted consideration:

(Limited agenda time will not permit the application of every one of these questions to the same degree, therefore, it might be wise for you to read aloud to the delegates and observers the whole list so that they will be conscious of some of the most important criteria needing consideration)

*Essential* 1. What are the main issues of the problem?

2. Is the League adapted to offer a solution, or work for solutions?

3. Are other organizations and groups working actively to solve the problems? Would the League be duplicating such work?

*Essential* 4. What direction would study take to prepare our members for being informed and reaching consensus?

*Essential* 5. What resource materials would be needed? When?

6. What are the possibilities for membership participation? For taking to the community?

7. What kind of consensus is expected and when would it be reached?

8. What legislative action would be possible? When?

*Essential* 9. How do the scope and the woman power necessary for carrying out this study and action balance with the total League workload contemplated?

*Now, let's have discussion flowing on water!*

*Now, let's <sup>teach</sup> educate ourselves about education!*



DISCUSSION GUIDE: TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

(Proposed by State Board as Item II with Single List structure)

Ask delegates to turn to page 16 in Workbook I

1. Ask for comment- Would they like reasonably quick review of Texas Constitution for new members? to refresh the minds of old members? Would this be the best way to use TCReview for members? Want review comparison of Texas Constitution with Model Constitution?
- This is* 2. Would they like TCR DIGEST updated? What uses can they foresee for this? in keeping members up-to-date on TCR? When is a good time to bring members up-to-date on TCR? How?
3. Would they like CURRENT REVIEW updated? How many local Leagues use this and the DIGEST? If they want them again, what suggestions do they have for further uses? in and out of the League?
- Is in types. Conv. kit. also goes on dup pres. mailing during convention week* 4. Discuss the TCR Precinct Resolution - as a means of building citizen support and understanding, and as a means of fixing a TCR timetable:
  - 1) Mention information contained in the "Whereas" portion.
  - 2) Read last paragraph which is the statement we are asking the County Conventions to submit and support. (Only Presidents will receive a copy of this in their kit at the Registration desk. Others copies are going out on Duplicate Presidents Mailing - DPM - during Convention Week)
  - 3) Are there any questions about the contents of the resolution itself?
  - 4) Are there any problems connected with the mechanics of getting the resolution introduced?
5. The newest publication - TCReview - distribution ? use?
6. How to intensify the spotlight on need for Revision? During the amendment election this fall? Political Party support? (stress the Resolutions again, and their importance) News media involvement? Adequate legislation and research? (leads back to the timeliness of the Precinct Resolutions)
7. Is it clear that in proposing this on the Single List Structure that we are doing what was literally demanded by the local Leagues - that we make every effort to keep this a lively Program Item?
8. Will they need other information than that already available for interviewing candidates during the summer and legislators in the fall?
9. While the League has no plans at the moment for a Research Bill, would they be ready and able to work on such legislation in the 60th Legislature if the political climate makes it possible?

*Very important*



DISCUSSION GUIDE for STATE - LOCAL RELATIONS

(Proposed by State Board as Item III with Single List Structure)

Begin by asking delegates to turn to page 17 - Workbook I. Give them a few minutes to scan the Outlook for Work.

REMEMBER - Wording may be changed at pre-Convention Board meeting.  
There may be a new consensus statement as a new position under SLR

- 1) Ask for comments on new wording
- 2) Ask for comments or questions about consensus statement
- 3) Discuss Outlook for Work:

*not expecting new  
research or consensus  
but foresee 7 + 8  
type not to update*

- 1) Is it clear what emphasis is proposed for State Local Relations during the next two years? Do they understand the flexibility allowed by the Single List structure?

Here - you will need to adapt if Single List is not accepted in preceding General Session. If members want bylaws kept "as is" ask:

Do you see a limited amount of work as proposed but with this item placed on CAs? If an important new development should arise - say in the Planning Area - do you want to be able to study it and take consensus?

- 2) Legislative Action - difficult to foresee.....but it appears we have positions that will be affected by proposals in the Texas Legislative and planning will be going on in our communities.
- 3) Community Action - what possibilities can delegates see for building community understanding of the problems in state-local relations?
- 4) How have you used BLUEPRINT FOR PLANNING? What further plans do you have for its distribution? in membership? in community?
- 4) Further study materials - Do you want supplementary material on developments in regional and state planning in Texas when events warrant?

What for members? Voter? Facts & Issues type?

What for Resource Committees?



DISCUSSION GUIDE for VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION LAWS

(Proposed by State Board as Item IV with Single List Structure)

*Don't open upon no order to be now*  
Begin by asking delegates to turn to page 18 in Workbook I. Give them a brief time to scan the new wording.

- 1) Ask for comment on changed wording to include both parts of item.  
Do they like this? Do they understand it does not change the item but simply clarifies?
- 2) Are they satisfied with the proposal that only those Election Law positions be retained on which League action might reasonably be expected?

Specific positions of consensus are on pages 19 and 20

Positions to be dropped with membership approval are on pages 20 and 21. These come under Election Law portion of item. Some have been achieved or superseded by the Voter Registration study. Others of a technical nature would require extensive member re-education before Action could be considered.

- 3) Next to last paragraph - page 18 - Workbook I. Will have information for you concerning what Special Session action means in relation to amendment on General Election ballot this coming November.
- 4) Do they want a DIGEST for Voter Registration and Election Laws? What uses can they foresee for this? in keeping members up to date? When is a good time to bring members up-to-date with this watch dog item? How?
- 5) Do they want a re-issue of CURRENT REVIEW? How have local Leagues used this and what suggestions do they have for further uses, in and out of the League?
- 6) What kind of information do you need (other than something like DiGEST) for interviewing candidates and legislators?

*Do we want to work to defeat the amendment (ann. regis.) in November.  
Can you work in your community & be understood if we oppose - const. amendment wh. removes the poll tax?*



NOT RECOMMENDED ITEMS VOTED CONSIDERATION

First: WATER RESOURCES: Evaluation of policies and procedures which promote conservation, pollution control and development of water resources in Texas with special emphasis on the role of water districts and river authorities.

38 for  
128 against  
takes 2/3 to  
adopt

P. 23, Yellow Workbk

(Proposed by San Antonio)  
S.A. First Round wording

9:55

Second: EDUCATION: A study of the role of the State in Public Education in Texas.

67 for  
107 against

P. 22, Yellow Workbk

(Midland wording)  
(Proposed by Lubbock)

10:05

Third: TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION: Support of measures to promote revision of the Texas Constitution incorporating the positions already reached on State-Local Relations and the judiciary. Study Legislative and Executive branches.

80 for  
91 against  
T.C.R. substituted  
wording

P. 23, Yellow Workbk

(Dickinson wording)  
(Proposed by Fort Worth)

10:15

substitute study powers executive as stated in the constitution. Substitute adopted

Program Little Meeting

Browncombe



# How to Write your Elected Officials

The public officials who represent you depend a great deal upon hearing from their constituents. The quantity and quality of their mail has been known to reverse many votes, and it is always an important factor in their voting.

## THERE IS AN ART TO WRITING THESE LETTERS

### HERE ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL DO'S

- DO** make your letter legible. Type if possible.
- DO** be concise and brief. Write about only one issue.
- DO** use your own words. Don't let anyone else write your letter.
- DO** sign your name legibly and give your address.
- DO** address him correctly, using the accepted forms.
- DO** be courteous and reasonable.
- DO** write to give him your appreciation when he does something of which you approve.
- DO** write early in the discussion of a subject.
- DO** feel free to write committee chairmen or a member of a committee not from your District.

The correct salutation for letters to officials is:

**President of the U. S.** The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

My dear Mr. President:

**Vice President** The Vice President  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Mr. Vice President:

**Senator** The Honorable (full name)  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Senator (last name):

**Representative** The Honorable (full name)  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Mr. (last name):

**Member of the Cabinet** The Honorable (full name)  
The Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

### THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT DO

- DON'T** begin "As a citizen and a taxpayer."
- DON'T** apologize for taking his time.
- DON'T** say "I hope this gets by your secretary."
- DON'T** be rude or threatening.
- DON'T** send a carbon copy to your second Senator or Representative. Write each individually.
- DON'T** write to the members of the House when the bill is still being considered in the Senate, and vice versa.
- DON'T** ignore your legislator and write to one from another District.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS  
8413 HUNTER'S CREEK DRIVE  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024

5c each, \$3.75 per hundred

1966



**Governor**            The Honorable (full name)  
                         State Capitol  
                         Austin, Texas 78711

My dear Governor:

**State Senator**        The Honorable (full name)  
                         The Senate  
                         Austin, Texas 78711

My dear Senator (last name):

**State  
Representatives**      The Honorable (full name)  
                         House of Representatives  
                         Austin, Texas 78711

My dear Mr. (last name):

**Mayor**                The Honorable (full name)  
                         City Hall

My dear Mayor (last name):

**Councilmen**         Councilman (full name)  
                         City Hall

My dear Mr. (last name):

**County  
Commissioners**       Mr. (full name)  
                         County Commissioner  
                         Precinct No.  
                         County Court House

My dear Mr. (last name):

The closing for all letters except to the President  
is: Sincerely yours. For letters to the President  
the closing is: Very respectfully yours.

**The purpose of the League of  
Women Voters is to encourage  
political responsibility through in-  
formed and active participation of  
citizens in government.**

# HOW to WRITE Your

## ELECTED OFFICIALS





Elizabeth —

John was running  
out of large envelopes  
about this time!

Paul



3/66

## Club Ethics

Mrs. R.D. Bell Registered Parliamentarian

Clubs, leagues, societies and all other voluntary groups called deliberative assemblies have become a tremendously important part of our national life. They represent one of the great distinctions between our way of life and the totalitarian state. The voluntary cooperation generated in these groups has been called the secret strength of America. Not only do they contribute to the public welfare through their projects and programs, but they also give members an understanding of the democratic processes and practice in self government. They prove that democracy works and they help it to work better.

Through years of experience we have developed a system of basic principles, laws, rules, policies and procedures to guide and control meetings and to promote peace, goodwill, harmony and concerted action with efficiency and effectiveness. This system has been called a code of ethics for working together. Unless the officers and members have at least a working knowledge of this code there is waste of time, tension, unhappiness and much loss of effort and influence.

In a statement of basic principles, we find such words and phrases as justice, equal rights, fairdealing, and emphasis on evidence and reason rather than on personalities and personal loyalties. Most important of all are the two principles, "The majority rules" and "Rights of the Minority". The test of a meeting is: Were decisions made according to the will of an informed, attentive majority of the members present? It is the duty first of the presiding officer but also of members to see that this is true. Mature, intelligent people are willing to be subject to the will of the majority but should resent domination by a few through use of devices and procedures which thwart the will of members. The minority has the right to be heard but also the duty to be governed by majority decisions. When members refuse to support officers not of their choice or to cooperate in measures for which they did not vote, it is most destructive to the club.

High standards are set for the president. The one who presides must be strictly impartial and must exercise self control; must promote participation in debate; must follow the rules in assigning the floor, must not try to unduly influence decisions. The rules for members are often regarded as mere matters of form or etiquette, but most of them are rooted in consideration for others and concern for the good of the club. They are a very important part of the code of ethics. A member awaits recognition before speaking; sits down when another has been given the floor; confines remarks strictly to the motion; avoids personalities; may speak in strong terms against the motion but never against the member who made it; never addresses another member directly but through the chair; never makes remarks that reflect on previous action without concluding with a motion to rescind.

These rules and others equally interesting and valuable are given for our guidance. Clubs blessed with leaders and members who know and respect and follow the code of ethics are truly a part of the secret strength of America.



# League of Women Voters of Texas

612 NORTH 18TH STREET • WACO, TEXAS

## "NEW VISIONS"

A Speech by  
Mrs. Maurice H. Brown, President  
to the  
Tenth Biennial Convention  
March 22-24, 1966  
Fort Worth, Texas

This Tenth Biennial Convention of the League of Women Voters of Texas has as its theme, New Visions, suggested originally by our hostess League. I'd like to spend the next few minutes developing that theme and a companion one which was the theme of the National Municipal League Conference on Government in St. Louis last November. The NML's theme was Time of Change - Time of Opportunity which is another way of expressing the new visions idea. Both themes apply equally to the LWV of Texas for the League is in a period of change with unlimited, perhaps unthought of, opportunities to use some new vision and stretch our sights.

At this point I should probably be making a farewell address to you but I don't really like farewells and I don't want to say goodbye without in some measure giving you something new to think about. There are actually unlimited possibilities available for new thinking but perhaps, in building a speech as in building a house, it is best to start with the foundation.

The firm foundation on which the League is built is the member so let's start there and work up to those actions which would not be possible without the member. I have to begin by saying that I think we have been guilty of giving the wrong impression to the prospective member of what it means to belong to the League. It has become something of a fetish for everyone to explain to his neighbor about how busy he is today -- we talk about our over-organized society -- we complain about the organizational rat race and the lack of any spare time -- and in the League we some times make it sound twice that bad. Of course, the League is a highly disciplined organization -- we have rules, regulations and procedures and I want to come back to some of them later - but I think we have been guilty of spreading some false impressions and giving some bad advice. League life, if there is such a thing, is NOT all that bad ....I cannot begin to enumerate the very real pleasures and personal satisfactions that my years on the state Board and in the League have given me and I've had a lot of fun getting them.

But we cannot expect volunteers to make the League a life-time career. Housewives and mothers, teachers and businesswomen are all welcome in the League but we must recognize that there are other demands on their time and energies. We are competing for their time



and interest with the PTA, the church groups, the bridge clubs, the golf course, the just plain fun activities that require no large commitment of dedication and responsibility. There are certain requirements that Leagues must meet but how each League chooses to meet them depends in large measure and in the final analysis on the local community. If the community is over-organized and "over-meetinged", then the League must consider ways to offer more while requiring less of the individual member and Board member. Sounds like a tall order, doesn't it? But it can be done, is being done, and members and Boards alike enjoy it.

To be specific - the meetings we do hold must be good -- in fact, they must be better than those of other organizations. We can't compete with the PTA, for instance, because we can't offer songs by the apples-of-their-eyes to rooms full of proud mamas. If we instead offer a dry long-winded speech on a governmental issue, women won't try to find time to attend League meetings and PTA meetings. We lose in that competition. People, however, like the sound of their own voices almost as well as those of Johnny and Susie reciting and singing. So -- we offer a skillful discussion leader who spends more time listening than she does talking and lets the audience not only participate but lead the way. Or we offer a lively panel discussion or a humorous skit to get a message across. Or we do none of these things and have a meeting once in a while that seems purely social but with a few people primed to start conversations around the room on League subjects chosen in advance. For goodness sake, we don't have to follow cut and dried and deadly serious patterns for everything we do every time we do them. We should even consider improvising at times.

It all goes back to a definition. How do you define meetings -- as what they have become, or as a gathering of people with similar interests who came in the first place because they felt a need to do something -- but who didn't necessarily feel a real crying need for a lecture or an exercise in trying to stay alert through a deadly dull presentation of the FACTS. This is absolutely the first place where we must apply new vision - we may need to make use of gimmicks but please don't sell the gimmick short, for it sells an awful lot of tooth paste at the drug store --- and makes an awful lot of money for the television and movie producers.

A related and really quite vital part of this fuller understanding of how to make the member part of the League and help her enjoy her part in it can also depend in very large measure on a crystal clear understanding of what the League means by nonpartisanship. Can we bring some new vision to bear on this question which often times seems to drive away prospective members? By and large no other question is so misunderstood by the general public and in many cases the League member herself as this one. This policy may seem troublesome, binding, rigid and unrealistic to us at times but it is the keystone of all that we are or do. It is the reason for our acceptance in over 1200 communities throughout the nation and the safety valve which permits us to work with the political parties on issues. Where we have failed to clarify the distinctions is where we must turn our attention.



The safest guideline, of course, is -- where there is doubt, don't! But part of our new vision should include not driving members away by not making our policies clear -- because there is a place in the League for even the most dedicated party worker - not on the Board, of course, but each Board is charged with the responsibility for maintaining the League's nonpartisanship and at the same time with not closing the League door to any woman of voting age.

The League, as an organization and represented in the public eye by its Board members, never supports, endorses or participates in the selection of candidates for any public offices. Nor does the League support political parties or political movements - even those labeled "good government" or whatever. On the other hand, League members as individuals are encouraged, urged and strongly expected to participate in the activities of the political party of their choice and to work actively for their favorite candidates. I believe that there has to be flexibility on nonpartisanship, just as in everything else the League does, but the flexibility must be grounded in the same understanding of what the whole concept of nonpartisanship means. Where we really find ourselves in the most difficulty is on the matter of issues and this is where the most clarification is needed and the most public education but I think we can turn new vision to this problem and come up with ways to handle the question to the satisfaction of the League member and the public. I know that we must.

As the League continues to grow in effectiveness, new opportunities and new problems increase. Service by League members on official commissions and boards some times means becoming identified with highly partisan and highly controversial issues. Each opportunity needs careful evaluation for its effect on the League's non-partisan image. We have the guidelines; each Board must make them fit their situations.

Just a few short weeks ago the League again had occasion to offer members something more for their membership - action on a Program item. The special session of the Legislature opened new doors of legislative activity for the member -- and from 35 to 50 members responded to participate in an afternoon's lobbying for a better voter registration system. This opportunity is present during each regular session and while we haven't always been able to tell you exactly when your presence would be most helpful, you are always welcome at the public hearings of the various legislative committees. I am quite well aware of the fact that there was an extra measure of drama and excitement present in a special session on a League Program item -- but there is always that same feeling of involvement and excitement when a bill in which the League has a stake is being heard. I can't help but wonder what we can do to light the same spark of enthusiasm for our efforts on constitutional revision. This item has admittedly been with us a very long time and probably will continue to be with us for a very long time. How can we turn the eyes of the members and the public toward revision with new vision? When the Fort Worth League suggested the new visions theme for Convention, they also suggested that it be part-



tied

icularly/to revision. Their suggestion for a slogan was something along the lines of the spirit of '76 with a goal of a new state constitution by 1976. The state Board didn't quite buy that suggestion for a couple of reasons -- we don't want to wait another ten years; we don't want to go on record as being willing to wait another ten years; and, finally, there's too much spirit of 1876 already evident in the thinking on state government -- too many who would gladly turn back the clock, that we didn't want to give them any ideas! 1976 will be the 100th anniversary year of our present constitution but I would much prefer to see us do something about it in its 90th anniversary year. I think the time has come for our new vision on revision to perhaps include the appointment of an ad hoc committee made up of our brightest state Board and local League minds, and perhaps some non-League revision friends, charged with the responsibility of brainstorming revision to make it the same kind of exciting, this-minute topic of concern that voter registration and regional planning are. The time has come for us to begin to work with high school and college groups for mock constitutional conventions -- these are the age groups who will be called on very shortly, we hope to help write and adopt a new constitution. Financing for such projects is available from foundation sources and it's past time we did something more than send a copy of a League publication to such groups of students.

If we really want to put some new vision in revision then we absolutely must instill a sense of excitement for revision in our own members. We may well find that a reapportioned legislature is more receptive to the idea of revision - are we ready for that eventuality? Can we reapportion our League thinking toward a more active approach to revision?

Metropolitan areas are already bumping their heads on the ceilings imposed by a rurally-oriented constitution -- can we take advantage of that fact? and how?

Second only to the wars in Asia, the problems of American cities make the headlines in today's press, the crisis of elbow room. Popular magazines of nationwide circulation have highlighted the problems of the city and the state in very recent months. All concerned with city and state governments are faced with questions which only a few years ago would have been unnecessary to pose. The problems are fundamental ones - frustrating, hard to live with and far-ranging. Solutions are not easy nor are they quick but fortunately civic concern is being expressed. That expression may range from the negative, "Can state government be saved - and is it worth saving?" to the much healthier, more positive, "State government does have a future and the city government depends on its strength, therefore, we are working to improve our state governments."

Success in meeting these problems depends upon the energies with which the state attacks the problems. There is too much tendency to blame the federal government for the shortcomings of the states and the courts for the states' lack of responsibility,



when, in fact, had the state governments not neglected their duties to their citizens, the voting rights bill and the apportionment decisions would never have been necessary, for just two very specific instances. The fact too is that those who have cried loudest for states' rights have done more to undermine these rights than anyone else. States' rights have too long been used as the shield against responsible action.

So today we find ourselves faced with such problems as unchecked urban sprawl, decayed and decaying center cities, traffic-clogged streets, polluted streams and air, unassimilated minorities, below-standard educational opportunities and poor or non-existent recreation facilities in the areas that need them most. And we cry "usurpation of states' rights" when the federal government moves in to protect its citizens!

The companion problems of the need to strengthen our cities and to put the states back in the business for which state government was originally designed are ones to which the League can and must give new vision. The apportionment revolution has focused our attention on the states with the strongest, clearest light that has been put on them since the founding of our system of government. The question has now come down to the basic one -- can state government be a truly effective administrative apparatus that will meet the needs of every citizen whether he lives in a rural or urban setting? Changes and improvements will come only from and through an enlightened political leadership and a groundswell of effective citizen action demanding the opportunity to effect change.

The Legislature study proposed and the judicial and state-local relations studies just finished are the examples of local League foresight in spotlighting state governmental structure problems. If state government itself were strong, equipped with a revised constitution and challenged by its citizens, then it would far better carry out its responsibilities in the fields of welfare, mental health programs, water, education. No other group is quite so well equipped or organized to tackle the very basis of state government itself as the League of Women Voters. We must make the effort to see that the structure of our state government is viable and responsive to the needs of the problems that face that government.

One of the very real problems on which we in the League bump our heads and for which we are long overdue some new vision is in our lack of leadership training. I daresay there is scarcely a League in the state that is making any real effort toward training its future leadership. When circumstances force a president or a vice president or a Board member to resign in mid-term, or when the Nominating Committee begins its work, are there trained leaders ready to step in and carry on the League's work or is each new term a beginning-again and a period when the League drifts because no one really knows where its leadership is heading? A parallel problem is the distressing fact that too frequently there is simply no one who is willing and trained to take the job of being president. A reluctant (at best) or an unwilling (at worst) president does not provide a healthy leadership for any organization. The LWV is one



organization where the presidency or membership on the Board is not so much an honor as it is a trust. What are the possibilities for fulfilling that trust? How can we train our future leaders? Only one possibility might be through some really good discussion leadership training courses....this will not only improve the quality of our discussion meetings but holds real promise for other kinds of leadership training.

The vision that the state Board has shown in deciding to establish a LWV of Texas Education Fund which is reported to you in Workbook-Part II and which we will discuss before we leave this Convention can open doors that the LWV could never before even knock upon. Think with me for a minute of a not-for-profit tax-exempt organization that can receive contributions from foundations and other sources and the services it can contribute in providing professional training sessions for delegates from local Leagues whose expenses are paid by a grant; in providing factual information in those wide-open white spaces in Texas where there are no Leagues; in assisting local groups in the publication of factual booklets on government; in helping the public not now reached by the League find answers to questions and problems on civic and governmental subjects. A real opportunity for new vision is offered every League member in Texas by the establishment of our own Education Fund.

To carry on the work of the League, there are likewise problems of organization to which we must also bring new vision. I have watched the program-making process leading to five state conventions and have seen several methods employed. We probably have refined it in the past two periods to the best possible method in our volunteer organization but the critical factor is TIME -- time to give your recommendations the kind of thoughtful consideration they deserve -- time to accomplish the evaluation and research essential to a truly accurate assessment of your desires and intentions -- time to permit this kind of work and still permit state Board members to enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons with their families. I doubt that anyone who has never served on the state Board can possibly realize what an additional two to three weeks could mean to our improved service to you. Your Program recommendations are topflight and show evidence of really thoughtful preparation on your part..... you deserve the same sort of topflight consideration of those recommendations. This is not to even imply that you haven't been getting this kind of consideration from the state Board --- you have, but at too great expense in time and effort on the part of the volunteers who serve on the state Board. It requires at least a month of concentrated study by the Program vice president and her committee to prepare your recommendations for committee consideration -- this year there was less than two weeks between the receipt of the last properly postmarked suggestion and the date of the committee meeting. The post office's delay in delivering improperly addressed but properly postmarked envelopes actually put the last one into the state office on November 29 -- by the time it went on to Lubbock it was December 1.....the committee met on December 8 and 9. I don't think this is the kind of consideration you want or should expect from your work -- we do not have staff facilities to do the tabulation and



separation into categories for research and development of your ideas. Volunteers carry out every step of this process and they surely deserve some thoughtful consideration of ways to make this volunteer job livable. I think we're asking too much -- I think we need some new vision turned on this aspect of our organization to get the job we are trying to do done.

There is another aspect of the League that demands - even commands - new vision, new action, new determination. Financing the League has reached the critical stage...had it not been for a contribution by a League husband and the granting of our second class mailing permit which we did not know about in October, the League in Texas would be faced with some very difficult choices at this Convention. We would have reached the point of cutting very vital services because our proposed income falls far short of our proposed expenditures. The full story isn't in yet, of course, because we haven't yet come to the budget session this afternoon but advance reports show us to be about \$1200 short of meeting a budget from which the dreams have long since been removed.

Statistics are beginning to show far better finance efforts by local Leagues but our sights are still too low -- our budgets still reflect a half-a-loaf acceptance that doesn't match our full measure of activity. Budgets that show only infinitesimal or no growth at all reflect not at all the growing strength of the League in Texas and the United States. Until we accept the very real need to finance the kind of League we know we can have, then we shall never have the kind of League we want. I refuse to accept the theory that we are doing great things despite pitifully low budgets so therefore we're something special. I'd rather subscribe to the theory that what the League does is good, therefore it deserves full financial support and wider horizons. Low vision or no vision at all has no place in our thinking about financing the League. Our budgets should truly be blueprints for growth -- too often they become fetters which prevent us from doing what should be done.

A survey, made by Dean O. B. Conaway of the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the State University of New York in Albany, in eight medium to large metropolitan areas of the effectiveness of the citizens' organizations in the metropolitan areas showed some startling results and pointed some accusing fingers. The survey, conducted through the use of a quite lengthy and frank questionnaire, was admittedly neither scientific nor comprehensive, nor was it a study in depth -- it studied the organizations and their leadership but not the problems of the organizations in Denver, Seattle, Hartford, Norfolk, Richmond, Rochester and Durham. I think you'll be amazed at some of the findings: the impetus for change and getting the job done in the metropolitan area comes mostly from the civic organizations in the metropolitan area. In only one or two of the 8 cities was the LWV NOT the predominant factor -- in the others it played the leading role. But the survey also found that if any civic organization is to be effective it must have facilities for research and analysis. What kind of budget



is required for this is not clear, but in the metropolitan area, the civic organization probably should have a budget of \$75 to \$100,000 if it is to be effective. Before you split your sides laughing at such a prospect, I would hasten to add that the volunteer League member's time is a powerful intangible asset -- her time actually constitutes a substantial contribution that the League could never otherwise afford and I'm not sure that the League would have the strength attributed to it by Dean Conaway's survey if much of our research was done by other than volunteers.

The dingy office (or the dining room table) from which most local Leagues operate is but an outward symbol -- the inner strength of the League is far from dingy because of the member who contributes time, energy and knowledge that it would be utterly impossible to buy in the open market. League leadership must set its own goals, be its own hard taskmaster, exercise its own self-discipline. But what I am trying to say is this -- I think the League will continue to be effective despite or maybe because of its low budgets but there is a point below which a League cannot go and remain that effective force -- nor should we expect Board members to pay for the privilege of serving the League. As long as our budgets do not really pay the extraordinary expenses that a Board member becomes liable for, then our budgets are too low. We should never put ourselves in the position of choosing our leadership because of a person's ability to pay for her attendance at state and national conventions and councils and the other non-League meetings that make our jobs so much easier and provide contacts and knowledge impossible to obtain elsewhere.

League all over the country are finding new money through the simple expedient of raising dues. Texas lags behind the majority of other states in this respect and yet at the same time is showing less membership growth than other states. Higher dues seem to be no deterrent to potential members. Most Texas Leagues will have to find new sources of money to replace that which has been received from collecting poll taxes. It is still quite unclear how any future registration system will be set up and it is unlikely that Leagues will realize any money for assisting in registration. Obviously then, new vision in budgeting and finance is an absolute essential for the LWV of Texas.

And finally we should recognize that patterns of organization in the League are changing and we should take advantage of ways to lighten the workload and make the job easier for everyone concerned. You will spend one little meeting period at this Convention discussing the various patterns of organization that are available for the League today. The growth of the metropolitan area -- even of the medium sized city and its suburban areas beyond the original limits of the basis for organization of the League in past years -- has necessitated new thinking and creative coping with change. Our cities are changing - the opportunities for service to the citizen by the League are changing- how can we best meet the challenge of change in the League? Please don't misunderstand me -- no one would advocate change simply for the sake of change -- nor organization simply for the sake of organization. Every organization, every



change must have a purpose. The purpose in proposing that the Leagues in Texas consider new methods of organization is simply to provide for our members the best possible experience the League can offer. If after investigation of the possibilities, we find that no change is required, then we make no change. On the other hand, if we find that there are advantages in changing our present patterns of organization, then we should not hesitate to change. Many of our Leagues even in the standard metropolitan area definition could well find that present patterns of organization are sufficient to their needs - to them I would say, why change? But don't assume that change is not for you until you have truly considered the advantages and disadvantages. Workbook-Part I contained a full explanation of various differences in our familiar organization pattern -- I hope you have thought about them, discussed them with your Leagues and are here prepared to discuss them further and ask and answer questions that are necessary to a full understanding of the possibilities available today.

And now to sum up - I believe that the League of Women Voters of Texas is a healthy, viable organization rendering service to the citizens of this state far beyond measure by any standard yardsticks; I am sure that there is much room for change and for improvement in the quality of the service we offer to both our members and the public and I think we can be equally sure that we will find the way to change and improve. There is much to be proud of although I think that some times we are trying to be too many things to too many people too much of the time -- that perhaps the time has come to reassess where we are going and why and how we plan to get there -- to decide that it really is not possible for the League to take on every dragon that remains to be slain -- that we need to recognize that other groups are also working on some of the same things we are and that no other group seems to care too greatly about constitutional revision or better election processes for every Texan or even a better, more workable, more responsive state government. So, I would say to you in farewell -- let's turn our new vision to membership - both getting and keeping, to leadership training, to constitutional revision, to reviving state government, to better financing and to revitalizing organizational patterns. In a time of change, seize the opportunity to reassess the means for strengthening the role of the citizen in his government wherever that government may touch him.

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# NEW VISION

## Convention Voter, March 22-24

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

Mrs. Maurice H. Brown, President  
Mrs. Bernard R. Stapp, Editor

FORT WORTH

Vol. 1 No. 3  
March 24, 1966

### AMERICAN FEDERALISM

The cause of the failure of "American Federalism" --- Economic intergration, warfare state and failure of states. The new focus in federalism is national regions. Is there a crisis in American Federalism? A challenge is out to democracy. This was the subject matter Dr. Raymond Kline, Political Science Professor, Lawyer and Assistant to Doctor Werner von Braun, discussed fluently Wednesday evening.

The following State Officers were elected Wednesday, March 23, 1966:

President: Mrs. W. E. Joer, II 135  
1st Vice Pres: Mrs. T. A. Pollard 142  
2nd Vice Pres: Mrs. R. E. Casperson 142  
3rd Vice Pres: Mrs. H. C. Martin 140  
Secretary: Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe 141  
Treasurer: Mrs. Darol Ramey 142

The Houston League presented to all delegates an informative publication "How to Write Your Elected Officials".

### ATTENDING CONVENTION MARCH 23RD:

Local Presidents	23
Delegates	145
Observers	14
State Board	16
State Staff	2
Visitors	5
Parliamentarian	1
Convention Workers	30

Travel, Inc. has an interesting display just outside the Exhibit Room outlining a 22 day European tour for L.W.V. members and friends. \$1,300 (including tips, taxes and most meals) takes you to Berne, Geneva, London, Paris, Bonn, Prague and Lisbon by Economy Class Air.

### LEGISLATION

The consensus from all but two Leagues felt November 1st was too early to send in program recommendations.

Mrs. Nolle presented a most interesting report on "How to be Leaguely Politically Effective". It was reported there are only two Congressional districts without local Leagues.

Fort Worth Submits:

### LET'S ADD LIFE TO TCR

This convention is obviously dedicated to working hard for TCR. But what of your members - old and new? A study of the powers of the executive included in the TCR item would schedule meetings devoted exclusively to a



"catch-up" for "new" (like 7-year) members plus "old" (like 20-year) members to catch the enthusiasm this entire delegation had indicated to really have the members interest to want to carry our message for the desperate need for a new Constitution to their friends, neighbors --- the general public --- whose support is essential to our success in obtaining our goal. Then the LWV will be eager to attack another important item where we can be effective and successful too!

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DALLAS SUBMITS:

Fifteen Leagues in Texas want to study the role of the state in public education. Combine that with the significant attention directed toward education by our national congress, by our state legislature and by our own national League membership in its study of human resources and we have the most urgent area of state government yet unstudied.

Remember that we already have a basic guide to study the state board of education -- the League's tried-and-true "Know Your School" outline. Using it, the state League can utilize the readily available resource material while it side-steps the areas of education that are the direct concern of the professional educator. Only state school agencies are involved, not local. The survey will be the first year's work. After the survey has been studied, the local Leagues can direct the state League board at President's Council as to what specific areas of state education should be studied in depth during the second year.

Let us find out right now what we have in public education in Texas. Then, let's decide where we want to go. Let's fill in the gap in our knowledge of those governmental activities concerning public education -- those directed by our elected officials and paid for with our tax dollars. Let's study the role of the state in public education in Texas at a time when we have the opportunity to be effective in directing its future. Tomorrow is too late.



# *Know Your* **COMMUNITY**



## **Facts About AMARILLO, POTTER and RANDALL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**



Issued 1966

**AMARILLO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
A Non-Partisan Organization

Presents this booklet in the hope and belief that a more  
thorough knowledge of local government will help  
citizens to recognize their responsibility  
and will encourage them to participate  
actively and intelligently in  
their government.

PRICE — 50c PER COPY

10w.

1	<i>History</i>
3	<i>Economy - Population</i>
5	<i>Business Growth - Needs - Plans</i>
7	<i>City Government</i>
9	<i>How the Departments Function</i>
11	<i>How the Departments Function</i>
13	<i>How the Departments Function</i>
15	<i>How the Departments Function</i>
17	<i>Education - Welfare Services - Medical Facilities</i>
19	<i>Recreation and Cultural Facilities</i>
21	<i>Potter County Government</i>
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	<i>How to Participate in Government</i>



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SECTION I	
General	
<b>History of Amarillo</b>	
Amarillo, today the largest city in the Texas Panhandle, was settled first in the spring of 1887 by a half dozen scattered ranchers and ranch hands and cowboys of the LX Ranch, located north of the Canadian River.	
In the beginning this was cattle country, and no crops were grown. It was said a steer could be raised on the open range for the cost of a chicken.	
It was about the turn of the century that wheat planting started, and the Panhandle area eventually developed into a major wheat belt. Today this region produces grain sorghum, cotton, vegetables and other crops.	
Amarillo was named for Amarillo Creek, a name that goes back to the Spanish explorers. Meaning "yellow," it takes its name from the sub-soil in the creek's channel. In the early days, most of the houses were painted yellow to commemorate the name.	
About the time trail driving days were coming to an end, two large railroads started building across the Panhandle. At their intersection a great cattle shipping market was inevitable.	
The early inhabitants of Amarillo—then called "Ragtown"—settled at the point where the railroads were expected to intersect. However, the intersection took place a number of miles from the expected location and it was not until later that rail service was brought into the new community.	
By the year 1902 three railroads—the Fort Worth & Denver, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific—had extended their present lines and/or acquired additional lines to bring their trains into Amarillo.	
Amarillo was to become the world's greatest cattle shipping market of the early 1890's. At times, fifty thousand head of cattle were within sight of town. Herds often were held for as long as two weeks at the water holes and on the prairie, waiting for railroad cars to take them away.	
In January 1892, with a population of around 482, ninety legal voters petitioned for incorporation. The corporate limits at that time comprised 5 ¼ square miles, or more than 3300 acres.	
Financial trouble soon developed, and strife over proposed taxation on this thinly populated area wrecked the municipality. The incorporation was brought to an end in 1894.	
Municipal government was suspended for five years, and county government and the Texas Rangers (brought in to stifle cattle rustling) administered law.	
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In February 1899, 56 voters again petitioned for incorporation. This time the city limits covered only 925 acres and the population was almost 1442.

Amarillo wrote its own charter in 1913. Under this charter, it was first in the Southwest and fifth in the United States, to adopt the Commission-Manager form of government.

The first newspaper was the Amarillo Northwestern, founded in 1887 by C. F. Rudolph. When the paper's printing office was moved in 1896, the building showed many bullet holes—a reminder of early day gunplay.

The first school was built in 1889. Street improvements began in 1900. This same year the first hospital and the city hall were built.

Gas was discovered in 1918 and oil in 1921. Stimulated by money derived from these discoveries and wheat expansion, Amarillo grew rapidly. During 1925 and 1926, as well as later, many fine homes and buildings were constructed.

From its first successful beginning, Amarillo's history has been one of growth and expansion, stimulated by people interested in political and civic participation and progress.

This expansion today places Amarillo in the position of being the only Texas metropolitan area covering two counties, Potter and Randall.

Today it continues to grow. These are the reasons Amarillo is known as "The young city going places."

Economy of Amarillo

Industrial growth in Amarillo centered around cattle, railroads, manufacturing and merchandise distribution. Each of these industries has grown into dominating giants, and with the growing importance of agriculture and manufacturing, the city has a diversity of business characteristics which represent a financially sound economy.

Amarillo is the second largest cattle shipping point in the State of Texas. It has the largest cattle auction ring in the United States, and is known for its fine beef breeds. Most of the major dairy breeds are well represented in the area surrounding Amarillo. The city is headquarters for the American Quarter Horse Association, an international organization of 36,196 members.

Amarillo's normal annual rainfall as calculated by the U. S. Weather Bureau is 21.12 inches. The sun is shining 76 % of the time.

The Panhandle of Texas, of which Amarillo is the geographic center, produces practically all of the wheat grown in the State. Accordingly, Amarillo is an important center for wheat shipping and storing.

Agriculture is fast broadening its scope by the successful and profitable introduction of other grains and crops previously thought unsuitable to the Panhandle climate, as well as by the advent of irrigation on the North Plains.

Three main-line railroads, five national highways, one main state highway and five major airlines, five bus lines and twenty-eight motor carriers serve Amarillo, making it one of the Southwest's most important wholesale and jobbing centers.

Oil, gas and helium have added a new world of activity and wealth in oil production, refining, pressurizing and processing. By-products of oil and gas have added industry to the chemical field. Amarillo is the headquarters for practically all of the companies dealing in gasoline, natural gas and carbon black in the Panhandle field.

Machine shops, processing plants, service and financing industries have followed oil and gas production.

Amarillo is also considered the medical center for the Panhandle having five civilian and two government hospitals and specialists in all major medical fields. The only Cerebral Palsy Clinic in the Panhandle is located in Amarillo. A new medical center complex is rising west of the city to serve the southwestern U. S.

Churches of Amarillo

Amarillo has 165 churches representing 26 major faiths.

Population of Amarillo

1890	492
1900	1,442
1910	9,957
1920	15,494
1930	43,132
1940	51,686
1950	73,737
1960	137,964
1965	165,750 (est.)
1966	167,375 (est.)

Amarillo is the fastest growing metropolitan market in the Southwest.

Business Growth

In 1965 the effective buying income was \$427,258,000.00 for the retail trade area, and the net buying income per household was \$7,956.00.

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Amarillo is a strong distribution center. In a comparison of 37 cities in the nation in the 1960 population bracket of 120,000 to 200,000, the number employed in transportation in Amarillo as a percent of the total working force placed Amarillo third among these cities. Amarillo ranked second in communications and utilities, and third in wholesale and retail employment. The fast growth of the city was indicated by the fact that in construction employment, Amarillo again ranked third—though among these cities this Texas Panhandle city stood 27th in population.

60% of the world's helium is produced in Amarillo.

Bank deposits in 1940 were	\$108,723,107.86
Bank deposits in 1950 were	121,570,043.92
Bank deposits in 1960 were	196,927,581.00
Bank deposits in 1965 were	267,368,104.11
Postal receipts in 1940 were	991,472.84
Postal receipts in 1950 were	1,102,395.27
Postal receipts in 1960 were	2,587,036.00
Postal receipts in 1965 were	3,723,801.52
Building permit valuations in 1920 were	2,105,225.00
Building permit valuations in 1940 were	2,612,002.00
Building permit valuations in 1950 were	26,077,501.00
Building permit valuations in 1960 were	32,117,238.00
Building permit valuations in 1965 were	34,068,562.00

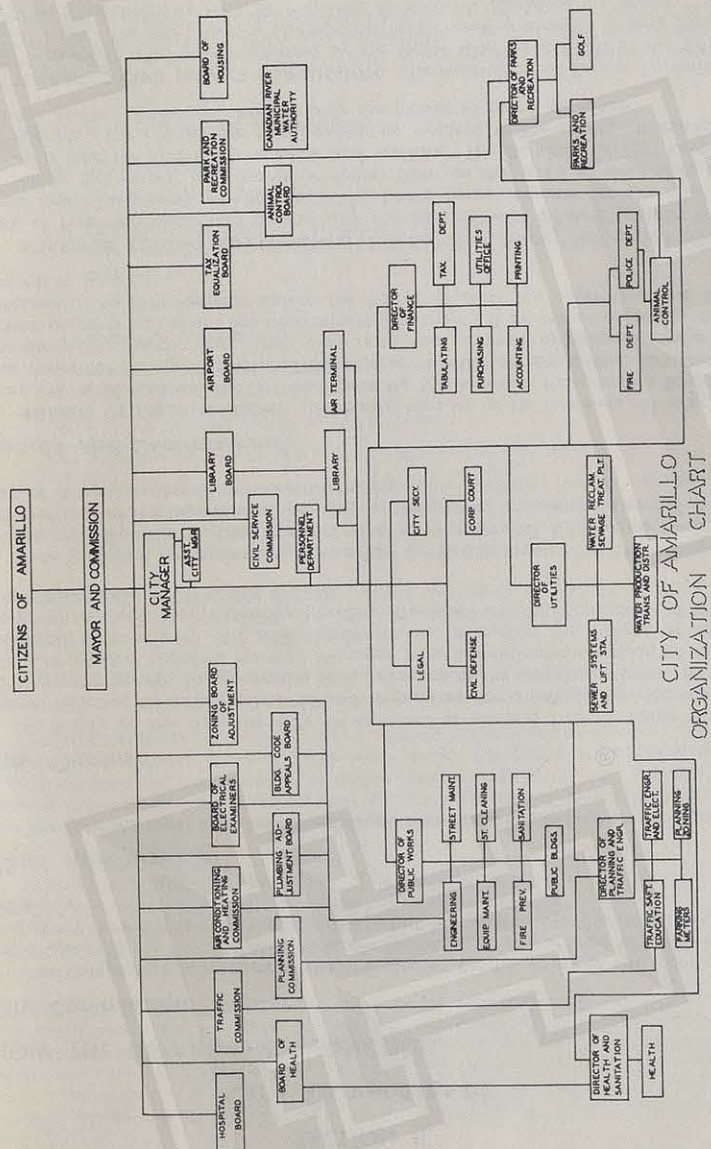
Taxable property valuations in Amarillo in 1965 were \$508,000,000.00. In 1940 it was \$58,923,895.00.

Amarillo Needs

Amarillo needs convention hotel facilities; continued development as a medical center with emphasis on obtaining a School of Pharmacy in connection with West Texas State University and a teaching hospital in connection with a School of Medicine, a new courthouse for Potter County; expanded facilities at Amarillo Air Terminal; re-vitalization of the central business district; further expansion of the industrial program; and continuation of long-range planning by the governments of the City of Amarillo and of Potter and Randall Counties.

Amarillo Plans

Plans in the making include building a Amarillo Zoological Garden; a proposed \$5 million dollar expansion of Amarillo College (subject to voter approval of April 1966 bond issue); further expansion of the Amarillo Medical Center; completion of the Amarillo Civic Center in 1968; construction of an Amarillo Garden Center and a state mental health and retardation center.



5 Business Growth - Needs - Plans

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How to Participate in Government



SECTION II  
City Government

HOW THE DEPARTMENTS FUNCTION:

City Commission:

The Commission is responsible to and elected by the voters in the incorporated limits of the city. Major and four commissioners are elected at large by a majority vote on the first Tuesday in April of odd years. The Commission sets all policy.

Chief Administrator:

The City Manager is selected, employed and responsible to the City Commission.

City Charter:

Authority of the Amarillo City Government is derived from a home rule charter adopted November 18, 1913, which provides for a Commission-Manager form of government. The governing body is known as the City Commission. Such City Commission appoints the City Manager who is administrative head of the municipal government. All other appointments, excluding the judges of the Corporation Court, are made by the City Manager with the approval of the City Commission.

Newly elected Commissioners take office the first Monday after the canvass of the election ballots. Each member receives a salary of \$10.00 per week. All meetings of the Commission are open to the public, and are held each Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Boards and Commissions:

**BOARDS OF EQUALIZATION:** This board consists of six members, of which three are appointed by the City and three by the Amarillo Independent School and Amarillo College Districts. They receive salaries of ten dollars (\$10.00) per day while functioning. Their duty is to hear protests of property owners whose property valuations are unsatisfactory to them. If an owner objects to an assessment, he may appear before the Board to state his objections and to request a hearing.

**BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS:** The Board of Zoning Adjustment consists of five men appointed by the City Commission with powers granted by State law. They serve without pay. The Board hears requests for exceptions to zoning ordinances, and grants or denies them on the basis of what it considers is best for public convenience and welfare. The Building Official keeps its minutes. The rulings are final, except by appeal to the courts. It cannot change zoning ordinances, having only the power to grant exception.

**AMARILLO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:** The Amarillo Civil Service Commission consists of three men appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Commission. The Civil Service Commission meets once a month. It may hold additional meetings as may be required to properly discharge its duties. Its

services are voluntary. The employment positions of the City of Amarillo are divided into two types: classified and unclassified. The classified service comprises all positions not specifically included in the list of unclassified as listed below:

Unclassified Offices and Commissions:

- a. City Commission
- b. City Manager
- c. One principal assistant or deputy and one private secretary to the City Manager and to each of the heads of departments except fire and police.
- d. City Secretary
- e. Heads of Departments
- f. Assistant Department Heads and Secretaries to Assistant Department Heads and City Manager
- g. City Judges and Clerks of City Courts
- h. Members of Boards and Commissions in the City service
- i. Persons employed to make and conduct a special inquiry, investigation, examination or installation (if the City Commission or the City Manager certifies such employment is temporary and that the work should not be performed by classified employees).

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD:** Seven interested citizens appointed by the City Commission plan park facilities and recreation programs and recommend proposals to the City Commission.

**LIBRARY BOARD:** An advisory board for the library appointed by the City Commission, consisting of seven members, holds regular monthly meetings.

**AIRPORT BOARD:** Consists of twelve members appointed by the City Commission for staggered terms of three years each. The Board is to advise the City Commission on the operation of the air terminal and airport, on the acquisition of property from the United States Air Force for airport purposes, and on the proper utilization of any property declared surplus by the United States at Amarillo Air Force Base.

**AMARILLO TRAFFIC COMMISSION:** This Commission consists of eleven members, appointed by the City Commission, who meet once each month. Besides establishing safety programs and educational activities on traffic matters, the Commission is to advise the City Commission on the ways and means of improving traffic conditions and enforcement.

**ANIMAL CONTROL AUTHORITY:** Consists of eight members, appointed by the City Commission, of which one member represents Potter County and one member represents Randall County, three are City of Amarillo employees while three members are appointed by the City Commission from representative citizens. The authority is to advise the City Commission on the control of rabies as well as the regulations necessary for the control of animal problems within the City.

**BUILDING CODES APPEALS BOARD:** Consists of five members, appointed by the City Commission, who each serve two year terms. This group hears appeals in regard to specific provisions of the building code. An appeal from this Board is directly into the Courts.

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**CANADIAN RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY:** The City Commission appoints two members to this nineteen member authority. This authority has the responsibility of operating the pumping and transmission facilities of the Canadian River Dam and to contract with the United States Government for repayment of the construction costs of the dam and water transmission facilities as well as to contract with the various cities for the use of impounded water.

**BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS:** Seven members are appointed by the City Commission for this Board. Duties of the Board are to (1) recommend changes in the electrical code to the City Commission, (2) adopt rules and regulations for examining applicants for electrical licenses, (3) grade papers of persons applying for electrical licenses, and (4) act as an appeal board to interpret the electrical code and settle differences between a permit holder and the electrical inspectors.

**BOARD OF HEALTH:** The Amarillo Bi-City-County Board of Health is composed of seven members; three from Amarillo, one from Canyon, two from Potter County, and one from Randall County. Part of the Board consists of physicians and part are laymen. They are appointed by the governmental agency they represent and must be residents of such agency area. The Director of Health Health acts as secretary to the Board, and the Board elects its own chairman and vice-chairman annually. Regular Board meetings are held on the first Thursday evening of each month at the health building. Funds are paid to the City of Amarillo on a per capita basis by Potter and Randall Counties and the City of Canyon. Funds are also received from the Amarillo Independent School District, the Potter-Randall Counties Tuberculosis Association, and the Texas State Department of Health. The City of Amarillo in turn allocates and administers funds from its budget for the operation of the Health Department. The State Health Department furnishes salaries, medicine, and supplies. Employees of the Health Unit are paid by the City of Amarillo, State Department of Health, and Amarillo Independent School District. The full-time Health Officer is approved by the State of Texas Merit System. The Health Department is responsible to the City Commissioners of Amarillo and Canyon and to the County Commissioners of Potter and Randall Counties.

**HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING APPEALS BOARD:** Consists of six members appointed by the City Commission to hear appeals from interpretations of the heating and air conditioning ordinance.

**BOARD OF HOSPITAL MANAGERS:** The City of Amarillo Hospital District is created by State Statute to administer the affairs of the Hospital District. The statute provides that the City Commission shall appoint the six members of this administrative board, as well as approve the budget of the District and other miscellaneous functions.

**BOARD OF HOUSING:** Consists of five members appointed by the City Commission whose duties are to hear appeals from the minimum housing code. Any notice issued by the health officer to correct housing deficiencies may be appealed to the Housing Board. In turn, any aggrieved citizen may appeal from the Housing Board to the City Commission.

**PLUMBING ADVISORY BOARD:** Consists of eight members appointed by the City Commission whose terms are four years. Their duties include hearing appeals, making special exceptions to the plumbing code and deciding grievances on any ruling of a plumbing inspector.

**PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD:** The Amarillo Planning Commission was created and a zoning ordinance adopted in 1931. The Planning Commission

consists of seven members appointed by the City Commission for staggered six year terms. In addition to administering the zoning ordinance, the Planning Commission is charged with the responsibility of preparing a general plan for the development of the City and any area outside of its boundaries relating to the comprehensive planning of the City. In 1952, a new zoning ordinance was adopted with regulations and districts established in accordance with the recommendations of the City Planning Commission.

**Parks and Recreation Division:**

This division is composed of the Park Department with a staff consisting of a Park Superintendent and maintenance personnel; the Recreation Department consisting of a Recreation Superintendent and part-time seasonal employees for conducting the various recreation programs, and the Golf Course headed by a Golf Pro-Manager and golf course maintenance and operating personnel.

**Golf Course**—Ross Rogers Municipal, located at 722 N. W. 24th, has 27 holes with bent grass greens.

**SWIMMING POOLS**—Large pools are at Thompson and South East Parks. A smaller pool is at North Heights Park. Wading pools are on 14 neighborhood parks.

**PARK AREAS**—There are 48 park areas, totaling 1,632 acres, with 935 acres developed. There are 46 separate picnic areas, 64 fireplaces, and over 400 picnic tables.

**ATHLETIC FACILITIES**—There are 9 baseball fields (6 lighted); 47 outdoor basketball courts (26 lighted); 37 football fields (6 lighted); 25 soccer ball fields; 101 softball fields (7 lighted); 42 volley ball courts (32 lighted); 66 table tennis tables (all lighted); 59 shuffle board courts (all lighted); and 64 horse-shoe courts (56 lighted).

**STORYLAND ZOO**—This facility is located in Thompson Park. Animals are displayed in a setting depicting an appropriate children's story. This area also includes an unusual "Western Theme" playground.

**FLORAL DISPLAYS**—There are 15 floral exhibits of various sizes. The largest is the Municipal Rose Garden located at Memorial Park. It contains 2,800 rose bushes representing 95 varieties.

**TENNIS CENTER**—Seven lighted "Lay-Kold" championship courts compose the Tennis Center, located at 26th and Elmwood Drive. Thirty-three recreational tennis courts, 29 of which are lighted, are located on parks throughout the City.

**RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE**—This facility will open in June of 1966 and will contain facilities for high-power and small bore rifle and pistol shooting. The range will be located approximately 15 miles southwest of Amarillo at the City Lake area.

**RECREATION PROGRAMS**—A supervised park playground program is conducted on 24 areas from June through August. Activities include: arts and crafts, athletics, games of all kinds, talent shows and many similar activities for all ages. Adult athletic leagues are organized in softball, volleyball and basketball in season. Amateur musical and talent shows are presented throughout the summer at the various park stages, as are band concerts.

**Utilities Division:**

The water department is a self-sustaining organization within the City. All funds received from sale of water are deposited in accounts separate from tax money or other funds. The department has never defaulted on any bonds and

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at present the City of Amarillo bonds are rated "A" by one rating house and "AA" by another rating authority. Total revenue for the City of Amarillo Water Department for the fiscal year of 1964-65 was \$3,809,205.42. The expense of operation for the same period was \$1,072,881.53, leaving a balance of \$2,236,323.49 to be distributed to the retirement bonded debt in the amount of \$632,813.80 with the balance of \$1,603,509.69 being left for the Bond Reserve covenants and improvements of the water system. Over 67,900 feet of new mains were constructed and 896 new meters were installed during this fiscal year.

Another department of the division is the Sewer Department which maintains all sewer mains, does certain construction of small laterals and inspects the installation of sewerage system installations. Included, also as part of the division is a water reclamation plant which produces up to nine million gallons of industrial water daily. A local refinery and power plant has a contract to purchase the reclaimed water for use in operating these plants. This operation is without cost to the City since the contract for the reclaimed water includes purchase of the water at production cost plus monthly payments adequate to amortize the cost of the plant.

**Health Division—Amarillo Bi-City-County Health Unit:**

As noted in the description of the Board of Health, this division has duties in both the cities of Amarillo and Canyon and the Counties of Potter and Randall. Administratively, the Health Division is under the direction of the City Manager of the City of Amarillo.

The Health Department employees include: Director, Administrative Assistant, part-time physician, Sanitary Engineer, seven environmental sanitarians (to inspect food establishments, rental housing, and other environmental public health investigations required; also sample of water and food products collected for analysis), Veterinarian, five lay meat sanitarians for slaughter houses and processing plants, four milk and dairy sanitarians, Director of Nursing, two Nursing Supervisors, and 23 public health nurses, X-Ray technician, Communicable Disease Investigator, Laboratory Director, two bacteriologists, three laboratory technicians, six clerical workers, and part-time vector controlmen.

All vital statistics for the City of Amarillo and Potter County are handled by the Health Department under supervision of the Director who is the local registrar.

**CLINICS:** The following clinics are conducted by the Health Department:

1. Food Handlers Clinic . . . Monday and Friday, 9-11 a.m. or 1-4 p.m.
2. Immunization Clinic . . . Tuesday and Thursday, 1-4 p.m.
3. Yellow Fever Clinic . . . Second and fourth Wednesday each month, 1-3 pm.
4. V. D. Clinic . . . Daily.
5. T B Clinic . . . Chest X-Ray and medicines supplied in cooperation with T. B. Association and local physicians.
6. Communicable Disease . . . Releases for return to work, school; examinations for pediculosis, etc.; follow-up on report cases if required.
7. Vaccine and medicines . . . Rabies vaccine, rheumatic fever medicine, gamma globulin for indigent cases, and patients referred by local physicians.

**Laboratory:** In addition to running tests on food products and communicable disease cases, it is available for other work of public health nature.

The broad, overall program of prevention and control of communicable diseases consists of good sanitation practices in food establishments; continuing community immunization; adequately inspected milk, water, and meat products; control of sewage and waste disposal methods; and quarantine of infectious cases.

**SANITARY REGULATIONS:** The Health Department operates under city ordinances, state, and federal health laws. All food handlers are required to pass health tests. The city makes inspections and works with both state and federal inspectors checking food establishments, milk, and meat products. To enforce regulations, complaints may be filed in the courts and penalties may be assessed.

**Finance Division:**

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:** This office administers the City's financial affairs; has custody and is responsible for investment of City monies, prepares long range financial plans, coordinates and directs activities of Accounting, Purchasing, Tax, Utility Office, Data Processing, and Printing Department. The City Charter specifies that a Certified Public Accountant shall annually audit all records and transactions of the City, and summaries shall be published within 10 days after completion of the audit.

**UTILITY OFFICE:** This department is responsible for all services related to monthly reading of water meters, and billing of 44,759 water, 42,883 sewer, and 41,430 sanitation, utility accounts. Department personnel process all customer inquiries; take all applications for service; receive payment for bills, deposits for service and tap fees; and pursue collection of delinquent utility accounts.

**PRINTING DEPARTMENT:** This department provides offset printing duplicating and similar services to all activities of the City.

**DATA PROCESSING:** This department operates a centralized data processing center for all City departments on a service bureau basis. The department processes utility billings, prepares tax statements and tax rolls, payrolls and reporting, appropriation and budgetary reports, and traffic statistical reports for Traffic Engineering and Police Departments.

**PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:** All purchases of equipment, supplies and materials necessary for the operation of the City are made through this department. Before making any purchase, the department is required to give full opportunity for competitive bidding. As provided in the City Charter, all purchases over \$1,000 are advertised and sealed bids are obtained, tabulated and submitted to the City Manager and City Commission for award. Purchases of over \$500 but less than \$1,000 are handled by mailed bid solicitations and sealed bids; purchases less than \$500 are made through telephone bid inquiries.

**CITY AUDITOR:** The Accounting Department, headed by the City Auditor, maintains the City's official accounting records, issues payment for all claims against the City and collects assessment liens, franchise taxes, licenses, permits and other items due the City except utility charges, taxes, fines, building inspection fees, and permits, health and animal control fees.

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**TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR:** The Tax Assessor-Collector is appointed by the City Manager with approval of the City Commission and represents the City of Amarillo, Amarillo Independent School District, Amarillo Junior College District, and the Amarillo Hospital District. It is the responsibility of the Tax Assessor-Collector to assess property for these four taxing units in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The four governing bodies establish the tax rates to be applied to the assessed values and then it is the responsibility of the tax office to bill and collect the taxes based on these rates. The tax office makes appraisals and is responsible for equalizing values for tax purposes. Any appeals of the tax assessments are first made to the Tax Assessor and then to the Tax Equalization Board.

**GENERAL BUDGET:** A general budget, including all revenues and expenditures, both current and capital, with detailed expenditure estimates and probable income, is prepared each year by the City Manager between the months of June and September. A tentative budget for the approaching fiscal year is submitted to the City Commission for approval. Approximately ten days later the approved budget is filed with the City Secretary, and the date for Public Hearing is set. Public notices are made during the four weeks previous to the hearing. The City Attorney prepares a resolution approving the budget and one setting the Tax Rate for the coming year.

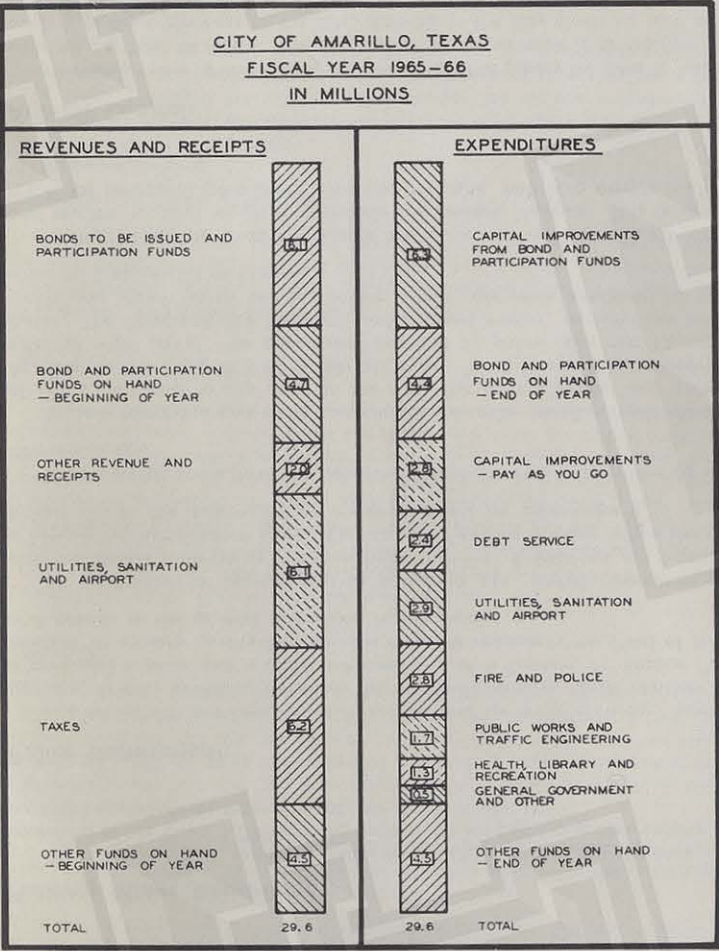
The budget is presented by the City Commission at a Public Hearing; and after discussion is adopted. The Ordinance setting the Tax Rate is passed at this meeting. Then the budget is filed with the County Clerk and State Comptroller. A balanced budget, published for distribution, goes into effect October 1 of each year.

It is the duty of the City Manager to administer all appropriations approved by the City Commission. The Director of Finance has custody over all municipal funds, which are kept in the First National Bank of Amarillo.

**TAX RATE:** The City Commission, by authority of the Charter, levies taxes in accordance with the limits provided in the Charter . . . not exceeding \$1.80 per \$100.00 on all real and personal properties. All in excess of \$1.30 per \$100.00 is reserved solely for the purpose of providing water works extension and improvements, and cannot be levied for any other purpose. Note: (In the past years, there has never been a need to provide water works extension funds by taxation, as the revenue earned by the Water Department has always been able to furnish the funds).

**HOW MONEY IS OBTAINED:** The City Commission has the power to appropriate general revenue necessary for retiring accrued indebtedness of the City, and for improvement and maintenance and total functioning of the government. "The City shall have the right and power to borrow money upon the credit of the City, and to issue coupon bonds of the City therefor . . . in such sum as seem expedient, to bear interest not exceeding 6% per annum . . . payable annually or semi-annually . . . the aggregate amount of said bonds at no time to exceed 10% of the whole taxable value of the City tax records . . . and for not longer than 40 years . . . submitted to the Attorney General of the State for approval as provided by State Law."

A vote of qualified tax-paying voters of the City must give final approval on the issuance of any such bonds . . . the election being held as per State Law.



**Personnel Department**

The City Manager appoints the Personnel Director with the approval of the City Commission and the Civil Service Commission. He is responsible to the City Manager and the Civil Service Commission. In the Personnel rules of the City of Amarillo, promotions are based upon merit and competition with extra credit being allowed for seniority and efficiency.

The Firemen's Relief and Retirement Fund was created by the Texas Legislature in 1937. The Retirement program for all other city employees was inaugurated November 1, 1949. The City of Amarillo matches employees on a contributory basis of 200% of the accrued deposits of its employees on a year to year basis. All city employees are required to join the system as a condition of employment. This plan is administered by the Texas Municipal Retirement System. The Firemen's Relief and Retirement Fund is administered by the Firemen's Relief and Retirement Board.

The City of Amarillo pays the premium for the hospitalization and major medical policies on all city employees. In addition, the city pays a portion of

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the \$3,000.00 life insurance and all of the \$10,600.00 accidental loss of life, limb, and sight insurance policies on the employee.

The City of Amarillo inaugurated Social Security June 1, 1957. The system is established on a jointly contributory basis.

**Division of Planning and Traffic:**

**CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT:** The department is charged with the responsibility of developing and maintaining current the Master City Plan. It is also responsible for administration of the zoning ordinance.

**Traffic Engineering Department:**

The department is charged with the responsibility of planning and geometric design of streets and abutting land, and with the traffic operations thereon as their use is related to the safe, convenient and economic transportation of persons and goods. The department also maintains the fire alarm system and all the electric systems on the City-owned property.

**Parking Meter Department:**

The department is charged with responsibility of the maintenance and operation of the City's 1,350 parking meters. Its six parking guides enforce the parking regulations at these meters.

**Police Department:**

The Amarillo Police Department is divided into six major divisions; namely, Uniform, Traffic, Juvenile, Detective, Service and Training. Each division has a particular mission and is under the command of a Captain. A "Station Commander" is on duty twenty-four hours a day. He represents the Chief of Police and attends to the general operations in the field.

All candidates for appointment as patrolmen are carefully examined and screened before undergoing intensive basic training. Promotions are made on a competitive examination basis. Continuous in-service training offers the ambitious officer the opportunity to prepare himself for advancement.

The personnel strength of the department includes 183 officers and 35 civilian employees.

Modern telephone and radio communications make possible rapid dispatch of police personnel to any point in the city. The records system and training Academy is the finest in this section of Texas. The K-9 unit gives support to effective night patrol. The department operates 52 police units and 11 motorcycles. The Polygraph (lie detector), radar speed meters, reproduction instruments and identification section, among others, are tools employed to bring cases to a successful conclusion.

Visitors in groups or as individuals are invited to visit the Police building and see the facilities which also include the Neilsen Museum. This is one of the finest collections of antique guns and furniture, and is a unique addition to the police building.

**Animal Control:**

This department is directed by an animal control supervisor who is responsible to the Chief of Police. The purpose of the department is to regulate, according to the ordinances of the City, animals in the City Limits as well as to enforce provisions of rabies control.

**Division of Public Works:**

The division of Public Works has general charge of outside work in the city such as street cleaning, street maintenance, refuse collection and disposal, and street and alley paving. Other responsibilities include engineering, fire prevention, equipment maintenance, maintenance of public buildings and operation of a central warehouse.

**Central Services Building:**

The Central Services Building, located at 23rd and Hayes streets, contains 71,852 square feet and was built at a cost of \$1,944,000. It provides housing for the Division of Public Works, Traffic Engineering, Sanitation, Park, Water and Sewer Departments and a central incinerator.

**Department of Engineering:**

This department prepares plans and specifications for street improvements, sanitary sewerage facilities, storm sewerage, and other municipal assignments and performs engineering and supervision for them. Building, electrical, plumbing, gas, heating and sign permits are issued and the construction performed under those permits is inspected. Maps showing the corporate limits, annexations, additions, streets, alleys, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, and zoning are kept up to date. Applications are received and inspections are made on premises which are to be used as dance halls. Premises are inspected for condemnation and illegal storage of inoperative vehicles.

**Library:**

The City of Amarillo Mary E. Bivins Memorial Library, located at 10th and Polk Streets, was dedicated in 1955. The building, bequeathed to the City of Amarillo by the late Mrs. Bivins, was completely remodeled, enlarged and furnished by a special bond issue voted by the City. In 1965 the Texas Historical Association declared the City of Amarillo Mary E. Bivins Memorial Library an historical shrine depicting a typical early city ranch home.

Being completely supported by city taxes, the library employs 47 full time and 8 part time staff members. Two bookmobile units serve approximately 40 points throughout the city on regular runs.

The library building provides spacious facilities for children's department, film collections, adult education services, periodical reading rooms, spacious collections of local history and genealogy, together with regular library facilities. Bonds have been voted for Amarillo's first branch library which is scheduled for completion in 1968.

Facts: Library book collection consists of 133,597 volumes. These books were circulated 594,744 times during 1965. Approximately 80,000 reference questions were processed. Library films were viewed by 450,000 people. 54,000 non-current magazines were requested by citizens.

**Fire Department:**

A fire chief who is appointed by the City Manager with the consent of the City Commission, heads the fire department. Employees in this department consist of paid firemen selected upon the basis of competitive examinations. A continuous training program is given to all firemen to keep them abreast of current fire fighting techniques.

**Airport Department:**

An Airport Manager supervises the facilities and employees of the Amarillo Air Terminal. He is appointed by the City Manager with the consent of the City Commission.

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**City Attorney:**

A city attorney is appointed by the City Manager with the consent of the City Commission. It is his duty to supervise attorneys in the Corporation Court and Tax Department. The City Attorney, along with the help of a law firm retained by the City, handles all legal matters including condemnation suits, grafting of ordinances, writing contracts and attending all City Commission meetings.

**Corporation Court:**

The Corporation Court judges are appointed by the City Commission but are under the administrative direction of the City Manager. Corporation Court is in session Monday through Friday.

This Court handles criminal misdemeanors where the fine does not exceed \$200 and where jail sentences are not imposed except for non-payment of fines. The Court is primarily concerned with traffic offenders. Any violator may request a jury trial if he so desires.

**SECTION III**  
**Education, Welfare Service, and**  
**Medical Facilities**

**EDUCATION:**

**Amarillo Public Schools:**

The Amarillo Public Schools are governed by a board of seven members elected for six year terms. Board meetings are open to the public.

**FACILITIES:** The Amarillo Independent School District is an area of 70 square miles including 34 elementary schools, seven junior high schools, five senior high schools. There are forty-six school cafeterias.

The school system is twelve year fully accredited. On September 1, 1965 there was an enrollment of 31,752 pupils. The value of the facilities is approximately \$39,000,000. The outstanding indebtedness on September 1, 1965 amounted to \$20,690,000 bonded.

There is one new junior high school presently under construction which is to be opened in September, 1967.

**SOURCES OF INCOME:** The 1965-1966 tax rate for the Amarillo Independent School District totaled \$1.32 per \$100.00 property valuation with \$.97 used for local maintenance and \$.35 used for bonded indebtedness. The tax rate for the Amarillo College District totals \$.09 with \$.08 for local maintenance and \$.01 for the building debt. State aid per capita is \$82. The foundation fund per capita is \$65. The per capita scholastic fund is \$80.

Financial assistance is received from state and federal sources for vocational homemaking teachers, diversified occupation and distributive education teachers and for federally connected children.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION:** The Amarillo Public Schools have 62 teachers units that serve children in the areas of blind, deaf, orthopedic and brain damaged, emotionally disturbed, speech, educable mentally retarded, trainable retarded, homebound and academically maladjusted.

**BUDGET:** The total operating cost for 1965-1966 is \$12,606,193. The building debt amounts to \$1,795,248.

**Amarillo College:**

Amarillo College is a fully accredited two-year, public community college which was established in 1929. The campus consists of approximately 17 acres and 11 buildings. The district boundaries are coterminous with those of the Amarillo Independent School District. It is administered by a Board of Regents consisting of nine members who are elected for six-year terms. One-third of the Board is elected every two years, and the election is held in April of even-numbered years.

Its income for operating expenses is derived from state appropriations from the Texas Legislature, local taxes, and student fees and tuition. In October, 1965 enrollment was 3,801. The college also offers special courses in technical and occupational education, cultural and community service programs.

**WEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY** is located in Canyon, Texas and is a four year university. Enrollment for 1965-66 is 5,100.

**Parochial Schools:**

Amarillo Christian School	St. Andrews Episcopal Church
Trinity Lutheran School	St. Joseph's School
Our Lady of Guadalupe	St. Lucian Seminary
Price Catholic High School	St. Laurance Parochial School
Seventh Day Adventist Academy	St. Martin De Porres School
	St. Mary's Academy

**WELFARE SERVICES:**

**TAX AND PRIVATELY SUPPORTED:** Amarillo has many welfare agencies established for the purpose of caring for those families and individuals in the community who are in need of case work services, financial assistance, or other services. Some are supported by public tax funds and some entirely by the local community.

**Tax Supported Agencies:**

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE:** This is a tax supported agency, deriving funds from the Federal and State taxes and operating under the State Board of Control with a State Executive Director appointed by the Governor with Senate approval. The Board is responsible for policies, rules, and regulations for the Departments. Employees are under the State Merit System following the requirements of the Federal Government. The Department is responsible for four categorical programs and the Division of Child Welfare.

**Old Age Assistance:** There are approximately 1,433 recipients in Potter County with an average grant of \$57. The maximum grant is \$95.

**Aid to Dependent Children:** There are approximately 58 families and 215 children receiving this assistance in Potter County. The average grant per child is \$39.26.

**Aid to Permanently and Total Disabled:** Recipients now number approximately 46 cases in Potter County with an average grant of \$54.43. The maximum grant is \$90.

**Potter County Child Welfare Unit:**

This unit operates under the division of child welfare and a local advisory board of 7 members, and is supported by a combination of Federal, State, County and City funds with three-fifths of the total supplied by the local governments. The unit provides various services to dependent and neglected children and to those with special problems including physical, mental, emotional or

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social maladjustments. Services are also rendered to children and families in adoption and disputed custody cases and are extended to foster parents and boarding homes. According to the last annual report the unit worked with over 800 children. 61 % were dependent and neglected.

#### Potter County Welfare Department:

This department supported by local taxes, operates under the jurisdiction of the County Commissioners Court and the County Judge. Among other services the department is charged with the responsibility of providing financial assistance to those Potter County residents who are eligible to receive basic maintenance, including food and shelter.

#### Amarillo Hospital District:

The Amarillo Hospital District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Its purpose is to own and operate a hospital system for needy and indigent persons. The Amarillo Hospital District acts as the certifying agency in determining the needs of such persons.

#### Privately Supported Agencies:

**Family Service and Traveler's Aid:** This is a United Fund Agency operating under a local board of directors. Counseling is offered to families and individuals with problems of marital discord, childrens behavior, and personal adjustment. Rehabilitation and the prevention of family breakdown are emphasized. Limited financial aid is given on a temporary basis in emergency cases of non-residents and transients. Another function consists of screening and certifying applicants desiring Legal Aid Counseling Service in cooperation with the Amarillo Bar Association. The last annual report shows service given to 123 families for counseling, 1,171 persons through Traveler's Aid and to 27 persons in need of Legal Aid.

#### American Red Cross:

The local Chapter provides services and assistance to members of the Armed Forces, conducts a disaster preparedness and relief program and provides other government requested assistance. Other services offered to the participant are training in First Aid, Water Safety, Care of the Sick and Injured, Mother and Baby Care, and Mass Feeding. The last annual report shows that in the 12 month period, services were given through the Home Service program to 8,122 cases.

#### Catholic Family Service Incorporated:

Operating under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Amarillo, this agency renders two general types of service, child placement and material assistance. It is the only private licensed child placing and adoptive agency in the Panhandle area. These services are available to all regardless of race, color, or creed.

#### Salvation Army:

The primary purpose of this agency is to give spiritual guidance. Its secondary function, the welfare program, provides housing and food for transient men, women and families. This agency accommodates approximately 25 persons each night. It is estimated that more than 50 individuals are served meals daily. Clothing and food are provided in case of emergency.

#### Other Agencies:

Rendering services but not financial assistance include:

Boy Scouts	City Health Department
Girl Scouts	National Foundation
Camp Fire Girls	Multiple Sclerosis Chapter
Kids Incorporated	Muscular Dystrophy Association
Maverick Club	School Childrens Agency
Y. W. C. A.	Council for Retarded Children
Y. M. C. A.	Heart Association
Amarillo Day Nurseries (6)	Social Hygiene Association
American Cancer Society	Childrens Psychiatric Center and Hospital
Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center	Juvenile Protection Department and Detention Home
Potter County Tuberculosis Association	Legal Aid Services
Big Brothers of Amarillo	Mental Health Society
School Guidance Services	Presbyterian Children's Home
Veterans Affairs Officer	Vocational Rehabilitation (Div. Texas Education Agency)
Veterans Administration	Boys Ranch
Veterans Affairs Commission	U. S. O.
Council on Alcoholism	

#### MEDICAL FACILITIES:

These institutions are financed totally or in part by federal, state, local, and private funds:

Amarillo Air Force Base Hospital	
Amarillo Medical Center	
High Plains Baptist Hospital (to open July 1967)	
Adult Psychiatric Hospital (to open December 1966)	
Childrens Psychiatric Hospital (to open July 1966)	
Northwest Texas Hospital	Saint Anthony Hospital
Veterans Administration Hospital	Underwood Hospital
Amarillo Osteopathic Hospital (to open April 1967)	

#### SECTION IV

#### Recreation and Cultural Facilities

##### Lake Meredith and Alibates National Park:

The Canadian River Project was planned, designed and constructed for the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority for the principal purpose of furnishing water for municipal and industrial uses; controlling floods and sediment; and providing recreation and fish and wild life benefits.

The Sanford Dam is the principal structure of the project. It is located 40 miles northeast of Amarillo on the Canadian River above its confluence with the Arkansas River.

The reservoir, known as Lake Meredith, and the park areas surrounding the lake offer a wide variety of recreational facilities. These include picnic areas and facilities, boat launching facilities, and camp areas.

Another point of interest both historical and scientific is Alibates National Park located on the south shore of Lake Meredith near the community of Fritch. Encompassed in this national park is the Alibates River complex—actual remains of prehistoric man's habitat. Roving tribes made extensive use of the beautiful rainbow-colored Alibates flint found there. These Alibates quarries are purported to be the earliest and longest lived industry developed on this continent.

19 *Recreation and Cultural Facilities*

21 *Potter County Government*

23 *Randall County Government*

*How to Participate in Government*



**Palo Duro Canyon:**

A State Park near Canyon which has 15,103 acres and is 120 miles in length. There are camping, hiking and picnicking facilities.

**Palo Duro Amphitheater:**

It is located on the floor of the canyon, against a 600 foot bluff and seats 2,000 people. Ten weeks of symphonic drama is produced during the summer.

**Amarillo Symphony:**

This is the forty-first year and consists of approximately 85 instrumentalists and a chorus of 80, and a paid director. It is financed by tickets and contributions. The concert series produces 7 programs and 4 childrens concerts. It is heard on the Voice of America.

**Amarillo Little Theatre:**

This is the 39th year and it gives 5 major productions a year. This building in Wolflin Village is owned by Little Theater and seats 593.

**Auditorium - Coliseum:**

The Auditorium-Coliseum is a part of Amarillo Civic Center. This facility which is scheduled for completion in October 1968, is being constructed at a cost of \$3.9 million dollars. The Auditorium will have a seating capacity of 2,500. The Coliseum will contain 5,000 permanent and 3,000 portable seats. The Auditorium-Coliseum will be able to handle a convention of 7,500 persons and provides 30,000 square feet of display space.

**SECTION V****Potter County Government**

Amarillo, the county seat of Potter County, is headquarters for the county government which carries on its functions in the County Courthouse. Potter County has an area of 901 square miles and a population of 126,822 in 1965.

**County Governing Machinery:**

Four Commissioners—two elected every two years to serve four year terms. These four Commissioners and the County Judge make up what is known as Commissioners Court. The court meets regularly every Monday and is presided over by the County Judge, who is elected every four years from the County at large.

**DUTIES:** The Commissioners Court sets the tax rate by which money is raised to finance the County Government; supervises county property, including the courthouse and jail; supervises county road maintenance; administers the county Fair Park; handles welfare problems concerning indigents, aged and dependent children.

The Commission employs the following county officers: County Superintendent of Roads, Probation Officer; and in cooperation with the U. S. Extension Service, County Agents and Home Demonstration Agents.

A County Auditor, who authorizes and reviews expenditures approved by the Commissioner's Court is appointed by the two District Judges.

**County Officers Elected:**

The following county officers are elected for four year terms; District and County Clerks, Surveyor, Sheriff, Tax Assessor-Collector, Treasurer, Constable, County Judge, Judge of the County-Court-at-Law, County Attorney, two Justices of the Peace, and County School superintendent. One half of this group of officers are elected every two years.

**Representation in State Government:**

Legislative District Number 80, which is Potter County, Place 1 and Place 2, sends two representatives to the state legislature. Both representatives are elected every two years for a two year term.

The following counties comprise the 31st Senatorial District: Armstrong, Carson, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman and Wheeler Counties. The 31st District elects a member of the Senate every four years for a four year term.

**County Law Enforcement and Judicial System:**

County law enforcement is handled by the County Sheriff who is elected by the voters every four years. He is paid a salary and does not operate on fees. He has jurisdiction over law violations whether within Amarillo city limits or within Potter County.

**COUNTY JAIL:** The Commissioners Court pays its expenses. The sheriff has charge of its management.

**County Courts:**

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COUNTS:** There are two in precinct one in Amarillo. The judges (or Justices of the Peace) and constables are elected for four year terms.

**JURISDICTION OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS:** Criminal acts and Misdemeanors punishable by a fine of \$200 or less, with no jail sentence. The court may also act as a Court of Inquiry to investigate crimes with powers similar to those of the grand jury.

**OTHER DUTIES:** To perform marriages, hold inquests in deaths by accident or violence, or in deaths not attended by a physician.

Cases in Justice Court are heard by the Justice of the Peace, unless either side requests a jury, in which case a jury of six is called.

**COUNTY COURT:** This court is held on the third floor of the Courthouse in Amarillo and presided over by the County Judge who is elected for a four year term.

**JURISDICTION, PROBATE AND LUNACY:** The County Judge conducts lunacy hearings after charges have been filed, and may appoint a guardian; he also directs the probating of wills and if the deceased has left no executor, he may appoint an administrator for the estate.

**JURISDICTION, CRIMINAL AND CIVIL:** With a few exceptions the County Judge has the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as the Judge of the County Court-at-Law; however, in Potter County civil and criminal cases are handled largely by the County Court-at-Law.

**COUNTY COURT-AT-LAW:** This court is held on the third floor of the Courthouse in Amarillo, and presided over by the Judge of the County Court-at-Law who is elected for a four year term.

**JURISDICTION, CRIMINAL:** Misdemeanors, including where fine imposed may exceed \$200, or where a jail sentence may be imposed. The county courts also serve as a court of appeal for cases first heard in the city or justice courts.

**JURISDICTION, CIVIL:** Suits where the amount in controversy exceeds \$200, but not over \$500. The jurisdiction is concurrent with that of the district court where the amount is between \$500 and \$1000. The County Court-at-Law has concurrent jurisdiction of most cases filed in the justice courts. The county courts act as the court of appeal for civil cases tried in the justice court as well.

**COURT OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS:** This court has jurisdiction of cases involving adoptions, removal of disability of minority, change of name of persons, delinquency, neglected or dependent child proceedings, and all jurisdiction, powers and authority placed in the district or county courts under the juvenile and child welfare laws of the State of Texas; and of all divorce and marriage annulment cases including the adjustment of property rights involved, as well as cases of child support, alimony pending final hearing, and adjustment of property rights and other matters incident to divorce or annulment proceedings.



The judge of the Court of Domestic Relations is appointed for a four year term by the Potter County Juvenile Board, consisting of the County Judge, the 47th District Court Judge, and the 108th District Court Judge.

#### District Courts:

Potter County has two district courts, the 47th, which also sits in Armstrong and Randall Counties, and the 108th Judicial Court which is exclusively in Potter County.

**JURISDICTION, CRIMINAL:** By custom the 47th court has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal matters in Potter County. This court handles all felonies and misdemeanors involving official misconduct.

**JURISDICTION, CIVIL:** This court handles all suits in behalf of the State to recover penalties, forfeitures and escheats; suits to recover damages for slander and defamation of character; suits on land titles; suits, complaints, or pleas without regard to distinction between law and equity when the matter in controversy is \$500 or over.

District Attorney is elected by the voters and prosecutes all trials against persons who have been "true billed" by the grand jury.

A District Clerk, also elected, handles clerical matters for the district courts, and supervises the preparation of the jury wheel, from which are drawn jurors to serve in trials of civil and criminal cases.

**JURORS: QUALIFICATIONS:** 21 years of age, or older, able to read and write the English language, resident of a county in question, owners of property in the state or householder or spouse of householder. The pay of a juror is \$4.00 per day, except in the Justice Court where it is \$1.00 per day.

Grand Jurors are appointed by a commission of three named by the District Judge, and they name their own foreman. Twelve citizens make up the Grand Jury, which is one of the strongest law enforcement bodies in our community. They decide what criminal cases shall come to trial, and are empowered to investigate any suspected criminal action or misconduct in the county. A new grand jury is appointed every three months. Their pay is \$4 a day while in session.

#### The Court of Civil Appeals:

The Court of Civil Appeals, is held on the sixth floor of the County Courthouse. Three judges preside. They are elected for six year terms, one being elected every two years, by voters of 46 West Texas counties comprising the Seventh Supreme Judicial district of the state.

**JURISDICTION:** A court of appeals in all civil cases in the district where the amount in controversy or judgment rendered exceeds \$100.

#### Federal District Court:

The Federal District Court is held in the U. S. Post Office building. The judge is appointed for life by the President of the United States.

**JURISDICTION:** All criminal violations of the United States code, in civil cases where the amount involved exceeds \$3,000 and the parties live in diverse states; Constitutional question, action on application for American citizenship.

#### County Road System:

Potter County is noted for an exceptionally efficient road system which is maintained under the direction of the County Superintendent of Roads.

#### County Schools:

There are four school districts, two of which are common school districts and two independent, (Amarillo and River Road). Common schools are under supervision of the County Superintendent of schools (elected) and the State Department of Education. The independent districts have their own school boards.

A county board of five members administers school affairs, the superintendent serving as its secretary. Five members are elected from the four commissioner's precincts, and one from the county at large.

**FINANCES:** Financial support of the system comes from three sources; local maintenance, State and County available funds. School buildings are financed by a separate tax voted by residents of a district in the form of bonds which are sold.

### SECTION VI

## Randall County Government

#### Area:

Randall County has an area of 900 square miles and a population of 47,373 (January, 1965, Canyon Chamber of Commerce). The northern boundary of the county extends to 29th street in Amarillo and almost 80 percent of Randall County's population lives within the Amarillo City limits. There are ten voting precincts in this northern section out of a total of 20 precincts for the county as a whole. Canyon is the county seat of Randall County and the main courthouse is located there. An annex courthouse is located in Amarillo at 3806 Bowie.

#### County Governing Machinery:

There are four county commissioners—two are elected every two years to serve four year terms. The Commissioners Court is composed of these four commissioners and the county judge who is the court's presiding officer. The Commissioners Court meets on the first four Mondays of each month at 1:00 p.m., except on the second Monday of the month when they convene at 10:30 a.m.

**DUTIES:** The Commissioners Court sets the tax rate by which money is raised to finance county government and acts as a board of equalization in tax matters. It approves salaries and authorizes appointments of assistants and clerks. It provides office space and equipment and supervises county property. The court is responsible for the building and maintenance of county roads and bridges and for the supervision of election machinery and procedures in the precincts. They fill vacancies in elective offices and appoint the county agent and home demonstration agent.

County Officers elected are district and county clerks, sheriff, tax assessor and collector, treasurer, surveyor, district attorney and county judge. All are elected for four year terms. The county judge handles welfare matters and also acts as superintendent of schools.

**REPRESENTED IN STATE GOVERNMENT:** Randall County is in legislative district number 81 (beginning January, 1966) along with Carson, Armstrong, Donley, and Collingsworth. One representative to the state legislature serves these five counties. Randall is in the 31st senatorial district as is Potter County.

#### County Law Enforcement and Judicial System:

The county sheriff is elected each four years. He has jurisdiction over all law violations in Randall County and cooperates closely with city police in Amarillo and Canyon. Four deputies are located in the courthouse annex in Amarillo. The sheriff also supervises the management of the county jail.

#### County Court:

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS:** There are two—one in Canyon, one in Amarillo. Justices of Peace are elected by precincts for four year terms. There are no constables in Randall County and the sheriff's office performs the duties ordinarily assigned to them. Jurisdiction and duties of these courts is the same as in Potter County.

**COUNTY COURT:** This court meets in the courthouse in Canyon, presided over by the County Judge. This court has jurisdiction over all probate and lunacy hearings, juvenile and domestic relations cases, civil and criminal trials which fall within the limits set by the state for county courts. (See Potter County for details.)

**DISTRICT COURT:** The 47th District Court sits in Randall, Potter and Armstrong Counties. Jurisdiction is the same as in Potter County.



**Education:**

There are three school districts in Randall County. The Canyon Independent School District, the Common School District of Umbarger and the Amarillo School District. The county judge serves as superintendent of the Common School District.

**SECTION VII****How To Participate In Government****Qualified Voters in all Elections:**

Citizen of the United States, who is twenty-one (21) years of age or over, who shall have resided in the State one (1) year next preceding an election, and the last six (6) months within the district or county in which such person offers to vote, who shall have paid or registered in 1966. After 1966 one must only register from October 1 through January 31st. Citizens who are 60 years of age and reside in a city of 10,000 or more inhabitants must have secured an exemption certificate or must have registered. Voters are required to own taxable property in any election involving a bond issue, lending credit, expending money, or assuming debts.

**Taking a Part in Politics:**

If a Candidate for Governor should poll as many as two hundred thousand (200,000) votes at the last general election this Party MUST hold its own primary before its candidate's names may be placed on the ballot at the next General Election.

**Precinct Conventions:**

All organized parties hold their precinct meetings following the closing of the polls on the day of the Primary election at which time delegates are elected to the County Conventions. Each precinct is allowed one delegate for each twenty-five votes cast for the party's candidate for Governor in such precinct at the last preceding general election.

**County Conventions:**

Held on the first Saturday after the primary elections. The county convention shall elect one delegate for each three hundred votes cast for the party's candidate for Governor in such county at the last preceding general election. The delegates elected shall be delegates for all state conventions held throughout the remainder of the year. Resolutions are presented at this time for the state platform and are adopted or rejected.

**State Conventions:**

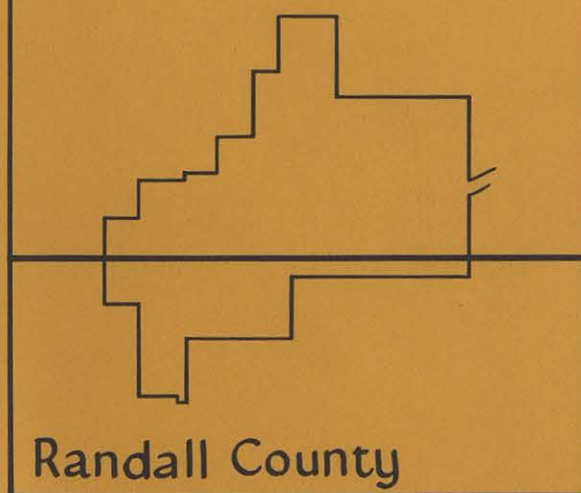
State conventions of the parties shall be held on the third Tuesday in September and each two (2) years thereafter. The state convention held in even-numbered year is to announce a platform of principles and to announce nominations for Governor and other state offices, elect the chairman, co-chairman and members of the State Executive Committee. The State Convention in June is held every four years by political parties to elect delegates to the National Convention, pass resolutions in connection with the National Platform, make recommendations to the National Convention, elect a Committeeman and Committeewoman to serve on the National Executive Committee, and to name electors to cast the vote of the State for President and Vice-President of the United States.

**Elections:**

General Primary—The first Saturday in May and every two (2) years thereafter.

Second Primary—The first Saturday in June succeeding the general primary.  
General Election—The first Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

Potter County



Randall County



*The League of Women Voters*



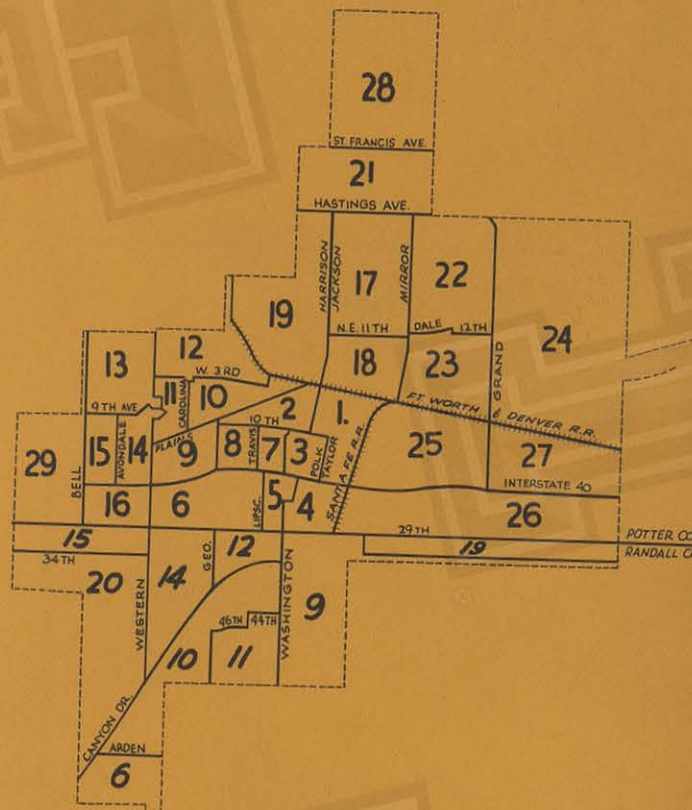
is pleased to present this information  
to you as a public service

*The League of Women Voters is a  
nonpartisan organization established in 1920 to  
encourage citizen participation in government.*

*How to Participate in Government*



# PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES



## Potter County

1. Police Station, 609 Pierce.
2. School Adm. Bldg., 700 Adams
3. Amarillo High School, 1200 Polk
4. Amarillo College Gym (Old), 24th St.
5. Wolfelin School, 2035 Hayden
6. Austin School, 1808 Wimberly
7. Amarillo Bible Youth Center, 1410 Ong St.
8. Bivins School, 1600 Fannin
9. Tascosa High School, 3921 West Lawn
10. Health Building, 411 Austin
11. Margaret Wills School, 3500 West 11th
12. San Jacinto School, 400 Carolina
13. Sam Houston School, 815 Independence
14. Sam Houston (S. E. Entrance), 815 Independence
15. Avondale School, 1500 Avondale
16. Olsen Park School, 2509 Anna
17. Palo Duro High School, 1400 N. Grant
18. Horace Mann Junior High, 611 N. Buchanan
19. North Heights School, 607 N. Hughes
20. Highland Park School, East of City
21. Pleasant Valley School, 125 River Road
22. Whittier School, 2004 N. Marrs
23. Will Rogers School, 920 N. Mirror
24. Mesa Verde School, 4011 Beaver
25. James Bowie Junior High, 3001 East 12th
26. Lawndale School, 2215 Bivins
27. Humphreys Highland School, 1301 Dallas
28. River Road School, Dumas Highway
29. Belmar School, 6342 Adirondack
30. Bushland
31. Leo Stanton Home, Fain Compressor Station

## Randall County

1. Canyon Elementary School, 1005 21st St.
2. Jowell Schoolhouse, S. W. of Canyon
3. Ralph Switch, Highway 87, South
4. Fairview, Southeast of Canyon
5. J. I. Fletcher Home, S. E. of Amarillo
6. Scotty Golf, Canyon Highway
7. Wood Home, N. W. of Canyon
8. Umbarger, Highway 60
9. Alice Landergin School, 3209 Taylor
10. Lamar School, 3800 Lipscomb
11. South Lawn School, 4719 Bowie
12. Coronado School, 3212 Wimberly
13. West Texas Field House, Canyon
14. Paramount Terrace School, 3906 W. 40th
15. David Crockett School, 4720 Floyd
16. VFW in Canyon, Canyon
17. Canyon Junior High School, 606 8th St.
18. Frank Begert Farm, S. W. of Amarillo
19. Caprick High School, 3001 East 34th
20. Ridgcrest School, 5306 W. 37th



STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS

March 22, 1966

New support position

*comprehensive*  
"The League of Women Voters of Texas supports metropolitan regional and state planning in Texas."

Explanation: The State Board has evaluated the local League consensus reports on planning submitted by March 1 following a one-year study (1965-66). There was unanimous support for metropolitan regional planning and state planning in Texas. Local Leagues decided that planning was needed to provide orderly growth in a rapidly changing urban environment. Many principles of planning organization and functioning were proposed by local Leagues but not enough support was given to any single principle to warrant inclusion in the statement of position at this time.

New State-Local Relations Item wording:

State-Local Relations: "Support of more effective state and local government in Texas by comprehensive state and metropolitan regional planning, organizational flexibility, and adequate financing."

Support positions included under S-LR Item:

A. The League of Women Voters of Texas is opposed to continuing to meet the needs for local government services by the formation of single purpose special districts. Therefore, it will support measures to provide

(1) Cities and/or counties with adequate and realistic powers to perform services without overlapping costs and taxation and

(2) for the accountability and regulation of single purpose special districts.

B. The League of Women Voters of Texas believes that local government in Texas should be made more responsive to changing conditions. Therefore the League will support measures to provide for:

A flexible governmental structure for counties and municipalities together with legislative and financial powers adequate to provide local services.

*comprehensive*  
C. The League of Women Voters of Texas supports metropolitan regional and state planning in Texas.

Transfer of a part of support position B to the TCR Item

The State Board at the pre-Convention meeting approved the transfer of the following support position formerly under S-LR to TCR: *Support of*  
"A Single Article in the Texas Constitution encompassing provisions for units of local government (cities, towns, villages, counties and special districts), expressed in broad and permissive principles."



I thought the audience had the 15 min  
x Katy 5

We had only 50 minutes to divide  
so I think it would be divided  
in 15 mins sections which  
would have no adjourn at  
5:20

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