

League of Women Voters of Texas

MRS. GEORGE C. BOLLER, President



2114 SEALY AVENUE

GALVESTON, TEXAS

League of Women Voters of Texas

MRS. MAURICE H. BROWN, President



612 NORTH 18th STREET

WACO, TEXAS

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.

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Don't just sit there—

WORRY!

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Number Ten

in a series

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
1007 WEST 24TH
AUSTIN, TEXAS

eat

ry Thoughts

September 13, 1964

Dear Katy and Beverly -

In trying to think about doing something for Gwen that would be different and unusual....and fun, too. How about learning a parody and singing it for her as a "treat" from West Texas during the Happy Hour at SB meeting on Thursday night?

I've been playing around with some words for the first part of "There is Nothin' Like a Dame" from SOUTH PACIFIC. You probably know it, or have hummed the tune. The words in the original start "We got sunlight on the sand, We got moonlight on the sea, We got mangoes and bananas You can pick right off a tree, We got volley ball and ping pong And a lot of danday games! What ain't we got? We ain't got dames!!"

Using just that much of the melody (several times over again) this is what I've concocted. See how it goes and if you'd like to try it....change it... or do something else. Each verse uses exactly the same melody over again.

There is

1. We got Braunagel and Freedman, We got Joer, Ballard and Brown,
We got Anderson and Pollard, Nolle, ~~Lee~~ - then why the frown?

Brook Caperson + Linehan
We got Frashner, Ziegler, Pettis, Baden ~~Caperson~~ all are here,
What ain't we got? We ain't got GWEN!

2. We got small talk, big talk, fast talk, We got plans to follow through
We got League work, carbons, Board jobs...But we're feeling mighty blue

is sure to get us in the end!
What has caused this feeling That we're trying to review?
What ain't we got? We ain't got GWEN!

3. She will love that Illinois and all ~~the~~ *she* new friends ~~there~~ *she meets there*
We know we can't go with her, Harold says he just won't share

better like a friend
We love her like a sister, ~~even when we tear our hair~~
What ain't we got? We ain't got GWEN!

4. So we wish her happy journey as she plans to move away
Don't know what we'll do without her as we work & as we play

She's the loving bitter end,
There is just no other like her - ~~This is why we say~~
What ain't we got? We ain't got GWEN!

*Don't know what we'll do without her, to be frank
We'll get no one to replace her - in the "think tank"*
Now that's enough to help you think of something better!!!!!! We could run
over it Wednesday night (or about 2 in the morning by the swimming pool?)
and read the words.....not try to memorize them.

+++ name or names of new Board member or members if we have any by then.

As ever,

Beverly
Beverly

NOV 1964

*We've got no one with seniority in her rank
We've got no one to replace her in the "think tank"*

League of Women Voters of Texas

March 15, 1962

2114 SEALY AVENUE

GALVESTON, TEXAS

(There will be a new address after April 1)

TO: All State Leagues

FROM: Mrs. George C. Boller, President, LWV of Texas

RE: State Sales Tax - memo of September 27, 1961

We very much appreciate the information sent us by so many State Leagues and have prepared this report for all states and for the LWV of the U.S. for whatever help it may be in the future.

Our memo came as a surprise to some State Leagues who had not been concerned about the subject; caused some to check into or confirm their own situations; and showed that some states are more fortunate than others regarding exemptions. Here in Texas we are still without ruling from the State Comptroller which we requested months ago. We are at the moment taking position (a) and paying our suppliers and printer the tax, recovering as much as possible in the price of our publications. Our memo of 9/27/61 contained the following questions: If your state has a sales tax:

1. Have you been able to obtain such an exemption? On what grounds?
2. If you are not exempted, how do you handle the tax?
 - a. Do you take the position that you are the end-user (as some contractors do) pay the sales tax on materials purchased from your supplier (stationer, printer, etc., and add enough to the price of materials to local Leagues to cover?
 - b. Do you sign a re-sale certificate which permits your supplier of material to refrain from taxing you on all or part of the materials sold to you (that part which goes into publication of materials), collect tax from your local Leagues and remit to the State? (In Texas this would mean applying for a Limited Sales Tax Permit).
 - c. In the case of (b), do your local Leagues, in turn, collect on sales they make to recover at least part of what they pay to you?
 - d. In the case of National publications sold by your local Leagues, do they collect the State sales tax and remit to State?

STATE	SALES TAX	EX.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	Comments:
Ark.	Yes	Yes					Charitable & ed. org. exempt.
Calif.	Yes	NO	Yes	NO	Only on Vot. HB	No	Pay tax on supplies but permit from Board of Equalization makes it unnecessary to tax publications sold to LLs at cost. Collect tax on Voters Handbook (sold at profit). LWV generally believes in 'minimum of exemptions'
Colo.	Yes	Yes					Non-profit organizations
Conn.	Yes	No	Yes				Pay tax only on National publications which are bot and resold. Pay tax on supplies.
DEL.	No						
Ga.	Yes	Yes					Nonprofit org. do not pay tax on ed. liter.
Ill.	Comment: Has 'Retailers Occupation Tax' Denied exemption on ed. basis as LWV not exclusively educational. Tax based on volume of business transacted. Remit tax monthly. Consider LL sales to members a 'recovery of cost' - not another retail sale. Also a 'use tax' - A recent ruling on the Nat'l publications: Nat'l acts as collector of Ill. use tax in return for privilege of doing business in state.						
Ind.	No						
Iowa	Yes	No	Yes			No	The question of whether or not should pay sales tax on pub. has not come up - pay tax on materials.
Kan.	Yes	See comment	No	No	No	No	Have not applied for exemption - state non-profit ed. org. when purchase materials

League of Women Voters of Texas

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2114 SEALY AVENUE

GALVESTON, TEXAS

TO: State Leagues RE: Sales Tax Page 2

STATE	SALES TAX	EX.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	Comments:
Ky.	Use Tax	No					Hoping for legislative relief. Pay 3% use tax on basis of services and collect if total netted more than initial cost. They sent sample of sales and use tax report form.
Md.	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Pay tax on materials used. Sell mostly to ed. entities which are themselves exempt. Sales to members are usually under 50¢ which has been the starting point for the tax. Send an est. tax each year based on large sales to non-ed. groups. Sales to LLs not taxed, since ultimate purchaser is individual member who buys one at a time.
Maine	Yes	Yes					They consider they are in 'casual sales' category which is exempt.
Mass.	No						
Minn.	No						
Miss.	Yes	No	Yes		No	No	Payment is automatic - unaware of any possibilities of obtaining exemption
Neb.	No						
N. Hamp.	No						This LWV has worked for a sales tax for 10rs.
N. J.	No						
N. Mex.	Yes	No	Yes			No	As nonprofit ed. org. exempt for many years. the 1961 Leg. revised - no longer exempt.
N.Y.	No.						
N.Car.	Yes		Yes				No tax on publications such as League, but they pay tax on materials.
Ohio	Yes	No	Yes	No		No	If local League purchases publications for their own use, they charge sales tax and pay state for the stamps. If local L's buy to resell, they must charge the tax and pay for the stamps themselves. League working for elimination of tax stamps.
Okla.	Yes		Yes			No	No evidence that they have ever paid or collected sales tax on publications, possibly because it has never occurred to anyone that should be doing so, since make no profit and sales are primarily to own members. Have been advised to request a letter of exemption.
Penna.	Yes	No		Yes		Yes	All pub. sold to LLs by State Office are subject to tax - LLs billed and State Office remits to State. If LL resells it will collect and retain tax. State League holds registered resale blanket exemption ctf. filed with printers to exempt payment of tax on materials.
R. I.	Yes	Yes					Exempt from sales and use taxes
S.Car.	Yes	No	Yes		No	No	Until they received our inquiry it hadn't occurred that their small publications might be taxable. In N.C. only Bible and newspapers are exempt.
S. Dak.	Yes	Yes					
Tenn.	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	

League of Women Voters of Texas

March 15, 1962

2114 SEALY AVENUE

GALVESTON, TEXAS

TO: State Leagues RE: Sales Tax

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STATE	SALES							
	TAX	EX.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	Comments:	
Vt.	No						State does not sell publications to LLs. Consider the costs when make up annual budget and ask LLs for enough to cover.	
Va.	No							
Wash.	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Deduct sales tax on supplies used in creating publications. Use re-sale ctf.	
W.Va.	Yes	Yes				No	Exemption-isolated or occasional tax.	
Wisc.	No							

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 1964

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Casperson
RE: Southwest Collection as repository for League records

Direction was given at the January, 1964 Board meeting to meet with Dr. Sylvan Dunn, Director of the Southwest Collection of Texas Technological College for further details concerning his request that we consider placing non-current records of the League of Women Voters of Texas in these archives.

Physical facilities: Main office and 3 average sized reading rooms (light, airy and comfortably furnished) plus shelves located on first floor of Social Sciences building. Behind this is a large separate area for permanent filing of collections. An elevator provides access to equal storage space just below in the basement and directly above on the second and third floors. Total floor space allocated to Southwest Collection: 12,000 feet.

Storage space has proper prevention for protection against fire or deterioration caused by improper humidity or temperatures.

Handling of records: All materials are given preliminary inventory when received. The inventory is itemized and a copy would be sent to our State Office. Inventory sheet is also sent to the Library of Congress. There, cards are made up and sent to other archival agencies of the L. of C. for their information. This gives wide circulation to the contents of the archives located at Texas Tech.

Other pertinent data: Dr. Dunn states the Southwest Collection was begun in 1955. He has had training at the National archives and worked at Texas' state archives before starting with the SC at Tech seven years ago. Although every University has its archives, Dr. Dunn stresses that there is much better access to them at Southwest Collection - and that they will not be "buried". Since he mentioned this more than once, it would seem this can happen.

Records are used in the Graduate Program for both Government and History; for Seminar papers; and for theses. Every effort is made to aid researchers who write or come to the Southwest Collection for information. Original copies are not loaned. Microfilm is used to supply duplicates. Archives are for records from Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

Suggested League materials to be conveyed to SC if decision is made to place them there: Minutes (considered basic); all non-current records of any sort that we would want preserved; Publications.... these could include those from local Leagues and the National League that are non-current as well as those published by the Texas League.

After the initial material is received, it is better to have a periodic time (such as 2 years, 4 years, etc.) for additional records to be transferred.

Dr. Dunn's approach to his work as Director is enthusiastic and dedicated. This is evidenced by the fact that this is the first contact by any such agency with us. If Board members wish to compare other facilities in the state, a similar survey could be made at University of Texas, University of Houston, etc.

The following speech was written Saturday afternoon, November 23, to be delivered at a general membership meeting in Harlingen on December 11.

The tragic death of the President of the United States and the subsequent hours of horror have led me to change completely the type of message I might have given here today. The fact that such a catastrophic occurrence could take place in our own state has served to point up the deep schisms that exist in our midst. It has demonstrated with awful clarity what can happen when political differences are allowed to become the basis for smear, fear and hate. It has demonstrated with shameful repercussions around the world what can happen when we allow the voices of hate to sound louder and more clearly than the voices of reason and maturity.

While we always recognize that under our American traditions which are in all the world the most responsive to the will of the people, yet we must pause to ponder this despicable thing that our misuses of our freedoms have brought about. The misuse of the tradition of free speech has spawned the shoutings, the rantings, the inciting of passions by the super-patriot - the men and women who would deny your freedom and mine out of a distorted sense of their own ability to determine what is right and what is wrong. The misuse of the freedom of the press has filled our newspapers with venom and hate. The misuse of freedom of assembly has given us a fine city in our own state where it is unsafe for America's leaders to visit. Surely we can no longer tolerate so many hatemongers in our midst. Surely we must return to a reasonable settlement of our differences of opinion. Surely we must reexamine our own consciences to see if perhaps we may unknowingly have encouraged the development of this sort of tyranny - a tryanny that will spit upon, strike and even murder because of differences of opinion.

For I find myself in complete agreement with the newspaper editor who wrote that "it would be the final tragedy if the murder of President John F. Kennedy is regarded as a mere physical incident performed by a maniac". Whether, as Chet Huntley said on that first incredible afternoon, the reasons were "political,

religious, racial, economic or paranoiac", certainly we all share the responsibility for the deed. We share it to the extent that we are responsible for our own action or inaction in the example we set to our fellow men - we share it to the extent that no man is an island unto himself - everything that we do, knowingly or unknowingly, in some way influences the actions of some one some where.

What have we done to encourage the best among us to come forward in the name of the common good - what have we done to spare all Americans from the ruthlessness of those who would take us over the path of violence and death to the rule of the jungle?

Can we get hold of ourselves now - can we turn respect for the law into a meaningful philosophy - can we defend the true meaning of freedom as a people united? To do otherwise would make the assassination of our president an even more tragic occurrence and a mockery of everything we say our country stands for.

Can we now join together to stand behind our government - and attempt to resolve our differences in the civilized manner which we all know is the only way such differences can be resolved in the American tradition?

I am aware of deep political differences that exist in this area of our state as it does in others but nowhere else have these differences resulted in the outrageous acts which took place in Dallas.

Two cities have died this fall because of uncontrolled hate - because "nice" people have remained silent and have failed to banish the demons of hatred from our midst.... nice people who feel they won't be hurt if they stay out of the middle of the issues. We saw the signs in Birmingham when four little girls died in church; we saw them again when belligerent, uncontrolled hatemongers spat upon and struck the U.S. ambassador to the U. N. Now we see the ultimate horror that these signs had all along been pointing out to us.

Terrible history was made in Dallas - the awful reality of which still overwhelms us and which we have still not fully understood. Can we ever erase this besmirching of American traditions? Will we do what we can to accomplish that

erasure? Or will we continue to allow the sick and the deranged and the self-seeking to dictate our history for us to our ever-lasting shame?

Is there a place for the League of Women Voters in this struggle for the resolution of our differences? I think there is. I think it is incumbent upon us to speak out loud and clear with the voice of reason. I think we must try ever harder to make our programs in the public interest available to more and more of our citizens. We must reach the citizens who care - those who, for reasons of their own, have never allied themselves with a political party. We must also reach those who do work for and with the political parties -- we must become the voice of reason, the means of cooperation, the meeting place for the various political faiths.

We must reach the nice people - the people who until November 22, 1963 believed that it couldn't happen here... who were content to listen to the voices crying "treason" of any who disagreed or dared to propose a forward move for Texas and America.

I have been utterly sickened by the letters, the clippings, the hate literature that have come across my desk - the opposition to our recent poll tax repeal campaign based that opposition not on reason but on hate, on the division of our citizens into opposing camps for not the right or wrong of the issue but whether we wished to grant the franchise to others who do not believe as they do. They exhorted Texans to deny the rights of fellow citizens because they had skin of a different color, a national background that was different, and because they lacked the intelligence to produce sufficient money for a poll tax. And they won. To our complete sorrow, the "nice" people again stayed quiet - the more than a half million who had voted yes in the May 1962 referendum let the hatemongers, the fear peddlers have their way. The "nice" people stayed home from the polls and refused to help Texas move forward to join the 20th century and to reject the shackles of the past and those who would keep us bound to distrust, division and hatred.

What can the League do? There are several things - and here I must admit that I am adapting some of the suggestions made by a recent contributor to Look magazine, Charles Morgan Jr. of Birmingham, in his article regarding what can be done to help Birmingham.

1) We need to sponsor citizen's groups to work for the restoration of the common sense approach to political differences.

2) We need to encourage the use of our editorial pages and our letters-to-the-editor columns to promote the responsibility of each citizen to take his part in removing the causes of hate and fear from our midst.

3) We need public school courses on democracy and fundamental respect for law and the dreadful alternatives to the lack of respect for lawful procedures.

4) We need TV programs and adult education programs sponsored by the League to bring prejudices out in the open and expose them for the divisive element they are.

5) We need renewed effort on the part of League members and citizens all over Texas to encourage voter registration and participation in the democratic process. No longer must we allow the electorate to be kept purposely small.

6) We need legislative action and citizen action to remove whatever barriers are being or have been erected to full citizenship for every Texan.

7) We need self-imposed restraint on the part of those who must face up to the responsibilities of citizenship.

8) We must have an end to the hate-mongering, the rabble-rousing and we must substitute the ability to meet the needs of our people. We must be willing to speak up and denounce the hatermonger.

Who killed President Kennedy and two great cities? We all did. Not only the hate-filled murderer but all of us who have done nothing to save ourselves and our country... all of us who have watched the development of extremist groups on both the far left and the far right... all of us who, in the name of freedom, have

allowed these groups to usurp our freedoms.

A few weeks ago I thought I would come here today with a message for you regarding the future of the League in Texas - a message dealing with our need for more members and more member participation - - - a "pep" talk to encourage you to tell the story of the League to more and more women and so enlarge our influence on the political life of our cities, our state and our nation. I had thought to talk to you of the failure of poll tax repeal and to exhort us to future efforts in behalf of repeal and the entire state Program. I might have told you of the truly amazing things that happened to me as I travelled early in November to Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, Houston and Austin working for the repeal campaign. Events have intervened and have, of course, changed the course of history for our state and nation. I can only urge you now to greater efforts to promote the purpose of the League, to encourage more and greater participation of all our citizens in government so that the great and good majority of people will be able to find the means of returning this state and nation to the paths trod by reasonable men everywhere. To do less would be to shirk the real meaning of our League membership, to abdicate the responsibility we all share for shaping the future of our civilization.