

*TC Review
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March 11, 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Brown
RE: The final Collection Basket

This will be the final edition of a Collection Basket from this office. One written next Friday couldn't reach you before you leave for Fort Worth so I've a few items of information about Convention for you to take care of before I say a few other things I want to say as "famous last words". A letter from the Fort Worth chairman this morning sets the time of the cocktail party to be given by the Fort Worth League for us as 5 - 7 Sunday, March 20 because our host and hostess have another engagement for later that evening. Cars will pick us up at the hotel at 4:45. I hope that there is a good chance that all of us will have arrived by then -- I'm not even sure that I will have -- depends on when and whether the relatives have left! Virginia MacDonald will be a special guest of the state Board for Convention. We are on the downgrade side of the preparations for Convention now and I guess we'll make it after all. Clare has been able to work two afternoons a week the past two weeks and we will have our extra pair of hands in the office next week for the actual assembling of the Workbook - Part II. All stencils for it are cut and ready to run. To date, we have 204 LL delegates registered and 4 LLs not yet heard from. The four are Beaumont, Corsicana, Denton and San Angelo.

I made the 400-mile round trip to Victoria yesterday to speak to the annual meeting. I had originally intended to go on to Austin last night to meet with the woman from the State Department about the community meetings tour of the foreign service team but changed my mind. There was simply too much to do here to be away another day - I figured state office did.

The Voters Guide has gone to press with three candidates missing - and there's a long amusing story about how we finally received two of the questionnaires which you must hear some time but I won't take the space here to narrate it.

Coming to you in a separate mailing early next week is the information on the Texas Education Fund that you will need for our discussion and decision at the pre-Convention Board meeting. We decided not to hold up the rest of this pre-Board mailing for it.

We have a new member-at-large -- Mrs. Sid C. Hoffman, 602 North Morris, McKinney. She had been transferred to McKinney after having served in Leagues in Illinois, Indiana and Iowa and was missing her membership.

The mail this week has been relatively free of anything that required major attention - thank goodness.

Now I want to take just a few lines to get in writing a sincere and heartfelt thanks to each of you for making this past year successful and fairly free of complications. What complications there have been have not been of your making although I will never quite forgive the powers-that-be for that special session which made these past few weeks so unbearably hectic. We lived through it even if there were days when that eventuality seemed highly unlikely.

You should know that because of my decision to junk the Texas VOTER, the VOTER budget will show a large deficit - we did pay for both printings. This seemed to me the only thing we probably could do without unpleasantness and, to me at least, is well worth it to prevent having to mail so many damaged copies to League members both in and out of state. I hope you all realize that I take full authority and full blame for this decision and that the decision was taken simply

due to the condition of the finished VOTER and not because of any other reason.

The year is about to end with some loose ends dangling but there is no way to tie them all into a neat package marked "end of one year, start of a new". The Water Seminar, the community meetings on foreign policy, the distribution of TCReview, the introduction of the precinct resolutions on TCR, all remain for attention in April. There is more, I feel certain, but these things come quickly to mind.

When Elizabeth came to the office this week to work (and how she has worked - this is the fourth full day) on the proofs for TCReview, she brought with her some Zerox copies of some of the old files on the state League which are not in the office. I took time to read through them and found them fascinating enough that I threw out what I had planned to say in Victoria and used them as the basis for my speech. There is one little tidbit that I just have to share with you and some day you must all take time to look through these things. State Board meetings have undergone much change since 1941 (the earliest record) - from one day meetings that seemed to have been held every other month to two day meetings when the SB members were housed and fed by the Houston Leaguers to the one that really left me gasping. In 1949, the Bulletin (VOTER) announced that the next SB meeting would be held in Galveston from July 29 to August 15! That must have been something in those days before air conditioning was as general as it is now.

I'll tell each of you thank you while we're in Fort Worth but, for the record, whatever kind of job I may have done these past four years would have been impossible without the hard-working SB members who have served with me. It's been hard work, vexing at times, but always fun - I've honestly loved every minute of it... but I am looking forward to putting my feet up and watching you carry on - after April 15 when the Water Seminar is over.

Much love to each of you.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Linehan
RE: Quarterly Field Service Reports - Lubbock, Odessa, El Paso and Wichita Falls

LUBBOCK

This is a well-organized League which does a good job of planning ahead, following League procedures and understands League policies and philosophy. They plan good meetings and seem to try to involve the membership. They always seem to be familiar with the various League publications and the 'tools' provided for each portfolio chairman. Although this is a strong 'program' League, it does a good job on Voters Service. Conducts a good Finance Drive, has excellent publicity in local media and understands the term Public Relations. Follows 'the book' well, considering the turnover in Board personnel. In recent years has done a good job of getting new members, especially at special affair in the spring.

Attendance at unit meetings, and at general membership meetings is not so high as it should be, and this disturbs the president and Board. A better job could be done in the use of committees and in involving more members in some way. Perhaps they are just a bit too serious in program to interest everyone? Although, they do seem to know how to have a good time, and do an excellent job on their Legislative dinner.

For Field Service I would suggest asking them what they think would be of the most help to them at this particular time. President was new to the League and to the Board when she became President one year ago, but seems to be doing a creditable job. Capable and intelligent.

ODESSA

This not-so-well-organized League does a poor job of planning ahead, does not follow League procedures and could understand League policies better! Because of lack of planning, not good use of committees, poorly conducted Board Meetings, apparent refusal to open the covers of League publications and 'tools', unbusinesslike manner of conducting Board meetings, and lack of feeling of responsibility toward the League and its Board (participating if other things don't interfere) this League is having real trouble. Part of all the above problems stem from poor leadership the last couple of years. Some personality clashes haven't helped. However, the new president elect, though quite new to the League, is full of enthusiasm, anxious to get the League on its feet, likes to give her full time and effort to whatever she elects to do, so perhaps she will be the one to turn the tide in Odessa. It is my opinion that she will try to follow the book, will use the many 'helps' provided for her and the Board by the LWV and will give unstintingly of herself. This League needs someone to help them with all of the specifics - in a way that will convince them that these will help. I would suggest that someone in F/S work with this new president several times - not just at one session. This should help her while she is learning.

EL PASO

This wonderful provisional League continues to grow, with new members appearing on the roster constantly. Excellent Board, doing its best to work along true League procedures, is most receptive to suggestions and ideas from Field Service, is very responsible. Their attitude is perfect, i.e. when they raised much less than half their goal in their Finance Drive (after all, it was their first) their attitude was that they would cut down in some areas but not on their pledge to State and National Services! (Of course, they still receive a lot and understand the need.)

Their main difficulty has been a lack of understanding of how hard they must work to keep the meetings interesting to all types of members. Have been inclined to try to cover Program too completely, leaving not much time for eager discussion and 'fun'. Have not involved enough of the non-Board members in many little ways, but now see the light and are working to use more of them. Need to work at using committees - in spite of the problems because of the size and layout of the city of El Paso. Plan to talk to Dallas' delegates at Convention to learn how they manage this. Plan to enjoy their League lives a little more, now that they have learned they don't have to 'teach' their members every little facet of every program item.

Have some difficulty with Board turnover, because these women are 'on the move' too - as are most League members in Texas. More permanent, old time, El Pasoans should be in this League and they realize this, but ---?? Membership tends to be made up of those who tend especially to the Liberal viewpoint, and needs to be balanced with others. This they know, too. The husband of one Board member (no longer on the Board as she is going to school again) is the young professor at the College who led a protest meeting in El Paso on the administration's policy on Viet Nam and created quite a furor.

Have gained the friendship of the Mayor, though, who is a conservative and was a bit cool, I thought, at our first meeting when we were organizing there. (He was courteous but just knew little about League and so wasn't too enthusiastic and thought they would have trouble 'making it' because of El Paso's super-conservative attitude politically.) Also, the editor of the newspaper that is the more conservative of the two in El Paso wrote a nice editorial on the League for them during their Finance Drive. So, they recognize the problem and are making progress in combating it.

These are quite 'savy' people - especially the President. They will try harder to plan the kinds of meetings that will bring out more to the unit discussion meetings, and more general membership type meetings that will have general appeal.

If their consultant can attend more of their Board Meetings, it will help them, I think.

WICHITA FALLS

Since I have never visited this League, I can make this report only from the correspondence I've had with the President, my perusal of their minutes and the reading of their VOTERS, which come regularly.

This League is struggling because of lack of members, but from the minutes and VOTERS I must say they seem to be carrying on well, with their few members attending their meetings regularly. There seem to be guests at all meetings - both unit

and general membership. The Board makes every effort to follow League procedures, and is good at making all deadlines. Did a marvelous job of distribution of Voters Guides for the amendments, last November, and received good publicity for it.

Board meetings must be properly conducted, I would say from the minutes. The President is not well, and has had surgery twice during the year. She cannot attend convention but one member will. President does attend and conduct Board Meetings.

The main problem here is lack of members - and lack of YOUTH! If some way could be found to add a group of younger members, those on the Board could teach them all the proper League procedures, so they could take over many of the portfolios and get the League back on its feet, I think.

I'm afraid they will be needing a new President before too long.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Pollard
RE: Field Service Reports - Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, Galveston, Bay Area.

Brownsville

This is a well-run League with a young enthusiastic President. Like most Leagues they need more active members. They do not concur with the National Consensus on Apportionment.

Edinburg

This League President has done all of the work in the past; this year more of the Board members are sharing the responsibility. They have added 2 ex-Houston members who have also been helping. Their membership is low and crucial.

Harlingen

The new President in this League has done a super-woman job of introducing discussion units and program to this League. They have several new members but membership is still critically low.

Galveston

This has become a model League. They need more active interested members badly.

Bay Area

They have come a long way in the last six months. They have good discussion groups. They have done a beautiful job of everything they have tackled but they need to understand full Board responsibility in decisions. They had a well-planned and executed finance drive but got almost nothing in the way of contributors (less than \$100). This is partly due to lack of knowledge of the League on the part of the community. Since League City is not available at all for finance and La Porte is on a 50% basis, there is not a real town to support them. There should be individual support forth coming as the League is understood by the community.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Casperson
RE: End of Year Field Service Report - Amarillo

This small League has had an unusually busy year and has carried out a number of projects very successfully. They followed through on the local Program item of voting machines in a most League-like way with the County Court deciding to send two men to the machine factory to be trained rather than hire costly by-the-hour maintenance by local electricians.

Amarillo continues to provide excellent Voters Service information to the community. From minutes and VOTERS (which have a fine new heading) the Finance Drive was planned well and early. Nominating Committee report, proposed Budget and proposed Program were all in VOTER at required time. New proposed budget is \$2,060.00 - up \$425.00 over last year. Action in Community, Publications, Operating costs, Delegate expense, and committee expense are the items to receive the increase. Budget proposes keeping Pledge same as last year with explanation in VOTER that an increase is not recommended because of local needs for growth. Membership continues to be a problem but with hopeful signs of improvement.

Since this League did not participate in either Round of program making, it would seem help could be given in planning Calendar for year - perhaps at Board Training time. Much progress has been made in letting membership know more about all phases of the League. Amarillo has come a long way - now it needs to grow! The President is a most capable and enthusiastic person and deserves much credit for what is being done in this League. She is knowledgeable enough to be able to tell Field Service what the Amarillo League needs in the way of special help.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Pettis
RE: Field Service Reports - San Marcos, Dallas, Houston, Austin and San Antonio

SAN MARCOS

January Board minutes received on February 21. - Minutes have been sent quite regularly but only two copies. Field Service might remind Secretary this spring of reason for more copies. Only received three voters this year - April, August and September. Board minutes indicate there has been difficulty keeping a VOTER chairman. No one person is able or willing to assume all of the details -- perhaps their sights are set too high. When issued their VOTERS are excellent. Help is needed on this portfolio.

DALLAS

Regular Minutes and VOTERS are received, showing all around coverage of Program and Voters Service. Well planned Finance Drive correlated with satellite Leagues. Membership may be the main area needing impetus. The membership Committee is currently polling members in order to further evaluate and plan.

HOUSTON

Regular Minutes and VOTERS are received. This League will certainly have added incentive to keep up their fine record during the next biennium with the State Office and several state Board members in Houston.

AUSTIN

Since a new interim secretary was appointed, Board Minutes have been received regularly. VOTERS are excellent with good program material in advance of unit meetings.

SAN ANTONIO

VOTERS received regularly, no Minutes, except to State Office, since October. With new representation from this League on state Board, communications will undoubtedly improve. Janice May attended a meeting of the County Home Rule committee in January and reported a cordial reception with need for more information about alternatives to Home Rule that might meet present day needs.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Ballard
RE: Field Service Quarterly Reports

Baytown - This is a League additional FS can assist effectively. They have able Board members and a well-planned calendar. Strong point is Board personnel; weak spot is coordination. President needs guidance and encouragement, wants to do a good job very badly, but doesn't know just how to do it.

Corpus Christi - Continuing to do good League job in VS, and PR is excellent. They compete socially in this highly organized city, with the result that program is not what it should be. Have all ingredients to be finest group in the state, including a crackerjack president who now has 15 months experience.

Victoria - Another League with talent galore on the Board plus an experienced President who represents the LWV well. Program VP especially thorough. Weak spot is member involvement. More FS contacts (in person or by mail) might pay big dividends here.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Winick
RE: Field Service Reports - Beaumont and South Jefferson County

South Jefferson County:

From the reading of the 65-66 minutes of this League, I can only surmise that they are functioning fairly well. I cannot speculate on their strength or weaknesses but do strongly suggest that they receive Board Training this year.

Beaumont:

This League has many problems. They continue to function despite the loss of their President last July with an interim President who took office in October. They are trying to prepare a slate of officers for the next year and have appealed to their membership, through their Bulletin, to accept a job or office when asked. The same group has worked continually to keep the organization alive.

They are weak in many areas and will need help with their organizational problems first before they can function properly in any area of League program.

They are a must for Lois if they are able to obtain a slate of officers and should receive more than one visit, if they would allow this, throughout the year until they are on their feet.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Brock
RE: Field Service - Abilene, Midland, San Angelo

ABILENE - They are still a "book" League program-wise, but entirely too mechanical, with not enough imagination. They have not had a membership coffee in years -- a finance drive interferes with their other activities of units and program -- they do not do all they could on local Voters Service. The budget is not as progressive as it should be therefore, they have never reached their potential on a finance drive.

They do have many assets, beginning with a very capable, businesslike president. The Board is excellent on detail work -- when they get new members they are well-oriented and have very little turn-over due to lack of interest. Percentage attendance is very high.

MIDLAND - They have too much imagination, without enough attention to mechanics and details! Board meetings resemble round-table discussions, with no one quite sure who's supposed to do what. They are in the middle of the finance drive, which they may not meet -- the budget was quite ambitious and they have a new chairman.

There are some very bright spots on the League Board. Member-getting and Voters Service are things which Midland knows how to do well. The Abilene transfers will hopefully have a good influence on the Board's organization. Member involvement is low.

SAN ANGELO - My February report was quite thorough. I have received a letter from the President, indicating that the budget problem will be discussed at annual meeting. They are still not sure about attendance at Convention.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Ramey
RE: Quarterly Field Service Reports - Freeport, Lake Jackson, Pasadena

Freeport:

This LL needs a great deal of continuous guidance, it seems to me, but I don't know how to suggest this be done. If there was a better, more receptive attitude towards field service help, it would be much easier, but the group I worked with last year seemed almost resentful towards any outside help. It may be that a member of the State Board acting as their consultant would be more readily acceptable to them, I don't know. They seem to have a type of autonomous viewpoint re: the League. That is, they prefer to accentuate the local picture to the exclusion of state and national. There is very little member involvement in League activities here; most of the work seems to be done by a very few women. I have had little contact here during the past year, and other than first impressions gained during the board training a year ago, and their minutes, I have little updated information.

Lake Jackson:

I have the impression of good League attitudes developing here. I have not had a board training with this LL, but did meet with them to "talk League", and found them enthusiastic and quite well-oriented. From the impressions gained through their voters, it would appear that this League is well balanced, with a good relationship between program and non-program activities, with the respective chairmen doing well organized and well thought out plans. They obviously enjoy a good sense of rapport with the community, and are financially sound. All in all, this seems like a good, fun League to belong to, and I feel the member enthusiasm reflects this. From the meeting I had with the members and board members last spring, it would seem that they are using a good percentage of their members in their League activities. Although the League is small and an increase in membership would be desirable, the old adage "good things come in small packages" certainly applies here. Lucia and I will be going down March 7 for a day of individual and total board training for the new board, I look forward to meeting with this group again.

Pasadena:

As Katy requested, I will try to be brief and concise...???

There has been a great improvement in number of membership here, with all the emphasis last year being placed in this area. The problem here is - there has not been enough emphasis on member involvement. At this point, this may be the "theme" for the new board. Program areas are greatly improved, thanks to interested national and state chairmen. Certainly much work needs to be done here, but the members are now beginning to understand what is going on, and are commenting on how interesting the unit meetings are becoming. They do a very good job in having interesting general meetings (with guest speakers) which tie in with their program activities. The program vice-pres. for next year should make a great deal of difference in this area of League work. She has her faults as we all do, but apathy, and laxity are not among them.

The relationship between Pasadena and Bay Area will continue to improve, I feel certain, although the best way to do it, as I felt earlier, is not to be too sympathetic with Pasadena. Seeing the Bay Area girls do such good jobs on their activities may spur Pasadena on, also.

There is still panic regarding Finance. I went down to help them with their kick-off and to spur the finance workers on to a successful drive, but the finance chairman forgot to get her workers ahead of time. It was set up in the VOTER on a volunteer basis. I received the VOTER two days prior to the kick-off, and couldn't reach the chairman. I talked to the President, and the only comment was, "we couldn't think of everything". There were only five women at the kick-off, and we pitched in and reorganized the drive setting them up as captains, divided the cards up equally, and sent them on their way to get some workers, and wind the drive up. They reached half their non-member contributors goal the first week, and as with last year, they are now bogged down. I emphasized that if they just don't get the money, something in that budget will have to give, and they had better get busy before they wind up in the same position they have been this last year; broke as of November.

The ex-president may be losing her very strong influence with the board, and this will be good. With the new blood coming in, and the new board members seem to be quite strong willed themselves, I doubt that she will be the ex-officio president she seems to have been the last two years. The president will be continuing, and may be able to strengthen her position in the League. She is very rare, in that she reads every piece of material she receives, and stays on top of everything. She is respected in the community, and has a good relationship with elected officials, and prominent people. She seems to be willing to cooperate quite a bit with other Leagues, and has made many first moves with the Houston League to offer Pasadena's services in cooperative legislative ventures.

General Comments: This past year has been very educational. Actually the most important thing I have learned is how little I know, and how important I feel it is for the consultants to be able to follow up with the Leagues. The feeling of field service being a once a year thing is not too beneficial, it would appear to me, that the more continuous, and year round activity with field service would be of great benefit to all these leagues. So often, when we go to the Leagues in the spring for board training, we are meeting with women brand new to the League, and all the talking and helping in the world is going to be of no assistance to these women. They have too much thrown at them at one time, and just can't assimilate it. Perhaps a general League training to the membership generally in the spring, allowing the new board to adjust to their portfolios and a good intensive board training in the late summer, prior to the beginning of the new year may help a little. During the League talk in the spring, the consultant could take time to help with the calendar planning at that time, and help the board organize their materials and emphasize the need to read, read, and read some more during the summer months. Then the board members would have a faint glimmering of what it's all about, and could relate themselves to their portfolios. To help the new board learn how to truly operate as a total board, I feel that if the consultant could be present for a couple of their board meetings in the fall, it would serve as a great assistance to them. I realize this is an additional expense on field service, but perhaps any services other than routine board training could be paid by the LLs themselves. They may, in fact, take more advantage of the information to help them, if they were paying a small portion of it themselves. It would actually involve such a small expense, it would be nominal.

Lucia's idea of "area" trainings for certain areas of League seems very good, and may be a very good incentive for more cooperation between Leagues. If they can learn from each other, they will develop a closer relationship.

It has been a challenging year, and a very gratifying one. It's amazing how different Leagues in a small area can be, and how varying their problems are. I have never felt such a strong sense of inadequacy before, nor did I realize how little I really knew, until I tried to help someone else understand something. There are so many intangibles in the League; so many very strong emotions regarding the League purpose, that I found it difficult to communicate them to others. It almost seems as if we need to "live" with these groups to actually understand their problems to the degree we can offer some help and guidance and assistance in solving them, and yet, it is so much easier for an outsider to see things the members there cannot see, where is the happy medium?

P.S. Pasadena has asked me to come down on March 14th (no expense involved) to help the old and new board go through their notebooks - have notebook exchange and organization - talk mainly of "how to" use publications, also to help get their files in order. At the same time, old and new chairmen will go off to discuss specific portfolios. Katy, you know what I mean - perhaps you can explain it better.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Ziegler
RE: March 1966 Field Service Reports - Corsicana, Denton, Fort Worth, Irving,
Longview, Richardson, Tyler and Waco

CORSICANA

Leadership: 3 new people on slate of nominations.

Membership: The president and active Board members are trying to get more people active. List of members has decreased, but this is probably a more accurate one.

Program: They do make a sincere effort to cover all program fields and answer "Times for Action". They have had more meetings this year.

The suggested local program list contains three items; all could result in increased interest and membership.

Finance: Had a successful drive last spring. Increased budget for 1966-1967. Proposed budget includes requested state pledge.

FS Suggestions: Training for whole Board, giving majority of time to new Board members. Plan with the whole Board the new local item, the finance drive, and a membership appeal meeting. A second visit for encouragement is a good idea...in the fall or winter.

DENTON

Leadership and Membership: Has had a continuous change in leadership and membership, but seems to be able to make replacements. President wrote that they are attracting women from outside the college communities and getting a healthier cross section politically.

Program: Covers all program fields well and answers "Times for Action".

Finance: Successful campaigns last two years and planning well this year. Increases budget yearly. Proposed budget includes pledge suggested by state. Board suggested an increase in dues to \$6.00.

FS Suggestions: Needs two day rigorous training of whole Board. Discuss policy sheet with them.

FORT WORTH

Leadership and Membership: Has developed into a big city League. Has developed new responsible leaders. Had a large increase in membership last year, - no increase, as yet, this year.

Public Relations: Always keeps community in view...outstanding PR.

Program: Covers all levels of program and answers "Times for Action".

Finance: Budget growth evident. Successful finance drives the past two years; good plans executed this year. Budget includes requested state pledge.

FS Suggestions: Two day training of entire Board. Encourage the use of Vice-Presidents. Can the discussion groups be more effective? Discuss the problem of the By-laws change of calendar year in relation to budget year. This League has shown definite interest in becoming an area League.

IRVING

Leadership: This League has had a very difficult time getting someone to accept the job of president. They have tried to develop leadership. New president is very capable. Two very new members will serve on Board, which, in general, has very few "old" members.

Membership: Small increase.

Program: Covers program very well. Effective unit groups, with active resource committee members. Tries too hard to do program the way Dallas does, but they seem to be relaxing more now.

Finance: Has raised more money in finance each year. Budget includes state suggested pledge. Board is encouraging a dues raise to \$6.00.

FS Suggestions: Two day training of entire Board. Emphasize that they should not do the impossible. Explore cooperation with Dallas and Richardson.

LONGVIEW

Leadership: President has tried to get and encourage new Board members.

Membership: There will probably be a small membership increase at end of year.

Program: Has tried to cover three program levels. Still meet as one unit.

Finance: Increased finance goal this year. Last year had a successful drive and are planning well this year. Budget includes a pledge \$50 less than that requested by state and equal to amount given last year.

FS Suggestions: Two day training of whole Board. President needs assistance to overcome the resistance of "old" Board members to change and try something again which may not have worked a long time ago. Explore the starting of a new unit group.

RICHARDSON

Leadership: Problem of relationship and responsibilities of Board members with President nearly split this League this year. FS consultant has attended several Board meetings on request of President. This situation looks much better now. New slate contains some very new members and some former ones, who will give another year of Board service.

Membership: Showed an increase last year.

Program: Has made a sincere effort to cover all program fields and answer "Times for Action". Shows better program coverage this year. Experimenting with two unit groups.

Finance: Increased budget and finance goals this year, but still remains too low. Successful drive last year and good planning now. Budget includes a pledge \$75 less than that requested by state but \$25 more than last year.

FS Suggestions: Two day Board training with emphasis on responsibility and cooperation. "Old" Board members need training, too. This League has not followed its by-laws on occasion and the suggestions in the Local League Handbook. It is exploring the idea of an area League.

TYLER

Leadership: New slate has some new Board members and previous ones.

Membership: Increased last year and will probably be the same or more this year.

Program: With the one (all day) meeting a month, they do try to cover state and national program fields. Unfortunately nothing was done on the local Government Survey, the local program item, this year.

Finance: League is remaining stationary in Finance income even though this year's drive was better planned than last year. Proposed budget shwos pledge \$75 less than that requested by state and equal to last year's pledge.

FS Suggestions: Two day training of Board with empahsis on future leadership and where can the League grow. Recommend better use of the Vice-president system.

WACO

Leadership: Slate of nominees has new president and some new Board members.

Membership: Showed growth last year.

Program: Has tried to cover program on all levels. Resource committees are weak on state and national program.

Finance: Raised approximately same amount of money the last two years, but are organizing drives better. Budget shows pledge \$50 less than that requested by state and equal to last year. Actually this League is giving an adequate pledge at present considering its budget and membership. They will face the problem of no poll tax income this year, but could overcome it with a more concerted member effort in finance.

FS Suggestions: Two day training of Board with emphasis on state and national resource committees so that one individual does not "do" the program and the League could split into two units. Resistance to this has been expressed by the "old" members of Board.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Mendell
RE: Evaluations of Texas City, Dickinson, and La Marque

TEXAS CITY

There is a problem of involving more 'hourly' people (women whose husbands earn hourly wages rather than set salaries). This division seems to carry over to social and community activities. It would be helpful if some way be found to break down this barrier.

There were a great number of new people (new in League) on the Board this year and Board needed a lot of basic League orientation like training as well as actual Board training.

With this League Board it is important that all members have the proper tools to work with (portfolio notebooks should be kept up to date and transferred to next chairman). There are enough old League members but the emphasis should be on training new leaders and increasing membership.

DICKINSON

This League has grown tremendously, both in size and stature. It is well organized and quite dynamic in its approach to League and community problems and programs. They are fun to work with. Only area that needs strengthening is Publications. There should also be more stress on involving more of a cross section of the community in League activities.

LA MARQUE

Their greatest problems have always been involving their members. The old members have usually done the jobs themselves as it was too frustrating to try to get others to do the work.

They are a small group -- this year they have started to get more new members on the Board and involved in actual League work but much more of that will be needed to overcome the passivity of the members. The old members who have carried on for many years are very devoted. The most important job in the coming years will be to encourage the new members to take over and somehow change the spirit of passivity and acceptance of non-responsibility among the general membership.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Casperson
RE: 2nd Round Program Making

Response on 2nd Round is down somewhat from last biennium. Eighteen LLs returned reports on time (Feb. 21), 3 were late (San Marcos, Wichita Falls and Texas City with no recommendation), and 14 did not respond at all. Also the two Provisionals did not answer the second time around although they did participate in First Round. Two years ago, 23 LLs returned the report forms on time and four years ago, only 12 LLs were heard from during 2nd Round.

It is not easy to determine exactly why fewer LLs participated in 2nd Round this biennium than last (especially since more answered First Round than ever before). These possible reasons seem legitimate: having two March 1st consensus dates (Human Resources and S-LR) plus the unexpected Special Session which entailed extra work for all Leagues. These combined with the usual press of Finance Drives, planning for Annual Meetings, etc. may mean something had to give - and it was 2nd Round Program consideration.

This is the third time to use 2nd Round forms for reporting and they should be continued. However, we sent 3 forms with Workbook I and asked for 2 copies to be returned to SO. 3 LLs returned only 1 copy. 3 other LLs sent one copy on plain paper. So it's hard to tell what response we might have had this year if no forms had been sent!

How Local Leagues did it:

- 12 Membership consideration: Austin, Baytown, Corpus Christi, Corsicana, Dickinson, Fort Worth, Lubbock, Midland, Pasadena, Tyler, Victoria, San Antonio, and San Marcos (late).
- 5 Board only consideration: Abilene, Dallas, Edinburg, Galveston, Irving plus Wichita Falls (late).
- 3 Board and Membership: Fort Worth, Lubbock and San Antonio.
- 1 Committee: Houston.

We asked for the number of people involved during 2nd Round, but it is impossible to give you a true total. One hundred seventy-six is the number turned in but Corpus Christi, Dickinson, Fort Worth and San Antonio did not give any numbers at all. Neither did late Wichita Falls.

Single List Indications:

These 10 Leagues filled out the forms in Single List structure and made no comment in this place whether or not this indicated approval of the SB proposed structure: Abilene, Austin, Baytown, Corsicana, Galveston, Irving, Lubbock, San Marcos (late), Tyler, Victoria.

Lubbock & Midland opposed, Dallas wants single list but with no bylaw change, like Nat.

These 3 Leagues indicated support of Single List: Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Wichita Falls (late). They join the following 6 Leagues who participated as Single List advocates in both rounds: Dallas, Edinburg, Fort Worth, Dickinson, Houston and Pasadena. These LLs wanted Single List 1st Round and did not enter 2nd Round: Freeport, Waco, Lake Jackson. This adds up to a definite 15 for Single List plus whatever Leagues are in favor in the first group mentioned. Midland was the only LL reporting desire on Program sheets to keep CA and CR structure. Lubbock indicated it probably did.

Trend of New Item Recommendations: First Round of LL is in ().

- 9 EDUCATION: Abilene, (same, but states that it is possible Legislature item is more timely), Corpus Christi (same, in VOTER), Dallas, (same as #2 of 3 suggested), Houston (same), Midland (same #1 of 2 suggested), Pasadena (same), Tyler (same), Victoria (same), Wichita Falls (report late - information only, same).
- 8 LEGISLATURE: Austin (same), Baytown (Equal Status for Women on 2 new items, wants 1 now), Corsicana (same), Dickinson (wanted this under TCR), Edinburg (same), Galveston (same), Irving (Jury Service), San Antonio (same as #2 of 2 suggested), San Marcos (report late - information only, Education).
- 18 TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION: All Leagues wanted this retained with many urging all possible emphasis and action. Fort Worth still wants it main item. The 2 LLs who reported late agreed they wanted emphasis and action.
- 15 S-IR: Renewed interest is shown in this item with the Planning study of the past year the obvious reason. Three late Leagues agreed. Abilene had no recommendation. Two Leagues (Baytown and Midland) want to drop the item.
- 18 VR and EL: All Leagues wanted to keep this with concern about evaluating "where we are now" after the Special Session. Three late Leagues agreed.

Trend of LLs not responding to 2nd Round. (Based on 1st Round suggestions)

Legislature: Brownsville, LaMarque, Texas City.
TCR: Denton, Freeport, Lake Jackson (Fort Worth wants this both Rounds).
Education: Beaumont, Harlingen, Richardson, S. Jefferson County, Waco.
Mental Health, Longview.

No 1st or 2nd Round Indications: Amarillo, Odessa, San Angelo

Possible adjusted totals:

The four Leagues who wanted TCR as the "main" item could very well swing to Legislature in order to keep the TCR emphasis. This would make an additional 7 for a possible 16 for Legislature. Adding the above five Leagues to the 2nd Round total for Education, we have a total of 15. This leaves Longview in no category.

Based on these figures this is the RECOMMENDATION OF THE PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT:
That State Board continue to recommend the Single List Proposed Program as approved at the last Board meeting and submitted to the local Leagues in the Second Round of Program Making.

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board
FROM: Brock
RE: Membership

Seven State Leagues were requested to send membership material. All but Indiana complied (I may dun them for the 45¢ which I enclosed).

MASSACHUSETTS - 2 publications: "Mechanics of a Membership Drive," and "Handbook for Membership Chairmen." The first of these is quite interesting and could probably be used, as is, by the larger Leagues. Since it has the scope of a Finance Drive, would need to be adapted for smaller Leagues. The Handbook contains information on: chairman, committee, membership analysis, publications, interest file, recruiting, orientation, involvement, transfers, members-at-large, membership check list, orientation outline with emphasis on government, orientation outline with emphasis on League, sample interest questionnaire, sample letter to a new member. I will comment on all handbooks later in this report.

CALIFORNIA - "Membership Chairman's Kit." Contains definition of a membership chairman's job, membership analysis, membership check list, welcome wagon letter, letter of welcome to new members, sample placement questionnaire, practical tips.

ILLINOIS - "Membership Handbook." The job, tools, publications to use, methods membership checklist, membership analysis sheet, sample letters for membership promotion, sample orientation outline with emphasis on government, sample orientation outline with emphasis on League, sample interest questionnaire, sample skit for new members, bibliography.

NEW JERSEY - "Membership Handbook." About the same as above. Two very interesting inserts! One entitled "The League of Women Voters in New Jersey Serves you and Your Community," a very snappy orientation tool. The other insert is a 6" x 7" fold entitled "Join the League of Women Voters." The inside is a membership application form with interest indicator. The back panel has general League information.

FLORIDA - 2 publications: "Alice in Leagueland," and "The Membership Committee in the Local League." "Alice" is an extremely well done orientation tool! The Handbook is similar to those above.

VIRGINIA - "Handbook for Local League Membership Chairmen." About the same as above.

The handbooks are quite general, but could be helpful to a new chairman, and inexpensive enough for an entire committee. I do not think there are enough samples in any of them. The longest one is 17 mimeographed pages. I would hope that the new membership chairman could compile a good "Prospecting for Members in Texas" from these publications, plus more samples -- some of which could be gleaned from the files.

The two inserts in New Jersey's publication and "Alice in Leagueland" could be produced by State for local use, and should be very usable. They would, of course, have to be changed in some instances, but all in all I'm very impressed.

Twenty-five local Leagues finally responded to the membership analysis. As we suspected, over half of the drops were from lack of interest. Why? -- poor orientation? -- involvement? -- lack of communications? -- over-work? -- no attainable goals? -- not using available material?

I will repeat what I said at January Board meeting: Regardless of how talented and enthusiastic the membership chairman is (such as the previous one), growth in Texas is going to take total Board effort, year around, year after year.

The problems and way of life of small Leagues and large Leagues are poles apart..

PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Prashner
RE: Voters Service Pre-Board Report

As of this writing, five candidates for office have not returned their questionnaires for their place in the Voters Guide. Telegrams were sent to them with a final deadline of March 7. This means the Guide may not be ready for distribution on April 1, but I hope it will be ready sometime the first week in April.

101,510 orders for Voters Guides have been received.

One little item of interest from the Annual Reports of the local Leagues: The last question on the Voters Service Report form is "How can the national Board be of assistance to local Leagues in the citizen education area of Voters Service?"

One League answered: "Stress this area of League work and reduce program level of work. Return to original concept of League; of Voter education instead of college level study courses."

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PRE-CONVENTION STATE BOARD MEETING
March 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Ballard
RE: VOTER

As you know the original February VOTER approved by the Editor was junked. A special notice of the Nominating Committee report was sent to members and reprinting of the VOTER was handled by the State Office.

Among recommendations for next year:

1. The President approve the appearance of the VOTER as well as the content, i.e. check the galley.
2. The League find another printer.

March 17, 1966

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Brown
RE: LWV of Texas Education Fund

One of the items of business for the pre-Convention Board meeting is the adoption by the state Board of the recommendations by the ad hoc committee that has been working on the Education Fund idea. Enclosed you will find the trust agreement (bylaws) for the Fund and a ballot sheet for the trustees to be elected. Seven trustees have been suggested as the proper number for the Fund and there are ten names on the list submitted by the committee. You will also find blank lines on which you may submit other names for the trustees. For instance, since the committee made its recommendations, there has been a suggestion that other past state presidents should be considered and someone has also suggested the name of Mr. Cecil Burney of Corpus Christi. If you have other names to suggest, the ballot is the place to suggest them. Even though they may not receive sufficient votes to be elected at this time, their names will be on file for the future.

Please read the trust agreement carefully, and be ready to make any suggested changes that you think essential and then to adopt it on Monday. Mark the ballot and bring with you to the first session of the Board on Monday morning. An election committee will be appointed to count the ballots and announce the results at the afternoon discussion.

You are not asked to name the seven in any special order of preference - simply to vote for seven - and the seven names with the highest total of votes will be elected.

Sorry this is coming to you so late but please do take time before leaving for Fort Worth to give the whole thing serious consideration. I will bring with me the final report of the committee chairman to the committee - there is not time to reproduce it for you now - and you heard it all in January anyway.

LWV of Texas
March 17, 1966