April 16, 1956

Wood

To: Local Current Agenda Chairmen

From: Mrs. H. R. Yeary, State Chairman, Local Current Agenda

Here we are, hardly unpacked from a great State Convention, and all keyed up with plans for another satisfying job in L.W.V. I'm sure you and your Board have already read how the Organization Committee of the State Board is set up under Pauline Lemon, Vice-President, and how we're going to have a day of orientation in Austin on June 20. I would like to hear from you as soon as possible, with a few answers which I can use there.

II. Continued support of the program to secure voting	ng machines for McLennan County.
2. Have you read the State Board Report, Outlook Forto your president on April 10? Yes X No Have you read the National Board Report, Outlook Fored to your president January, 1956? Yes X No	Work on the National Items, mail-
3. Will you please send me your Outlook For Work on	Local Items?
See attached there isn't enough space here!	

adopted at your annual meeting?

(Please return one copy of this page, when you have completed it, to: Mrs. H. R.

OUTLOOK FOR WORK - ITEM I

- A. League attendance at meetings of the Charter Revision Commission committees.
 - a. Open meetings during the preparation of material. If these meetings are held, League members should attend. Informative reports from such meetings could indicate the trend of revision provisions, problems of revision, and public interest and opinion.
 - b. Open meetings after material has been available to the community. In addition to information of these meetings, the League might want members to make recommendations to the Charter Revision Commission.
- B. Preparation of Information Material

This material could be a comparison of the provisions in our present charter with those proposed by the Charter Revision Commission.

- a. This comparison material could be used for study by the units.
- b. Copies might be of interest to some non-League people.
- c. A condemsation of this comparison, or excerpts, could be used as a Voter's Guide.

C. League Position

- a. League position on proposed revisions cannot be suggested at this time as the Charter Revision' Commission's material is not completed.
- b. The wording of Item I allows the League to support or oppose or take no stand on this item.
- D. Get Out The Vote Campaign
 - a. Whatever the League may decide about the proposed revisions, it should conduct this campaign.

OUTLOOK FOR WORK - ITEM II

A. Use of Voting Machines

- a. The machines should be used in every election, at different polling places each time, and for elections outside Waco.
- b. The Demonstrator machine could be used for voting in other
 than government elections. It should be demonstrated in
 communities where the machines are not used for an election,
 and it could be exhibited wherever it would attract interest.

B. Informing the Community

- a. League members could make short talks to organizations.
- b. The County Commissioners Court needs and adequate expression of public opinion.

This Fall the Court will decide whether or not to pay the rental on the machines again.

WACO LCA Know Chai

LCA - 1958-59

Know Your County Survey

Chairman: Mrs. Joe M. Cook

CR: Voting macines

Correspondence:

Liter - May 12'58

Skit - Sent by D. Brown

Leter to

mano from SO - for 53 - (Chrosung as LCA)

Report sheet + role Feb 59

Report pecil

annual Report LOCAL PROGRAM: Describe any activity on your local Program.

January 30, 1959

TO: Local Current Agenda Chairmen FROM: Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes, State Chairman, LCA

Let's share our work on our LCA items this year! At President's Council in Austin we will have a LCA Browsing Table, where Local Leagues may display materials about their local programs. We have limitations as to space at the Driskill, so we must limit our display to materials which can lie on a table; such as, Know Your Town booklets, study outlines, newspaper publicity on LCA, outlines for work, or anything pertaining to your local program. Won't you arrange to have such a display? It will be helpful to other Leagues to see what you have been doing.

 LCA	REPORT, 1958-59 (Please return this report to me at before February 20.)			
	gue Waco Chairman Perding -			
LCA	Item "Know Your County" (Use 2nd Report Form for ICA II or local Continuing Responsibility on which you worked this year.)			
1.	How many members on your committee?			
2.	How did you inform your members?			
	Units General Meetings_			
	VoterGo-see trips			
	Special bulletins or fact sheets			
3.	Was this an interesting item to most members? Call to			
4.	Do you think that you accomplished your purpose in 1958-59?			
5.	Do you feel that you made a contribution to your community?			
6.	Did you recommend this to continue as an active item for another year?			
	Or, made a continuing responsibility?			
7	What can you bring (or send with your delegation) for display at Council? (Description and space required on display table.) Tray Knew, we had difficulty this year with our L. A. and they seel we have nothing to share on this. We are trying to get many for next year's Board, and hape to complete the study			
Plea	ase use the back of this sheet for anything you wish to report about your plan work and accomplishments. year. Is date, no one seems willing to accept the Chairman			

Feb. 9, 1959

Mrs. Gilbert Anderson, President League of Women Voters

Waco, Texas

Dear Lucys

I do not have the name of the person holding your LCA portfolio since Mrs. Cook resigned. So I am sending these report sheets to you. If you have a chairman, will you please see that she gets them? If not, I hope that I can impose on you to fill in the information. I don't believe that it will take you very long.

I'm hoping to see you again at President's Council in March.

Cordially,

Mrs. E. H. Hughes State LCA chairman

"/5/58 Ruch -This is my copy of that charter revision skit. of you decide you'd like any extra capier, let me know and I'll have someone in The Haw League make them for you -Dorothy. Please excuse the typing drives - I made this Copy for myself with no thought of any one else love seeing it.

Nov. 19, 1958

Dear Dorothys

Thanks for sending me the copy of the Waco skit about charter revision. I think it is something that may be useful to other Leagues the will have this as an item. I hope early in next League year to inform the new LCA chairmen about the stuff I have collected this year that might be helpful to them in making plans.

Ruth

3812 Gertin Houston 4, Texas September 12, 1958

Mrs. Gilbert I. Anderson, President League of Women Voters

Waco, Texas

Dear Lucy:

By thistime you have probably received from the Illinois State
League a copy of the pamphlet: "A Guide to Publishing a KNOW YOUR
TOWN Booklet." The State Office ordered these sent to the Texas Leagues
that are doing either a KNOW YOUR TOWN or KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY this
year. I hope that you will find this useful in the KNOW YOUR COUNTY
Survey that your League is doing this year. This booklet seems to be
full of good suggestions that should be helpful in a project of this
kind. Will you please see that it gets into the hands of Mrs. Cook,
your LCA chairman?

After your League has finished with it, I hope that you will return to the State Office so that other Leagues may use it.

With best wishes for the success of your Survey.

Cordially,

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes State LCA chairman

cc: Cook SO Pettis

Dear Mrs. Cook: How are your progressing with your survey? When you have time, I hope that you will drop me a note, and tell me of your progress. Do you plan to get your survey published this year? I hope that the booklet will be of help to you - only sorry we didn't get it to you earlier in the League year.

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3812 Gertin Houston 4, Texas May 12, 1958

Mrs. Joe M. Cook

Waco, Texas

Dear Mrs. Cook:

This is the time of year when you as local current agenda chairman of the LwV of Waco will be getting a committee and making plans for carrying out your present item. As state chairman of LCA, I am much interested in how you will plan to proceed with your "Know Your County Survey." When you and your committee have made plans, I hope that you will write me and give me your outlook for work.

Do you have the new state publication: "On the Home Front"? If not, by all means get it before you start your planning. You will find that the 10 steps for a successful current agenda most helpful. It would be

a good idea for every member of your committee to have this tool.

I might also suggest that you ask someone on your committee to keep a running account of the steps you take in carrying out this item. This will furnish a record of your accomplishments for your League files, and you will be building for the future on LCA items.

If I can be of any assistance to you at any time, don't hesitate to write me. And I will be looking forward to receiving your outlook for

work. Good luck!

Cordially,

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes

cc:80 Pettis TO: Board of Directors, League of Women Voters of Waco FROML Dorothy Brown, Member

RE: Local Current Agenda recommendation

. . ..

I have checked the statements in the following paragraph for accuracy with the Local League Handbook and have conferred with Mrs. Eugene Hughes, LCA chairman on the state Board, who agrees with my interpretation.

We can drop plans for publication of the Know Your County Survey, if we desire. It can, and probably should, be considered at a future date for the public relations value but is not necessary for the completion of the item. Action on LCA has three phases and it is not necessary that more than one phase be completed. The three phases, according to the Handbook, pp. 10-11, are providing information, building public opinion and supporting or opposing legislation. Since, under a survey, there is no need for phase three, we can also drop phase two, if we wish.

Therefore, my recommendation for Local Current Agenda for 1959-60 is as follows:

The present item be continued and a target date for completion set for the end of May. Material thus far compiled and whatever else seems necessary should be presented, perhaps in mimeographed form, to our own membership at the annual picnic in May. This would complete necessary action, under phase one, on the item. My recommended wording: "Completion of the Know Your County Survey".

A second item could be adopted, with the understanding that study and action begin on it in Beptember with the committee appointed and fact-gathering begun during the summer months. My recommendation for this second item is: "A study of a system of family courts for McLennan County".

The outlook for work on this would be:

Summer 1959 - Committee appointed and fact-finding begun.
September 1959 - Results of summer study presented to units,
for discussion and recommendations.

Fall and/or winter 1959-60 - Go-see trips, general meeting with qualified speaker, etc.

Annual meeting 1960 - Adoption of item in some form that would allow support of the establishment of a family court system in the county.

(Note: Should this develop to this point by local programmaking time next January, approval to support legislation for a family court system must be obtained from the state Board since state legislation is required.)

During 1960 and leading to the meeting of the Texas Legislature in January 1961 - Plans prepared for legislative action;

interview with Senator and legislators, getting one of them to introduce legislation and help get it passed; plans made for securing public support. There would be a possibility that by the time of the annual maeting of 1961, this item could be completed.

Such an item would be exciting, should promote good member participation and arouse widespread interest in the community, thus providing an appeal to new members to join the League.

14 4

I ask that you consider this recommendation as you prepare to recommend Local Current Agenda proposals to the membership for adoption at the annual meeting and would hope that you will look with favor on my suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Maurice Brown, Member

LCA - 1959-1960

I. Know Your County

II. Juvenile Service

Chairman: Mrs. Irving Pettis (temp.)

Memos, correspondence, etc.

Memo - April 9, 1959 Memo - May 1959 (Know Your County Surveys)

VOTING MACHINE PETITIONS

Mrs. Ray Hicks reported more than 3000 signatures on the petitions League members have been circulating. The petitions call on the McLennan County Commissioners Court to acquire and use voting machines in the county. There were still a few petitions out at the time of Mrs. Hick's report but it seems certain that approximately 3500 signatures have been obtained. The signed petitions will be taken to a meeting of the county commissioners on February 20.

FEBRUARY WACO VOTER

. . . .

NOTE: SAVE THIS PAGE AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING. IT CONTAINS THE INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED TO CAST YOUR VOTE.

PROPOSED LOCAL PROGRAM FOR 1961-1962

CURRENT AGENDA:

The Board recommends: "The League of Women Voters of Waco will evaluate governmental provisions for juvenile services in McLennan County."

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Board recommends: "Support of city planning."

The Board further recommends:

CR #2 - "Support of voting machines for the county" be moved to Current Agenda.

* * *

OUTLOOK FOR WORK

CURRENT AGENDA:

1. Because much of what we have learned in the past year's study of juvenile services in the county seems to have come up against a dead end in many ways, the Board is recommending that we simplify the wording of the item.

With the new wording, we will be in a better position to examine the laws governing the provisions for juvenile services and determine how those laws are administered in our county.

2. We were unable at this time to foresee just what the results of our activity on the voting machine CR might be. Therefore, the Board recommends that it be returned to CA so that it may be given renewed efforts if it should be necessary.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. City Planning - No action is foreseen on this CR; we will simply maintain this as a strong position of the Waco League and will be prepared at any time to take action in support of our position on planning for the city.

PROPOSED BUDGET April 1, 1961 to March 31, 1962

EXPENDITURES

Gene	eral Administration		
	Treasurer's Bond		5.00
	President's Account Committees		40.00
	Finance	\$50.00	100.00
	Membership	40.00	
	Public Relations	10.00	
	Supplies & Equipment Postage		25.00 30.00
	Delegates (Conventions and Telephone & Telegraph	Area Conferences)	350 00
	3 - 1		430.00
Pub 7	ications		45.00
1 401	State and National		000 00
	Waco Voter		150.00
		-	350.00
Comm	unity Service		
OUMBIL	Meetings		FO 00
	Voters Service		750 00
	Program Promotion	·	100.00
			300.00
State	and National Services]	1,050.00
		Total\$2	2,275.00
	INCOME		
Dues			
	110 members @ \$5.00	\$	550.00
Contr	ibutions		
	Member		100.00
	Non-Member	1	,000.00
	Tor Collection		450.00
			450.00



THE WACO VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WACO - WACO, TEXAS

CALENDAR

November 29 - General Membership Meeting

10:00 A. M.

Free Nursery Service at Cogdell Methodist Church

* * *

"METHODS OF VOTER REGISTRATION"
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - NOVEMBER 29

The November general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29, at 10:00 A.M. at the TP&L Center. Mrs. William Hall will be in charge of the program for the day.

While the subject of voting is still fresh in our minds, we will discuss the methods of registering voters -- which <u>is</u> the best way? You will want to make your voice heard in forming a statewide opinion on this subject. What would be the best way of registering voters should national (or state) legislation outlaw the poll tax as a requirement for voting?

We will evaluate various methods of voter registration to see which system most nearly 1) prevents fraud, 2) is convenient, 3) is correct and up-to-date, 4) identifies the voter at the polls, 5) is simple and economical, 6) clearly defines responsibility for administration, 7) provides a competent registration staff and 8) provides modern records and equipment. Then our opinions will be sent to the State Board for consideration in reaching statewide concensus.

* * *

FROM THE STATE BOARD....

"Our study of methods of voter registration which is being made by all the Leagues in Texas is not complete. The evaluation of local League thinking will be available AFTER the January state Board meeting. Until that time, we are not at liberty to discuss voter registration in terms of local concensus. Much of the value and strength of concensus, statewide, is lost if, for instance, a legislator learns in January that a local League's point of view is at variance with that of the majority of the Leagues in Texas. Be discreet!"

POLL TAX COLLECTIONS -

While we're on the subject of poll tax, more or less, may we remind you that it it almost time for the League to collect poll taxes again? This is a definite service to our community and one which we perform each January. We have set January 20 - 31, 1961, excluding Sundays, of course, as the dates. Chairmen have agreed to recruit workers for the following locations:

Sears, Roebuck Co. - Mrs. L. K. Richards
First National Bank - Mrs. Cecil Willis
Citizens National Bank - Mrs. Homan Easley
Community State Bank - Mrs. Gilbert Anderson
Westview National Bank - Mrs. Maurice Brown
Elm St. H. E. B. - Mrs. Phil Tocker
Service Clubs - Mrs. Ike Carroll

If you will assist at any of these locations, call the chairman and volunteer.

* * *

VOTING MACHINES FOR McLENNAN COUNTY???? -

Were you able to cast a secret ballot at your polling place on November 8? Did you have to wait in a long line for your turn to vote?

Those of you who have been in the League since 1956 or before will remember our several unsuccessful efforts to acquire voting machines for McLennan County. But we have not given upthis has been a local continuing responsibility since 1957 - and now is the right time to renew our efforts.

At the Board meeting on November 11, the decision was made to go all out again for voting machines. Plans were made to circulate a petition to find out how much support we can expect from the citizens of the county; the news of our renewed push was given to the local news media; a committee was formed with a new chairman and arrangements were made with an answering service to receive phone calls and direct them to us. Mrs. Ray Hicks has agreed to serve as chairman. Working with her will be Mrs. R. E. O'Connell, Jr., Mrs. John R. Rogers, Mrs. T. C. Anderton and Mrs. Donald S. Beck. The petitions and a fact sheet are being handled by this committee assisted by Mrs. L. K. Richards, Mrs. Gilbert Anderton, Mrs. Aubrey Goodman and Mrs. Maurice Brown. Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Anderton will handle all phone calls; Mrs. Beck will be in charge of the petitions and copies may be secured from her.

If you will be responsible for circulating a copy of the petition among your friends, clubs, P.T.A., etc., please call Mrs. Beck - or go by her house - and pick one up.

This is the petition: "To the Honorable Judge and Commissioners Court, County of McLennan, State of Texas. WHEREAS, The need for voting machines has been clearly demonstrated, we urge that the acquisition of voting machines be given top priority by the new County Administration. It is for this purpose that we, the undersigned bonafide citizens of the County of McLennan, State of Texas, respectfully present this petition. Respectfully submitted, (signed) Name - Address - Voting Place.".

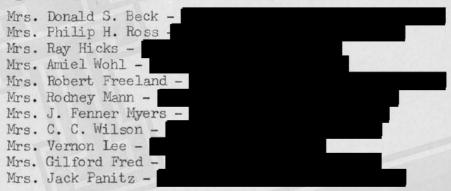
* * *

APPOINTMENT CALENDARS -

They're here again! Those wonderful League appointment calendars are available now for 50¢ from Mrs. Baxter Adams. Just right for Christmas giving — and you won't want to be without one either.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS -

The League extends a welcome to the following new members:



We're happy to have you all!

New Membership Lists will be available very soon. The master list has been finished; mimeographed copies will be mailed to you.

* * *

FOREIGN POLICY -

The Foreign Policy committee has been meeting with regularity the last few weeks and will have a report for the membership ready at the January meeting. If you would like to take part in the very enlightening discussions that are taking place, call Mrs. Irving Pettis for the time and place of the next meeting. You don't have to be an "expert" on foreign policy to take part; we're all learning together. We don't even hope to be "experts" when we finish; we only want to know more about this vital subject, and to be able to express informed opinions.

* * *

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA - JUVENILE SERVICES

This committee has made two trips to see for themselves the facilities available in Waco and McLennan County for serving our juvenile population in time of trouble. Mrs. James Foy, chairman, and the committee are working on a report now. If you want more information on this subject or would like to participate in the activities of the committee, call Mrs. Foy.

* * *

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WACO, TEXAS



Mrs. Karl E. Teigler

Twier. Texas

Narrator speaks, standing cneter front. On platform is table, rocking chair and straight chair.

'Twas the day before election and allaround the town People talked of city government and a charter, newly found. Has the old one served its purpose? Will the new one win consent?

Will the old one be discarded for a modern document?

Now, the League of Women Voters, has worked long and hard to show To all concerned, that it is time, for the older one to "blow".

We have a policy in the League that states so very clear: On any chosen subject, we must study for a year.

We read and talk and discuss,
In our units, just among us.
Then when it does at last make sense
We call a general meeting and concens:
If the group as a whole thinks that it's stable
Then, for the public, we lay facts upon the table.

In 'fifty three a Charter Item we adopted, so that we might come to see

If the one that we were using was a real antiquity.

Did it hamstring our officials? Make their jobs too big or small?

Was it really a basic document that was good enough for all?

For four long year we prodded into charters, old and new;

Comparing ours with others, with remodeling in view.

And, of course, within that span of time, we were joined by many others,

And now there's quite a group in town who call us "Charter Mothers".

They, also, have researched and worked while we watched with growingpride

To see our Charter chil d of 153, so mearly bona-fide.

page two

One fair leaguer, exhausted and tired, into reverie did fall;

And now her visitons we will try to klaidescope for you all.

She saw two women meet one day

Each a civic leader in her own way

Now here they come and we shall hear

Of charters of then and the present year.

-- Enter woman in 1913 dress carrying '13 charter book and woman in modern dress carrying new charter pamphlet. They are seated at table.

Woman in 1913 dress in rocker speaks:

In nineteen-thirteen, skirts were long and petticoats were many;

Shoes were high and buttoned and heneath we wore a shimmy.

Our penmanship was curly-qued; our homes adorned with frills;

With much ado and pomp our Charter then took care of all our ills.

The thirteen charter was written in stilted words so fine

To be read and understood by none - except the legal mind? -rocks back and sighs

We had many problems back then too;

Listen a minute and I'll tell them to you.

-pause as if reminiscing

Barbed wire fences were no longer meet

So our charter stopped them along our street.

A small group then recognized our city was growing with speed;

So THEN as NOW for a change of charter, we saw the need.

We knew that no more should the pigs run free --

The wooden bathtub must be denied to you and to me.

The time had passed when across people's yards you could ride;

And we made it a misdemeanor to carelessly leave your horse untied.

In order to build a city fair: "No driving cattle across the aquare".

Words, a hundred or more, were written with care

To spell out the laws for our Cotton Palace Fair.

Narrator leans forward and puts these words in:

Those days of glory now have passed -

But the words remain - alack and alas!

page three

Rather than rewrite the Charter of the '13 trend They chose to over and over -- AMEND.

Woman in rocker speaks again - as if she had not heard narrator.

No longer do you need Article VIII, for sure,

To protect you from a neighbor with a barn full of manure!

The street car, with its clanging bell,

Frightened the horses and the people as well.

But now there's no need for Article Three --

The horse has gone; as has the old trolley.

Narrator speaks again - sort of butting in --

The city grew - the folks worker harder;

Without any plan -- but with much ardor.

Waco expanded; North, South, East and West

Without any idea which direction was best.

No planning ahead for a park or a school

Streets were laid out, but followed no rule.

CityHall was the scene of many things changing,

From Mayor to Manager, the choice kept ranging.

Nineteen thirteen woman speaks:

The Charter suffered through many a deal;

It was confusing. Should we "amend" or "repeal"?

The form of government was not stable

But problems were solved as we were able.

Now, the proposed Charter is brief; its principles clear;

Designed to be useful for many a long year.

Thanks to the Commission elected by you

It matches your clothes and your problems too!

Narrator speaks:

Now you have heard about the Charter as it now doth lay Let's see what our woman of '58 will have to say. page four -

Woman of 158 speaks - as sort of deep in thought - speaking her thoughts aloud.

I, as a citizen of today can see

Your charter belongs to antiquity.

We've gone so quickly from horse to jet

That a modern Charter we'll have to get.

You've made me stop and think, for sure

Was the cattle drive worse than the drag race lure?

Were the claging bells louder than the rubber tires' scream?
Our problems aren't new - but in different dress it would seem.

Ten years from now what may we face?

The new Charter must be one which does keep pace.

With policies broad and details left out

To be handled by ordinance as the need comes about.

- picks up old charter

In reading this charter from days of yore

- flips through book

I note articles amended and repealed by the score.

Elections required for which we all must pay,
- hold up new charter
With this we hope to eliminate many this way.

The city is BIG business; it must be regarded as such;

The time's some when zo ining needs more than the light touch.

If our streets are a mess; and full of chug holes,

Our traffic continues to vex our souls,

Then industry and its families many

Will seek other towns with advantages plenty.

We must, as our city grows in size and payroll pay

Know we can't have an election to meet each need of the day.

A plan has been made by Bartholemew

For out city that, like Topsy, just grew.

The charter will say that to it we refer

Before planning a change and going too "fur".

Narrator speaks:

page five -

Narrator speaks:

So since our Council is faced with much for consideration

They must use ordinance and not amendment as a mode of operation.

Lawyers, hosewives, business men, a commission elected December 10

Did study and read each word and each phrase

They spent half their nites and many days.

They wrote this Charter and proposed little new;

Put it in language - clear to me and to you.

Woman of '58 speaks again:

You know, it's just occurred to me

City operation is there for all to see.

Elect a Council of six men - tried and true

To be governed by a charter voted by You.

Let's don't make our managers' time a loss

Let's say: "Council, choose well and make him the boss".

Always remember, our Council of six

Must see that the man and his methods will mix.

You choose the Council

They serve without pay

And the set the broad policies

That govern the day.

They hire a man to manage the show

It's like a three-ring circus, as you all know.

He reports to the Council, the Council to us

Clear lines of authority should cause no fuss.

And when you vote approval at the polls election day

You'll know you are protected in the told-time knowned way

From taxes that may break us or programs that may vex us

Because each one must answer, "Is it legal here in Texas"?

page six -

So just as then, forty five years ago The people knew that as Waco did grow Their plan and charter for the city then needed revamping. And they urged - VOTE IT IN. Please let's all be as wise and as great And vote our new charter, November one, fifty eight. Narrator speaks - stands up and comes center front. To you gathered here, this last day of September There're only thirty one days 'til the first of Movember! On that day you, at the polls, give voice To things as they are or vote PROGRESS by choice. There'll be questions asked you galore So pass on all you have heard and more. We do hope our charter problems in rhyme Won't make you feel you've wasted your time. There's no way to reach each voter, we know But this many women can many words sow. We thank you all for 1stening - and hope Now you'll go forth - and pass on the dope. It's been fun to have you drop by So steeped in charter - we bid you good-bye!