

8/79 - all pertinent LWO stuff from the
attic has been put in here May 1970

~~box~~
This ~~file~~ is Texas LWO material pre 1965, much
of it 1920's, 1930's. Includes many old state con-
vention agenda, 1954 & 1956 convention work books,
~~+ also 1944 Nat. Conv.~~

If state League does not have this material I
could list it for them & offer it to them. The
list of state presidents is compiled from this
material & state may not have this accurately.

Below these are bound files of State Bd
minutes 1958 thru 1964 & signed auditor's
report for yr ended 3/31/66 & some state
Bd minutes for 1957 & 1956 (bottom of pile)

State League

Please Return to
Mrs. E. R. Brownson

HISTORY

Texas League of Women Voters

1903 To 1940

MRS. D. R. BOWLES
Austin, Texas

Compiled by
MRS. JESSIE D. AMES
Atlanta, Georgia

MRS. CHARLES TAFT, JR.
Galveston, Texas

Points on the Work of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association

BY MRS. D. R. BOWLES, OF AUSTIN, TEXAS.

IN 1840 occurred an event which called the attention of the women of the United States to the inferior position which they held, and from this occasion came the impetus to the organization of a militant woman's rights movement. A world anti-slavery convention was held in London at this time and two delegates from the United States—women—were denied seats in the convention. At that time they resolved to leave no stone unturned to remove all the distinctions between the sexes. It was not until 1848, however, that these two women, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth C. Stanton, took the lead in calling a woman's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, the first of its kind in the history of the world.

Numerous organizations were created in the United States to promote woman suffrage during the last half of the 19th century, but none of these was found in Texas. Not until early in 1903 did the first of these activities begin in Houston when Annette Finnigan, aided by her sisters, Elizabeth Finnigan and Katherine Finnigan Anderson, organized a Woman's Suffrage League with Annette Finnigan as its first president. In February of that year Carrie Chapman Catt lectured in Houston under the auspices of this League, and in December a convention of several local clubs was called in Houston and a State Women's Suffrage Association was formed, with Miss Finnigan as president. Dr. Shaw was present at all sessions. In 1904 attempts were made to organize leagues in San Antonio, Beaumont, and Austin, but "women, although interested, were not yet prepared to face the ridicule and contempt with which society was attempting to beat back the latest advance in democracy."

The Finnigan sisters called the second state convention in December of 1904.

For a few years afterward the organization prospered, but the leaders left the state and the movement became inactive. A society formed in Austin in 1908 with 25 members seems to be the only group which continued.

While these young organizations were trying to publicize woman suffrage, it was being mentioned in political platforms and considered in the legislature, but without much progress.

Eleanor Breckenridge of San Antonio, and Anna Maxwell Jones, a Texan residing in New York, organized suffrage clubs in San Antonio, Galveston, Waco, Dallas, Tyler, and San Marcos, and Miss Finnigan returned to Texas and revived her club in Houston.

State Headquarters for Suffrage work were opened in Houston in 1914 and clubs increased from eight to twenty-one. Pearl Penfield was field secretary and was to a great degree responsible for organizing the state work.

Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham was elected president of the Texas Woman Suffrage Association at the state convention which met in Galveston in April, 1915, and served as president until the organization disbanded. The president and the new board worked vigorously.

Throughout the United States at this period there was an up-swing in woman suffrage sentiment and activity. Texas's share in the movement in 1914 was a 400 percent increase in the number of local organizations and the visits of several national leaders.

In 1916 the well remembered state convention was held in Dallas. Judge Ocie Speer of Fort Worth here pledged his support to women. The delegates instructed the executive committee to ask for suffrage planks in the state and national Democratic platforms.

The name was changed from the "Woman Suffrage Association" to the "Equal Suffrage Association," and the senatorial district plan of organization was adopted.

At the National Democratic Convention in St. Louis in 1916 a sufficient number of women from Texas were present to form half a block of the "golden lane" through which delegates passed to reach the convention hall. The convention included the suffrage plank in the party platform, but the Texas women exhibited black crepe bands—for their gov-

ernor, James E. Ferguson, who had served on the platform and resolutions committee, had made a speech against the suffrage plank.

When the legislature convened in January, 1917, the legislative committee of the Equal Suffrage Association had already shaped its plan of attack and it was on hand to begin its work. Various bills were introduced by the friends of the suffrage movement, but these could not be carried through.

The woman suffrage movement was colored by the entrance of the United States into the "World War," for the women were interested in war measures as well as in suffrage, and they took measures to help solve the food conservation problem and other questions of vital importance during the crisis.

But the women of Texas wished to speed up as much as possible action in Congress on suffrage, and to do this they decided to start a real fight to win the support of congressmen. The session of Congress in 1917 was one well studied by the suffragists and the state organization sent letters from headquarters to leading suffragists in the large cities to keep them well informed on congressional proceedings.

Texas women started the year 1918 with their efforts bent towards the primary suffrage bill which they had seen defeated in the regular session of the Thirty-fifth legislature. Many organizations were lined up to help make the movement successful; the Mothers' Congress, State Federation of Labor, State Federation of Women's Clubs, Texas Press Women, State Farmers' Congress, Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Texas Equal Suffrage Association, which at that time numbered more than twenty thousand members.

Representative Charles B. Metcalfe, to whom many women attribute the success of the suffrage movement in Texas, introduced the bill of 1918 which was to give women the right to vote in all primary elections and nomination conventions. This passed both houses and was signed by Governor Hobby (who had been very slow in giving the women help), on March 26, 1918, in the presence of Representative Metcalfe, Captain Sackett, and members of the legislative committee, Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, Mrs. Dave Doom, Mrs. Elizabeth Speer and Mrs. Jane Y. McCallum.

The suffrage leaders sponsored a citizenship school to interest the new voters how to register and vote, and 360,000 women were estimated to have registered in the fifteen days allotted to registration. In Amarillo and Palestine more women registered than the number of men who had paid poll taxes.

Before the period of registration was over information came to the women that individuals opposing suffrage were making an effort to prevent the women from voting in the primary election. Injunctions from various district courts had ordered election judges not to furnish tickets to the women nor receive their ballots. It took only a short time, however, for the suffrage organization to have legal matters well in hand.

Primary Suffrage, politically, was not the same as equal suffrage, and before long the women, aided by friends in the legislature, began to move towards securing the right to vote in general elections also. Many constitutional amendments were proposed during the regular session of the Thirty-sixth legislature. Four were finally passed on to the people—one of them for Woman Suffrage.

The women launched their active campaign for carrying the suffrage amendment to the state constitution on February 12, in an Austin hotel. A complete campaign covering the activities of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association was outlined for the three months until the election. The women seemed to be sure of victory. They organized their campaign along the senatorial district plan, and the members were so well organized that they were to know, down to within a city block, who would vote favorably for suffrage.

This way of securing the right to vote in the general election failed but there was still the federal constitution

which might be amended. The congressional chairmen of the suffrage association had begun early in 1918 a campaign to make certain the positive pledge of favorable congressmen towards a federal amendment. Mrs. Elizabeth Hernon Potter was sent to Washington to line up Texas' eighteen representatives and two senators. Women over the United States were disappointed when they learned that

their efforts had been defeated—they had counted too much on the favorable action of President Wilson. They soon began, however, to push their cause for suffrage. At last their efforts were rewarded and a federal amendment was offered to the states for ratification. Texas had the honor of being the first Southern State and the ninth state of the union to ratify the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.

(1919-1923)

The First Years of the Texas League of Women Voters

BY JESSIE DANIEL AMES.

IN OCTOBER, 1919, at San Antonio, the Texas Equal Suffrage Association resolved itself into the Texas League of Women Voters. The immediate program of the new organization was to impress upon the new voters the importance of paying their poll taxes so they could vote in the 1920 elections. After this first step was accomplished, the need for education in citizenship was apparent. A "Get Out The Vote" campaign was launched; schools of citizenship were conducted over the state; and a monthly paper, the "New Citizen," under the editorship of Mrs. John C. Granbery of Georgetown, was established. Later a "Voters' Calendar," edited by Miss Mary Jagoe of Denton, became an annual event. Still later a booklet, "Know Your County," was compiled and printed. This was sold not only to thousands of voters, but to High Schools, which used it as a reference in Civic Classes.

In addition to a program of education for the new voters, the League undertook a broad legislative program which included a bill to establish a minimum wage for working women, securing an appropriation to match Federal Funds for Maternity-Infancy care, to reorganize the educational sys-

tem of the states with special emphasis on the County Unit System of School Administration and to authorize an unpaid Board of Education to replace the political Board of three elective officials. Though the reorganization of the Prison System of Texas became the joint project of all women's organizations under the guidance of a Joint Legislative Committee, the actual work of launching the educational program, which resulted in the present State Prison Board, was inaugurated by the League at its convention in Fort Worth in 1921. For eighteen months beginning in August prior to the Fort Worth Convention, the League of Women Voters financed the activities of its Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, including a monthly honorarium to the chairman, as well as printed literature and travel expenses. In the spring of 1923 the Texas Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor was set up with the League Chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth Speer, as executive secretary.

Thus, with a balanced program of education of citizens in government and party machinery and of legislation to improve social conditions, the Texas League of Women Voters set its course toward greater accomplishments.

The Texas League of Women Voters from 1923 to 1939

HELEN TAFT (MRS. CHARLES TAFT, JR.)

THE TRANSFORMATION of the Equal Suffrage Association into the Texas League of Women Voters was not accomplished automatically and into the capable hands of Mrs. Helen B. Moore of Texas City, fell a large share of the work of organizing the new League. This involved the raising of a budget sufficiently great to put the League on a firm financial foundation and the setting in motion of machinery to start the program of education of the new voters, to which the leagues all over the country were committed.

Fortunately Mrs. Moore had always had a large number of friends in the state and because of their personal interest in her, their response was generous. Although the great dramatic appeal of the fight for suffrage itself was no longer there to give an incentive, Mrs. Moore was able to begin a constructive piece of work that still endures. When she resigned after eighteen months of hard work that included travelling over the state in the interests of the League, Dr. Alice Merchant of El Paso, who had been first vice-president, was able to build on the foundation already established.

At the suggestion of Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, state wide publicity, directed by Mrs. Jane McCallum of Austin, was begun and the newspapers of Texas in their usual generous fashion contributed space to the educational program of the League. This, which they still continue, has been of the greatest value to the Texas League and their cooperation is deeply appreciated by all league members.

Miss Mary Jagoe of Denton, succeeded Dr. Merchant as president of the Texas League. She presided over the state convention held in Galveston in October, 1927. During these years the League was continuing its practice of concentrating efforts on getting out the vote, encouraging the payment of Poll Taxes and conducting one day citizenship schools, all these being the means by which the education of the

voter was emphasized. It also took an active part in a legislative program in the state and national legislatures.

A "Joint Legislative Council" was formed by the heads of six women's state organizations. It was financed by the member groups and kept in close touch with the Texas Legislature by a member residing in Austin. Women all over the country were learning to know their representatives in Congress as well as the State Legislatures, and the idea of "Write your Senator or Congressman" to ask for support for measures that had been studied in the local leagues, was taking hold. The National League of Women Voters has always stressed the importance of this contact by letter with our elected representatives and has also encouraged the practice of writing after the vote has been taken to let the men know we appreciate their efforts in our behalf.

Measures in support of Maternal and Child Hygiene have always been of special interest to the Texas League of Women Voters and we find them concerned over the appropriations for the Sheppard-Towner bill.

Three important guests were present at the 1927 convention of the Texas League. They were Governor Dan Moody; Miss Belle Sherwin, president of the National League of Women Voters, and Mrs. Roscoe Anderson, regional director of the League. The speech of Governor Moody on "Our Business in Texas" and Miss Sherwin's and Mrs. Anderson's talk on "The Record of Seven Years," were highlights of the convention.

Mrs. D. W. Kempner of Galveston, was the next president of the Texas League. She, too, was an organizer of ability and during her regime, the National League sent an executive secretary to Texas who was of great assistance in strengthening the ties between the local leagues and the state group. At various times there have been local leagues in San Antonio, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Austin and Galveston, as well as a college league at Rice Insti-

tute. The state board also had representatives from Denton, Waco and other Texas cities, even when there were no active leagues in the home towns of these members. Thus a geographical distribution of representation has been achieved at most times and many of the leagues which became inactive are gradually being re-established.

As in most organizations, the question of finance has been an important one. At times the League supported its bulletin by the sale of advertisements, each local league taking the responsibility in turn for securing an advertisement every month. Friends whose interest has been aroused by the program of the League have made generous gifts from time to time and always the women who have served the League as officers or committee chairmen have given liberally of their time and money to support this important work.

Mrs. Harris Masterson of Houston, after being finance chairman, was elected to succeed Mrs. D. W. Kempner as president of the Texas League. She gave great impetus to the support which the League was able to contribute to the other women's organizations working in the interests of better international relations. Her efforts for peace are so well known in the state that her value to all women's organizations in this field is fully recognized.

The valient efforts to have the Texas Legislature ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution were doomed to defeat, but a good deal of valuable experience was gained in the hard work. Several trips to Austin were made by members in order to appear at legislative hearings and a great deal of information was prepared for use by our own and other women's organizations interested in the problem of child labor in Texas.

"Jury Service for Women" is the subject of perennial interest to the Texas League. It has so far not been accomplished in our state, but it remains a topic for study and we hope some day to be able to support a suitable bill that will give the women of Texas this important responsibility.

In 1933 Mrs. Ella Sealy Newell returned to Texas to make her home and was elected president of the Texas League. She had been living in Connecticut for a number of years and had devoted a great deal of time and effort in serving as Finance Chairman of the Connecticut League, so she welcomed the opportunity to continue league work in her native state. She was in office for three and a half years and during her regime great strides were made in the educational program of the state league. The National League had by this time developed a technique of program building which included the submission to its general membership at a biennial convention of items for study and support. This has proven to be highly successful in presenting channels for legislative endeavor that are in accord with the true practice of democracy.

The campaign for "Better Personnel in Government Service" was undertaken in leagues all over the United States at this time. A contest for a campaign slogan produced the following: "Find the Man for the Job, not the Job for the Man," and effective use of this was made in nationwide publicity. Following a custom of long standing the league sent representatives to the national conventions of both major political parties and was successful in having a plank in the party platform committing both the Democratic and Republican parties to the support of trained personnel chosen on a merit basis.

The Texas League of Women Voters has taken an active interest in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements since its beginning, giving it close study as joint program projects of both

the departments of Government and Foreign Policy and the department of Government and Economic Welfare. The league feels that this is an important improvement in international relations and is of especial interest to Texas because of the increase in foreign trade that has resulted since the agreements were in force.

The league has been gathering knowledge from experience. It has been learning not only that the American people needed to be made acquainted with political affairs but how to deal with them effectively. The league is committed to the purpose of helping to make democratic government in the United States a success. It exists for the object of trying to improve the electorate itself by promoting more intelligent participation in politics. It gathers all available facts, selects issues with as much care as possible and then attempts to focus a widespread membership upon each issue. That this is difficult to do, particularly in a state the size of Texas, is freely admitted, but this is the avowed purpose of the League of Women Voters whether National, State or Local.

Miss A. Louise Dietrich of El Paso, was elected president of the Texas League in 1938. Here for the first time the league had a president whose yearly schedule provided for her travelling all over the state, so that in addition to having an executive who understood organization from a professional point of view, the local leagues have had the inestimable advantage of frequent visits from the state president. She has helped with wise counsel at board meetings and kept in close touch with all program chairmen by correspondence in the intervals. The machinery of organization has been enormously strengthened by her leadership and the fact that she had known and been a member of the Texas League since its beginning had added greatly to her value as president.

The last two years of the League have seen some changes in the program selected by the annual state convention. The number of items chosen has been smaller as we have come to realize that the small membership in so large a state, necessitates a careful evaluation of items on which to focus the interest of those members in order to avoid as far as possible a scattering of effort.

For years the Texas League has been concerned with a desire to see the local, state and federal welfare services more closely integrated and has worked for this by supporting legislation that would help bring it about. It was a great satisfaction to have the State Department of Public Welfare authorized by the last legislative session. In the fall of 1939 the new department was set up so that now the program of Child Welfare, Aid to the Dependent Blind, and Old Age Assistance are under this one state department. Since some of the funds for these services are from Federal sources a merit system has come into practice and thus a long desired aim of the League of Women Voters has been realized. Though we still have no Civil Service Law in Texas, we shall not despair as this is coming nearer with every year. The League will continue to work toward this important goal.

To quote the National president of the League of Women Voters, "Not to amass more knowledge of government, not even to spread it to a greater number of people, but to cause more people to use effectively what knowledge they possess seems today to be the unique aim of the League of Women Voters."

The Texas League could have no better purpose for continuing to exist or hope for future effort.



3/18/70

LWV of Texas President During a Year of World War II

by Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe

I was elected president for a one-year term at the June 1944 state Convention of the League in Austin. It was a great help to have two other Board members in the Dallas area--Mrs. James W. Bradner, then of Fort Worth, and Miss Sarah Daniels, Dallas. It was hard to have the treasurer in Houston--hard for both of us--because it meant delays and considerably more paper work. Both Mrs. Burton MacCollum, treasurer, and I made heartfelt recommendations to future nominating committees that the treasurer and president be within local telephoning range of each other!

In 1944-45 there were nine local Leagues and one campus League in Texas, and San Angelo and a second campus League were being organized. Membership was about 800, and the budget adopted in Austin in 1944 was \$2425.00.

My predecessor, Novella Calvin (Mrs. D. Bailey Calvin, then of Galveston) had barely turned the gavel over to me when the Austin newspaper came out with an ⁿ interview with a League member who was tying the League in with her campaign for Governor in the Democratic primary! As you can imagine, that was item No. 1 on the agenda of the post-Convention state Board meeting.

It was wartime, and gasoline rationing was in effect. This meant that the state League files and typewriter (all there was to the state office) could not be moved from Galveston to Dallas until the transfer company had acquired an otherwise full cargo for Dallas --a matter of several weeks. And it was the same situation again in 1945 when I sent the state office on its way to the home of the new president, Mrs. G. H. Gill, La Marque.

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Wartime also meant that in Dallas there was virtually no vacant office space at a price the state League could pay. But one day I noticed a candidate's campaign headquarters sign on a downtown office door. That indicated that the office might be vacant after the primary, and sure enough it was, and the landlord rented to us at \$25.00 per month, rent controlled price. Dallas League members donated some chairs, two tables, and a bookcase, and shared the office with the state League.

In 1944-45 the state Program item receiving particular emphasis was the secret ballot. Because we were not able to recruit a legislative chairman in Austin, the state Board adopted a rather unusual set-up. I acted as state legislative chairman in addition to being president, and Mrs. G. H. Gill, first vice-president, spearheaded a state League work on the top priority national Program item--the campaign to build overwhelming support for the about-to-be-founded United Nations. Almost half of the state Board worked with me on the secret ballot campaign; the others worked primarily with Mrs. Gill.

Several Austin League members took turns being our eyes and ears when the legislature went into its 1945 session. And the campus League did a fine job of getting their parents, if they lived in Texas, to write favorably to their legislators about the secret ballot.

Of non-Austin people I remember three as being particularly helpful to me about the Texas legislature and legislators. One was Sarah Daniels, who had previously been state legislative chairman and was a lawyer in the firm of a former Dallas mayor. Following her advice I made many trips to Austin, before the session to talk to Governor Coke Stevenson, the University of Texas law professor who was preparing our secret ballot bill, and the attorney general, and

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during the session to procure sponsors in both House and Senate for our bill, to testify at committee hearings, etc. The late W. O. Reed, former speaker of the House, gave me particularly practical advice, as did also a League husband from Connecticut, who was a professional lobbyist for passage of the federal child labor amendment.

But 1945 was not to be the secret ballot year. It was not until 1949, during the presidency of the late Mrs. Martin Row, that the secret ballot became law as the more secret ballot.



1941 Budget

STATE AND LOCAL BUDGETS OF LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

STATE		LOCAL (Dallas)	
<u>Income</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Contributions	\$ 110.00	Dues	\$250.00
State Members	10.00	Publications	20.00
Convention Registrations	40.00	Calendars	90.00
Pledges from Local Leagues:		Contributions:	
Houston	500.00	Non-Members (Men)	\$100
Dallas	400.00	Members	<u>310</u> 410.00
Galveston	125.00		
Austin	320.00		
LaMarque	35.00		
Midland	40.00		
San Antonio	25.00		
Fort Arthur	25.00		
University of Texas	5.00		
	<u>\$1,635.00</u>		<u>\$770.00</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Expenditures</u>	
Pledge to Natl. League	\$300.00	Local Meetings	\$ 25.00
Headquarters	150.00	Supplies, Postage, Tel.	
Equipment	40.00	& Tel., Printing	75.00
Supplies	25.00	Traveling Expenses	
Printing	10.00	Pres. & Delegates	150.00
Postage	20.00	Publications	25.00
Telephone & Telegraph	20.00	Calendars	45.00
Board Meeting Expense	100.00	Support to State & Natl.	400.00
President to Council	100.00	Housing	25.00
Delegate to Council	100.00	Emergency	25.00
Finance Chairman	50.00		
Program Chairman	200.00		
Program Expense	25.00		
National Publications	20.00		
State Bulletin	150.00		
Stenographer	250.00		
State Convention	75.00		
	<u>\$ 1,635.00</u>		<u>\$ 770.00</u>

July 10, 1948

TO: Local Chairman-FAMILY RELATIONS COURTS

FROM: State Chairman - FAMILY RELATIONS COURTS

Attached hereto is copy of Resolution that I have prepared for use at Party Conventions. It is of necessity general, as it should be.

To carry out the plan suggested by Mr. W. O. Reed, Speaker of the House, Fiftieth Legislature, in his talk at the State Convention, we want to get the idea before as many people as possible as soon as possible - get them to talking about it.

The plan is party politics; consequently, the Resolution cannot be presented in the name of the League, but it can be and must be done by individuals. The procedure is the same as at any such meeting - when the Resolution is presented (and be sure that it is) someone must be ready to second it. Try to see that a majority for it is present, so that it will carry the vote, and thus the endorsement of that particular precinct meeting.

The same procedure takes place at the County Convention, with plenty of pre-Convention preparation. It would be well to take the matter up with the party Committee Chairman for his approval and cooperation.

Thus the Resolution is ready to go to the State Convention. If it carries there, it would necessarily be a recommendation to the Legislature. Then we might hope to get the Governor-elect to include it in his platform when he goes before the Legislature in January.

Precinct and other meetings for national program are passed. But precinct meetings for state and county officials will take place in some towns on the day of the primary - July 24th, or shortly thereafter. Don't overlook the county precinct meetings.

I shall attempt to condense the information that I have into a short picture of a Family Relations Court and its functions, so that you can use it in giving out information, making talks, answering questions, etc.

Try to get your local Bar Association to endorse the item. If the Bar will not, ask it not to fight it. Of course, you will want your judges and District and County attorneys with you.

We have only just been given the green light. The time is short!
PLEASE HURRY WITH YOUR PREPARATIONS! MUCH DEPENDS ON YOU.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we consider that the prevention of Juvenile Delinquency is a necessary part of a system of courts in Texas; AND

WHEREAS, there is no court of record in Texas set up to cooperate with local communities in an endeavor to lessen Juvenile Delinquency by trying to build a responsible citizenry of our juveniles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the sense of this meeting that laws creating or designating courts of record to be known as Family Relations Courts should be provided by the fifty-first Legislature; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of this meeting be instructed to send immediately a copy of this
(party)
Resolution to the County ~~Democratic~~ Convnetion of (date).

Precinct No. _____.

®

ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Since almost every League member is concerned with the rising cost of living, we should have a better understanding of our own national economic system, particularly a knowledge of how it works and its achievements. League members have worked on tax and expenditures problems for many years. In order to increase our "economic literacy" we Leaguers now extend our studies to the entire system of government finance. By informing ourselves about the problems confronting us, by discussing them freely, and then organizing for community action, we will be following an established League pattern of approach to a League Program item.

The League has singled out for concentrated analysis the types of expenditures made by the federal government, the relative proportions of these expenditures, and the methods by which money is obtained to pay for them. The League does not plan to make a comprehensive study of the details of federal expenditures and taxes, but will confine its work to their general effect on the economy. (From the 1948-50 National League Program.)

We are in the "informing ourselves" stage of the above Program item and our exploration of national economic housekeeping will begin during a Region Conference to be held at the Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, Texas, December 2 and 3. Each League in Oklahoma, Louisiana and Texas is invited to send four delegates. Registration begins promptly at 9:30 a.m., December 2.

Our guest of honor will be Dr. Mabel Newcomer, national League Board member and Professor of Economics at Vassar College. Other speakers and presiding officers will be League members from the three states participating in the Conference.

The importance of this conference cannot be overemphasized. Your League needs a representative on hand to exchange ideas with others present on how best to present this Program item to your membership. Although the field of economics is foreign to most of us, it will be surprising how quickly we can familiarize ourselves with the terms and facts. This is a study item and will be considered from an objective point of view until such time the membership, after study and analysis via usual League channels, is in a position to take a stand.

Mrs. John L. Brewster,

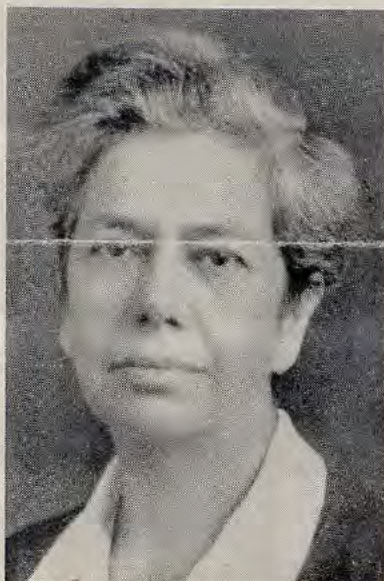
Remember — November 2nd

FAMILY COURT MEETING

A very successful meeting was held in Austin October 15 with Mrs. Trammell presiding. The group included District Judges, County Judges, District Attorneys, members of the Bar Association, members of the Council of Social Agencies, members of the State Department of Public Welfare, and Chief Probation Officers from over the state. The chief speaker, Judge Gardiner, of Austin, was introduced by Mrs. Row, who presided at the luncheon.

The outcome of the meeting was the appointment of a committee of five to draft a state bill, headed by Judge Paul Martineau of Corpus Christi.

DR. MABEL NEWCOMER



Dr. Mabel Newcomer, who is head of the Department of Economics, Sociology, Anthropology of Vassar College, is serving her second term as a director of the League of Women Voters of the United States. She assists in directing the League's activities in "analyzing the federal budget in order to understand and support such fiscal policies as make for a stable domestic economy."

In 1947 Dr. Newcomer served for six months in Germany as a consultant on taxation and revenue for the Civil Affairs Division of the Office of Military Government. In 1944 she was the only woman member of the United States delegation to the United Nations Monetary Conference at Bretton Woods. She has also served as a member of the Treasury Committee on Intergovernmental Relations and as an economic consultant and investigator for numerous official state and national committees on government fiscal policies and tax problems in relation to education, home ownership and regional planning.

Dr. Newcomer is the author of "You Are A Taxpayer" and "Taxation and Fiscal Policy." She is chairman of the Social Studies Committee of the American Association of University Women, and is chairman of a committee of the American Economic Association for the study of undergraduate economic training in the liberal arts colleges.

SECRET BALLOT MONTH

November is Secret Ballot Month! Secret Ballot Chairman, Dilly Penn says, "It is the work that we do *NOW* and the money that we spend *NOW* that will prove our political effectiveness in the spring when the legislature meets." Talk Secret Ballot, live Secret Ballot and breath Secret Ballot to everyone you contact, especially your legislators and senators, and to your friends throughout the state. A.A.U.W., Federated Clubs, B.&P.W. are with us, too. Talk to organizations in your town.

When you go to the State Fair in Dallas this month, be sure to see the Secret Ballot Exhibit there. Remember the Atomic Energy Exhibit? It is now in Seattle. The screen has been used by Mrs. Kenneth Waters for an effective background to show the public that our ballot is not secret. Also of Dallas is Mrs. Allen Merriam, 612 Maple Terrace, who is the Press member of the State Public Relations Committee. We are fortunate, indeed, to have her most able assistance in contacting newspaper editors throughout the state during Secret Ballot month.

Make a Note — Be Sure to Vote

LETTER FROM THE SECRET BALLOT CHAIRMAN

How the Perforated Stub Would Work

(Note: Our Bill providing for a perforated stub has been upheld as being constitutional by the Attorney General THREE TIMES. In other words, the Constitution of the State of Texas (and also of the U. S. A.) provides that the voters of Texas may have a completely Secret Ballot if the legislature so chooses.)

With the perforated stub ballot you would go to the polls with your poll tax receipt just as now; your name would be checked to know whether or not you are a qualified voter. If qualified, you would be given a ballot with a numbered perforated stub on it; that number would be written opposite your name on the voting list just as it is done now. You would take your ballot to a booth, vote and return to the election officials' table with your ballot folded and only the number exposed. When the official satisfies himself that you are the voter who was given that number, the numbered perforated stub would be torn from your ballot and placed in one box, and YOUR BALLOT WITH NO IDENTIFICATION ON IT would be dropped into another box.

Our laws make the Election Judges and County Clerks responsible for the ballots given them. At the end of the day the number of votes cast must coincide with the number of qualified voters who have voted. Hence, if each voter has been properly checked to know he is a qualified voter, there can be fraudulent votes in the Ballot Box.

Arguments for and Against Secret Ballot

AGAINST	FOR
1. But we already have a secret ballot.	A. Our present type ballot is known as

Make a Note — Be Sure to Vote

"WHO GETS WHAT DONE AND HOW IN OUR TOWN"

An Editorial

You do. I do. We all do, individually. Other people, to quote from Collier's Magazine, say of us that "One characteristic of a League member is the way she brings about the substitution of 'What are *they* going to do about it' for 'What are *we* going to do about it.'" This is how we go about it in Texas, where we are pioneering in politics:

We believe that the people of Texas want a more secret ballot. We know that many Texans do not realize that their written ballot is numbered and can be checked as to *how* a man votes. We believe that the way to get a secret ballot for the State of Texas is to let the people know.

Therefore, we have begun giving out information about the secret ballot to all the organizations in Texas. We have made two exhibits for the State Fair and encouraged local Leagues to put on exhibits in their County Fairs. We are distributing secret ballot fliers in the shape of our proposed perforated stub ballot. We are preparing further printed material. We are designating November as Secret Ballot Month and asking each League to send speakers to every local organization, to get editorials in their papers, and to use their ingenuity about reaching the public.

All this *we*, the State Board, have done! What have *we*, the individual members done? We have attended our precinct meetings. We have taken a Resolution on the Secret Ballot and presented it. In almost every case, in both parties, it was adopted unanimously! It was later adopted at County Conventions and, finally, a Resolution for a more Secret Ballot passed the Democratic and Republican State Conventions. We are indebted to Senator Rogers Kelley who so graciously agreed to introduce the Resolution before the Committee and in such a manner as to cause it to pass unanimously. We are indebted to both Senator Kelley and Senator Moffett for facts on the Redistricting Amendment.

We are taking the first steps in political effectiveness. We are beginning to have influence in the making of governmental decisions. Our members are learning to know the precinct, county and state party leaders. We are

learning to know our elected State Legislators. We are following their voting records. We are asking their wives to be League members. We are asking them to make speeches for us. They, in turn, are recognizing us as an influence in the community. They know that every local League in Texas has done an outstanding Voters Service work this summer. They know of our Pay-Your-Poll-Tax and Get-Out-The-Vote campaigns. They know we are the "gadfly to public indifference" and a "leaven to lethargy." They know what a tremendous stimulation each one of us has been and can be to all citizens, and they respect us for our complete non-partisanship.

We are all thrilled to hear the experience of a prominent Dallas social worker. She had never attended a precinct meeting nor had most of her neighbors. When she received the Secret Ballot Resolution and request to present it, she felt that ~~she was needed~~ so she went with some misgivings but with the spirit of a pioneer. She found ~~that her~~ meeting was in someone's front yard and that each decision caused her to stand on one side of the lawn or the other. Her excitement was complete when her Resolution was passed! She went back up the hill telling all of her neighbors what they had missed and how important it was that they too should have had a voice in that meeting.

Delia Mares has given us a ladder to test our efforts in developing citizen participation.

Leadership
Action
Decision
Evaluation
Information
Interest

Where are you on this ladder? How many others have you started on this same ladder?

If every League member would realize her own political influence, if she would start at once to let other people know and make other people care, we would know what political effectiveness is, and Texas will have a more secret ballot in 1949! Politics is fun! Politics is exciting! Politics is important! Are you carrying out the purpose of the League by getting others to participate in government?

ELIZABETH LYNCH ROW

Publications Available In State Office

Mimeographed Material:

Copies	
State By-Laws.....	15c
12 Report on State-Wide Citizenship Organizations Conference with the Gilmer Aiken Committee by State President.....	5c
22 State President's Opening Address to the Convention of the League of Women Voters, June 8, 1948.....	5c
35 Radio Talk Given by Mrs. Wm. Ruggles, July 28, 1948, on World Federalist Series.....	15c
50 Secret Ballot Bill (introduced in last legislature).....	15c
6 President's Letter on World Government, March 26, 1948.....	5c
12 State President's Report on National Convention in Michigan, April 26-30, 1948.....	15c
100 League of Women Voters Quiz (For Orientation Courses).....	1c
1000 State Brochures.....	1c
40 Play, "One Hundred Years A-Growing".....	50c
Printed Material:	
15 How the Wheels Go Round.....	10c
100 The Citizen and the U. N.	10c
25 Trade Agreements at the Crossroads.....	10c
50 The 40 Billion Dollar Question.....	10c
35 Uncle Sam's Finances.....	10c
35 Government and our Minorities.....	10c
15 Know Your Town's Future.....	25c
20 Know Your State.....	25c
35 Finance Workers Handbook.....	5c
1000 Secret Ballot Fliers, entitled "Texas Needs a Secret Ballot".....	2 for 1c
40 By The Consent of the Governed.....	5c
20 How To Raise Money for the League of Women Voters.....	20c
10 Election Handbooks.....	10c
10 Brief for Action - Status of Women.....	5c
35 KITS Re: Status of Women, containing: 25 Jury Service for Women Brochures Primer for Jury Service for Women Radio Script Play, "Not Guilty".....	50c
14 Local Leaders Handbooks.....	50c
35 U. S. Foreign Economic Policy (books).....	10c
11 If We Want To Air Our Views.....	10c
25 Tips on Reaching The Public, September, 1948.....	15c
40 National Program, 1948-50.....	5c
50 Trends of September 7, 1948 (a summary of Democratic and Republican programs).....	2c
United Nations Material:	
80 The United States and the United Nations (Report by the President to Congress, 1946). FREE except for postage.....	
80 The United States and the United Nations (Report by the President to Congress, 1947). FREE except for postage.....	
50 Basic Facts About the United Nations.....	15c
12 United Nations Workshop.....	10c
25 The Second Year of the United Nations (the role of the U. S.).....	5c
6 Commission to Study the Organization of Peace.....	5c
9 The U. N. Charter.....	5c
1000 Fliers "Time Doesn't Stand Still for the Atom".....	2 for 1c
8 European Recovery Program.....	10c

THE BULLETIN

of the League of Women Voters of Texas

President . . . MRS. MARTIN A. ROW

Editor MRS. R. W. ROTZLER

VOL. 1 FALL, 1948 No. 5



Mrs. R. L. Slobod
[REDACTED]



an "OPEN BALLOT." Nothing that is open can be secret.
B. Nothing that can be checked is secret. Our present ballot can be, and we say IS, checked, whenever dishonest politicians decide to do so.

2. Contested Elections: It is less expensive and easier with the numbered ballot to find a fraudulent vote and throw it out.

A. We agree. But we also say this: It is how the counter counted more often than how the voter voted that matters.

B. Articles 2941-2942-2942A in our State Election Laws clearly provide for and give the candidates protection against fraud. They and the citizens of their community may have watchers at the polls. But nowhere is the voter given *additional* protection if the election officials and politicians wish to check how the individual voted.

C. Article 3054 provides for contested elections without the necessity of knowing how the individual voted.* If this law were enforced and the candidates, citizens and election judges knew it would be enforced, that in itself would make for more honest elections.

(*An election may be declared void and another election held.)

D. Other states using the perforated stub, and there are forty-three of them, tell us that it is not necessary to know how an individual voted, but that their contests are based on a recount of the total votes.

E. I would recommend that everyone read an article in September Ladies' Home Journal, written by Tom Sweeney, entitled, "WILL THEY COUNT YOUR VOTE?" I know nothing of Tom Sweeney, whether he would make a good Senator or a bad Senator; but it is obvious that he has studied election laws, and since he has been involved in a contested election suit since 1946, it means more to him than most people. He advocates voting machines for the nation. We cannot ALL afford voting machines, BUT WE CAN AFFORD THE PERFORATED STUB WHICH WILL BE JUST AS SECRET AS THE MACHINES. (Note: Strangely, I have found more men than women who have read this article which appeared in Ladies' Home Journal).

3. A Secret Ballot will increase fraud.

A. A Secret Ballot does not claim to answer all ills of our elections. It is only for the protection of the voter. We must weigh the benefits of a Secret Ballot against the present type ballot.

B. It is the opinion of those seeking a Secret Ballot that under the present system, bloc voting is more prevalent. Each unit of an election must stand on its own feet. With an open ballot we know that certain votes are controlled by employers and politicians. It is our contention that a coerced vote is just as fraudulent as any other illegal or fraudulent vote. A Secret Ballot would do away with such undemocratic practices. Why should employees and citizens suffer because Election Judges will not keep the front tables honest? We say it is not right and that a Secret Ballot is the first law of a Democratic government, and Texas should have it.

4. There are some small towns which provide only one ballot box for two precincts. In

that box, voters must cast their ballots for different commissioners. If a voter in precinct one should vote for or against the candidate for commissioner running in precinct two, or vice-versa, for example, then this ballot would be illegal. If a contested election should result, how could it be checked without a numbered ballot?

A. Again we move to the election front and NOT the Ballot Box. Even though there may be communities which cannot afford two sets of election judges, they should be able to afford two sets of Ballots. One set for each precinct—each carrying only the names of candidates for whom voters of that precinct are qualified to vote.

5. Mutilated Ballots.

A. Answered by Article 3013. This law provides that any voter may be given another ballot if he should accidentally mutilate one, BUT a record must be kept of these ballots. Our Bill would not in any way change this.

REMARKS

1. "A Secret Ballot is the first law of a Democratic Government! Why doesn't Texas have one?"

2. "Bloc voting can be and is more prevalent because YOUR VOTE CAN BE CHECKED, than it would be with a completely Secret Ballot."

3. "It is against the law to check your ballot. It is also against the law to steal. Both are done, but the penalties are greater for the thief than for those checking your ballot. It is the voter who suffers."

4. "The number on your ballot is the key to your vote."

5. "It is no Secret that Texas has no Secret Ballot... no voter protection."

6. "Does your employer tell you how to vote?" He can check how you voted in all but three counties in Texas. Those three counties have voting machines which have been upheld by the Supreme Court, even though there is no possible way to check how individuals voted. Those counties have VOTER PROTECTION.

7. "The Law provides for WATCHERS at all elections, if the candidates and citizens wish them there. But there is no additional provision for WATCHERS of the Ballot Box twelve months out of the year if your County Authorities, Politicians and Election Officials wish to check."

8. "Your Government workers, school teachers, contractors, all persons whose living is connected with the Government are not free souls as long as their vote can be checked. The numbered Ballot gives an unscrupulous few great power over many voters."

9. "If the people of Texas want a Secret Ballot and will demand it, the Legislators will give it to them. Let's all request our Legislators to give us a Secret Ballot. Ask all your friends to make the same request."

Sincerely,

Addilee L. Penn.

Make a Note — Be Sure to Vote

Have You a League Calendar?

Only 50 cents will buy you a LWV calendar from your local President. Our State Treasurer, Mrs. Banks Upshaw, says, "It is an easy way for us to show our friends what the League of Women Voters is and what it stands for." Get yours today; get several extra to give to your friends for Christmas!

KNOW YOUR UNITED NATIONS YEAR

While events in the General Assembly meetings of the U. N. in Paris are outracing the headlines, the League Workshops on the U. N. in Texas are out-racing all our expectations. Corpus Christi, Dallas and San Antonio defied the heat by holding their workshops during the summer, and most of the other Leagues will have finished theirs by the first of November. The workshops, which are being held in Leagues all over the country, are based on a study outline of six meetings, covering these topics: What is the United Nations? Promoting World Security; Advancing Human Welfare; Strengthening the United Nations; The United Nations and Your Community. The women who have participated will be able to interpret the U. N. news to their Leagues, and later, to their communities.

Know Your United Nations Year, a nationwide League project for 1948-49, grew out of the conviction expressed by the delegates to the Grand Rapids Convention last May that League members need more information about the United Nations. The workshops are the first step, leaders' training, to be followed by general membership programs on the U. N. and in the second half of the year, by various forms of community education. A new memo, The Citizen and the United Nations, written expressly for League members, will be out shortly. Ask your publications chairman to get you a copy.

Although the community education phase of the project is scheduled for the second half of this year, the reports from our workshops show that your efforts are already being felt in your communities. Mrs. Ruggles, president of the Dallas League, gave an excellent radio talk on the League's position on the U. N. and World Government over Station KRLL. In San Antonio, Mrs. Clayton Scott's workshop has stimulated members of other organizations to plan U. N. programs for their own groups. At the first meeting of the LaMarque League, which was devoted to the subject, The United Nations: A Test of Ourselves, Mrs. Cappleman remarked, "This project is a League natural!" —Delia Mares.

LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS

Austin—They have been busy as bees—with their President, Mrs. Horton Smith, moderating a non-partisan broadcast of all 7 Congressional candidates. School tax election and Family Relations courts have been given considerable time and thought. A Know Your Town survey is planned for the fall. Miss Pabst arrived in time to assist with the opening of their finance campaign.

Beaumont—A League of many accomplishments, Beaumont is sponsoring Mrs. Mares speaking on United Nations in October. Moreover, she will speak on the radio for a 15-minute session! At the Fair, the League will man a booth displaying a voting machine and distributing Secret Ballot information. The November meeting will sponsor a Secret Ballot program. Reported by Lucille Lyons.

Corpus Christi—Besides precinct work for Secret Ballot, Mrs. Ralph Walsh, Secret Bal. Chairman, talked to the delegates to the State Democratic Convention, too. They have already completed United Nations Workshop including six meetings! The U. N. will be presented to the membership by a bulletin, the U. N. News, and a study session for a general meeting. The ministers of the various churches were contacted to have a silent prayer for guidance of the leaders of the Security Council as they opened their meeting in Paris on Sept. 21. Films and comic books on U. N. will be shown in the school there. By Harriet Staves,

Corpus has done an unusual Voter Service in printing a Voters' Guide for the general election. Congratulations!

Dallas—The U. N. Workshops have been completed there, too! Every effort is being bent to get U. N. before the membership and the people this year. They hope to accomplish this through discussion groups. By Barbara Cullinan.

Galveston—They plan to have a Speakers' Bureau, which will include the very important subject of Secret Ballot. Mrs. Harris Kempner is Secret Ballot Chairman. U. N. Workshops were to begin about the 1st of October. Housing has already been reported on in a Know Your Town Study. Mary Elizabeth Wallis reporting.

Houston—The members are now preparing themselves to conduct discussion groups over the city by attending a Discussion Technique course. They opened the fall with a United Nations program to spark the coming U. N. workshops. Mrs. Rotzler of Texas City was the chief speaker. By Mrs. Harmon Ullrich.

Midland—An opening September luncheon sponsored a panel of League members revealing a glance into the crystal ball of the future of the League this year. At the County Fair the League sponsored a booth on the Secret Ballot and the amendments. Voters Service showed films on the U. N. By Nancy Bucher.

Port Arthur—Though their plans are not yet definite, they plan two study meetings—one to have a speaker on U. N.

San Antonio—October finds this League involved in finances. Their fine discussion groups are carrying on, but the luncheon meeting will stage a five strong panel of League husbands discussing The Importance of the League of Women Voters.

Tarrant County—Detailed plans on the U. N. workshop are underway. By Mrs. William McKinney.

Taylor—A luncheon discussion meeting on Secret Ballot will be held in November. U. N. plans are not complete, but they hope to have an open meeting with a speaker. By Miss Floy Jones.

Texas City—The U. N. workshop is underway with a program planned in November for the membership to spark the U. N. discussion groups. A Rotary Club talk will be given this fall on U. N. by their request! The October general meeting will sponsor a Family Courts program.

Dickinson—Mrs. Mares opened the U. N. Workshops with an inspiring talk the last of September. Dickinson was the first League to secure support for the Secret Ballot resolution in their precinct. By Rose Cotter.

La Marque—Mrs. Mares has also sparked this League with a U. N. talk. Their League is growing rapidly with many new residents of that city adding to the ranks.

Weslaco—After a busy summer, they are getting organized for a good year in the League with no definite plans as yet. By Mrs. Plumb, president.

University of Texas—News from a college League! They have grand plans starting with a talk by Dr. Bernice Moore of Hogg Foundation on "The Co-Ed's Place in Politics." A Displaced Students of Europe program is planned for October with two University students, who traveled extensively through the D.P. camps this summer and are urging the admission of these foreign students on scholarships, reporting. A Know Your United Nations program followed by a workshop is planned, with Family Relations Courts, and a campaign to encourage students over 21 years of age to vote in the coming election will take place. A program on Presidential Nominees has not been overlooked, either. Ambitious, aren't they? Reported by Anne Edwards.

THE REDISTRICTING AMENDMENT

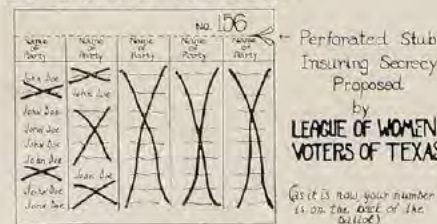
Would you think it fair to have your state senator representing more than 750,000 citizens while another state senator represented fewer than 90,000 citizens? Two of our state senators actually represent this number of citizens respectively under the 1946 estimated population. Numerous examples of disproportionate and unfair representation through the state in both the House of Representatives and the Senate do exist and can be cited, for the senatorial districts of today were based on the 1919 Poll Tax and the Representatives districts on the 1920 U. S. Census figure.

For example, one member of the House of Representatives has three counties in his district with a total estimated population in 1946 of over 202,000. Another member of the House who has the same vote as the first member represents a district that contains only one county having an estimated population in 1946 of only a little over 16,000. Population shifts, decreases and increases, have brought about these inequities that have not been taken care of by the legislature. The estimated population of the state today is 7,000,000 or more. This increase has not been evenly distributed throughout the state. Some counties have actually decreased in population since 1920 while there have been enormous shifts in the overall population from certain sections of Texas to other sections. Therefore certain counties and certain districts throughout the state have had unequal and disproportionate representation in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. With this system of disproportionate representation, a small minority of the population of the entire state exercise complete control of a large majority of our citizenship as far as our state legislature is concerned. In districts with cases of wide differences in population equally wide differences occur in estimated property evaluation. Maybe we need to have a Corpus Christi Tea Party, for isn't this Taxation without Representation?

This amendment provides that in the event the legislature shall fail to reapportion either the House of Representatives or the Senate following the publication of the United States decennial census, a legislative redistricting board created by this amendment will have the authority to reapportion the state legislature. This Board of Reapportionment is to consist of the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General, the Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office. In the event of the failure of this Board to act and to perform its duties, the amendment further provides that the Supreme Court of Texas shall have jurisdiction to compel such commission to perform its duties. Very likely this Board will never have to function, for the Legislature which has been failing to abide by the mandate of the Constitution since 1921 will reapportion the legislature rather than have the Board assume that authority. The legislature will not want to pay the penalty that this amendment will impose on their failure to comply with the mandate of the Constitution. Since the Constitution limits the membership of the Senate to 31 members and the House to 150 members, some legislators, of course, will lose their jobs.

One of the fundamental principles of a democratic form of government is equal representation of all the people in government affairs. Our state legislature is an important governing body, and all Texans should be represented equally by members of this body. Since our League is taking an active part in support of this amendment, our success will depend on *your* help and upon *your* interest.

HOW TO MARK YOUR BALLOT



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WISHES TO REMIND YOU:

TO VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 2—Help elect men and women to run your government.

KNOW THE PLATFORMS of the parties on the ballot.

KNOW THE CANDIDATES. REMEMBER THE AMENDMENTS. Amendment No. 2, the redistricting amendment deserves your support.

THE LEAGUE SUPPORTS:

A Secret Ballot for Texas. A Family Court.

DO YOUR CANDIDATES FOR THE STATE LEGISLATURE?

THE LEAGUE ALSO SUPPORTS THE UNITED NATIONS.

Does your Congressional candidate?

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS URGES CARE IN VOTING:

REMEMBER TO SCRATCH OUT all names you are AGAINST.

LEAVE WITHOUT MARK names of candidates you are FOR.

CAUTION: Ballots may be thrown out for various reasons, some of them:

If you place a check mark (x) only by the candidate's name, or

Your pencil is so heavy that it tears the ballot, or

You erase.

Eighty-seven votes were thrown out in a small precinct in Southeast Texas in the runoff primary because names of candidates were checked instead of crossing out those that were opposed.

Family Courts Skit Contest

There is to be a statewide Family Courts contest! Each League is asked to submit a 10 to 15 minute skit concerning any phase of Family Court information by January 1, 1949. The best skit will be presented at the President's Council and aired by the State Radio Committee. All skits will be passed around among the Leagues for possible use in each locality who can arrange for such radio publicity. You will hear more from your State Radio Chairman.

We can do a thorough job of this only if *YOU* the member in the League will consider this a Request for Action. Ask your news and radio editors to help build up public interest in this amendment providing for better government in Texas. More information has been sent to your local president. Here is something else that you can do. Phone five people, at least five, asking them to vote for Amendment No. 2. That is, of course, in case you are for it. Members of the League are never asked to support pieces of legislation of which they do not approve. Send five postal cards to friends out of town urging them to vote YES on Amendment No. 2. Do more if you can but this much from each one of you would really give the Amendment a boost.

—Louise Forrest Rotsch.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

October 25th, 1941

Dear Local League President;

Now is the time of the year to gather the harvest. That there may be no mental want but plenty of factual helpful food for thought stored on your five League Pantry shelves begin to gather now the printed fruit available in such a riot of colors and fine flavors.

A sort of London-fog grey, Prices and Inflation should make particular appeal to the purchasing public.

Taxes: 1942 and After, of deep golden hue, is very piquant, but up to now has not brought a sou to the State Office tills. Yet just to read the answer to question Five on page 4 is worth the price of this Quiz.

As for knowing the answers to the Americas and Defense, some League members may score high, but what about plain John Doe and Mrs. General Public? Do you want to be guilty of withholding from them the answers to The Importance of Inter-American Defense?

The State Office has had no request for this fine Quiz except from two leagues.

These three, and the five other Quizzes, Schools in Defense Areas, Strikes and the Citizen, Relief and Defense, and Civil Liberty and Democracy, all equally appetizing, should be ordered from the State Office in great quantities as a means of keeping the specters, Doubt and Delusion, away.

Sheet 2

Now also is the season for harvesting subscriptions to the National News Letter.

Rather than be without this excellent pabulum it would be better to cut down on the heavy food that over-weights us. National News Letter brings you live news with clear analyses, otherwise unobtainable.

Let this be the "Must" on your 1942 mental menu served twice a month except through August to December, when it appears monthly.

Surely all who met Miss Kirlin will feel compelled to subscribe to the National News Letter.

"Last year Texas was one of the 9 States which exceeded its quota - exceeded it by 115% - so we expect you to go and do likewise and then some this year" says our National President, Miss Well. We will not disappoint her will we?

Cordially,

Mary Esther R. Hill

Mary Esther R. Hill
(Mrs. Claude Hill)

By
MSR



TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

November 24th, 1941

Dear Local League President;

At the State Board meeting a decision to establish an information booth in a public place to stimulate the sale of Defense Bonds and Savings stamps was made.

This was done with the idea of giving new League members a timely contact with government - in other words, a satisfying experience with government.

The seven quizzes on Defense should be sold along with this urging of Defense Bond and Stamp buying. Prices and Inflation and Taxes - 1942 and After would naturally be the ones most appropriate to push the sale of at this time.

Here is an excellent opportunity to perform three definitely valuable League services: 1) To furnish an outlet for the restless member who wants to do something, 2) Advertise and explain the functions of the League, and, 3) Do our bit to help keep down inflation and give wide distribution of vital information.

Since nearly all stores and banks have these Bonds and Stamps for sale attempt to secure permission from your merchant or banker who has the best location for space for this booth.

The Board recommends the 9th of December, but choose any day or days in that week best suited to your League.

Yours for success,

Mary Esther R. Hill
Mary Esther R. Hill
(Mrs. Claude Hill)

P. S.

Under separate cover you will shortly receive a package containing "Helps to understanding aid to victims of aggression" which should give you great encouragement as a local leader, since it offers you concrete information on meeting the lags in public opinion on foreign affairs. Please send to the State office \$25 plus the postage on your package in payment for this kit, since this is a service which is extra and unbudgeted by the State. The materials in the kit are not available separately, but extra copies may be ordered.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

[REDACTED]
July 17, 1941

Dear Local League President:

After reading the sad story of how Congress reverted to nature and slipped back into the patronage puddle, you will want to do as Miss Wells wishes each League to do: "Let your Representative know that his constituents are aware of his position on the question of the merit system versus the patronage system.His position should be commended or deplored, whichever is appropriate."

In checking the House roll call to see the real position of our Texas Congressmen on the merit system, I find all running true to form except Representative Thomas. Instead of favoring the merit principle as usual, this time he voted patronage. In fact Texas had only two Representatives voting against the rider with Representative Ramspeck (there were 91 nays). The San Antonio League is the only one which can write a letter of commendation to its Representative. The Austin League's Representative, Lindon Johnson, did not return to Washington in time for this vote.

Nevertheless, I have written to Mr. Johnson, as my Representative, expressing my appreciation for his fine past record on the merit system and requesting his aid - his influence in helping us to have the rider repealed.

Please inform me of the response you receive from your Representative.

Cordially,

Mary Esther R. Hill.
Mary Esther R. Hill.
(Mrs. Claude Hill.)

(Signed by jb.)

Note: Excerpts from Miss Wells' letter of July 3rd enclosed for your information.

M.E.R.H.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Memorandum to the Board of Directors

August 5, 1943

From Novella Calvin, *state president*

Storm or no storm--probably should say-- house or no house-- I must share with you the satisfaction that comes from seeing a job well done. Mrs. Gill is doing that kind of job, as we knew she would. The Texas Leagues are responding magnificiently, as we knew they would.

Mrs. Gill met with the Dallas League and Mrs. Bradner on Thursday, July 22. Mrs. Gill has reported that the Dallas League will recruit the necessary number of individuals to reach more than their quota of the 3,000,000 people the League intends to reach. Reports from Miss Daniels assure us that the Dallas League is well on its way.

Mrs. Bradner says, "The day I spent in Dallas was good for my soul whether it helped the League or not.---anytime spent with Mrs. Gill is valuable." It was good for the League too for Mrs. Bradner is laying the foundation for a permanent League in Ft. Worth.

Miss Daniels took the mobilization plan to Midland Saturday, July 24. She says "so far as I am concerned the trip to Midland was a huge success. If the results are proportionate to my own enjoyment of the contact Isolationism is scotched in West Texas." Mrs. Fuhrman reports that Miss Daniel's visit was thoroly enjoyed and profitable to the Midland League. She reports a reorder of the Prelude to Peace Broadside -- 900 at this time. That makes 1000 for Midland. She also reports an order of 500 Choose Your Foreign Policy quizzes. Midland will be busy stimulating the people to think.

On Monday and Tuesday July 26, 27, representatives from the Austin, San Antonio, Houston, La Marque and Galveston Leagues met in Austin with Mrs. Gill. Mrs. Holbrook, President of the Austin League made arrangements for an air-conditioned meeting place, for overnight hospitality and the Austin League Board entertained the group with dinner at Mrs. Hill's home.

A report from Mrs. Scott of San Antonio is ample evidence of the success of those meetings. "Called a special board meeting this a.m. Agenda: Presentation of campaign plan, Its adoption, Groundwork for organization. Very successful and enthusiastic meeting. Voted 100% in favor-- All assumed responsibility toward organization to go forward at once. Donations of money-- I can now ask you to order 5,000 quizzes for me." 5,000 quizzes for the San Antonio League Will the larger Leagues accept the challenge as well as San Antonio has?

Friday, August 6, Mrs. Gill will meet with the Houston League.

Wednesday August 11, Mrs. Platt and Mrs. Gill will go to Port Arthur. Galveston and La Marque will be visited later.

We will continue to keep you posted!

Texas League of Women Voters

Austin, Texas
December 24, 1940

Chairman of Government and Education, Texas League of Women Voters:

As you know, this is the moment for ALL League members to rally to the cause of education in our State.

Will you, therefore, secure copies of:

- I. The recommendations of the various work committees of the Governor's Work Commission (all related to education in Texas); see that every member of your League is informed concerning them, and be prepared to take positions upon legislation which will doubtless grow out of these recommendations? (I am enclosing one copy which I obtained from the Governor's office. I do not think it is available generally yet.)
- II. A. "Teacher Retirement and Social Security in Texas" prepared by B. F. Pittenger, Dean of the School of Education, University of Texas and published by the Texas State Teachers Association. (Copies were sent to each local chairman of government and education, but I am enclosing more.)
B. The proposed bill for financing teacher retirement, study it and let your representative in the State Legislature know that you are vitally interested in properly financing ALL the State's social security programs, especially the "teacher retirement" phase of it. (Copies of this proposed bill may be had by writing to:

Mr. H. N. Stilwell, Superintendent of Schools and Chairman of Legislative Committee of the Texas State Teachers Association, Texarkana, Texas.)

Wishing each of you a merry Christmas, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mildred C. Rainey

Mildred C. Rainey
State Chairman, Government and Education,
Texas League of Women Voters

MCR:vh

YOUR VOTE DECIDES THE FUTURE

What kind of people do you want to guide our country, our state and our city during these important years?

THE BEST?

THE NEXT BEST?

THE AVERAGE?

THE MEDIOCRE?

What can you do?

DEMAND that parties back the best candidates and draft the best as candidates

WORK for the candidate you believe best

TALK to every person you meet about the importance of electing only those men to office who are capable of guiding us through the war and of building for us a good world after the war

KEEP your attention on the major problem. Don't be diverted by side issues or narrow considerations

VOTE in the primaries and ask your friends to vote.

**Help Build a Public Demand That
Cannot Be Denied**

**TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
PRIMARY ELECTION — JULY 25, 1942**



Interviewing Candidates

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

La Marque, Texas
June 16, 1942

Dear Local League Presidents:

All of you are snowed under with League musts---I know. Isn't it exhilarating to know that the League has a duty to perform in these critical times--a responsibility that no other organization in the United States is equipped to undertake?

After several days of mulling over the League's immediate Election Campaign I/ have come to these decisions. I trust they meet with your approval. After reading Miss Well's letter, of June 10th, which you have just received, and remembering a past experience of the Texas League in mailing questionnaires, also being mindful of the cost of supplies and mailing, I am delegating to the various Leagues, in whose province the assignment naturally falls, the responsibility of interviewing candidates without the preliminary step of the state mailing a questionnaire as was tentatively planned.

The first step would be to make the appointment with the candidate. I believe the next most important decision is in selecting the Interviewers. By all means select a person or persons who will remember that the interview is a League interview--not a personal one. The League is interested in the long view. We need to remember that and so avoid stumbling on issues that seem vital at the moment. Remember the League's interest is in the general welfare.

The Interviewers will be thoroughly acquainted with the content of the Questionnaire.

After the information is secured--whether you choose to have the candidate fill in his own(which I would recommend) or whether you choose to fill it in as a result of the information you obtain from the interview--mail it to the League office immediately. We will compile all the data we receive and send it to the local Leagues to be used in as many ways as your committees can devise.

You will readily realize that time is the vital factor in the success or failure of our undertaking. Please make your appointments at once, and send the information to us immediately so we will be able to mail the compiled data to the Leagues by the end of the first week in July. You will remember we tentatively planned "Information Booths" the second week in July. For proper Newspaper publicity the data needs to be in circulation for at least two weeks, three weeks would be much better.

If your League can interview any of the unassigned candidates on the enclosed list let us know at once--otherwise we will try to delegate those candidates to University Student Leaguers.

We have seven National congressional districts represented in the Texas League, Galveston and LaMarque teaming up in one. Otherwise each League will be responsible for securing interviews with all candidates for the National House of Representatives, using Congressional Questionnaires. Extra copies are available at the state office. The state office will try to have the other congressional districts covered by our U Leaguers.

You will ~~///~~ interview all candidates in your district that have filed for the state senate or the state house of representatives. Please send a copy of the answered questionnaire to the state office for our information. You will use those questionnaires in their entirety for newspaper publicity, voting information booths, candidates meetings, and in any other way your committee can devise.

Will it be possible for you to arrange interviews on the radio with the candidates?

Have any of you information as to the possibility of a state broadcast for the four ~~///////~~ candidates who have filed for the National senate?

May our efforts be rewarded with success.

Sincerely yours.

Novella Calvin

Mrs. D. Bailey Calvin

President

NC:DECJ

*Saleas has a big task here -
Wish I could be with you
for the night!*

N.C.

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

June 10, 1942

Dear State League President:

Do read a quote from a Washington State editorial entitled, "Congressional Qualifications." ~~OK/SS/FF/PP/AA/LL/EE/OO/SS/~~
It is from one of many, many clippings we receive on the League's Electing a Congress Campaign. You must count them as among the successes of that campaign which sometimes seem meager.

" The qualifications are interesting and should not be confined only to members of the congress -- in war or peacetime. They should apply to all men and women elected by the people to represent them in the highest to the lowest elective post in the land. It is a mark ('to shoot at) -- and objective to achieve. The greater our interest in the qualifications of those we place in office-- the greater our interest in the person -- the more satisfied will we be with the representation we receive. And that brings up the qualifications of a good voter. We wonder what the League thinks about that."

Note the last two sentences of that quote:

"And that brings up the Qualifications of a good voter. We wonder what the League thinks about that."

Our Service to the Public is the League's answer to that question, is it not? What a satisfaction it is that we have not only thought about that but begun doing something about it!

I wish I could include also in this letter a recent cartoon in the ST. LOUIS STAR-TIMES. It is entitled, "I serve all the U.S.A. "Why Don't You" ? It shows a soldier on the top step of the Capitol pointing toward a Congressman on the portico, asking him why he also does not serve all the U.S. The cartoon fits the League of Women Voters campaign for representatives of a calibre to serve the nation as a whole-- the public interest, not special interests.

Surely now, as in the crisis of Lincoln's time, and ideal in men's minds is potent beyond all else. Let the League implant the idea of electing men fit to represent the United States in a time of crises and we plant for posterity as well as the present. The emphasis of our campaign must be constructive, not destructive. We are one of many forces bent on electing a better Congress. A natural trend is to "smear" Congress. The effect is bad. Congress reacts, not always by rising to the occasion, but sometimes by giving back smear for smear.

You have the suggested questionnaire for candidates already in hand (sent you in March). It becomes more and more evident that generalized questions answer our purpose better than specific questions. Supplementary information for such interviews will go to you in a separate envelope.

A new idea has been suggested for getting the idea of our campaign to the public. You may have noticed that many business firms are using their contracted advertising space for general educational messages.

The critical relation between the calibre of our National representatives and the ability of this country to meet present and future problems might be a subject for advertising purposes which would appeal to many of these firms. Interviews with them would probably develop many different ways of making the point that the United States needs representatives of the highest calibre.

As reports come in from state and local Leagues, I wish to share with you some reminders of methods not to be neglected. The roll calls furnished you in March have appeared in a few papers, not many. The papers are ready and wager for them. Don't neglect that opportunity for publicity. You will know how to go about taking it.

Radio scripts on the subject, emphasizing sometimes one and sometimes another angle, are very effective. You and your local Leagues have material upon which to base them. The National League will from time to time send you appropriate radio scripts. Emphasis now should be on the significance of the primaries.

Broadsides, state, local and national, for which you already have set up ways of distribution can ring the changes on the various aspects of selecting better men to represent us.

I hope your local League boards have planned committees whose specific task is the conduct of this Congressional election campaign. Such a committee will have numerous ideas of its own. We will continue to pass on those that come to us or to report those found most generally effective.

With congratulations on what progress has been made and best hope for more.

*For committee
Kit*

Sincerely yours,

Marguerite M. Wells /s/

President

*Steps in campaign plan - Mrs. B.
Letter from Pres.*

*Roll calls
Publicity material
Radio script*

*What about your
to get out the vote?*

*State questionnaire and list of candidates
to be interviewed will follow immediately
N.C.*

Press Department
National League of Women Voters
726 Jackson Place
Washington, D. C.

FOR RELEASE Monday, April 6, 1942

As primary elections in many states draw near, the National League of Women Voters this week will launch a double-barreled campaign for capable Congressmen.

Miss Marguerite M. Wells, president, today urged League members, as individuals, "to become active and effective in all the nominating processes." While the League will adhere to its policy of not endorsing candidates, she said, it will remind voters that choice of candidates is made in primaries, and that in November that choice will have become narrowed.

At the same time voting records of Congressmen on important foreign policy measures and recurring domestic issues were sent to all state Leagues for distribution in the Congressmen's own districts.

Object of the campaign is "to see that a Congress is elected in November which is capable of dealing with the problems it will face, particularly those of post-war organization for peace."

Warning that the problems facing our representatives can only be solved by men and women of "sterling quality," Miss Wells proposed that representatives must be "of the best America affords. No man or woman is too good to be called upon for such service," she said.

The Congressional roll calls are expected to receive wide pre-primary distribution. Additional campaign ammunition also appeared today in the form of a questionnaire for Congressional nominees issued to state Leagues by National League headquarters.

"The time is ripe to point out that only the wisest and best are fit to represent the American people today," Miss Wells declared in inaugurating the campaign. "In this hour of crisis, the latent desire of the people for representatives capable of facing today's problems can be made conscious."

MRS. HOMER P. RAINEY
108 WEST TWENTY-SEVENTH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Sept. 30, 1940-

My dear Mrs. Trimble:

May I greet you and tell you how glad I am to welcome you into my "family" of education chairmen for the League of Women Voters? I only wish it were possible to do so in person.

The State Board held its first meeting in Austin last Friday and each member showed great enthusiasm for her particular work which I hope may now be "passed on" to each local League. I am sure we are going to pursue our study diligently, preparing ourselves to be more intelligent citizens' though this be perhaps the most disturbing year of our lives. If we are to preserve our cherished democracy, we shall have to set our minds as well as our hearts to the task.

Perhaps you know that the general study and concern of the National League this year is government finance and the pamphlet to be studied is "How Should Government Be Financed" by Betsy Knapp. Since the financing of education is very definitely one aspect of the whole problem of government finance, we shall in our department be looking at the subject from the angle of education and our particular study will be the pamphlet, "School

MRS. HOMER P. RAINEY
108 WEST TWENTY-SEVENTH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS

"Finance and School Districts", a copy of which I shall mail to you as soon as I receive them. I hope each League will be able to provide enough copies for each member of the interested group to have one. They are 25 cents each.

I shall have more material for you later including, I hope, data relevant to Texas in particular. As far as your local work is concerned, that must be left largely to your own group to decide upon although I have hopes of providing you with a pamphlet later which will suggest technique. Out of your study of local school problems there will doubtless emerge projects for their improvement. This is highly desirable.

May I offer these suggestions as to method?

1. Do your study yourselves — with no outside speakers.
2. Ask for the privilege of presenting short, concise reports at each general meeting of the League. This stimulates the group and gives the League advantage of the study of your particular group.
3. If possible, have one meeting during the year at which the education group may present a résumé of its work.

I suggest that you organize your group immediately

MRS. HOMER P. RAINEY
108 WEST TWENTY-SEVENTH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS

so that when materials arrive there will be no further delay.

I am looking forward to our work together this year. May we all, when it is over, feel a real sense of achievement. I shall desire full reports upon the work that each Department of government and education is doing so that we all may get the feeling of a "job well done".

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

Willard C. Rainey

Texas State Chairman of Government and Education,
League of Women Voters.

Answered
Oct 23, 1940

Revision of elec. laws, incl. Secret ballot

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
21st And Avenue G
Galveston, Texas

August 13, 1943

Dear League President:

You will be interested to know what has been done on the state level looking toward revisions of the Texas election laws.

Mrs. Strong and I have had interviews with Dr. Weeks of the University and State Attorney General Mann. Later, Mesdames Strong, Gill, Allrich, Platt, McCluskey and I had an interview ~~with~~ with Governor Stevenson.

Attorney ~~General~~ General Mann gave us courage to do more than we have ever done before by telling us how gratifying to him it is to know that one organized group in Texas is tackling governmental ~~problems~~ problems in the interest of the people. Mr. Mann will serve on our State Advisory Committee.

Governor Stevenson lead us to believe he would lend his support to secure revisions of the election laws. He suggested that we ask Mr. Mann to assign some one in his office to check the laws for conflicts, etc. Mr. Mann had previously volunteered that service from his office.

Dr. Weeks will collaborate with Mr. Mann in writing the revisions bill. Dr. Weeks is expecting us to send him hundreds of sheets of findings re revisions abuses observed under present laws and suggested improvements. Both Dr. Weeks and Mr. Mann believe the ground work we are doing will help them in the work they have agreed to do.

You were asked to return the questionnaire sheets by September 1. Unless all sheets sent to you are returned, we will have lost an opportunity to assist the professionals whom we have enlisted to give us a hand. We might discouraged them to the point of disbelieving in us.

Sincerely yours,

Fasella Calvin

Mrs. D. Bailey Calvin
President

Summers, 1943

A REVISION OF TEXAS ELECTION LAWS --INCLUDING A SECRET BALLOT

Name of Local League

Name of Interviewer:

Name of Person Interviewed:

Position of the person interviewed:

His experience with Election Laws:

What suggestions for improvements did he make?

What abuses, in his opinion, exist under present laws?

Did you leave an idea of the urgency and need of world cooperation with the person interviewed?

Please return this sheet to State League Office.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
21st and Ave. C
Galveston, Texas



1941-1942

SUPPORT

- I. Administrative organization of our state government to promote efficiency, responsibility, and economy.
- II. A merit system for Texas.
- III. Measures which increase attendance in the public schools.

- I. Abolition of the poll-tax as a prerequisite for voting.
- II. How should government be financed.
- III. Report of the Governor's Educational Commission and questions raised by it.
- IV. Statutory guarantee of rights to bargain collectively.

- I. Jury service for women.
- II. Strengthening of the State Child Labor Law.
- III. A secret ballot. *No real study necessary -*
- IV. Teacher retirement bill. *Passed but needs water*
- V. Adequate appropriation for the Public Welfare Department.

National "Must"

Taxation

Taxation & Defense

Abolition of Poll Tax - 3 meetings

Civil Liberties & Defense - 1 open meeting

Merit System

Legislative
Fed & State
State
Federal
& State

Social Welfare

Relief & Defense - 6 meetings

Economic Welfare

Collective Bargaining - 11 meetings

Living Costs & Defense - 4 "

Defense Housing - 1 open "

- federal

federal
fed & state

federal

Education

1. appointment state supt. & county supts.

2. regulation of certification

3. enlarged administrative units

state

Foreign Policy

1. Strike Neutrality Act

2. Econ. defense of Latin America

3. naval outpost

4. Atlantic Charter

CONTINUED SUPPORT

Fed.

Fed

"

(R)

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

1209½ MAIN STREET

DALLAS 2, TEXAS



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters
June 26, 1945

Dear President:

The Texas State Council, a wartime convention with limited representation met to review another year of League History and to plan the work of the year to come.

Delegates from the eleven local Leagues, twelve members of the State Board, and visitors from Austin, Dallas and Fort Worth met in work sessions and discussed the problems of program, techniques, organization and finance as related to the purpose of the League of Women Voters.

In discussion of National, State and Local problems, the council was ever mindful that the coming year is not like any that we have ever faced -- that our hardest time lies ahead, that the Texas League must further streamline its organization for the tremendously important task that faces it in the coming year.

Every delegate was impressed with the immediate task which lies ahead -- that of getting the San Francisco Plans for International Peace Organization accepted by Congress.

Conclusive evidence of the work done in the state the past year was given in the reports of local leagues activities which aroused whole communities to an awareness of the importance of the Dumbarton Oaks Plan.

Every League in Texas has participated in this campaign, using broadsides, memoranda, discussion outlines and Tools and Techniques prepared in the National office. This campaign has furnished a good basis for evaluating the importance of the services rendered by the National League.

Leagues who have put forth a concentrated effort in the campaign have found it has been effectual in increasing membership stimulating public interest and enlisting support as well as creating informed opinion within the League membership and without.

June 26, 1945

The State program of work adopted is a continuation of activities to secure a Secret Ballot for Texas. A report on state legislation will come to you from Mrs. Kilman the legislative chairman.

A budget, somewhat reduced from the proposed budget, was adopted.

A recommendation came from the council for organization of more leagues and increased membership for 1945.

Very truly yours,

A. L. G.

Mrs. G.H. Gill, Pres.
Texas League of Women Voters,
LaMarque, Texas.

ghg/v

Betty Ann: I know you helped
the 49 delegates sign the Charter
yesterday. I really feel as though
you will bring back first hand
info and some good stories.
A. L.

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

1946-1947

Mrs. Martin A. Row.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. Ed Kilman.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. Wm. Brockhausen.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. Raymond Gregory.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. David B. Trammell.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. Elwood Street... [REDACTED] I, [REDACTED]

Mrs. Chapin Marcus.... [REDACTED]

Miss Sarah Daniels... [REDACTED]

Mrs. G. H. Gill.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. Victor Rogers.... [REDACTED]

Mrs. L. L. Adkins.... [REDACTED]



██████████
April 3, 1941.

Dear Local League President:

Perhaps, because my motive is irreproachable, I shall not be considered ill-mannered or partial if I single out the Galveston League as exemplifying "Wise planning". (Other Leagues probably planned as well as Galveston but were not as successful in the execution of their plans.) The Galveston League evidently acted upon a suggestion made at the first meeting of the State Board last May i.e., election of its officers early enough in March to make arrangements for both the old and the new local presidents to attend the State Convention. Both Galveston and the State benefited greatly by this I believe. Just how much help, or how much clearer a view of the League as a whole, a local president, a departmental chairman, or a member can obtain from attending a state convention can be appreciated and understood only by those who actually attend. Bringing home convention reports is like serving a plum pudding cold; plumless and sauceless!

Well, the San Antonio Convention was a great success nevertheless, and had the best representation in years. We had great fun together just as I knew we would with Mrs. Gellhorn present to practice her magic: to make problems disappear and fun appear and re-appear! Mrs. Gellhorn and the San Antonio League deserve and have our undying gratitude.

Undying gratitude is also due our faithful and over worked secretary, Miss Florence Stullken. Miss Stullken's services to the State League this past year cannot be over estimated for she often did the work of ten without a complaint. That she has been compelled to resign due to unforeseen family obligations is a source of regret to her and a full-sized disaster to the Texas League.

Plans are underway for copies of the Budget and the Program of Work for 1941-42 to be sent to each member directly - perhaps included in or with each issue of the Spring Lone Star Voter.

You who attended the San Antonio Convention remember how often Mrs. Gellhorn stressed the fact that Mrs. Wright, National Chairman of Government and Foreign Policy and Mrs. Johnstone, National Program Secretary wanted all leagues to make a tremendous use of the Foreign Policy Quiz. Mrs. Gellhorn and I are both betting on Texas Leagues to do their best job on getting every voter to know "What Every Voter Should Know About Foreign Policy". Try to have a big meeting open to the public with every league member present and each bringing several guests. You can have a panel to discuss the subjects of the Quiz if you wish, but be sure to have sufficient copies of the Quiz to sell to all those who desire them.

A recent letter from Miss Marguerite Wells, National President of the League of Women Voters convinces me that the time is at hand when new boards, new members and old uninformed members should be given a chance to understand clearly the League's own program and procedure. Therefore, it is imperative that each local league president should furnish an opportunity for careful study of two pamphlets obtainable from National Headquarters: The ten cent one "Know Your League" and the fifteen cent one "A Portrait of the League of Women Voters". These two pamphlets explain the League as a whole and should be read and re-read until you as local president can say even to new members: "Ignorance of the League is no excuse". Here, take these two pamphlets make them yours so that they will be to you as league members what the multiplication tables are to school children".

As rapidly as your membership absorbs and thoroughly understands league procedure just so quickly will the League throughout the country be prepared to meet what lies ahead in these times of stress and strain. I suggest that the member in your league who understands league setup and the functions of the League as a whole be the person to conduct a study of "Know Your League", for your local board first any your members next.

I extend a hearty welcome to the local presidents that are new and a challenge to both new and old alike to make this year we are just entering upon one of intelligent co-operation.

Write me if you wish help of any kind.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary Esther R. Hill
Mary Esther R. Hill,
(Mrs. Claude Hill)

(Signed by jlb)

IS YOUR 1945 MEMBERSHIP LIST IN THE STATE OFFICE?

8/7/45

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters

August 7, 1945

MEMO

To: League Presidents

From: Annie Laurie Gill

Attached is a report of the State Treasurer as of August 1, one-third of the League fiscal year. Will you please present it at your board meeting, noting expenditures in regard to the adopted budget. The small figures spent on League Promotion is most deplorable. Some of the item must be kept in tact for the organization of new Leagues, but the greater part should be spent in service to the Locals. The state League is ready to give you any service, the item set by you at Council is yours, please spend it.

®

87/45

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

APRIL 1 to AUGUST 1, 1945

INCOME

Local League Pledges:

Austin	\$192.00
Dallas	300.00
Galveston	100.00
Houston	168.00
LaMarque	40.00
Port Arthur	25.00
San Antonio	25.00
Tarrant County	25.00
Midland	75.00

\$ 950.00

Members at Large:

2.00

Miscellaneous:

Donations	1.00
Council Surplus	34.00

35.00

Sale of Nat'l. Publications

60.95

Total

\$1047.95

EXPENDITURES

National League Pledge:

\$ 215.00

General Administration:

Rent	\$ 17.50
Supplies	29.75
Printing & mimeo.	3.51
Postage	27.98
Telephone & telegraph	60.18
Legislation (Secret Ballot)	300.00
*Board Meetings	199.30
Pres. & Delegates Trav.	
(Nat'l. Convention)	300.00
Finance	23.37
League Promotion	4.16
Nat'l. Publications	118.11
Clerical help	50.00
Misc. Exp. State Office	10.31

\$ 1144.17

\$ 1359.17

SUMMARY

Balance on hand April 1, 1945

\$377.98

Receipts

1047.95

\$1425.93

Expenditures:

1359.17

Balance on hand Aug 1, 1945

\$ 66.76

Note: There is due from the Local Leagues on Publications purchased but not paid for \$49.80

* Board Meeting Houston, May 11th,
Board Meeting Ft. Worth, June 12

\$37.42
161.88

\$199.30

Mrs. E.N. Capplemen,
TREASURER.

C
O
P
Y
NATIONAL LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Washington 6, D.C.

August 13, 1945

Mrs. G.H. Gill, President
Texas League of Women Voters,
LaMarque, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Gill:

In the National office, we are beginning to make plans for a round of early fall field visits. In response to numerous requests which have come from state Leagues from time to time, we are setting up a pattern for leadership training courses to be followed as closely as possible in this series of visits. The plan is to have a National Board or staff member hold leadership training conferences for local Board members along the following tentative plans:

It is hoped that a number of discussion courses on leadership needs can be held in each state, the number to depend, of course, on the number of local Leagues to be covered. It is most sincerely hoped that every local League in Texas will have representatives at one of the leadership training courses.

It is planned to hold the meetings using the discussion method as used in groups throughout the League during the past year. The attendance at each meeting should therefore be kept small enough so that all have ample opportunity to take part in the discussion. The groups should also be inclusive of members of enough different local Leagues so that a variety of problems will come up for discussion at any one series of meetings.

The purpose of these courses is to assist local League leaders in meeting the problems of their Leagues, to discuss individual problems when they are apt to be of benefit to the group as a whole, and by having full and free discussion to give local League leaders a background of League policy and the League methods of approaching a problem which will assist them in their own work. In order to accomplish these objectives, we suggest that groups be limited to 25 or 30 persons, that they include five or six representatives of each local League, and that these representatives should be either Board members or potential Board material from among the membership of the local league.

It has been suggested also that each course be a day and a half to two days in length, and we hope that, in so far as is possible, the members attending each course plan to attend the entire groups of sessions which will make up the courses.

We are planning several tools for the use of persons taking this course. "Twenty-five Years of the League" and "Twenty-five Years of League Program" are now in the process of preparation. "Tips on Reaching the Public" will be one tool of great value. The "League Leader's Handbook", it is expected, will be ready for use in these courses.

8/3/45

We should like to plan to send one staff member on an extended visit which will take in Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. We should like to have the visits made starting possibly with Louisiana about mid-September and reaching Arkansas toward the end of October. Will you please notify us if your state can receive such a visitor at the time indicated.

It would mean that we would plan to have the first visit to a group of local Leagues in Texas on about September 30 and follow with other visits over a ten day to two week period. It would be possible at this time also to discuss with you plans for new organization.

Sincerely yours,

JEANNE BLYTHE
Ass't. Organization Secretary.

®

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR

1945 - 1946

President	Mrs. G.H. Gill
1st Vice Pres.	Mrs. J.W. Bradner, Jr.
2nd Vice Pres.	Mrs. Fred P. Dodge
3rd Vice Pres.	Mrs. Wm. Brockhausen
Secretary	Mrs. L.L. Adkins
Treasurer	Mrs. E.N. Cappleman
Directors	Miss Sarah Daniels
	Mrs. John K. Meadows
	Mrs. Glee Munro
	Mrs. Elwood Street
	Mrs. Ed Kilman
Finance Chrm.	Mrs. Raymond Gregory
Legislative Chrm.	Mrs. Victor W. Rogers
	Mrs. Donald Strong

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

*Ordered
1000
Dodgers
for sales*

May 29, 1941

Dear Local League President:

Here at last is the clearly defined type of aid you and I have been anticipating for several days. It is a compilation of splendid suggestions the National Staff, board members at state convention, and state presidents here and there have evolved.

After you have read it over carefully, you will see that there is new material available and I want to know right away how much your League will wish me to order.

There is a revised edition of The Battle of Production. Quoting from Miss Wells' letter of May 23: "It is revised to bring it up to date and in a few particulars to attract the public outside the League of Women Voters. The first edition of 15,000 is already sold out."

Also, there are dodgers which will be very useful. I want to get in an order for Texas Leagues right away for this new material. When the State Office buys at quantity rates it can save you money. It is our intention to supply you with all material at cost price plus mailing expense. The dodgers are to be 50% per hundred. "Dodgers will be available May 29 and the price will depend upon the quantity used.-----\$3.50 per thousand, \$2.00 per five hundred, 50% per hundred."

The copies you received at the State Board meeting are to be paid for on the basis of 7% per copy by check to Texas League of Women Voters in care of state treasurer, Mrs. Burton McCollum, 2949 Chevy Chase, Houston. Your order for new material will come to State Office, but you later pay by check for same after you have made your sales, to the state treasurer.

If you do not care to decide alone about the quantities you need of the new edition of The Battle of Production and the dodgers, I suggest that you use the telephone to confer with your executive committee, as the speediest way to obtain advice in business which demands immediate attention.

Let me know at once the number of copies of the New edition of The Battle of Production and of the dodgers.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Esther R. Hill
Mary Esther R. Hill.
(Mrs. Claude Hill.)

(Signed by j.b.)

Texas League of Women Voters

Mrs. Hill told about Lubbock's not being ready to begin its coveted local league until later.

6. Revision of by-laws: Mrs. Jessup presented changes in the present state constitution and by-laws that had been suggested by the various members. These were gone over at the meeting; other suggestions were made; and Mrs. Jessup was instructed to mail copies of the revised form to all local leagues for study. The revised form will be presented at the convention for further action.
7. Bulletin: It was moved by Mrs. Newell that the spring issue should appear AFTER the convention. The board decided that if Dr. Hester were to write an article on Government Reorganization for the Bulletin, that this article should be prefaced by an explanation by a board member giving the League's viewpoint.
8. Mrs. Josephine Daniel was named the new State Legislative Committee Chairman. She is to work under the direction of the State President, who in turn sends out information to the local presidents. A motion was made and passed that the decision for the call to action on any specific bill which comes within the League's program of work is to be determined by the president, the legislative chairman, and the chairman of the department under which it comes, with the help of as many experts as are available. For instance, this committee is to sponsor ratification of the child labor amendment in both Houses (Miss Yates, state chairman of Social Welfare, is the other member); Teacher Retirement Bill (with Mrs. Rainey, state chairman of Education, to help them); another bill of the "permissive" type is one to sponsor the establishment of a graduate school of social work at the University of Texas; other legislation which will call for help from Miss Yates--appropriations for aid to dependent children and aid to the blind; and getting better bills for corrective and strengthening probation and parole in Texas.

It was moved by Mrs. Fowler and seconded by Mrs. McCollum that the board should go on record as recommending that a secret ballot for Texas similar to that of Pennsylvania be substituted for the expensive voting machines. Also, recommend that a special legislative committee be named immediately to work out plans for securing a secret ballot during this session of the legislature. CARRIED. The following committee was appointed: Mrs. Fowler (chairman), Mrs. Coltzer, and Mrs. Jessup.

Letters from Miss Wells about Increasing League Membership were read to the board.

Discussion of FINANCE was postponed because Mrs. Gellhorn is to be in the state for the convention and to help local leagues in planning a finance program.

The board deemed itself financially unable to send a delegate to the Finance Conference in St. Louis on February 14 to which state presidents and state finance chairmen are being invited. Instead, Mrs. Newell suggested that we concentrate on sending delegates to the General Council in Washington on May 7 and May 9.

Convention plans were made:

Time--March 21 and March 22.

Place--Since no one from San Antonio was present and it was the desire of the board that San Antonio should invite the convention because of the good it would derive from such an undertaking, the decision as to place was deferred. Austin invited the convention if San Antonio could not have it. Mrs. Newell and the president were to ascertain the wishes of San Antonio in regard to this.

Texas League of Women Voters

NOTE: San Antonio has invited the convention.

Theme--To stimulate growth of the league in our state through finance and sound development.

Finance--A registration fee of 50 cents is to be charged at the convention to defray expenses.

Mrs. Rainey presented a request from the Texas Committee on the Cause and Cure of War that we participate in the conference to be held in San Antonio in February. It was decided that we could not participate as a league but that members were urged to participate as individuals. The board asked Mrs. Rainey to convey this message to the committee and to express our appreciation of the invitation.

At the luncheon held in the Queen Anne Room of the Union Building, Miss Gwen Geach, of Washington, from the U. S. Department of Labor, spoke on the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment and a State Child Labor law. She then led a general discussion during the greater part of the meal. Then Miss Daisy Sandidge told us how she could and would undertake the writing of a Voters Handbook for Texas and for the league without any charge. It was agreed that this Handbook would furnish an excellent means of raising the prestige of the State League in Texas.

The Board adjourned to meet on the morning of March 21.

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

ANNUAL CONVENTION

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

UNCONCERN IS OUR CONCERN

June 9 - 10, 1943
Texas State Hotel
Houston, Texas



RECEIVED

THE

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

Resolution & Contingency
Hollbrook
Suzanne Gileston



OFFICIAL PROGRAM

Texas State Hotel

June 9 - 10, 1943

Houston, Texas

Wednesday, June 9

1:00 P. M.	Registration
to	
2:00 P. M.	
2:00 P. M.	New Techniques for New Objectives
to	
5:30 P. M.	Presentation of Budget
	Call of Pledges
	Proposed program of Work
	By-law Revision
7:30 P. M.	Dinner
	Otis Massey, Mayor of Houston
	Rev. John C. Petrie,
	"Citizen's Responsibility For
	a Durable Peace"

Thursday, June 10

9:30 A. M.	Treasurer's Report
to	
12:30 P. M.	Adoption of Budget
	Adoption of Program of Work
	Pre-view of 1945 Secret Ballot
	Campaign
	Unfinished Business
	Adjournment

HOSTESS COMMITTEE

General Arrangements.....Mrs. Harmon Ullrich
Registration.....Mrs. L. L. Adkins
 Mrs. James E. Grant
Hotel Reservations.....Miss Lydia Wink
Hospitality.....Mrs. A. S. Bailey
 Mrs. Marshall Ferguson
 Miss Nina Cullinan
 Mrs. Roginald Platt
Dinner.....Mrs. T. J. Kegg
 Mrs. C. L. Griffin

STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....Mrs. D. Bailey Calvin, [REDACTED]
1st V. P.....Mrs. Joseph B. Perry, [REDACTED]
2nd V. P.....Mrs. Alfred Taylor, [REDACTED] *Platt & Houston*
3rd V. P.....Mrs. James W. Bradner, Jr., [REDACTED]
Secretary.....Mrs. J. H. McCullough, Jr., [REDACTED]
Treasurer.....Mrs. Burton McCollum, [REDACTED]
Directors.....Mrs. Claud Hill, [REDACTED]
 Mrs. Fred P. Dodge, [REDACTED]
 Miss Sarah Daniels, [REDACTED]
Mrs. Samuel Starnes - Austin
" Gull - La Marque

LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

Austin.....Mrs. Thomas J. Holbrook, [REDACTED]
Dallas.....Miss Sarah Daniels, [REDACTED]
Galveston.....Mrs. Raymond Gregory, [REDACTED]
Houston.....Mrs. Harmon Ullrich, [REDACTED]
La Marque.....Mrs. E. N. Cappleman, [REDACTED]
Midland.....Mrs. F. H. Fuhrman, [REDACTED]
Port Arthur...Mrs. Fred P. Dodge, [REDACTED]
San Antonio...Mrs. Geo. H. Smith, [REDACTED]

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ANNUAL REPORT.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Summary Budget Report for year ended March 31, 1944.

INCOME

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Local League Pledges:		
Austin	\$400.00	\$400.00
Dallas County	300.00	350.00
Galveston	350.00	350.00
Houston	500.00	500.00
La Marque	125.00	125.00
Midland	40.00	40.00
Port Arthur	100.00	100.00
San Antonio	100.00	100.00
Campus - State University	10.00	10.00
	<u>\$1925.00</u>	<u>\$1975.00</u>
State Memberships	10.00	13.00
Voters Handbook	100.00	101.60
State Convention	25.00	5.00
New Leagues	60.00	40.00
	<u>\$2120.00</u>	<u>\$2134.60</u>
Balance on Hand April 1, 1943	305.41	
	<u>\$2425.41</u>	

EXPENDITURES

National League Pledge	\$700.00	\$700.00
General Administration:		
Rent	120.00	45.00
Supplies	150.00	78.78
Printing & Mimeographing	25.00	
Postage	100.00	85.37
Telephone & Telegraph	60.00	49.30
Board Meetings - Transportation	135.00	134.21
Legislation	25.00	22.14
President's Travel - National Council	100.00	100.00
Delegates' " " " "	100.00	100.00
Finance	20.00	19.65
Miscellaneous	5.00	
Direct Services to Local Leagues:		
League Promotion Travel	240.00	159.24
Local Presidents Council	80.00	78.94
National Publications	50.00 *	30.00 *
State Bulletin - "Lone Star Voter"	165.00	35.85
Clerical Help	225.41	150.35
Voters Handbook	100.00	99.45
State Convention	25.00	
	<u>\$2425.41</u>	<u>\$1888.28</u>
Total		

SUMMARY

Total Income	\$2134.60
Balance on hand April 1, 1943	305.41
	<u>\$2440.01</u>
Total Expenditures	1888.28
Balance on hand April 1, 1944	<u>\$ 551.73</u>

Local League Pledges realized	100. percent
Estimated Income realized	100.68 percent
Estimated Expenditures expended	77.85 percent

* National Publications purchased	\$ 177.17
National Publications sold	<u>147.17</u>
Cost to State	\$ 30.00

Bills payable	none
Bills receivable:	\$6.00
San Antonio League for publications	\$4.50
Galveston " " "	.50
Dallas County " " "	1.00
Assets - Cash balance and approximately 450 Voters Handbooks.	
Printers bill for Handbooks is paid in full.	

Jessie C. McCallum
Treasurer.

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Admin

August 20, 1945

To: President's
From: Annie Laurie Gill

I am sending you a copy of a letter from Miss Blythe, Assistant Organization Secretary. The State Board will decide in the next few days how we can best use this offered service.

Until we can give you more definite plans will you discuss the possibility of five or six people from your League meeting with members of other Leagues? (Maybe one of the five or six will have tires.)

®

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters

September 25, 1945

Dear President:

The Regional meetings with Miss Blythe are finally definite and we can plan accordingly. The factors considered in arriving at the schedule have been many -- even the possibility of no gasoline had to be considered. This is the letter of explanation which I received from Miss Blythe yesterday --

"As you know members of the National Board and staff who are to make the field visits of which I have written several letters recently met in Washington last week to make final plans for these visits. The leadership institute which I outlined in my letter of August 13th shapes up now into a series of four meetings, of which each should be about 2 to 2½ hours in length.

At two of these sessions the group discusses what they want the League to be and to do, the services which members expect from the League and the services that local leagues expect from state and national. During the course of these two meetings there is a general exploration of League program, background and procedure. At two other sessions the group is set up as a board and discusses board planning and board responsibility.

As the plan has worked out for the institutes it seems best to have two leaders, one of whom is particularly familiar with the state visited. For that reason I asked in the telegram if you can accompany me on the trip."

Since many local Leagues will not have items on their local budgets to take care of these meetings the State League will pay for gasoline and oil for one car. To assure good representation the local Leagues should assume the expenses incurred by the delegates. Schedule and place of meetings will be sent to you as soon as arranged. If date of meetings arranged for your area is not satisfactory and if you feel the nature of the institute will not answer the needs of your League please let us know. Miss Blythe's schedule is a heavy one and a full one and I can offer no substitute dates but could possibly include your league in another institute,

Sincerely,

a. L. G.
Mrs. G.H. Gill, President,
Texas League of Women Voters.

ghg/v

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters

September 25, 1945

Mrs. Martin A. Row,
4234 McFarlin Blvd.,
Dallas 5, Texas.

Dear Betty Ann:

Miss Jeanne Blythe, Assistant Organization Secretary of the National League of Women Voters and Mrs. J.W. Bradner, State Organization Chairman ~~will~~ ^{are} be in Dallas October 18 - 19, to meet with the Dallas League Board and the Tarrant County League Board.

We have just received the information, in the State Office, as to the date of Miss Blythe's arrival and the time she could spend in the State of Texas; since there is so little time to arrange for her visit we have tried to make the best schedule possible using her to the best advantage in all leagues giving special consideration to weak Leagues and the possibility of a new League in Corpus Christi.

Since the meeting in Dallas will be small, with only two Leagues participating, it will be possible for you to include members other than board members, keeping them in mind as potential leaders.

Can you arrange for meeting places for the institutes in Dallas? The opening meeting to begin at ~~10 a.m.~~ 2:30 P.M. Miss Blythe will be in Dallas on the 20th and could be used by the Dallas League. Possibly her day could be shared with the Ft. Worth League.

I think the nature of this visit indicates that the National League is sending us help in organization work, League procedure and League background with change in technique to meet the changing Trends of the time which I feel is very much needed in the Texas League.

May I hear from you as soon as possible in regard to a meeting place and as to approximately how many Dallas Leaguers will attend.

Very truly yours,

Anne Louise Gill
Mrs. G.H. Gill, President,
Texas League of Women Voters,
LaMarque, Texas.

ghg/v

TARRANT COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

October 29, 1945

Alvin

Mrs. Martin Rowe, President
Dallas County League of Women Voters,
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Rowe:

Would I seem presumptuous in sending you a copy of the notes which I took at the recent meeting with Miss Blyth, National Representative, while she was in Dallas?

Indeed, it is always a pleasure to be with Dallas Leaguers, for they are all so very thoughtful and gracious. We continuously hold you up to ourselves, in the hope that it will not be too long before we reach the effective stage too.

With very good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. David B. Trammell

President

TARRANT COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Encl.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

of

REGIONAL MEETING WITH MISS JEANNE BLYTH, DALLAS, OCTOBER 18-19, 1945

**

Thursday, October 18th,

10:00 a. m.

**

60,000 League members in the United States; 525 local leagues; New York City has 2600 members

Members should become deputy tax collectors in Texas campaigns; booths should be placed in stores re "How much would be in your local pockets if O. P. A. did not exist?"

Object of the League "shall be political education of the citizen through active participation".

Interview officials re their aims, etc. Ask state help. Read and discuss answers to questions before your meeting. Ask question of candidates on League program. Get out folders on how the duties of the particular office should be discharged; must be planned long ahead. Give out literature from booths in stores. Have candidates at a meeting. Get active Professional Womens Clubs to hold discussion on League program; sometimes bring speakers; some local groups have round-table discussions. Take action frequently as a group and write individual letters. The League itself should always respond to a call for action.

Selling prospects to League membership: Go to clubs with civic committees; go to your friends (which is stronger); think up stunts; ask them to join because: we can make ourselves more effective

- " " create common understanding of tolerance and good will
- " " learn by doing (League philosophy)
- " " have a chance to work
- " " get information on specific subjects
- " " " printed material on program items
- " " " a certain amount of guidance
- " " write our own opinions on subjects

A member owes to her organization:

Some interest

Advice on the place in which she can function

Help to get literature out to individuals

Train herself in League qualities

She should get and read League material

Pending League legislation should be reviewed at each meeting

Support the League program

she has, as a member, assumed the policy of the league

When she speaks as a leaguer, she must speak only from the league point of view; when she differs with that point of view, she should try to present the league stand so that it will be clear

***** 2:00-18th *****

National platform and National list must be revised now in order to prepare for the spring convention. Timetable: program is set up from the local league requests, the national board making up then a proposed program of work, and then resubmitting it to the states, which send it on to the locals. The results are sent to the national board for revision, and then presented to the convention. This year's convention is April 29th, probably in St. Louis. Items were submitted October 29th. Local league suggestions should be in the state office by the 24th for the state board meeting. Subsequent suggestions must be in the National office before April 8th.

Methods of arriving at the program: This is divided into two parts: The platform - a statement of league principles drawn from our experience of twenty five years. These are either matters on which the league has worked from time to time and has come to a definite conclusion, or matters relative to actual subjects on which the League has worked and on which it has set up standards. The Platform may be changed, but it is much more permanent than the Active List. Any item on the Active List may be moved to the Platform if it seems to be of permanent importance.

Active List is a list or series of statements on problems of government to which the League expects to direct the greater part of its attention during the next few years. The agreed program should be short but important.

***** 10:00-19th *****

State Boards:

We expect a big pledge
We expect they will work on legislative measures
We " it to coordinate the program and give guidance to the local leagues on that program
" " guidance on local league programs based on other items
" " and hope for field service
" " guidance in organization problems
" " a written bulletin and other information coordinating work between local leagues when call for action comes from national

Methods we use in answering a call for action: state leagues should know what response was made by the local leagues.

What does the local league owe the state league?

- Should advise the state league what it is doing
- Suggestions in regard to carrying out program at the state level
- Information on the needs the the local community

How is the State program of work arrived at? (Texas: by the State Board). Reply: we want either no state organization or a more effective one.

State League could do: organization of new leagues; coordinate all legislative work; give stimulus to local leagues on legislative work.

The local member by and large is not conscious of the state league and its work.

***** 2:00 - 19th *****

National responsibility to local leagues:

- Implement the program (tell what is going on in Congress)
- Send out a gossip-column

Miss Blyth: The National office works with the Congress; National officers have appeared before Congress on reorganization of the Congress; two-thirds treaty; reorganization of the Houses; United Nations Organization; Equal Rights; see the Congressmen individually. The Congressional Secretary's job is to know what is going on in Congress, so that the local and state leagues can do the "lobbying" job. The National league gives information on the bills in which we are interested.

We want from National:

- Information re legislative pressure
- Direction as to carrying out the program
- Report as a result of the hearings
- A Congressional record
- What is National's opinion
- Interpretation of a bill as to whether it actually meets the standards of the League
- Some advance notice of type of material coming out

Local League's responsibility to the National League:

- Support of the Active List
- Obligated to some support on all items on which support is asked.
- To do a selling job
- Keep up the Membership lists
- Comments and criticism on the publications that go out

PLANING FOR A LOCAL LEAGUE PROJECT

Go into a project for the good of the League
Have study group on County Government
Find out what organization is particularly interested
in this project: juvenile delinquency, etc.
Is this a League job?
Is this League equipped to do this job?
Make a survey

Would it be wiser to keep your local members informed regarding this survey, and such other suggestions? How are we going to equip this League to do this job? (By getting surveys from other cities, and learning how they cope with this particular problem)

How would you familiarize your members with this material? (Through study groups; summarize information and send to the member) How long would it take to make this study before your League would be equipped to start to work? (six months, meeting once a month; maybe four; then tell members what to do)

Survey should be made of the courts, and other such set-ups.

Do you want to go beyond your members? Yes

How will you decide what you want to do after you inform your members? Study groups, to list some of the things which have been done, and to find out what precedent had been set and had been done in other cities. Take the findings and ask for specific dates on radio programs, etc. to build up public opinion.

It will take ten or fifteen to do the work: write letters, window displays, speakers' bureau, using league members and go to outside meetings; radio programs; door-bell ringing; a poll on street corners, mimeograph material for sale.

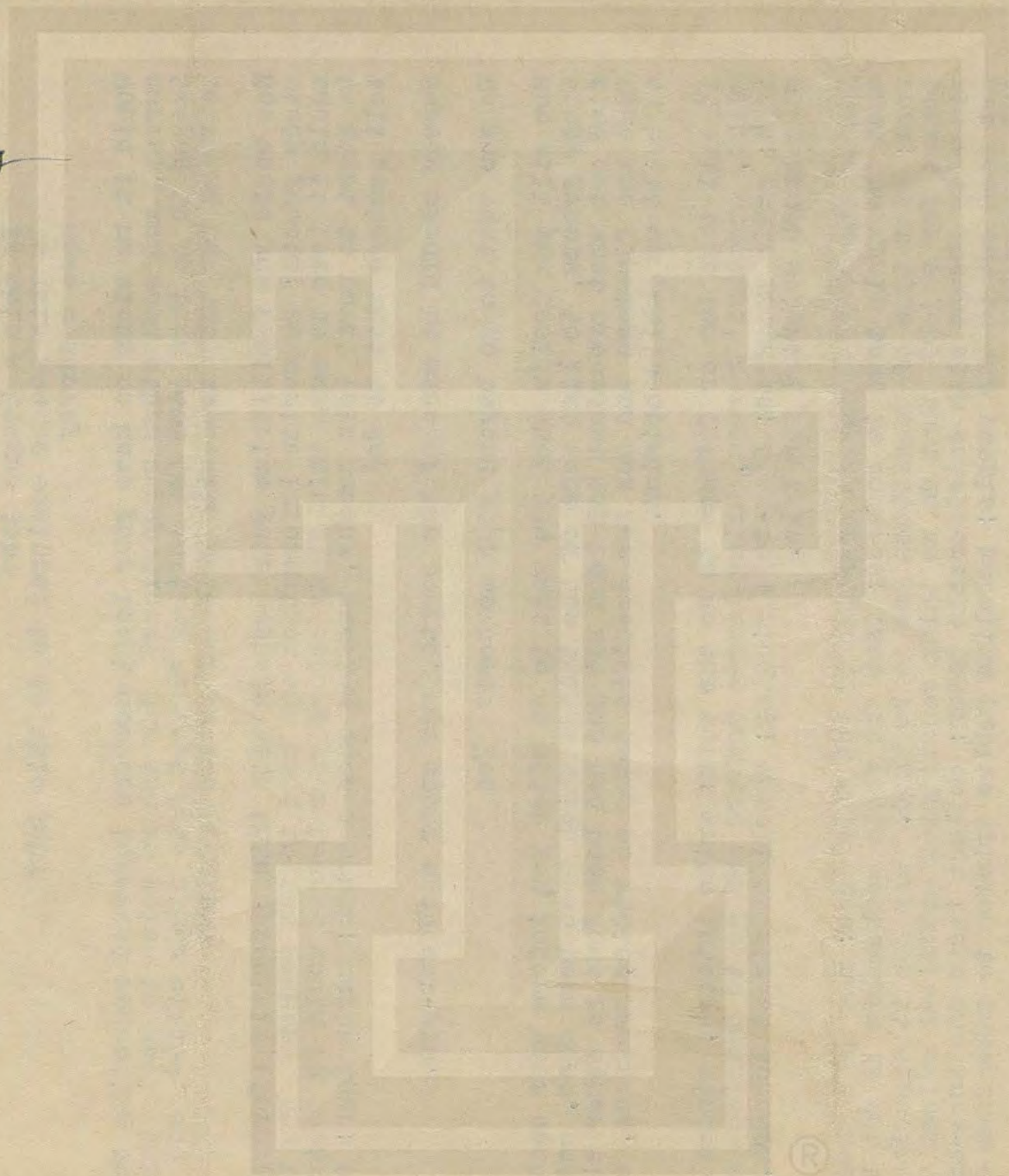
How is the board going to organize to get this done; how do we see that the whole town is covered; that the whole membership is put to work; what type of committees are to be used. how can it organize the League for a job? What do we think constitutes political effectiveness? minority groups with considerable power; collect facts and know-how to get them out to the people; mobilize public opinion to make them effective, newspaper?

How can we demonstrate our political effectiveness? working for a city manager form of government; buy bonds, taxes, vote for school board campaign, go to precinct conventions; look into school situation, is there discrimination?

We should congratulate our public officials for a good job well done.

1

Mrs Leahy



1945

PUBLIC INDIFFERENCE IS DANGEROUS

The price for victory, peace, democracy is individual citizenship responsibility. Never before has democracy's opportunity been so great. Never before has the citizen's responsibility been so real. On August 25, 1945 citizens of Texas will vote on four Constitutional Amendments. All of them are important in that they propose changes in our organic law, and will have a direct bearing on future taxation. They deserve the serious consideration of every citizen.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

LEARN ABOUT THE AMENDMENTS BEFORE AUGUST 25TH. THEY PROPOSE:

1. To provide for continuous salary per diem of all members of the Legislature during their tenure of office.
2. To give the Legislature power to set a system of payments of old age assistance to those above sixty-five years of age; provided that monthly payments from State funds to any one person may be in valid amounts based on need, that the maximum payment per month from State funds shall not be more than Twenty Dollars per person; to give the Legislature the power to set up a system of payments for the needy blind persons over twenty-one years of age; to give the Legislature the power to set up a system of payments to needy children under sixteen years of age; providing for the expenditure of funds from the Federal Government; limiting the total amount which may be expended for such assistance out of State Funds; providing conditions as to residence within the State in order to become eligible to receive assistance.
3. To provide that any person in the armed forces of the United States or who has been a member of the same within eighteen months prior to the holding of any election in this State authorized by law, and is otherwise a qualified voter, shall not be required to pay, or to hold a receipt for the payment of a poll tax in order to vote at any such election if same is held while the United States is at war or within a certain stated time thereafter.
4. To provide for a Supreme Court of nine members for the State of Texas.

VOTE ON AUGUST 25

Texas League of Women Voters

27B

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

* * * * *

PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1940-1941

ADOPTED AT THE STATE CONVENTION, MARCH, 1940

* * * * *

Without convention action, the Texas League co-operates with all other State leagues in support of such Federal measures as are selected by the National League. Local leagues are urged to support local projects which are consistent with the League program.

SUPPORT:

- I. Promotion of the use of voting machines.
- II. Adequate appropriation for the public welfare department.

STUDY:

- I. A Civil Service Law for Texas.
- II. The methods of government finance, based on the National League publication "How Should Government Be Financed?"
- III. The statutory guarantee of rights to bargain collectively.



TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Department of
Government and Education

An Explanation of the program of work - 1941-'42

Support:

On National program

- I. Measures which prove necessary to secure federal aid for public education in emergency areas.

(This item is a national one brought to us by our State officers who attended the meeting of the National Council in Washington, May 6-8, 1941).

On Texas program

II. Implementation of teacher-retirement legislation

(accomplished by passing of Omnibus Tax bill in 1941 session of State Legislature).

III. Measures which increase attendance in the public schools:

1. Present attendance law
 - (a) is not properly or adequately enforced
 - (b) has no adequate penalties for violation
 - (c) has too many exemptions.
2. A new basis for the distribution of State aid.
3. Reorganization of curricula to meet needs and interests of pupils which involves the relationship of college entrance requirements and the secondary school curriculum.
4. The effect of economic status of families upon school attendance.

(Legislation in this field must be worked out in co-operation with the departments of social and economic welfare).

Study:

Report of the Governor's Education Commission and the questions raised by it. (Copies may be had by writing to Mrs. Alfred Taylor [redacted] at 3¢ per copy. Every League member should have one).

Consult your bibliography for this department and compile source materials at once.

(Keep your "Lone Star Voter" for spring 1941 and know how the work of this department fits into the entire program of work.)

FALL PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE

Time - September 25 and 26, 1941

Place - Texas Federated Women's Club

Austin, Texas

Thursday

- I. 2:00 P.M. General Assembly
(10:00 A.M. Pre-Conference State Board Meeting for State Board members only.)
- II. a. Conference called to order promptly at 2:00 P.M.
by State President, Mrs. Claude Hill
Mrs. George Abbott, Program Co-Ordinator, presiding
 - b. Introduction of Miss Kirlin, National Staff Visitor
 - c. Brief Explanation of Purpose of the Conference
 - d. Announcements
- III. 2:30 -5:30 P.M. State Departmental and State Committee Chairmen hold Group Discussion meetings.
- IV. 7:00 P.M. Informal Dinner
Mrs. George Abbot presiding
Introduction of Miss Kirlin, National Visitor
Mrs. Burton McCollum
- V. 9:00-10:30 P.M. Sectional Meetings
 - a. Departmental Group - Mrs. Abbott presiding.
A gathering of the five State Departmental Chairmen and their local Departmental Chairmen.
 - b. Public Relations Group - Mrs Calvin presiding.
A gathering of State Finance and local Finance Chairmen, State Treasurer and local Treasurers, local Membership Chairmen, and State and local Publicity Chairmen.
 - c. Executive Group - Local League Presidents meet with National Staff Officer and State President.

Friday

- I. 9:00-11:00 A.M. General Assembly
Topic: Putting the Program to Work
 - a. Recommendations from Departmental Group
 - b. Recommendations from Public Relations Group
 - c. Plans for legislative action - Miss Kirlin
- II. 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. Post Conference Board Meeting
- III. 1:00 P.M. Luncheon
Mrs. Calvin presiding
Introduction of Miss Kirlin, National Visitor
Mrs. Marion Fowler

(All recommendations to the Body of the Conference must be presented to the State Secretary in writing for voting.)

FR

FASCISM

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FREEDOM & FASCISM
FREEDOM ELIZABETH

Time - 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.
Place - Texas Federation of Women's Clubs
2312 St. Gabriel Street

Wells

Thursday

7:00 P.M. General Assembly

(10:00 A.M. The Conference Board Meeting for
State Board members only.)

II. a. Conference called to order promptly at 8:00 P.M.
by State President, Mrs. Claude Hill
Mrs. George Abbott, Program Co-ordinator, presiding
b. Introduction of Miss Kiffin, National Staff Visitor

c. Brief explanation of purpose of the Conference

d. Announcements

III. 2:30 - 5:30 P.M. State Department and State Committee
Organized into discussion meetings.

IV. 7:00 P.M. Informal Dinner

Mrs. George Abbott presiding
Introduction of Miss Kiffin, National Visitor
Mrs. George McCallum

V. 9:00 - 10:30 P.M. Entertainment

a. Departmental Group - Mrs. Abbott presiding.
A reporting of the State Department Chairman
and their local Departmental Chairman.

b. Public Relations Group - Mrs. Calvin presiding.
A gathering of State Finance and Local Finance Chair-
men, State Treasurer and Local Treasurer, Local
Membership Chairman, and State and Local Publicity
Chairmen.

c. Executive Group - Local Departmental Chairmen meet with
National Staff Officer and State President.

Friday

I. 9:00 - 11:00 A.M. General Assembly

Topic: Putting the Program to Work

a. Recommendations from Departmental Group

b. Recommendations from Public Relations Group

c. Plans for tentative action - Miss Kiffin

II. 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Post Conference Board Meeting

III. 1:00 P.M. Luncheon

Mrs. Calvin presiding

Introduction of Miss Kiffin, National Visitor

Mrs. Evelyn Fowler

(All recommendations to the body of the Conference must
be presented to the State Secretary in writing for
voting.)

4/7/40

4/7/40

4/7/40

4/7/40

DALLAS TEXAS
DALLAS TEXAS

4/1/43

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

Honorable Ennis Favors, Chairman
Privileges, Suffrage and Elections Committee
House of Representatives
Austin, Texas

Opinion No. O-5166

Re: Constitutionality of House Bill No. 37, in-
sofar as it would affect a contested election.

Dear Mr. Favors:

Your request for an opinion from this department is as follows:
"House Bill No. 37 will soon be before the House
for consideration. This bill pertains to the se-
cret ballot. I would appreciate a ruling as to
the constitutionality of this bill, insofar as it
would affect a contested election."

A copy of the Bill accompanies your request.

We beg to advise that whatever bearing House Bill No. 37, if
enacted into law, might have upon contested elections, the constitution-
ality of the Act would not be involved.

It is elementary that the Legislature has all power of legis-
lation, subject only to the qualification that no act is valid that is
forbidden by the Constitution. The Legislature does not have to have
express authority in the Constitution to enable it to make law, but on
the contrary, one attacking an act upon constitutional grounds must be
able to show clearly--beyond a reasonable doubt--that the Act is void,
by reason of some specific provision of the Constitution forbidding it.

The Constitution does not attempt to regulate contested elec-
tions, nor does it give to any one a vested right in the proceeding of
contest, as a remedy. Ordinarily, no one has a vested right in a part-
icular remedy.

It may be that the method of numbering the tickets provided
for in the Bill might make a contest futile in any event. Even so,
that would not affect the constitutionality of the Act, under the holding
of the Supreme Court in Wood v. State, 126 S. W. (2) 4.

The court there upheld the validity of an election at which
voting machines were used. In speaking of Section 4, Article VI of the
Constitution, it said:

"It requires that in all elections by the people
the tickets shall be numbered. * * *. The first re-
quirement of the above constitutional provision is that
in all elections by the people the vote shall be by
ballot. We think that this provision simply means that
the voter in all elections shall be accorded a secret
vote or ballot. * * *. It is provided that the tickets
shall be numbered. Of course, the word 'ticket', as
here used means the same as the word 'ballot'. The ballot
must be numbered. If we understand this record, the elec-
tion officers kept a poll list which showed the name and
number of each voter. When the voter registered his vote

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on the machine, it (the machine) recorded the number of the ballot. To our minds this meets the requirement of the Constitution. As we understand this machine, it is not possible from the record made by it to determine, in an election contest, how each voter voted. Be that as it may, the Constitution contains no such requirement. The Constitution simply requires that the ticket shall be numbered. The machine does that. * * *. We think that one of the ways to ascertain how a voter voted, where a machine like this has been used, is to put such voter on the witness stand, and ask him the question. He can answer disclosing how he voted, if he so chooses. This is a matter the voter himself can control. On the other hand, the Constitution guarantees each voter a secret ballot; consequently, he can decline to reveal how he voted, if he so chooses."

Trusting that what we have said will be a sufficient and satisfactory answer, we are

Very truly yours,

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

By

Ocie Speer
Assistant

OS:ff

APPROVED APR. 1, 1943
(s) Grover Sellers
First Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED
Opinion Committee
By B.W.B. Chairman

®

Platform Items Adopted by League of Women Voters of Texas
(1927-1946) (year indicated)

I. Education

1. County unit system for school administration. (1927-1929)
2. A Department of Education of nine members: appointment of State and County school superintendents. (1929)
3. Adequate support of education. (1932)
4. Compulsory education for nine months each year of all children between six and sixteen years of age. (1932)
5. Trained teachers in all schools. (1932)
6. Adequate appropriation for research in home economics in state colleges. (1932)
7. Teacher retirement fund. (1936-1937)
8. Larger units for school taxation and administration. (1936)
9. Effective administration of and adequate appropriation for teacher retirement. (1938)
10. Enforcement of adequate compulsory education. (1941-1942)
11. Ratification of college building amendment. (1946)
Sources & allocation of school funds & federal aid to edu. 1939

II. Public Welfare

1. Adequate appropriations for maternity and infancy needs. (1929)
2. Adequate financial support for Children's Bureau and Child Hygiene. (1927)
3. Policewomen in Police Force. (1933)
4. Reorganization of Texas Prison System. (1929)
5. Ratification of Child Labor Amendment. (1936-1941-1942)
6. Coordination of federal, state, and local organizations for public welfare and public health. (1938) + 1939
7. Support of improved labor laws. (1938-1941-1942)
8. Adequate appropriations for dependent children and state welfare board. (1940)
9. Liberalizing Constitution by amendment for aid to dependent children. (1941-1942)
Public protective service for children & suitable guardianship for those who are dependent, neglected or delinquent 1939

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1. Equal property rights of married women. (1929-1936)
2. Equal guardianship of children. (1936)
3. Adequate protection of women and children in industry. (1932)
4. Eight hour working day for women. (1932)
5. Jury service for women. (1936-1941-1942)
Removal of discriminations against women 1939

IV. Government

1. Efficiency in state administration; reorganization of state administrative agencies. (1930-1931)
2. A merit system for Texas; extension of classified civil service. (1933-1936)
A civil service law for Texas; qualified personnel in government service. (1938-1940-1941) 1942 (State Voter, fall 1942, p. 2), 1943
3. A secret ballot for Texas. (1936-1938-1944-1946) 1947, 48, 49 passed by legislature 1949
A short office-type ballot. (1938)
4. Promotion of the use of voting machines. (1940)
5. Abolition of poll tax as a requisite for voting. (1941-42)
6. Revision of Texas election laws. (1942-1944) (1943)
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V. Economic Problems

1. Minimum wage law. (1932)
2. Government regulation of power and public utilities. (1936)
3. Strengthening of public agencies dealing with consumer problems. (1936)

Revision of Texas election laws to include a secret ballot

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

October 20th, 1941

Open Letter to All State Board Members
(in which the State President: 1) Takes stock, 2) draws conclusions, and 3) seeks advice.)

Dear Fellow Board Members:

Section I

At the National Convention in New York on April 29, 1940, I received the hot-off-the-press National League pamphlet, "The State Board" at the close of a Clinic on Board Planning held that evening for members of local, state and national boards. Since no other copies were available then, I tore off the first page of this pamphlet and sent it air-mail special to my new secretary, Miss Stullkin to have copies made of it and sent to the members of the State Board before the May 1940 Board Meeting, my first as State president.

From that time on I have looked upon this pamphlet as the League Law and Gospel for the conduct of state Board meetings. I ordered copies to be given to members who were elected to the State Board. I admonished old as well as the new members to study this gospel tract with its fine catechism (20 Test Questions) on the last two pages.

To the two new members on the Board in particular, but to all in general, I solemnly declare that this five cent pamphlet is your indispensable tool (it is helpful to local board members also) and should be among your other "household helps" viz "Know Your League" and "Portrait of the League" (recently re-printed). No State Board member can do the job expected of her without being familiar with the contents of these pamphlets.

In case we have become hazy may I restate: What acceptance of membership on the State Board means?

1. Willingness to assume State-wide Leadership.
2. Willingness to wear and live up to continually the badge of Responsibility.
3. Willingness to arm ourselves with the Power which Knowledge of the Whole Job-to-be-done gives each of us. (This may mean at times assuming an attitude of interest in a department or task not ordinarily interesting to you until you do become sufficiently interested to help in the general planning.)

May I restate for emphasis what our "Whole Job" is?

1. Our job is so "to manage the affairs of the Texas League that we fuse in a joint plan - Program, Legislation, Organization and Finance".

Here I pause to say that we have a right to be proud of the progress Texas League has made. At the Council in May, Miss Roach named Texas as one of six states which showed a "stronger tone" or growth! Our increased capacity to carry out the League's purpose was rewarded in a manner pleasing to all - Texas now has a national officer, Mrs. D. B. Calvin, National League of Women Voters Secretary.

2. Of the twenty members on the Texas Board - Who is responsible for the Effectiveness of the Board as a Whole? The answer is - All twenty of us!
3. What then is the president's job on the Board? The answer is - "To Facilitate the Board's Job".

Section II

How has the present president acted to facilitate the Board's Job? Answer -

- a. Furnished each Board member at each Board meeting a typed copy of the agenda.
- b. Worked closely with the State Secretary in making out agenda topics so that between the two of us nothing important should be over-looked, so that having some idea of decisions to be made we should allow enough time for each topic.
- c. First year wrote resumé of each Board meeting and had typed copy sent to each State Board member. This year the State Secretary (and the acting State Secretary) took care of this duty with president's check-over only. (I am proud of this year's Resumés and appreciate the relief given me.)
- d. Advocated and inaugurated regular and more frequent Board meetings. (Regretted the May move which cut them down but appreciate the September decision which provided the extra meeting on November 21, 1941.)
- e. Advocated and inaugurated meetings of longer duration necessitated by an enlarged and expanding State League.
- f. Restored (if not inaugurated) the custom of sitting around a table at every Board meeting to facilitate discussion.
- g. Formulated routine matters as much as was possible. (Some State Leaders who have failed to report on time or report at all have handicapped this work at times. When a leader fails to respond - after written requests sometimes three- then data essential to work has to be collected at State Board meetings and this should not happen. Let us collect data prior to Board meetings.)
- h. Requested frequently that State Chairmen bring (or send if unable to attend) written reports; 1) to save time, or 2) for future reference, or 3) for copying for general distribution.
- i. Written numerous letters to stimulate State Chairmen to perform their respective tasks by offering
 - 1) The help of the State Office.
 - 2) Suggestions for implementing programs and carrying out plans.

Here are some questions I ask and answer personally.

Do I believe the State Board has shown progress?

Yes, we have made very forward strides in our learning to think together and to plan as a whole.

Can we do a better job on State Planning?

Yes, I have great faith in our ability to show marked improvement. I am far from satisfied with my handling of the job but I am greatly pleased with the State Board's personnel.

Section III

What improvements can YOU suggest? Here are mine:

1. Self-restraint. (Try not to take up time with wordy digressions or too-long discussions which are relevant but not very important)

2. Objectivity of mind.

3. Magnanimity.

(These three goals I set for myself this year. How far short of them I have fallen has left me almost without hope. But these words of the one who furnished them, Walter Lippmann, also encourage me: "The display of self-restraint, objectivity of mind, and magnanimity are rare indeed in public life. Mechanical provisos and limitations are not a real substitute for consultation, common council and continuing responsibility".) Therefore since a State Board must be continually accountable for wise counseling and planning I suggest:

4. Devise a plan for a small State Board - one capable of really deliberative action, perhaps 15 members.

(We need to consider now, I believe, this recommendation which looks to a greatly expanded League, by preparing a recommendation to present to the May Convention for action.)

5. Bring written data or recommendations re your particular job or the Board's job and leave these reports with the Secretary, but if possible, send same to the State Office a week prior to the State Board meeting.

6. Be prompt in answering all letters. Be beforehand in ordering material. (We have a big supply of fine pamphlets)

7. Be on time at all Board Meetings. When exhausted ask for brief recess so as to improve your ability to concentrate.

8. Let us endeavor to discover new devices for facilitating group thinking. Let us watch the tones of our voices.

I promise to do better advance planning and to strive for the three rare goals!

Will you help me by sending your answer to the question under Section III before November 15th?

Very sincerely

Mary Esther R. Hill
(Mrs. Claude Hill)

October 20th

A supplementary message
from the State Secretary-

Section I

I heartily endorse Mrs. Hill's statement of the duties and responsibilities of board membership.

Section II

Having personal knowledge of the State League only since my appointment in the Spring I shall only comment on that period.

During the May meeting I offered to serve as a sort of clearing house between State Board members and Local League personnel and have rendered service along this line whenever it has been requested. In order to facilitate such service, following the meeting I promptly notified the proper people in each League of any action taken by the Board which affected their work and also requested from all Leagues any information not already at hand as to the official personnel of each League. In addition I supplied each member of the State Board with a resumé of the minutes of the meeting.

Section III

1. First and foremost I would stress objectivity of mind - Let us not be guilty of that fault of most organizations, especially women's organizations, that is, losing sight of goals, aims, issues in the complexities occasioned by our several personalities; or of another fault frequently found in women's groups, that is, making the organization itself the end - all and be - all, rather than the purposes for which it exists.
2. Let us, without being rash, try always to be fearless in championing as well as defending those issues which we as an organization have accepted as part of our aim or purpose.
3. Inspirational leadership, coupled with devotion to duty, should always be given acclaim - Example par excellence, Mrs. Rainey.
4. Let us strive for a perfect reporting record this year: To have each study group in each Local League at the conclusion of its study project, submit through it's chairman, a report to the State Chairman. Then surely the State Board could reflect the membership as a whole much more adequately in its planning.

Here's for a bigger and better League.

Alice Taylor

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

November 6th, 1941

Dear Local League President;

As you will recall from the Open Letter to Board members, which I sent Oct. 20th, there was a recommendation to decrease the size of the State Board. That you may have the benefit of Miss Wells' ideas of an efficient State Board I am quoting a few paragraphs from her letter of Sept. 5th, which I read to the Board at its meeting Sept. 25th.

"..... May I remind you that plans should be made not only for work, but for how to help local leagues. The local leagues are your only link with members, and the member and what she does is the ultimate objective of all planning.....

I realize that some State Boards are too large to permit adequate planning. I realize also the difficulties in the way of remedying that situation, but progress is being made. Boards enlarged by local representatives must have two objectives: the one primary, to consider, discuss and decide; the other, to inform and teach local League presidents. I am convinced the double purpose is impossible to achieve and that local leagues are better served in some other way. The same holds true for Local League Boards.....

It is unlike any practical scheme of conducting affairs on a representative basis". (six members to every local Board member is top-heaviness instead of democracy by representation). "We have indeed fallen into an unforeseen error in the League and I hope you may help your local leagues to rectify it....."

Please think this matter over objectively, and be prepared to express your opinion at the State Board meeting, Nov. 21st.

Cordially,



Mary Esther R. Hill
(Mrs. Claude Hill)

By
MSR

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Office Routine

Request from National League one copy to State Office of each communication sent to State Chairmen.

(Copies of letters to be noted on each letter sent.)

From State Program Chairman

Letters to National Chairmen

Original and copy to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Program Coordinator	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Form Letters and Study Material to Local Chairmen

Copy to each Local Chairman	(8)
Copies to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Program Coordinator	(1)
Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

(Additional copies of Study materials prepared in State Office and charged to Local Leagues.)

Individual Letters to Local Chairmen

Original to Local Chairman	(1)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Program Coordinator	(1)
Copy to Local League President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

From State Membership Chairman

Letters to National Chairman

Original and copy to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Form Letters and Similar Material to Local Chairmen

Copy to each Local Chairman	(8)
Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copies to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Individual Letters to Local Chairmen

Original to Local Chairman	(1)
Copy to Local League President	(1)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

From State Finance Chairman

Letters to National Chairman

Original and copy to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Treasurer	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Form Letters and Similar Material to Local Chairman

Copy to each Local Chairman	(8)
Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copies to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Treasurer	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Individual Letters to Local Chairman

Original to Local Chairman	(1)
Copy to Local League President	(1)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Treasurer	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

From State Organization Chairman

Letters to National Office

Original and copy to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Form Letters and Similar Material to Local League Presidents

Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copies to National Chairman	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

Individual Letters to Local League Presidents

Original to Local League President	(1)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

From All State Chairmen

Letters to Other State Chairmen

Original to State Chairman	(1)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

"Request for Action" on National Legislation

Letters from State President

Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State Legislative Chairman	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)

~~From State Legislative Chairman~~ "Request for Action" on State Legislation

~~"Request for Action" on State Legislation~~ Letters from State President

(Preliminary work as suggested at last Board Meeting)

Copy to each Local League President	(8)
Copy to National Office	(2)
Copy to State Office	(1)
Copy to State President	(1)
Copy to State Chairman	(1)

State Office keeps complete files of all current State Board and Local Board Members and keeps appropriate chairmen so informed.

State Office sets up files for each position on Board.

State Office maintains Publications Service.

State Office distributes National Publicity Releases to each local Publicity Chairman, and to whatever newspapers requested by Local Leagues.

Operation of Office

Canvass of Austin membership for volunteers to do typing.

10 volunteers, one-half day each, Monday through Friday, with 2 substitutes.

Chairman to direct activity. (Mrs. Taylor, Secretary)

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTER'S BUDGET
FOR
1946 1947

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>1946-47</u> <u>PROPOSED BUDGET</u>
National League Pledge	\$900.00
General Administration	
Rent	200.00
Supplies	125.00
Printing & Mimeo.	100.00
Postage	125.00
Telephone & Telegraph	200.00
Board Meetings	400.00
Legislation	600.00
National Convention	
President - \$150.00	
Delegate - \$150.00	300.00
Finance	40.00
Direct Services to Leagues	
League Promotion	300.00
Presidents' Council	200.00
Nat'l. Publications	100.00
Clerical Help	720.00
Misc.	
Moving office, Etc.	25.00
Total.....	\$4335.00

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1946-47</u>
Local League Pledges	
Austin	\$ 600.00
Dallas	1000.00
Galveston	250.00
Houston	950.00
LaMarque	125.00
Midland	150.00
Port Arthur	100.00
San Angelo	75.00
San Antonio	250.00
Tarrant County	150.00
Texas City	50.00
University League	10.00
T.S.C.W.	10.00
Corpus Christi	135.00
Taylor	50.00
Total.....	\$3905.00
Balance from 1945-46	500.00
	\$4405.00

Texas League of Women Voters

807 West 16th Street
Austin, Texas
September 4, 1939

My dear Mrs. Watson:

As Child Welfare Chairman of your local League of Women Voters, you are probably already planning your Year's program. As State Chairman, I wish to offer a few suggestions for your consideration.

Recently the Division of Child Welfare prepared a simple course of study, which I think might be of interest to your group. I have requested the Division to send you a copy of the course, together with source material, in order that you may examine it and decide if you wish to incorporate it in your program. If you do not wish to use the course in its entirety, I trust you will make a careful study of the topic of Adoptions. It is the feeling of some of us that our adoption laws are far from adequate. A bill has been prepared to amend certain sections of the present law, and I am asking that a copy of this bill be sent to you.

As you know, Texas has not yet provided funds for participation in the Federal appropriation for aid to dependent children. I feel that the League should work consistently and continuously for this needed appropriation.

No doubt you have noticed that the Child Labor Amendment has been revived and we have been asked to work for its ratification at the next session of the Legislature. I have requested the chairman of the State Child Labor Committee to place you on the mailing list so that you may receive all information and material released by the committee.

And now one other suggestion. You will wish to write Dr. W. E. Gettys, University of Texas, and ask for a copy of "Texas Children." This is a report of a study made some time ago and is full of interesting and valuable information.

Trusting that you may have a most pleasant and successful year and assuring you that I am always at your service, I am

Cordially yours,

Lua Corbelle Marrs

Mrs. S. M. N. Marrs, State Chairman
Government and Child Welfare.

Platform Items Adopted by League of Women Voters of Texas
(1927-1946) (year indicated)

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1. County unit system for school administration. (1927-1929)
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V. Economic Problems

1. Minimum wage law. (1932)
2. Government regulation of power and public utilities. (1936)
3. Strengthening of public agencies dealing with consumer problems. (1936)

Revision of Texas election laws to include a secret ballot

REPORT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE

INCOME

	1941-42 Budget	Realized to date	Proposed for 1942-43
Local League Pledges:			
Austin	320.00	155.00	
Dallas	400.00	200.00	
Galveston	125.00	90.00	
Houston	500.00	500.00	
La Marque	35.00	35.00	
Midland	40.00	40.00	
Port Arthur	25.00	25.00	
San Antonio	25.00	25.00	
University	5.00	5.00	
	1475.00	1075.00	
Contributions	110.00	none	
State Memberships	10.00	6.00	
State Convention	40.00	6.20	
Totals	1635.00	1087.20	

EXPENDITURES

	1941-42 Budget	Spent to Date	Proposed for 1942-43
National League Pledge	300.00	300.00	300.00
General Administration:			
Rent	150.00	87.50	
Equipment	40.00	72.00	
Supplies	25.00	65.50	100.00
Printing & Mimeo	10.00	2.40	
Postage	20.00	34.58	50.00
Telephone & Telegraph	20.00	6.04	20.00
Board Meeting Expense	100.00	50.20	100.00
President's Expense (Travel)	100.00	100.00	100.00
Delegate's Expense (Travel)	100.00	100.00	100.00
Finance & Publicity	50.00	18.69	50.00
	615.00	536.91	
Direct Services to Local Leagues:			
League Promotion	200.00	99.02	200.00
Department Chairman	25.00	14.44	25.00
* National Publications	20.00	38.34	20.00
State Bulletin	150.00	77.67	150.00
	395.00	229.47	
Salaries:			
Clerical Staff	250.00	175.15	125.00
State Convention & Program Conference	75.00		
Totals	1635.00	1241.53	1340.00

*National Publications Purchased	100.88
" " Sold	62.54
Cost to State	38.34

Mrs. Hugh Gill , Chairman
Mrs. A. S. Bailey
Mrs. Burton McCollum

Balance in the treasury March 1st ----- \$123.23

Educating the Local Citizen

The Mirror
of
Public Opinion

Writer describes how Adult Education Council set out to educate St. Louisans as to their local governments; broad community organization used in charter campaigns proved so effective it is being continued; plan merits consideration in other cities.

Paul G. Steinbicker, Chairman, Department of Government,
St. Louis University, in the National Municipal Review

In the spring of 1949 an almost unique situation developed in Greater St. Louis in connection with local government. By decision of the voters, two boards of freeholders were set up—one to draft a new charter for the city of St. Louis, the other to prepare the first home rule charter for St. Louis county.

The situation offered an unparalleled opportunity for inaugurating a community-wide program in political education. The Adult Education Council of Greater St. Louis grasped this opportunity. The resulting Political Education Program (P.E.P.) proved so effective that it is now continuing on a permanent basis in Greater St. Louis. It might well merit consideration in other communities.

The first step was the appointment of the P.E.P. Committee of sixteen. Great care was exercised by the president of the Adult Education Council to assure a committee fully representative of all major segments of the community.

This committee was immediately put to work on two major assignments: (1) to determine what every citizen of Greater St. Louis should know about local government; (2) to discover how this knowledge could best be transmitted to the citizen body.

The subcommittee on "what" soon decided that if every citizen were to be reached effectively, the material it prepared must be simple, brief and basic. But it also recognized the need for developing a fuller and more analytical treatment of the forms and functions of government in Greater St. Louis, for use by speakers, discussion leaders and the like. The result was that two documents were prepared.

Boiled Down, Jazzed Up

First was a *Syllabus* on local government in Greater St. Louis, 40 mimeographed pages. The *Syllabus* presented a fairly complete and factual account of the legal status, functions, structure and inner workings of local government in the area.

The other document was the *Political Education Primer*, a boiled down, jazzed up, simplified version of the *Syllabus*. It was prepared deliberately at a sixth grade reading level, so as to be really useful to practically the entire adult population. It was built around five key ideas:

1. Good men and good laws make a government good. Under this heading were analyzed the three processes for selecting government personnel—the elective system, the spoils system and the merit system, and the processes for securing fundamental laws.

Job for the Citizens

2. Local government does a lot for us. This section gave a realistic and interesting account of the functions of local government.

3. Local government costs money, and we pay the cost. Here, obviously, the figures as to costs and the taxation system were put in terms of Greater St. Louis.

4. If we know how our local government works, we can get more help from it. Under this heading, the structure of government in Greater St. Louis was analyzed.

5. We will have to do something ourselves if we want better government. This section presented an objective, practical consideration of the operations of pressure groups and political parties, their methods and their effectiveness.

The problem remained as to how to

make this minimum amount of information available to as great a number of St. Louisans as possible. The Adult Education Council of Greater St. Louis operates under a limited budget. It could not finance the printing of the *Primer* at all.

The P.E.P. Committee therefore became a fund-raising organization and soon proved to be quite adept. In short order, it raised enough funds, mainly from labor unions and business firms, to proceed with the printing of 50,000 copies.

The opening gun in its campaign was a series of two institutes on political education. The first was designed to train "task forces" of lecturers, discussion leaders and panelists who would become sufficiently informed and inspired to carry the material throughout the community. The second institute presented analyses of techniques for programming political education and included seminars on various aspects of local government.

The institutes were quite successful. Ninety-nine organizations were represented in the attendance, comprising some 800 delegates, who took back to their organizations a new insight into and appreciation of local government. Of course, they also took back a goodly number of *Primers*.

Into Homes by Television

The other major activity of the P.E.P. Committee was the development of a series of six Sunday afternoon telecasts on local government. The facilities of Station KSD-TV were made available to the committee free of charge. Outstanding experts in the field, including the chairmen and members of the two boards of freeholders then functioning, participated.

The last of the three programs on the city and of those on the county were telephone sessions. Designed to induce participation, those watching were invited to telephone, during the telecast, any question relating to local government which they wished. The experts in attendance, in full view of the questioner back home watching his TV set, would try to answer questions immediately.

These sessions were so well received that the phones rang constantly during the telecast. Many questions had to be answered by mail.

Proof of the Pudding

There were, of course, other activities in connection with the proposed new charters—radio broadcasts, newspaper editorials, press releases, speakers bureau and the like. It is not yet possible to measure the effectiveness of the program, but evidence is encouraging.

The voters of St. Louis County adopted the charter by a two-to-one majority. In the city of St. Louis, the charter vote was not held until the regular primary election of August 1950, when the charter was decisively defeated.

But, it must be emphasized, the defeat of the city charter does not indicate any failure in the P.E.P. The program was not designed to insure adoption of the charter. The *Primer*, the TV series and all the other activities of the committee were impartial; they neither supported nor opposed the city or the county charter.

Hence, the significant fact is that, in the city election as in the county election, the turnout of voters was much higher than usual in such cases. The conclusion seems wholly justified also that political education, especially in local government, is vital, and can be made both interesting and desirable to a large part of the community.



Paul G. Steinbicker



The League's first board of directors. *Top row, left to right:* Katharine Ludington, Conn., Mrs. Richard Edwards, Ind., Mrs. Julian B. Salley, S. C., Mrs. George Gellhorn, Mo., Mrs. James Paige, Minn., Mrs. C. B. Simmons, Ore., Mrs. Solon Jacobs, Ala. *Lower row:* Maud Wood Park, Mass., Belle Sherwin, Ohio, Carrie Chapman Catt, N. Y.

Trail-Blazers in Citizenship

The dynamic story of the National League of Women Voters—a pressure group in the public interest, a training ground for citizens where learning is by doing.

AVIS D. CARLSON

EVEN IN A YEAR WHEN THE EVENTS OF THE present and the problems of the future keep us continually taut, some anniversaries are worth attention. One of them is certainly the twenty-fifth birthday of the National League of Women Voters.

For so young an organization it has accumulated a surprising amount of tradition and achievement. In every community with a good local league it becomes a source of disinterested information about government, a school in which women leaders are trained, a gadfly asking questions, a pressure in the direction of better government. In the local community or on Capitol Hill it exerts an influence all out of proportion to the size of its membership.

In twenty-five years it has pushed many a needed piece of legislation into being and then stood guard to see that the law was effectively administered, but that was probably one of its smaller achievements. Its great value has been as an instrument of political education.

In this capacity it originated and developed a number of techniques which are coming into general use. It was, for in-

—By a free lance writer who is a roving reporter of social experiment and progress. Mrs. Carlson, who now makes her home in a suburb of St. Louis, has lived on the East Coast and in several midwest states. Her present article, she writes us, is based on "many talks with many leaguers in many parts of the country."

stance, the first group to apply the method of progressive education, learning by doing, to the field of political education. It was the first to stress the importance of getting out the vote, though in the beginning it did not understand the full economic and political implications of what it was doing. It was the first to begin publishing the voting records of congressmen and legislators—which many groups are now demonstrating to be a good educational device. It was the first, or one of the first, to begin taking issues directly to the citizen in order to spot his emotional block. And most important of all, it was the first to organize legislative pressure solely in the public interest.

All this did not happen by chance. From the beginning, the organization has had a colorful and able leadership and has attracted a forward looking membership. For a certain type of woman the league is not only a means through which she can function as a citizen but a creative outlet through which she finds a high order of personal development, so that she gives herself to it wholeheartedly.

The Dramatic Beginnings

Members like to tell the story of the league's beginning. And no wonder. Few organizations have been born with such drama and sense of mission. The formal organization occurred at Chicago in February, 1920, at the Victory Convention of the National Woman's Suffrage Association. But the real drama lay a year back of that, at the convention in St. Louis, when the Suffrage Association, knowing that the Twentieth Amendment would soon be a fact, had to decide what to do with itself.

Many of the stout-hearted women in attendance were of the opinion that the association should simply disband, now that

successful sweeps of the Nazi and Japanese armies, the league felt driven to push on out into a sort of mass education it had not before attempted.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor a meeting of the general council was called to consider seriously whether the league had any place in a nation engaged in total war. If not, if it was only a peacetime luxury, then it ought to disband and free its members for war work. After days of deliberation the group came to the conclusion that it had a vital wartime function, because without "an alert, understanding, critical body of citizens active continuously in relation to the functioning of government," the people would become passive. And when that happened, democracy would die.

In the light of this conclusion, the league set itself a war program on three broad fronts. It would try to reach a larger public than ever before. It would give special attention to local government, which would be apt to be eclipsed by the mushrooming agencies and controls of the wartime federal government. And it would try to see to it that a Congress capable of dealing with problems ahead was elected.

Using as its slogan, "Let the people know, make the people care, help the people act," the league started early in 1942 on its own brand of war work.

The somewhat learned pamphlets gave way to page-long broadsides printed in large letters on bright colored paper and distributed by the thousands. In Hamilton County, Tennessee, last spring a broadside and a booklet on Dumbarton Oaks were left in every doctor's and dentist's waiting room and wrapped in every package in two department stores and two bookstores. In Louisville in July, 85,000 broadsides were distributed—one for every five citizens in the city.

Window displays blossomed out all over the country, from the village store to Lord and Taylor's Fifth Avenue space. The radio was pressed into service.

The method of "directed conversation" was explored and leaguers found that by talking, just talking to the people with whom they came in contact—the salesgirl at the glove counter, the seatmate on the bus, the man who came to lay new linoleum, anybody—public opinion could be influenced. Particularly in smaller communities this informal face-to-face work turned out to be a potent educational force.

Also the league began to take issues directly to the voters in order to find out where the emotional block was and try to erase it. Twice within the last year the

St. Louis league, for instance, has canvassed every voter in one ward explaining the issues at stake, answering questions, and urging him to be sure to vote. Before the San Francisco Conference, the National League prepared a questionnaire to be taken from door to door or used in street interviews to stimulate people to think about peace and what makes it. In Lawrence, Kan., the league polled the whole town about the Dumbarton Oaks agreements. When the results showed the community to be overwhelmingly internationalist in sentiment, the fact was made known to legislators, newspapers, congressmen and representatives to the Conference.

However, the device which has seemed to be most effective is the discussion group. The older type "study group" in which members learned more and more about a given phase of government became a discussion group whose members were trained to lead the new groups that were being formed. The National League has no idea how many of these groups are in existence, but it does know that 5,000 discussion leaders have been trained and that the sale of publications to be used by them has tripled in the past year.

Discussion has been found to have a habit of multiplying. One group spawns other groups. Like this, for instance. An Ohio league member led a discussion before a woman's club. One of those present got a league discussion leader for her church group. A member of that group asked the leader to her mothers' club, and someone there took her to a P. T. A. meeting. Sixteen members of the P. T. A. arranged discussion meetings in their own homes. What happened after that I don't know, but no doubt something did.

This discussion campaign is particularly aimed at the men and women who cannot leave the children to go downtown to a big meeting, but who can slip over to a neighbor's for an hour after the children are in bed. It is designed to give people a chance to make up their own minds about governmental policy by threshing out their ideas together as their forefathers did around fireplace or pot-bellied stove.

During its quarter-century of existence the league has had its share in legislative achievements. Besides those already mentioned, one should certainly list the Lame Duck amendment and the long fight to keep Muscle Shoals as a yardstick. Pure food, drugs, and cosmetics, extension of civil service, Social Security, Reciprocal Trade Agreements are other long time interests.

On state and local levels the record is also lustrous.

In view of the past achievements, it is especially interesting to note that the more broadly based program of mass education is showing results in proportion to the stepped-up energy which has gone into it. There is, of course, no way of measuring how much effect its Second Chance campaign had upon the events in San Francisco or the favorable vote in the Senate. But in some other recent activities the league is known to have furnished both the initiating force and the steady drive.

Georgia's abolition of the poll tax, for instance, was publicly credited to the league's six-year program of educational work. Said the editor of the *Atlanta Journal*: "When the Georgia league announced its stand there were no loud huzzahs from the press or the populace and no support whatever from politicians and office holders. We had just made up our minds that the poll tax was part and parcel of our southern heritage and nothing could or should be done about it."

In the same way the Missouri league was so active first in securing a constitutional convention, then in following and influencing the work of the year-long session, and finally in getting the new and greatly improved charter adopted, that the charter was said by the president of the Missouri Committee for the New Constitution to be "a triumph for the League of Women Voters."

The Milwaukee league made a study of local housing conditions, interested other organizations and helped to organize a joint action committee which finally pushed through an ordinance to set up a housing authority—in a town which had been indifferent to its housing problem . . . The Middletown (Conn.) league secured a secret ballot in the election of the school board. . . . The Superior (Wis.) league engineered a shift to a council-manager form of government. . . . The Cincinnati league saw to it that ninth grade students in that city learn about their municipal government at firsthand. . . .

And so one might go on through a long list of recent league jobs over the country. Anna Lord Strauss, now president of the National League, remarked not long ago, "The times are ripe for bringing renewed vitality into our democratic form of government." One of the factors in this renewed vitality, if it comes, will be the trail-blazing and the experimentation which have gone on in the league.

its goal was reached. In this atmosphere Carrie Chapman Catt had one of those great moments of hers when she threw away a prepared speech and spoke her heart. With her rich eloquence she called for "a living memorial dedicated to the memory of our departed leaders and the sacrifices they made for our cause," and suggested a League of Women Voters as the "most natural, most appropriate, and most patriotic memorial."

Only fragments of this speech remain. Different women remember it in different ways. But no woman who heard it ever forgot the emotional impact of the words: "So that women may use their new freedom to make their nation safer for their children and their children's children. What should be done can be done; what can be done, let us do."

An interim organization, headed by Mrs. C. H. Brooks of Kansas, was set up, and the next year at Chicago came the formal organization with Mrs. Maud Wood Park of Maine as the first president.

The early leaders were women of position and great personal charm. They were also a shrewd dynamic lot. Besides the three already mentioned, one thinks of Belle Sherwin, under whose leadership the organization developed many of its methods and disciplines; of Marguerite Wells of Minneapolis, whose penetrating mind and philosophic understanding of the problems of democracy have made her more than anyone else responsible for the formulation of the league faith; of Edna Gelhorn, who has served in almost every capacity in the league and who is one of St. Louis' choicest institutions; of Katherine Ludington of Connecticut, notable for wizardry in league finance; of Ruth Morgan of New York, who gave the organization its abiding interest in international cooperation as the way to peace. And of many others scattered around the country and working like demons. (I have been interested to discover how many of this first magnificent group are now or were recently, president of their local or state league. Apparently to take the league seriously is an excellent recipe for squeezing many extra years of zestful activity out of life.)

Back in 1920 these women were already thoroughly seasoned. They had cut their political eye teeth on hostile legislatures. The odors that sometimes eddy around city halls were nothing new to them. They knew voter apathy forwards and backwards. Moreover, they had a somewhat frightening sense of responsibility for all the twenty million new voters who had just been added to the electorate. But seasoned as they were and emotionally involved as they were, they were probably far from realizing the enormity of the task ahead.

Early Strategy

It was characteristic of them that they plunged into the middle of things and worked out in various directions. They set up a complex and closely knit organization to function on national, state, and local levels. While doing that, they made a start at training for citizenship, teaching

themselves as well as others. They began to press for certain governmental reforms. Looking over the records of those early years, when patterns in both structure and method were being created, one is impressed by the devotion and the sense for strategy which are in evidence.

During the very first year, while organization was being hammered into shape and income was largely a matter for exercise of faith, a general election came up. Twenty million new voters, most of whom had hardly so much as seen a ballot, were eligible. All across the country the infant league put on demonstrations of voting procedures in department stores, hotel lobbies or public buildings. A correspondence course on government was prepared, published and circulated. "Citizenship schools" were conducted in more than half the states. Thirteen planks were taken to the platform committees of the two parties.

While all this was going on, legislative work was begun in a number of fields which had been more or less inherited from the Suffrage Association, such as child welfare, social hygiene, and women in industry. It was a time when politicians were bewildered and anxious to propitiate the "woman vote." (A little later they would have their bearings again and be less responsive!) So each of the first four years marked gains for which the young organization had striven: in 1920, establishment of the Women's Bureau; 1921, the Sheppard-Towner act or Maternity and Infancy Act; 1922, Independent Citizenship for Married Women; 1923, insertion of "the principle of equal compensation for equal work irrespective of sex" in the Civil Service Reclassification Act.

None of these seem controversial now, but at the time there was determined opposition to them all. The Sheppard-Towner act, in particular, called forth a furious clamor about socialism, communism, federal midwifery and abolition of the family.

Organizations, like individuals, thrive on success. They also learn from failures. In the spring of 1924 the federal Child Labor Amendment was passed by both House and Senate and submitted to the states for ratification. In September a squall of opposing propaganda blew over the country and the amendment was never ratified. But in the course of the struggle the league began to put out its first "Fact Sheets" and to organize study groups. Also the failure of its big 1924 Get-Out-the-Vote campaign to make an appreciable dent on the slacker vote dashed a lot of optimistic illusions.

Up to this time many league members had thought of their work as a short-range program in which women would learn the mechanics of voting, catch up quickly with men's knowledge of public affairs, wipe out the remaining legal discriminations against themselves, and secure some legislation of especial interest to women. In other words, there was still a strong feminist cast in their thinking. Mrs. Catt herself had said in 1920 that they were going to have a "continuation of the old familiar strife" in which women had to "persuade men to respect and have confidence in the

capacities of women." Miss Sherwin, president of the National League from 1924 to 1934, once said that not many of the early members "certainly foresaw a future for the league beyond five or ten years."

But from the beginning, a few members had seen their task as one of creating a "workable and working democracy," which they well knew took in much more territory than women's rights and was no early-morning stint. By 1925 the whole group had begun to settle down for the long haul.

Lasting Patterns

One of the patterns which were set during the early years was respect for fact. During their suffragist days the leaders had learned that they had to be absolutely armored in facts if they hoped to get anywhere in a world of office-holding males delighted at any chance to laugh the little woman out of court. Very well then, they would equip themselves and the new women voters who were joining them with facts—the kind of facts that are hard to dodge. The study group idea seemed the answer to that need. But what would it study? The average sort of printed material on government would not do. It was too bulky and too erudite. A housewife or saleswoman coming timidly and without background to her first league meeting obviously couldn't be handed a scholarly disquisition on the science of government.

So along with all its other activities the young organization had to go into the business of writing and publishing its own materials. By the time it was ten years old it had 150 publications on its list, all but a handful of which had been prepared by its own members or staff. League pamphlets have become standard materials in the great adult education movement which has developed in the second quarter of the twentieth century.

Another lasting characteristic which started in those early years was concern with local government. In this somewhat thankless field the league has been pre-eminent. Perhaps it was because the early leaders soon discovered that the easiest way to interest women in government was through their own local board of education, sanitation department or juvenile court. Perhaps they were merely following their own feminine penchant for concrete, near-at-hand problems. At any rate, by 1923 they were launched upon a study of local conditions. One of the state leagues had prepared a questionnaire called "Know Your Town" which was being used around the country—and with some revision is still being used. For many a woman starting out in fear and trembling to find the answers, this questionnaire has been the first step in a long and distinguished career of citizenship.

Another sort of questionnaire experimented with by 1924 was one sent out to candidates for public office, asking for statements of their training, experience, and stand on issues in which the league was interested. This information was then tabulated and made available to the public through whatever means were locally feasi-

ble. This, too, became standard procedure. Over the years, communities have learned to look upon their local leagues as a source of pre-election information which can be trusted—non-partisan and factual.

The word non-partisan brings up another point. The principle had been stated unequivocally at the birthday convention; as individuals they would be members of a party, as a league they would be non-partisan. At first the organization met much skepticism on this point. The oldest league joke is that in Republican circles they are considered "a bunch of Democrats," in Democratic circles "a bunch of Republicans," while occasionally both groups have dubbed them "a bunch of Socialists."

The early league also hit on another tactic which speedily became a league law. "We support principles, but never a candidate. We take stands on issues, not on individuals." Many a local league has found itself in a situation where almost every member as an individual was supporting a certain candidate and the group as a whole would have given much to endorse him, but the long-run value of the rule has been so clearly demonstrated that it is practically never broken.

Having said this, one must quickly add that there are more ways than one of affecting an election. A parallel chart of records and qualifications will sometimes make a point quite as well as an endorsement. Also it is perfectly possible to set up a yardstick of training, experience and personality which a certain official, say a judge of a juvenile court, ought to have—and that, too, will make quite a good point.

A final method developed during the first few years concerned the adoption of a program of work. Remember, the new organization started out without program except for the interests it had inherited from the Suffrage Association. Back in the early Twenties no other organization had anything remotely comparable to either the league program of work or the method by which it is adopted. It was an invention, and it was not completed in a year or two. The leaders took time to think.

Making of a Good Citizen

What they were feeling for was something upon which a large membership in every section of the country could agree as important and which would therefore serve to bind them together; something that would start from both the top and bottom and percolate freely up and down as it should in a democratic society; something that would stem solely from the members' function as citizens responsible for the public welfare. What they got, as it evolved during the years, was a program which is at once a chart for activity, a curriculum for political education, and the heart of the organization itself.

Over the years, the program-making procedure has been the most powerful single element in the discipline which makes the league effective. It is discussed in local boards and general meetings, argued over at staff and council meetings, thrashed out down to the last word at national board meetings, fought over at conventions (and

league conventions are fairly well charged affairs) and finally voted on by the delegates. All up and down the line it is weighed in the light of need and organizational resources. When it is finally decided upon, it is until the next convention the program and none of the 550-odd leagues in the country is going to wander astray from it.

Year after year the tendency has been to narrow down and to concentrate upon fields where the need is agreed to be greatest, instead of spreading out into so many channels that league resources of personnel and income would be frittered away without producing results.

By the end of 1924, the foundations were laid and the transition from a group who thought of themselves as women first into a group learning to think of themselves as citizens first was well under way.

During the next period, which lasted until around 1940, the techniques were perfected and a league "philosophy" grew up. Gradually the group came to see that it was in the business of political education and that it was taking a totally new approach to that business. Up to this time the general assumption had been that if enough people knew enough facts about government, an intelligent and responsible electorate would automatically result. So the schools, the press, and the platform had poured out information about the workings of government and lectured the individual voter on his duty to be a good citizen. But nobody had said anything much about *how* to be a good citizen.

Progressive Political Education

Gradually the league came to see that here was the crux of political education—that it was more important to induce one single person to take his first faltering step in *being* a citizen, that is to say, in participating in his government, than it was to teach a hundred citizens a lot of facts about government. This was the principle of progressive education, learn by doing, applied to political education.

It worked!

That first step, even if it was only to find out that the garbage collection was inefficient, seemed almost inevitably to lead to another and another, until finally the whole anatomy of government was laid bare. The garbage collection might turn out to be bad because of insufficient appropriation, careless supervision, workmen hired for the votes they could swing, outright graft, or some combination of these causes. Whatever the cause, the inquiring leaguer found herself propelled out upon a chain of activities from which she would emerge with a new understanding of her government. And what was more important, she would have a new feeling of responsibility toward it and a somewhat incredulous knowledge that she, plain Mary Brown, could do something about it.

Furthermore, it did not seem to make any difference where she started, though of course it was easiest for her to see results on the level of the city hall or county courthouse. But if she was led to actual participation in getting a merit system in

her state government or of renewing the reciprocal trade agreements, she would come out with exactly the same realistic understanding of how governmental wheels go round and where lie the blocks against the public interest—as well as a few sound ideas on how to improve the situation. This in turn would have opened up to her a whole field of new interests and in the great majority of cases would have made her into an intelligent, functioning citizen for the rest of her life.

As leagues around the country observed this process work out, they began to stress it more consciously as the real purpose of the organization. Local leagues began to measure themselves on how nearly they came to giving each member one such experience in citizenship in the course of a year. The program of work became, therefore, not merely a goal (as in most organizations) but a means. In a real sense it is a curriculum, student-created and student-taught.

One of the best features of learning by doing is that the learner never feels that he is "being educated" and so has neither self-consciousness or negativism about it. To himself he always seems only to be doing something he wants to see done. It works out that way with political education by doing. The beginning leaguer is usually so intent upon getting a city manager or trained administrators in the state penal institutions or whatever her pet project is that she is somewhat surprised to find herself presently being invited to talk to club and church groups. She may even be considerably embarrassed at being taken for an authority. But if she has the qualities of leadership, she almost inevitably moves on into wider fields.

The result is that in every community with a strong local league, women step from their league training school into positions of community responsibility. It is a mark of the respect the organization has won that leadership in a local league is about the best springboard a woman can have for appointment to a civic board or election to public office.

The influence of the training school now is being felt at the national level. Three of the new congresswomen elected in 1944 got their start in the league. Chase Going Woodhouse had been president of the Connecticut League. Emily Taft Douglas, who to the surprise of everyone was elected congressman-at-large in her sprawling supposedly isolationist state, had long been prominent in the Illinois League. Helen Gahagan Douglas of California gives the league credit for shaping her interest in government. For that matter, one could add to the list the name of Eleanor Roosevelt, who has often publicly stated her debt to the league. Many another in less strongly spotlighted places in public life could say the same.

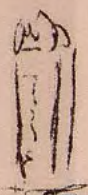
The War Years

Beginning with the war, or perhaps in 1940, there has been a shift not so much in objective as in emphasis and methods. Up to that time the education of its own members had been the prime concern. In the general upheaval that accompanied the

STATE

CONVENTION-1947

TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



San Antonio

SECRET BALLOT** FAMILY COURT** COLLEGE BUILDING PROGRAM AMENDMENT** REDISTRICTING

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL** ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS** 10 NEW LEAGUES**

AREA ORGANIZATION** DISCUSSION GROUP TECHNIQUES** DOUBLED LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP***

CONVENTION -- TEXAS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Convention of the League of Women Voters of Texas was called to order by the President, Mrs. Martin A. Row, at ten thirty a.m. Wednesday, June 18, 1947, in the Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

Mrs. Jack Carter (Fort Worth) was appointed Parliamentarian of the Convention.

Mrs. Flude (Houston) moved that the Agenda for Convention as outlined in the kit be adopted by the Convention. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Burton McCollum (Houston) moved that the Convention adopt the Rules of Convention as proposed. Motion seconded and carried.

Registration Committee as follows was announced: Mmes. B.H. Passmore (San Antonio) Chairman, C. J. Rogers, L. E. Orr, A. L. Voight, George Sexauer, and Miss Mary Ann Noonan.

Resolutions Committee as follows was appointed: Mmes. Melvin Rotsch (Austin), Chairman, Waters (Dallas), and L. B. Knight (Galveston).

Mrs. Harmon Ullrich (Houston) moved that the Convention stand for a moment of silence in prayer as an expression of sympathy for the Texas City League members. Motion seconded and carried out.

Mrs. Harmon Ullrich moved that the Texas League make an effort to contact the members who have left Texas City, that these members may continue their membership in the League. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. G. H. Gill (LaMarque) offered her services for this job. *

Mrs. William Sinkin, President of the San Antonio League, welcomed the Convention to that city.

Mrs. L. L. Adkins (Houston) moved that the report of the President be placed on the Convention agenda to suit the convenience of the President. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. David Trammell (Fort Worth) Secretary, reported that she had made one trip to Dallas for an Executive Board meeting, had attended four Directors' meetings and kept minutes thereof, and had attended, as Mrs. Marcus's alternate, National Council in Washington in May.

Mrs. John L. Brewster (Dallas), Treasurer, read her report.

Mrs. Carter (Fort Worth) moved the adoption of the auditor's report. Motion seconded and carried.

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Mrs. Ed Kilman (Houston), Legislative Chairman, presented her report and a Resolution commending the 50th Legislature for some of its accomplishments on certain legislation. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Sol Greene (Corpus Christi) moved that the Convention give a rising vote of thanks to the Legislative Chairman and her Committee for the work that they had done during the past year. Motion seconded and complied with.

Mrs. William Brockhausen (San Antonio) Organization Chairman, reported on the activities of her committee,

Mrs. Roberts (Houston) moved that Mrs. Brockhausen's report on Organization be accepted. Motion seconded and carried.

Miss Charlotte Mickey (U. of Texas Campus League) reported for the Campus Leagues.

Mrs. Lovelace (San Angelo) thanked Mrs. Row for her organizational work and special pains and interest in the San Angelo League.

Mrs. W. B. Ruggles (Dallas), Public Relations Chairman, read her report.

Mrs. E. N. Cappleman, (LaMarque), Finance Chairman, gave her report.

Mrs. Martin A. Row gave President's Report and Report of Council Meeting.

Mrs. William Sinkin (San Antonio) moved that the morning session continue one-half hour overtime in order to hear the Presentation and Discussion of the budget. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Chapin Marcus (Dallas) Budget Chairman, reported on the proposed budget, prepared according to recommendations by Miss Bertha Pabst, Finance Expert of the national League office.

Roll Call of Pledges:

Austin	- - - - -	\$	800.00
Beaumont	- - - - -		150.00
Corpus Christi	- - - - -		400.00
Dallas	- - - - -	2,000.00	
Midland	- - - - -	300.00	
Houston	- - - - -	2,000.00	
Galveston	- - - - -	500.00	
San Antonio	- - - - -	800.00	
Taylor	- - - - -		
Port Arthur	- - - - -		
Tarrant County	- - - - -	200.00	(Changed to \$400)
LaMarque	- - - - -	150.00	
Robstown	- - - - -		
San Angelo	- - - - -	150.00	
Campus Leagues:	T.S.C.W. - - - - -	25.00	
	Univ. of Texas - - - - -	25.00	
Total	- - - - -		\$

Wednesday Afternoon 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Ed Kilman, First Vice-President, Presiding.

Mrs. Burton McCollum, By-Laws Chairman, read the proposed new By-Laws, whereupon Mrs. Chapin Marcus (Dallas) moved that in Sec. 1, Art. V the numeral "3" throughout the paragraph be changed to the numeral "5". Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Marian Storm (Austin) moved to strike out the sentence "each delegate shall be entitled to one vote only at the convention even though the delegate may be attending in two or more capacities" in Sec. 3, Art. VIII, and substitute the words "regardless of the number of delegates present each local league through its delegate or delegates shall be allowed its full vote". Motion seconded and lost.

Mrs. Carter (Fort Worth) moved that in Sec. 1, Art. IX the words "chosen by the Board of Directors" be added to the end of the first sentence. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Carter moved that in Sec. 1, Art. IX in the fourth sentence the Convention strike out the words "appointed by the Board of Directors immediately after the Convention" and substitute the words "elected by the Convention". Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Carter moved that in Sec. "d", Art. X the word "majority" be stricken out and the words "two-thirds" be inserted in its stead. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. McCollum concluding the discussion of her report, moved that the By-Laws be adopted as amended. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Row moved to express to Mrs. McCollum and her Committee (Mrs. Sam Smith, Austin, and Mrs. Elwood Street, Houston) on behalf of the Board of Directors and all of the Convention a "thank-you" for their one year's trouble and work on the By-Laws Committee, and for the care and thought which they had put in on them. Motion seconded and carried out.

Miss Olive White (Denton), Program Chairman, presented the following items to the Convention for discussion and placement on the Program:

- ~ Reallocation of School Funds according to attendance rather than census
- Study in the field of Public Welfare
- Study related to action in the field of Domestic Relations Courts
- Continued active support of a Secret Ballot Bill
- ~ Support of the College Building Fund amendment to the Constitution of Texas
- ~ Support of the Redistricting Commission as proposed by the 50th Legislature

Suggestions: limitation on number of elections held in one year
legal status of married women
adoption for study of "taxation as a whole" item
study of election laws

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Mrs. Wink (Houston) moved that a committee be appointed at this time to work out a State Platform for the Texas League of Women Voters. Motion seconded and carried.

The following Nominating Committee for the Board Members positions was appointed by the Chairman: Mmes. G. H. Gill (LaMarque), Chairman, Melvin Rotsch (Austin), L. L. Adkins (Houston), Wm. Y. Penn (Midland), and Miss Mary Montgomery (Beaumont).

Thursday, June 19, 1947 - Mrs. Ed Kilman, First V-P Presiding

Entire morning devoted to Workshops on the League in Action and Local Projects reports, which included a Voters' Service Panel.

At formal luncheon Miss Sarah Daniels (Dallas) spoke on "Family Courts" and Mr. John McCurdy (Austin) Executive Secretary of Univ. of Texas Ex-Students Association, discussed the College Building Fund amendment as proposed by the 50th Legislature.

The Convention reconvened at two-thirty p.m. Thursday afternoon in the Pan American Room, Gunter Hotel, with Mrs. Row, President, presiding.

Letter was read from Mrs. Gelhorn, National Chairman of the Nominating Committee, asking for suggestions for nominations for national offices for the 1948 national League convention.

Mrs. Row announced that Mrs. Joseph Mares had resigned from the National Board, but that she would live in Texas and be active in this State.

The President appointed the following Platform Committee: Misses Olive White (Denton), Chairman, Sarah Daniels (Dallas) Mmes. John Plude (Houston), G. H. Gill (LaMarque), and William Johnson (San Antonio).

Following Credentials Committee was appointed by the President: Mmes. J. M. Hoss (Dallas), Horton Smith (Austin), and Miss Mary Montgomery (Beaumont).

Miss Olive White (Denton), State Program Chairman, briefly reviewed the items for the proposed Program, and laid them before the Convention for decision; whereupon

X Mrs. Sol Greene (Corpus Christi) moved that the Texas League support the Legislative Redistricting Amendment. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. William Sinkin (San Antonio) moved that the Texas League support the College Building Fund amendment as proposed by the 50th Legislature. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. William Ruggles (Dallas) moved the item "Public Welfare" be removed from the State program because of the length of the program. Motion seconded and carried.

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X Mrs. K. H. Waters (Dallas) moved that the Convention adopt the item "Family Courts for Texas" for study for the coming year. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Ligon of San Antonio moved to drop from the state program the item "Reallocation of School Funds etc. Motion seconded

Mrs. Sol Greene (Corpus Christi) move to amend Mrs. Ligon's motion to read "move from the action list and place it among the items for study". Motion seconded and passed.

Mrs. Ligon's original motion passed also and the item was dropped from the state program.

Mrs. William Sinkin moved that the Convention place on the program as an item for study "taxes for Texas". Motion seconded and lost.

Mrs. Melvin Rotsch moved that the Convention recognize the necessity of the need of a Capitol City Planning Commission, and that such an item be placed on the program for study. Motion seconded and lost.

Mrs. William Ruggles moved that consideration of the State Program be closed. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. J. M. Hoss, Credentials Chairman, announced 64 delegates were entitled to vote; that no League had more delegates than it was allowed at the Convention.

Mrs. Chapin Marcus reread the Roll Call of local Pledges and opened the discussion for adjustment of the budget to meet the deficit; whereupon

Mrs. William Ruggles (Dallas) moved that the item "\$1,000 for Bulletin" be altered to cover the amount of the deficit in the budget. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Ed Kilman (Houston) moved that the budget be adopted as amended. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. John Brewster, Treasurer, announced that the Houston League had just handed her a check for \$166.67 to apply on its pledge.

Mrs. Sol Greene (Corpus Christi) moved that a complete report of this Convention be sent as quickly as possible to all local leagues, even if the Leagues would have to be called upon to pay for such report. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. G. H. Gill, Nominating Committee Chairman, reported that her Committee nominated as Directors of the Texas League of Women Voters Mmes. Raymond Gregory (Galveston) and Herman Toepperwein (San Angelo); whereupon

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Miss Sarah Daniels (Dallas) moved that the Nominating Committee's report be accepted, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the Convention for these two members for the Board. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Melvin Rotsch, Resolutions Committee Chairman, reported that "the delegates of the League of Women Voters of Texas wish to express their grateful appreciation to the San Antonio League for the hospitality of their gracious and charming city; that

"the delegates of the League of Women Voters of Texas wish to express their grateful appreciation to Mrs. John L. Brewster for her careful planning that led to the success of this 1947 Convention; that

"the delegates of the League of Women Voters of Texas wish to express their grateful appreciation to the Hotel Management of the Gunter Hotel; to Miss Crawford McCorrain; to the Press of San Antonio: to Mr. Sprague of the EVENING NEWS, to Mr. Williams of the EXPRESS, and to Mr. McNeel of THE LIGHT; to Dawson Duncan of THE DALLAS NEWS and to Miss Dorothy Sinz of the DALLAS TIMES HERALD; to Mrs. Scott of the Banquet Committee; to Mrs. Cegelski for the charming flower arrangements; to Mrs. Passmore of the Registration Committee; to Mrs. Brockhausen, Chairman of the Luncheon Committee; to Mrs. Wocker, Publicity Committee, and to Mrs. Scharlock, Telephone Committee, for their services in making this 1947 State Convention an outstanding success; that

"the delegates of the League of Women Voters wish to express their grateful appreciation to the speakers Mrs. Joseph Mares, Miss Helen Vanderkooi, Dr. Robert Sutherland, Miss Sarah Daniels, and Mr. John McCurdy for their inspiring remarks that have made this 1947 State Convention an outstanding success; that

"the delegates of the League of Women Voters wish to express their grateful appreciation to the Registration Committee: Mmes. L. E. Orr, C. J. Rogers, A. L. Voight, George Sexauer, Miss Mary Ann Noonan, and Mrs. B. H. Passmore, Chairman, for their helpful services in making the Convention an outstanding success; whereupon

Mrs. Rotsch moved the adoption of these resolutions. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. William Brockhausen (San Antonio) announced that the prize offered by the Organization Committee to the person submitting the largest number of Member-at-Large names throughout the State had been won by Mrs. Stewart Long of Austin, that she had given the Committee more than thirty names.

Miss Edna Rowe (Dallas) expressed deepest thanks for "the finest Board of Directors that any organization in Texas had ever had".

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Mrs. B. H. Passmore, Registration Chairman, announced there had been 74 registrations plus twelve Board members at the Convention; that \$161.50 had been taken in; that \$164.80 had been paid for the formal luncheon; that \$247.00 had been paid for the Wednesday night banquet, with 101 persons present, and that a total of \$573.30 had been collected.

Thereupon the Convention adjourned.

Mrs. David B. Trammell, Secretary.

Summary of Reports to the State Convention

Secretary Mrs. David B. Trammell's report is included in the minutes of convention

Legislative Chairman Mrs. Ed Kilman's report gave the number of letters, the type and amount of literature distributed, the number of interviews with state officials and members of the Legislature, the Calls for Action and visits to the Leagues by the members of the Legislative Committee, the number of trips made to Austin, and the work that the committee suggests be done now.

"We request that each League immediately plan to have a meeting to which their representatives and Senators are invited for the purpose of getting better acquainted with them and their legislative interests." (For further information on the League's legislative work see the summary of the work on the Secret Ballot coming from the state committee this month.

Treasurer Mrs. John L. Brewster's report covered the month of April and May since the beginning of the fiscal year. It reported the Income and Expenditures for this period and showed a balance of cash on hand of \$359.22 (Copy of this report enclosed in convention kit. For further figures see the First Quarterly Treasurer's Report for April 1, 1947- June 27, 1947.)

Organization Mrs. William Brockhausen reported the organization of new Leagues in Beaumont and Robstown and a provisional League at Bay City with work being done at Monohans, Pecos and Odessa. She emphasized strongly the need for new Leagues in the large areas of the state which we do not cover, particularly the 16 Congressional Districts in which there are no Leagues. Work must be done in organizing East Texas- Tyler, Kilgore, Corsicana, Waco, and in organizing the large West Texas towns- Abilene, Lubbock, Amarillo, as well as the Valley. She suggested the division of the

state into four areas for organization with a chairman and a large committee working in each, for the state program and budget this year is aimed at promoting organization. The Area Chairmen are Mrs. Brockhausen-South Texas, Mrs. Penn-West Texas, Mrs. Adkins-East Texas, and Mrs. Marcus-North Texas.

Finance Mrs. E.N. Cappleman's report read as follows: Credit for all the work done in the Finance field this past year goes to Mrs. Elwood Street 2. 7 Leagues have had Finance Campaigns; 3 Leagues successful: Dallas, Austin, San Antonio 3. 6 Leagues were financed by dues and other money raising activities. 4. 2 Leagues failed to send in reports 5. Campus Leagues are financed by dues alone. 6. San Antonio shows the most progress in finance this year. First Campaign raised \$800.

Public Relations Report Mrs. Wm. B. Ruggles reported that this committee was set up in February on the recommendation of a National Officer. It has publicized Miss Fabst's visit, started a scrapbook of League publicity, and sent out material for use in publicizing the convention. Plans are under way for a quarterly State Bulletin, and there is a need to set up a radio and speakers bureau. The constant exchange of information between Leagues and the effectiveness of the League in its work will be greatly enhanced by the growth of integrated public relations.

President's Report Mrs. Martin A. Row made the following report:

In the last year the League in Texas has grown in the following ways: Board member training and assumption of responsibility, Board members have made 64 trips to local Leagues and 15 trips to prospective Leagues, the President visited every League at least once and has made 33 League visits this year, the State has been given office space utilities and janitor service and has had the service of a part time secretary, the President has sent out 4 President's letters in place of a State Bulletin, we have grown in prestige with more publicity in each League, requests for cooperation from outside organizations, and complimentary letters from Senators.

We are not disappointed about the Secret Ballot Bill failing to pass the Senate, for we know that good government is achieved only by the watchfulness of all the citizens and their persistent efforts. There are no lost causes; it is only a matter of time. We are not primarily a lobbying organization trying to put over legislation. We are attempting to educate the citizens of Texas to participate in their government; therefore the Secret Ballot was a good program choice, for many more Texans know this year that we are one of the last states not to have a secret ballot.

These are the goals that the State Board has chosen

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for the coming year: 1. a full time executive secretary for the State Office 2. a mimeograph machine for the State Office 3. a State Bulletin to be sent quarterly to every member. 4. a new League in each of the 10 Congressional Districts where there are no existing Leagues. 5. Doubled membership in every existing League 6. Discussion groups in each League 7. an integrated finance campaign in each League 8. an orientation course in every League 9. a statewide Atomic Energy Campaign.

Report of the National Council Meeting

The National Council Meeting of the League of Women Voters was held in Washington D.C. April 28 to May 2. The State President and Secretary, Mrs. Trammell, represented the Texas League. The council takes the place of the convention which meets biennially. The business of the council is "to consider the methods of work and the budget and such business as shall be presented by the Board. It is authorized to make such modifications in the program as shall be necessary to meet altered conditions." The Council felt that conditions had not altered, and the National Program items on which we agreed to concentrate are Atomic Energy Control and Economics and International Relations. Much of the time was devoted to assisting State Presidents with their responsibilities in sharing the work with the State Board and in helping the Board with each local League. The Texas delegation also held personal conferences with each member of the National Board.

One afternoon we spent on the Hill in conference with the following- Senator Connally and O'Daniel, Congressmen Wilson of Dallas, O.C. Fisher of San Angelo, and Margaret Chase of Maine. We heard such outstanding speakers as Wm. W. Waymack on "Developing Atomic Energy in the Public Interest", Mr. Pendleton Herring on "Must Democracy Be Put on the Offensive", and Mr. Dean Acheson on the "Economics of Peace". This last speech was given to a large luncheon to which we invited all Senators and all Senators and Congressmen. Senator Connally arrived and was introduced to many League members who wished to thank him for his work with the U.N.

We were most proud when the program was given one evening at the United Nations Club entirely by distinguished League women. Mrs. Reibhausen, formerly of the League staff, told of her experiences as a League delegate at the United Nations. Mrs. Heming, National Board member from New York, spoke on representing us at the U.S. Commission for U.N.E.S.C.O. Miss Strauss who attended the International Alliance climaxed the evening with her account of increasing citizen responsibility in foreign countries. The Council voted to set up a Carrie Chapman Memorial Fund to be raised by large gifts apart from our integrated finance for the purpose of helping to establish Leagues in foreign countries. Interesting

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statistics would include : League members now number 72,000 in 572 Leagues in 34 states. All Leagues paid their pledges in the fall and on time. Texas raised its pledge to \$1250.00 for the coming year.

Each member of the National Board increased our feeling of purposefulness and inspiration. As a Board they are a magnificent team of thoughtful and helpful women. Miss Strauss's closing remarks on leadership are an inspiration to any League member. "We look for leadership like it grew on trees, but it is really found in everyone. The League's whole purpose is faith in citizens. If we live what we believe, and we do have faith in people, we will find that everyone has some capacity for leadership. Our job is to see that no one gets the wrong job. We are not primarily looking for leaders; we are helping citizens to develop their latent possibilities. We are part of a team who believe in working for the same thing- Democracy.

Elizabeth Lynch Row

Workshops

Public Relations Mrs. Ruggles group discussed the need for a League list of qualified speakers, the State Office having a file of radio scripts to sell to the Leagues. It was suggested that news should be turned in personally at the papers and news services, and mimeographing on gummed paper was suggested for addressing the bulletin.

Political Effectiveness Mrs. Trammell's group heard Mrs. Kilman suggest some campaign methods for the next Secret Ballot work. They discussed the National Outline for Political Effectiveness and suggested that each League should have a copy of this. Some things suggested in this workshop were individual League members knowing something about economics and political science, starting very early on a legislative job. not only READ the newspaper but clip and check them, questionnaires should force candidates to answer more than "yes" or "no". know all the local political figures possible, become an intelligent listener as well as a talker.

Discussion Group Techniques Miss Row's group talked about the best time and place for a discussion group and agreed that less formal meetings were preferable. Most groups meet twice a month. Causing participation by reticent people was discussed. All the groups felt that it was imperative that the members read the literature sent out from National and that it was important that discussion be followed by some form of action.

Office Procedure Miss Montgomery's group discussed primarily the mechanics of setting up an efficient office, a filing system, and the importance of setting up a pleasant and businesslike atmosphere.

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Reports on Administrative Aids for Presidents (Mrs. Gregory, chr.)
Finance (Mrs. Cappleman, chr.)
Membership (Mrs. Penn, chr.)

had not been received by this Office. You may write these
chairmen if you desire a copy of their Workshop Report.

The Banquet on the night of June 18th was devoted to the National
Program. Mrs. Joseph Mares, former member of the National Board
and new member of the Texas League, spoke on Atomic Energy Control,
Miss Helan Vanderkooi spoke on Economics and International Relations
and Dr. Robert Sutherland spoke on Using the Discussion Group
Method.

Here's a special Toast to you
Who attended the statewide meeting,
For all that you accomplished here
Though time's been short and fleeting,

We thank you for your interest
And help you've given freely
When this Board brags upon the Leagues
T'will be due to you all, really.

If your League desired copies of the Convention Report for
their members, you may order them from the State Office at
10¢ a copy. If you desire copies of the poems of tribute
to the State Board, this office will send you a copy on
request.

The BULLETIN

PURPOSE — To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

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SPRING, 1950

Number 8

1950 STATE CONVENTION HOUSTON, RICE HOTEL, MAY 9 AND 10



Mrs. Martin A. Row, Texas' own State President, has been nominated to serve as Director of The League of Women Voters of the United States. Elections will be held at the National Convention at the Chalfonte Haddon Hotel, Atlantic City, April 24 to 28, 1950.

Betty Ann has served as President of both the State and Dallas Leagues and still works with Dallas' Finance Committee and Speakers Bureau. She has also organized an evening unit group, in which husbands serve alternately as leaders. She finds time to take an active part in her church, A.A.U.W., American Friends Service Committee, Council of Social Agencies, Kappa Alpha Theta, Stanford Alumnae and Delta Kappa Gamma, honorary teacher's sorority.

She helps her son, Robert, publish his school newspaper and entertain his sixth grade classmates. He has spoken to his class on the United Nations and on the State Legislature as he accompanied his mother to both of their sessions. He, in turn, assists the League daily, and is regarded as the right hand man of the State Office.

Report of National Nominating Committee

President: Mrs. John G. Lee, Farmington, Conn.

1st Vice President: Mrs. Robert F. Leonard, Washington, D. C.

2nd Vice President: Mrs. Malcolm Cummings, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary: Mrs. Walter Neale, New York, New York.

Treasurer: Mrs. Bradford L. Patton, Chicago, Ill.

Directors: Mrs. Maxwell Barus, Montclair, N. J.; Mrs. Eugene W. Burgess, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Jean F. Carroll, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Israel E. Herwin, Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Waldo E. Stephens, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Mrs. Martin Row, Dallas, Texas.

Nominating Committee Chairman: Mrs. George Engels.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

John Ben Shepperd, Secretary of State, will speak on our Know Your State Study at a formal banquet Wednesday night. Other convention speakers include, Judge Sarah Hughes, only woman judge in Texas; John Moseley, Executive-Director of the Texas Legislative Council; Abner McCall, Dean of Baylor Law School and Chairman of the Texas Election Laws Commission, who will give a panel on State Platform Items. Items to be discussed are: Status of Women, Efficiency in State Administration and Election Law Reform. This is an unusual opportunity to hear the State's top experts on probable legislation.

Each Local League is entitled to one delegate for every 15 members, and one for every ten additional members, provided that no League will have more than 20 accredited delegates at Convention.

Observers are unlimited! So why not make this the biggest of all State Conventions, for every League member will want to receive the information, aspiration and inspiration a State Convention provides!

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM 1950-1952

I. VOTERS SERVICE—a year round activity 1. to provide information on candidates, voting places and times, and issues, 2. to encourage poll tax payments, 3. to promote party participation, and 4. to encourage voting in every election.

II. PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA

1. Complete and publish a Know-How-State Handbook for local League study and public distribution.

III. PROPOSED PLATFORM

1. Election Law Reform
2. Family Courts for Texas
3. Adequate support of education
4. Equal Status of Women
5. Constitutional Legislative Redistricting
6. Efficiency in State administration
7. Adequate care of dependent children and mothers

Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda:

The reason for the choice of only one item on our Current Agenda is that the State Board considers that three items have proved more than local Leagues could handle and still work on Local and National Program. No League in the State gave equal attention to all three items and many Leagues are doing very little on any State or National items.

There is a strong sentiment among our membership that the program should be limited to one item. It is a national and state organization policy to suggest one local program item only for local Leagues—and many local Leagues suggested that the National Program be limited to one item also, so it seems wisest to start this idea in Texas.

Also, as the Dallas League has pointed out — "the State Program should be kept as small as possible in order to give the State Board time to concentrate on organization throughout

(Continued on Page 3)



MRS. LEONARD HAAS, Director of the League of Women Voters of the United States, and President of the Georgia League, as Texas' guest of honor, will speak and conduct workshops at the State Biennial Convention.

Mrs. Haas has taken an active part in good government in both her city and state and was recently named "civic women of the year" at her home in Atlanta, where she previously served as President of the Local League. Mrs. Haas finds time to join the activities of her two growing boys, her husband, who is a lawyer, and the Wellesley Alumnae Association.

She was the only woman to be appointed to serve on the Governors' Commission to Revise the Constitution of Georgia. She has worked for Prison Reform Home Rule, and Civil Service for Government Employees.

In 1935 Mrs. Haas was appointed by the Mayor to a Commission of six to consider Consolidation of City and County Government. She has also served on the Social Planning Council.

Report of State Nominating Committee

Officers:

President: Mrs. Ed Kilman, Houston.

1st Vice-President: Mrs. Wendell Griffith, Galveston.

2nd Vice-President: Mrs. B. B. Sanders, Ft. Worth.

Secretary: Mrs. Richard Dunlop, Dickinson.

Treasurer: Mrs. H. W. Cullen, Houston.

Directors: Mrs. William Y. Penn, Midland; Mrs. David Trammell, Ft. Worth; Mrs. Carl Herman, Houston; Mrs. Martin A. Row, Dallas.

Chairman of Nominating Committee: Mrs. Banks Upshaw, Dallas.

Mrs. George Putnam, Chairman Midland

THE TEXAS ECONOMY COMMISSION

People throughout our land and at every governmental level are hard at work searching for ways to promote more economy and efficiency in government.

Texans expect this kind of government.

It is imperative, therefore, that our State Government set up the best administrative machine possible in order that the tax dollar be used to the greatest advantage.

The need for a state administrative reorganization may be illustrated by the fact that, according to the last count, there are in Texas approximately 200 agencies, departments, and institutions supervised by 148 administrative bodies.

As a means of improving state administrative efficiency, it is proposed that this Texas Economy Commission be established to investigate means of reorganizing our executive department.

The purpose of the Commission will be to investigate the present organizations, functions, procedures, and operations of all departments, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, institutions, independent establishments, and establishments of the executive branch of Texas State Government.

The Commission will analyze inter-relationships, overlapping and duplicating functions, internal organization, methods and cost of operation, personnel and operating policies.

It will also be indicated for the Commission to study and consider changes required to minimize expenditures and increase efficiency of operations, eliminate duplication, modernize techniques and procedures, and define, limit and co-ordinate activities.

The Governor will present the recommendations of the Commission for the consideration of the Legislature, through the Legislative Council, the Legislative Budget Committee and the group of legislators to be appointed as a liaison body.

It is probably indicated that the Commission not undertake to make recommendations as to what services the state government shall provide, since this is the prerogative of the Legislature. Rather, it should confine itself to questions of how those services may best be administered. —From the Governor's Office

Mrs. Row and Mrs. Kilman have both been appointed by the Governor to membership on this Commission.—Ed.

AT YOUR SERVICE, VOTERS!

Important Political Dates — 1950

January 31—Last day to pay poll taxes and secure exemption, when required. Art. 2955

June 5—Last date for candidates for State offices to file with State Chairman request to have name placed on primary ballot. Art. 3111

June 9—Last day for State Chairman to notify state committee and all persons whose names have been requested to be placed upon ballot of place of State convention. Art. 3111

June 12—State executive committee shall decide upon and publish the place of state convention. Art. 3136

June 17—Last day for candidates seeking County and Precinct offices to have name placed on ticket. Art. 3113

July 2—First day for absentee voting. Absentee voters shall apply to County Clerk to vote not more than 20 nor less than 3 days prior to first primary. Art. 2956

July 18—Last day for absentee voting for first primary. Art. 2956

July 22—Date of first primary. Art. 3102 In counties of 150,000 or more, according to the last Federal census, polls shall be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. In all other counties, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Art. 2930

July 29—County Convention elects delegates to State Convention. Art. 3134

August 6—First day for absentee voting for second primary. Art. 2956

August 22—Last day for absentee voting for second primary. Art. 2956

August 26—Date of second primary. Art. 3102. In counties of 150,000 or more, according to the last Federal census, polls shall be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. In all other counties 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

September 12—Date of State Convention. Art. 3136

October 18—Absentee voters must apply to County Clerk to vote not more than 20 nor less than 3 days before general election. Art. 2956

November 3—Last day for absentee voting in General Election. Art. 2956

November 7—Date of general election. Art. 2930

HAVE YOU SEEN?

State Publications:

Laws Which Discriminate Against Women in Texas—3c.

Suggested Election Law Reforms—11c.

Frame Work Fit For Fifty—3c. (Gilmer-Aiken Bill)

Trends in Texas Public Schools 1940-50—5c. (Published by the Research Division of the Texas State Teachers Association.)

How Cities Can Cut Costs—Practical Suggestions for Constructive Economy in Local Government. (Send to International City Managers' Association, 1313 E. 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois)—\$1.00—25% discount on four or more copies. This is an excellent tool to help local Leagues in analyzing the quality, efficiency, and costs of city government. Leagues which have recently done a *Know Your Town Government* survey will find that *How Cities Can Cut Costs* provides clues for taking the next steps. Whatever municipal services your Leagues may be interested in, they will find the questions in this new publication helpful.

The Federal Budget in Brief. This is a summary of the fiscal 1950-51 federal budget printed for the layman to read and to understand (the press quoted 24 minutes as maximum reading time!). It explains in simple non-technical language where the government's money comes from and where it goes. This publication would undoubtedly be of great help to the local Leagues as they carry on their study of the federal budget under item 3 of the 1948-1950 national Current Agenda. Additional copies may be ordered for 20c each from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

SERVICES TO YOU

(Continued from Page 2)

it will come back to your local League and others many-fold through help to you in being a basically sound League more politically effective in your own community.

The new Leagues that a field worker would help bring into being would cause the worker to more than pay for herself. Such service would also cause the existing Leagues in Texas to more adequately carry out our purpose. No matter how thrilling or vital the program, it will remain an "unblossomed rose," only a lost dream if there is no money with which to put it to work. Let's make it work!

Mrs. David B. Trammell
Budget Committee Ch.

THE BULLETIN

of the League of Women Voters of Texas

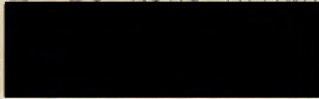
President . . . MRS. MARTIN A. ROW

Editor . . . MRS. J. D. PERRYMAN

Vol. 1 SPRING, 1950 No. 8



Mr. S. E. R. Brownscombe



SERVICES TO YOU

It has been said that "growth is determined in large measure by the budget." Good budgeting is good planning.

It is suggested that if you will compare this budget with the 1949-50 one, you will find that most of the individual items are about the same, with those adjustments that the past year's experience has shown were necessary and equitable in view of the need.

The Texas League is now "big business" and its work can no longer be conducted except in that fashion. Additional file cabinets, desk, chairs, and possibly a new typewriter are desperately needed. An addressograph is woefully needed. Costs saved by addressing by hand are actually an expensive saving when the enormous amount of time required from routine office work is considered, and the inability of the staff to attend to the services that you, the local League, want and need.

Please keep in mind, as your Board studies that this proposed budget represents *services to you*; that the budget is the architectural plan for the possibilities for League service to the individual member, the community, the state and national picture. This "advantage" can be small, dull, trite—or, it can be alive, inspiring, and challenging to the experience and ingenuity of the member in taking the purposes and program of the League to all people in all places.

You may feel surprised at the sum allowed for travel, but wait a minute! Have you ever traveled over the State of Texas—not once, but many times? Then you know how fast the money can disappear. Travel is desperately needed when a new League is trying to put down roots and takes careful nourishing, or when an older League says: "We can't get workers;" "we haven't money and can't get it;" "we don't have time to do state and national program;"—its roots need stabilizing too.

All of you being realists—you know that today's living requires twice as much money to get half as much done.

If we want to continue to be politically effective, we positively must have local Leagues in all congressional and legislative districts. As these areas are organized, we have to be prepared to nurture and encourage and help those Leagues continuously in order to keep them in existence. Texas now has twenty local and provisional Leagues—Brownsville to Amarillo; Midland to Beaumont. They all require assistance and guidance, for they are our "stake" in the future. We have at least six requests now in the State Office for organization of new Leagues.

The prestige of the local and state Leagues is astounding—almost frightening when the responsibility is accepted. With abundance come large and serious responsibilities, as you know. Your State Board members are, in fact, just local League members with added duties and responsibilities. They, too, are volunteer workers. But now there are not enough of them, nor do they have enough marginal time, over and above their personal and local duties, to meet this overwhelming load alone.

Therefore, after deep and thoughtful consideration, the budget committee and the State Board is recommending a full-time field secretary. But a field secretary without money for travel expense to your League and the others could be of no earthly value whatever. If your recent visit with Miss Sweeney thrilled and delighted you, then, with a full-time paid field secretary in the state, you could have a lot more of just the same kind of inspiring personal services. The larger part of her time would be spent "living with you—the local League." And money paid into the State Office is not money sent out of the community, for

(Continued on Page 4)

PROPOSED BUDGET 1950-51

INCOME	Budget for Proposed for	
	1949-50	1950-51
Local League Support.....	\$10,110	\$17,370
State Members-at-Large.....	100	100
Publications—sale of.....	700	500
State Convention or Council.....	50	100
Total.....	\$10,960	\$18,070

EXPENDITURES		
General Administration:		
Audit.....	\$	\$ 65
Equipment (Repair and Additional).....	175	350
Insurance (Liability, fire, bonding).....	10	20
Salaries (Office).....	2,400	2,400
Rent.....		600
Supplies and Stationery.....	300	250
Postage and Express.....	150	150
Taxes (Social Security).....	30	30
Telephone and Telegraph.....	250	125
Board Meeting Expense.....	1,000	1,000
Public Relations Expense.....		200
Delegates' Expense—		
National.....	500	500
Publicity (Nsprs., radio, Speakers Bur.).....		75
Bank Charges.....		5
Direct Services to Local Leagues:		
Miscellaneous.....	10	
State Convention or Council.....	50	100
National League Services.....	2,700	3,000
Field Secretary.....		2,400
League Promotion travel: Finance \$ 300		
Field Sec.....	2,600	
Others.....	1,200	1,000
National Publications and Items.....	850	500
State Publications.....		200
State Bulletin.....	450	500
Platform.....		500
Program: Voters' Service.....	1,085	500
Know-Your-State.....		500
Total.....	\$10,960	\$18,070

PROPOSED PLEDGES		
	1949-50	1950-51
Amarillo.....	\$ 25.00	\$ 200.00
Austin.....	800.00	1,250.00
Beaumont.....	400.00	850.00
Bexar County.....	1,000.00	1,750.00
Brownsville.....	25.00	200.00
Corpus Christi.....	800.00	1,200.00
Dallas County.....	2,500.00	3,250.00
Dickinson.....	75.00	170.00
Edinburg.....	125.00	500.00
Galveston.....	700.00	1,300.00
Houston.....	2,000.00	3,250.00
La Marque.....	115.00	225.00
Midland.....	500.00	950.00
Port Arthur.....	100.00	300.00
Tarrant County.....	100.00	900.00
Taylor.....	160.00	250.00
Texas City.....	150.00	225.00
Waco.....	100.00	350.00
Wichita Falls.....	25.00	250.00
Total.....		\$17,370.00

CAMPUS CORNER

Four Campus Leagues met in Denton Feb. 12 and 13 to correlate ideas.

Approximately twenty delegates from the University of Texas, S.M.U., North Texas State College, and T.S.C.W. began the conference with a Mexican supper at the N.T.S.C. campus Friday evening. Mrs. Martin Row, State President, spoke on the campus League's relation to the League as a whole.

T.S.C.W. delegates, headed by their president, Wanda Jean Kerchival, led the Saturday morning round table discussion.

The University of Texas delegation took over the planning for a constitution and organization of the four groups. Jean Wesley,

Valuable Help From National Staff Member

When the State Board asked for assistance from the National Board in the field of Finance and Organization Miss Irene Sweeney, member of the National Staff, was sent to visit each League in Texas during the month of January.

Mrs. B. B. Sanders, State Finance Chairman, accompanied Miss Sweeney for the first two weeks, and they went to Beaumont, Port Arthur, Galveston, Galveston County Leagues, Houston, Corpus Christi, Robstown, Kingsville, Brownsville, Weslaco, and Edinburg. Then Mrs. Row accompanied Miss Sweeney to San Antonio, Austin, University of Texas Campus League, Taylor, Waco, Fort Worth, Midland, Amarillo, Wichita Falls, and Dallas.

Miss Sweeney met with the State Board on the completion of the trip and told of the plans that were made with local boards for more effective organization.

Highlights from the State Board meeting in February include:

Voters' Service—Every League was doing a fine job here.

Local Program—Many Leagues do not understand what a local Program is, and many more are working on so many local items that they are neglecting state and national Programs.

Board Organization—Few Leagues have large enough boards to carry all responsibilities.

By-Laws—Suggestions were made for changes in By-Laws to permit larger Boards so that the program of the League as a whole could be carried out more effectively.

Names—County Leagues were urged to change their names to City Leagues if they wished to adopt a City government item at the Annual Meeting.

Finance—Many League Boards do not realize Finance is the whole Board's responsibility as well as the Finance Committee's. Most members of the Leagues do not receive explanations of the local, state and national budgets. Some Leagues have not budgeted as they should or could and are therefore unable to send delegates to conventions.

County Councils—At Miss Sweeney's recommendation, the State Board authorized Galveston, La Marque, Texas City and Dickinson to form a Galveston City Council to work on County projects.

New Board Members—Miss Margaret Brand, Dallas lawyer, has been appointed State of Women Chairman, and Mrs. J. D. Perryman, also of Dallas, Public Relations Chairman.

Miss Sweeney helped the State Board with their organization problems, outlined the steps in organizing new Leagues. She raised our vision about the necessity for a State Field Worker and showed us how this dream could become an actuality. We are grateful to the National Board for this very real assistance.

the Texas Legislative Chairman, will head the committee to draw up a constitution.

Sponsors of the Campus Leagues are:

Miss Doris Johnson, University of Texas

Miss Olive White, T.S.C.W.

Miss Mary Evelyn Blagg, N.T.S.C.

Miss Lucille Fender, S.M.U.

1950 will see an important "first" for the Campus Leagues! Joan Ragsdale, president of the University of Texas group, will represent all the College Leagues in Texas as an observer at the national convention in April.

Freda Gail Baum, 1949 President of the University of Texas Campus League, graduated in February; married Elton Soltes; moved to Dallas; and is assisting in the state office and with the S.M.U. League.—Ed.

Some Notes on the Special Session of the Texas Legislature, February, 1950

Why Called? To raise funds to operate State Hospitals and Special Schools and start an urgently needed building and repair program.

Why was it necessary to raise funds at a Special Session? It is unconstitutional for the State of Texas to go in debt without a four-fifths vote of the Legislature. Therefore, when Comptroller Robert Calvert estimated that there would be no funds available to run the eleemosynary institutions for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1950, Gov. Jester vetoed the bill appropriating money for that purpose. It was necessary to call a Special Session (since the Legislature ordinarily would not meet until January, 1951), if these hospitals and special schools were to have the necessary money to remain open after September, 1950.

Why didn't the Legislature raise the money at its regular session? It was not until after the Legislature closed that the Comptroller indicated no money would be available in the General Revenue Fund.

What is the General Revenue Fund? This is the principal account to which receipts are deposited for general government operation. On September 1, 1949, it had a cash surplus of about 85 million dollars. But on September 1, 1951, it was estimated that there would be a deficit of around 26 million dollars. And this deficit did not include any provision to operate the eleemosynary institutions for 1950-51.

Why was there going to be a deficit in the General Revenue Fund? The Legislature is guided in its appropriations by what the Comptroller says will be available in the General Revenue Fund for the biennium. It is legitimate to ask, then, how could the Legislature appropriate so much that the comptroller now estimates a deficit? The answer is that the Comptroller had to revise his estimates of how much would be available to spend for the current biennium for two reasons:

1. Estimations of expenditures for the School Program (Gilmer-Aiken) were increased by almost 17 million dollars.

2. There had been a decline in revenue going into the Fund, mainly the Oil Production taxes which were over 25 million dollars less than expected.

What could the Legislature do? The lawmakers could vote new taxes or by a 4/5 majority agree on deficit spending. They could raise just enough money to pay for a year's operation of the eleemosynary institutions or enough for that plus a building and repair program.

What did the Legislature do? Bills were passed to raise money both for the eleemosynary institutions and a building program. The Omnibus Tax was raised an overall 10% for a period of 18 months beginning March 1, 1950; the tax on cigarettes was hiked from 3 to 4 cents a pack. About 20 million dollars will be raised from the increased Omnibus Tax; the cigarette increase effective until September 1, 1957, will produce between 7 and 8 million dollars annually.

How did this solve the problem? Of the 20 million dollars added income, one-fourth goes into the available school fund in accordance with constitutional requirements. The balance, about 15 million dollars, will go to the operation and maintenance of the State Hospitals and Special Schools. In the next 18 months the cigarette increase will bring in about 11¾ million dollars. Of this 6¾ million is appropriated for operation and maintenance purposes. The remaining 5 million is to be used to begin a building program in the next 18 months. Moreover every year from 1951 to 1957, this same amount, 5 million dollars, of

KNOW YOUR STATE STUDY REPORT

Herewith is a listing of the progress made by each Texas League on its assigned topic in the Know Your State handbook:

Austin: State Administration; Mrs. Oscar Maurer, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. Joe Scherrer, Advisor. An almost complete report has been submitted, and is now being edited by Mrs. Scherrer.

Beaumont: Political Parties and Elections; Miss Mary Montgomery, Chairman; Mrs. Raymond Gregory, Advisor. Chairman reports that the study is well under way.

Corpus Christi: Prison System; Mrs. Harry B. Poole, Chairman; Mrs. William Ruggles, Advisor. No information has been received as to progress made on this study.

Dallas: System of Courts; Mrs. Jacques Villere and Mrs. S. Edward Sulklin, Co-Chairmen; Mrs. William Ruggles, Advisor. This report has been completed and is now being edited by Mrs. Ruggles.

Edinburg: Merit System; Mrs. H. L. Warren, Chairman; Mrs. Raymond Gregory, Advisor. A partial report has been submitted and is now being completed by Mrs. Gregory.

Ft. Worth: Public Welfare; Mrs. W. L. Leavy, Chairman; Mrs. Howard G. Swann, Advisor. This report has been completed and is now being edited by Mrs. Swann.

Galveston: Education; Miss Eugenia Coldwell, Chairman; Miss Olive White, Advisor. A complete membership program was given on this topic to the local League, and a report is now being written.

Houston: Legislature; Mrs. Dorothy McCabe, Chairman; Mrs. Ed Kilman, Advisor. This study is now in progress and a report was to be submitted in March.

La Marque: Education; Mrs. Robert Dillon, Chairman; Miss Olive White, Advisor. A membership program was given on this topic to the local League, and a report is now being written.

Midland: Governor; Mrs. Carl Barnhart, Chairman; Mrs. D. B. Calvin, Advisor. A membership program was given on this topic and a report submitted which is now in the hands of Mrs. Calvin.

Port Arthur: Constitution; no chairman; Mrs. D. B. Calvin, Advisor. No information has been received as to progress made on this study. Mrs. Calvin is now preparing a written report.

San Antonio: Fiscal Management; Mrs. F. W. Steinberg, Chairman; Mrs. E. N. Cappleman, Advisor. Chairman reports the study is now in progress.

Taylor: State Administration; Mrs. Charles Hairston, Chairman; Mrs. Joe Scherrer, Advisor. This report has been completed and is

the cigarette tax income is to be devoted to a building program.

Did the Legislature pass any other bills? The Legislature also appropriated over one million dollars for a University of Texas atomic research laboratory at the Anderson Hospital in Houston. Several bills were passed tightening up existing laws with respect to sex offenders; requiring equal and separate facilities for whites and Negroes in state parks; authorizing the formation of rural telephone co-operatives to bring service to rural areas with R.E.A. aid.—Gloria Levy Herman, Economics Chairman

Mrs. Carl Herman announced the arrival of Carl Adrian in January. We are happy to announce that Parents, Grandparents, the Houston League, and the State League are doing nicely with no cessation of attention.—Ed.

now in the hands of Mrs. Scherrer. In addition to completing its assigned portion of the K.Y.S. Study, this League has held a series of membership programs on the first five topics in the Handbook.

Texas City: Education; Chairman appointed but name not reported; Miss Olive White, Advisor. A verbal message indicates that this study is under way.

Denison: System of Courts; no chairman; Mrs. William Ruggles, Advisor. No information has been received as to progress made.

Dickinson: Education; Mrs. Harold Snow, Chairman; Miss Olive White, Advisor. A membership program was given on this topic to the local League, and a report is now being written.

Waco: State-Local Relations; no Chairman named; Miss Olive White, Advisor. Mrs. Leon Richards, President, has submitted a partial report and expects to submit a final report at an early date.

In summary, considerable progress has been made by the local Leagues on their assigned topics in the Know Your State Study, and by the Advisory Committee in editing those reports that have been completed. It is expected that distribution of the final reports will be made to all local Leagues in the very near future.

Mrs. Howard G. Swann
Know-Your-State Chairman

DICKINSON AND BROWNSVILLE

Dickinson is our newly recognized Local League. Mrs. H. D. Smollen, the new president, succeeds Mrs. Joseph Mares and Mrs. Mary Reasoner. Mrs. Harold Murfree Jr. was the delegate to the Tulsa Area Conference. Congratulations, Dickinson, and for helping to organize our first County Council in Galveston County!

Congratulations are also in order to the Provisional League of Brownsville for sending in all requirements for recognition only eight months after their first organization meeting. They reported 78 members and all participating. Other successes include a Coming of Age Party for all twenty-one-year-olds!

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 1)

the State, since attempts to get State legislation often fail in districts where the League is not organized. Placing items on our Program is ineffective unless we have a medium, i.e. the League, for educating the electorate."

A Know Your State Handbook was chosen as the only item because it is still unfinished business and because it will incorporate most of the suggestions made by the local Leagues.

Explanation of Proposed Platform Items:

As no support of legislation is expected in the one proposed Current Agenda Item, the Board will not feel responsible for seeing that bills are written and sponsored as we did in the last Session of the Legislature.

However, there is much action foreseeable in regard to the Platform Items. The State Board would supply the local Leagues again with material and bibliography in all the fields where we have been active in other years for League members' information and study.

There is a strong likelihood that bills will be introduced in the field of election law reform, property rights for married women, and changes in the structure of the government to increase efficiency in administration. (Election Law Reform is replacing the term Secret Ballot for it was once on our State Current Agenda and included Secret Ballot.)

The BULLETIN

PURPOSE — To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

1508 Fannin Street

Houston, Texas

VOLUME 2

MARCH, 1951

NUMBER 2

WHAT'S COOKING IN THE CAPITOL

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

There are now pending in the Legislature the following bills in which the League is interested, under authority of Platform Item, Status of Women:

(1) Repeal of separate acknowledgement statute, H. B. 136. Texas is the only state in the union which requires that a married woman be taken separate and apart from her husband and asked whether or not she signs a deed or a mortgage of her own free will and accord. The courts have condemned this statute as not being a protection but an avenue of fraud, because frequently it is used to set aside a conveyance on the ground that the statute was not followed. This bill has passed through the House and is now in the Senate. It will be in the Civil Jurisprudence Committee, of which Senator Hazelwood is chairman.

(2) H. B. No. 180—The right of a married woman to convey her separate property in the same manner that a husband can convey his separate property. This bill was introduced by Horace Houston. A public hearing was held on March 6 and the bill was referred to a sub-committee for study as to its constitutionality.

(3) The Uniform Support Act, H. B. No. 192, and a companion bill to the Uniform Support Act, H. B. No. 297, which will provide that a wife may obtain support for her minor children without the necessity of filing divorce suit, were also introduced by Mr. Houston. The Uniform Support Act will provide a procedure which will enable a contempt proceeding to be taken against a husband who has deserted his wife and children and moved to another state. These bills were also referred to a sub-committee on March 6.

(4) The Jury Service for Women Constitutional Amendment, introduced by Preston Mangum and John L. Crosthwait, will again submit to the voters of Texas the question as to whether or not women should be allowed to serve on juries.

FAMILY COURTS bill in process of being written. Lewis B. Lefkowitz, Dallas, is chairman of the statewide committee (each Local League has been asked to supply two members—Ed.)

ELECTION LAW REFORM—The Texas Election Laws Commission has under study, a bill written by its chairman and secretary. A report is due soon on this and it will doubtless be substituted for H. B. No. 6, introduced by W. R.

Stump of the Commission. We urge all Leagues to familiarize themselves with the present laws so that they can understand proposed changes when they are presented.

CALL TO COUNCIL

SPRING IN THE CAPITOL

Presidents' Council

March 27-28, 1951

YOU'LL SEE YOUR LEGISLATOR THERE!

Presidents' Council is held in Austin during the State Legislative session to give training and first hand information to League delegates. The Council is composed of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas, the presidents of Local Leagues and one delegate chosen by each Local League. (Other interested members are welcome but do not vote.—Ed.) The registration fee is \$3.00.

Provisional Leagues are urged to send delegates for this valuable lesson in how to be politically effective. (A procedure factor in the Standards of Recognition for Local Leagues states that a Local League should send representatives to at least one State League meeting during the year.—Ed.)

The Presidents' Council is held in the interim year between conventions. The Council will consider program, method of work, adopt a budget for the coming year and visit in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Mrs. Wendell H. Griffith is Council Manager. Her address is 1802 Broadway, Galveston.

She is Vice-President of the League of Women Voters of Texas and has become well known in the state for her twinkling eyes, her good humor, and her wonderful Board Training Institutes. Mrs. Griffith has recently been appointed to the National Nominating Committee and in this capacity, will attend the National Presi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Tentative Program

PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

Stephen F. Austin Hotel
Austin, Texas
March 27-28, 1951

March 27, Tuesday

9:30 A. M.—Introduction to Council Meeting, Mrs. Griffith.

9:45 A. M.—Business Meeting, Mrs. Kilman presiding.

Presentation of the League's Activities Organization, Mrs. Mares
Voters Service, Mrs. Scherrer
Public Relations, Mrs. Perryman
Financial Report, Mrs. Sanders
Treasurer's Report, Mrs. Cullen
Group Luncheons

2:30 P. M.—Council Reconvenes, Mrs. Kilman presiding

Presentation of the Budget,
Mrs. Brewster

Local League Problems,
Mrs. Griffith

General Discussions; Workshops
Budget Committee Meeting

7:00 P. M.—Buffet supper, Mrs. Sanders presiding

The Legislative Picture in Relation to Current Agenda

Mrs. Kilman, Chairman of Panel

Mrs. Trammell

Mrs. Penn

Mrs. Wacker

March 28, Wednesday

9:00 A. M.—Visit State Legislature

10:30 P. M.—Council Reconvenes, Mrs. Kilman presiding

Adoption of the Budget

Discussion of National Program

Mrs. Martin Row, National

Board Member

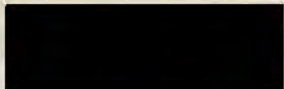
Final Business Session.

12:50 P. M.—Adjourn

For reservations for rooms and buffet supper (buffet supper approximately \$3.00 per person) write at once to Mrs. J. H. Baugh, 1508 Parkway, Austin.



Sec. 34.66, P.L. & R.



Vol. 2 MARCH, 1951 No. 2

President . . . Mrs. Ed Kilman
Editor . . . Mrs. J. D. Perryman

1508 Fannin St.
Houston, Texas
of the League of Women Voters of Texas

THE BULLETIN

PROCEDURE IN ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION

This information is being given so that you can watch with more understanding and interest the progress of Bills from the time they are first introduced until officially proclaimed a law.

FIRST READING—The bill is introduced in the House by a member placing it in the hands of the clerk who gives it a number and reads its title and thus gives it the official "first reading." After this reading, it is referred to a committee by the presiding officer.

Committee—The bill's final fate is often determined by the committee to which it is sent. During the last session of the Legislature there were 41 committees in the Senate and 43 in the House.

Committee Hearing—or Open Hearing—Here the taxpayers, lobbyists, experts and those for and/or against the bill express themselves.

Committee Deliberation—The bill is examined, amended or changed as seems desirable, finally adopted or rejected by committee vote.

Sub-Committee—A sub-committee of the whole committee hearing the bill is sometimes appointed to consider the constitutionality of the bill or to perfect the form. It sometimes is used as a means of delaying the bill. However, there are many times when a sub-committee may really save time by making necessary changes in the bill before it is reported from the committee.

Return of the Bill—A bill is reported from committee with a motion to reprint or not to print. Most contested bills are printed. They are then placed on the House calendar of business to await their turn.

Suspension Calendar—This is a calendar in the House made up by an assignment of places to members largely at the

discretion of the presiding officer. If a member receives a low suspension number, he is in a position to bring up his pet measure early in the session, if there is no objection, or by majority vote to suspend the rule which permits his bill to be considered out of its regular order.

SECOND READING—The house proceeds with consideration of the bill reported from committee. At this time the bill is debated, amended, and finally voted on. Its friends try to force a quick vote; its enemies offer dilatory motions to delay by parliamentary strategy. Debate is formal.

Final Draft—After the bill has been amended and passed on, it is engrossed (prepared for final passage—typed in its finally adopted, or accurate form).

THIRD READING—The bill is finally passed without debate. Proposed amendments at this stage require two-thirds vote. The bill is then sent to the other house where the same procedure is repeated.

Conference Committee—This committee is a vital factor in the process of law-making for it is here that compromises are effected, with differences between the two houses made acceptable to both. A new committee is chosen for every bill that goes to conference.

Enrollment—A final copy of the bill, incorporating all changes, is made. This preparation is call enrollment.

According to the rules of each House, the legislative week is set up as follows:
Monday—Suspension Calendar Day.

Tuesday—Constitutional Amendments.

Wednesday—House bills days in the Senate and Senate Bill days in the House.

Thursday—The same.

Friday—Regular Calendar.

CALL TO COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 1)

dents' Council in Washington, D. C., in April. (Other Texans attending: Mrs. Martin A. Row, Dallas, National Director, Mrs. Ed Kilman, Houston, State President, and Mrs. J. D. Perryman, Dallas, State Board delegate. —Ed.)

Mrs. Griffith, fondly known as Harriet, is well qualified for a National League post. Before becoming a Texas Board member, she was active in the League of Women Voters of Webster Groves and Kirkwood, Missouri. She was president of the St. Louis County Council and, from 1946 to 1948, was president of the Missouri State League.

Mrs. Griffith studied at Reed College and Northwestern University, majoring in History and Literature. She taught school briefly, is interested primarily in Adult Education.

Harriet came to Texas to accompany her famous Biochemist husband when he became head of the Biochemistry department of Texas University Medical School in Galveston. Now serving her second term on the Board of the League of Women Voters of Texas, she is becoming more "Texanized" all the time.

The Griffiths are now building a new home on Galveston Island. In fact, Harriet has been so busy with that and plans for Presidents' Council, she has not had time to have a picture made for this issue.

IN MEMORIAM

Old League members were saddened by the death of Mrs. Burton McCollum in Houston on December 5, 1950. Jessie was a former State Board member and devoted to the League throughout a number of years of service.

PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME	1951-52			
	Revised Budget 1950-51	Proposed Budget 1951-52		
Local League Support	\$13,025.00	\$14,375.00		
Members-at-Large	100.00	18.00		
National Publications	500.00	1,000.00		
State Convention or Council	100.00	100.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$13,725.00	\$15,505.00		
EXPENDITURES				
General Administration				
Audit	\$ 65.00	50.00		
Equipment	350.00	150.00		
Insurance and Bonds	20.00	20.00		
Rent	600.00	600.00		
Office Supplies	575.00	500.00		
Taxes (Social Security)	30.00	30.00		
Telephone and Telegraph	243.00	200.00		
President's Expenses		120.00		
Board Meeting Expense	1,000.00	1,250.00		
Delegates' Expenses (National)	450.00	500.00		
Bank Charges	5.00	5.00	3,338.00	3,425.00
Direct Services to Local Leagues				
League Promotion Travel, Finance	1,250.00	1,500.00		
State Current Agenda	855.00	625.00		
Platform Items	700.00	425.00		
Voters Service	500.00	300.00		
Postage	250.00	250.00		
Public Relations	275.00	130.00		
National Publications	790.74	1,000.00		
State Publications	100.00	100.00		
State Bulletin	500.00	500.00	5,220.74	4,580.00
Salaries		1,750.00		2,400.00
State Convention or Council		416.25		100.00
National Service (pledge) The National Voter	3,000.00	4,000.00		
Contingent Fund	4,250.00	750.00		
TOTAL EXPENTITURES	\$13,725.00	\$15,505.00		

You Owe It To Yourself

Preparing a State League Budget is a serious process that starts with the Budget Committee, appointed by the President, Mrs. Ed Kilman. This committee included Mrs. John L. Brewster, Dallas Chairman, Mrs. Horton Smith, Austin, Mrs. Albert H. Barth, Texas City, Mrs. H. W. Cullen, State Treasurer and Mrs. Ben Sanders, State Finance Chairman. The Budget Committee met prior to the January State Board Meeting in order to present to the Board of Directors a financial plan for carrying out the workload of the State League. The Board carefully reviewed the Proposed Budget, making several suggestions and approved it in the form here presented. It is then the responsibility of the Budget Chairman to see that every local League member is given ample time to consider this budget and that your delegates to Council come prepared to accept a share of the League financial picture by pledging a reasonable amount of support. Delegates at Council then give final approval and adopt the Budget.

Various factors influence the size of the State Budget. The prospects for legislative action and voters service are very important considerations. The state of the League is another. By state of the League we mean how much attention are the established Leagues going to need this year? How many provisional Leagues are needing monthly visits by Board members? How many requests can we handle for organizing new Leagues? Etc. . . . In any budget, there are certain items for which the costs are fixed, such as, rent, salaries, telephones, insurance, etc. These items seem to amount to a considerable sum, but, as a result, they permit our state office to function efficiently and cannot be cut without seriously affecting League administrations. Also in our budget, provision must be made for support of National Services. This year we see a new innovation, every member publication called the National Voter, to be mailed to you monthly and twice monthly during Congressional sessions. The cost of this publication is in-

That's Where Our Money Goes

EQUIPMENT \$150.00. This item has been cut in the amount of \$200.00. Our office is well-equipped now with two desks, two filing cabinets, two typewriters (one needing some repair), and electric A. B. Dick Mimeographing machine, addressograph, etc. The budget committee has recommended that the President purchase a used dictaphone machine which would aid her immeasurably in detail work.

INSURANCE AND BONDS \$20.00. The President and Treasurer are bonded and the insurance is to cover loss of equipment by fire, water, etc.

RENT \$600.00. This is a fixed item at \$50.00 per month.

OFFICE SUPPLIES \$500.00. An inventory was made of the supplies on hand and note was taken of the amount expended to date. It will be necessary to purchase a sizeable quantity of letter-heads, envelopes, memo sheets, mimeograph paper, stencils, staples, etc. during the coming year.

POSTAGE AND EXPRESS \$250.00. Self-explanatory.

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH \$200.00. The telephone charge is fixed at \$15.53 per month. All long distance telephone calls and telegraphs are charged to the item in the budget for which the call or telegram was made such as current agenda, voters service, finance, etc.

PRESIDENT'S EXPENSE \$120.00. The Board in its January 1951 meeting voted to give to the President \$10.00 per month to handle small incidental League

(Continued on Page 3)

cluded in pledges made from local to state and from state to national.

Thus, League members who are asking questions about the State budget will find that its size depends on a combination of many factors—and that as long as the League is growing in size and in stature we may expect the Budget to show a yearly increase. This is a healthy sign and one we may well be proud of since it indicates real interest, not only on the part of our members but within the citizens of our various communities too.

So, YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF to protect the investment that you have already made in the League of Women Voters and to glory in the exciting dividends paid out with increasing regularity, by supporting the State and National Leagues with "your heart and your pocket-book."

Mrs. John L. Brewster,
Budget Chairman

WHERE OUR MONEY GOES

(Continued from Page 2)

expenses which are necessary for her to incur from time to time.

BOARD MEETING EXPENSE \$1250.00. This item has been raised \$250 and still is not adequate to reimburse the board members fully for their expenses while attending Board Meetings. The Houston League members are housing out of town board members thus saving the State League hotel and food expense. Grateful as we are to Houston it does not give a complete picture of the actual expense involved in holding the necessary number of board meetings.

DELEGATES EXPENSE \$500.00. This amount covers the cost of two delegates to the President's Council in Washington in April of this year.

LEAGUE PROMOTION AND TRAVEL \$1,500.00. This shows a raise of \$250 over last year. Since we do not have a field secretary and so many communities are crying for League organization, it is necessary to provide our State Board Members with funds to cover the state. This fund also provides for assistance to Leagues including Board Training, Finance, etc.

STATE CURRENT AGENDA \$625. This budget covers a non-legislative year. Most of our legislative work will be done within the fiscal year 1950-51 ending March 31, 1951. Therefore, we believe that \$625.00 will amply cover an extra session or a special session of the legislature.

PLATFORM ITEMS \$425.00. This is a cut over last year. The explanation under Current Agenda also holds true for this item.

VOTERS SERVICE \$300.00. Provision has been made to cover a constitutional amendments election with voters service information to be made available to the Local Leagues.

PUBLIC RELATIONS \$130.00. This will include all expense incurred in doing a public relations job for the League i.e. press, radio, travel by the President to speak to another organization, etc.

NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS \$1,000. The State Office is actually a collection agency for the Local Leagues national publication accounts. Publications purchased for specific purposes by the State League are charged to accounts such as

ORGANIZATION NEWS

AMARILLO PROVISIONAL: The Provisional LWV of Amarillo will have dropped the "Provisional" before its name by the next issue of the bulletin. Local Leagues who have difficulty getting members to attend meetings should look to Amarillo. They have several members who live in Pampa 60 miles away... that's 120 miles round trip. During the Pre poll tax drive when Amarillo members were being deputized some who had ducked into 10-minute parking places found tickets on their cars. The judge fined them all. Amarillo newspapers took it up, several business men offered to pay the fines of these civic minded women. That same night the judge sent the money back! Tax assessor gives LWV credit for selling record number of poll tax in an off election year.

BANDERA COUNTY PRE-PROVISIONAL. Another lesson in League attendance comes from Bandera County which is under the sponsorship of Mrs. Sinkin who reports that one interested member of the pre-provisional comes from "behind seven gates" to attend meetings.

LUBBOCK PRE - PROVISIONAL: Lubbock has 44 members at last report and was working on completion of or-

Promotion, Finance, Voters Service, etc.

STATE PUBLICATION \$100.00. The state office plans to issue a new brochure on the State League, containing the current agenda, facts about the League on a state level and a list of the board members. This will be valuable to Membership and Finance Chairmen.

STATE BULLETIN \$500.00. To cover the cost of publication and mailing of the State Bulletin.

SALARIES \$2,400.00. This has been a stationary figure for some time now and should be increased to insure competent help.

STATE CONVENTION OR COUNCIL \$100.00. This is a transfer figure. The same amount, under the same heading, appears in the income side of the budget. The income is derived from delegates registration fees at convention or council.

NATIONAL SERVICE U. S. VOTER

ganization, Mrs. George Lemon is president.

ODESSA PRE - PROVISIONAL: Odessa reports 36 members, with Mrs. Roy Parker as President, and will be ready for recognition after one more meeting.

ORANGE PRE-PROVISIONAL: Mrs. Max Berner is the new President and they are going forward with their organization.

TYLER PROVISIONAL: "This is Tyler" pamphlet ready for approval of Board of Directors. Tyler made stickers and put on windows in January urging citizens to pay their poll tax. Telephone committee called every telephone in Tyler directory on poll tax. Seventy-six members. Mrs. David Trammell of the State Board spoke to Tyler General membership on "Family Courts." Recognition as a Local League is in sight for Tyler.

WICHITA FALLS PROVISIONAL. Successful membership luncheon on February 21. Mrs. John Brewster, Dallas, spoke around the organization chart "You are The League Woman." Bill Hood, radio announcer, read the script "The Day We Lost the Vote." Mrs. Wayne Sommerville and Mrs. March Oliver have organized discussion groups.

\$4000.00. This is an increase of \$1000 over last year. But covers the cost of the every member publication.

CONTINGENT FUND OR RESERVE \$750.00. This is an entirely new item in the state budget. This fund will serve several purposes and is almost a must in basic financing. Several ways in which this fund can be used are:

1. To cover the interim period from the end of the fiscal year until such time the Local Leagues have completed their finance campaigns and are paying their support to state.
2. To be considered as a fund to be used in emergencies and special projects.
3. To be considered a first step toward our dream of a field secretary and may be added to each year until the fund is large enough to carry the expense of a field secretary for her first year.

The BULLETIN

PURPOSE — To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

1508 Fannin Street

Houston, Texas

VOLUME 2

JULY, 1951

NUMBER 3

GOV. SHIVERS SIGNS CLEAN ELECTION BILL



Watching last-minute signing of much-amended bill, left to right: Secretary of State John Ben Shepherd; Mrs. Ed. Kilman, Houston, President League of Women Voters of Texas; Representative W. R. Stump, Georgetown, author of the Bill; Senator Keith Kelly, Fort Worth; Senator Carlos Ashley, Llano, member Election Laws Commission; Mrs. Chas. F. Mitchell, President Austin League; Mrs. B. B. Sanders, Dallas, 2nd Vice President League of Women Voters of Texas; Governor Shivers.

VENI—WORKI—VICI!

Pardon our paraphrase, Caesar — but all Texas Leagues can claim part in the victory for cleaner elections climaxed in that beau-u-u-tiful picture above! Governor Shivers signing the new revised Election Code for Texas . . . watched happily by State President Kilman, State V-P Sanders, and Austin League President Mitchell (with other Texas dignitaries also there.)

VENI—we came . . . to League meetings all of 12 years ago, and started studying right then ways of insuring more honest elections. 10 years later (and much work later), Texas Leagues were largely credited with passing the Secret Ballot bill, as the first step toward cleaner elections.

WORKI—WORKI . . . always more work, we worked to learn why our election laws were confused, outdated, unworkable . . . what we could do to help

modernize them. Dillie (Mrs. William) Penn, of Midland, our State Board member on the Governor's Commission to recommend simplification and modernization of election laws, deserves to be right in the middle of that picture above, but she was enjoying a well-earned vacation in Minnesota . . . We not only worked to learn but we worked writing letters to the Governor to sign the bill into law, after a flood of our letters hits our legislators saying we wanted the bill passed.

VICI . . . we conquered! Part way, that is. Now we have the law passed, our next big job is letting the people know about it, helping the people make it work. Like all League programs it's a long pull educational job. Action came only after study, knowing what we wanted for better government.

Said Everett Collier, Houston Chronicle political commentator: "For several years

(Continued on Page 3)

NATIONAL COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

State League Presidents and one delegate from each of 39 states met April 24 and 25 in Washington, D. C. This National Council meets in interim years between National Conventions, to keep National Board members informed on local League's ideas and wishes, and review Convention decisions. In usual thorough League fashion, floor discussion turned each Current Agenda item inside out, aired it thoroughly. It was decided that ample authority was given to allow the League in the present emergency to put its strength behind measures to combat inflation; to strengthen collective security, international trade and international economic development.

EXPERTS TOLD US: "Preserve the system that produces the wealth. Never hesitate to take an oath of allegiance to our country; protect Formosa from the Reds."

KARL R. BOPP, V-P, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, said: "Economists, including extreme rightists and leftists, all seek the same end—an efficient, solvent economic system . . . Production controls, necessities of wartime economy, purely temporary expedients, should be fearfully regarded long-term as means of stifling the source of our high standard of living."

WALTER W. WILCOX, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress, said: "Higher prices follow rather than precede higher wages. If nobody competes for steaks, steaks obviously have little or certainly descending value."

KENNETH JOHNSON, Dean of Columbia's School of Social Work, said: "A serious problem exists where words are lifted out of content to provide material for smear campaigns" . . . and urged "a common sense approach to the problem of evaluating loyalty."

W. AVERILL HARRIMAN, Presidential advisor on foreign affairs, unequivocally stated his "complete disbelief in the idea that Communism is the wave of the future, the inevitable working out of democratic revolution." He felt the United Nations "Too young and too weak" to carry the whole load, and urged all possible other measures to tilt international scales in favor of democracies . . .

(Continued on Page 4)



Mrs. E. T. Browncombe

Sec. 34.66, P.L. & R.



Vol. 2 JULY, 1951 No. 3

Editor . . . Mrs. T. H. JENNENT

President . . . Mrs. Ed. KILMAN

1508 Fannin St.
Houston, Texas
of the League of Women Voters of Texas

THE BULLETIN

THE LEAGUE AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY —FORECAST

Mrs. Allen C. G. Mitchell, of Bloomington, Ind., your National Board member in the international field, gave a comprehensive report of league action during the past tense year, and looked to possible future activity in her magnificent talk at the National Council in Washington. From her well-informed vantagepoint she suggests:

"Congress can be expected to be increasingly active in conduct of foreign policy. This means that the League of Women Voters has an important role in forming public opinion. There is need to reestablish bipartisan foreign policy. As we meet to determine the emphasis the League should give to international problems in coming months, there are still many unresolved issues in the foreign policy field. 1) U. N. is working through the Collective Security Committee to implement Uniting for Peace proposals. Report must be submitted to U. N. General Assembly by September. This will suggest ways in which countries will designate parts of their armed forces to become U. N. units to be used in case future aggression breaks out. This poses a question in U. S. foreign policy which Leagues should examine: What provision should be made for use of national forces by U. N. whenever aggression occurs in the future?

"2) U. N. question of sanctions against aggressor: military, economic, diplomatic. Do we want U. N. to direct U. S. in applying sanctions against future aggressors? This implies a certain control over our international trade, our policy of recognizing governments, use of our armed forces.

"3) There will be many decisions confronting our government on the implementation of North Atlantic Treaty in near future. The League must decide to

what extent it can a) help inform public on issues and b) exert influence on Congress and Administration as to what decisions should be, as they affect our national security and economic stability.

"4) Proposal for a Pacific Pact based on principles embodied in North Atlantic Treaty.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT

"The issue of reciprocal trade is more vital than ever. The possibility of U. S. joining an International Trade Organization is dead issue, but . . . our government may attempt to set the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade up on a permanent basis by incorporating it as part of the U. N. Should the League work as we did for the creation of ITO?"

"Soon a Foreign Aid appropriation bill will be before Congress . . . for EC assistance, Point Four. For aid . . . will emphasize production of armaments and economic development to procure strategic raw materials. This will not only affect our and European economy but the economic system in Latin America and Asia.

Mrs. Mitchell concludes: "When we support the principle of collective security we also say that foreign economic assistance and economic development is part of this implementation. The problem becomes one of supporting a rearmament program for collective defense and at the same time trying to stabilize the world's economics and providing this rearmament program through trade and development with the necessary materials."

Feel that's a terrible load of learning and action ahead? It is . . . but Mrs. Lee tells us it's OUR GENERATION that will make the decision. We can't wait and throw it to our children. It won't be too heavy if we keep informed and keep informing others!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 1)

REPUBLIC AND DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMEN urged that "the League become a greater training ground for channeling women trained in government into the political parties . . . that they encourage League members to become candidates for office," and advised we should be "wise as serpents, harmless as doves, persistent as a Fuller Brush Man!"

YOUR TEXAS DELEGATES entertained and were entertained by our legislators and their wives; glowed with pride during the Voter's Service report by our National Board member, Mrs. Martin Row; loved the new quarters of the League of Women Voters of the U. S., and its rapidly growing staff; were pleased when Sen. Tom Connally took a bow at our banquet, after repeated bouquets from speaker W. Averill Harriman.

Being in Washington at this critical time was exciting. We realized anew the importance, the responsibility of the League of Women Voters in our democracy. President Lee handed us our continuing job, saying: "Progress, or Regress? Our generation will make that decision."

Mrs. Ed. Kilman
Mrs. J. D. Perryman
Mrs. W. H. Griffith

We got study groups and meetings
And a lot of worth-while aims.
The League was never selfish . . .
Let's bring in a lot more dames!

—Maybe the dames you know are shy, want to be asked to join your League. Go on! Ask 'em! Now's the time, to start 'em out right in the Fall. Every League needs more woman-power. League training for group action is fun. If you have League-material friends in other Texas cities, drop a postcard to League of Women Voters of Texas, 1508 Fannin St., Houston.

TEXAS LEAGUE RATES BIG 14 FOR NATIONAL BOARD CONFERENCE

A BRAG Texas Leagues can accept with modest pride... recognition by National, putting us 'way up top in Big League status! Texas, with 13 other leading states, has been chosen for a pilot project of great importance. Members of the National Board and Executive Staff will meet with Texas State Board members for an intensive two-day session, Sept. 20 and 21, in Houston. Together they will develop a program which will enable the League to render its maximum service to the citizens of this country. The year ahead leads to a League convention, as well as national elections of utmost importance.

After their intensive program work at the Conference, State Board members will carry the same ideas back to local leagues—all pointing to the urgency of develop-

ing from *individual members* a League-worthy program we all can work on, believe in completely in this time of unprecedented danger, unparalleled opportunity.

Mrs. John G. Lee, National President, in arranging the Texas Conference, wrote: "I cannot over-emphasize the importance which the national board attaches to this project. I am sure I do not need to persuade you of the magnitude of the present danger in which we are living. But I must say again and again that in the League of Women Voters we have a national resource of absolutely unique and unlimited proportions. Now, if ever, is the time to use it to the fullest. We, 100,300 strong, can create national unity behind national policies and national leaders to keep this country great." The Conference will be open, of course, to all members, as well as Board Members.

VOTERS SERVICE BROCHURE ON STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

VOTERS SERVICE BROCHURE ON STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS: Mrs. Joseph D. Scherer, state chairman, is preparing the pros and cons on amendments to be voted on in November. Ready for distribution in September. Put in your order NOW with State office, please.

TO FINANCE CHAIRMEN: Mrs. B. B. Sanders, state chairman, reminds you to pa-leeze fill in those copies just sent you by National. Send one copy to National, one to Mrs. Sanders.

WELCOME! To our two newest League babies! Odessa and Pampa Provisional Leagues. Dillie Penn is responsible for Odessa; Lois Perryman and Catherine Upshaw for Pampa.

HANDSOME BROCHURE coming up! League of Women Voters of Texas triple-fold carrying national and state agendas, space for local; listing of all Texas Leagues; State Board members and Directors. Supplies for local board members out within 10 days, additional supplies available.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION: A League of Women Voters Unit group. All shades of political opinion are expressed, areas of agreement reached, and we go on from there. We don't call a person who disagrees with us by the names so loosely used these days. We look for facts, and League members are trained to shed light, not heat. That's the reason for the continuing, growing success of Leagues over the whole country.

"THE GREAT END OF LIFE IS NOT KNOWLEDGE, BUT ACTION." T. H. HUXLEY. Did Mr. H. have League

Ladies in mind? Modern dictionaries haven't yet listed League of Women Voters as a synonym for action...but political dictionaries do! Our action occurs in three ways...by providing information, building public opinion, by supporting legislation concerning issues on the League's program. We don't HAVE to wait for a definite Call for Action. Help your Congressman in Washington make right decisions by telling them constantly what you believe. They're eager for well-informed opinions from their constituents. Remember, one letter is worth a hundred unregistered gripes!

TEXAS LEAGUE BRAGS: Twenty local leagues: Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Bexar County, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Dickinson, Edinburg, Ft. Worth, Galveston, Houston, LaMarque, Midland, Port Arthur, Taylor, Texas City, Tyler, Waco, Wichita Falls.

FIVE PROVISIONAL LEAGUES: Bandera County, Lubbock, Odessa, Orange, Pampa.

FOUR EXPLORATORY ORGANIZATIONS: El Paso, Harlingen, Laredo, Corsicana. Know former League members living in these cities? Send names and addresses to State Office.

WHAT ABOUT NATURAL RESOURCES? This new item on our National Agenda is one we've done no previous work on. Read the Hoover Commission's Reports on Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture—30c and 20c respectively, Supt. of Documents, U. S. Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Also suggested reading is Fairfield

(Continued on Page 3)

INTRODUCING...

Two new State Board Members are ready to assist local leagues in three fields. Mrs. L. K. Richards, immediate past President of the Waco League, has accepted the portfolio of Resource Chairman on National Item I: "The expansion of world trade and international economic development with maximum use of United Nations Agencies."

Mrs. Horton Wayne Smith, immediate Past President of the Austin League, known to most of you as "Cookie" has accepted appointment on the State Board with the portfolio of Public Relations Chairman and also as Resource Chairman on the Know Your State item.

Mrs. Joseph Mares of Dickinson, who has done such a superb job as Chairman of the Organization Committee during the past year felt it necessary to resign because of the increasing activity of her three growing sons. She has been a tower of strength for your State President during the past year, as well as having done a magnificent job of organizing an organization committee, such as we've never had before. Mrs. J. D. Perryman, of Dallas, former Public Relations Chairman and Bulletin editor, has agreed to take the chairmanship of the Organization Committee.

APPLE POLISHING

LUBBOCK LOVES LEAGUE! Writes President Pauline Lamon, of new Lubbock League, after attending her first State President's Council meeting: "I want to thank you for the many nice things you did for me while we were in Austin. I have been to many state meetings before—that is, meetings of other organizations—but never have the state officers been so well-informed and so accessible to the members attending the gathering. If I hadn't been 100% sold on the League work I would certainly have been so inclined after our wonderful council...It is my fervent desire to measure up to the standards set, and that the Lubbock Provisional League of Women Voters will be a source of pride and joy to you and the other state officers." State President Kilman says such kind words fall like manna from heaven on a soul parched by not-so-kind criticisms. LEAGUE LOVES LUBBOCK, TOO!

"THE BALLOT: A weapon that comes down as still as snowflakes upon the sod, but exercises a FREE MAN'S will as lightning does the will of God." Anon.

"The thing to do is to supply light and not heat." Woodrow Wilson.

VENI-WORKI-VICI!

(Continued from Page 1)

there has been a clamor throughout Texas for an election reform bill. The Texas League of Women Voters, and particularly the Houston League of Women Voters, made this a virtual crusade during the last two sessions of the legislature. Thanks, Mr. Collier! Praise from the press we can gratefully use. We need you, you need us. Texas Leagues are GOOD NEWS!

Said Shivers, in signing the mammoth election law bill, which becomes effective Jan. 1, 1952: "Unquestionably there are imperfections in House Bill 6, but in my opinion the good outweighs the bad. Changes of particular significance include those giving the attorney-general authority to investigate cases of alleged fraud and tightening the requirements for prompt reporting of election results. Regarding party-line Democrats' objections to certain sections, Shivers said: "1) The party pledge has not been affected. 2) The so-called cross-filing will not damage the Democratic Party in any way. 3) The Democratic convention system will not be adversely affected by the new proviso that delegates selected by precinct and county conventions shall be seated on temporary rollovers at the next convention level."

Two points Leaguers have been especially interested in are included: 1) premature announcement of returns or giving out information before polls close carries \$1000 fine. 2) Old but ignored \$10,000 limit on campaign expenses wiped out, but anyone donating over \$100 must see it's reported, or be liable to each of his candidate's opponents for double his contribution.

Every Texas League will certainly want to plan a briefing session on changes "our" new election law makes, and should hold a school for poll workers, to insure new provisions are carried out.

Now ain't we sumpin' when we get rollin'?

VOTERS SERVICE

(Continued from Page 2)

Osborn's "Our Plundered Planet"; William Vogt's "Road to Survival." Have you an active Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report in your town? If so, they have grand material. If not, why not? Ask your editors for regular reports to readers on progress.

WHOSE PROGRAM IS IT? It's YOUR program in Texas! Any suggestions on fields you'd like to see Texas Leagues working in? Your State Board works 'way ahead of convention time, welcomes your suggestions year 'round. Although the Biennial State Convention, set for March 25-27, 1952, sounds far off, it's closer than you think. Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, is the setting.

CLUES CLOSET

HOW'S YOUR HEALTH

Interest in public health is stimulated in the Leagues in Texas these days through the work of league members on the public health survey. Midland, Houston, Edinburg, Port Arthur, and Corpus Christi have completed their survey outlines. The remaining leagues are expecting to finish their reports shortly although the October first deadline is still three months away.

In order to realize the purpose of the survey—to make league members familiar with health conditions in their own communities—we are hoping that all leagues will use the information they gather for discussion subjects in their unit groups. The Brownsville league has suggested that each league use the survey outline for making an annual study of local health conditions. This annual project would show what progress the community was making in meeting public health needs.

The reports of the five leagues which have completed their surveys show a wide range of data. For example per capita expenditures ranged from \$0.55 to \$1.35 with a median of \$0.87. For the United States the range was from \$0.15 to \$1.46 with a median of \$0.92. For the forty public health units reporting in Texas, the minimum expenditures was \$0.216, the maximum \$1.38, and the median \$0.689. The American Public Health Association recommends \$1.50 per capita

expenditures as the absolute minimum to meet basic public health needs.

Similar variation is shown in the five reports as to the increase or decrease of deaths from tuberculosis over the last five years. One community has found that the rate of decrease in the death rate from tuberculosis has been less than 1/1000th per cent; another has found that the ratio of tuberculosis deaths to all deaths was approximately unchanged; two more reported a slight decrease in tuberculosis death rates; the fifth does not answer. For the same five-year period, the death rate in Texas from tuberculosis as reported by the 40 public health units ranged from 8.4 to 83.0 with a median of 24.7 per 100,000 population. The figure would undoubtedly range higher if all communities were included.

We cannot afford to become self-satisfied simply because our own community happens to be in the lower death rate bracket or the upper expenditure bracket. The mobility of disease makes impossible any barrier at county or city lines. We must be concerned with public health as a state-wide problem. Neither statistics nor surveys will solve the problem of how to assure adequate public health facilities for Texans. However, with the knowledge we have gained, we hope we will understand more clearly what our next steps should be.

Mrs. A. B. Wacker
State Public Health Chm.

NEW LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS

GIVE THE VOTERS A HAND: A guide for voters service that will spark the imagination and start a fire of enthusiasm for League's year-round activity. Specific, exciting, sprinkled with thumbnail cartoons, a 26-page "must" for all Voters Service Committee members. 15c ea.—State or National Offices.

DECISIONS AHEAD! A convincing new Finance folder, each order including equal number of contribution receipt forms. Minimum order—100 for \$1.75.

PRINTED PUBLICATION LIST: Free of charge for distribution to both members and non-members who appreciate the authoritative excellence of every piece of League literature.

NOT NEW... BUT STILL NEWS
BIG GOVERNMENT AND THE CITIZEN: First Memo dealing with Item III of national Agenda (natural resources)—an eye-opener on magnitude of organizational problems of government. (To be followed soon by second Memo on same topic.) 15c.

NEW WAYS TO MEET OLD PROBLEMS: A far-sighted discussion of some

TRAINING SESSION TOPS

The National Board of the League of Women Voters planned a series of organization conferences to be held in various states and Texas was fortunate to be named as one of the states. The conference was held on May 28th and 29th in Houston at the Rice Hotel. The entire State Board, Organization Committee and some representatives of Local Leagues met for two full days with Mrs. Errol Horner of the National Staff, and Mrs. Martin Row of the National Board. Every phase of League Organization was covered. Our only regret was that we couldn't have had representatives from every local league present. Mrs. Horner and Mrs. Row did a thoroughly magnificent job. Every one present was delighted to have had the training and we feel we will benefit greatly within the coming year in our organization field.

things that can be done about "under-development": where does the U. S. go from here in helping the world's tragic areas? (To date, League has taken no stand on Point Four.) 15c.



GOVERNOR JESTER SIGNS SECRET BALLOT BILL ON JUNE 7, 1949

Left to right: Miss May Jones, Tarleton, President State A.A.U.W.; Representative Frank McGregor; Mrs. William Y. Penn, Midland, Vice-President and Secret Ballot Resource Chairman League of Women Voters of Texas; Mrs. Sam Lichenstein (behind Mrs. Penn), Legislative Chairman Council of Jewish Women; Mrs. Banks Upshaw, Dallas, Treasurer League of Women Voters of Texas; Mrs. Ben B. Sanders, Fort Worth, Co-chairman Legislation League of Women Voters of Texas; Mrs. J. J. Perry, Sweetwater, President Texas Federated Women's Clubs; Representative Doyle Willis, sponsor; Mrs. Charley Ward (behind Rep. Willis), Houston, President Federated Business and Professional Women of Texas; Mrs. Martin A. Row, Dallas, President League of Women Voters of Texas; Representative Herman Yezak; (behind Mrs. Row) Representative Otis Lee; Representative W. O. Reed; Senator Keith Kelly, sponsor; Mrs. Melvin Rotsch, Co-chairman Legislation, League of Women Voters of Texas; Senator Crawford Martin; Mrs. J. H. Moore, Deport, President State Parent Teachers Association; Senator Wardlow Lane; Mrs. Malcolm McQuorcadale, Houston, Republican State Committeewoman; Senator Carlos Ashley; Mrs. H. W. Cullen, Houston, President League of Women Voters of Houston; Mrs. Ed Kilman, Houston, Director League of Women Voters of Texas; Speaker Durwood Manford; Mrs. Paul Murchison, Austin, Legislative Chairman Business and Professional Women; Lieutenant Governor Allan Shivers; Senator Kyle Vick, President Pro-tem of the Senate.

On June 7, 1949, when Governor Jester signed the League's Secret Ballot bill, Texas, for the first time in its history, had "a more secret ballot." The enactment of this law brought to successful conclusion one of the League's most difficult tasks.

After a record of legislative failures for three preceding legislative sessions, the League of Women Voters in Convention in June, 1948, again placed the Secret Ballot item on its Current Agenda with profound determination for complete success. Mrs. William Y. Penn, 2nd vice-president, (Midland), was appointed to conduct the necessary research and she left no stone unturned to try to learn particular reasons why other ventures had not brought the desired result. Interviews were made with League friends; correspondence was widely carried on to gain knowledge about the status of the ballot in other states, and what they were doing to correct any existing faults in the ballot. Workshops were held at state meetings, at which politically informed persons were asked to participate. Armed with advice on techniques and procedures, the League turned to the Attorney General of Texas for further advice and help. He agreed to write a bill for the League incorporating the recommendations of the Governor's Committee on the Revision of Election Laws. Mrs. Penn was a member of this Committee.

During the time the bill was being written, State Board members spoke before interested groups and organizations. They responded to all League invitations for speaking engagements, giving out all available information. One such invitation resulted in an offer by one

of the Legislators to sponsor the bill in the House of Representatives. When the Legislature convened in January, Senator Keith Kelly (Fort Worth) had agreed to present it in the Senate, and Honorable Doyle Willis (Fort Worth) had offered to sponsor it in the House. The bill was introduced on February 10, 1949, and Mrs. Melvin Rotsch and the State Legislative Committee went to work.

The Public Relations Committee secured Mrs. Allen Merriam's services in letter writing. She wrote to editors in every county, sent them material for editorials, and received a tremendous response.

Mrs. Penn called together representatives of other women's state organizations at a meeting in Dallas in November to inform them of the League's activity and to seek their legislative support for "A more secret ballot for Texas." Thus the B&PW, AAUW, Jewish Women's Federation, P.T.A., Council of Church Women, and the Federated Women's Clubs joined forces with the League.

Resolutions were prepared by the League of Women Voters of Texas to be introduced at all political party conventions—precinct, county, and state. This pattern was successfully carried through out most of the state. As a result, a wide interest in a secret ballot, which stimulated many heretofore unconcerned persons to activity, was achieved. Lastly, the State Democratic and Republican Party Conventions adopted the resolution and it became one of the items on their platforms.

On March 24, 1949, Mr. Willis succeeded in getting the bill voted out of the Elections,

Suffrage, and Privileges Committee favorably. On April 25, 1949, the bill passed the House, without further amendment, by a vote of 106 to 5. Representatives of all supporting women's organizations appeared at both House and Senate Committee hearings.

Lieutenant Governor Shivers was asked by the League to refer the bill to the Senate State Affairs Committee. He not only agreed to do this but later assisted in the appointment of a favorable Conference Committee. On April 28, 1949, the Senate Committee voted the bill out favorably, and so it was ready for second reading on the Senate floor. Senator Kelly, when S.B. 223 was called for third reading, substituted H.B. 357. After heated argument and delay the bill was amended and passed by the Senate on May 17, 1949, by a vote of 24 to 5. Representative W. O. Reed took the responsibility of seeing that Conference Committees were appointed and the bill submitted to them for minor corrections. Speaker Manford assisted with friendly appointments from the House. The Conference Committee put in long hours of hard work before the bill was concurred in both Houses.

The bill, as originally written, provided that the individual voter himself was to keep his own detached stub. The Senate amended the bill in this respect, and briefly, it now provides:

After marking the ballot, the voter will detach the stub, write his name across the back of it, and drop it into a sealed stub box prepared and later kept by the District Clerk.

(Continued on Page 5)



Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

THE BULLETIN

of the League of Women Voters of Texas

President . . . MRS. MARTIN A. ROW

Editor MRS. R. W. ROTZLER

VOL. 1 SUMMER, 1949 No. 7



Mrs. E. R. Browncombe



I CHANGED MY MIND

With much embarrassment I recall reporting to the League on my trip to Austin four years ago. I had chatted with one Representative and had watched both Houses and then reported that they were doing nothing—nothing but wasting the taxpayers' money.

Two years ago, after only four trips to the Capitol, I told Lieutenant-Governor Shivers that I had a definition of a Senate—"a group that individually could do nothing but who could always meet together and vote that nothing could be done."

Many trips to the 51st Legislature have changed my mind. I am reminded of my definition of prejudice—"being down on what you are not up on." In order to rectify any injury caused by my past prejudice I hope that the facts I have found on this session will help all League members to be "up on" the 51st Legislature.

Praise of this hard-working group does not spring entirely from gratitude over the passage of our two League-sponsored bills. It has grown from watching and working with our sponsors. It has grown from following our bills' progress from Committee to Sub-committee—back to Committee—to the Floor of the House—to the Upper House Committee—to the Floor of the Senate—to the House again—to the Conference Committee—to the Senate—to the House—to the Secretary of State—and finally to the Governor's desk. This circuitous route gave us time to watch other bills and other committees and see what work is done by the Legislature.

Many of the Committees met until late at night and most of them had 100 per cent attendance. Many Legislators belonged to two committees that met at the same time. Members of both Houses were in their places long before the daily sessions began, attempting to answer their voluminous correspondence. Most of them seemed never to be late or absent.

The corridors and reception rooms were constantly packed with enthusiastic constituents. Yet the members were always accessible to the public, always willing to listen courteously to every opinion on every bill. They would rush back to their desks for a vote and patiently return to the waiting public. They complied with my definition of a perfect host—"one who makes you feel at home when he wishes you were."

For the last three months it has been hot work, hard work, and constant work for them. Their diligence and sincere devotion to their work is truly apparent. This all goes double for our sponsors. Beside the amazing behind-the-scenes work they did for our bills, they made brilliant presentations of the bills to the Committees and on the Floor. They advised with us on how the individual Leagues could be most effective and how the Legislative Committee could assist them.

Now I say, congratulations, 51st Legislature, on "knowing a good bill when you see one." Congratulations to you all for your hard and successful efforts in the public interest. Congratulations and thank you for recognizing the presence of the League in Texas as well as our high standards. Thank you, too, for helping us to carry out our purpose of furthering citizen participation in State Government.

Our pleasant work with this "be-Leaguered" Legislature has not only changed my mind, but makes me want to shout aloud with Dr. T. V. Smith, once of T.C.U., that the definition of politicians must surely be—"our secular saints."

Elizabeth Lynch Row.

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

This has been a most interesting and exciting legislative session. First, the uncertainties, the suspense and finally our first taste of victory, have made it so. However, it is considered to be an unusually interesting session by many old-timers at the Capitol. Those of you who got a sample of the atmosphere during the President's Council will best understand what we mean.

Finally, the Texas League of Women Voters is becoming politically effective! Both of our bills passed the Legislature! All the fine work in the past years has borne fruit. The League program has received the endorsement and cooperation of other organizations, and this has helped, too.

The support of the local Leagues for the two items on the State agenda is to be commended. Both of our bills have had the complete support of Legislators from districts where we have Leagues with very few exceptions. Many thanks are due to the local Leagues for their fine cooperation. It was the team work that made our legislative success possible. Each one of you who helped in some way or other will feel a deep sense of satisfaction that at last our Texas League of Women Voters, working so diligently in the public interest, has been recognized by the Legislature. We can be proud of the friendly relations that we have throughout the State and especially with our Legislators.

The Legislative Committee in Austin who contacted Representatives from sections where there are no Leagues and helped to win for us our wonderful voting record on both bills is to be thanked, too. May we list their names: Mrs. Horton Smith; Mrs. Oscar Maurer, Jr., who compiled the reports on promises of votes and who kept members informed concerning changes in scheduling committee hearings, possibility of bills coming up for consideration; Mrs. R. P. Wagner; Mrs. E. P. Conkle; Mrs. Roger J. Williams; Mrs. L. A. Fraser, secretary; Mrs. Creekmore Fath; Mrs. John R. Watts; Mrs. Martin Kermacy; Mrs. John Coats; Mrs. Sam Lichenstein; also Legislative Chairman for the Texas National Council of Jewish Women; Mrs. Roy W. Graves, Jr.; and Mrs. Stedt. Mrs. Burleson and Mrs. Ann Bloomer became interested and were most helpful although they were not yet members of the League of Women Voters. Women representatives of other organizations working for our bills cooperated with us and attended several of our meetings.

A new member of the Legislative Committee should be introduced to you, for she has been made co-chairman with Mrs. Melvin Rotsch since the President's Council. Mrs. B. B. Sanders of Fort Worth has driven down each week since her appointment. She is one of our most persuasive advocates and she has helped so much in the legislative work.

Our president, Mrs. Martin A. Row, should be listed as a member of the Legislative Committee, for no one has worked harder than she for the passage of our bills. She has written countless letters; advised with Legislators and she has come to Austin to work actively for our bills every time that it has been possible for her to do so. Her interest has been an inspiration to all who have been working here.

Our Resource Chairmen, Mrs. David Trammell and Mrs. William Y. Penn, not only did the necessary research, prepared the materials, and got the bills written. They both wrote letters, stacks of them all over the state. Our pride in them for their exceptional work as League members must be as great as their satisfaction in the results of their work.

Mrs. Melvin Rotsch—Legislative Chairman.

LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS

Austin—is not too weary from its State housekeeping work with the Legislature to settle down to local housekeeping. First on the agenda is rebuilding a fallen-apart room, recently given to them for an office. Next, their Know Your Town Study has encompassed all the town. All the experts of the town and University want to assist with the comprehensive but non-evaluative surveys! Finally, one of the six newly organized Discussion Groups will continue into the summer as well as Voters' Service and work on I.T.O. and Reciprocal Trade Agreements.

Beaumont—has a real "legislative light" in its new president, Mrs. W. W. Coffey. She has stimulated the entire membership to be interested in work on State and National Program. Mrs. Lois Marchbanks is the new U.N. chairman and will assist Beaumont to continue its U.N. work as well as work on Displaced Persons.

Bexar County—is planning rest and relaxation for its members after a strenuous Voters' Service work at the city election in May.

Corpus Christi—attempted too late to secure the Lieutenant Governor for a speaker at their annual meeting. He has promised to be with them later in the summer. This League worked indefatigably on State legislation and will continue with its U.N. work.

Dallas County—is putting the final touches on its Finance Campaign. The big League's members are vacationing too, except for Miss Edna Rowe's famous Discussion Group which has been going continuously for 7 years. The Know Your County Study is well under way under the capable direction of Mrs. William Barnett.

Denison—is welcomed as our newest local League! May 24 marked the date in which the National Board officially transferred Denison from a Provisional to a Local League. This League has been active on both Secret Ballot Legislation and a U.N. campaign.

Edinburg—Their new president is Mrs. E. V. Borglin. They have worked hard all spring on their City Charter and the State program. Mrs. H. H. Hall, Public Relations Chairman, has a weekly column in the paper on the League entitled "Dear Ruth."

Galveston—has gone from a huge Voters' Service program on local elections into a Finance campaign. Mrs. Frank Nusbaum headed a Committee on getting out the candidates' questionnaires and Public Meetings, while Mrs. Harry Levy heads the Finance Campaign.

Houston—is in the midst of its Finance Campaign under the chairmanship of Mrs. Carl Herman. Their new local project, a city-county health survey, is under the leadership of Mrs. Arthur Derby and a large committee. They are off to a big start despite the hot weather.

La Marque—has a fine new bulletin and their new president is Mrs. John H. Hill. Under the guidance of Mrs. W. T. Herget, the League is dressing a U.N. doll for public exhibit. Ribbons lead from the doll's clothes to places on the map from which the material comes. The entire League is promoting Reciprocal Trade and the E.R.P.

Midland—is not taking time off this summer as they plan to send representatives to every meeting of the Commissioners' Court, City Council, School Board, and Juvenile Court. Midland is enthusiastic about compiling facts for its Know Your Town booklet. A Buzz Session, similar to the demonstration of the University of Texas Campus League at the State Council, was used with great success at

(Continued on Page 5)

DEMOCRACY WITHIN THE LEAGUE

We are a member organization. It is the member who suggests the Officers and Directors at all three levels. It is the member who suggests the Program (Current Agenda) at all three levels. It is the member who provides the finances necessary to carry out this Program.

It takes a year to make our National Program. Suggestions are made by members and Boards to the National Board before their Fall Board Meeting. The National Board will weigh the suggestions and refer those with the largest consensus of opinion again to the membership. Delegates from each League will cast the final vote at the Spring Convention.

Suggestions for National and State Current Agenda for 1950-52 are being received in the State office. If the Convention decides to choose only one item what do you think is the most important thing for us to do that will help us to carry out our purpose?

Nominations for National Board members and Officers are being received from individual members over the country. Send your suggestions to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, League of Women Voters of U. S., 726 Jackson Place N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Nominations for State Board and Officers are now being received in the State office. Send your suggestions to Chairman of the Nominating Committee, 6400 Douglas, Dallas 5, Texas. All suggestions for State Program and Officers must be made before the November State Board Meeting.

Local League News

(Continued from Page 2)

the final May luncheon. The outcome was many new suggestions for solving county, city, and school problems.

Fort Arthur—has had a State visitor when Mrs. Gilard Kargl, Finance Chairman, talked over their finance and organizational problems with them.

Tarrant County—has suffered a blow when their president, Mrs. George Stevens, fell from her horse in May. She has been critically ill ever since. Mrs. Kenneth Wickert is the acting president and saw that the appalling flood did no more to the League than postpone a membership tea. Mrs. David Trammell is giving orientation to the Board and then to the membership. Two bulletins will be published during the summer and Voters' Service will continue under the leadership of Mrs. H. V. Huddleston.

Taylor—asked the State President, Mrs. Row, to speak at a dinner meeting in June on the State and National program. Judge Sam Stone of Georgetown spoke on Juvenile Work in Texas. When Miss Schonerstedt moved to Georgetown, Mrs. Leonard Hall again resumed the presidency. The Board is now complete and the League will work this summer on proposed changes in the Taylor City Charter, as well as on educating the public about the new Secret Ballot.

Texas City—held a June meeting entitled "Stump the Experts." The experts were League members prepared to answer questions on Displaced Persons, Margarine Tax, Education, Housing, and the U.N. Texas City has chosen June 1 as the kick-off for their Finance Campaign. May their financial success be as great as their hard work on the State program!

Waco - Provisional—has sent in to the State office all requirements for recognition so it will not be long before this active Provisional League receives Local League status. They are

NOTES ON THE STATE BOARD

Know our State Study—Mrs. Howard Swann has been appointed chairman of Know Your State Study. She has set up her Committee and work will be under way immediately.

Organization—Mrs. Griffith, out of the State for the summer, has felt unable to accept chairmanship of the Organization Committee. The members of the Committee are: Mrs. Graham Reid of Dallas, former President of Fairfield Connecticut League; Mrs. Heroy of Dallas; Mrs. Leslie Jackson of Dallas; Mrs. Joe Scherrer of Corpus Christi; Mrs. H. W. Cullen and Mrs. Kilman and Mrs. W. C. Spencer of Houston; Mrs. Rotzler of Texas City; Mrs. B. B. Sanders of Fort Worth. Mrs. Jackson has agreed to take the training course for field workers held in the National Office this June. The Organization Committee will be asked to meet with the State Board on organizing provisional leagues.

Board Meeting—The next State Board meeting will be held in Galveston July 29 to August 15. Requests for field work by State Board members should be sent into the State office before the last week in July as the traveling program will be made up for the year at that time.

Voters' Service—All Leagues are planning to hold educational campaigns to let the people and election judges know about the new secret ballot. The National Board has announced that the Fall Area Conference will be on Voters' Service Technique.

Legislation—Some Leagues are planning luncheons to honor all their Legislators when they return from Austin. A State Legislative workshop is being planned for next year.

Secret Ballot Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

He will drop his ballot in a separate box, later to be kept by the County Clerk. The voter's name will not be on the ballot. The election judge will place a notation on the list of voters showing that the particular person has voted, but will not make any record of his ballot number. The sealed stub box can be broken only on court order in event of an election contest within 60 days after the votes are cast. At the end of the 60 day period, the district clerk would be required to destroy the stub box by fire.

The enactment of the bill into law by the signature of the Governor has not terminated the League's fact-finding, fact distributing job. Local Leagues have been asked to put on an educational campaign throughout the summer to prepare the election judges and the voters for the immediate change in the election law. The first Texas election to use the new secret ballot was held at Pasadena, Harris County, on June 18, 1949. The Houston League assisted the voters by explaining the ballot form. These voters seemed pleased and testified that the ballot was a great improvement.

Every member of the League can feel justifiably proud that Texas has joined the community of states of the United States with "A more secret ballot" law.

publishing their Know Your Town booklet this summer.

Wichita Falls - Provisional—is holding election of officers and creating a full Board this month.

Dickinson - Provisional—has finished a successful Finance Campaign. As soon as their Know Your Town booklet is complete they are asking for Local League status.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This is the kind of a report the State Office has been receiving from Mrs. David B. Trammell. It also sums up the work of the Local Leagues and the rest of the State Board.

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thanking
thanking
ad infinitum

Juvenile Court Bill

(Continued from Page 3)

the House and Mr. Godard triumphantly finished their work on this piece of proposed legislation.

In the Senate the bill was sent to the Civil Jurisprudence Committee, which voted it out favorably and without amendment on February 9, 1949. Here again the bill was fortunately placed on the Suspension Calendar, and when Senator Kelley succeeded in bringing it up out of order for third reading and final action, he substituted the House bill for his bill. By a vote of 21 to 7 the Senate passed the bill with its clarifying amendments on June 7, 1949. The bill stipulating that it is to become effective ninety days after enactment, will be in effect when the affected courts prepare their fall dockets. Governor Jester signed the bill into law on Monday, June 13, 1949.

And so the purpose of the League of Women Voters to "promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government" by getting and giving information, building public opinion, and successfully enacting legislation, was carried through to the benefit of all the citizens of Texas.

The waiting for passage of these bills was long and tedious, and, at the end, fraught with fears that the Legislature might adjourn before they were reached on the Calendars. While there was no strong opposition to the bill in either House, we must not ever allow ourselves the luxury of thinking that enacting legislation is easy. It takes knowledge, patience, good humor, steadiness, diplomacy, concentration, observation, penetration, constant and careful vigilance. And experience could be such a useful tool! It is gratifying, even exciting, but IT IS NOT EASY.



Juvenile Court Bill Becomes Law June 13, 1949, by Governor's Signature

Left to right: Representative Johnnie B. Rogers; Mrs. Melvin Rotsch, Co-chairman Legislation, League of Women Voters of Texas; Judge Paul Martineau, District Judge Corpus Christi; Mrs. Horton W. Smith, President League of Women Voters of Austin; Senator Rogers Kelley, sponsor; Mrs. Martin A. Row, President League of Women Voters of Texas; Mrs. H. W. Cullen, Houston, President League of Women Voters of Houston; Mr. Dick Carabetta, San Antonio Community Council; Mrs. Ben B. Sanders, Fort Worth, Co-chairman Legislation, League of Women Voters of Texas; Senator Kyle Vick, President Pro-tem of the Senate; Mrs. David B. Trammell, Vice-President and Family Court Resource Chairman League of Women Voters of Texas; Mr. W. Jay Johnson, San Antonio, Assistant District Attorney; Representative L. D. Godard, sponsor.

At a second statewide meeting held in Austin on December 10, 1948, the League of Women Voters of Texas assumed the responsibility of trying to have the Juvenile Court bill enacted into law by the Fifty-first session of the Texas Legislature.

When the item "state laws to facilitate the establishment of Family Courts in Texas" was placed on the Current Agenda of the Texas League some two years ago, Mrs. David B. Trammell (Fort Worth) was named Resource Chairman and given the responsibility of gathering information, data, and knowledge with which to correctly and intelligently inform the membership, and to make recommendations as to methods of implementing the item to the State Board. After assembling data from numerous Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts over the United States and information from recognized authorities, and following visits with many local Leagues in Texas getting acquainted with the memberships, community Juvenile Boards, Probations Officers, welfare people, and others interested in this subject to learn at first hand what those communities were doing and something of what they would like to do, Mrs. Trammell recommended that the Texas League take the lead in bringing these people and their ideas together in open session in an effort to determine practicable methods of carrying out the intention of the League injunction.

Therefore, on October 10, 1948, the League of Women Voters of Texas called an open statewide exploratory meeting in Austin to consider all pertinent ideas. District and County Judges and Attorneys, Chief and Assistant Probation Officers, welfare people, public spirited lay citizens, and representatives from interested organizations attended. Earnest and lengthy discussion culminated in a resolution (that was adopted) that a committee of five be appointed "for the purpose of drafting a bill * * * to further the welfare of the children of Texas * * * to be presented to the next Legislature." The Committee ap-

pointed was composed of the following well-qualified persons:

Hon. Paul A. Martineau, District Judge, Corpus Christi, Chairman

Hon. W. R. Blalock, District Judge, Edinburg

Hon. W. Jay Johnson, Assistant District Attorney, San Antonio

Hon. L. Hamilton Lowe, Attorney, Austin

Mr. W. E. Robertson, Chief Probation Officer, Houston

The meeting of December 10 was called to hear the report of said Committee and to take action on its recommendations. The Juvenile Court bill was accepted by that meeting, and the League was requested to sponsor it in the Texas Legislature. As soon as possible thereafter, more than five hundred copies of the proposed bill were sent to every person who had attended the meetings, to all Legislators, known interested persons, and Leagues.

Briefly, the bill was an amendment of the Juvenile Act of 1943 providing that in those counties having less than two district courts, that no change in the present arrangement be made; that in those counties having two or more district courts (civil and/or criminal) that the Juvenile Boards (or District and County Judges if there were no Juvenile Boards in those counties) shall designate one of such district courts the juvenile court for that county; that such district courts so designated the juvenile courts "shall give preference to cases of annulment, divorce, dependency, neglect, support, custody, adoption, and contempt proceedings growing out of or ancillary to such cases"; that "all such designations may be changed from time to time" so that the business of the Juvenile Court may go on in the absence of the designated juvenile judge "for the convenience of the people and the welfare of minors," and that the "jurisdiction, powers, and duties thus conferred upon the established courts hereunder are superadded jurisdictions, powers, and duties."

Since the Constitution of Texas gives the district and county courts jurisdiction over delinquency, this could not be changed except by constitutional amendment voted by the people. Therefore, the present legislation will not in any way change this particular provision.

The Juvenile Act of 1943 provides that all juvenile cases shall be placed on the civil dockets of the courts, so, whether the juvenile court is in the civil or the criminal district court, all juvenile cases will continue to be considered civil cases, thus preventing any juvenile from having a criminal record.

The League was elated when the Bar Association of Texas, on January 21, 1949, in session voted "that the Board express itself as favoring the adoption of the bill."

In the meantime, resolutions endorsing the creation of Family or Juvenile Courts in Texas were introduced by private citizens at many precinct and county conventions of both the Democratic and Republican parties. This device was used to inform the general public and to build public opinion.

The first job, of course, in trying to pass a bill in the Legislature is find the best possible sponsor for it. The Juvenile Court bill got off to a good start when Hon. Rogers Kelley (Edinburg) agreed to sponsor it in the Senate and Honorable Louie D. Godard (Texas City) presented it in the House of Representatives. Thereafter the League's bill was known as House Bill No. 93 and Senate Bill No. 112.

H.B. No. 93 was sent to the Judiciary Committee, out of which committee it was favorably voted, with clarifying amendments, on February 14, 1949. Mr. Godard, with the cooperation of his colleague, Representative Johnnie B. Rogers (Austin), succeeded in having the bill placed on the House Suspension Calendar. It was finally passed by the House on Monday, May 30, 1949, by a vote of 118 to 3, and was sent to the Senate on May 31. Thus,

(Continued on Page 5)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

(The ballot on September 24, 1949 will list nine proposed constitutional amendments. The following resume of the amendments was written for this bulletin by Representative W. O. Reed of Dallas, who assisted us with the Secret Ballot Bill by nursing it through the final Conference Committee.)

Senate Joint Resolution No. 1
by Kelley of Hidalgo

This proposed constitutional amendment amends Section 2 of Article VI of the Constitution, repealing the payment of a poll tax as a qualification of an elector. The pertinent provision of the resolution is that anyone who has attained the age of twenty-one years, and who is a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided in the State one year next preceding an election and for the last six months within the district or county in which such person offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector. In other words, it will not be necessary, if this amendment is adopted, to pay a poll tax for the purpose of voting.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 4
by Harris of Dallas

This resolution proposes an amendment to Section 19 of Article VI of the Constitution, providing that the qualification of any person for service on grand juries or petit juries shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. In other words, this is the amendment allowing women to serve on all juries. Its requirements are mandatory. If the amendment is adopted by the people, it will be necessary for the following legislature to set up certain statutory provisions.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 5
by McDonald of Smith

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article III of the Constitution by adding to said Article a new section, to be known as 48-d, which will empower the legislature to provide for the establishment and creation of rural fire prevention districts, and authorizes an ad valorem tax not to exceed three cents on the hundred dollars valuation to support the said fire prevention districts.

House Joint Resolution No. 5
by Crosthwait of Dallas

This resolution proposes two changes in the Constitution: (1) increasing the pay of the members of the Legislature from \$10.00 a day for one hundred and twenty days to a yearly salary of \$3,600.00; (2) authorizing the legislature to meet, in addition to the session now authorized on odd years, on even years for a thirty-day session for the purpose of considering general appropriation bills on an annual basis.

House Joint Resolution No. 19
by Bergman of Dallas

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article XVI of the Constitution by adding a new section, to be known as Section 62-c, authorizing the legislature to provide for the creation of civil service for county employees. It further provides that no civil service system shall be established in any county until the electorate of that county shall so authorize same.

House Joint Resolution No. 22
by Smith of Hays

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article V, Section 7, of the Constitution, authorizing the legislature to make certain technical changes in court procedure, broadening the scope and authority of district judges.

House Joint Resolution No. 32
by Crosthwait of Dallas

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article I of the Constitution by adding a new

Section thereto, to be known as Section 15-a, which provides that the legislature may pass laws for waiving a jury in mentally ill trials (criminally insane excepted). The proposed constitutional amendment was sponsored by the Mental Hygiene Society of Texas. The purpose of the proposed change is to allow a county judge who hears lunacy cases to hear those cases in private, and with the assistance of qualified psychiatrists, rather than a jury of ordinary citizens.

House Joint Resolution No. 36
by Ridgeway of Bexar

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article III of the Constitution by adding thereto a new section, to be designated as Section 60, which will authorize the Legislature to provide for the establishment and creation of hospital districts in the counties of this State; providing for the support of said districts by a tax on the ad valorem properties situated in said counties; and provided further that before any such district shall be created, it shall be approved by a vote of the people of said district.

House Joint Resolution No. 38
by Parkhouse of Dallas

This resolution proposes an amendment to Article XVI of the Constitution by adding a new section, to be known as Section 63. The new section provides that the Legislature will have the authority to provide for a statewide system of retirement and disability pensions for appointive officers and employees of the counties of this State. Participation by the various counties shall be voluntary and shall first be authorized by a vote of the qualified voters of the county.

THANK YOU

The time has come for me to brag
On the League of Women Voters,
For when it comes to "action"
They are the true promoters!

Our bills and their creation
May have first sprung from the Board—
But it took the Resource Chairman,
Then the Leg. Committee scored.

But the one who needs the "thank you"
With a gratitude not meager
For influence and "action"—
Is every loyal Leaguer.

Elizabeth Lynch Row.

KNOW YOUR STATE STUDY

The Secret Ballot Bill and the Juvenile Court Bill having been brought to a most successful conclusion, League members are asking themselves and each other "Now what?" The answer is not long in being given, for here 'tis: the Know Your State Study.

When this item was adopted for our Current Agenda for 1948-50 at the Fort Worth Convention, it answered a need long felt by League members throughout the State. The Secret Ballot remained foremost in our hearts and interests. But even then we must have had a hunch we would get it in '49, that we would need a broader knowledge than we now have of state-wide affairs in order to make an informed choice of program in '50. The Know Your State Study is a classical answer

for our particular situation for it is perfectly described by the first step in League Action, "providing information." The resulting publication of our findings and the use we choose to make of it will play an effective role in the second step, "building public opinion". And almost certainly the study will have provided us with the resources for intelligent debate and choice in "supporting legislation."

The plan for conducting the Know Your State Study is one that places the interest, the responsibility and the credit directly in the hands of the local Leagues. Each League has been assigned a topic in the handbook called Know Your State, published by our national office. In some cases, several Leagues will share one large field of inquiry; in only one case a topic not included in the handbook has been interpolated at the suggestion of a local League; most Leagues have an entire subject all to themselves. Of necessity the assignments have been made somewhat arbitrarily, and if, upon consultation with the enclosed list, you feel that your League cannot do a successful job of its assigned topic, every effort will be made to seek an adjustment.

It is suggested that a local chairman be named for this Study. She would need a committee, preferably a discussion group, to assist her in the necessary research on factual information and in its proper evaluation and assessment. Each local chairman will have an Advisor on the State Committee who will be prepared to suggest the addition or elimination of material, who will provide herself with background material in that particular field, and who will work with the local chairman toward achieving a complete and accurate report.

The timing of the Study is important. It is hoped that most Leagues will carry it out during the summer months. Inasmuch as a large part of the information will be gained through correspondence with State officials and/or the local library, it should not be too strenuous a job for the warm summer weather. The Study must not be rushed, and that is why a start should be made at the earliest possible date. The first complete reports will be published in the State Bulletin and thereafter reports will be distributed among all local Leagues as fast as they come in. All reports will be included in the publication, probably in booklet form, resulting from the Study.—Mrs. Howard Swann, *Know Your State Chairman*.

Local League Assignments

- I. Constitution—Port Arthur
- II. Political Parties—Beaumont
- III. Legislature—Houston
- IV. Governor—Midland
- V. State Administration—Taylor, up to paragraph five; Austin, fifth paragraph to end.
- VI. Merit System—Edinburg
- VII. Fiscal Management—San Antonio
- VIII. State-Local Relations—Waco.
- IX. Education—La Marque, up to paragraph seven; Galveston, seventh paragraph to section entitled "Financing Schools"; Texas City, "Financing Schools"
- X. Public Welfare—Fort Worth
- XI. The System of Courts—Denison, first paragraph; Dallas, remainder of chapter
- XII. Prison System—Corpus Christi; Robstown. (This subject is not included in the Handbook. Outline to be worked out by local chairman and Advisor.)

February 7, 1956

*Form for
is attached*

For the Historical Record of
The League of Women Voters of Texas

DO YOU KNOW:

Between now and the State Convention, a real, concentrated effort will be made to add to our Historical Record. These forms are being sent to Local Presidents, State Board members, and to many other over the state whose names appear in our files. A word to you about "The Files" - they consist largely of letters without date, headed "Dear Mary" and closing "With love - in haste - Susie." This makes it a little difficult on the Year 1956, even though we do feel that the League has changed very little, and there is still much love, and the usual haste.

Now you can help us out in two ways. One by appointing in your local League a member who might be interested in gathering this information. She may already be at work getting these facts for your League, as many of you are now doing a historical record. What we want her to do is to pass on to us the name and address of anyone in the League, or in her community, who might have any part of this information. Then we will send them a form, and hope. Second, if you cannot find someone to take over this temporary job, will you send us any names you might know, or be able to locate - even if you have to advertise -

"LOST - LWV Presidents and State Board Members. Finder return to the Historical Committee!"

This might lead us to attics where rest priceless League files. For instance, El Paso had a flourishing League with a beautiful printed brochure in the Year 1926 !

On the back of these forms we hope to find local color stories, description of the many State League offices, names of speakers at State Conventions, anything which might make the Historical Record more complete and more interesting. We promise to send you a FREE COPY.

Mrs. William B. Ruggles, Historical Committee
League of Women Voters of Texas
2509 Washington Avenue
Waco, Texas

FOR THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

Mrs. William B. Ruggles
League of Women Voters
2509 Washington Avenue
Waco, Texas

DO YOU KNOW:

	President	Board	Convention	State Program	Legislation	Local Leagues
1919						
1920						
1921						
1922						
1923						
1924						
1925						
1926						
1927						

DO YOU KNOW:

For the Historical Record of
The League of Women Voters of Texas

1928	President	Board	Convention	State Program	Legislation	Local Leagues
1929						
1930						
1931						
1932						
1933						
1934						
1935						
1936						
1937						

DO YOU KNOW:

For the Historical Record of
The League of Women Voters of Texas

1938	President	Board	Convention	State Program	Legislation	Local Leagues
1939						
1940						
1941						
1942						
1943						
1944						
1945						
1946						

HISTORY

Texas League of Women Voters

1903 To 1940

MRS. D. R. BOWLES
Austin, Texas

Compiled by
MRS. JESSIE D. AMES
Atlanta, Georgia

MRS. CHARLES TAFT, JR.
Galveston, Texas

tute. The state board also had representatives from Denton, Waco and other Texas cities, even when there were no active leagues in the home towns of these members. Thus a geographical distribution of representation has been achieved at most times and many of the leagues which became inactive are gradually being re-established.

As in most organizations, the question of finance has been an important one. At times the League supported its bulletin by the sale of advertisements, each local league taking the responsibility in turn for securing an advertisement every month. Friends whose interest has been aroused by the program of the League have made generous gifts from time to time and always the women who have served the League as officers or committee chairmen have given liberally of their time and money to support this important work.

Mrs. Harris Masterson of Houston, after being finance chairman, was elected to succeed Mrs. D. W. Kempner as president of the Texas League. She gave great impetus to the support which the League was able to contribute to the other women's organizations working in the interests of better international relations. Her efforts for peace are so well known in the state that her value to all women's organizations in this field is fully recognized.

The valient efforts to have the Texas Legislature ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution were doomed to defeat, but a good deal of valuable experience was gained in the hard work. Several trips to Austin were made by members in order to appear at legislative hearings and a great deal of information was prepared for use by our own and other women's organizations interested in the problem of child labor in Texas.

"Jury Service for Women" is the subject of perennial interest to the Texas League. It has so far not been accomplished in our state, but it remains a topic for study and we hope some day to be able to support a suitable bill that will give the women of Texas this important responsibility.

In 1933 Mrs. Ella Sealy Newell returned to Texas to make her home and was elected president of the Texas League. She had been living in Connecticut for a number of years and had devoted a great deal of time and effort in serving as Finance Chairman of the Connecticut League, so she welcomed the opportunity to continue league work in her native state. She was in office for three and a half years and during her regime great strides were made in the educational program of the state league. The National League had by this time developed a technique of program building which included the submission to its general membership at a biennial convention of items for study and support. This has proven to be highly successful in presenting channels for legislative endeavor that are in accord with the true practice of democracy.

The campaign for "Better Personnel in Government Service" was undertaken in leagues all over the United States at this time. A contest for a campaign slogan produced the following: "Find the Man for the Job, not the Job for the Man," and effective use of this was made in nationwide publicity. Following a custom of long standing the league sent representatives to the national conventions of both major political parties and was successful in having a plank in the party platform committing both the Democratic and Republican parties to the support of trained personnel chosen on a merit basis.

The Texas League of Women Voters has taken an active interest in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements since its beginning, giving it close study as joint program projects of both

the departments of Government and Foreign Policy and the department of Government and Economic Welfare. The league feels that this is an important improvement in international relations and is of especial interest to Texas because of the increase in foreign trade that has resulted since the agreements were in force.

The league has been gathering knowledge from experience. It has been learning not only that the American people needed to be made acquainted with political affairs but how to deal with them effectively. The league is committed to the purpose of helping to make democratic government in the United States a success. It exists for the object of trying to improve the electorate itself by promoting more intelligent participation in politics. It gathers all available facts, selects issues with as much care as possible and then attempts to focus a widespread membership upon each issue. That this is difficult to do, particularly in a state the size of Texas, is freely admitted, but this is the avowed purpose of the League of Women Voters whether National, State or Local.

Miss A. Louise Dietrich of El Paso, was elected president of the Texas League in 1938. Here for the first time the league had a president whose yearly schedule provided for her travelling all over the state, so that in addition to having an executive who understood organization from a professional point of view, the local leagues have had the inestimable advantage of frequent visits from the state president. She has helped with wise counsel at board meetings and kept in close touch with all program chairmen by correspondence in the intervals. The machinery of organization has been enormously strengthened by her leadership and the fact that she had known and been a member of the Texas League since its beginning had added greatly to her value as president.

The last two years of the League have seen some changes in the program selected by the annual state convention. The number of items chosen has been smaller as we have come to realize that the small membership in so large a state, necessitates a careful evaluation of items on which to focus the interest of those members in order to avoid as far as possible a scattering of effort.

For years the Texas League has been concerned with a desire to see the local, state and federal welfare services more closely integrated and has worked for this by supporting legislation that would help bring it about. It was a great satisfaction to have the State Department of Public Welfare authorized by the last legislative session. In the fall of 1939 the new department was set up so that now the program of Child Welfare, Aid to the Dependent Blind, and Old Age Assistance are under this one state department. Since some of the funds for these services are from Federal sources a merit system has come into practice and thus a long desired aim of the League of Women Voters has been realized. Though we still have no Civil Service Law in Texas, we shall not despair as this is coming nearer with every year. The League will continue to work toward this important goal.

To quote the National president of the League of Women Voters, "Not to amass more knowledge of government, not even to spread it to a greater number of people, but to cause more people to use effectively what knowledge they possess seems today to be the unique aim of the League of Women Voters."

The Texas League could have no better purpose for continuing to exist or hope for future effort.



Points on the Work of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association

BY MRS. D. R. BOWLES, OF AUSTIN, TEXAS.

IN 1840 occurred an event which called the attention of the women of the United States to the inferior position which they held, and from this occasion came the impetus to the organization of a militant woman's rights movement. A world anti-slavery convention was held in London at this time and two delegates from the United States—women—were denied seats in the convention. At that time they resolved to leave no stone unturned to remove all the distinctions between the sexes. It was not until 1848, however, that these two women, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth C. Stanton, took the lead in calling a woman's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, the first of its kind in the history of the world.

Numerous organizations were created in the United States to promote woman suffrage during the last half of the 19th century, but none of these was found in Texas. Not until early in 1903 did the first of these activities begin in Houston when Annette Finnigan, aided by her sisters, Elizabeth Finnigan and Katherine Finnigan Anderson, organized a Woman's Suffrage League with Annette Finnigan as its first president. In February of that year Carrie Chapman Catt lectured in Houston under the auspices of this League, and in December a convention of several local clubs was called in Houston and a State Women's Suffrage Association was formed, with Miss Finnigan as president. Dr. Shaw was present at all sessions. In 1904 attempts were made to organize leagues in San Antonio, Beaumont, and Austin, but "women, although interested, were not yet prepared to face the ridicule and contempt with which society was attempting to beat back the latest advance in democracy."

The Finnigan sisters called the second state convention in December of 1904.

For a few years afterward the organization prospered, but the leaders left the state and the movement became inactive. A society formed in Austin in 1908 with 25 members seems to be the only group which continued.

While these young organizations were trying to publicize woman suffrage, it was being mentioned in political platforms and considered in the legislature, but without much progress.

Eleanor Breckenridge of San Antonio, and Anna Maxwell Jones, a Texan residing in New York, organized suffrage clubs in San Antonio, Galveston, Waco, Dallas, Tyler, and San Marcos, and Miss Finnigan returned to Texas and revived her club in Houston.

State Headquarters for Suffrage work were opened in Houston in 1914 and clubs increased from eight to twenty-one. Pearl Penfield was field secretary and was to a great degree responsible for organizing the state work.

Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham was elected president of the Texas Woman Suffrage Association at the state convention which met in Galveston in April, 1915, and served as president until the organization disbanded. The president and the new board worked vigorously.

Throughout the United States at this period there was an up-swing in woman suffrage sentiment and activity. Texas's share in the movement in 1914 was a 400 percent increase in the number of local organizations and the visits of several national leaders.

In 1916 the well remembered state convention was held in Dallas. Judge Ocie Speer of Fort Worth here pledged his support to women. The delegates instructed the executive committee to ask for suffrage planks in the state and national Democratic platforms.

The name was changed from the "Woman Suffrage Association" to the "Equal Suffrage Association," and the senatorial district plan of organization was adopted.

At the National Democratic Convention in St. Louis in 1916 a sufficient number of women from Texas were present to form half a block of the "golden lane" through which delegates passed to reach the convention hall. The convention included the suffrage plank in the party platform, but the Texas women exhibited black crepe bands—for their gov-

ernor, James E. Ferguson, who had served on the platform and resolutions committee, had made a speech against the suffrage plank.

When the legislature convened in January, 1917, the legislative committee of the Equal Suffrage Association had already shaped its plan of attack and it was on hand to begin its work. Various bills were introduced by the friends of the suffrage movement, but these could not be carried through.

The woman suffrage movement was colored by the entrance of the United States into the "World War," for the women were interested in war measures as well as in suffrage, and they took measures to help solve the food conservation problem and other questions of vital importance during the crisis.

But the women of Texas wished to speed up as much as possible action in Congress on suffrage, and to do this they decided to start a real fight to win the support of congressmen. The session of Congress in 1917 was one well studied by the suffragists and the state organization sent letters from headquarters to leading suffragists in the large cities to keep them well informed on congressional proceedings.

Texas women started the year 1918 with their efforts bent towards the primary suffrage bill which they had seen defeated in the regular session of the Thirty-fifth legislature. Many organizations were lined up to help make the movement successful; the Mothers' Congress, State Federation of Labor, State Federation of Women's Clubs, Texas Press Women, State Farmers' Congress, Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Texas Equal Suffrage Association, which at that time numbered more than twenty thousand members.

Representative Charles B. Metcalfe, to whom many women attribute the success of the suffrage movement in Texas, introduced the bill of 1918 which was to give women the right to vote in all primary elections and nomination conventions. This passed both houses and was signed by Governor Hobby (who had been very slow in giving the women help), on March 26, 1918, in the presence of Representative Metcalfe, Captain Sackett, and members of the legislative committee, Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, Mrs. Dave Doom, Mrs. Elizabeth Speer and Mrs. Jane Y. McCallum.

The suffrage leaders sponsored a citizenship school to interest the new voters how to register and vote, and 360,000 women were estimated to have registered in the fifteen days allotted to registration. In Amarillo and Palestine more women registered than the number of men who had paid poll taxes.

Before the period of registration was over information came to the women that individuals opposing suffrage were making an effort to prevent the women from voting in the primary election. Injunctions from various district courts had ordered election judges not to furnish tickets to the women nor receive their ballots. It took only a short time, however, for the suffrage organization to have legal matters well in hand.

Primary Suffrage, politically, was not the same as equal suffrage, and before long the women, aided by friends in the legislature, began to move towards securing the right to vote in general elections also. Many constitutional amendments were proposed during the regular session of the Thirty-sixth legislature. Four were finally passed on to the people—one of them for Woman Suffrage.

The women launched their active campaign for carrying the suffrage amendment to the state constitution on February 12, in an Austin hotel. A complete campaign covering the activities of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association was outlined for the three months until the election. The women seemed to be sure of victory. They organized their campaign along the senatorial district plan, and the members were so well organized that they were to know, down to within a city block, who would vote favorably for suffrage.

This way of securing the right to vote in the general election failed but there was still the federal constitution

which might be amended. The congressional chairmen of the suffrage association had begun early in 1918 a campaign to make certain the positive pledge of favorable congressmen towards a federal amendment. Mrs. Elizabeth Herndon Potter was sent to Washington to line up Texas' eighteen representatives and two senators. Women over the United States were disappointed when they learned that

their efforts had been defeated—they had counted too much on the favorable action of President Wilson. They soon began, however, to push their cause for suffrage. At last their efforts were rewarded and a federal amendment was offered to the states for ratification. Texas had the honor of being the first Southern State and the ninth state of the union to ratify the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.

(1919-1923)

The First Years of the Texas League of Women Voters

BY JESSIE DANIEL AMES.

IN OCTOBER, 1919, at San Antonio, the Texas Equal Suffrage Association resolved itself into the Texas League of Women Voters. The immediate program of the new organization was to impress upon the new voters the importance of paying their poll taxes so they could vote in the 1920 elections. After this first step was accomplished, the need for education in citizenship was apparent. A "Get Out The Vote" campaign was launched; schools of citizenship were conducted over the state; and a monthly paper, the "New Citizen," under the editorship of Mrs. John C. Granbery of Georgetown, was established. Later a "Voters' Calendar," edited by Miss Mary Jagoe of Denton, became an annual event. Still later a booklet, "Know Your County," was compiled and printed. This was sold not only to thousands of voters, but to High Schools, which used it as a reference in Civic Classes.

In addition to a program of education for the new voters, the League undertook a broad legislative program which included a bill to establish a minimum wage for working women, securing an appropriation to match Federal Funds for Maternity-Infancy care, to reorganize the educational sys-

tem of the states with special emphasis on the County Unit System of School Administration and to authorize an unpaid Board of Education to replace the political Board of three elective officials. Though the reorganization of the Prison System of Texas became the joint project of all women's organizations under the guidance of a Joint Legislative Committee, the actual work of launching the educational program, which resulted in the present State Prison Board, was inaugurated by the League at its convention in Fort Worth in 1921. For eighteen months beginning in August prior to the Fort Worth Convention, the League of Women Voters financed the activities of its Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, including a monthly honorarium to the chairman, as well as printed literature and travel expenses. In the spring of 1923 the Texas Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor was set up with the League Chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth Speer, as executive secretary.

Thus, with a balanced program of education of citizens in government and party machinery and of legislation to improve social conditions, the Texas League of Women Voters set its course toward greater accomplishments.

The Texas League of Women Voters from 1923 to 1930

HELEN TAFT (MRS. CHARLES TAFT, JR.)

THE TRANSFORMATION of the Equal Suffrage Association into the Texas League of Women Voters was not accomplished automatically and into the capable hands of Mrs. Helen B. Moore of Texas City, fell a large share of the work of organizing the new League. This involved the raising of a budget sufficiently great to put the League on a firm financial foundation and the setting in motion of machinery to start the program of education of the new voters, to which the leagues all over the country were committed.

Fortunately Mrs. Moore had always had a large number of friends in the state and because of their personal interest in her, their response was generous. Although the great dramatic appeal of the fight for suffrage itself was no longer there to give an incentive, Mrs. Moore was able to begin a constructive piece of work that still endures. When she resigned after eighteen months of hard work that included travelling over the state in the interests of the League, Dr. Alice Merchant of El Paso, who had been first vice-president, was able to build on the foundation already established.

At the suggestion of Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, state wide publicity, directed by Mrs. Jane McCallum of Austin, was begun and the newspapers of Texas in their usual generous fashion contributed space to the educational program of the League. This, which they still continue, has been of the greatest value to the Texas League and their cooperation is deeply appreciated by all league members.

Miss Mary Jagoe of Denton, succeeded Dr. Merchant as president of the Texas League. She presided over the state convention held in Galveston in October, 1927. During these years the League was continuing its practice of concentrating efforts on getting out the vote, encouraging the payment of Poll Taxes and conducting one day citizenship schools, all these being the means by which the education of the

voter was emphasized. It also took an active part in a legislative program in the state and national legislatures.

A "Joint Legislative Council" was formed by the heads of six women's state organizations. It was financed by the member groups and kept in close touch with the Texas Legislature by a member residing in Austin. Women all over the country were learning to know their representatives in Congress as well as the State Legislatures, and the idea of "Write your Senator or Congressman" to ask for support for measures that had been studied in the local leagues, was taking hold. The National League of Women Voters has always stressed the importance of this contact by letter with our elected representatives and has also encouraged the practice of writing after the vote has been taken to let the men know we appreciate their efforts in our behalf.

Measures in support of Maternal and Child Hygiene have always been of special interest to the Texas League of Women Voters and we find them concerned over the appropriations for the Sheppard-Towner bill.

Three important guests were present at the 1927 convention of the Texas League. They were Governor Dan Moody; Miss Belle Sherwin, president of the National League of Women Voters, and Mrs. Roscoe Anderson, regional director of the League. The speech of Governor Moody on "Our Business in Texas" and Miss Sherwin's and Mrs. Anderson's talk on "The Record of Seven Years," were highlights of the convention.

Mrs. D. W. Kempner of Galveston, was the next president of the Texas League. She, too, was an organizer of ability and during her regime, the National League sent an executive secretary to Texas who was of great assistance in strengthening the ties between the local leagues and the state group. At various times there have been local leagues in San Antonio, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Austin and Galveston, as well as a college league at Rice Insti-