X - THIS MONTH'S RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

⊙ - LAST MONTH'S RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

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LAWTHER
WATERVILW
NORTH
HOBART
TARLETO
LAKE HIGHLAND DR
ELOY
LAKE
HIGH
NORTH LAKE
COVE LAKE
WIN STAR
CHANSLER
DR
ROMA
CLIFF
WATERVIEW
VEE DALE
HERMOSA
HERMOSA DR
ARGYLE
ARGYLE PL
ARGYLE TER
ARGYLE WAY
ARGYLE AVE
HOLLYWOOD
HOLLYWOOD BLVD
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texas voter

Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe
[redacted]

League of Women Voters of Texas
Dickinson Plaza Center
Dickinson, Texas 77539

Vol. VIII No. 2 February, 1973

Come to the Con Con Con

To no one's great surprise, we're sure, the major emphasis of this year's LWV of Texas convention will be on constitutional revision. Specifically, on how League influence can be applied to both the revision commission and the constitutional convention itself.

Featured speaker will be Dr. Janice May, assistant professor of government at the University of Texas and a member of the 1967-68 Constitutional Revision Commission, who is also the League's own Constitutional expert.

Dr. May will kick off the highlight of the convention—a mock constitutional convention—on Wednesday afternoon. For a few hours, League convention delegates will have a chance to experience what it is like to be a delegate to a constitutional convention—serving on committees, wrestling with conflicts and feeling the pressures of lobby groups.

Another special feature will be a number of concurrent portfolio workshops where delegates can get together with their counterparts in other Leagues and on the state board to discuss problems and possible solutions.

Of course the usual convention business—officers, bylaws, budget and program—will also be attended to, pretty much as it has been at past conventions. One proposed change in rules, however, would allow full-time registrations to be transferred as long as there is one person present to cast each vote.

Considering the distance most Leagues will have to travel and the financial pinch of the moment, convention planners are doing everything they can to hold down delegates' costs. Consequently, no formal banquet and no banquet speaker.

This 14th biennial state convention will be held April 10-12 at the Red Carpet Inn in Beaumont. Hostess members are planning to introduce delegates to some of the Cajun influence on the food and humor of their port city.

BEATS WALKING those four blocks to the Capitol from the new League legislative office, say Chris Brasher and Nancy Holmes. See story on page 2. (Austin American-Statesman photo)

It's Time for Action in Austin

By Nancy Holmes

Attention all LWV members who are interested in sharpening lobbying techniques and applying them to members of the 63rd Legislature. Feb. 26 and 27 are the dates for you to be in Austin for back-to-back Lobby School and Legislative Day.

Lobby School will begin 1 p.m. Monday at the First Methodist Church across from the Capitol grounds at 12th and Lavaca streets. The emphasis will be on the how-tos of lobbying on both state and local levels of government.

We will hear from a panel of experienced lobbyists and then divide into regional workshops to discuss local problems and strategies for dealing with them. The day's activities will conclude with a dinner that night.

Legislative Day will begin at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday at the First Methodist Church. We will hear from several legislators who have introduced bills of League interest. They will tell us what we can do to help get the bills passed. This should be valuable preparation for luncheon conversations with our legislative guests.

We will march as a group to the Capitol to observe the House and Senate in session and then to the Commodore Perry for a steak lunch (a nice walk down the hill and good exercise on the way back). After our guests have left, we will have the traditional, illuminating "talk back."

Lobby School, dinner and kit will cost $7. Legislative Day, lunch and kit will cost $7. Or you can have both for $12. Make your reservations with your legislative chairman now. She will be responsible for inviting the legislators assigned to your League for interviews, and getting all reservations to the legislative office by Feb. 19.

With so many new legislators, our visibility as well as our knowledge-ability will be especially important this year. The more women we have on the scene, the greater the impact will be.

Legislative Office Opens in Austin

The LWV of Texas legislative office in Austin has moved from the antique "haunted" house to a twenty-first century building.

It is now located four blocks from the Capitol instead of two, but there are offsetting advantages such as heat, air conditioning, parking, plumbing and no danger of being razed in the near future. The official address: Legislative Office LWV of Texas, 603 West 13th St. Suite 111, Austin, Tex. 78701.

The new secretary, Dee Dee Harvey, is a member of the Austin League so she already speaks the language. State board members Chris Brasher and Nancy Holmes will be working out of the office along with members of the Capitol Corps. This will be League lobby headquarters for the next six months.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

The deadline for proposing state Bylaws amendments was Jan. 9, 1973. Due to printing deadlines for this *Voter,* we are unable to report on any proposed changes from local Leagues.

The state board voted to recommend two changes at the November board meeting and will consider other proposals at the January meeting. The two recommendations are:

- To change the dues for members-at-large from $10 to $15. This will help to cover the $4 per member payment to National as well as increased services and postage rates.
- To change the state program recommendation deadline from Nov. 1 to Jan. 10. With only one round of program making a later deadline is possible.

A full report on all proposed changes will be included in Convention Workbook I.

THE TEXAS VOTER

Vol. VIII No. 2 February, 1973

Published 4 times a year in February, May, July, and October by the League of Women Voters of Texas, Dickinson Plaza Center, Dickinson, Texas 77539.

Mrs. Darvin M. Winick, President
Mrs. C. J. Leabo, Editor

Second-class postage paid at Dickinson, Texas. Subscription 50¢ per year.

VOTERS GUIDE For Officers and Directors LWV of Texas, 1973-1975

President: Mrs. Darvin Winick, Dickinson. President of the LWV of Texas since 1970, Veta has been a League member for 16 years. She was president of the Dickinson League before going on the state board eight years ago. A member of the House Speaker's "Committee of One Hundred" and Citizens for Texas for Constitutional Revision, she was recently named to *Who's Who in American Women.* Husband is an industrial psychologist; three children, 18, 14 and 6.

Program Vice President: Mrs. John Anderson, Lubbock. A Leaguer since 1961, Betty was president of the Lubbock League before being appointed to the state board in 1970. This year she served as chairman of the Election Laws study and as budget committee chairman. Husband teaches at Texas Tech; two sons.

Public Relations Vice President: Mrs. C. J. Leabo, College Station. Kathy first joined the League in 1961 in Minneapolis, moved to Texas in 1967 and joined the Brazos County League where she was *Voter* editor and president before being appointed to the state board as *Voter* editor in 1971. Husband is head of journalism at Texas A&M; three children, 16, 14 and 11.

Organization Vice President: Mrs. O. H. Ulrickson, Garland. One of the 1968 organizers of the Garland League, Carolyn served as P. R. vice president and organization vice president. Appointed to the state board as membership/units chairman in 1972, she has also been chairman of presidents council and coordinator of the regional finance workshops. Husband works for an electronics company; two children, 7 and 5.

Secretary: Mrs. Eugene Coffey, Corpus Christi. In League for 11 years, Edith has held several board positions, including the presidency, in the Corpus Christi League, and is a former state League secretary. Activities in civic affairs include serving on the local COG. Two married daughters and a son.

Treasurer: Mrs. Ronald Jochim, Midland. Carol was recently appointed state League treasurer. She served as *Voter* editor, P.R. vice president and president of the Garland League before moving to Midland. Last fall she conducted the west Texas finance workshops. Husband is the district manager for a chemical company; two children.

Director: Mrs. J. Richard Avena, San Antonio. Linda has been human resources chairman of the San Antonio League and was the League representative to the Community Action Program board. She served with the Peace Corps in Brazil in 1964-66 and is now taking post-graduate courses in social work. Husband is the Southwest Regional Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; two girls, 3 and 4.

Director: Mrs. Thomas Brasher, San Marcos. As state legislative chairman for the past three years, Chris has helped organize and train the Capitol Corps and has been responsible for League Lobby School. A charter member of the San Marcos League, she served on the board there until going on the state board. Husband teaches English at Southwest Texas State; one son.

Director: Mrs. Wilfred Higgins, Denton. Bobette was appointed to the state board as EQ chairman last summer. She has been a League member for 12 years, and is past president of the Denton League. A teacher of speech, drama and English, she has also had television production experience. Husband is an artist-college teacher; one son and one daughter.

Director: Mrs. Bill Holmes, Austin. Nancy was appointed last September to the new state board position, legislative projects chairman. In League for seven years, she joined in Richardson, spent three years in Denton where she was local study chairman and program vice president, and has served as the Austin legislative chairman. Husband is a Methodist minister; two boys, 15 and 16.

Director: Mrs. J. W. Hunter, Houston. Helen has served on the state board since June, 1970, as chairman of the State-Local Relations and Modernizing State Government-Executive program items. She joined the League in Dallas in 1965 where she served on the board for four years. She and her husband, the parents of three children, are also proud grandparents.

Director: Mrs. Thomas Litras, Baytown. A midwestern transplant, Harriet came to Texas six years ago with League experience in Minnesota, Ohio and Indiana. Elected to the state board in 1971, she has been chairman of the U.S. Congress and Modernizing State Government-Legislature program items. Husband is the personnel superintendent for a steel company; two sons.

Nominating Committee, 1973-75
Mrs. William Joor, Houston
Mrs. Al Barstis, Denton
Mrs. M. S. Braunagel, Temple

Report submitted by:
Mrs. J. Max Quenon, chairman
Mrs. Abe Rosenzweig
Mrs. William Watson
Mrs. Harry Taylor
Mrs. Robert Lampton

Look at Where the Money Goes

By Betty Anderson
(with help from the New York Voter)

"I can't believe you spent the WHOLE THING . . . " is the plaintive cry from Ms. Member of the Eastex-Westex League. "Most of the meetings I attend are held in homes or at a church. Our own members present the material. We pay dues to cover the few expenses . . . so why are you so frantic about needing money? What do you do with it?"

We thought you'd never ask!

Remember that pleasant meeting in Mary's living room last week—the one on public school financing? It didn't look expensive, but let's figure out what it really cost.

*ITEM: Communication between the State League and its 4,000 plus Members

Expenses begin when the subject is chosen. Articles to stimulate your thinking appear in the Texas *Voter.* Each issue costs $300 to print and mail (not including editorial supplies and state office expenses and operating costs).

*ITEM: Communication between 43 Local Leagues and the State Board

The thinking of your League must be expressed to the state board—and vice versa. Each year your local League president receives mailings costing about $16 from the state office. Office staff, paper, duplicating and addressing machines and postage cost money.

*ITEM: Cost of a State Board Meeting

A meeting to analyze what 43 Leagues say the study should include means that board members need money for transportation, hotel rooms and restaurant meals. Of course, the board at its quarterly meetings also meets to determine appropriate policies and action, and to advise and help local Leagues. (We are proud that our board is truly representative, with members coming from all parts of the state.)

*ITEM: Cost of a State Convention

This is where your delegates make final decisions on program. Making arrangements for a few hundred people to assemble involves a good deal of overhead cost.

*ITEM: Materials for a New Program

We must insure that all facets of the subject are thoroughly covered, that all 4,000 of us are considering the same issues, that discussion will prove fruitful for decision-making. So money is spent for outside publications on the subject; for phone, travel and postage to get the opinions of experts; for getting the committee together to sift the information gathered and weigh facts; for the cost of producing the results in a Facts and Issues and Leaders Guide.

*ITEM: Action: The Biggest Cost of All!

A legislative office, a capitol corps, flyers, booklets, phone calls, telegrams, trips to lobby for our program—the extent of our action is limited only be our financial means. Study without action is futile. We cannot let ourselves be financially helpless when it is time to act.

. . . And that is how we spend the WHOLE THING.

$ $ $ $ $ LWV of TEXAS $ $ $ $ $ PROPOSED BUDGET $ $ $ $ $ 1973–1974 $ $ $ $ $

EXPENDITURES

A. OPERATING COSTS	
1. Maintenance of equipment	150.00
2. General supplies	1,200.00
3. Postage	1,600.00
4. Telephone & telegraph	650.00
5. Insurance & bonding	86.00
6. Office expenses	
a. Rent & utilities	1,975.00
b. Salaries	
1. Executive secretary	5,600.00
2. Asst. secretary	4,652.00
c. Payroll taxes	820.00
7. Bank charges	10.00
8. Audit	150.00
9. Capital expenditures	500.00
B. BOARD AND ADM. COMMITTEES	
1. President	500.00
2. Board	
a. Tools	300.00
b. Meeting expenses	5,200.00
c. Administrative costs	200.00
3. Administrative committees	
a. Finance	250.00
b. Membership & Unit Org.	40.00
c. Public Relations	160.00
d. Budget	250.00
e. Nominating	200.00
f. Off board	50.00
g. Local Program	25.00
C. SERVICES TO LOCAL LEAGUES	
1. Organization	
a. Local Leagues (board training, consultants training, etc.)	2,200.00
b. New Leagues (organization & services)	400.00
c. Visits to local Leagues by state board members	400.00
d. Workshops & conferences	500.00
e. Members-at-Large	100.00
2. Distribution of materials to local Leagues – presidents mailings	675.00
D. DELEGATES AND TRAVEL	
1. State Convention (Council)	3,500.00
2. National Council	700.00
E. SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL SERVICES	9,027.00
Members-at-Large	80.00
F. VOTER (5 issues)	1,500.00
G. PUBLICATIONS	1,250.00
H. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
1. Program committees	2,250.00
2. Voters Service	2,000.00
3. Legislative research materials	675.00
4. Non-League workshops	300.00
I. POSITION SUPPORT	
1. Publications	1,000.00
2. Action activities, including lobbying	
a. Program TCR	1,150.00
HR	250.00
MSG	200.00
EQ	100.00
IR	100.00
VR	100.00
SLR	50.00
Rep. Govt.	50.00
b. Legislative office	2,617.00
c. Legislative projects	150.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 55,865.00

INCOME

A. Pledges from local leagues	35,790.00
B. Members-at-Large	200.00
C. State publications	6,000.00
D. Interest on savings account	550.00
E. From reserves deposited with Texas Ed Fund	5,225.00
F. Non-deductible gifts	1,100.00
G. Unallocated funds	2,500.00
H. Convention (Council)	3,500.00
I. Allocated funds (TCR)	1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	$ 55,865.00

CONVENTION AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 9
Register, evening

TUESDAY, APRIL 10
Registration, morning
Convention session, afternoon
Buffet
Portfolio Workshops, evening

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11
Convention session, morning
Luncheon—Janice May, speaker
Mock Con Con, afternoon
Dirty Movies, evening

THURSDAY, APRIL 12
Convention session, morning
Adjournment, noon

LWV of TEXAS 1973–1975

Proposed Program

It wasn't easy to recommend program with the fate of Amendment 4 in the balance and with consensus still due on two items. But local Leagues came through with thoughtful recommendations for 1973-75.

Members want to keep the items we have and they want *action* and more *action* to implement support positions, including new ones if consensus is reached.

PROPOSED PROGRAM

Texas Constitutional Revision: *Support of revision of the Texas Constitution.*

There will be a constant lobbying effort with members of the revision commission so they will be aware of League positions regarding the constitution. Each local League will be asked to have an update meeting so every member may speak with authority on what the League would like to have in the constitution, what items should be deleted and what positions should be statutory law.

When the revision commission presents its report, the League must then decide what it can support, and if necessary, what it must oppose. When the constitutional convention convenes in January, 1974, the same all-out lobbying must be done with the convention delegates.

Voting Rights: *Support of improved procedures for registration of voters in Texas. Support of uniformly enforced election procedures, clearly stated election laws, and the right to a secret ballot.*

Evaluation of election authorities and absentee voting procedures.

"It's only just begun . . ." election law reform, that is. With our new election laws consensus, we are ready to act on several proposals in the 63rd Legislature.

Two areas of further study are being proposed: election authorities and absentee voting. The form of such authorities (personnel, powers, organization, etc.) needs delineation. How to make absentee voting easier while still providing adequate safeguards against fraud also needs further investigation.

Environmental Quality: *Support of the conservation and development of water resources and of improvement of water and air quality.*

Evaluation of measures to achieve and maintain a physical environment beneficial to life.

The current land-use study takes into account existing state land-use practice, governmental agencies involved in land-use management, regional problems and socio-economic considerations in establishing priorities.

Action is anticipated on water and air quality and on our new positions in solid waste management.

Human Resources: *Support of measures to combat poverty and discrimination in Texas.*

Study and evaluation of alternate methods of public school financing. (Support positions, if any, will be incorporated into this item following consensus.)

Present state consensus positions support the creation of an effective human relations commission for Texas and support measures for welfare reform in Texas.

National support positions regarding equal opportunity in education, employment, housing and women's rights enable Texas League members to take further state action in these areas.

No new study is envisioned at the state level for the next biennium. We will work to implement our present positions.

State-Local Relations: *Support of more flexible and adequate powers at the local level; comprehensive regional and state planning, including regional planning councils.*

Our broad support positions will give us the opportunity for action to promote changes in legislation on special districts, county governments, urban problems and many other areas concerning intergovernmental relations.

Modernization of State Government: *Support of executive, legislative, and judicial reform to be accomplished through constitutional revision and legislative action.*

Legislature: The League's efforts this year will be to encourage the 63rd Legislature to get "right on" with the business of reform. This will be a three-pronged effort and will take a concerted campaign on the part of local Leagues, the Capitol Corps and the state board.

Already in the works is intensive lobbying to encourage the legislature to expand the rules reform begun in the special sessions. The second phase of our work will be to support or oppose bills in the 63rd session. Lobby and ethics legislation are sure to be proposed. Constitutional revision will be the third part of our program. We will work to include annual sessions, to exclude legislative salary amounts and to convert many present provisions into statutory law.

The key to "right on" for League goals is going to be "write on." We will have to communicate with our legislators often.

Executive: Our support positions give us the opportunity to work for major reorganization of the state's executive department. This will be a time for action with the legislature and the constitutional convention to promote changes that will strengthen and modernize the executive branch of our government.

Judicial: Chief Justice Calvert's task force on court improvement is presenting reform legislation to the legislature this session. Because of the activities of the task force and of citizens conferences formed throughout the state, many bills on judicial reform are almost certain to be presented. Now is the time for an updating of our study so we will be prepared to act on our support positions in both the legislature and constitutional convention.

NOT RECOMMENDED ITEMS

Items not recommended because of workload and lack of sufficient interest include: Administration of Justice, State Financing, Mass Transit, Ombudsman, Public Utilities, Children and Youth, Jail and Prison Reform, Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Drugs, Election Laws, Education, Insurance Laws. Additional study was recommended under several current items and several local Leagues suggested some combination of items.

Btownscombe

AND NOW

ACTION

League of Women Voters of Texas

AND NOW ACTION
March 1973

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

AND NOW ACTION is designed to prepare every League member in the state for the ACTION we must start planning for NOW.

Action is what League program is all about. For over twenty years we in the Texas League have worked for the opportunity to have a voice in revising the Texas Constitution. The opportunity is here. We now turn from the mechanics for revision to the nitty-gritty of revision--the issues. The challenges we face in the next few months call for an all-out effort to develop public support for the League's positions and to influence the decision-making in the revision of the constitution.

AND NOW ACTION is the tool to prepare League members for a piece of the action. Designed as a series of "position papers," it provides background material on program issues, states League positions, and differentiates between those involving constitutional change and those involving statutory change. It also includes general information on the constitutional aspects of state finance and education.

Let's share our commitment to a good constitution for Texas with citizens throughout the state. Be prepared by being informed. Then be active!

TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Support of measures to promote revision of the Texas Constitution.

The Texas Constitution, adopted in 1876, strongly reflects the political environment at that time. In the turbulent post-Civil War Reconstruction period, Texas was ruled by carpetbaggers, who, unlike the majority of Texans, had not supported the Confederacy; they governed under the constitution of 1869. When the supporters of Confederate ideals regained power, they drafted a new constitution with strong safeguards against abuse of power. This constitution of 1876 was designed to prevent the state from governing--in contrast to the U.S. Constitution, which permits governing.

The Texas Constitution is long, detailed, all-inclusive, inflexible, ambiguous, and unorganized. The legislature frequently proposes amendments in an attempt to cope with current problems. Over two hundred have been adopted by the electorate in less than one hundred years.

League interest in Texas constitutional revision grew out of a "Know Your State" survey begun in 1948. The last half of the study project was devoted almost exclusively to a section-by-section examination of the state constitution.

After completing this survey of Texas government in 1954, the League reached consensus supporting general revision of the constitution, to be preceded by thorough review and adequate research. League members agree that the research should be an official research program authorized by the legislature. In order to achieve its goals of constitutional review and revision, the League began working to build public opinion for revision, to secure research in state government, and to generate support for a constitutional commission to conduct the research.

In 1957 the question arose of how to prepare League members and others to give thoughtful consideration to the report of the Texas Legislative Council, which had been directed by the legislature to make a thorough study of the constitution and assess the need for revision. The League set itself the task of formulating a set of constitutional principles to use as yardsticks in judging a state constitution. In the course of their study, League members considered statements from the Principles of the national League of Women Voters and from yardsticks or current agendas of various state Leagues, plus the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and the report of the State Organization Committee of Connecticut. Following the consensus reports of local Leagues to the state board in January 1958, nine principles were adopted at the

state convention in March 1958. A tenth principle was adopted by the presidents council in 1959, and an eleventh, a bill of rights, was added in 1971 by the state board, feeling that it had been implied in previous consensus statements.

These eleven principles for a good constitution are not positions but criteria to use in assessing the need for revision of an existing constitution or in evaluating the merits of a proposed constitution. They are:

a bill of rights
a framework of basic law
a clear separation of powers with responsibility definitely assigned
qualifications for voter eligibility and guarantees of fair elections
provisions for justice with a minimum of delay
a coordinated finance structure capable of flexibility
maximum home rule for municipal and county government with coordination of overlapping functions
provisions for support of public education
provisions for support of public health and welfare services
provisions for amendment and revision
basic policies regarding state employee selection, retention and promotion

Article XVII, Section 1 of the Texas Constitution states that the legislature at any biennial session, by a vote of two-thirds of all the members, may propose amendments to the constitution, to be voted upon by the qualified electors of the state, and adopted if a majority of the votes cast are for the amendment. The possibility that steps could be taken toward revision of the Texas Constitution in any session of the legislature clearly pointed out the need for League members to be knowledgeable about methods for revising the constitution. In 1962, after studying the pamphlet, "How to Revise the Texas Constitution," League members agreed that a constitutional convention preceded by qualified research is the most desirable method for general revision.

When a constitutional revision commission was appointed in 1967, League members, fearing they would be unable to support the commission's revised constitution because their support position specified revision by a constitutional convention, reviewed their consensus on methods of revision. Wishing to be flexible so that any possibilities for revision could be considered, a new position was agreed on early in 1969:

> Support for revision of the Texas Constitution within League principles and standards, preferably by constitutional convention, although alternate methods can be supported.

A constitutional amendment calling for the members of the 63rd Legislature to sit as a constitutional convention beginning in January 1974, after a constitutional revision commission, appointed by the legislature, has studied the need for constitutional change and made recommendations, was approved in November 1972. While the League gave all-out support to the passage of this amendment, support of the constitution that follows depends on whether or not it can meet League criteria.

VOTING RIGHTS

Support of improved procedures for registration of voters in Texas. Support of uniformly enforced election procedures, clearly stated election laws, and the right to a secret ballot.

Constitutional Provisions

According to the Model State Constitution, "the issue of citizen control of government permeates all questions of constitutional structure. A major goal should be to make citizen control more effective. A major tool of citizen control is the electoral process. The state constitution should protect firmly the essential political rights of the citizen, leaving to legislation, within a broad constitutional framework, responsibility for prescribing detail of the electoral process."

The next paragraphs outline the changes sought by the League of Women Voters in the suffrage article of the Texas Constitution and summarize court rulings that have modified several of its present provisions.

The League supports automatic restoration of voting rights to felons upon completing their sentence and/or probationary period. The Texas Constitution disqualifies from voting all persons convicted of any felony, subject to such exceptions as the legislature may make. At present, a convicted felon may regain his voting rights only if he requests and receives a full pardon, which includes restoration of voting rights, from the Board of Pardons and Paroles. However, the League believes that a formerly qualified voter who has served his prison term should without further action be invested with all rights of citizenship. In recent years criticism of the disfranchisement of convicted criminals has grown. In most states, among them Illinois, Kentucky, Montana, and Virginia, the governor has the power to restore a former convict to full civil rights; in other states, such as Connecticut, a special commission possesses the right and in Colorado, Hawaii, and Oregon, felons regain the franchise immediately upon release from prison. Felons may vote in New York if they have been released after serving their full sentence or have completed parole.

Action to protect the right to vote of every citizen is a program bylaw of the national League of Women Voters. Therefore, the Texas League believes that the disqualification from voting of "all paupers supported by any county" should be removed from the state constitution. Disfranchisement of indigents is legitimatized in seven states (Delaware, Massachusetts, Missouri, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, and West Virginia.) Among these states, which specifically disqualify "paupers" as voting registrants, the term "pauper" is variously defined. Missouri and Texas disqualify any person kept at any poorhouse or other asylum at public expense. This contention reflects the lingering but sharp class feeling that those who contribute so little economically to the community should be denied the right to select governmental officials, a position that is out of harmony with the idea of self-government.

Recent court rulings and congressional legislation have affected some provisions of the suffrage article (Article VI) of the Texas Constituion:

Residence. Section 2 of Article VI stipulates that a person must have resided in the state one year and in the county for six months to qualify as an elector in an election. The passage of the 1970 Amendments to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Dunn v. Blumstein have established nationwide standards affecting the rights of all citizens to register and vote. Compliance requires abolition of all durational residency requirements for voting in any election--federal, state, or local. Registration is to be kept open until at least 30 days before an election, as 30 days appears to be an ample period of time for a state to complete whatever administrative tasks are necessary.

Registration. Another provision in Sec. 2 of Article VI requires that voters register annually. In a decision rendered on January 7, 1971, a three-judge federal district court held in the case of Beare v. Smith that the requirement for annual registration is invalid. The 62nd Legislature enacted a registration system eliminating the features of the former law that the district court had declared to be objectionable. The League concurs with the Model State Constitution provision that the legislature provide by law for registration of voters. In other words, the constitution should address itself only to the method for registration control and not specify the details.

Property ownership. Sec. 3 of Article VI adds a property requirement for voting on local bond issues and expenditure of funds. However, the U.S. Supreme Court recently held in furtherance of the one man-one vote doctrine that limiting the vote on bond issues to voters who are also real property taxpayers is unconstitutional (City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejski; Cipriano v. City of Houma). Until and unless the Supreme Court changes its mind, Section 3 appears to be inoperative.

There are two other provisions found in most constitutional suffrage articles. Citizenship is an unexceptionable requirement for voting in

every state. Persons determined to be mentally incompetent are almost always denied the right to vote on the ground that such individuals are incapable of rendering a rational decision in the voting booth.

Statutory Provisions

The League of Women Voters feels that the legislature should be given the responsibility and the necessary authority to build a statutory framework essential for a proper electoral system. The specific details of election administration are thus left to legislation. The League emphasizes these major points in developing a proper electoral system. The best voter registration system is one that provides a balance between these important elements:

Adequate safeguards against fraud (personal registration and issuance of registration card, signature identification at the polls, and accurate and current registration lists, periodically revised)

Uniformity and Ease of administration (good administrative methods)

Voter convenience (reregistration by voting and year-round registration with no fee)

No declaration of party affiliation when registering (In order to help establish a strong two-party state, League members think a declaration of party designation should not be required at the time of registration.)

The League's criteria for election administration include:

Clearly stated election laws and procedures that uniformly and regularly produce honest and accurate results

Safeguards against fraudulent practices

Protection of the secrecy of the ballot

Convenience to the voters

Impartiality of treatment for all voters

Reasonable costs for conducting elections.

Therefore, the League supports uniformly enforced election procedures, clearly stated election laws, and the right to a secret ballot. Stressing the need for improving election procedures, its position emphasizes these points:

Revision of the election laws to ensure enforcement. Language should be precise and easily understood by laymen so that it is not open to differing interpretations by various officials. Procedures and personnel should be adequately described to provide for uniform adminstration of the law. Substantive revision is needed.

Recodification of the election laws to eliminate obsolete matter and clarify ambiguous provisions. Inconsistencies and outdated references should be removed.

Supervision of local elections held by all governmental units by a single county election authority responsible to a central state authority. Lack of central control has been identified as a source of election problems. Jurisdiction of the central election office should be extended to all elections in the county--general elections, city elections, school elections, special district elections, etc.

Requirement of uniform training for all election personnel. Training should not only be uniform throughout the state, but should also be mandatory.

Automatic restoration of voting rights to felons upon completing their sentence and/or probationary period. This provision may be constitutional or statutory, depending on the wording of the suffrage article in the constitution.

Provision for unitary primaries. Party primaries are recognized as an integral part of the election process. A consolidated or unitary primary is preferred to cut costs and prevent dual party voting.

APPORTIONMENT

Action for apportionment substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.

Americans are agreed that every vote cast should be counted-and counted only once. Otherwise election by the majority has no meaning. Recent years have witnessed a growing determination to equalize citizens' votes in another way: by removing the sharp variations between the number of people in voting districts. Without this kind of equality, some of those elected speak and vote for a small constituency, some for a large. Some people are overrepresented, other underrepresented.

Constitutional Provisions

Sections 25, 26, and 26a of Article III of the Constitution of Texas determine the apportionment of seats in the legislature. However, the limiting exceptions in these sections have been removed by the courts as violations of the one man-one vote rule.

The Model State Constitution of the National Municipal League suggests including the provision that all districts be "so nearly equal in population that the population of the largest district shall not exceed that of the smallest district by more than ___ per cent." It also suggests that, following each decennial census, the governor appoint a board to make recommendations concerning the redistricting of the state. The Constitution of Texas, in Section 28 of Article III, assigns the apportionment task to the state legislature. If that body fails to act, it provides for an agency (composed of the lieutenant governor, Speaker of the House, attorney general, comptroller, and commissioner of the General Land Office) to redistrict the legislature.

Legislative Implications

In 1965 the Texas Legislature passed a resolution memorializing Congress to call a constitutional convention to reverse the one man-one vote ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court. Resolutions to rescind this have been introduced but not passed. The League would support a resolution to rescind the earlier action, such as has been done in other states. In 1970 the Kansas state legislature voted to rescind the pro-amendment resolutions it had passed in 1963 and 1965. In 1971 the Idaho legislature voted to rescind its resolutions memorializing Congress to call a constitutional convention to enact an amendment allowing state legislatures to apportion one house of their legislatures on a basis other than population.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Support of the conservation and development of water resources and of improvement of water and air quality. Evaluation of measures to achieve and maintain a physical environment beneficial to life.

Historical Background for League Positions

Since 1956, the League of Women Voters has been studying water resources on the national level. In 1959, national consensus was reached, giving support to long-range planning for conservation and development of water resources and action to promote improvement in water quality. The national League's early voice-in-the-wilderness concern for water resources was expanded in 1970 into a study of environmental quality, and water support positions were incorporated in this item. Specifically, under the national consensus, the League supports overall, long-range planning of water resources development; managing water resources on a river-basin or regional basis; federal financing of water development with cost-sharing by state and local government and private users;

improved coordination between agencies and departments; procedures that supply information and encourage intelligent weighing of alternative plans; citizen participation in water resource decisions; limited financial assistance (government incentives) to accomplish water pollution control. Under the national program, local and state Leagues express their views on almost every aspect of water issues.

In 1970 the League of Women Voters of Texas initiated a state-level study on water planning and reached the following consensus:

State government should have the responsibility for water planning and developement in Texas.

Development of adequate water supplies should be ecologically sound.

Additional water resources should come from within the state..

Maximum use of present water supplies should be made through reuse, conservation, and more efficient water and land use.

Water should be available for all users whenever feasible; however municipal needs should come first.

Unlike League positions on water, those related to air quality are relatively new. In April of 1971, the League of Women Voters of the United States determined by consensus that "control of air pollution is a responsibility to be shared by all levels of government--federal, state and local." Further, that "while the federal government should have the major role in setting standards, each lower level of government should have the right to set more stringent standards. Enforcement should be carried out at the lower levels of government, but the federal government should have ultimate power to enforce standards if the lower levels do not meet this responsibility. Pollution control should be considered a cost of doing business, but citizens as consumers and taxpayers must expect some costs to be passed on to them. The public should participate in decisions on all phases of air pollution control."

On the state program level, the consensus on air quality in Texas, which was adopted in 1971, adds to the national consensus:

Support of state government action for control of air pollution in Texas, which includes:

Power to set and enforce standards stricter than those required by the federal government

Adequate funding to carry out research, planning, and enforcement

Local and regional governments to be allowed to set and enforce standards stricter than those of the state

Encouragement of citizen involvement in the enforcement process.

Constitutional Ramifications of League Environmental Quality Positions

Most authorities on state constitutions agree that an affirmative constitutional command to protect the environment is desirable, but that specific restrictions and procedures should be statutory in nature. The League concurs in this opinion. While both state and national League environmental quality positions are fairly explicit and detailed, League members agree that such specifics should not appear in the revised Texas Constitution.

Unlike some sections of the present Texas Constitution, the one dealing with the environment (Article XVI, Section 59) is not entirely to be faulted. According to the Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, "Texas has an affirmative call to protect the environment...adopted in 1917. It is limited to conservation and development of natural resources, but then the problem of pollution was not the issue in 1917 that it is today." In order to assure relevance to contemporary life, the League of Women Voters of Texas would hope that the environmental article to be included in the revised constitution would set forth a public policy of the state to provide and maintain a healthful environment. To be omitted from the constitution would be parts (b), (c), and (d) of Article XVI, Section 59, since these deal with the creation of conservation and reclamation districts, levying of taxes for same, and regulatory procedures for the districts, all of which provisions, in the League's opinion, are more properly statutory than constitutional.

Support of measures to combat poverty and discrimination in Texas. The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures to equalize educational opportunity in the state.

Specifically, the League believes that:

level of state support to Texas public schools should be raised to insure that all Texas school children receive a high quality education. Local enrichment funding should be limited to 10% of the state program.

revenue should be raised by a state supervised property tax, a state income tax, a state corporate profits tax, or any combination thereof.

In levying the property tax: taxable property should be assessed at full market value; state supervision should insure equitable and uniform assessment and taxing procedures; professional training should be required for tax assessor-collectors.

funds to local school districts should be allocated on the basis of weighted pupil needs.

local district capital outlay should be supplemented by the state to equalize facilities.

The above consensus was arrived at after a concentrated study, dating from the adoption of public school financing as an emergency study item at the Waco Council, April, 1972, through the consensus deadline of January 15, 1973. Besides the usual resource committee meetings, most Leagues scheduled one or two unit discussion meetings plus a community meeting, where experts in the field of public school finance were heard from.

Because of the complexity of the subject, it was difficult to arrive at a detailed consensus covering a number of specific points. Only the points mentioned in the consensus statement were cited by a substantial majority of the Leagues taking part in the consensus.

Leagues were agreed that the level of state support to the local school districts should be raised substantially beyond the present Foundation School Program. A majority mentioned full state funding, but many of this majority did not spell out exactly what they meant. At the same time, they indicated they would allow local enrichment of 10%. However, because of the number of Leagues wanting to keep a joint state-local system of school financing, the state board felt that a consensus had not been reached on the point of full state funding.

Many Leagues indicated they did not want the better school districts penalized by an equalization program. This would indicate that local Leagues would like to see a state program encompassing 80% to 90% of the costs of public school education.

Leagues were aware that the assumption of such costs by the state would call for additional revenues. Leagues were divided in their preferences as to which taxes should be used to raise these monies. Those Leagues preferring a state income tax and/or a state corporate profits tax mentioned that if a property tax were retained for the financing of public school education they would like to see certain reforms (discussed below). Those Leagues preferring to finance educational costs by a property tax wanted the tax reformed. They mentioned that if additional taxes were necessary, they would prefer a state income tax and/or a state corporate profits tax. Leagues seemed to be saying, "We know that the kind of equalized educational program we would like to see in Texas will cost more money, and we are flexible as to how this money is raised."

In describing how the property tax should be reformed, local Leagues were almost unanimous in wanting property to be assessed at full market value. They wanted tax assessors to be professionally trained. They wanted uniform assessing procedures and a uniform tax rate. In order to assure these reforms Leagues felt that state supervision over the property tax was necessary. Suggestions ranged from setting up a separate state agency to do the job, to the setting of state guidelines and enforcement procedures, but with no recommendation as to how these should be implemented.

In allocating funds to the local school districts, local Leagues again almost unanimously chose the weighted pupil method. This method breaks down the educational process into programs by which the educational and developmental needs of pupils are measured. It recognizes that it costs more to meet the needs of some students than others. It assumes that pupil-teacher ratios are less and operating and capital outlay costs are greater for special education programs. For example, if a weight of 1 is given to the cost of educating regular pupils in elementary school and it is found that it costs twice as much for compensatory education programs, then the full-time pupils with a need for compensatory education are given a weight of 2. Other programs receive other weights, according to their costs. Funds are then allocated to the local school districts on the basis of their weighted pupil needs.

Finally, local Leagues agreed that the question of capital outlay must be dealt with, if educational opportunity is to be equalized. While no specific method of equalizing capital needs was suggested, most Leagues felt that the state should eventually assume responsibility for these costs.

Legislative Action

At this time, the outlook for legislative action is not clear. Three definite recommendations have been made: one by the State Board of Education; one by

the Texas State Teachers Association; and one by the Senate Committee to Study Public School Finance. There has been no rush to file any bills, as the general agreement seems to be to wait until the U.S. Supreme Court rules on the Rodriguez case. If this means that a special session of the legislature must be called to deal with the question of public school financing, then so be it.

The state board will have to examine the various bills that are introduced, and then decide if any can be supported under the League's consensus. The major issues that the League will have to contend with when lobbying are: (1) the attitude that there must be no new taxes and no increase in taxes; (2) the reluctance of those entrenched interests that are benefiting by the present system to change to another system where their position might be less favored or weaker; (3) the realization that none of the suggested plans to date comes to grips with the question of equalization of school facilities.

Constitutional Action

Article VII of the Texas Constitution deals with education. It contains some 21 sections. The first one states that it is the duty of the legislature of the state to support and maintain a system of public schools. The remainder provides that certain permanent school funds be set up; that certain taxes be designated for the support of public schools; that universities be established and supported by certain taxes and monies, etc.

The League of Women Voters of Texas has no consensus positions specifically related to the sections of the education article, However, some experts recommend a short, permissive type of education article in a constitution, affirming the duty of the state to provide education. This type of education article would more nearly fit League principles for a good constitution.

The situation in regard to Article VIII on taxation is similar while it contains some language in line with League consenus (e.g., the stipulation in Sections 1 and 2 that taxation should be equal and uniform), it has a complex welter of other provisions upon which the League has no consensus.

Any League action on its public school financing position, therefore, will have to be legislative rather than constitutional.

Welfare

National Statement of Position

Members of the League of Women Voters of the United States believe the federal government bears a major responsibility for providing income assistance to meet the basic needs of all persons in the United States who are unable to work whose earnings are inadequate, or for whom jobs are not available.

Criteria for Income Assistance

The federal government bears the responsibility for financing basic programs of income assistance and for setting income and eligibility standards for these programs. Supervising the administration of assistance is the responsibility of the federal government, but administrative offices should be close to the people participating in the program.

- Eligibility of all low-income individuals for assistance should be based on need. Eligibility should be established through simplified procedures such as a declaration of need, spot-checked in a manner similar to that used in checking the validity of income tax returns.

- Benefit levels should be sufficient to provide decent, adequate standards for food, clothing and shelter. Minimum income standards should be adjusted for regional differences in the cost of living, and should be revised periodically to take into account changes in the purchasing value of the dollar. There should be increasing emphasis on cash assistance, but in-kind assistance (e.g., food stamps, housing subsidies, medical aid) should be continued to help assure that these needs are met. Until a federal welfare program achieves an adequate level of benefits, some states will need to supplement federal payments. Participants should not receive lesser benefits under a revised program than they are now receiving.

- Privacy of participants should be protected. All administrative procedures should be conducted with respect for the rights and dignity of the individuals.

- Work should be encouraged; participants' total income should increase as their earnings increase. Counseling, realistic training for actual jobs, and financial incentives--not a requirement to work--should be the links between job programs and income assistance.

Criteria for Supportive Services

Supportive services should be available--but not compulsory--for participants in income assistance programs. Most important among these are child care, counseling, family planning, health and legal services. Fees for supportive services should be based on ability to pay, free where necessary. Facilities and services for participants should be the same as for the general public. The federal government should exert leadership in setting standards for eligibility, for the quality of services, and for adequate funding. Participants in the programs should be included in program development and implementation, and the administration of social services

programs should be responsive to the needs of the people being served. Wherever possible, these services should be conveniently located in the neighborhood.

State Addition to National Statement of Position

In the fall of 1970, local Leagues in Texas studied welfare under a national program item. At the same time, the state League added two consensus questions onto the national questions, so as to have a further basis for action on state welfare issues peculiar to Texas. The result was the following support positions:

> *The removal of the ceiling on welfare spending from the state constitution. The Provision of supportive services for welfare recipients, including health care, child care, family planning, and legal aid.*

In the second position on providing supportive services for welfare recipients, local Leagues were saying that if these services were not provided under federal or federal/state programs, they would like to see them provided by the state.

In 1971 the Texas League supported a proposed constitutional amendment to remove constitutional limitations on assistance payments to some categories of welfare recipients. This amendment was turned down by the voters.

The state welfare picture has been rather clouded for the past several years as state officials have waited to see what sort of legislation would emerge from the U.S. Congress. The passage of the 1972 Social Security Amendments (H.R. 1) in the fall of 1972 has not contributed much to the clarification of the state welfare picture. State officials are waiting to see how interpretation of regulations by the Secretary of HEW will affect the state situation. Even though cash payments to the three adult categories will be federalized commencing January 1, 1974, many policy questions about supportive services to these recipients remain to be decided.

Legislative Action

At this writing, it remains unclear as to what sort of legislative action will be upcoming in the current session of the Texas legislature in the area of welfare. Many questions will be resolved in the appropriations process.

Local League members would do well to start talking to their legislators in general terms regarding these points under the national welfare consensus: (1) until a federal welfare program achieves an adequate level of benefits, some states will need to supplement federal payments; (2) participants should not receive lesser benefits under a revised program than they are now receiving; (3) supportive services should be retained or expanded, if possible.

(More detailed information on the 1972 Social Security Amendments and their relationship to League consensus positions is being prepared by the state League.)

A major impediment in trying to obtain state legislative action is the reluctance of the general public to support any programs that call for increased expenditures and, therefore, increased taxes. Community education will be necessary to give the true situation as it now exists for all categories of welfare recipients.

Constitutional Action

Sections 51 and 51-a of Article III concern grants of public money by the legislature and assistance grants and medical care for the needy, respectively. Sec. 51 prohibits the grant of public money to any individual, group of individuals, municipal or other corporations, except where provided. Sec. 51-a sets forth an exception allowing grants for welfare and medical care in order to receive matching federal grants. It also sets the limitation of $80 million on assistance payments during any fiscal year.

Since the League of Women Voters of Texas supports the removal of the welfare ceiling from the constitution, League members should be starting to familiarize themselves with these sections of the document and to work toward excluding both sections from a new constitution. Sec. 51 falls under that category of sections encompassing special limitations. It obviously represents a reaction against an era of graft and corruption. However, there are ways of combating graft and corruption other than to deny the legislature the power of making grants. Today, one method of stimulating local governments to make needed improvements in many areas is to give them matching grants. If the state of Texas is to assume a leadership role vis-a-vis its local governments, then a section such as Sec. 51 should not be included in a new constitution.

Sec. 51a should also be deleted. Its provisions are more statutory than constitutional. Even as statutory law, some provisions of this section would need changing to make it current with the situation that now exists following the passage of the 1972 Social Security Amendments.

A Human Relations Commission for Texas

In the fall of 1970, local Leagues studied human relations commissions, both state and local, trying to identify those elements that make for an effective commission. The Governor's Committee on Human Relations, which had been established in June 1969, was evaluated. The consensus arrived at pinpointed the factors in setting up a human relations commission that the local Leagues believed important if it were to be successful in combating discrimination,

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports:

> *An effective Human Relations Commission for Texas, including such features as: permanent, independent status; investigative and legal enforcement powers; an adequate budget, funded independently of the governor's office; equitable representation of racial and ethnic groups; and a staff adequate to perform its duties and trained in human relations work.*

Local Leagues felt that the problems of discrimination and intergroup tensions in Texas were so important that most gave first priority to the factor of permanence in setting up a human relations commission.

Instead of the commission being a part of the governor's office, with its funds coming from those allocated to the governor, Leagues felt that the commission should be independent of the governor's office and that the legislature should appropriate the commission's funds as a part of the regular appropriations process, along with those of the other agencies and departments.

Leagues felt that the commission, to be effective, needed investigative and legal enforcement powers. The subpoena power was the only specifically mentioned power. However, Leagues were agreed that when conciliation fails, the commission needs enforcement powers to adequately combat discrimination.

As to the size of a budget needed by the commission to do an effective job, no figures were mentioned by the local Leagues. There was agreement that Leagues wanted to see more than a token effort.

Leagues felt that commission members should be widely representative of the major racial, religious, and ethnic groups in the state. They felt that the number of members should be fewer than the present 50 on the Governor's Committee, but there was no agreement as to how many. Some Leagues mentioned that care should be exercised to select true minority leaders for commission membership.

As to staff, local Leagues felt it important that the staff have training in human relations work. However, this stipulation would not preclude the use of paraprofessionals or other untrained persons whom experience had shown to be effective in this type of work.

Leagues were also asked as to what programs the commission should first undertake. Many Leagues thought that the commission should work with the news media to educate the public about its own existence, devise broad educational programs to reduce tension, and help local communities to set up their own local commissions. Other programs most frequently mentioned were: working to enforce fair housing laws; working to enforce minimum

building codes; expanding vocational education opportunities; expanding counseling services; and combating discrimination in employment.

Legislative Action

Legislation to create a permanent, effective human relations commission has been introduced into the 1973 session of the legislature. This marks the third session in which such a bill has been introduced. The League has testified and lobbied in favor of each of these bills.

Action for a permanent human relations commission is not a top League legislative priority for this session but it still remains a very important issue in the human resources area. Its importance will be increasingly apparent as state and local programs begin to feel a greater impact from the federal government's decision to switch from categorical grants to revenue-sharing. As federal activity and control deminish, the urgency for state antidiscrimination laws and a state agency to implement these laws will increase. Those local Leagues that have the womanpower should feel free to include lobbying for an effective human relations commission in their work schedule.

Constitutional Action

Since the creation of a state human relations commission is a statutory matter, it is not an issue for constitutional action.

Other Human Resources Concerns

Besides the three specific areas of consensus under Human Resources on the state level, there are a number of other Human Resources consensus positions arrived at through study on the national level. These concern the areas of employment, education, and housing. The "Statement of Human Resources Position," as revised and announced by the national board, January 10, 1969, delineates these positions. Local League members should familiarize themselves with these positions, as action is possible under them both at the state and local levels, provided League guidelines are followed.

STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS

Support of more flexibility and adequate powers at the local level; comprehensive regional and state planning, including regional planning councils.

Increased interest in strengthening local government and in improving state-local relations has resulted from problems of urbanization. Existing authority provided under (1) enabling legislation for regional planning councils (RPCs) and (2) the general interlocal contracting law have enabled RPCs to perform a wide variety of services for member governments and their residents. But the state of Texas must search for means to correct structural, functional, and fiscal weaknesses of the local governments themselves, to enable them to become stronger partners in serving citizen needs.

Constitutional Provisions

Recognizing that local government in Texas continues to have an important role to play in the overall governmental structure, the League of Women Voters supports measures to provide adequate and realistic powers for cities and/or counties enabling performance of services without overlapping costs and taxation, in preference to single-purpose districts. The cities of Texas have fared fairly well with their home-rule status and annexation powers, but the counties have been stifled and have ambiguous responsibilities. In Texas, counties are legal subdivisions of the state, with limited powers and duties. Although the state constitution spells out more than 125 provisions relating specifically to county government, counties have not had the authority necessary to function adequately in modern-day Texas. Consequently, over 1600 special districts have sprung up throughout the state. These districts include airport authorities, hospital districts, housing authorities, river authorities, local water districts, soil conservation districts, and mosquito control districts. The indiscriminate creation of special districts has complicated the process of governmental coordination, precluded effective citizen control and participation, and added substantially to the overall cost of government. The purpose of the local government article in the Alaska Constitution is to provide maximum local self-government with a minimum of local government units.

A rapidly changing age requires flexibility, so the League of Women Voters believes that counties and municipalities need a flexible governmental structure, together with legislative and financial powers adequate to provide local services. Regardless of the governmental form, local responsibility and participation can best be assured if the people have

a broad range of discretion in determining the form of government that is in their best interest. County residents should have several options in choosing a form of government that suits their needs and preferences--including the merger of neighboring counties, optional charters for administrative reorganization, and county home rule including provision for city-county consolidation if desired by the people in the county.

Comprehensive regional and state planning is supported by the League of Women Voters. All that a state constitution need do is permit local governments to combine their efforts to meet regional problems and give them the power to create regional authorities. The Intergovernmental Relations article in the Model State Constitution of the National Municipal League is quite succinct:

> Intergovernmental Cooperation. Nothing in this constitution shall be construed: (1) To prohibit the cooperation of the government of this state with other governments, or (2) the cooperation of the government of any county, city or other civil division with any one or more other governments in the administration of their functions and powers, or, (3) the consolidation of existing civil divisions of the state. Any county, city or other civil division may agree, except as limited by general law, to share the costs and responsibilities of functions and services with any one or more other governments.

Constitutional provisions on state-local relations that are heavily detailed, overly specific, or unduly restrictive prevent the flexibility needed to meet the unprecedented demands of urban life. Therefore, major sections should be removed from the Texas Constitution, including those establishing specific special districts, limiting the taxing powers of local governments, specifying the method of election and term of office for local officials, and prescribing the form of county government.

Statutory Provisions

The Model Constitution of the National Municipal League mandates the existence of only counties and cities; flexibility is preserved by not specifying other forms of local governments, such as towns, villages, special districts, etc., although the legislature is left free to create them as it sees fit.

The League urges greater accountability to and regulation by the state of single-purpose special districts. Special districts should be made accountable to some level of general-purpose government.

Recognizing the importance of coordination between the state government and the regional councils, the League believes that state government should provide financial and technical assistance to regional councils. If RPCs are to assume broad regional responsibilities, state help will be needed.

THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Support of measures to increase the effectiveness of the executive department of the state government, with continued evaluation of the organization and functions of the executive boards and commissions.

Although Article IV of the Texas Constitution is entitled "The Executive Department," the powers of the governor are scattered throughout the entire document. According to the constitution, the function of the executive department is to administer the laws passed by the legislature. Although the governor is designated chief executive officer of the state, the lines of his authority are not clearly defined and his powers are deliberately limited in many ways. If the needs of modern state government are to be met the executive branch must be strengthened.

The Constitution of 1876 set the term of office for governor at two years. Although no limit on the number of terms was specified, a strong tradition developed that the governor was to serve no more than two terms and that he was "entitled" to one reelection. That tradition was broken in 1954 and since that time several governors have sought third terms. In November 1972 Texas voters approved an amendment to the constitution providing a four-year term of office for the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller, treasurer, commissioner of the General Land Office, secretary of state, and certain other statutory state officers. However, the amendment set no limit to the number of terms that an executive officer could serve.

The League of Women Voters believes that the governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general should serve four-year terms, but that the governor should be limited to two terms, which may or may not be successive. A four-year term of office encourages long-range policy planning and permits the development of administrative policies that lead to a more efficient state government. It gives the governor time to demonstrate his merit and translate his plans into action. Four-year terms also make possible greater and more consistent economy in administration, reducing inevitable extravagence and expense connected with more frequent change. Less time and money is spent in campaigning. The League feels that a limit of two terms for the governor is necessary in order to avoid a concentration of power in one party.

The amendment approved in November 1972 doubling the term of office for the state's executive officers stipulated that the four-year terms begin for the officials elected in the 1974 general election. This provision means that the election of state officials will fall in nonpresidential election years. Both the League of Women Voters and the Model State Constitution favor holding the gubernatorial election in nonpresidential election years, in order to keep the state government and its problems from having to vie with national elections for the attention of the voters.

In Texas a party's candidate for the lieutenant governorship runs independently of its gubernatorial candidate. Although their names appear together on the ballot in the general election, each runs his own race, rarely aiding one another in the campaign. The lieutenant governor and governor conceivably may be of different political leanings with widely differing political views. It is not impossible that they could be of different political parties.

Although state constitutions, statutes, and judicial decisions consider the lieutenant governor an executive officer, he is unquestionably a legislative officer first and only potentially an executive one. As presiding officer of the Senate he has the power of life or death over pending bills through his power to assign bills to friendly or hostile committees. Recognizing this legislative function, the Model State Constitution does not provide for a lieutenant governor. Rather, legislative leaders are chosen from within their own houses, and succession to the governorship is through these men.

The League feels that a party's candidates for the two top positions in the state government should run as a team. The lieutenant governor would then become a spokesman in the legislature for the governor's legislative program, and in the case of the governor's inability to serve through absence, disability, impeachment, or death, his successor, the lieutenant governor, would hold similar political views.

The Texas Constitution at present is silent on the question of what happens if a governor becomes incapable of performing his duties but does not recognize his incapacity. Article IV, Sec. 16 reads:

> In case of the death, resignation, removal from office, inability or refusal of the Governor to serve, or of his impeachment or absence from the State, the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor until another be chosen at the periodical election, and be duly qualified; or until the Governor, impeached, absent or disabled, shall be acquitted, return, or his disability be removed.

The exact meaning of "inability" as used in this connection is not easily determined. A governor in poor health might refuse to give up the office

but exercise his authority through his subordinates. The League believes that provision should be made for a transfer of authority in this circumstance. It therefore feels that provision should be made in the constitution for the succession to the office of governor if the governor becomes unable to perform the duties of his office.

The Model State Constitution provides for succession by giving the Supreme Court the "original, exclusive and final jurisdiction to determine absence and disability of the governor or governor-elect and to determine the existence of a vacancy in the office of governor and all questions concerning succession to the office or to its powers and duties."

The governor is required by the state constitution to submit a budget to the legislature. Since 1949, the legislature has had its own budget board, which prepares a separate budget for the state. The legislature has tended to prefer its own budget to that of the governor. The governor may veto specific items, but he may not adjust the amounts, either at the time of passage or during the duration of the budget. As a result, at present he has no direct financial control over state government agencies. Texas is the only state that has both an executive and a legislative budget. The League believes that the governor's budget should be the only budget presented to the legislature.

There is a noticeable and significant difference between the Texas Constitution and the Model State Constitution in their initial provision regarding the Executive. The latter reads: "The executive power of the state shall be vested in a governor..." and continues with the method for his election and his term of office. In contrast the Texas Constitution creates an Executive Department.

The provisions in the Model State Constitution that apply to the executive department are predicated on the "...time-honored American principle of concentration of administrative power and responsibility in a single popularly-elected chief executive." The provisions in the Texas Constitution that apply to the executive department are based on the principle of fear of concentration of power.

The state constitution does not provide for a single head of state but for an executive department of seven officials--governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of the General Land Office and attorney general. Although the governor is designated the chief executive officer, the other executive officials are entirely independent of him and administer their respective offices without executive supervision. The state's executive structure therefore, is characterized by plurality in top management, a long ballot, lack of a single line of responsibility, absence of coordination, and a weak executive.

The League believes that a change to a cabinet-type executive department would be a helpful modernizing change for the Texas executive department. A "cabinet" system, whereby only the governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general are elected, giving the governor power to appoint and remove the nonelective officials, would give the governor firm control over the departments in his administration. These department heads and the governor would form a unit for coordination and planning of state policy. The cabinet system would give the governor real power to carry out his program. It would also make the government more visible to the people and pinpoint responsibility for its successful functioning.

The responsibility for administering most of the laws in Texas rests with hundreds of elected and appointed executive boards, agencies, and commissions. In 1918 there were 79 separate state administrative agencies. Today it is rather difficult to determine the exact number in existence.

The innumerable agencies, boards, commissions, and departments comprising the administrative branch of our state government have arisen from rather haphazard growth in the state's functions and services with little long-range or comprehensive planning. Therefore, they present an amazing picture of administrative fragmentation and inefficiency. The creation of some agencies was required under the constitution; the creation of others was provided by statute. Some administrative officers are appointed, some are elected. Methods of appointment are inconsistent. Some agencies are controlled by a single officer and some by boards. Functions and duties of various agencies are overlapping, duplicating, or too diverse to permit effective operation through the agency established for that purpose. Funds for the various agencies come from a variety of sources and are controlled in a variety of ways.

The Model State Constitution calls for administrative departments not to exceed 20 in number with powers and duties prescribed by law. It gives the legislature power to assign new powers and functions to departments. The governor has the power to make changes in administrative structure or in assignment of functions as he feels necessary for efficient administration. The legislature is empowered to create temporary commissions for special purposes or reduce the number of departments by consolidation or otherwise.

The League believes that state boards and commissions should be reorganized along functional lines by grouping them in areas of responsibility. In nearly all studies of state government, the major weakness emphasized has been fragmentation of authority through allocation of activities among many separate agencies, which are not responsible to the chief executive. Nowhere is the problem more pronounced than in Texas.

The governor of Texas has no powers of removal. Such a procedure is regulated by the state constitution and statutes. However, the public usually holds the governor responsible for the administration of all public affairs. The governor often is blamed for mismanagement in an agency although he has no control over it. He cannot remove board appointees, much less hired personnel; he can request reports from agencies, but has no way of insisting that these reports be forthcoming.

The Model State Constitution gives the governor strong appointive and removal power. It provides that "the governor shall appoint and may remove the heads of all administrative department." The League also believes that the governor should have the power, within safeguards prescribed by law, to remove appointive officers of the executive department and appointees to boards and commissions.

THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Support of measures to increase the efficiency and responsiveness of the legislature.

Constitutional Provisions

Among the provisions of the Model State Constitution that pertain to legislatures are two points basic to the consensus position of the League of Women Voters of Texas concerning the Texas Legislature. The Model advocates "...a legislature that has sufficient time and resources for informed deliberation. Such a legislature should provide opportunities for public service attractive to the most competent citizens." To this purpose the League supports annual sessions of sufficient length and scope to permit the efficient handling of legislative business and adequate compensation for legislators and elimination of salary amounts from the constitution.

The Texas Constitution provides for the state legislature to meet every two years or when convened by the governor. The League believes that this stipulation seriously hamstrings our legislators in dealing with the problems they face. Why should the legislature be the only branch of state government not operating continuously?

Biennial sessions, a carryover from the nineteenth century and its fear of government, have been discarded by more and more states. The Citizens Conference on State Legislatures reports that while in 1941 only 4 states had regularly scheduled annual sessions, by 1970 the number had reached 31.

Among the states limited to biennial sessions, more and more of them, including Texas, have found it necessary to resort to special sessions in order to conclude at least portions of their work.

The problems and work confronting the legislature are continuous. The League believes that a constitutional provision of annual sessions will enable state legislators to meet the demands placed upon them.

At the present time the Texas Constitution not only sets the salary of the Texas legislators but does so at the totally unrealistic sum of $4,800 per year. The League would like to see the salary amount eliminated from the constitution. In the past we have worked diligently for amendments to raise legislator's salaries to a realistic amount, feeling that adequate compensation would both attract better qualified people and eliminate economic pressures on legislators to secure funds from other sources. Unfortunately, such proposals have failed. For this reason, the League believes that salary amounts should be removed from the constitution and become a statutory matter. The Model State Constitution suggests that members of the legislature receive an annual salary and such allowances as may be prescribed by law but that any increase or decrease in the amount thereof not apply to the legislature that enacts the change.

Statutory Provisions

Wilbourn E. Benton in Texas: Its Government and Politics writes, "If a constitution means a flexible, written instrument by which the 'fundamental powers of government' are established, limited, defined and distributed among several departments, one may doubt whether Texas has a constitution." One characteristic of the Texas Constitution is excessive detail. The League has resisted adding to this problem by actively opposing the addition of what in substance is statutory law to the already overburdened constitution and by urging the removal of legislators' salary amounts from that document.

The League supports adequate compensation for legislators set by statute. This salary should be one that reflects the importance of the legislative position and rewards the legislator for his labor. In the past the League has supported several salary proposals, including one of $9,600 per year. The Citizens Conference on State Legislatures has suggested an amount of $15,000 for Texas lawmakers and states flatly that no legislator in the United States should earn less than $10,000.

Along with adequate compensation the League supports a number of measures to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of legislators. These include:

Pre-session orientation. At the present time Texas has a highly regarded pre-session.

Adequate professional and clerical help and improved facilities for research, information, and bill drafting, including use of electronic aids. The League believes a legislator is only as good as the information he gets.

To quote from the League's Study and Action in Texas 1971-73, "It is unrealistic to ask the modern legislator... to work hampered by lack of office space, lack of information, and lack of sufficient time and help to do the job."

The responsiveness of the Texas Legislature to the public has been a continuing interest of the League. While acknowledging that individual ethics cannot be legislated, the League supports standards that enable legislators to be more responsive to the public and that lessen conflict of interest, including the following:

Shorter campaigns to reduce campaign costs. This change would enable those less affluent to run for office and provide a more representative legislature.

All campaign contributions and loans reported, with clear identification of contributors and effective enforcement by an agency for this purpose. Where a legislator's support comes from may be of vital interest to the public.

Total expenses of lobbying filed. The area of the lobbyist is inclined to be a grey one. The League believes some black-and-white regulations would do much to help the public understand the legitimate interest of the lobbies.

A workable code of ethics which clearly defines and discloses conflicts of interest. The League supports such a code not because it feels that legislators are corrupt, but rather because it feels the citizen has a right to know what influences are brought to bear on his representatives. The League believes that the legislature's business is the people's business.

Because of its belief in the public's right to know about the work of its legislature, the League would like to see record votes taken in committee meetings and all committee meetings posted and open to the public.

Legislative Rules

The League of Women Voters of Texas has a number of support items in its legislative consensus that fall in the area of "rules." These are properly neither constitutional nor statutory provisions but rise from the constitutional directive that each legislature organize itself and establish

procedures for the conduct of legislative business.

The League's positions on legislative rules, therefore, are not germane to this discussion with one exception. The Texas House of Representatives in the 1973 legislative session has passed a bill that if passed by the Senate would convert one of the traditional legislative rules into statutory law. This bill would not allow conference committees on taxation and appropriations to change, alter, add to, or subtract from, any items in the passed bills except those that are in dispute between the houses. It is designed to prevent legislation by committee rather than by the legislature as a whole. The League supports the restriction of all conference committees to adjusting the differences in bills and resolutions passed by the two houses. However, it is open to question whether each legislature's constitutional perogative to govern its own procedures should be limited by the conversion of some of the traditional rules into statutory law.

THE TEXAS JUDICIARY

Support of an effective judicial structure for Texas.

The Present Judicial System in Texas

Provisions for the Texas judiciary, unlike those for the other two branches of the state government, are neatly set out in one article (Article V) in the Texas Constitution. Basically unaltered since 1891, this article defines the scope and form of the state's judicial system in great detail. Under Article V, Sec. 1, two kinds of courts, trial and appellate, are established and the judicial power of the state is vested in one Supreme Court, Courts of Civil Appeals, a Court of Criminal Appeals, district courts, county courts, justice of the peace courts, and "such other courts as may be provided by law."

In trial courts, evidence is taken in connection with issues that have been identified and a record is made; an initial decision is rendered on the basis of the evidence. If a litigant feels that an error of law was made or that the evidence did not justify the conclusions returned by the trial judge and jury, he may appeal on the record to an appellate court. Trial courts have one judge each and usually involve a jury; appellate courts consist of several judges and do not use juries.

Appellate Courts

The appellate courts in Texas today consist of a Supreme Court, a Court of Criminal Appeals, and 14 intermediate civil appellate courts called Courts

of Civil Appeals. The state constitution specifies the following qualifications for an appellate judge: that he be a citizen of the United States and Texas, be at least 35 years of age, and have had no less than 10 years' experience as a practicing lawyer or as a lawyer and judge of a court of record. All appellate judges are elected statewide and serve a six-year term of office. A vacancy in a judgeship on the appellate level is filled by gubernatorial appointment until the next general election. Any appellate justice or judge may be removed for misconduct or retired in case of disability by the Supreme Court upon the recommendation of the State Judicial Qualifications Commission.

The Supreme Court of Texas, which hears only civil cases, has final state appellate jurisdiction in civil matters. Generally it does not hear a case until after it has gone to one of the Courts of Civil Appeals. The court consists of a chief justice and eight associate justices. Salaries, as determined by statute, are $33,500 for the chief justice and $33,000 for each associate justice.

The Court of Criminal Appeals, which hears only criminal cases, is the highest, and only, state appellate court in criminal matters. (Texas is unusual in having two highest courts. Only one other state--Oklahoma--has a similar system.) There are five judges on the court. Salaries are the same as those paid to the associate judges of the Supreme Court.

At present the state of Texas is divided into 14 supreme jucicial districts, each of which has a Court of Civil Appeals, consisting of a chief justice and two associate justices. These courts hear appeals of civil cases from trial courts (district and county courts) operating in their district. The salary of each justice is $30,000 a year from the state, plus a supplemental amount of $8,000 or less from the counties within his court's jurisdiction.

Trial Courts

The trial courts provided for by the Texas Constitution, in order of importance in terms of litigation handled, are district courts, county courts, and justice of the peace courts. Judges of these courts are elected to their office by the voters in their geographical jurisdiction and serve four-year terms. All are courts of record except for justice of the peace courts. Vacancies are filled until the next general election by appointment--on the district court level by the governor and in county and justice courts by the county commissioners court. Municipal or corporation courts, which are trial courts created by legislative statute, are not courts of record; their judges are usually appointed for a two-year term by the city's mayor with confirmation by the city council. As on the appellate level, any judge of a trial court may be removed for misconduct or retired in case of disability by the Supreme Court upon the recommendation of the State Judicial Qualifications Commission.

The major trial courts of the state are the district courts. They usually handle both the civil and criminal business of a judicial district (which often comprises several counties), although some specialization is possible in urban counties having more than one district. Areas of litigation in which district courts have original jurisdiction include all criminal cases involving felonies and all major civil cases; they have appellate jurisdiction in probate cases originally tried in inferior courts. They share jurisdiction with county courts over minor civil cases. Their judicial district (geographical jurisdiction) is individually established by the statute creating each specific court; the districts of some district courts overlap each other.

At present Texas has 196 district courts of general jurisdiction. Additionally, some of the largest metropolitan areas have special district courts with limited jurisdiction. Currently there are 20 special district courts having criminal jurisdiction only, 23 having domestic relations jurisdiction only, and 6 having juvenile jurisdiction only.

A district court judge must be a citizen of the United States and Texas, have had at least two years' residence in the district, and have been licensed to practice law in Texas for at least four years. Qualifications for the judge of a special district court are usually the same. The salary of a district court judge is a basic $27,000 per year paid by the state, with a supplemental amount ranging from $600 to $12,000 paid by the counties of the district. Salaries for judges of special district courts vary between courts and are paid exclusively by the county; they are usually near the level of those paid to the district judges in the respective localities.

The state constitution provides for one county court in each county in the state. These 254 courts are trial courts with limited original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters; they have appellate jurisdiction over municipal and justice of the peace courts. Each constitutional county court is presided over by a county judge "who shall be well informed in the law of the state." In other words, the qualifications for the office of county judge do not include a formal study of law or a license to practice law. The county judge has certain administrative duties in addition to his judicial ones and serves as the presiding officer of the county commissioners court. Salaries of county judges, which vary from county to county, range from $6,000 to $28,000 per year.

In some counties, largely the metropolitan ones, most of the county judge's judicial functions have been turned over by the legislature to specialized county courts. Of the 57 specialized county courts in the state, 35 are entitled county courts at law, 11 are designated county criminal courts at law, 3 are called county civil courts at law, 5 are known as county probate courts, 1 is designated as a county criminal court of appeals, and 2 are simply county courts.

Justice of the peace courts handle minor civil and criminal matters. The Texas Constitution provides for the establishment of justice of the peace courts by stipulating that each county be divided by the commissioners court into "not less than four and not more than eight justice precincts and that one justice of the peace and one constable be elected from each precinct, except in precincts having a city of 8,000 or more inhabitants, where there shall be two justices of the peace.

Because of the autonomy of these courts, few statistics are available on a statewide basis. Of the more than 1,000 justices of the peace, fewer than 50 are lawyers. There are no constitutional or statutory qualifications for the office. However, the 62nd Legislature enacted a statute requiring a "40 hour course in the performance of his duties" for any justice of the peace who is not a licensed attorney.

In November 1972 Texas voters approved a constitutional amendment requiring the commissioners court in all counties of the state to pay all justices of the peace on a salary basis, beginning January 1, 1973. Prior to this action, justices of the peace in over 100 counties had depended soley on fees, taken from fines levied, for their compensation.

Municipal courts in each incorporated city handle minor criminal matters and are mostly part-time courts. There are over 1,000 municipal courts in the state. A majority of the municipal court judges are not lawyers, since the statute authorizing the creation of municipal courts sets no qualifications for the judges thereof.

Judicial Deficiencies and Remedies

In the Texas court system the numerous trial courts have concurrent powers and over-lapping jurisdiction, and each court is independent of the others. As a result there is duplication of effort and wasting of time and money. The system does not provide prompt, economical, and equal justice for all.

A frequently discussed aspect of the Texas judiciary is the lack of coordinated planning both in regard to rules of procedure and actual administrative operation. Aside from the Supreme Court's limited authority (granted by the legislature) to supervise some rules of procedure in the lower civil courts, Texas courts are for most purposes autonomous. Thus there are wide variations in procedure, staffing, and financing among parallel courts.

The League of Women Voters supports a single system of centrally administered statewide courts with a uniform fiscal policy. This means that all courts in the state should be part of a single unified and coordinated system. The financial needs of all state courts should be viewed as a whole under a central fiscal policy. Administrative directors under the supervision of the Supreme Court should manage the nonjudicial business of the courts.

League members believe that there should be a uniform code of criminal and civil procedure formulated by the Supreme Court with legislative approval.

This means that administrative responsibility for the entire Texas court system should rest with the Supreme Court; that there should be a uniform code of procedure and practice for all courts; and that the Supreme Court and the legislature should have responsibility for establishing this code of procedure.

The League also supports a full-time judiciary whose members qualify to practice law in Texas. In other words, all judges should be licensed to practice law and their positions should be full-time ones with commensurate pay.

The League would like to see assignment of judges according to special training and docket needs. At present, only limited transfer of judges to help relieve crowded dockets is possible, and such transfer is usually voluntary. A complicating factor is that a judge is elected for a specific court by the voters of the area served by the court. Consequently, under present law, the only recourse in reducing the judicial backlog in a district is for the legislature to add a judge by adding a new court. The League believes that all judges should be assigned according to special training and docket needs and that all judges should be freely transferable at the direction of the Supreme Court.

At present, appeals from justice of the peace courts in all criminal cases, and in civil cases where judgment is for more than $20, must go to the county courts as trials de novo (new trials), since the justice courts are not courts of record. The lack of record-keeping and the unprofessional court atmosphere in the justice (and municipal) courts have bred a disrespect for trails. Many of the cases appealed from these lower courts die due to crowded county dockets, lack of cooperation between city and county officials, lack of prosecution, or lack of evidence due to long delay. In order to eliminate these problems, the League of Women Voters supports integration of justice of the peace court functions into courts of record. Specifically, League members believe that either justice courts should become courts of record with upgraded status through uniform procedures or their functions should be absorbed into higher or parallel courts of record.

The citizen's first concern with the judicial system is, or should be, the judges--their qualifications, the method of their selection, and the degree of their independence (that is, the length of their term of office).

The Texas Constitution now provides that selection of judges be by popular election. Tenure is limited to the number of times that a judge can be reelected. Vacancies in district or appellate judgeships are filled through appointment by the governor, with the consent of the Senate unless (a) the legislature is not in session and (b) an election is held to fill the vacancies before the legislature meets.

In actuality the system of selecting judges in Texas is an appointive-elective one. Since incumbent judges are usually not opposed for reelection, judicial tenure is extended, and vacancies usually occur midterm through death, resignation, or retirement. In addition to filling vacancies, the governor also appoints the first incumbants of any new district courts created by the legislature. These appointments are effective only until the next general election, but since most appointees run unopposed they remain in office. One study showed that about two-thirds of the state's district and appellate judges originally went onto the bench through gubernatorial appointment.

The League supports <u>modification of the present appellate judge system</u> to provide for selection by a combination of commission nomination, executive appointment, and noncompetitive and nonpartisan election. This system combines the best features of appointment and of control by the people through the election process. It provides for: a nominating commission to submit names of qualified candidates for judicial appointments to the governor; gubernatorial appointment of judges from the names submitted; and nonpartisan elections in which the voters cast a yes or no vote on the question of retaining the appointees in office for a full term. Under this system there would be no party label, and no opponents. Failure of an appointee to win approval in any election would create a vacancy, which would be filled by the same nomination-appointment process. Two main drawbacks to the present method of direct election of judges are the time expended in campaigning, if the judge has an opponent, that could be better spent in dispensing justice, and voter apathy toward judgeship races.

The League also favors <u>compulsory retirement and effective removal procedures for appellate judges</u>. At present there is a bewildering collection of removal powers scattered throughout the constitution. Article XV, the impeachment article, provides for removal of appellate and district court judges through impeachment or address. Impeachment involves trial by the Senate upon prosecution by the House of Representatives, with a two-thirds vote of the senators present required for conviction. Address requires the removal of a judge by the governor upon request of two-thirds of both houses. Neither impeachment nor address has ever been used against a judge in Texas.

As the result of an amendment to the constitution adopted in 1965, which was further amended in 1970, all justices of appellate courts and judges of trial courts in Texas are now under the supervision of the State Judicial Qualifications Commission. Under these provisions, justices and judges can be retired for disability or can be publicly censured or, in more flagrant cases, removed for improper conduct by the Supreme Court of Texas on the recommendation of the commission. The commission itself is empowered to privately censure justices and judges in less serious cases. The 1965 amendment also provided for automatic mandatory retirement of appellate and district court judges at the age of 75, with authorization given to The legislature to reduce the age to 70.

The League feels that establishment of a nomination-appointion-election system for appellate judgeships, in conjunction with mandatory retirement and effective procedures for removing judges who fail to measure up to required standards, will fully protect the independence of the judiciary, while at the same time assuring the public of the service of capable, efficient, and conscientious judges.

The judiciary article proposed by Chief Justice Calvert's Task Force for Court Improvement embodies a number of League recommendations. The first section reads:

> The judicial power of the state is vested in a unified judicial system composed of a Supreme Court, courts of appeals, district courts, county courts at law, and no others. All courts herein created shall be courts of record and shall have jurisdiction as provided by law. Jurisdiction of courts of the same level shall be uniform throughout the state.

The Chief Justice is to supervise the administration of all courts through a system of presiding judges and court administrators. Under rules of administration approved by the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice is empowered to transfer cases between courts of the same level and assign any qualified lawyer or judge to temporary duty on any court.

In the proposed new judiciary article, all judges are required to be lawyers but are prohibited from practicing law while in office. All judicial salaries are to be paid by the state. All judges are selected by nonpartisan election. However, the Chief Justice's Task Force is also proposing a merit system for selecting appellate judges, which it recommends be presented to the voters as a separate constitutional amendment. The proposal retains the present Judicial Qualifications Commission and all major provisions of the present judicial retirement, removal, and censure system, including mandatory retirement of judges at age 75.

The major part of the task force's proposals has been introduced in the Senate in the 1973 session as SJR 4.

According to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Court systems in most States are highly fragmented, lack central administrative direction, exhibit disparate rules of practice and procedure, have cumbersome and unprofessional procedures for judicial selection, discipline, removal, and retirement, and are often faced with a critical lack of funding. The result is too often a disorganized, inefficient judicial system.

To rectify this situation, 18 States have unified their court systems, 35 States have instituted a central court administrator, 17 states use the Missouri Plan for selection and appointment of judges; 18 states

have unified their court systems, 35 states have instituted a central court administrator, 17 States use the Missouri Plan for selection and appointment of judges; 18 States use judicial qualifications commissions to scrutinize the performance of incumbent judicial personnel; four states have assumed all judicial costs and 22 States provide for compulsory judicial retirement on or after the age of 70. All these State reforms have resulted in a more efficient and manageable judiciary. (New Proposals for 1972: ACIR Legislative Program, August 1971, p.3)

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EDUCATION

Information Only

The League of Women Voters of Texas has no position on education except for its positions under Human Resources on public school financing in Texas.

The source for the information and opinions that follow is A Citizens Guide to the Texas Constitution by George D. Braden (Austin: Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1972).

According to George Braden, a state constitution, if it is to have an article on education, requires only one section at a minimum and three at a maximum. The essential section is one that sets forth the duty to provide education. This duty is covered in Sections 1 and 10 of Article VII in the Texas Constitution.

A second section could guarantee some form of administrative control insulated from the normal political process.

If there is a preexisting special fund for education at the time a new constitution is adopted, a third appropriate section is necessary. Such a section should say no more than that "the School Fund shall be retained and the income used for education."

Article VII in the Texas Constitution has 21 sections on education. (Sections 3a and 7 were repealed in 1969.) In the days of the Republic, part of the public domain was earmarked for education, including land for higher education. The constitution of 1845 went beyond this step and provided that part of the annual property tax be set aside for education. A "perpetual fund" was created. The 1869 constitution set up a more generous dedication of taxes and public lands. The 1875 constitutional convention retreated from the 1869 generosity but retained the principles of tax dedication and of public domain being set aside for the support of public schools (Sections 2 and 3 of Article VII). The 1875 convention also reinstated a university fund first enshrined in the 1866 constitution. (Sec. 11 of Article VII). Braden says that with the adoption of the 1876 constitution Texas became fund-happy and remains so.

* * *

From "The Report and Recommended Revised Constitution of the Constitutional Revision Commission (H.S.R. 429 60th Legislature) to the Members of the 61st Legislature" (December 1968).

ARTICLE VII. EDUCATION.

Introductory Statement: In addition to reorganization of sections, clarification of language, deletion of obsolete and unnecessary provisions, the major substantive changes made in this Article are:

(1) A new provision is added prohibiting segregation in public educational institutions on the basis of race, religion or national origin.

(2) Elimination of detailed provisions specifying the authorized investments for the various school funds and substitutution therefore of authority in the Legislature to prescribe the authorized investments.

(3) The requirement that the Available School Fund (terminology changed to Available Public School Fund) be distributed to the counties "according to their scholastic population and applied in such manner as may be provided by law" is changed to "according to their scholastic population or as otherwise provided by the law."

(4) The Legislature is authorized to dissolve and distribute the Asylum Fund to the beneficiaries when the only remaining tract of Asylum land is sold.

(5) The Legislature is given authority to designate institutions composing The University of Texas System and The Texas A&M System.

(6) After December 31, 1977, the Legislature is authorized to provide for the method of allocation of the proceeds of the 10¢ ad valorem tax set aside for permanent improvements at the designated public senior colleges and universities.

(7) Appropriations from general revenue funds are authorized for buildings and permanent improvements at any institution of higher learning.

STATE FINANCE AND TAXATION

Information Only

The League of Women Voters of Texas has no position on state finances and taxation with the exception of its positions under Human Resources on financing public schools in Texas.

The following information and opinions are taken from A Citizens' Guide to the Texas Constitution by George D. Braden (Austin: Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1972).

According to George Braden, many of the sections in the Texas Constitution dealing with taxation and borrowing would be unintelligible to the ordinary citizen if they were well drafted, which they are not. Article IX, Sec. 12 has a sentence of 765 words. There are several other sentences of more than 300 words.

He lists four elements in the state's revenue and finance story:

(1) limitations on the legislature's power to raise revenue and to permit local governments to raise money by taxation;

(2) limitations on the power to incur debt and to permit local governments to incur debt;

(3) limitations on the power to spend and to permit local governments to spend;

(4) limitations on the power over financial administration.

Except for self-imposed limitations in statutelike amendments and the limitations imposed by the long ballot, the constitution is almost devoid of any control over financial administration. The only significant provision is Sec. 49a of Article III, which requires the Comptroller of Public Accounts to certify that appropriations do not exceed estimated receipts. This section was added as a means of enforcing the pay-as-you-go policy embodied in Sec. 49, which prohibits the state's incurring debt. Many experts recommend an executive budget that must be acted upon as a single appropriation. This is a "must" for a strong governor, and is in any event a first step toward creating a system of efficient financial management.

One problem of financial administration in Texas is the cumbersome fund structure set out in the constitution. There are 13 such funds.

The second problem is the earmarking of tax receipts. According to Braden, this was not a good idea in 1876. In the last third of the twentieth century it is fiscal madness to have so much inflexibility.

The constitution places no significant limits on what kinds of taxes may be levied for state purposes (the types of taxes permitted by Sec. 1 of Article VIII include a state income tax). The only exception is the stipulation that property be taxed "in proportion to its value." The state property tax is rapidly being phased out under Sec. 1e except for a small levy for one of the special funds (supporting building programs for designated colleges and universities). Sec. 1 also has a prohibition against levying an occupation tax on persons engaged in mechanical or agricultural pursuits. Occupation taxes are not normally levied on such persons.

It must be conceded, Braden says, that the bald assertion that there are no significant limits on the types of state tax that may be levied depends upon sympathetic judicial interpretations of the first sentence of Sec. 1: "Taxation shall be equal and uniform." The original constitution severly limited the size of property taxes and even spelled out the allocation of money raised. The significance of this ill-advised straightjacket imposed on the state and local governments is easily demonstrated. The original limitations were in Article VII, Sec. 3 and Article VIII, Sec. 9. Each section has been amended six times. It should also be remembered that only constitutional limitations have been mentioned. The legislature has the power to impose further limitations.

Few taxes other than the property tax are satisfactorily levied on a local level. Immovable real property can be taxed fairly by a local government and license taxes for local operations can be fair, but taxes with a wide economic impact, such as income and sales taxes, for example, should be levied over as wide a geographical area as possible. This does not work easily in Texas, however, because of Sec. 51 of Article III, which prohibits grants-in-aid to local governments.

Sec. 49, Article III, flatly prohibits state debt. Obviously, the prohibition does not work, for Texas has over half a billion dollars of debt. All that the prohibition has done is to force a referendum before issuing bonds and this could have been done by wording Sec. 49 to require a simple referendum to approve a bond issue rather than a constitutional amendment to authorize the bond issue.

The citizens should know that one of the ways of getting around a debt prohibition is to issue revenue bonds. These are secured not by the credit of the state but by revenue derived from some enterprise. The best known example is a turnpike authority that pays for its borrowing out of the tolls it collects.

It is startling to find that the constitution has only one specific limitation on the incurring of debt by local government. Sec. 52 of Article III limits a local government's bonded indebtedness for water conservation and roads to 25 percent of the assessed valuation of its real property. The section also says that "the total bonded indebtedness of any city or town shall never exceed the limits imposed by other provisions of this constitution." There are no such other provisions.

There are several practical limitations on the amount of indebtedness that local governments can incur. Interest and sinking fund (or retirement of serial bond) payments must be raised by taxes. There are constitutional limitations on the property tax rate, and other taxes can be raised only as the legislature authorizes them.

It is the bundle of limitations on spending power that has contributed most to the clutter in the Texas Constitution. In most constitutions there are two limitations on spending. One states that money may be spent only pursuant to an appropriation, and the other states that money may be appropriated only for a public purpose. Instead of sticking to the purpose for which money would be spent, the delegates to the Texas constitutional convention in 1875 focused on who would get the money. The net effect is that all sorts of public purpose programs are made more difficult because the program can be carried out only by grant or gift or credit to someone. There are 10 amendments permitting grants and loans. Some states have amended their "gifts and loans" provision not by detailed grant of power provisions as in Texas, but by simply removing the subject matter from the restriction. A typical method would be to prohibit grants to individuals except for aid, care, and support of the needy; increases in pensions; education and support of the physically handicapped and mentally retarded, and so on.

According to Braden, a more common limitation on the power to give away state money is a prohibition against paying anyone extra for what he has agreed to do. The Texas provisions are Sections 44 and 53 of Article III. In some states the prohibition has played hob with retirement plans. A "gifts and loans" prohibition can also stymie pension plans. Sec. 51 was the Texas stymie. The sensible way, Braden says, to control this particulair freeloading business is to prohibit special and local laws and to create by general law a court of claims against the state, including extra compensation claims.

* * *

From "The Report and Recommended Revised Constitution of the Constitutional Revision Commission (H.S.R. 429 60th Legislature) to the Members of the 61st Legislature" (December 1968).

ARTICLE VIII. TAXATION.

Introductory Statement: This is the present Article VIII on Taxation and Revenue but titled "TAXATION" only in this revision in view of the inclusion in this revised Constitution of a separate Article IX on State Finances containing provisions dealing with the creation of debt or extension of credit by the State and appropriations for State purposes.

All effective provisions of present Article VIII dealing with State taxation are retained but rearranged and combined, with clarifying changes in language where necessary and deletion of obsolete and repetitious provisions.

The substantive changes made in existing provisions are:

(1) A new provision is added to provide for more effective resort to the courts by an aggrieved taxpayer claiming unequal assessment of his property.

(2) Present provisions limiting the State tax on property, exclusive of the tax necessary to pay the public debt and of the taxes provided for the benefit of the public free schools, to Thirty-Five Cents (35¢) on the One Hundred Dollars ($100) valuation, have been eliminated.

Also, the provision in the present Article on Education for taxes for the public schools, Confederate and Ranger pensions, the State Building Fund, and for the College Building Fund, have been incorporated in this Article.

ARTICLE IX. STATE FINANCE.

Introductory Statement: This new Article includes all present Constitutional provisions relating to the creation of debt or extension of credit by the State and appropriations for State purposes, except provisions authorizing obligations pertaining specifically to Education, which are included in revised Article VII on that subject. The major substantive changes are:

(1) The present Constitutional limitations on debt to supply deficiencies in the revenue is increased from $200,000 to $500,000.

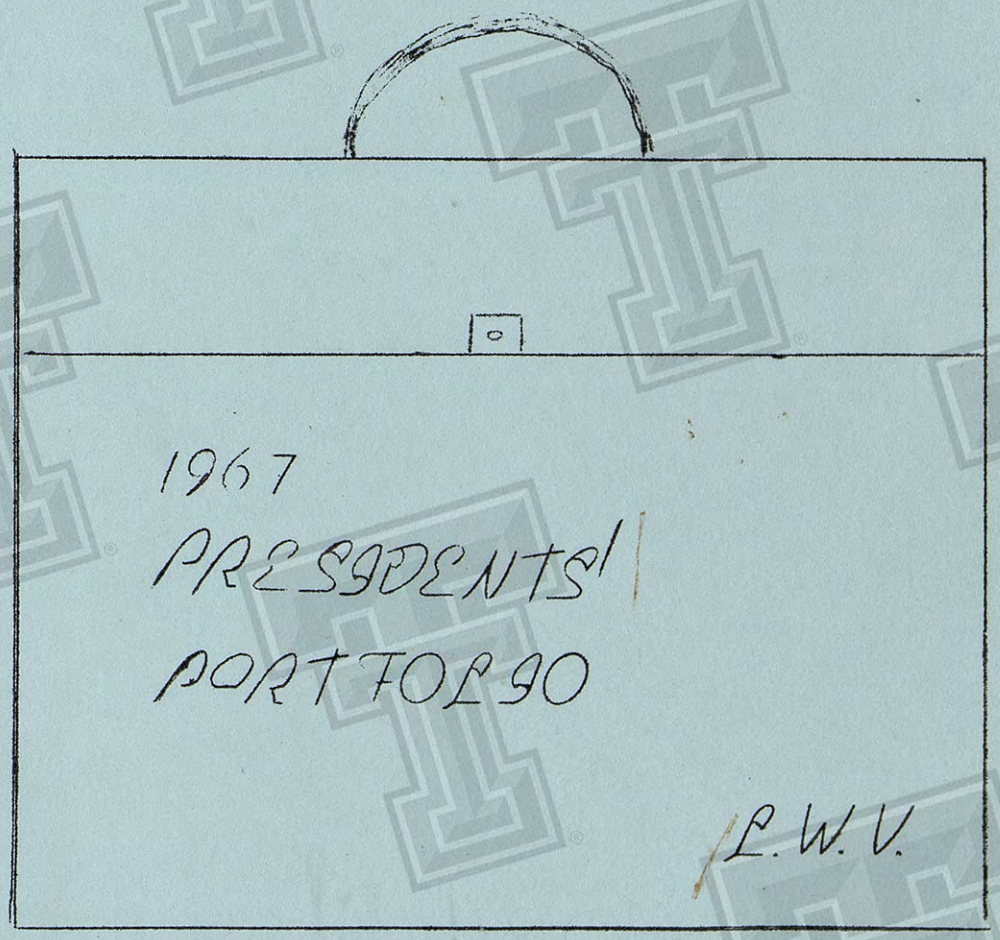
(2) The statutory detail has been eliminated from the provisions dealing with the Veterans' Land Board; Texas Water Development Board; and the Parks and Wildlife Department.

(3) In connection with present Constitutional provisions included in this Article relating to Retirement, Disability and Death benefits for teachers and other employees of the State, county, municipalities and other political subdivisions, a new provision has been added authorizing the Legislature to provide for the transfer of credits and benefits between systems by all classes of employees who are paid in whole or in part by the State or any political subdivision.

(4) Deletion of the provision fixing the maximum pension for Texas Rangers and their widows at $80 per month and of the requirement that to be eligible for such pensions widows must have been married to a qualifying Ranger prior to January 1, 1957.

Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe
Rm 1016

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS



1967 PRESIDENTS' PORTFOLIO

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
1841 BINGLE ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055

PRESIDENTS' WORKSHOP

Time: 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Date: April 5, 1967

Place: Travis Room

Presiding: Field Service Vice President

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order.....

2. Welcome.....Mrs. William E. Joor
   President LWV of Texas

3. Welcome.....Mrs. Robert J. Stuart
   President LWV of the United States

4. Role of VPs, Advance Planning, Calendar...Mrs. M. S. Braunagel

5. Question and Discussion Period

6. Panel Discussion

   Moderator.....Mrs. Maurice H. Brown

   Panel: Mrs. Leroy Olson, Galveston; Mrs. Paul E. Clark, Jr., San Antonio; and Mrs. Joseph Selman, Tyler

   What I Wish I Had Known As A New Local League President;
   What A Local League Might Hope Would Come From State Board;
   What The State Board Might Hope Would Come From The Local Leagues.

7. Question and Answer Period

League of Women Voters of Texas

WHO ME? A LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT?

INTRODUCTION There are tools for every other League leader, but, as far as we know, there is no tool for the local League president. The Local League Handbook tells her what she is to do, but there is almost nothing to tell her how. This material is a pooling of our working knowledge, gained chiefly by the well known trial-and-error method, prepared especially for new presidents.

PRESIDENT'S PLACE ON THE BOARD The new president must be careful that the respect shown her and the honors paid her do not go to her head. If you find yourself speaking - or even thinking - of my board, my secretary, my treasurer, my anything else, you are in danger. Remember, you are just a member of the board. You preside at meetings, of course, but you do not have a vote unless there is a tie. You do not make the decisions, the board does. You are just the chosen leader.

The board is a team. Keep this in mind and impress it on the other members. Each has her part to play. No part is more important than another. One portfolio requires a chairman with one set of talents; while another portfolio will require a chairman gifted in an entirely different way. But the work of one is as important as another. Unless each cog fits, the League wheel will not go round. Teamwork is the watchword of League activity and success. The role of the president is that of coordinating the team's efforts.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OF PRESIDENT WITH COMMUNITY The local League president is The Diplomat. In small communities, especially, you will symbolize the League to many people. This is a great responsibility. During your term of office, you must watch your P's and Q's. You must be gracious and charming and diplomatic. You should be careful about getting into discussions and arguments, especially political arguments, outside the League, for someone is sure to say, "The League feels so and so, for I heard the president say this and that." You even have to be careful in driving. Imagine the headline, "LWV PRESIDENT RUNS RED LIGHT."

The League president is also the League mouthpiece. When you represent the League at planned meetings, you will have no trouble, but it is when questions are popped out of the blue that you are on the spot. Often a public official will telephone and ask, "What is the League going to do about so and so?" , or "If the City, or School, does this and that, what will the League do?" Or, the president of some other organization might ask if the League will enter into this project or that. Or, the press might call and ask an equally unexpected question. Too often the president, taken by surprise, answers in a way which she later regrets. If the questioner was a member of the press, her answer was printed for all to see. But if you have it well in mind that you cannot answer for the board, or the League, you will have this answer down pat: "That is a

ments they make. No member, general or board, should be assigned a task she is absolutely unfit to do, for, if she fails, you have lost her as a League member - forever. So be very careful. If you are a little doubtful, keep a close watch, nurse her along with suggestions and encouragement, ask if she needs outside help, and - if you find that she is not coming through, take her off that task and give her another. All very diplomatically, of course. Don't ever let a League member come up short and fail at a board, unit or general meeting. Losing face is a terrible thing to endure - in the League or elsewhere.

Be generous with your praise. As soon as a speech has been given, a radio talk made, or anything else accomplished, call the member and compliment her. Even if the success has not been marked, you will find some one thing on which to show approval. And next time she will be even better.

As the president, most of the news will come to you first, most of the compliments on League work will be paid directly to you. Don't be slow and stingy. Call the other Board members at once and pass on the glad tidings. Share your enthusiasm and excitement while they are still hot. When the news is bad, share that, too. You will draw closer together in common grief - just as you do in sharing your triumphs.

Nothing has been said about your role if your League board is set up on the three-vice president plan (or the two-vice president plan), where the vice presidents act for you in certain specified areas. In this case, the first sentence of this section needs to be underlined. And you may wish to give copies of this paper to the vice presidents, since they will have many of the responsibilities once assumed entirely by the president. Incidentally, this plan <u>works</u> - as a developer of leadership, as a saver of presidents.

CONCLUSION This ideal president seems like a paragon of virtues to hear us tell it, but you will be surprised to find how virtues cloak you when you assume the chair. To a large extent you lose your own identity along with any timidity you may have had. Although you may be quaking in your private boots, you forget that and remember only that you are speaking for the 75, 200, or 500 League members and you cannot let them down.

One of the greatest pleasures of being a local League president is watching the development of board and general members as a result of working in the League. The personal viewpoint has been replaced with the objective attitude. Talents never dreamed of have been revealed. Self confidence and assurance grow.

If, at the end of your first year, you can stand off far enough to take a good look at yourself, you will be amazed to find how much you, too, have grown and developed in poise, tact, tolerance, patience, diplomacy and character. That is also part of the fun of being a local League President.

TO HELP YOUR SUCCESSOR When you pass this tool on to your successor, why not add your own thoughts about the job of a local League president - the job which offers more rewards than almost any other in voluntary work for a better world.

matter I will have to take up with the board. I will be glad to poll the members or call a meeting and let you know in a day or two." It might be wise to write this, or a similar answer, down on a card, keep it by the phone and just read it off when something like this comes up. Of course, there are times when you can give a more definite answer. If the question involves something strictly against League policy, you can say so--in a nice way of course. Or, if the request is something within the League authority, you can say "The LWV is a non-partisan organization which studies an issue before it takes a stand. Since we have not had this issue on our program of study we as a League have no opinion. We do encourage our members as individuals to look into situations that are of concern to the community ....."

The same thing applies to letters of importance. Prepare the letter to the best of your ability, then call the first vice-president and read it to her. If she disapproves and you cannot convince her that you are right, write it over and check again. Then check with the other vice-presidents--and then the whole board if it is a matter of unusual importance. Don't write hastily and don't take sole responsibility for important communications.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OF PRESIDENT WITH THE BOARD

Here the Presiden's role is that of Personnel Director. In stressing teamwork, you should, yourself, be careful to be impartial and play no favorites. You should keep in constant touch with the board members with your fingers on the pulse of each one. When you sense dissatisfaction and friction, you should try to iron it out at once. Don't let the member withdraw within herself to let hurt feelings grow and fester. Encourage her to talk freely to you and listen while she gets things off her chest. Just talking it over will relieve the tension and the big, bad thing will grow smaller and smaller. In time, you will get so good at this that the disgruntled member will leave feeling happy and eager to go on to do bigger and better things.

In the same connection, you will, if you possibly can, keep cliques from forming. Break them up by different seating or assignment arrangements.

One sure way to prevent dissatisfaction and hurt feelings is to see that no member oversteps her portfolio. Each has her task to perform and they are fairly clearly defined. But often one task impinges on another. When that happens, talk it over with both and let them decide who shall do what.

Teamwork and harmony are essential to good League work, don't let anything intrude that might disrupt the happy state of affairs. Keep discussions of religion and partisan politics out of board meetings--other meetings, too. When "personalities" raise their heads, switch to some good League topic.

And speaking of personalities reminds us that one of the most helpful contributions you can make to the board is to remain as cheerful as possible, as optimistic as resonable, and as calm as Buddha in the times of "crisis". To a great extent, you set the tone for a positive or negative discussion of problems which face the board.

SLAVE DRIVING, FACE SAVING, INSPIRATION

The good League president is one who delegates authority and does not try to do everything herself. But you should be careful in the appointments you make and you should use your influence with other board members in the appoint-

Tips to my Successor

A TRUE STORY

The following letter and "Notes on Being President" were sent to the state office in 1963; they provide tips and suggestions from the experiences of a successful President at the front line: the local League

The Field Service Committee

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWNSVILLE
Brownsville, Texas

March 1, 1963

League of Women Voters of Texas
612 North 18th St.
Waco, Texas

Dear Dorothy,

Two years ago I was a brand new League President and also a new League member. I joined the League three months before I became President. The job of being President was a bit overwhelming at first, but now I look at it as one of the most exciting experiences I have had outside of my home.

Most of our Board members were also new and all of us learned things the hard way. I have encouraged each of the girls to jot down helpful hints to pass on to the one that follows.

I have just finished typing up some notes for Frances Merritt who will be our next President. I thought you might like to see the notes. Perhaps they would be helpful to another inexperienced Leaguer taking over the Presidency.

Sincerely,

Mrs. J. Decker White, President

Gloria White
March 1963

NOTES ON BEING PRESIDENT
(Learned the Hard Way)

Organization is the difference between fun or frustration of being President. Vice Presidents are the key. (I didn't learn this until after my first year.) One Vice President should be in charge of program - local, state and national and publications. The other Vice President is responsible for voter service, finance, and membership. The V.P.'s should meet periodically with their group for planning and brainstorming sessions. All phone calls and problems should go through the proper V.P. (Otherwise we cause an early breakdown in a perfectly good President.) Other officers and directors such as secretary and treasurer and "Voter" editor and public relations are directly responsible to the President.

One of the first things to do after taking office is to collect and check each notebook and portfolio to see that each member has the proper materials. (This should be done by the previous President.) Throw away a mountain of obsolete material that is no longer useful and only confuses the new Board member. The notebook should have five dividers labeled (1) Bylaws, etc., (2) Membership, (3) Program, (4) Budget, (5) Portfolio Material.

Board Training

Plan three meetings. One for each Vice President and her group and the third with the officers and directors directly responsible to you. This sounds like a lot of work, but you will accomplish an important purpose. These three meetings will show each member where she is going and what is expected of her.

Mail each Board member a letter in advance so she can prepare herself. Presidents' Council will be most helpful in showing you how to help the Board function successfully and make up an agenda for Board meetings. A detailed agenda, sent to each Board member in advance, makes meetings go smoothly. Your calendar helps you make up the agenda. Two months prior to an event, the Board hears the plans. So the committee must meet prior to this to have the plans formulated. Of course some people work best under pressure, but at least this two month business keeps them from forgetting.

Filing

In our League you will be a chief file clerk. Keep all newspaper clippings in a file for the yearbook or assign this job to the person who will make up the yearbook. (Why didn't I thing of that before now?) Keep all your "Voters" filed. Be on the lookout for ways to improve the file. That way it will always be in top shape. This is the master file...one copy of what is sent to you from state and national is kept here.

Mail

You as well as your mailman will be astounded at the volume of mail you will now recieve. One copy of the "Voter" from each Texas League will arrive each month. Glance through them for ideas. If you see something a Board member could use put her name on it and then slip it into a folder or else the "Voters" may bury you. Take

(OVER)

this folder to the next Board meeting and put it in the middle of the table. Let the girls help themselves. You may be tired of the "Voters", but the Board members will enjoy them.

On Being President

Weeks will go by with everything fairly normal when suddenly everything starts happening at once. The phone will ring off the hook the same day the washer breaks down and the baby has the colic. And as you bite off your last fingernail and swear you're going to give it all up, some nice person calls to tell you what a wonderful candidates' meeting you had last night and how much he appreciates the wonderful work you girls are doing. You smile and forget the hectic day as you dial your voter service chairman to pass on the good words.

As President you will develop abilities you never though you possessed. After two years you'll be an experienced public speaker, a faster typist and a more outgoing confident person.

Some Last Minute Thoughts

* Before the Annual Meeting review parliamentary procedure and appoint a parliamentarian if you wish.

* Ask each Board member to check the budget to see how much is allocated to her portfolio and keep track of how much she spends.

* The budget can be revised but we should always watch expenditures.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR PRESIDENTS

DO prepare an agenda for each meeting and carefully think through business to come up.
DON'T just come to the meeting all unprepared except with numerous excuses.

DO study state and national bylaws, standing rules of your association, and the few basic laws of parliamentary procedure necessary to conduct an ordinary meeting.
DON'T say, "But the president always appointed our convention delegates," or some other improper procedure, or ask a past officer what has usually been done.

DO be objective, impersonal, courteous and pleasant in the Chair.
DON'T indicate your feelings so that the assembly knows your opinion on the question under discussion.

DO introduce the program chairman by name and ask her to present the program.
DON'T say "The meeting will now be turned over to the program chairman."

DO stand when addressing the assembly, when being addressed, and when taking a vote.
DON'T stand during the reading of the minutes, the financial report or debate.

DO state the motion clearly and distinctly changing wording if necessary, AFTER a motion is made and seconded.
DON'T say "You have heard the motion" and call for a vote. When calling for a negative vote, DO say, "Those opposed."

DO announce the result of the vote, saying "Carried" or "The ayes have it and the motion is carried so we will send two delegates to the convention."
DON'T just assume that everyone heard and knows the effect of the vote.

DO learn to expedite business by using the "general consent" type of motion whenever it may apply, as in approving minutes, adjourning meetings, and other routine matters.
DON'T consume valuable time by insisting that motions be made, seconded and voted upon when a general consent will be sufficient.
DON'T say a member is out of order -- "the motion is out of order."

DO enjoy every minute of this experience (even the tough ones) for it is a high privilege to serve as president of your organization.
DON'T continually complain about how much work you have to do and what a hard job it is to be president.

SAMPLE MEMO TO BOARD MEMBERS

January __, ____

TO: Members of Board, League of Women Voters of _____

FROM: The President

RE: January Board Meeting

This is going to be one of our longer Board meetings, of necessity. It is that time of year when we have planning for the Annual Meeting to do, Voters Service is busy, Finance Drive time is about upon us, and the consensus on NCAI must be settled upon, since the deadline is February 10th (before our next Board Meeting).

Leave the small fry with Mrs. _____ if you need to - she's been engaged for this meeting, bring your sandwich and plan to stay until we've finished - I hope by 1:30. If each of us is well prepared with our reports and recommendations, has her memo for the VOTER in writing to hand to the Editor and will give her undivided thought and attention to the business at hand (the others as well as our 'own'), we'll finish by then.

Jean asks that if you have any more names for her to add to the prospective contributors' list, please bring them - and their addresses - in writing, for her. Remember, we all serve as captains for the drive.

This Board will propose to the membership at the Annual Meeting in March a budget - either the one presented to us by the Budget Chairman Thursday - or one with some changes incorporated as we suggest. Copies are attached, so study it before the meeting, so we can discuss any proposed changes we might wish to suggest to that committee.

As you know, the unit meetings on NCA I were very poorly attended because of the blizzards, and the agreements reached in several were not strong - there was quite a strong evidence of minority feeling at several - so we must decide first, have we reached consensus - then what is it, if we have? - and then how should it be worded? This is a total Board responsibility, so be thinking about it.

I'll have the coffee on - a batch of fresh brownies for dessert - and we'll make a 'day' of it.

See you Thursday at 9:30 sharp.

SAMPLE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL BOARD MEETING

TO: Members of the Board, League of Women Voters of _____

FROM: The President, Mrs. _____

RE: April __, 19__ Board Meeting

TIME: Thursday, 9:30 A.M. to 12 noon

PLACE:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Secretary's Report -- Minutes read, corrected and approved
Treasurer's Report -- Read and filed for audit
Roll Call
President's Report
Correspondence, invitations, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Policy Sheet — 10 min.
   a. Nonpartisanship as applied to Board members
   b. Any other policies agreed on by previous Board
      Appoint committee of 3 to report to May Board recommendations for changes, additions or deletions for adoption by current Board
2. Review plans for April and May meetings — 20 min.
   Voters Service or any other activities set up by previous Board

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration and adoption of a Board Organization Chart — 10 min.
2. Report of State Presidents' Council — 20 min.
   Made by president and other delegate attending Outlook for Work on state Program for coming year
3. Review of state office mailings — 10 min.
4. Begin making Calendar — 20 min.
   a. Decide on what day of month the Board will meet
   b. Set date for meeting of Program planning committee
   c. If previous Board has not made plans for all activities through June now is the time to do this
   d. Set date for Board training by Field Service
5. Report of Chairmen for all portfolios — 30 min.
6. Decision on content of April Voter — 10 min.
   Decision on how many Voters will be issued during the year and in what months

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next meeting
   General or Unit -- time and place
2. Next Board meeting
   Time and place
3. Repeat Voter deadline
4. Adjourn

SAMPLE AGENDA FOR A JANUARY BOARD MEETING

TO: Members of the Board, League of Women Voters of _____

FROM: The President, Mrs. _____

RE: January __, 19__ Board Meeting

TIME: Thursday, 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

PLACE:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Roll Call
President's Report

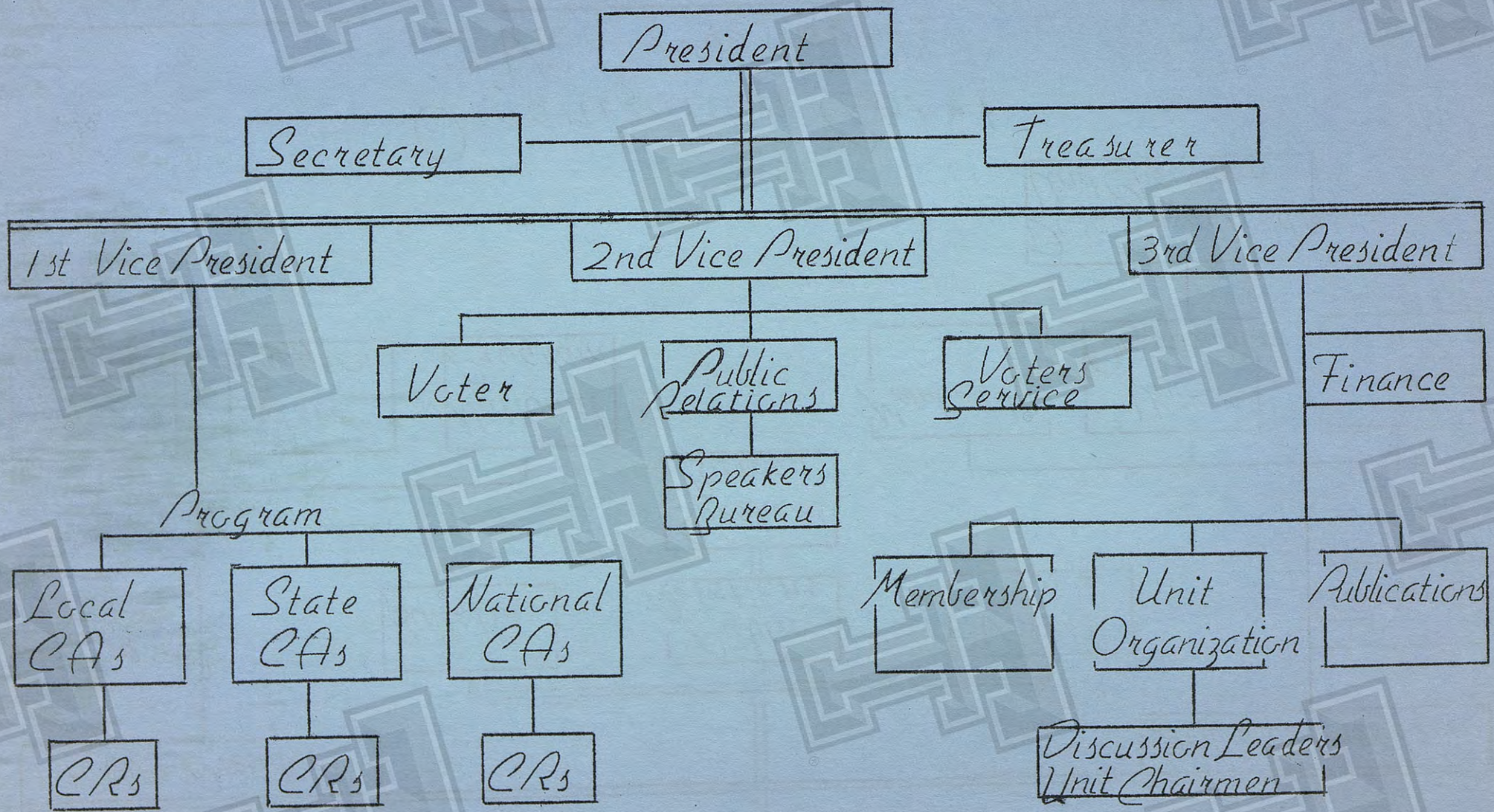
BUSINESS

1.	Finance Drive - Final Plans ... Finance Chairman	20 min.
2.	Report of Budget Committee ...Budget Chairman Discussion of Proposed Budget	20 min.
3.	Voter Registration Activities ... Voters Service Chairman	20 min.
4.	Discussion of Local Current Agenda Items suggested by members ...Program V.P. Recommendation from Board	20 min.
5.	Report on Bylaws ... Bylaws Chairman Suggested changes	10 min.
6.	Plans for Unit and General meetings for January and February ... Membership Chairman	20 min.
7.	Report of Chairmen (all portfolios) Consensus evaluation (if any) Voter - deadline and contents	30 min.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next meeting - time and place
2. Next Board meeting - time and place
3. Voter deadline
4. Adjourn

This will be a long one - come prepared to stay 3 hours!!!



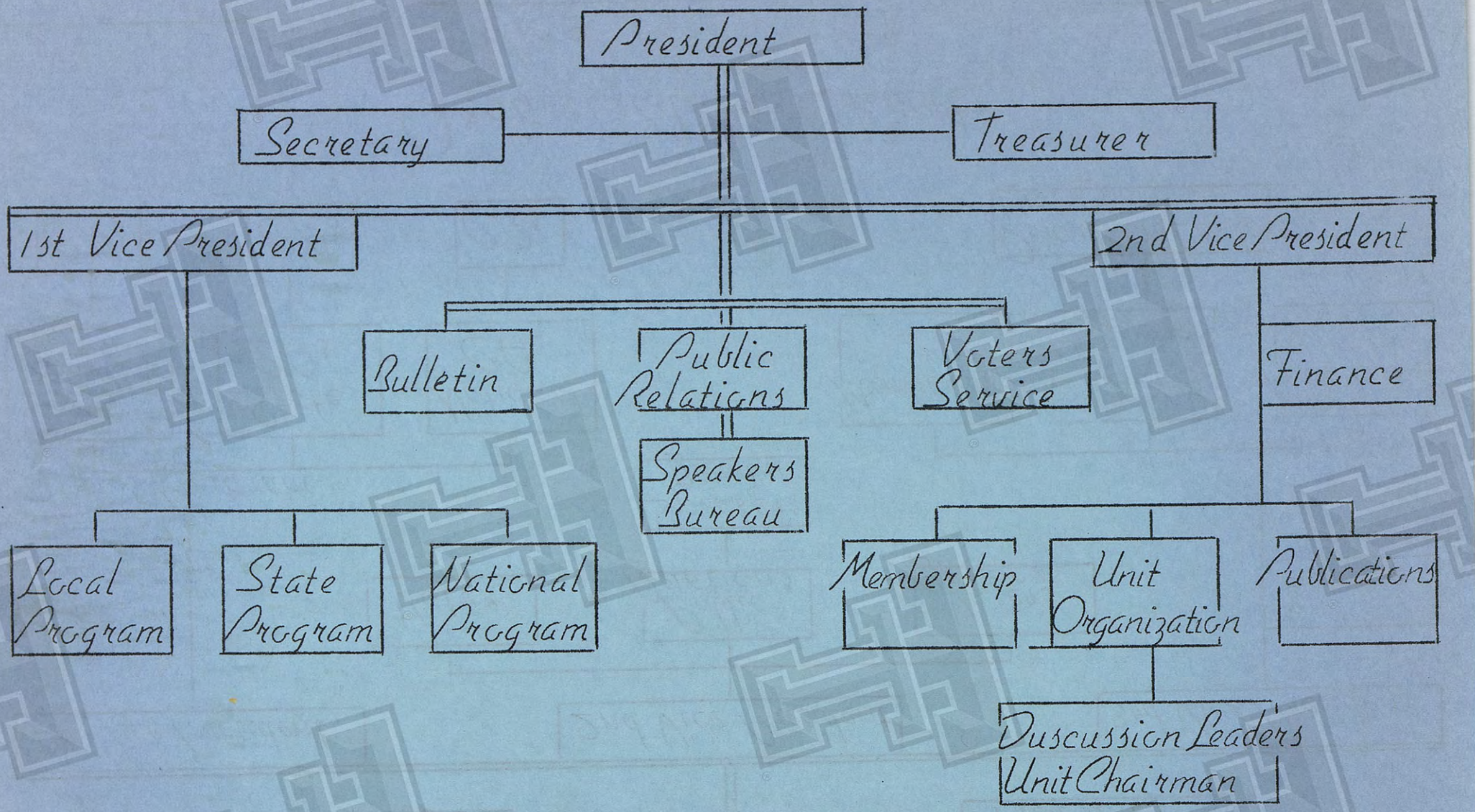
Organization Chart

3 Vice Presidents

Budget Committee

Bylaws Committee

Nominating Comm.



Organization Chart
2 Vice Presidents

Budget Committee

Bylaws Committee

Nominating Comm.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The effectiveness of the League is largely determined by the wise choice of leadership. The initial responsibility for finding this leadership rests in the hands of the Nominating Committee, which selects a slate of officers and directors to be presented to the membership for election.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee and two members are elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting and two other members are appointed by the Board of Directors early in the League year. Scouting for leadership in all fields of League activity is the year-round responsibility of this Committee and it should make recommendations for appointments if asked by the Board. Also, it is the duty of this Committee to make sure that prospective leaders understand all the duties and responsibilities of the job they are being asked to fill. More than once it has happened that an unhappy officeholder had been asked to lend the prestige of her name to the League and told that it entailed very little work. No League officeholder is a drone and all places of leadership in the organization call for special talents and carry responsibilities. Only carefully selected and briefed members should be placed on the slate.

Service on the Nominating Committee is one of the most important posts a member can fill in her League. The members of the Nominating Committee should be chosen because of the special ability they have to analyze people and place them in jobs they will enjoy and where they will be of greatest service to the League. A Nominating Committee member needs imagination, good judgment, and thorough understanding of the League and how it operates. To do the job thoughtfully also requires time and devotion to the organization.

CHECK LIST FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Here is a check list to guide you in making your selections for a slate of officers. But do not be bound by it to your despair. It points the goal to aim at, but it is a truly fortunate League that finds the perfect Board. As a League grows and develops it should also develop and train personnel to meet its expanding leadership needs. This section may be also used as an agenda for a meeting to train Nominating Committee members.

The Nominating Committee should:

1. Consult Local By-laws. The officers usually number five, with a varying number of elected directors. The Nominating Committee also submits the names of three members for the Nominating Committee for the next year. These, in accordance with the Standard By-laws, are the Chairman and two members of the Committee who are not Board members.

2. Consult the Local League Handbook for duties and qualifications of each office to be filled.

   In selecting the Board members, the Nominating Committee will want to remember that the Board will have to work together harmoniously as a team for the good of the League, the abilities of one supplementing the abilities of the others. Full Board discussion and decision precede any League activity, and Board members are responsible for all Board decisions.

   Each Board member in the League of Women Voters has an assignment. The titles of President, Secretary, and Treasurer define their functions. The two Vice Presidents are given assignments (such as Assistant to the President, Membership Chairman, Finance Chairman) when the Board organizes for the year's work, and are not Vice Presidents only. Generally speaking, the directors are not asked by the Nominating Committee to take a specific job. Division of work assignments is made when the Board organizes. However, the Nominating Committee will be aware of the skills and abilities needed by the Board and will keep this in mind when making a selection. This plan allows the newly-elected Board the flexibility needed to develop a well-balanced, integrated working group.

3. Consult the membership list and any file which lists interests, training, and experience of various members.

4. Consult outgoing presidents, officers, and directors for suggestions of people who have done outstanding jobs or who show promise.

5. Consult present chairmen of committees for suggestions of people of unusual ability.

6. Attend Board meetings occasionally as an observer, also the unit meetings and committee meetings - in fact, all League activities. Be on the alert for promising leadership.

7. Get an early start so that you do not have to do a hurry-up job to meet the deadline.

8. Keep in mind:
   a. Nonpartisanship policy of the League of Women Voters - seeLocal League Handbook.

   b. Representation. Representation from all parts of town and all points of view is desirable but it is more important to get the best person for the job than to choose a person because she represents a group. Widening the leadership base to all parts of the community helps to build up League membership in sections which are not sufficiently represented.

   c. Confidence of the community. It is important that the community have full confidence that the League is really a nonpartisan organization and that its leadership is composed of those earnestly working for government in the public interest. This is particularly important in a new League.

d. Avoid individuals identified with one special cause, those who may want to use the League of Women Voters for any objective other than to carry out the purpose of the League, or those who are identified with highly controversial issues.

e. Don't ask those you are fairly sure not to get. No one likes being asked to take an office knowing that a dozen refusals have preceded the request.

f. Try for a balance between new Board members and experienced ones and avoid "permanent" members. Bring in some candidates who have never been on the Board before. Do not hesitate to replace officers. Precedent need not be followed. There are many non-Board positions in which such experienced women can continue to serve the League. Don't rely on already overworked leadership. The continued use of recognized leaders tends to blind us to latent new leadership ability which should be tapped.

g. Know the community well (not only the League membership) and the kind of leadership its citizens will respect. Communities differ in this regard.

9. Be responsible directly to the membership. Individual League members are urged to make recommendations to the Nominating Committee of candidates they wish to propose. The By-laws provide for additional nominations from the floor. With these safeguards, the single slate is a completely democratic and sound representative procedure. The policies of the League of Women Voters are laid down by the members in Conventions and in Annual Meetings and whoever is elected is pledged to follow those policies.

10. Select a slate composed of women who have given their consent to the nomination after a clear explanation of the purpose and policies of the League, including:'

a. A fair description of the job, with an estimate of the time needed to do it, the tools and training that will be available, and the help she may expect to receive.

b. The nature and importance of over-all Board planning and action.

c. The nonpartisanship policy of the League.

11. Turn over to the incoming President the names of people who might be considered for appointment and any information gathered about their qualifications.

12. Be prepared with suggestions of names of prospects to fill Board vacancies when they occur on the Board, in response to a request from the Board. The Nominating Committee can perform a needed year-round service in being available to the Board in an advisory capacity on personnel problems - to fill openings caused by resignation or for short-term appointments for specific projects. The final selection for appointments is, however, a function of the Board.

13. Hand on to your successors a file of information you have secured on potential leaders for the future.

League of Women Voters of Texas

TO: Local League Presidents
FROM: State Office
RE: Policy Sheet for Local Leagues

We hope this material will help answer the requests from Local Leagues to explain the purpose and use and to suggest the possible contents of a local Policy Sheet.

PURPOSE AND USE

To list for easy reference and review those procedures and policies which the Board has decided will be useful guides for the coming year.
Having a Policy Sheet avoids the tendency to put into local bylaws many minute regulations which clutter them up (as the Texas Constitution is cluttered by too many statutes).

CONTENTS

There are general areas in which most Boards have policies. For your consideration here are some of them and some content suggestions for them. The Board should feel free to develop its own Policy Sheet as long as its contents do not run contrary to local League bylaws.

1. NONPARTISANSHIP

"The League of Women Voters shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate." This policy has proved to be most important in maintaining the effectiveness and prestige of the League and should be carefully guarded. One League cannot violate the spirit or the letter of this policy without jeopardizing the reputation of every other League. For detailed application of this consult the new Local League Handbook, page 5.

2. DUES

Women joining the League for the first time after January 1st will have paid-up membership until April 1st of the following year.

3. ROSTER

Generally, membership lists are not made public.

The roster of a local League is for the use and convenience of its members in carrying out League work. Its use by other organizations or groups must have Board approval. A statement similar to the one above is often printed on the first page of the roster.

4. BOARD PLANNING

Plans made by the Board at the beginning of the League year for all the activities of the League should be made to carry through June of the following year.

5. SERVICE ON BOARDS OR COMMITTEES

Before a Board member accepts appointment to a committee or commission or board she must have the approval of the League Board.

6. LOCAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

A member who has attended Presidents Council, the State or National Conventions should be appointed a member of the local Budget Committee in order to make the State and National Budgets more clearly understood by her local League.

7. BOARD RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE POLICY SHEET

The local Board reviews the local Policy Sheet annually and may alter, eliminate or retain any or all parts of it. When it is approved, it should be sent to every member. If desired, the membership may participate in deciding the content of a Policy Sheet.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR PLANNING COVERAGE OF LEAGUE PROGRAM

1. Your whole Board should participate in planning your League's coverage of program - local, state and national. Review the program items and their scope. Our new approach to program calls for flexibility, imagination and tailoring program coverage to the individual League. Consult state Board member who does your Board training for individual help.

2. Give different program items different kinds and degrees of emphasis.

   Items involving new study and consensus should be given most emphasis and top priority on meeting time. You will want to schedule meetings on all items involving new study. Action items may more properly be taken to the community in the form of candidates' meetings, speakers' bureau, letters to the editor. The national Water Resources item, for example, might be covered in your League by means of a publication on your subscription service or in your bulletin. We do not always need to think in terms of meetings on every item.

3. Up-date new members on action items or items where we have positions at meetings for new members to get them "on the track." Supplement this with observer program and "Go-See" programs.

4. Use a local Publication Service to supplement program coverage.

5. Share resource committees and meetings with other Leagues.

   With nearby Leagues, you might have a joint committee (with representation from all Leagues) on a major program item to do study and present meetings. Consensus is still arrived at by each individual League. Leagues might also "borrow" a resource committee from another League to give a program if they do not have a committee to handle it.

6. Make every meeting count toward League program.

   Voters Service, for example, can best be done through written material or community meetings, neighborhood coffees. It is not necessary to devote a League meeting to Voters Service. A meeting on first-round national program suggestions might include a review of National CRs.

7. Beware of "projectitis." Stick to League program and excercise judgment about doing special projects not directly related to League program or Voters Service.

8. DON'T PANIC.

BASIC OUTLINE OF LEAGUE CALENDAR FOR ODD NUMBERED YEARS - PROGRAM MAKING YEAR
(The current year's calendar will be sent to local Leagues following Council)

APRIL — Local Board Meeting
- Appoint committee to plan Calendar
- Set date for Board training by Field Service
- Review Policy Sheet

Local Program Committee begins work
State Presidents' Council

MAY — Local Board Meeting
- Complete summer plans for meetings
- Complete Calendar for year at this or the June Board Meeting
- Appoint local Budget and Bylaws Committees
- Appoint Board members to serve on Nominating Committee

Voters Service Committee plans for community and membership education
State Program Committee begins work

Receive: State Board Report
Texas VOTER

JUNE — Local Board Meeting
- Complete Calendar if it wasn't done at May Board Meeting
- Send suggestions to State Nominating Committee

National Program Committee begins work
State Board Meeting

Receive: National Board Report

JULY & AUGUST — Local Board Meeting
- Complete plans for fall activities: membership, program making, programs on local, state and national items

Receive: State Board Report
Texas VOTER
Legislator's Voting Record

SEPTEMBER - Local Board Meeting
- Check fall plans in all portfolios with particular attention to membership, voters service, and program

State Board Meeting
State Budget and Nominating Committees meet

Receive: Texas VOTER

OCTOBER — Local Board Meeting
- Follow-up for members who have not paid dues

Program making meetings for state and national (and local if you wish)
Treasurer sends membership list to state office by October 31
Local Bylaws Committee meets

Receive: State Board Report
Proposed State Budget

(OVER)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

PERSONAL CHECKLIST FOR PRESIDENT
(This is for your use, not to be a "report" to anyone)

AFTER THE ANNUAL MEETING

Send to the state office:

____ Minutes of the Annual Meeting
____ Local Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities (forms provided)
____ Adopted Budget
____ Revisions in local Bylaws, if any
____ Lists of Board members and portfolios (forms provided)

WHEN YOU ORGANIZE FOR THE YEAR

____ Secured recommendation of Nominating Committee for appointed Board and committee personnel
____ Filled and appointed Board positions after consultation with elected members
____ Organization meeting for new Board
____ Arranged for Board training (form provided)
____ Conferred with each Board member. Has she:
  ____ The necessary file from her predecessor?
  ____ The name and address of state chairman in her field?
  ____ A committee?
  ____ An understanding of her job for the coming year?
  ____ A copy of the Local League Handbook?
  ____ A copy of "Primer for Board Members"?
  ____ State and National Publications Catalogs?
____ Reviewed with the Publications Chairman what is coming:
  ____ Duplicate Presidents Mailing from LWV of Texas
  ____ Duplicate Presidents Mailing from LWV of U.S.
  ____ Standing Order with LWV of Texas
  ____ Standing Order for National Board Reports
____ Reviewed your own file and filing system
____ Arranged for the Board to add appointed members to Nominating Committee
____ Appointed the Budget Committee
____ Set aside a large block of time at Board meeting early in the year for planning your local calendar of activities
____ Made arrangements for meeting "Time for Action" calls
____ Reviewed your local policy sheet

ARRANGE FOR MONTHLY MAILING OF THE FOLLOWING

____ Bulletins to state, national and other Leagues
____ Press clippings to state Public Relations Chairman
____ Monthly membership additions and drops to state office by treasurer

OVER

NOVEMBER Local Board Meeting
Approve Finance Committee plans for February drive
Approve Voters Service plans for Voter Registration
Deadline of first round program suggestions to state and national
Deadline for recommended changes in State and National Bylaws
Approve any changes in Local Bylaws and send to State Bylaws Chairman

Receive: Texas VOTER
National Board Report

DECEMBER

Activate local Budget and Nominating Committees
Interview Congressmen on National Program

JANUARY Local Board Meeting
Approve local budget
Complete plans for Voter Registration
Complete plans for Finance Drive...approve: letters to contributors, training meeting, and material for Finance kits

Local program making meeting if not held in fall
State Board Meeting

FEBRUARY Local Board Meeting
Make recommendation for Proposed Local Program
Make plans for ANNUAL MEETING
Final round of State and National Program suggestions
Annual reports due to state office

Local VOTERs carry Board recommended Local Program suggestions, non recommended program suggestions, bylaws changes, proposed budget, Nominating Committee report
Finance campaign

Receive: State Convention Workbook
Texas VOTER

MARCH Local Board Meeting
Complete plans for Annual Meeting
Complete plans for Voters Service for April local elections, May primaries and precinct conventions
Complete plans for meetings for April and May

Annual Meeting
Adopt Local Program, Budget, Bylaws changes, elect Officer, Directors, and Nominating Committee
Select delgates to State and National Conventions
Report on Finance Drive

State Convention

MONTHLY BEFORE EACH BOARD MEETING

____ Check materials which have come in during the month and which need to be distributed to Board or which require Board decision and action
____ Check local League calendar for two or three months in advance and schedule Board discussion of coming activities
____ Schedule Board discussion of membership at all Board meetings
____ Check with Board members who have decisions or reports to be made at up-coming Board meeting and let them know amount of time alloted
____ Prepare written Board agenda and send out about a week in advance
____ Check with Bulletin editor on material for current month's Bulletin

AT LEAST FIVE MONTHS BEFORE YOUR ANNUAL MEETING

____ Check local Bylaws for deadlines for local Budget, Bylaws revisions, local program recommendations, auditing of books
____ Check with Budget Chairman
____ Appoint Bylaws Chairman
____ Give Nominating Committee list of elected positions to be filled for next year's Board
____ Set up committee to suggest LIVELY ISSUES for local program
____ Arrange for Board discussion and recommendations on suggestions from members for local program

MARCH 1

____ Annual Reports due in state office. Forms will be sent to you late in January for distribution to the Board.

ALL PORTFOLIOS SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING
(in addition to special tools for each portfolio)

To be kept in note book:

Primer for Board Members
Local Board list
Board organization chart
Membership list
Committee list
State Board list
Local League Presidents of Texas list
National Board list
Local Policy sheet
Checklist -- dates with your Postman
Local League calendar for the year
State and National Board Report (most recent)
Local, State and National Program

To be kept available

League Lingo
Local League Handbook
Publications catalogs -- State and National
Facts
State Flip Chart
Speak for the League - and How
State Board Reports
National Board Reports
Budgets of current year - local, state and national
Treasurer's Reports - local, state and national
Forty Years of a Great Idea

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

CHECKLIST -- dates with your Postman

President

Receives one copy of everything mailed from National and State Offices.
Distributes immediately any additional copies of material she receives.
Reminds Board members of deadlines for their reports.
Corresponds with State President as needed.

Vice Presidents

Receive one copy of everything mailed from State Office.

Secretary

To State Office: list of Board members immediately after Annual Meeting, and changes and additions as they occur.
To State Office: exact wording of adopted LCA and Local Continuing Responsibilities. (include on list of Board members), immediately after Annual Meeting.
To State Office: three (3) copies of minutes of Board and general meeting, immediately following such meeting.
To State Office: three (3) copies of your Local Policy Sheet.
To State Office: Three (3) copies of revised current bylaws as soon as possible after Annual Meeting. (Please date bylaws.)
To State Bylaws Chairman: one copy of proposed amendments to your local bylaws should be sent to state bylaws chairman for comment and advice by November 15.

Treasurer

To National Office, State Office, your bulletin editor and your membership chairman: one (1) copy to each, monthly, of new members, changes of address, or dropped members. Keep one copy to avoid duplication. (Forms available direct from National Office for this purpose.)
To State Office: two (2) copies of complete, alphabetical list of members on Nov. 1.
To National Office: one (1) copy of same up-to-date list, November 1.
To State Office: Monthly check in payment of State publications statement.
To National Office: monthly check for National Publications statement.
To State Office: check for pledge payments to State Treasurer. Please advise plan of payment (i. e., lump sum, semi-annually, etc.)
To State Office: four (4) copies of your adopted budget immediately following your Annual Meeting.

Bulleting Editor

One copy of your bulletin to each member on State Board list (except President), and to each local League President and to State Office; three (3) copies to National Office, 1200 - 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., 20036, and one copy to the National Board member specified in the National Checklist. One copy to National Municipal League, 47 East 68th Street, New York, N. Y.10020.
Check each mailing from State Office for address changes and additions.

OVER

Publications Chairman

To National Office: orders for all National publications - use National catalog, National Order Forms (free from National).

To State Office: orders for all State publications - use State calalog, State Order Forms (free, 2 white copies to State Office, 1 yellow copy for LL treasurer, 1 blue copy for Publications Chairman).

To your local Board members: State Standing Orders are mailed to you to re-mail or otherwise distribute immediately.

Finance Chairman

You will be notified when your Annual Report is due.

See calendar in 'Prospecting for Gold' for other important dates.

Voters Service Chairman

To State Office: three (3) copies each local Voters Guide, when published.

To State Legislative Chairman: one (1) copy each local Voters Guide, when published.

Local Current Agenda Chairman

To State Office: two (2) copies of your plan of work and, later, of actual work done - to aid other Leagues who may choose the same item.

To State Office and National Office (1200 - 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20036) Copies of any of your local publications, such as Know Your Schools; Know Your County, etc. (The Overseas Education Fund would also appreciate copies of your local publications for use in their overseas programs.)

Public Relations Chairman

To State Office: three (3) copies of any article published on the work of your League.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS

Your counterpart of the State Board is ready to provide whatever assistance you may request of her, and will appreciate reports of what you are doing.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE FOR TWO DAY BOARD TRAINING

Individual Conferences

First Day

President ----------1½ hours

Vice Presidents (with President) ----------1 hour

All Program Chairmen (Including CR Chairmen)-------1½ hours

Voters Service ----------1 hour

Public Relations ----------1 hour

Publications ----------1 hour

Finance ----------1 hour

Second Day

Membership ----------1 hour

Secretary ----------½ hour

Treasurer ----------1 hour

Voter Editor ----------1 hour

Nominating Committee ----------½ hour

Budget Committee ----------½ hour

Total Board (training) ----------1 to 2 hours

Wind up conference with President

Order may be changed, of course. Nights may be utilized if necessary. If you have a Board portfolio not listed above (as Unit Organization, Participating Membership, etc.) please schedule.

It is best if the conference can begin with the President, followed by time with the Vice Presidents, and end with the total Board meeting together for training -- except for the final talk with the President.

Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe
Rm 1016

TENTH BIENNIAL

PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

WORKBOOK

PART

I

APRIL 5-6, 1967

LEAGUE

OF

WOMEN

VOTERS

OF

TEXAS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
1841 BINGLE ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055

Council Workbook, Part I, 1967

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Council Workbook, Part I, 1967

The tenth Biennial Presidents' Council of the League of Women Voters of Texas will convene on Wednesday, April 5, 1967 at the Driskill Hotel, Austin, Texas. Registration for Council and for Lobbying will be from 9:30 - 12:00 on the Mezzanine. Tickets for the buffet brunch, dinner, and the legislative breakfast may be purchased at this time. Local League Presidents will meet in the Provincial Suite for the buffet brunch from 10:30 to 12:00; all other delegates and observers will meet on the Mezzanine for the brunch.

Council will convene promptly at 12:00 noon in the Crystal Ballroom for the first official business session. Council will adjourn at 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 6. During this day and a half, activities will include a budget session, a workshop for presidents only, swapshops for all other delegates and observers, a program session, little meetings on program, a dinner meeting with our national president, Mrs. Robert J. Stuart, the guest speaker, the traditional legislators' breakfast, a trip to the Hill, and a final business session.

Usual Convention rules will apply to all business sessions. Delegates only have the privilege of the floor; none may speak twice until all who wish to speak have been heard. Observers may join the discussion at the little meetings and in the swapshops.

In this Workbook - Part I, which will be sent to the delegates and observers, will be found the tools necessary for Council discussion. It must be brought to Council with you; extra copies will not be available there. Workbook - Part II will be distributed as you register and will contain last minute reports and legislative information.

For the trip to the Hill it is suggested that walking shoes be worn; hats are not required.

Observers are most welcome at Council; they add to the air of excitement that is always apparent at League gatherings, especially Council meetings when members meet with their legislators and have the opportunity of seeing the Legislature in session. This year, when a study of the Legislature is our number one current agenda item, the more League members who can take advantage of this opportunity, the more vital will be their individual League's interest in this subject.

Registration fees will be $9.00 and are to be paid at the time of registration on April 5th. Registration forms (included with this mailing) are to be mailed to state office by March 20 at which time additional workbooks will be mailed. Meal tickets are: brunch - $2.25; dinner - $3.50; legislators' breakfast - $2.00. All prices include tips.

A travel equalization fee of $2.00 is to be paid at the time of registration by every one attending. Observers pay the same registration and equalization fees as the delegates.

Hotel reservation cards are included with this mailing. Each League must make its own reservations.

The state Board will hold Open House in the Jim Hogg Suite on Tuesday evening from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for those who arrive early. Do drop in and do bring a large group to Austin to make this the most exciting Council Texas has ever had.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1967 PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL
Driskill Hotel - Austin, Texas

Wednesday, April 5, 1967

9:30 - 12:00	Registration for Council and Lobbying	Mezzanine
10:30 - 12:00	Buffet	Mezzanine
	Presidents	Provincial Suite
12:00 - 1:00	Opening Session	Crystal Ballroom
	Welcome	
	Appointment of Parliamentarian	
	Adoption of Agenda	
	Appointment of Tellers	
	Minutes of 1965 Council	
	Treasurer's Report	
	President's Report	
	Roll Call of Local Leagues	
1:00 - 1:30	Budget Session	
	Introduction of Budget Committee	
	Presentation of State Budget	
	Local League Pledges	
1:30 - 3:00	Presidents' Workshop	Travis Room
1:30 - 3:00	Swapshops	Mezzanine
3:00 - 3:55	Program Session	Crystal Ballroom
	National Program	
	Texas Legislature	
	State-Local Relations	
	Texas Constitutional Revision	
	Voters Registration and Election Laws	
	Education Fund	
3:55 - 4:25	Legislative Report and Briefing	
4:40 - 5:40	Little Meetings	
6:30 - 7:30	Reception for Mrs. Stuart	Jim Hogg Suite
7:30	Dinner Meeting	
	Mrs. Robert Stuart, Speaker	

Thursday, April 6, 1967

7:30 - 9:00	Legislative Breakfast	Crystal Ballroom and Mezzanine
9:00 - 10:15	Capitol Scoops	Crystal Ballroom
10:25 - 12:00	Trip to Capitol	
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30 - 4:00	Final Business Session	Crystal Ballroom
	Appointment of Tellers	
	Final Attendance Report	
	Adoption of State Budget	
	Program Discussion and Direction	
	Other Business and Announcements	
4:00	Adjourn	

LOBBY REGISTRATION

In order that delegates to Presidents' Council may breakfast with our legislators and "talk League" with them, we must comply with the Lobby Registration Act. Under this Act, no one is permitted to more than say "Hello" to his representatives while in Austin -- unless he is registered as a lobbyist. This means that each delegate and observer to Council must register with the Chief Clerk's Office as a lobbyist.

To expedite the mechanics of this registration, there will be a "Lobby Registration" table next to the Council Registration table from 9:30 - 12:00 on April 5. At this table you will be asked to fill out an official form stating your name, address, occupation, and legislation in which you are interested. (We will have samples of completed forms to guide you.) This form will be notarized at the same time. Then a League courier will deliver all forms to the Chief Clerk's Office at the Capitol.

Don't fail to register at the Lobby Registration table at Council if you wish to breakfast with your legislators the next morning!

TRAVEL EQUALIZATION PLAN ZONES
For all Delegates and Observers to the
1967 Presidents' Council, Austin, Texas

Zone 1	Zone II	Zone III	
Austin	Corsicana	Abilene	Galveston
San Antonio	Houston	Bay Area	Irving
Waco	Victoria	Baytown	Lake Jackson
San Marcos		Corpus Christi	La Marque
		Dallas	Pasadena
		Dickinson	Richardson
		Freeport	San Angelo
		Fort Worth	Texas City

Zone IV	Zone V	Zone VI	Zone VII	Zone VIII
Beaumont	Brownsville	Lubbock	Amarillo	El Paso
Longview	Edinburg			
So. Jefferson Co.	Harlingen			
Tyler	Midland			
Denton	Odessa			
	Wichita Falls			

CUT HERE ---------- CUT HERE

(This form must be presented at time of registration)

League of Women Voters of _____

Delegate or Observer _____

From Zone Number _____

Name _____
(Please sign in full)

$2.00 fee rec'd by _____
(Cashier)

Travel Equalization Refund Form - 4/30/67
Do not write in this space

Zone _____

Refund _____

Payee _____

Check # _____

Mailed _____

PLEASE HAVE CASH OR A SEPARATE CHECK TO PAY TRAVEL FEE

TRAVEL EQUALIZATION

Delegates and observers to Presidents' Council will participate in a Travel Equalization plan as adopted by the 1958 Convention. It provides that all delegates and observers pay an amount to establish a fund for this purpose in an attempt to iron out some of the inequities in travel expenses. The amount is $2.00 and is in addition to the registration fee. The entire travel fund will then reimburse, in as high a proportion as possible, all delegates and observers who have traveled a considerable distance to attend C ouncil. Visitors will not participate.

Texas has been divided into 8 zones by concentric circles drawn around the city of Austin - the hostess city. On the preceding page is a list of League cities in each zone. All delegates and all observers in all zones will pay the $2.00 travel fee. Those living within Zone I will receive no refund. Those from Zone II will receive the lowest refund amount, with those from Zones III, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII receiving progressively larger amounts. The exact amounts of refunds cannot be determined until the actual size of the Council body has been established. Everyone within a given zone will receive an identical amount. This will necessarily be of some slight advantage to the person residing at the inner edge of a zone, but this system seems to offer the most in over-all fairness.

A Travel Equalization Refund Form is at the bottom of the preceding page. Each delegate and observer must fill out her own Refund Form (preferably before coming to Council) and present it at the time of registration in Austin. No travel fees or refund forms will be accepted after the registration period. It is requested that separate checks be brought or that cash be available in the hands of all delegates and observers, for payment of the travel fee, to prevent loss of time when registering.

The refund checks will be made out to the local League and will be mailed with the April statement to the local Treasurers in an amount according to the number of qualified delegates and observers from such local League, and depending upon the zone location of the League. The local Treasurer will then be responsible for the proper handling of the refund made to her League.

ADOPTED STATE PROGRAM
1966 - 1968

PREAMBLE

The League of Women Voters of Texas works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League studies and takes action on selected state governmental issues which are in the public interest. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

PROGRAM

I THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE: Evaluation of the organization and functioning of the Texas Legislature

II TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION: Support of measures to promote revision of the Texas Constitution

III STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS:

A. Support of metropolitan regional and comprehensive state planning; and

B. Support of flexible structure and adequate powers for local governments in Texas consistent with state responsibility for effective government.

IV VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION LAWS: Support of improved procedures for the registration of voters and the conducting of elections in Texas.

NATIONAL PROGRAM -- 1966 - 1968

CURRENT AGENDA

Governmental issues chosen by the Convention for concerted study and action

DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES: Support of policies and programs in the United States to provide for all persons equality of opportunity for education and employment.

FOREIGN POLICY: Evaluation of U.S. relations with the People's Republic of China.

Support of U.S. policies to enhance the peacekeeping and peacebuilding capacities of the U.N. system and to promote world trade and development, while maintaining a sound U.S. economy.

WATER RESOURCES: Support of national policies and procedures which promote comprehensive long-range planning for conservation and development of water resources and improvement of water quality.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

Positions on governmental issues to which the League has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act

APPORTIONMENT OF STATE LEGISLATURES: Support of apportionment of both houses of state legislatures substantially on population.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Support of self-government and representation in Congress for citizens of the District of Columbia.

LOYALTY-SECURITY: Support of standardized procedures, "common sense" judgment, and greatest possible protection for the individual under the federal loyalty-security programs; opposition to extension of such programs to nonsensitive positions.

TAX RATES: Opposition to constitutional limitations on tax rates.

TREATY MAKING: Opposition to constitutional changes that would limit the existing powers of the Executive and the Congress over foreign relations.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

[redacted]

PHONE 713 HO 5-3705

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1966-67

Revised
February 1967

Council Workbook
Part I, 1967

Officers

Mrs. William E. Joor (Ruth)
President
[redacted]
Chairman of the Board and principal executive officer

Mrs. T. A. Pollard (Lucia)
[redacted]
1st Vice President
Field Service

Mrs. Robert E. Casperson (Beulah)
[redacted]
2nd Vice President
Program Coordinator

Mrs. Herbert C. Martin (Ruth)
[redacted]
3rd Vice President
Public Relations

Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe (Elizabeth)
[redacted]
Secretary
Publishing Editor

Mrs. H. G. Taylor (Sue)
[redacted]
Treasurer

Directors

Mrs. D. A. Ballard (Mary Fran)
[redacted]
VOTER Editor

Mrs. F. L. Duckworth (Helen)
[redacted]
Legislature

Mrs. Robert Hausman (Helen)
[redacted]
Membership
Units

Mrs. James G. Lancaster (Rose) [redacted]	State-Local Relations Election Laws
Mrs. Francis B. May (Janice) [redacted]	Legislative Chairman
Mrs. Darol K. Ramey [redacted]	Public Relations
Mrs. Wilson Nolle (Peggy) [redacted]	National Program
Mrs. E. S. Prashner (Jo) [redacted]	Voters Service
Mrs. Abe Rosenzweig [redacted]	Finance
Mrs. Darvin Winick (Veta) [redacted]	Texas Constitutional Revision Council Chairman
Mrs. S. E. Ziegler (Florence) [redacted]	Publications Local Program Local Bylaws
Mrs. C. M. Linehan (Katy) [redacted]	Budget Chairman (Off Board)
Mrs. Maurice Brown [redacted]	State and National Bylaws Chairman (Off Board)
Mrs. M. S. Braunagel (Lois) [redacted]	Field Service Staff Specialist
Mrs. Irving Pettis (Betty) [redacted]	Nominating Committee Chairman (Off Board)

NATIONAL BOARD AND THEIR ASSIGNMENTS

OFFICERS

Mrs. Robert J. Stuart President	Chairman of the Board and Principal Executive Officer
Mrs. William S. Christopherson First Vice President	Foreign Policy, Finance, Organization, Public Relations
Mrs. Bruce Benson Second Vice President	Development of Human Resources, Office Management, Organization, Public Relations
Mrs. K. E. Montgomery Secretary	Water-CRs, Bylaws, State and Local Government Voters Service
Mrs. Hans-Arnold Fraenkel Treasurer	Foreign Policy, Finance, Office Management, Publications

DIRECTORS

Mrs. David G. Bradley	Foreign Policy, Organization, Publications State and Local Government
Mrs. Donald Clusen	Water-CRs, Organization, Public Relations
Mrs. Fleming Law	Development of Human Resources, Bylaws, Voters Service
Mrs. W. Foster Montgomery	Water-CRs, Organization, Voters Service
Mrs. William S. Morgan	Water-CRs, Public Relations, Voters Service
Mrs. Tyler Shinn	Foreign Policy, Bylaws, Organization, Publications
Mrs. Thomas Snelham	Development of Human Resources, Finance, Organization
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Mrs. Alexander M. White, Jr.	UN Observer, Foreign Policy, Finance, Public Relations
Mrs. William H. Wood	Development of Human Resources, Office Management, State and Local Government, Voters Service
Mrs. Robert Zurbach	Development of Human Resources, Finance, Organization

Underscoring indicates Chairman of Committee.

Presidents' Council,
Workbook, Part I, 1967

PROPOSED BUDGET - 1967-1968
LWV -- TEXAS

EXPENDITURES

General Administration				
Board of Directors		$3,350.00		
President		150.00		
Committees				
Budget		250.00	150.00	
Nominating		200.00		
Program				
Research, development and action		600.00	500.00	
Attendance at non-League meetings		400.00		
State and National Legislative Action		500.00	400.00	
Voters Service		75.00	50.00	
Public Relations		100.00		
Delegates to National Presidents' Council		600.00		
Operating Costs				
Maintenance		2,200.00		
Supplies		700.00		
Salaries and Social Security				
Executive Secretary		4,000.00		
Assistant Secretary		3,600.00	2675.00	
Social Security		327.00	360.75	
Audit		100.00		17,152.00
Capital Expenditures				58.00
Publications				
National		275.00		
State		4,000.00		
Texas VOTER		1,000.00		5,275.00
Field Service				
Local Leagues		1,000.00		
New Leagues		100.00		
Staff				
Salary	1,125.00			
Expenses	625.00	1,800.00		2,900.00
To Reserve Fund				250.00
National Services				13,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES				$38,635.00

INCOME

Local and Provisional League Support	34,585.00
State Members-at-Large	50.00
Publications	4,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	$38,635.00

LOCAL LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR STATE AND NATIONAL SERVICE, 1966-67

Local League	1966-67	1967-68	Local League	1966-67	1967-68
Abilene Doris Lee	$ 300.00	400	Irving	$ 525.00	6/1 525
Amarillo Cleo Echin	400.00	mail 475	Lake Jackson	500.00	50
Austin	1,850.00	9 July 1950	La Marque	375.00	Sept 375
Bay Area Jones	200.00	Sept 300	Longview	450.00	now 450
Baytown Rosentown	350.00	500	Lubbock	1,350.00	now Hale 1400
Beaumont	700.00		Midland	1,625.00	now 1650
Brownsville	900.00	Cash 500.	Odessa	600.00	400
Corpus Christi	1,300.00	Cash 800	Pasadena	375.00	6/1 500
Corsicana	425.00	July 475	Richardson	200.00	soon 350
Dallas	3,900.00	9 July 4500	San Angelo	110.00	
Denton	325.00	mail 500	San Antonio	1,900.00	fall + 2 others 2100
Dickinson	525.00	Cash 550	San Marcos	200.00	300
Edinburg	350.00	fall 350	South Jefferson Co.	375.00	
El Paso	500.00	Cash 600	Texas City	425.00	
Fort Worth	1,100.00	now 1200	Tyler	425.00	now 450
Freeport	510.00	soon 510	Victoria	475.00	550
Galveston	600.00	600	Waco	1,150.00	now now 1150
Harlingen	325.00	325	Wichita Falls	235.00	275
Houston	4,000.00	9 July 4000		$29,855.00	30020.00

Brazos Co 50 Request 700.00 30,720.00 3,865 short 34585

STATE PROGRAM - CURRENT AGENDA ITEM I
Study of the Texas Legislature

The timeliness of selecting this item by delegates to the 1966 Convention has been verified by subsequent events, not the least important of which is the Governor's announced support of revision of the Texas Constitution. The consensus which may come out of this study will, perhaps, provide guidelines for evaluation of specific changes which may be proposed in the section(s) dealing with the Legislature, and, in any event, the study will have served to increase the knowledge of LWV of Texas members in this important area of state government.

The plan formulated for the biennium included a study of the legislature as it is without any attempt at evaluation, to provide a background for a look at the legislature in action during the current session; this is to be followed by a study of suggested improvements along with methods employed in other states, and an evaluation of these. It is hoped that the result will be a position upon which support or opposition to constitutional and/or procedural changes which may be proposed in the future for the Texas Legislature.

The material which was prepared for the first year's study was addressed both to the membership (an Article in the September, 1966 TEXAS VOTER) and to leaders (the TEXAS LEGISLATURE KIT). This latter attracted so much interest among the members, however, that it has served both as membership and leadership material.

Most local Leagues will have had their meetings on the Texas Legislature by the time of Council. Various methods of presentation have been used, including outside speakers and skits, as well as the familiar unit discussions. This has resulted in dissemination of a great deal of information on the legislature and how it works, which should add new interest to the familiar "trip to the Hill" by Council delegates and observers.

Everything considered, it appears that exciting times are ahead, and that in the near future the Texas LWV may find opportunity to implement any points of consensus which are reached as a result of this study.

PROGRAM'S PROGRESS

Just one short year ago we endorsed NEW VISIONS for the League of Women Voters of Texas. This was the theme for the March, 1966 Convention. In no other area of League interest has expanded vision been more evident than in Program -- local, state and national.

Our efforts have been directed not only to informing ourselves about the subjects we chose for Program, but also to educating citizens, the political parties, candidates and government officials about League positions.

State Presidents' Council is the time to discuss and assess the progress we have made with the four Single List Program items chosen by Convention delegates for varying degrees of emphasis and/or action and to give direction for the coming year, the last half of the biennium.

Early in the League year, Constitutional Revision work was begun when we "covered the precinct front" with Resolutions calling for creation of a Constitutional Study Commission as a necessary step toward a Convention and Revision. Non-Board members, friends and husbands took these resolutions into the precinct meetings and in many instances watched the resulting momentum carry the resolution through County Conventions the following week in May. Also early in the League year, Resource Committees were familiarizing themselves with the basic bibliography readings for our interesting new study of the Texas Legislature.

Leagues used the summer months as never before to cover some phase of Program, and found that membership interest and attendance do not lag during the time we used to treat as League "vacation months."

In September and October, members had the opportunity to attend one of the nineteen public hearings held by the Texas Research League throughout the state, as that group continued its study of the SMSA (Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area) problems in Texas leading to its report 'Metropolitan Texas: A Workable Approach to its Problems" in time for consideration by the 60th Legislature. Evaluation will continue concerning the TRL report and resulting legislation as related to our positions reached under the State-Local Relations study.

In the fall, the eagerly awaited TEXAS LEGISLATURE Leader's Guide and KIT provided the major reference material for the first phase of this study. The every-member September VOTER article on the Legislature gave impetus to interest and attendance at local meetings.

Our positions on Texas Constitutional Revision, voter registration and election laws, regional planning and water resources were presented orally to both the Democratic and Republican State Conventions in September. We were greatly heartened by Governor Connally's State Party Convention address which called for Constitutional Revision by Convention for we have been the one group through the years that has maintained persistent recognition of Revision as the basic requirement for strengthening State Government and helping solve other governmental problems.

Also in the fall, we were asked for a written statement, which we submitted, presenting League positions to a subcommittee of the Interim State Election Law Committee. Shortly before Christmas, we appeared by invitation at a hearing held before the full committee. A number of our positions are included in bills prepared by the interim committee and submitted to the House and Senate during this session.

We began the action so long awaited on TCR when the Governor gave first emphasis to Revision by Convention NOW as he addressed the Joint Session after his inauguration in January. League Boards and members responded to the TFA (Time for Action) sent early in the session requesting contact with their legislators even before a TCR bill was in committee.

Testimony before House and Senate Committees began early and we foresee numerous opportunities in the busy time ahead to lobby for League positions. Your pre-session interviews and report sheets, plus continuing written and personal contact with your legislators in invaluable in supplying helpful information to the Legislative Chairman.

While this has been a challenging and fruitful year in member ACTION - study, community education and legislative activity - on State Program items, the very same process was underway on National Program. The ambitious schedule of supplying Board Reports, Leader's Guides, Current Reviews and Bibliographies proceeded at a steady pace from national office and allowed for continuing attention to Program at that level. Leagues showed their eagerness to begin basic understanding of the newly chosen study of Mainland China long before "The China Puzzle" booklet was received. In several Leagues, knowledgeable speakers provided background commentary for the League study to come. Leagues reached consensus before the January 3rd deadline on possible incentives for industrial water pollution abatement and appreciated the extra effort by national Board which made the consensus statement available with all possible speed so that positions reached might be used while timely.

In towns, cities and communities throughout the state, Leagues have continued to give emphasis to Local Program by studying, evaluating and taking action. You have engaged in citizen education and legislative action before city councils, school boards and county commissioners courts. Your Voters have recorded the many gains made and you are to be congratulated!

So Texas Leagues have had NEW VISIONS with Program in the past League year! We look forward to continued awareness of Program possibilities and the resulting increased involvement in some of the most important governmental matters of our times.

STATE PROGRAM CURRENT AGENDA ITEM II

Texas Constitutional Revision

"As Governor, I can concieve of no other project which equals or even approaches in importance the proposal for constitutional revision through a Constitutional Convention. I truly believe that we are in one of the most pivotal periods in our history, and the future of our people will be influenced to a great degree by our decision in this matter. Let it be clearly understood that constitutional revision is not a partisan matter. It is a project of concern to all the people."

This was the proposal that Governor John Connally made to the 60th Legislature. Are we prepared to meet this challenge?

The League of Women Voters of Texas has had constitutional revision as a main concern for nearly 19 years. Are we about to see ACTION and support for our objective that a constitutional convention would be the preferable method for revision?

Your statements urging support of constitutional revision at the May 1966 party precinct convention was surely one of the reasons that both parties included a plank endorsing general revision of the constitution. Every League member received a copy of Texas Constitutional Review, Revised Edition, along with basic background material to be used as a review in conjunction with the booklet. Statewide distribution was so demanding that we are now in a second printing made possible by a grant in-aid from the Sears Foundation to the newly formed League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund. Over 50,000 orders have been filled, but in a state which is fourth in terms of population have we reached our limit?

Is the public becoming more receptive to the idea of revision? Does the man on the street know what a Constitutional Convention is and how it functions? How does a Constitutional Commission operate? Do you know what is expected of a working delegate to a convention? Will the delegates elected to represent us do so with careful consideration of the state's governmental needs of today and foresee the challenge of future generations? How can you best serve your community to dispel the apathy toward a Constitutional Revision movement? Have we talked long enough in our communities, to our legislators, to the press, to other organizations? Are we content to wait for change to happen or to make it happen?

As Council delegates you will have ample opportunity to discuss what ACTION you and your League will want to take in regard to new vision for Revision.

STATE PROGRAM - CURRENT AGENDA ITEM III
State-Local Relations

(A) Support of metropolitan regional and comprehensive state planning in Texas
(B) Support of flexible structure and adequate powers for local governments in Texas consistent with state responsibility for effective government

Support Positions Included Under S-LR Item:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part of State-Local support position under the TCR item:

Support of a Single Article in the Texas Constitution encompassing provisions for units of local government (cities, towns, villages, counties and special districts), expressed in broad and permissive principles.

****

With these support positions the Texas League has been keeping up with a number of developments taking place, both at the state level and in the 22 metropolitan areas. (See the Flipchart of State Program 1966-68 and the TEXAS VOTER, November, 1966, page 3).

Much time has been spent in the past few months analyzing proposals of the Texas Research League, the county study by the Texas Legislative Council, and the recommendations of the Texas Municipal League.

The State Board has agreed that the LWV of Texas may act on the recommendations of the Texas Research League that give (a) permissive power to metropolitan areas for more flexibility to solve their problems and (b) more coordination at the state level.

Thus we are in a position to support legislation

(1) giving urban counties
  a) the right to choose optional forms of government,
  b) to have subdivision ordinances, building codes and land use plans outside incorporated municipalities,
  c) to form an Urban County:

(2) permitting local units of government the power to contract with each other;

(3) permitting metropolitan regions to form Councils of Government.

AT THE STATE LEVEL

We will support the formation of a State Local Government Agency; more accountability and regulation of single purpose Special Districts; comprehensive state

planning; and a Single Article in the Texas Constitution pertaining to local government expressed in broad and permissive principles.

Local Leagues may be called on to act on state legislation through TIMES FOR ACTION and to work for understanding and support in their communities.

We will neither support nor oppose the recommended permissive city sales tax.

AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Present trends would indicate that more and more local governmental problems are going to be approached on a regional basis and in cooperation with the state and federal governments. We should begin right now considering League action with this in mind. The state Board is developing guidelines so that local Leagues will be able to act on regional problems, in cooperation with other Leagues in the area and in cooperation with the state League, and at the same time insure that those members involved in that area are informed members. Guidelines will have to stay flexible as future needs are yet unknown.

At present the state Board approves the following:

> "In order for a local League to support a particular plan in its area for a Regional Council, Council of Governments, optional forms of county government, or inter-local cooperation of local governments, this plan must be studied locally, in cooperation with other Leagues involved. (Consult State Board Chairman and Local League Handbook, page 22, section 3, for implementation).
>
> "The state Board must be informed of the consensus of a local League or Leagues in these areas and must approve any proposed action."

These guidelines are not meant to pertain to subjects which are stricly local in nature, but if there is some question as to future inter-League or state-local League relations on some study, we want to try to work it out from the beginning before it becomes a problem.

The TRL proposals and the Texas LWV positions are designed to be flexible so as to make the possibilities of all metropolitan areas' needs inclusive. The formation of a COG in one area may be entirely for a different purpose and of a different makeup than in another. The Texas League cannot be for the formation of a particular COG or regional planning commission in any particular place for any particular reason without the League or Leagues in that area having studied how this body can best be organized and function.

The state Board will continue keeping tab on the different metropolitan areas and the functioning of the state as it plays its role, and will issue reports from time to time, especially as additional studies and legislation are suggested.

Local League attendance at the TRL briefings around the state in the fall and the reports to the State Chairman and to members through local Voters have been indispensable in keeping the League in the forefront as these new and exciting developments take place.

As a state League we could study further in such areas as councils of governments, interlocal cooperation, optional forms of county governments, or state-local financing, if local Leagues think this would be necessary foundation for local study and action. The Presidents' Council delegates should give suggestions for what tools, if any, will be needed during 1967-68.

STATE PROGRAM - CURRENT AGENDA ITEM IV
Voter Registration and Election Laws

Support of improved procedures for the registration of voters and the conducting of elections in Texas.

The specific positions of consensus under this item are:

I. The criteria for a Permanent Registration System:

1. State-wide uniformity
2. Total election coverage
3. Economical administration
4. Adequate safeguards against frauds
5. Personal registration
6. No fee as a prerequisite for registration
7. Corrected and up-dated registration lists
8. Voter convenience
9. Signature identification at the polls
10. Clearly defined administrative responsiblility
11. Qualified registration staff
12. Adequate record facilities
13. Liberalization of residence requirements
14. No requirement for registration of active members of the Armed Forces
15. Retention of all or part of franchise until new residence is established after moving
16. No declaration of party affiliation at time of registration
17. Issuance of registration card

The State Board recommends that a No. 18 be added, "Reregistration by voting," for clarification.

II. Election Law positions:

1. Voter shall place an X in the square beside the name of the candidate and issue favored
2. Exemption certificates should be required of all citizens regardless of residence, who are exempt from payment of the poll tax
3. Specific statement in Code of penalties for violations of absentee voting regulations
4. No absentee voting fee shall be required
5. Only a county clerk, Notary Public or other official shall give aid to a voter who is blind or physically unable to mark his ballot
6. A political party shall be required to hold primary elections when, at the last general elections, its candidate for governor polled 100,000 or more votes
7. All political parties required to hold primary elections may hold a consolidated primary in each precinct, at the same time and place, and with a single set of election officials
8. Specific requirement and penalty for failure to hold 2nd primary in every precinct in every county
9. Residence of otherwise qualified supervisor extended to that of the county
10. Appointment of supervisor by 40 or 5% of the qualified voters of the precinct, whichever is less, may be made at any time, even after the election has started
11. Employees of candidates for lucrative office shall be ineligible as election clerks
12. Election clerks may serve on part-time or shift basis and be paid for actual hours worked.

The Texas League of Women Voters has been interested in election laws since it organized. The Election Law positions on the the previous page were adopted in 1954, but have been appraised and modified at biennial state conventions since that time to keep them current. The criteria for voter registration were developed in a study begun in 1960 and concluded in 1962. The League has made many efforts during these past five years, both in doing away with the poll tax as a requisite for voting and in the setting up of a good permanent voter registration system. The poll tax requirement has been nullified by court order, but there is still much to be done in getting the kind of registration system that we believe is best for Texas.

The March, 1966 State Convention in Fort Worth went on record as opposing Amendment 7 in the November, 1966 election and supporting Amendment 8. Materials were prepared by the State League and local campaigns were conducted in League communities. Press releases were issued to non-League communities through the wire services.

Both amendments passed. Amendment 7 repealed the poll tax requirement for voting (which was already accomplished by court order in May,1966) and required annual registration. The court case to issue a permanent injunction against the canvassing of Amendment 7 has not been settled at this writing. Amendment 8 gives permission to the Legislature to liberalize residence requirements for voting.

The system in force at this time for the registering of voters for 1967 is the law passed at the Special Session of the Legislature in February, 1966. New laws are being considered by the present 60th Legislature covering recommendations of the Election Laws Study Committee, as well as others. Many of the League's positions have been recommended by this study committee:

state-wide uniformity
total election coverage
personal registration
signature identification at the polls
liberalization of residence requirements
no declaration of party affiliation at time of registration
issuance of registration certificate
positive voting (X marked by candidate or issue)
removal of the 100 yard distance between party primaries (our position is for permissive consolidated primaries, but this is a big step in this direction)

After studying the bills the areas where we still may have concern are:

re-registering by voting (present recommendation of renewal by mail appears to be a great improvement)
voter convenience in registering (more liberal hours, places and extended period during the calendar year)
use of adequately trained volunteer registration deputies
voter convenience in securing a duplicate certificate and still maintaining signature comparison
no requirement for registration of active members of the Armed Forces
corrected and up-dated registration lists (difficult under any annual system, but systemmatic purging could be a part of the system)

All of these recommendations by the Legislature's Study Committee are by no means assured to get through the Legislature. Opposition has already been expressed against the voter inconvenience of personal registration, signature identification at the polls, and requiring people over 60 in small communities to register.

It appears that many of our safeguard positions have been recommended but few of the criteria for voter convenience. We must be able to reconcile very clearly our two principles of voter convenience and adequate safeguards.

NATIONAL PROGRAM

The full wording of the National Program as adopted by the 27th Convention in Denver in May 1966 may be found on page 9.

Development of Human Resources - This Item has not been changed in scope, and the Current Review (December 1966) should provide the resource material needed to maintain this Item up to date. The only additional study is the continued evaluation by each League of the local situation.

Legislation and financing for Anti-poverty programs will likely be under attack during 1967. A Time for Action in the summer of 1966 in support of the more flexible form of OEO legislation foreshadows pressures to reduce and restrict the Anti-poverty programs during Congressional consideration of these programs. There is no question that reevaluation and reshaping is needed in the total program for this is still an experimental period. However, the League of Women Voters must help to assure a constructive atmosphere sympathetic to the basic goals of equality of opportunity. Will Texas Leagues be in a position to take an active and informed part so that the good provisions can be protected and the poor ones improved or modified? Presidents' Council is the time for exchanging ideas, getting additional information, and, above all, the time and place to make your wishes and needs known on the further direction of this Item.

Foreign Policy - There has been a variety of excellent material from the national League on this Item beginning with "Foreign Aid at the Crossroads", including the "Foreign Policy Leaders Guide" and "Current Review of Foreign Policy", and culminating in "The China Puzzle"; these materials together with the May and September National Board Reports and appropriate issues of the National Voter provide some source of information suited to any member of the League.

There will be considerable discussion in the present session of Congress on tariffs and trade, and the year may be a crucial one for trade policies. Expiration of the Trade Expansion Act in June of this year will undoubtedly call for League activity to encourage new legislation in the same spirit. Questions of the forms and amounts of United States foreign aid will also be discussed since extended authorizations were not adopted by the last Congress. It is expected that as in 1966, there will be Times for Action on Aid and also on Trade during the coming year. There is no new consensus planned, but it will be essential that local League members (and the public) be kept up to date on national activities and the implications of these activities. Effective action will depend on how well we have informed ourselves and the community.

Local Leagues have shown great interest and eagerness to undertake the China study. Local Leagues should indicate the areas they wish emphasized during the coming year so that the needs of Texas members can be clearly presented at National Presidents' Council.

Water Resources - The Incentives to Pollution Abatement study revealed the complexity of water problems and the difficulties in finding simple solutions. This will be the only nationally originated study this biennium. However, the administration and content of Texas Water law and planning are undergoing great change. Major changes (Water Rights adjudication and reorganization of the Water Pollution Control Board) and a study of pollution in the Houston - Galveston area have been proposed to the 60th Legislature.

During 1966 the Texas League continued to observe and provide information on the Texas Water Development Plan and will do so until the Plan is finally adopted. The League also provided some information on the amendment (November 1966) to increase the amount of money available for Legislature authorization in the Texas Water Development Fund.

Should the Texas League undertake activity (both education and action) in response to these basic proposals? What proportion of information relative to action will be best suited to the local Leagues? The state Board will continue to provide information but it can be effective only if the degree of emphasis and the form of the information meets your needs. Please, come prepared to give direction on this Item as well.

Continuing Responsibilities - There was some action in support of D.C. Home Rule during 1966. Since the aims were not accomplished, renewed activity is possible. Unless the Reapportionment issue is less dormant than predicted, no other CRs are expected to be active.

Our National Program structure is still in an experimental form. The League is attempting to develop a form that will provide both stability and flexibility in a period of rapid change. Very little time was available at the national Convention for a full report and discussion of the different forms (single list, modified single list, etc.) and our National Program continues in a compromise form. If innovations are to be effective, evaluation and discussion must continue. Presidents' Council will be your best opportunity to share experiences, problems, successes, and ideas with other local League presidents and to formulate your recommendations. It is important that any difficulties or confusion be given attention so that our methods will not impede our main function of study and action.

In addition to the content of Program Items, we hope you will be interested in considering the most useful ways to work together on these topics of common interest. The value of direct discussion meetings and workshops can hardly be overstated. The possibility of developing much wider use of cooperative, regional meetings for members of several local Leagues and the public warrants your serious consideration. Presidents' Council will give you an opportunity to talk directly to other local Leagues to ascertain if there is sufficient common interest and it is also your opportunity to suggest ways that the state Board might help you in the total topic of National Program presentation and action.

LOCAL PROGRAM

Local Program forged ahead in Texas this past year. From the two provisional Leagues, Bay Area and El Paso, which surveyed their areas to the League which wrote in its Voter:

"Energy we have not;
Experience we have got

-- from a worthwhile venture into the unknown of City Hall" (Brownsville), all realize that a vital key to a successful League is a Local Program starting with study and ending with action.

Texas Leagues highlighted Education with fifteen working in this area, ten doing Government Surveys and ten working on Planning and Development. They learn that an effective Local Program is the best way to reach their members and enhance the reputation of the League in the community.

The Local Program Committee on the State Board has the responsibility to assist the local League in this field. This has been done by correspondence with the Local Program Chairmen and by producing guides; for example, "A Well-Worded Local Program Item Is A Joy Forever".

In the National and State Publications Catalogs are basic publications to help the Local Program Chairmen. At this Presidents' Council in the Publications Room, you can see these displayed as well as the Local Program publications produced by the Texas Leagues.

Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe
Rm 1016

TENTH BIENNIAL

PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

WORKBOOK

PART

II

APRIL 5-6, 1967

LEAGUE
OF
WOMEN
VOTERS
OF
TEXAS

Council Workbook, Part II, 1967

EATING OUT ..... IN AUSTIN

Lung's Chinese Kitchen	1128 Red River
El Mat	Off Interregional Highway
Su Casa	504 East Fifth Street
Night Hawk Restaurant	336 South Congress
Driskill Hotel Dining Room	In hotel
*Medallion Room, Commodore Perry Hotel	8th at Brazos Street
*Stephen F. Austin Coffee Shop Stephen F. Austin Hotel	701 Congress
*Piccadilly Cafeteria of Texas	801 Congress
Christie's Seafood Restaurant	108 Barton Springs Road
* Victorian Cafeteria	Congress Street
*Old Bakery	Congress Street
*Downtowner Hotel	San Jacinto

* Within walking distance

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
1841 BINGLE ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055

Council Workbook, Part II, 1967

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1967 PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL
Driskill Hotel, Austin, Texas

Tuesday, April 4, 1967

8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Hospitality Room — Jim Hogg Suite

Wednesday, April 5, 1967

9:30 - 12:00 a.m. Registration for Council and Lobbying — Mezzanine

10:30 - 12:00 Buffet
- Presidents — Provincial Suite
- Other delegates and observers — Mezzanine

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Opening Session — Crystal Ballroom
Mrs. William E. Joor, Presiding

Call to Order

Welcome.....
- Mrs. Calvin McMillan, President
  League of Women Voters of Austin
- The Honorable Lester Palmer
  Mayor of Austin

Organization of Council
- Appointment of Parliamentarian
- Appointment of Tellers
- Appointment of Credentials Committee
- Adoption of Agenda

President's Report

Minutes of 1965 Council - Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe
Treasurer's Report - Mrs. H. G. Taylor
Roll Call of Local Leagues - Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe

Presentation of the Budget
Pledges, Call of the Roll

1:30 - 3:00 Presidents' Workshop — Travis Room
Swapshops — Mezzanine

3:00 - 4:30 Business Session
Mrs. William E. Joor, Presiding

Presentation of Program
Mrs. Robert Casperson, Program Vice President, Chairman
- National Program - Mrs. Wilson Nolle
- The Texas Legislature - Mrs. F. L. Duckworth
- State-Local Relations - Mrs. James Lancaster
- Texas Constitutional Review - Mrs. Darvin Winick
- Voter Registration and Election Laws - Mrs. James Lancaster
- Legislative Report - Mrs. Francis May

Education Fund Report - Mrs. Maurice Brown

Attendance Report
Announcements

1967 PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL
Driskill Hotel, Austin, Texas

Wednesday, April 5, 1967
(Continued)

4:40 - 5:40	Little Meetings	
	Group A - Maximillian Room Mrs. H. G. Taylor, Chairman	
	Group B - Colonial Room Mrs. S. E. Ziegler, Chairman	
	Group C - Travis Room Mrs. H. C. Martin, Chairman	
6:30 - 7:30	Reception for Mrs. Stuart	Jim Hogg Suite
7:30 - 9:30	Dinner	Crystal Ballroom
	Speaker...Mrs. Robert Stuart, President League of Women Voters of the United States	

Thursday, April 6, 1967

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Legislators' Breakfast	Crystal Ballroom
9:00 - 10:15	Capitol Scoops - Mrs. Herbert Martin, Third Vice President	
10:25 - 12:00	Trip to Capitol	
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on your own	
1:30 - 4:00	Final Business Session Mrs. William E. Joor, Presiding	Crystal Ballroom
	Appointment of Tellers Final Attendance Report	
	Program Discussion and Direction - Mrs. Robert Casperson	
	Adoption of State Budget	
	Other Business Permanent State Office Discussion Mrs. John C. Roberts, President League of Women Voters of Fort Worth	
	Announcements	
	Adjourn	

TREASURER'S REPORT
April 1, 1966 through March 9, 1967

INCOME	Actual	Budgeted	Balance
Local & Provisional Leagues	$27,940.00	$29,855.00	$1,915.00
State Publications (less 2/3 office supplies)	7,799.64	4,000.00	(3,799.64)
State Members at Large	10.00	75.00	65.00
TCR Books (sales less cost)	232.26		(232.26)
Area Conference (profit)	170.74		(170.74)
Election Night Reporting	1,035.00	900.00	(135.00)
Transfer Funds from Waco bank	9.83		(9.83)
	$37,197.47		

EXPENDITURES			
General Administration			
Board of Directors and President	$ 2,895.15	$ 3,250.00	$ 354.85
Committees			
Budget	154.19	125.00	(29.19)
Nominating	0	25.00	25.00
Program			
Research-Development	428.61	515.00	86.39
Attendance at non-League meetings	288.00	300.00	12.00
Legislative Action	233.49	350.00	116.51
Voters Service	17.98	75.00	57.02
Public Relations	26.30	80.00	53.70
Delegates to National Convention	809.24	550.00	(259.24)
Operating Costs			
Maintenance	2,294.08	1,900.00	(394.08)
Supplies (after 2/3 deduction for publications cost)	610.15	735.00	124.85
Salaries and Social Security	5,833.58	6,775.00	941.42
Fees - Audit & Bonding	100.00	100.00	0
Capital Expenditures	81.29	0	(81.29)
Publications			
National	362.28	275.00	(87.28)
State (2[illegible]5)	6,283.95	4,000.00	(2,283.95)
Texas VOTER	883.46	875.00	(8.46)
Field Service			
Local Leagues	928.37	1,000.00	71.63
New Leagues	99.73	300.00	200.27
Staff Specialist			
Salary	892.33	1,125.00	232.67
Expenses	674.86	675.00	.14
Presidents' Council	6.90	2,000.00	1,993.10
National Services	12,025.00	12,025.00	0
Suspense Account	35.00	0	(35.00)
	$35,963.94	$37,055.00	$1,091.06

BALANCE SHEET - March 9, 1967

ASSETS

Cash on Deposit			
Operating Accounts	$1,233.53		
Reserve Fund	4,500.00		
Memorial Fund	61.61		
Petty Cash	115.00		
		$5,910.14	
Fixed Assets			
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment		3,735.90	
Total Assets			$9,646.04

LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES

Recorded on Cash Basis		
Surplus		
Invested in Fixed Assets	$3,735.90	
Reserve & Memorial Fund	4,561.61	
Petty Cash & Postage	115.00	
Unappropriated Funds	1,233.53	
		$9,646.04

BANK BALANCE

Cash on Deposit 4-1-66	$9,511.09		
Income 4-1-66 to 3-10-67	27,686.38		
		$37,197.47	
Disbursements 4-1-66 to 3-10-67		35,963.94	
Bank Balance			$1,233.53

STATE AND NATIONAL SUPPORT
March 10, 1967

	PLEDGE	AMOUNT PAID	BALANCE
Abilene	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	--
Amarillo	400.00	400.00	--
Austin	1,850.00	1,850.00	--
Bay Area	200.00	200.00	--
Baytown	350.00	350.00	--
Beaumont	700.00	500.00	200.00
Brownsville	900.00	900.00	--
Corpus Christi	1,300.00	1,300.00	--
Corsicana	425.00	425.00	--
Dallas	3,900.00	3,900.00	--
Denton	325.00	325.00	--
Dickinson	525.00	525.00	--
Edinburg	350.00	350.00	--
El Paso	500.00	500.00	--
Fort Worth	1,100.00	1,100.00	--
Freeport	510.00	510.00	--
Galveston	600.00	600.00	--
Harlingen	325.00	325.00	--
Houston	4,000.00	4,000.00	--
Irving	525.00	525.00	--
Lake Jackson	500.00	150.00	350.00
LaMarque	375.00	375.00	--
Longview	450.00	450.00	--
Lubbock	1,350.00	1,350.00	--
Midland	1,625.00	1,625.00	--
Odessa	600.00	600.00	--
Pasadena	375.00	375.00	--
Richardson	200.00	200.00	--
San Angelo	110.00	--	110.00
San Antonio	1,900.00	1,900.00	--
San Marcos	200.00	200.00	--
South Jefferson County	375.00	375.00	--
Texas City	425.00	425.00	--
Tyler	425.00	425.00	--
Victoria	475.00	475.00	--
Waco	1,150.00	1,150.00	--
Wichita Falls	235.00	235.00	--
	$29,855.00	$29,195.00	$660.00

VOTERS SERVICE

Despite confusion over the new registration law, Texas Leagues did their usual excellent job of registering voters for 1967. Most of those county officials who had welcomed our assistance in prior years with the Poll Tax were glad to have us again. Local Leagues earned over $2300.00 for their efforts (10 Leagues reported receiving remuneration), and issued over 60,000 applications or registration receipts.

Your comments repeated many times the "surprise" of a large number of voters over no fee, plus the inconvenience caused naturalized citizens. Perhaps we as League members were remiss in not giving publicity to this very new facet of registration requiring naturalization numbers on the registration receipts.

93 League members and friends helped with Election Night reporting on November 8. The League of Women Voters of Texas earned $1,035.00 from the American Broadcasting Company for this "work" -- which all of us really felt was "fun". Mrs. Eugene Hughes of the Houston League was the excellent coordinator for the state office.

Voters Guides for the May Primary and November General Elections were more in demand than ever. Orders for these two Guides totaled over 380,000 -- a record number. November Guides were sent to newspapers in non-League areas throughout the state with permission to reprint the information contained in them. Unfortunately, we do not know how many publishers might have used this information.

Local Voters Guides for primaries, school board, and bond elections; candidates' luncheons and rallies; TV appearances; Voteswagens; speakers on amendments --- this is the exciting story of Voters Service in Texas, 1966-67.

FIELD SERVICE REPORT

1966-67 has been one of the most exciting and productive years in service to local Leagues in the experience of the League of Women Voters of Texas. The combination of volunteer and staff personnel has produced a truly remarkable record.

The League of Women Voters of Bay Area (around NASA) and the League of Women Voters of El Paso have been granted local League status. We are very proud of the progress both of these groups made during their two year provisional period and welcome them as full fledged local Leagues.

Greetings to our very newest group--The Provisional League of Women Voters of Brazos County. There has been interest in the Bryan-College Station area for a number of years and we are delighted to welcome them as our 38th League.

Two exploratory visits were made to Grand Prairie to discuss League membership with interested women there. The final decision was that they would become a unit (or units) of the League of Women Voters of Dallas.

Several local Leagues have applied for area status and others are exploring possibilities. Representatives from your Field Service Committee and your staff member worked with them to clarify issues and to help them follow the approved procedures. (Don't forget to consult the state Board if you are planning such a move as this is one of the requirements.) The immediate result of the changes being made in the basis of organization means that we are now able to offer satisfying membership to more women interested in the League.

Inter-League cooperation is moving forward at a steady pace. Most cooperation is still on an informal basis. Specific examples: the TV program which involves all the local Leagues in the Dallas-Fort Worth viewing area; cooperation between Dallas, Irving and Richardson in the Finance Drive; leadership training sessions with nearby Leagues invited to participate; and a series of three program meetings in the Valley presented by each of the three Leagues in turn with the other Leagues invited to attend.

We were fortunate in having Mrs. Robert Zurbach of the national Board "kick off" our very first meeting to consider a more formal organization for inter-League cooperation in the Gulfcoast area. Our state president also attended the meeting with Mrs. Zurbach and the first meeting to follow which included representatives from the 10 local Leagues in Harris, Galveston and Brazoria counties. Following consultation with local League Boards and the entire membership, committees met to draw up Articles of Agreement and a nominating committee is working on a proposed slate. The organization meeting is scheduled for May 5, 1967 and will be in the form of a Convention. The Council does not plan to adopt a program item at this time but will work to solve overlapping problems in Voters Service, Finance and Public Relations. They may also schedule workshops or large area meetings to assist with subjects currently on League Program.

Field Service personnel will continue to work with the group and a representative from the state Board will serve the Council in an advisory capacity once it is organized.

Several regional Board training sessions were held this year on an experimental basis. League Boards within easy driving distance met together for a one day workshop conducted by members of the state Board. The topics were general in nature concerning total Board responsibility, Program implementation, membership growth, finance and group discussion.

In most cases this was followed by a visit from the consultant to each local League for training in individual portfolios. The Field Service Vice President asked each president for an evaluation of the experiment. The response was favorable--especially

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if it were done every two years with the more intensive training in the interim year. The Leagues felt there was real value in meeting together to share success stories and common problems. Attendance was excellent but not all Board members were able to participate and it was felt that the follow up for individual training was important.

Every local League in the state has had either the combined or individual Board training sessions and special visits were scheduled to fill specific needs. Several very successful visits were made to help local Leagues who needed assistance in leadership and in membership growth.

The Field Service Committee enjoys the privilege of working with the local Leagues we we would appreciate any suggestions or new ideas for improving our services to you.

Council Workbook, Part II, 1967

FIELD SERVICE STAFF SPECIALIST REPORT

Your Field Service Staff Specialist attended State Convention and led one of the little meetings. She has attended all state Board meetings, conducted a training session for the state Board and for new Field Service personnel.

She attended National Convention and since staff members pay no registration or travel equalization fees, they were assigned some responsibility for Convention. Our staff member served as Timekeeper for the National Convention. She also joined the state Board delegates in a meeting with representatives from the national Board on area Leagues and inter-League cooperation and consulted delegates from many Leagues around the country who were experienced in this field.

In addition:

.....Led the regional Board training session for the local Leagues in the Gulfcoast area
.....Conducted a one day training session for new Consultants in the Houston area
.....Attended the special meeting with Mrs. Zurbach from the national Board with the local Leagues interested in an inter-League Council
.....Took notes of the meeting and prepared a summary for the local Leagues
.....Typed copies of information on inter-League Councils for representatives selected to meet to consider organization of a Council
.....Prepared information for each local League to present to their Boards and to the membership
.....Assisted at the first meeting with the 10 Leagues interested in organization of a Council to answer questions and discuss samples of Articles of Agreement
.....Served in an advisory capacity with the Area Conference Committee and helped lead the Conference in Denton
.....Worked out a detailed outline to serve as a guide for Consultants for our Provisional Leagues to insure that all requirements were met for their application for local League status
.....Substituted for a Field Service Consultant in conducting a Board training session in Irving and assisted the Consultant in Richardson Board training
.....Accompanied Field Service VP to lead a joint Board training session in the Valley followed by a one day meeting with each League
.....Assisted a state Board member in two preliminary visits and an organization meeting for the Provisional League of Women Voters of Brazos County
.....Interviewed leaders in the community and helped train the new Board
.....Made two exploratory visits to Grand Prairie to consult with women interested in the League of Women Voters
.....Participated in Election Night reporting
.....Made two visits during the year to a local League to help strengthen leadership, increase membership and provide training in group discussion techniques. Helped plan their annual meeting, finance drive and implementaion of local program.
.....Met with a small League to help toward membership growth, general workload and finance
.....Visited a local League to discuss area League status
.....Met with three Leagues to answer questions concerning the possibilities of becoming an area League
.....Read all minutes and VOTERs from all local Leagues and kept informed on their activities
.....Worked closely with the VP and the committee in all Field Service projects and reported on all visits made by staff
.....Helped plan Presidents' Workbook and the Presidents' Workshop at Council
.....Spent three days assisting a local League with serious problems in both leadership and membership

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.....Attended El Paso's annual meeting and trained the new Board
.....Answered all correspondence from local Leagues and members of the state Board. Sent memos or special information when requested to do so
.....Consulted frequently with the state president and the Field Service Vice President and with members of the state Board on request
.....Assisted the state president and committee to pinch hit for the Field Service Vice President due to illness. Plans were well underway - final end of the year reports were completed, new consultant assignments were made and details were finalized for both the Workshop for local League presidents at Council and for the new Presidents' Workbook
.....Your Field Service Staff Specialist will attend Presidents' Council, will help train new consultants, and will help lead the Presidents' Workshop

A chronicle of the activities of our part time Field Service Staff Specialist can only leave you wondering not only when she ate and slept but also how the LWV of Texas could possibly have been so fortunate to secure so much service for so little money.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT T E F ....

The League of Women Voters of Texas took a step toward solving one of its major problems - the lack of money for worthwhile educational, nonpartisan programs on a large scale - with the organization in April, 1966 of the League of Women Voters of Texas EDUCATION FUND (TEF). Completely separate from the League of Women Voters of Texas, the Texas EDUCATION FUND is financed by grants, gifts, and bequests from foundations, corporations, and individuals. The TEF is tax exempt and, hence, such gifts and grants are tax deductible for the donors.

The facilities of the TEF are available to the local Leagues and can make it possible in some circumstances for the local League to obtain funds which are not or can not be given to the League because contributions to it are not tax deductible. While the TEF itself is not a fund-raising organization, but a facility for the acceptance of tax deductible grants or gifts, the Trustees do provide guidance in the search for such monies.

Local Leagues should consider the use of the EDUCATION FUND during budget discussion when planning nonaction type publications, such as Know Your Schools, etc., or planning for activities that provide training or information for the public. The TEF can help you reach more people more effectively.

Please read the following pages entitled, " THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS EDUCATION FUND --- ITS USES AND PROCEDURES", then let us hear of your projects. Requests for further information should be directed to the TEF chairman, in care of the state office.

TEF hopes to reach out with new programs to meet challenging needs.

Board of Trustees,

Mrs. Maurice H. Brown, Chairman
Mrs. Edward C. Fritz, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. E. R. Brownscombe, Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Jon Ford
Dr. Eugene Hughes
Mrs. Charles M. Linehan
Mr. Millard H. Ruud

THE LEAGUE'S BEST SELLER LIST OF STATE PUBLICATIONS

League	Program Flip Chart	Legislature Kit	Legislature Guide	Facts of Life	Blueprint
Abilene (9)*					
Amarillo (11)	200				
Austin (18)	400	2	5		100
Bay Area (9)	100			50	
Baytown (14)	120				1
Beaumont (12)					
Brownsville (10)	50				
Corpus Christi (12)	300				
Corsicana (6)	100				
Dallas (16)	260	13	13		
Denton (3)	60				
Dickinson (15)				125	
Edinburg (9)					
El Paso (12)	300	5	5	10	
Fort Worth (13)	200	33	15		
Freeport (5)					
Galveston (13)		2	10	100	
Harlingen (8)	50				
Houston (13)	560	10		19	
Irving (12)	100	1			
Lake Jackson (10)				25	
La Marque (10)					
Longview (13)	200				
Lubbock (15)	100		4		10
Midland (13)	200	2	2		
Odessa (11)	100				15
Pasadena (11)	100	5	1	100	
Richardson (10)	100			150	
San Angelo (5)					
San Antonio (14)	200	2	13		13
San Marcos (13)	50				
So. Jeff. County (6)	30				
Texas City (7)	50				6
Tyler (8)	120	1			
Victoria (12)	100				4
Waco (10)					10
Wichita Falls (9)	100				
Totals	4250	76	68	579	159

*The number in parenthesis after each League is the total of Standing Orders of that League. The statistics (April 1, 1966 to March 1, 1967) do not include the publications sent on Standing Order or Duplicate Presidents Mailing.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS EDUCATION FUND ----

ITS USES AND PROCEDURES

The League of Women Voters of Texas EDUCATION FUND was established in 1966 by the League of Women Voters of Texas to undertake educational programs in the field of government in Texas. The FUND is a separate legal entity from the League and is financed by grants, gifts, and bequests from foundations, corporations, and individuals. Tax-exempt status has been applied for and will, hopefully, make all such gifts tax-deductible.

The facilities of the EDUCATION FUND are available to the local Leagues, as well as to other organizations which wish to publish materials or develop educational courses in the field of government. All requests must be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the EDUCATION FUND for consideration in order that the Board may determine whether such requests qualify as proper TEXAS EDUCATION FUND activities.

A League wishing to use the FUND should understand the following:

a) THE EDUCATION FUND IS NOT ITSELF A SOURCE OF FUNDS. It is simply a facility which will be able to accept tax-deductible grants or gifts. A local League wishing to use the facilities of the FUND is responsible for locating its own source of funds to finance the project it has in mind. These funds can then be processed through the TEXAS EDUCATION FUND and qualify as a tax-deductible grant or gift.

b) Projects undertaken by the FUND must be purely educational in nature. The contents of publications, conferences, or courses conducted by the FUND may be aimed at awakening citizens to the meaning of citizen responsibility, the place of citizen leadership, and the necessity for citizen decisions; but they may not be directed toward support of any specific legislation or political program.

c) The Trustees of the TEXAS EDUCATION FUND must approve each individual project in order to make certain it qualifies as a "purely educational" endeavor and will be eligible for tax-exempt support.

d) If a project is undertaken by the TEXAS EDUCATION FUND, it is then responsible for general overall supervision of that project. This costs money, so the FUND charges a small percentage of each grant to pay for contingent expenses. This amounts to 5 percent of the grant.

e) In accordance with the ruling of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, publications published through the League of Women Voters of Texas EDUCATION FUND may not be sold for profit or to recover the amount of the grant given to finance the cost of the publication.

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For example, if the FUND receives a grant to publish a "Know Your City", it pays all expenses incurred under the grant, retaining the small service charge, and then gives the entire printing free (with the exception of a few file copies) to the League for which it was printed. In turn, the League must give the publication away free. Only in the event the grant does not include sufficient funds to cover the full cost of producing the publication, including the cost of handling and distribution, is a League permitted to sell it for the small amount needed to recover such costs. Whenever a League sells the publication, the same price must apply to all to whom it is offered, whether they are members of the League or the general public. THE PRICE OF THE PUBLICATION IS SET BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION FUND.

f) Procedure: A local League wishing to enlist the services of the TEXAS EDUCATION FUND should write to the League of Women Voters of Texas EDUCATION FUND, 1841 Bingle Road, Houston, Texas 77055, for the Request Form on which to apply to the Trustees of the FUND for approval of the project it wishes to undertake. The League should be able at the time of the application to give a full description of the work it wishes to undertake and a budget of the cost. The League should have a good idea of where the money to underwrite the project is coming from and, if possible, should attach to the Request Form a list of the likely donors.

If the project is approved by the Trustees, the FUND then sends the League detailed instructions regarding further procedures. The FUND assists the League in drawing up the formal proposal to be made to the donors, accepts and disburses the funds in accordance with the proposed budget, and, in the event printed material is to be prepared, reviews the material in draft form in order to assure that standards required by tax-exempt status are maintained. Printed materials issued through the FUND must state that they are published by the League of Women Voters of Texas EDUCATION FUND, although credit is also given to the League responsible for their preparation. A Trustee of the FUND or someone designated by the Trustees is responsible for following the progress of each project. Leagues should be aware that processing a project undertaken by the FUND may require considerable time.

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August 1966

THE LEAGUE'S BEST SELLER LIST OF STATE PUBLICATIONS

League	Voters Guides May	Voters Guides November	How to Write	Suggestions for Interviewing	You Belong
Abilene	1000	1500	200		
Amarillo	4000	6000		10	40
Austin	5000	5000			200
Bay Area	2000	2000	100	4	40
Baytown	7000	7000			
Beaumont	4500	2000	50		10
Brownsville	2000	3000			
Corpus Christi	10004	15000			
Corsicana	2000	2000	1	60	100
Dallas	22000	30000		20	
Denton	2000	1035			30
Dickinson	3025	3000			
Edinburg	1000	1000			
El Paso	2000	2000		2	5
Fort Worth	15000	14500	200		
Freeport	3000	3000	200		50
Galveston	1000	1000			
Harlingen	1000	2000	100		
Houston	29725	27040			
Irving	3000	2000	100		50
Lake Jackson	2700	3000			
La Marque	3000	1000			
Longview	3000	3000			
Lubbock	5000	6000	100		100
Midland	12000	12500	200		
Odessa	3000	5000	100		
Pasadena	1000	2000			100
Richardson	1000	1000	100		
San Angelo	2000	1000			
San Antonio	10	200	400		
San Marcos	1000	1000			
So. Jeff. County	5000	3000	100		20
Texas City	3000	3000			
Tyler	500	300	100		50
Victoria	3000	3000	100		
Waco	5000	3500			100
Wichita Falls	2000	2000			
Totals	172464	180575	2151	96	895

Many other separate publications were ordered by and sent to local Leagues in varying amounts. One noteworthy publication is the 1966 Revised Edition of Texas Constitutional Review, 13,500 copies, which have all been distributed

NOTES ON CONVERSATION CORNERS
for Membership & Finance

From: Hausman

Re: Membership

Are you prospecting?

What is your allowable?

We give sustained attention to membership growth throughout the year...but now the big push is on. Let's try for a ten per cent increase for each League, beginning with Council and ending with Convention in 1968. Help and suggestions will be coming to you throughout the year for getting members and keeping members. Keep an eye out for them. Let's see which League will have the most members by Convention time.

* * * * * * * * * *

From: Rosenzweig

Re: Finance

RUN---don't walk---to the nearest Finance Conversation Corner. You can't miss it! It is where you see the large gold map of Texas, and if you will examine it closely, you will see your own League, pinpointed with your proposed pledge to state and national. There is something new under the sun. Seeing is believing. Special new unusual ideas for fabulous successful finance drives. One look tells you how. HURRY, HURRY, and see and hear for yourself the quick easy ways to make money for your League. We've got a real product---now let's sell it. Come exchange ideas with your sister Leagues and then count the results.

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The League legislative program is an unusually full and challenging one this session. Among the record number of bills and resolutions introduced in the 60th Texas Legislature are many of League interest and concern. But more important than number is the fact that for the first time the League will have the opportunity to work seriously for one of our long-cherished goals, constitutional revision by a constitutional convention. Also, for the first time, the League will be able to take action on the most far-reaching measures ever introduced in the Legislature to strengthen our local governments in the metropolitan areas. In addition, the League will have a chance to act on an array of voter registration and election law bills.

All these and other measures bearing upon League program are summarized for you in the Legislative Round-Up appearing in this Workbook. Please observe the distinction in the Round-Up between "support" and "oppose" on the one hand and "for your information" on the other. The latter means that the League is taking no action on the measure. The Round-Up will be brought up to date at Presidents' Council.

With a full and challenging program before us, the question inevitably arises: How can the League be most effective in implementing the legislative program?

The League has many successes to its credit in state legislation. We have certainly won the right to a respectful hearing in the Legislature and are highly regarded by a significant number of Legislators. It is a pleasure, incidentally, for your Legislative Chairman to deal with Legislators who enjoy good rapport with the local League in their community. (If only we had more local Leagues!!!)

On the other hand, the score card shows that in a given session most League items are defeated. Perhaps, this is not too significant in itself. The League is usually ahead of the Legislature in its search for solutions to significant governmental problems facing the state, and it takes time for an educational effort to be effective. Also, the League does not reward or punish legislators, campaign for their nomination or election, or have a large "war chest" at its disposal, as certain other groups do. We must rely primarily upon education and persuasion. But, nonetheless, are we as effective as we might be? Come, let us reason together for a minute.

Perhaps the most important point we need to consider is organization. Are we organized effectively for legislative action? We have the program materials, the public relations techniques, the means of communicating with our members, and many new insights into the legislative process as a result of our current study of the Texas Legislature. How can we combine all these for the optimal impact upon the Legislature and upon the community in order to reach our legislative goals?

Many of you are new local League presidents or vice presidents and are just now becoming familiar with the details of local League organization. Please give careful consideration in these initial months to the question of local League organization for legislative action. Does your League have a legislative chairman? a legislative committee? established channels for planning and coordinating legislative action? Does your League meet frequently or regularly with Legislators from your community? Do you regard legislation as a year-round activity requiring an established place on on the organizational chart? If the answer is "no" to these questions, now is the time for a reappraisal of legislative organization by your local League.

HCR 34 Cory - re: ... 1/2 (... ...
14 1/2 (Barnes - ... 4, 6, ...

Council Workbook, Part II, 1967

LEGISLATIVE ROUND-UP
(March 22, 1967)

Texas Constitutional Revision

Constitutional Commission - Constitutional Convention — SUPPORT
HB 371 by Pendleton et al.
SB 160 by Hightower

This bill contains the Governor's recommendations for Texas constitutional revision. It is the only bill introduced to date that provides for a constitutional convention. A copy of the bill was sent to each local League.

Briefly, the bill would establish a 25-member Constitutional Revision Commission with power to undertake research and to act as staff at the Convention. At the November 1967 general election, the voters would approve or reject the call for a constitutional convention and vote on delegates to it, the total number of which would be 450, equivalent to three for each Representative. Voting would be by districts and by the place system, if existing. Assembling in June 1968, the Convention would have to complete its labors by December 1969. A new consitution or other proposals would have to be submitted to the voters for approval or rejection at a general November election.

Constitutional Revision Commission — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
SB 173 by Schwartz

This bill would authorize the creation of a 45-member Constitutional Revision Commision whose duties would consist of reviewing the TCR report made in 1961 and submitting a report of its own to the 61st Legislature.

Amendment Process — FOR YOUR INFOMATION
HJR 7 by Peeler

This resolution would remove any doubt about the constitutionality of submitting an entirely new constitution or substantial revision or elimination of "deadwood" in one amendment to be submitted to the people. A hearing was held on this resolution before the House Constitutional Amendments Committee, and it is now in subcommittee.

Legislature as Convention — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HJR 29 by Pickens

This resolution would authorize the 61st Legislature to sit as a constitutional convention in 1970, provided the voters approved. The Legislature could appoint a Constitutional Commission to assist it. The revised constitution would be submitted to the voters at the November 1970 election.

Texas Legislative Council - Revision — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HB 55 by Hale

This bill would hand to the Texas Legislative Council the responsibility for recommending revisions in the Texas Constitution, one article at a time. A 15-member advisory committee would assist.

HCR 34 Cory ... SJR 14 (Barnes - ...

LEGISLATIVE ROUND-UP
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Constitutional Amendments Commission — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HJR 163 by Jamison

This bill would authorize the creation of a Constitutional Amendments Study Commission composed of 13 members, including the Attorney General, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the chairmen of the House and Senate Constitutional Amendments Committees. The Commission would study the Constitution and amendments on a continuous basis and assist the Legislature in revising the Constitution by the amendment process.

Constitutional Commission — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HB 297 by Parker

This is the bill sponsored by the League last session. It would authorize the creation of a 12-member Consitutional Revision Commission with power to hire or contract for professional help in studying the Constitution and making reports in 1969 and 1971.

Commission on the Organization of the Executive Branch — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HB 206 by Cory
HB 814 by Cory (same as HB 206 except omission of appropriations)
SB 146 by Patman (companion of HB 206)

Frequently called "Little Hoover Commission" bills, these bills would authorize the creation of a four-year study commission to inquire into the operation of state departments and agencies. HB 814 passed the House(3/21), but the outlook is dim in the Senate. Senator Patman has given up hope of passage of the bill, but he succeeded in winning passage of SR 279 (3/20), which authorizes a five-member Committee on Economy in State Government to determine means of eliminating unessential expenditures in state government.

The League has supported "Little Hoover Commission" bills in the past on the basis of the general TCR positions but will not this session. This session we have the opportunity for the first time to support the convention method of revising the Constitution together with research by a Constitutional Revision Commission. Both will involve study of the executive branch within the context of constitutional revision.

Judicial Qualifications Commission — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HB 378 by Armstrong
SB 205 by Herring

These companion bills would implement the Amendment on Judicial Retirement and Removal supported by the League in the November 1965 election. League support is doubtful because the implementing provisions go beyond the broad principles that justified League support of the Amendment. SB 205 has received a favorable report from the Jurisprudence Committee and is on the Senate Calendar.

State-Local Relations

County Optional Plans — SUPPORT
HJR 32 by Wright and Shannon
SJR 17 by Kennard

This is the first of six proposals of the Texas Research League (TRL) based on its recent study of the state's metropolitan areas. The other five follow. Each local League received a copy of a summary of the six proposals in their original form contained in the "Tentative Recommendations for Legislative Action of the Texas Research League". The March 1967 issue of The Metropolitan Study Newsletter contains an up-to-date summary of all six proposals. This particular proposal would authorize the Legislature to prepare optional plans for county government based on guidelines in the Amendment.

Urban Counties — SUPPORT
HJR 33 by Wright and Shannon
SJR 18 by Kennard

This TRL proposal defines urban counties and would authorize them to undertake one or more of eight urban functions spelled out in the proposed Amendment. Especially interesting is the lifting of the constitutional restriction on the county ad valorem tax (18¢ per $100) provided the county performs the urban functions enumarated throughout the entire county. Among other provisions are those permitting the merit system and establishing a county administrator.

County Land Use Protection Act — SUPPORT
HB 460 by Wright and Shannon
SB 229 by Kennard

This TRL proposal would authorize counties to pass subdivision regulations with enforcement powers. Building permits are included. When the county acts within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a city, it must permit review by the city before acting.

Incentives for Interlocal Cooperation — SUPPORT
HB 461 by Wright and Shannon
SB 230 by Kennard

This TRL proposal would permit and encourage interlocal governmental agreements and contracts. State grants would be available for feasibility studies and implementation.

Local Government Assistance Agency — SUPPORT IN PART
HB 462 by Wright and Shannon
SB 228 by Kennard

This TRL proposal would create the Local Government Assistance Agency in the Executive Department. A Director would head the agency. The LGAA would have power to assist local governments and also to require financial reports (including reports from special districts). This same bill would create a Municipal Incorporation Review Board, a state agency, with power to approve or reject incorporation of new municipalities.

The League can take action on only certain portions of this bill, including accountability of special districts, assistance for regional planning and coordination of

state services to local governments.

Metropolitan Planning and Cooperation Act — SUPPORT
HB 463 by Wright and Shannon
SB 227 by Kennard

The sixth and final TRL proposal, this bill authorizes the formation of councils of governments (COG's) in metropolitan areas and urban regions of Texas. It sets forth various minimum requirements, including the provision that elective officials must comprise 51% of the total voting representatives. It authorizes COG's to engage in areawide planning and to promote intergovernmental cooperation throughout the areas covered. State financial assistance to COG's is also authorized.

State Planning — SUPPORT
HB 276 by Cory
SB 179 by Strong

Prepared in the Governor's Office, this bill would designate the Governor as chief planning officer, establish a Division of Planning Coordination in the Governor's Office and authorize the appointment of interagency planning councils within the executive department. The bill has passed the House (2/27) and the Senate version has received a favorable committee report. Inasmuch as there are 22 Senate co-sponsors of the bill, there is optimism about the bill's passage. League support is not regarded as necessary to passage at this stage.

Voter Registration and Election Laws

Annual Registration — OPPOSE
HB 89 by Fondren and Cole
SB 12 by Creighton

This is the Annual Voter Registration bill based on the recommendations of the Interim Election Law Study Committee of which Senator Tom Creighton of Mineral Wells was chairman and Representative Gene Fondren of Taylor vice-chairman. The League opposes this bill primarily because it is opposed to the Annual system. The League was heard in opposition to the bill at the March 13 hearing before the House Committee on Privileges, Suffrage and Elections and at the March 14 hearing before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. The statement made at the latter hearing was sent to all local Leagues. The companion bills are in their respective subcommittees.

The League supports a few of the provisions of the bill. The League favors personal registration, the signature method of voter identification, and renewal of registration by mail (the latter as a step toward a Permanent system).

Biennial Registration — SUPPORT
HB 671 by Peeler, Stroud, Vale et al.
SB 436 by Mauzy

This is the Permanent Voter Registration bill substantially like the one supported by the League last session and at the called session in February 1966. The League will continue its support.

Biennial Registration - continued

Briefly the bill would provide for a regular two-year registration period with automatic renewal of registration for the ensuing two-year period for the voter if he has voted at least once at a general or a primary election during the past two years. If a person fails to vote, he is dropped from the registration list unless he responds to a renewal notice sent by mail and has not become disqualified for other reasons. Monthly purges of registration lists to remove felons and the insane, voter identification by personal signature, and personal registration are other provisions.

Omnibus Election Bill — SUPPORT IN PART
HB 179 by Fondren et al.
SB 58 by Creighton

This omnibus bill, supposedly containing only non-controversial recommendations of the Interim Election Law Study Committee, was opposed by numerous witnesses before the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee. The League testified in favor of three provisions in the lengthy bill before both the House Privileges, Suffrage and Elections Committee (2/20) and the Senate Committee (2/14). We favored: (1) the provisions implementing Amendment #8, approved last November, pertaining to liberalizing residence requirements; (2) the provisions leading to uniformity of election law administration, such as giving to the Secretary of State as Chief Election Officer new functions; and (3) provisions permitting political parties to hold primaries within 100 yards of one another and within the same building. The companion bills are in their respective subcommittees.

Absentee Voting — OPPOSE IN PART
HB 180 by Fondren et al.
SB 60 by Creighton

This bill contains the recommendations of the Interim Election Law Study Committee on absentee voting provisions. The League opposes one section that would reduce the time for absentee voting from 20 to 15 days prior to the election. (This would leave only 11 days for voting inasmuch as absentee voting ceases four days before the election). Election officials recommended this change on the grounds that few voters vote during the first five days.

Hearings were held on the bill before both the House PSE and the Senate PE Committees. The bill was assigned to a subcommittee by each committee.

Positive Marking of Paper Ballots — SUPPORT
HB 181 by Fondren et al.
SB 59 by Creighton

This bill contains the Interim Election Law Study Committee's recommendations on paper ballots, including the provision for marking ballots by an "X" or check in a box before the name of the candidate or the proposition. The LWV testified in favor of the positive method of marking the ballot before both the House PSE Committee (2/6) and The Senate PE Committee (2/14). A Time for Action was sent to each local League. Both Committees assigned the bill to a subcommittee.

National Program: Water and DHR

Texas Water Quality Act of 1967 — PERMISSION REQUESTED FOR SUPPORT
HB 448 by Mutscher and Neugent
SB 204 by Herring and Cole

Based on the water studies of the Texas Research League, the bill would reorganize and rename the Texas Water Pollution Control Board. The Senate bill has been reported out favorably by the the Senate Water and Conservation Committee and is on the Senate Calendar. There has been no action on the companion bill in the House. We have requested permission from the LWV of the U.S. to support this bill.

Civil Rights — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HB 13 by Floyd of Harris et al.
SB 185 by Kennard et al.

This is one of several bills designed to protect civil rights. It provides for equity relief from discriminatory actions by state or local governmental officers on the grounds of race, color, religion or national origin. The Senate bill passed the Senate (2/20) and was given a hearing along with the House bill before the House State Affairs Committee. Both are in subcommittee.

Women's Rights Amendment — FOR YOUR INFORMATION
HJR 5 by Floyd of Harris et al.
SJR 5 by Moore and Patman

This is the perennial Equal Legal Rights Amendment. The Senate passed it (3/20) with an amendment so that the key provision now reads: "Equality under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, race, color, creed or national origin". A hearing on the House resolution has been held but no other action has been taken.

It is of interest that a bill pertaining to married women's rights and prepared by a State Bar Committee has also passed the Senate (3/21). It is SB 33 by Word and Hardeman. The House companion bill (HB 8 by Cory) has received a favorable committee report.

* * * * * * * * *

STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS
(See Workbook I, pp. 15-16)

As of January 1, 1967 twelve councils of governments and/or regional planning commissions have been organized in Texas (representing fifteen SMSAs - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas). Five other regional organizations are in the process of formation. There is no known active move to organize a COG/RPC in the Tyler area, which represents the remaining of the twenty-two SMSAs in Texas.

		LWV city in area	(LWV city nearby)
* 1.	Amarillo Council of Governments	Amarillo	
* 2.	Lubbock Metropolitan COGs	Lubbock	
* 3.	Midland-Odessa COGs	Midland, Odessa	
4.	El Paso COGs	El Paso	
5.	West Central Texas COGs	Abilene	
6.	North Texas Regional Planning Commission	Wichita Falls	
7.	North Central Texas COGs	Dallas, Denton, Fort Worth, Irving, Richardson	(Corsicana)
8.	Ark-Tex COGs (Texarkana, Texas and Arkansas)	-----	
9.	Greater Waco RPC	Waco	
10.	Austin-Travis County Organization for Regional Planning	Austin	(San Marcos)
11.	San Antonio-Bexar County Organization for Regional Planning	San Antonio	
12.	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Bay Area, Baytown, Dickinson, Freeport, Galveston, Houston, Lake Jackson, La Marque, Pasadena, Texas City	
*13.	Sabine-Neches COGs	Beaumont, So. Jefferson Co.	
14.	Coastal Bend COGs	Corpus Christi	(Victoria)
15.	South Texas COGs, Laredo	-----	
16.	Lower Rio Grande Valley COGs	Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen	
*17.	San Angelo COGs	San Angelo	
			(Longview)
			(Tyler)

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* Forming - name unofficial

This will indicate how close local Leagues are already to this new development in government, and how in five metropolitan areas, and especially in the Houston and Dallas areas, that inter-League action must be considered in looking at regional problems.

The legislation we are supporting in S-LR is reviewed, in general, in Workbook I and, in specifics, in the Legislative Roundup of Workbook II.

Delegates to Presidents' Council are requested again to give some thought and direction for State-Local Relations in the League. How should our state item proceed so as to coordinate and aid local Leagues in metropolitan areas in regional planning and providing flexible structure and adequate powers for local governments.....consistent with state responsibility for effective government?

STATE PROGRAM - CURRENT AGENDA ITEM IV
Voter Registration and Election Laws

PROPOSED PERMANENT REGISTRATION SYSTEM	PROPOSED ANNUAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM
Effective Oct. 1, 1967 for voting period beginning March 1, 1968	Effective Aug. 1, 1967 for voting period beginning Mar. 1, 1968
Registrar is county tax assessor-collector	Does not specify who registrar is
Expenses borne by county	State reimburses county 25¢ per registered voter
# Register biennially (March 1 even years begins 2-yr period)	- Register annually
Regular registration Oct. 1 - Jan. 31 preceeding 2-yr. period	First year registration Aug. 1 - Jan. 31
# May register at all other times except last 30 days of 2-yr. period (year-round registration)	- subsequent years Oct. 1 - Jan. 31
# No agents indicated, therefore is personal registration	# Personal registration required
# Eligible to vote 30 days after registration	
During regular registration period registrar shall station deputies at convenient locations in the county, for such periods of time as necessary....registrar shall designate the location of each station which must be a fixed location in a place customarily open to the public	-*Same, except specifies that deputies must be salaried employees of registrar
Specifies minimum requirement, for first year, for number of deputies and hours open, based on number of voters in last general election	Same requirements for initial year; specifies less for subsequent years
Registration form: loose-leaf style in duplicate (county record and a precinct record, but kept at all times in registrar's office); contain space for change of residence, etc. and to record elections in which one votes; place for signature for applicant to sign an affidavit before registrar	# Must sign original application before registrar. Voter certificate in quadruplicate...original given to applicant (who must sign in presence of registrar) or mailed to applicant (who must sign upon receipt)
# Voter identification card will be issued, signed by applicant in presence of registrar	
Duplicate may be issued upon application, in person or by mail, with the registrar comparing signature with original registration	Same, except signature compared with original application instead of original registration.

(continued)

Proposed Permanent Registration System (Continued)

Shut-ins and persons absent from county may register by mail, with an affidavit signed by authorized officer

Armed Forces outside the state and U.S. Civilian employees outside U.S., and their spouses with them, may apply for ballots by sending a Federal Post Card Application without prior registration

Monthly purging of deaths, mentally incompetent, and felons

Renewal of registration by voting in a primary or general election in a biennium
- # If failed to vote in biennium registrar sends notice before Oct. 1 of odd year. One may re-register by mail before following Jan. 31 and be registered for ensuing biennium
- # Registrar sends notice to voter (prior to Feb. 1 of even numbered years) that his registration will be renewed for ensuing biennium, unless he is no longer a qualified voter, and requesting him to bring registration data up to date, if there have been any changes.

Signature comparison is required at the polls....voter signs signature roster which is compared to that on the identification card

Proposed Annual Registration System (Continued)

Same

- Must be registered as any other absentee voter

- No purging required

#** Renewal of Registration by Mail. Between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15 registrar sends out to each registered voter notice for renewal of registration. When notice is signed and returned to registrar by Jan. 31, and signature compared to original application, voter is registered for ensuing year. Registrar sends new certificate to applicant, upon receipt of which he shall sign immediately.

Same, except compared to signature on annual registration certificate, which voter signs when received by mail

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LWV supports
- LWV opposes

* LWV might oppose and request use of properly trained volunteers.
** In an annual system, this is a big step in the right direction. Possible that this could evolve into a Permanent-type system.

AREAS FOR POSSIBLE FURTHER INFORMATION AND/OR STUDY AND CONSENSUS IN ELECTION LAWS (Do you have others to suggest?)

1. Who is a qualified voter in bond elections?
2. Several counties are installing electronic voting systems. Do you want information on this? Is this a study item?
3. Should our system of parties and primaries be studied in certain areas? Who should pay for the primaries? Is May the best time for primaries? Can precinct conventions be improved through legislation?

LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS
1967 - 1968

LEAGUE	NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP
ABILENE	Mrs. Robert N. Lee	662 Crestwood	79603
AMARILLO	Mrs. M. G. Elkins	3915 Lynette	79109
AUSTIN	Mrs. Calvin McMillan	418 Ridgewood Road	78746
BAY AREA	Mrs. K. A. Jones	3802 Dolphin, La Porte	77571
BAYTOWN	Mrs. Mervin Rosenbaum	423 Willow Lane	77520
BRAZOS COUNTY	Mrs. Tom W. Stallworth	800 Woodland Parkway, West College Station	77840
BEAUMONT	Mrs. Harold Denton	6365 Calder Road	77706
BROWNSVILLE	Mrs. Robert H. Chase, Jr.	Route 2, Box 225	78520
CORPUS CHRISTI	Mrs. Eugene Coffey	742 Monette	78412
CORSICANA	Mrs. John Remonte	P. O. Box 837	75110
DALLAS	Mrs. Laurence Perrine	7616 Royal Place	75230
DENTON	Mrs. Robert Aden	2509 Glenwood	76201
DICKINSON	Mrs. Paul E. Chapman	5110 Winding Way	77539
EDINBURG	Mrs. Lea Boothe	101 West Martha Louise	78539
EL PASO	Mrs. Irwin Brand	801 La Cruz	79902
FORT WORTH	Mrs. Parks Campbell (nominated)	3741 Hamilton	76107
FREEPORT	Mrs. A. W. Henson	Route 3, Box 18	77541
GALVESTON	Mrs. R. E. Conner	5719 Frazier	77550
HARLINGEN	Mrs. Rhea Williams	1631 Throckmorton	77550
HOUSTON	Mrs. Donald Berthelsen	5138 Cheena	77035
IRVING	Mrs. J. T. Vaughan, Jr.	1008 Hadrian	75060
LAKE JACKSON	Mrs. G. R. Tyler	527 Magnolia	77566
LA MARQUE	Mrs. L. B. Dampman	1305 Bonham	77568
LONGVIEW	Mrs. Jack N. Price	16 Pegues Place	75602
LUBBOCK	Mrs. John A. Anderson	5017 15th	79416
MIDLAND	Mrs. J. E. R. Sheeler	501 Scarbrough Drive	79701
ODESSA	Mrs. Weldon Schooler	Route 1, Box ~~984-G~~ 635	79760
PASADENA	Mrs. Frank Jobes	212 South Center	77502
RICHARDSON	Mrs. Charles Anderson	914 Lakeview Drive	75080
SAN ANGELO			
SAN ANTONIO	Mrs. Irwin Sexton	442 Maplewood	78216
SAN MARCOS	Mrs. Rudolf Kirk	C/O English Dept., SWTSC	78666
SO. JEFFERSON CO.	Mrs. Glenn C. McCombs	3141 Eugenia Drive, Groves	77619
TEXAS CITY	Mrs. Harry S. Leach	127 22nd Avenue North	77590
TYLER	Mrs. Norman Scurlock	1218 South Azalea	75701
VICTORIA	Mrs. Ray Duke	2401 Bon Aire	77902
WACO	Mrs. Joe Caperton	3021 Lyle	76708
WICHITA FALLS	Mrs. G. D. Larson	4706 Lake Park Drive	76302

Council Workbook, Part II, 1967

COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

Will you please help us evaluate the 1967 Presidents' Council? Please fill out the questionnaire below and mail to the State Office, 1841 Bingle Road, Houston, Texas 77055 as soon as possible, or hand in as you leave Final Session of Council.

League of Women Voters of _____

Did your League send more or fewer observers than in past years?

How large was your delegation?

If some parts of Council had to be deleted, which of the following items should they be? (Please mark keep or delete after each.)

Legislative Breakfast

Presidents' Workshop

Swapshops

Little Meetings

Visit to the Legislature in Session

Dinner Meeting

Did your League pay all, some, none (please underline one) of your expenses?

Do you feel sufficient time was scheduled for the Council Agenda this year?

If more time is needed, would you prefer starting earlier the first day?

Comments: