

THE LEAGUE IN THE 1960s

The restriction of individual liberties and fear of reprisals of the 1950s was followed in the 1960s by movements for free speech and freedom of expression. These were years with student demonstrations against war and government interference, civil rights rallies, increasing use of drugs, and greater awareness of individual freedoms. Protests and demonstrations were staged to force change. Many people opposed the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War. Young men burned their draft cards, sought student deferments, fled to other countries, or found alternatives to military service.

Civil rights unrest and a little-known inclusion of women as a "minority" in Title Seven of the Civil Rights Act changed things. A "frivolous" amendment that outlawed discrimination on the basis of "race, color, religion, national origin, or sex" was introduced as a joke intended to defeat the entire Act, but it was passed by Congress, and the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission was created to handle complaints.²⁵

The League's program priorities changed drastically when it evaluated policies and programs in the United States that would provide all people equal access to education and employment. The League became a strong advocate of programs that combat poverty and discrimination. From that time, the League has supported the Civil Rights Act, as passed by Congress and as it has been reenacted in subsequent sessions since 1964. League topics included many facets of a human resources agenda – housing, employment, education, and welfare reform.²⁶ And, of course, the League's interest in water resources and other environmental concerns continued.

In 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act to secure opportunities for voting to all citizens. When Leagues adopted election laws programs, members found that removing obstacles to registration and voting was a challenge to this organization that had a long history of protecting voting rights. Convention delegates declared that the right to vote is a part of the "Principles" that serve as authorization for adoption of League program and as a basis for League action. Each time the Voting Rights Act has come before Congress for extension, the League has been in the lobbying forefront.

Along with the rights of minorities, women were becoming increasingly aware of their own needs. There had been little notice of a quiescent Feminist Movement, but it was ready for a resurgence by the end of the decade. When Betty Friedan's book, **The Feminine Mystique**, was published in 1963, it stirred women to action. The National Organization for Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Equity Action League, and others with a feminist agenda were formed near the end of the 1960s.²⁷ More of the women were using their own given names when they registered for League meetings, but the Minutes still did not follow this rule consistently.

Political leaders of both parties advocated growth throughout the state, but the Colorado League intensified its program on statewide issues such as the conservation and use of water resources and the processes of state government. Apportionment was an issue that had been on the agenda of the League in Colorado since the early 1950s, and it became a national issue in the 1960s when the Supreme Court approved the doctrine of "One-person-one-vote" as a basis for determining representation in Congress. The topic remained on the national League agenda for many years to enable Leagues in all states to take action in their own state governments.

²⁵ Carol Hymowitz and Michael Weissman, **A History of Women in America**, pp. 343–344. [Notes 25–27 are numbered 26–28 in print ed.]

²⁶ League of Women Voters of the United States, **Impact on Issues**, 1990–1992.

²⁷ Hymowitz and Weissman, **Op. cit.**, pp. 344–349.

Suburban development and annexation characterized political action in the Denver metropolitan area. Hostility was aroused by demands for increased supplies of water for growing communities, school desegregation mandated by the Civil Rights Act, the lack of adequate mass transit, rejection of plans for cooperation among metropolitan governments, and opposition to annexation by the City of Denver.

Council 1960.

Water, state fiscal policy, government reorganization, and the court system were some of the issues that brought League members to the state Council when they met in Westminster on April 4, 1960. Sally Thorniley was president.

State Board: Mmes. Paul Thorniley, Lester Garner, William B. Miller, A.R. Patton, Joe Lort, Jr., S.V. Alford, E.G. Fisher, Nora Furniss, Joseph Holmes, Robert Krouse, Walter Lowrey, D'Arcy McNickle, W.O. Fox, Robert Perry, H.T. Snelling. **Coordinators:** Janet Roberts, May Clark, Dorothy Udall. **Convention Committee:** Jean Bain, Judy Dixon, Jean Nayon, Gwen Fife, and Mrs. Robert Low.

Delegates & Observers: AURORA – Marjorie B. Proctor, Shirley Jorgensen, Audrey Cotherman. BOULDER – Melissa deKieffer (president), Gwen Ball, Sybil Downing, Kay Dugan, Dorothy Thompson. CHERRY HILLS – Nancy Modesitt (president), Dorothy Blom, Ann Meyer, Stasia Davidson. COLORADO SPRINGS – Mmes. Charley Adams, Neale Rinitz, John McConnell, Milton Johnson. DENVER – Mmes. Lloyd Joshel (president), Jack Lowrey, Kenneth James, T.F. Seward. DURANGO – Mary Ruth Bowman (president). ENGLEWOOD – Mmes. Harold Nitzberg, Stephen Ensner, Lewis Kern; Rubie Urmy and Lillian Woods. FORT COLLINS – Mmes. Robert C. Hacker (president), F.G. Martinez, A.C. Reotem; and Laura Makepeace. GRAND JUNCTION – Mmes. Ralph Toerper, T.S. Ary, Clarence Warnock, Marvin Ween. GREELEY – Mmes. Arthur Stanley (president), Norman Lyster; Eula Smith and Hazel Alrich. JEFFERSON COUNTY – Barbara Courtney (president), Sally Moench, Fern Barb, Fan Matthews. LITTLETON – Mary Hubbs, Fanny Pilz, Sally Bessetts, Marilyn Schlage. PUEBLO – Mmes. T.R. Edwards, Jr. (president), Ralph Forgotstein, A.L. Raich; Louise Dustrude. STERLING – Margaret Garner, Luella Sonnenbert, Mildred Barkley, Nell Krueger.

Observers & Visitors: Mmes. D.E. Thompson, D.P. Valderale; Hazel Ferris, Trudy Wilson, Ann Gentry (Meeker President).

Local League Presidents not delegates: Mrs. Charles Canatsey, DURANGO; Mrs. T.M. Phetteplace, GRAND JUNCTION; Mrs. R. Dana Russell, LITTLETON; Mrs. Homer Schlatter, STERLING; and Mrs. Edward E. Wooddell, WESTMINSTER.

Interests and attitudes of League members were changing with the times. More attention was given to providing more money for service to local Leagues and to making it possible for more members to be closely involved with the administration and direction of the state organization. Improved program was promoted by allocating more money for such expenses as postage, publications, and delegates to national convention and council. Budget Chair Jean Bain presented proposals for a budget of \$6,725, funded by pledges from local Leagues and \$900 in orders for the ballot issues pamphlet to be published before the November election.

Position statements in the field of state fiscal policy were adopted. A workshop on Water was planned by the resource committee. A publication titled "Relationship of Governmental Units" was at the printers. Another publication on Court reorganization was expected to be ready for fall units.

Access to radio broadcast of voters service tapes had come from KLZ in Denver, and the tapes were available to local Leagues for use by stations in their communities. Discussion of the ballot issues pamphlet included a vote to not include information on candidates, but to continue with the "usual format" for this popular publication. Initiatives expected to be on the ballot included establishment of a Governor's Cabinet, creation of the Game and Fish Commission, and writing the Civil Service Commission into the constitution,

with vacancies to be filled by the governor. Since the Civil Service Commission plan did not provide for a well-qualified director, the matter was returned to local Leagues for further study to determine a position.

Mrs. Joe Lort, Jr. moderated a panel on "Inter-League Cooperation," with Mmes. Nitzberg, Courtney, and Joshel. Issues of concern to local Leagues included the junior college election in Arapahoe County and enabling legislation for a metropolitan sewer district that had prompted public meetings in Denver, Westminster, and Jefferson County. Support was given to a state income tax proposal after the Denver League distributed copies of the report on their fiscal study.

Eighth Biennial Convention in 1961.

Ninety-six delegates (representing 15 local Leagues) met in Boulder on April 5-6, 1961, and paid a registration fee of \$3.00, with an additional charge of \$2.00 for lunch at the University Memorial Center. President Mrs. D'Arcy McNickle introduced special guests: Mrs. Maxine Hitchcock of the LWVUS staff; former state presidents Elizabeth Blanc, Elizabeth Hylbom, Shirley Swerdfeger, and Sally Thorniley; Republican Committeewoman Fletcher Swan, Democratic Committeewoman Jean Graham, and University of Colorado President Quigg Newton.

The financial statements of the League reflected the changes in the times, with a report by the Treasurer of \$2,131.43 cash on hand. Finance Chair Mrs. Krouse explained the proposed budget thus: "Following the practice of some state Leagues, two budgets are offered. The 'minimum' is based on the money which is in sight from pledges and net profits on publications . . . larger outlays in certain areas . . . unanimously urged by members attending Budget Building Day . . . Thus the 'optimum budget' which is \$652 more than money now in sight." These increased items included \$5 a month to pay for a room to house office machines and supplies instead of keeping them in the board room, expense of metropolitan area members, a second delegate to National Council, and more money for resource committees. The minimum budget was for \$6,645. The optimum budget of \$7,297 was adopted.

Delegates adopted a bylaws revision that scheduled unit review and program suggestions in January instead of during the "Christmas rush" was adopted. League Program was divided between the *Current Agenda*, issues to be studied during the biennium, and the *Continuing Responsibilities*, issues previously studied on which action was still being taken. After thorough discussion and debate, in the way of the League, two Current Agenda items were adopted:

- I. Measures to improve the coordination, effectiveness, efficiency, and economical operation of local government in Colorado, with particular emphasis on the role of the state in the solution of local problems.
- II. Reapportionment of the Colorado General Assembly.

Continuing Responsibilities discussed, revised, and adopted included the issues of Water Resources, Court Administration, and Children's Laws.

President Roma McNickle reported on the progress of the League in Colorado during her term as president. By 1961, the total membership had reached 1,815—a 13% gain since 1959. There were sixteen local Leagues, including the Rio Blanco County Provisional. State Board members had testified before a U.S. Senate Committee regarding water resources in Colorado. Petitions for state constitutional amendments on creation of a Game and Fish Commission and a Governor's Cabinet were circulated by local Leagues. They had worked with the Cattlemen's Association and other groups which had previously "not been willing to cooperate with us." The question was asked: "Will they be with the League on Reapportionment?" In the 1960 election, all initiatives were defeated.

Legislative action by the League included lobbying for an amendment that would give a vote to citizens of the District of Columbia. The League helped defeat the amendments to repeal the income tax, prohibit

foreign aid, and to get government out of anything not specified in the constitution and "generally bring back the Golden Age of the nineteenth century."

An Inter-League Committee was formed so that Leagues in the Denver area could work together on mutual problems. In 1966, it was restructured as an Inter-League Organization (ILO) called LWV/Metro Denver. The League had been instrumental in organizing local chapters of the American Association for the United Nations, Jeffco had researched tax exemptions on property, Colorado Springs had studied their city charter, and voters service projects continued in all communities. Leagues identified problems in retaining members and keeping members informed. The enthusiasm of members was shown by the large number of members who attended convention and participated in League activities.

<p>Parliamentarian: Mrs. J.T. Strate. Executive Secretary: Judy Dixon. Convention Secretaries: Mrs. Robert Haberstroh and Mrs. Lynn Wolfe. Reading Committee: Mmes. Wooddell (Westminster), Moench (Jeffco), and Vlasman (Durango). Credentials Committee: Mrs. Gill (Boulder). Election Committee: Mmes. Ball (Boulder), Stanley (Greeley), Adams, (Colorado Springs), and Booth (Denver). Nominating Committee: Mmes. Oliver Stongington (Denver), Charles Adams (Colorado Springs), Wayne O. Fox, Stephen Keller, Robert Perry.</p> <p>State Board: Mmes. D'Arcy McNickle (president), Margaret Fisher, Wayne O. Fox, Norman Furniss, Mary Holmes, Betty Krouse, Norma Lort, Walter Lowrie, W.B. Miller, Robert Perry, S.V. Alford, Lewis Giesecke, T.M. Phetteplace, Barbara Courtney, R.R. Edwards, Jr., Marshall Howe, and Helen Richardson.</p> <p>Delegates & Observers: AURORA – Mrs. Vergil T. Gerhardt (president), Leveda Dill, Mrs. Howard Aldrich, Bernie Crouse, Marjorie Hunt, Iola Light, Nadine Scott, Ruth M. Weber, Mary Brown. BOULDER — Virginia Braddock, Sybil Downing, Myriam Friggens, Sue Hough, Evelyn Lance, Jean McDowell, Thea Phinney, Margaret Tappan, Dorothy Thompson, Barbara Walker, Melissa deKieffer (president), Robin Bowler, Jeanne Jickling, Doris Coe, Lillia Henning, Mildred Pearce, and Palmer. CHERRY HILLS – Mmes. G.E. Blom (president), Gilman Hill, Robert Shreve, Edward Wasson, G.W. Anderson, J. Fagg Foster, T.J. Nelson, Donald E. Pick, William Troutman. COLORADO SPRINGS – Mmes. Charles Adams (president), John Bailey, Sam Gadd, Max Huffman, Milton Johnson, C.E. Pennington, Darnell Rucker, Edward Ryan, H.T. Szymanski, Arthur Williams. DENVER – Mmes. Jack Arent, Charles Booth, John Bruce, Paul Clark, Albert Dawkins, Charles Harrison, Ralph W. Goard, Frederick Knipher, Calvin Larson, Lloyd Joshel (president), Robert Markovich, Will Pirkey, Thomas Roche, Bernard Rosenberg, H.A. Rosenfelder, William Segal, E.O. Starbuck, Howard Schuman, David Stephenson, Oliver Stonington, William Woodman, Dick Boyle, Ross Ewing, Revill Fox, Jack Lowrey, Earl Naylor, Phyllis Stare, Robert L. Johnson, Wude, Burton. DURANGO – Mmes. John D. Edwards, Charles D. Rea, Andrew Vlasman, Charles Canatsey (president), Gregory Elias, Darrell Moore. ENGLEWOOD – Mmes. Fred Brown, Lewis Kern, Clarence McCabe, Ben Durland, Stephen Ensner, Fergus Lewis, James Miles, Harold Nitzberg (president), George Otto. FORT COLLINS – Mmes. Winston Ehrmann, Robert Haberstroh, Robert G. Hacker (president), Alton G. Reiten, J. Leo Cefkin, Bruce B. Frye, William Irwin, J.H. Nath, A.R. Patton, Herbert Eiehl, J.T. Strate, Robert Udall, Wilk. GRAND JUNCTION – Martha K. Ary, Eugenie Funton, Mary Mumby, Veva E. Ween. GREELEY – Mmes. Sidney Baldrige, Arthur Stanley (president). JEFFERSON COUNTY - Mmes. John Coffey, Barbara Baldesseri, Madison Grider, Roland W. Hoops, L.C. Matthews, Robert Moench, Robert R. Nicholas, Paul Patram, Hal Shelton, Fern Bard. LITTLETON – Sally Bessette, Christine Brown, Frances Green, Fannie Pilz, Mrs. R. Dana Russell (president), Pepper Burt, Mrs. J.E. Dilatush, Mrs. J. Carney Howell, Mrs. B.J. Perrin. PUEBLO – Mmes. John Dustrude, Ralph Fargotstein, A.L. Raich, Bernard Eisert, T.J. Fogel, Robert Marsh. STERLING – Mmes. Lester Garner (president), J.M. Hurley, _____Swedlund, _____Henry WESTMINSTER – Delores Berry, Belva Wilson, Marcia Woddell (president), Natalie Steinberg, Nona Johnson, Barbara Foster, Sally Johnson, Audrey Cotherman, Kay Velderale, Marion Smith, Nancy Wilson. RIO BLANCO COUNTY (Provisional) – Sarah E. Briggs, Ann Gentry (president).</p>

Political party committeewomen, Jean Graham (Democrat) and Fletcher Swan (Republican) discussed involvement in political parties as a convention panel. The Denver Post summarized their comments by quoting each of the speakers: Graham said, "The most important way of being politically active is to infiltrate the parties." Swan said, "You are the kind of people who should run for offices. You should think

in terms of this as being a good training ground for participation in parties." Both women were League members, and they recommended that the public image of the League be changed with an active member-recruitment program, but warned against creating "an image either too Republican or too Democratic."²⁸ Many women who were active in politics and who have been elected to office were members of the League.

Council in 1962.

The State Council meetings involved fewer members. No election was held and no program (unless there was an emergency item) was chosen. The program included training workshops or issue development. During these years, each local League was assigned a Coordinator who was an experienced leader and could assist in working out problems that the local board might encounter. These leaders worked with the organization chair on the State Board and also participated in every state meeting.

When Council met in Denver on April 9, 1962, President McNickle welcomed 28 local League delegates, 11 state board members, 13 observers, 4 coordinators, the chair of the Inter-League committee, and 2 members-elect to the state board. All local Leagues were represented except for Durango and Rio Blanco County who had notified the president that they were unable to get to Denver because of the "road conditions on the Continental Divide."

Delegates & Observers: AURORA – Vergil Gerhard, Jean Carpenter, Laveda Dill. BOULDER – Sybil Downing, Ruth Correll, Evelyn Lance. CHERRY HILLS – Maxine Marler, Pat Nelson. COLORADO SPRINGS – Eddie Huffman, Beverly Reinitz, Laverne Green. DENVER – Ellie Marovitch, Lucille Miller, Sally Snelling, Phyllis Stare, Carolyn Starbuck. ENGLEWOOD – Doris Busch, Clara Nitzberg, Teedy Kern, Lucie Wilson. FORT COLLINS – Marcile Wood, Ann Haberstroh, Gertrude Martinez. GRAND JUNCTION – Beth Anctil, Martha Ary, Polly Nohe, Helen Reynolds. GREELEY – Uba Stanley, Alice Strong. JEFFERSON COUNTY – Charlotte Hoops, Berta Harrah, Kay Ledyard. LITTLETON – Fanny Pilz, Janet MacKenzie, Mary Swift, Marion Waite. PUEBLO – Peggy Fogel, Dixie Maury. Jo Perkins. STERLING – Mary June Meyers, Edith Evans. WESTMINSTER – Belva Wilson, Jane Clemmons, Doris Howe.

State Board: Roma McNickle (president), Judy Dixon, Marge Bruce, Lois Dilatush, Andrene Wennergren, Ann Miller, Melissa deKieffer, Margaret Fisher, Norma Lort, Sue Joshel, Betty Krouse.

Coordinators: Janet Roberts, May Clark, Elizabeth Hawkins, Kate Stonington.

Inter-League Committee: Cynthia Daniels.

The President reported that membership had increased to 1,746 in fifteen local Leagues and one Provisional League in Rio Blanco County. A provisional League was being organized in Broomfield. Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Lort had resigned from the state board and were replaced by Mrs. John A. Bruce as Treasurer, and Mrs. E.A. Nobel, to chair the committee on National Continuing Responsibilities.

Budget Chair Mrs. Max Huffman, explained that the budget "was made by beginning with the program to be covered and effected, then looking toward receipts to determine that sufficient income would be available to meet expenses." Discussion concerned the need to open an budget item for the Reapportionment Campaign. Other concerns were provision for a salary for the executive director, appropriation for expenses of the third delegate to national convention, and an increase in the national support pledge. A roll call of the local Leagues indicated total pledges of \$6,750. The budget totaled \$7,665, after adjustments had been recommended by the Budget Adjustments Committee, and it was adopted by the delegates.

Announcement was made of a state conference on international trade and the common market to be held on May 24, with Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges as speaker. The Denver League provided 1000 copies of a publicity flyer. A committee made up of Margaret Fisher, Janet Roberts, Sally Snelling, and Mrs. Robert Moench had prepared a publication for fall unit use titled, "The Role of the State in the Solution of

²⁸ **Denver Post**, April 6, 1961, p. 27. [Print ed. n.29.]

Local Problems of Government." Each League was asked to schedule two or three units for thorough discussion and consensus on this issue. The Inter-League Committee had prepared a publication called "Cooperation or Confusion," which expressed the concern for constitutional provisions on local government.

Issues to be voted on at the general election in 1962 included revision of courts, state income tax, civil service, county government officials' duties, state property assessment, extension of the right to vote in presidential elections, so that people who did not meet the state residence requirements could vote for president. This was a matter of changing Colorado law to conform with federal law.

The League had adopted a project to promote voter support for a proposed reapportionment plan that called for 14 senators representing the non-urban areas, mandatory subdistricting in every county, with each legislator to be elected from a single-member district, and reapportionment by the legislature with review by the Supreme Court. Sue Joshel and Lois Dilatush explained the plan, a compromise on which the League was working with other organizations.

1963 Convention focuses on state government.

When the State Convention was convened by Roma McNickle on April 17, 1963, the League had come a long way from the earlier days. Delegates now paid a registration fee of \$7.50, with lunch and dinner included. Seventy-nine delegates from 15 local Leagues attended the two-day meeting at the Albany Hotel in Denver. Pauline Stein presented a budget which had grown to \$8,205, to fund a state program that included several continuing responsibility items.

The Current Agenda adopted at this Convention with an overwhelming vote was: "Re-examination of the State Constitution to determine where change is desirable and feasible." Continuing Responsibilities were concerned with the state's fiscal structure, civil service, children's laws, executive branch, election laws, the court system, water resources management, local government, and the apportionment of the General Assembly.

A new mimeograph machine had recently been purchased for the state office, and it was announced that it would be used for the first time to reproduce the stencils for the Colorado Voter. The use of this form of duplication made it possible to have better contact with members.

<p>Delegates & Observers: (no first names were on the list with Minutes) AURORA – Gerhardt, Walker, Fisk, Campbell, Posell, Whearley, Morris, Scott. BOULDER – Tappan, Correll, Lance, Dugan, Hiza, Keller, Estin, Downing, Hawkins, Jickling, Hoffman, Gill, Sassink, Kitts, Gottlieb. BROOMFIELD – Butterworth, Bell, Long. CHERRY HILLS – Bowes, Pick, Moxcey, Foster, Wasson, Stobbelaar, Marler, Hill, Blom. COLORADO SPRINGS – Reiger, Huffiman, Foster, Green, Conley, Pennington, Henriksen, Reinitz, Scott, Kircher, White, Williams. DENVER – Welch, Title, Starbuck, Williams, Stonington, Stare, Anderson, Becker, Booth, Chapin, Cronenwett, Headstrom, Bain, Locke, B.B. Long, D.D. Long, Marsh, Roche, Stephenson, Thomas, Sigel, Willard, Garnand, Lightburn, Horstman. DURANGO – Elias Vlasman, Canatsey, White, Wassman. ENGLEWOOD – Czarny, Wilson, Kern, Nelson, Blanchard, Sewell, Ostrousky. FORT COLLINS – Nath, Barnhart, Creely, Hacker, Thorpe, Wilk, Gray, Martinez. GRAND JUNCTION – Johnson, Fulton, Reynolds. GREELEY – Stanley Easton, Lyster. JEFFCO – Barb, Brown, Delcour, Harrah, Hoops, Maier, Patram, Waite, Wells, Wilson, Baldessari, Larkin, Frost, Coffey, Ware. LITTLETON – Rock, Ragsdale, Howell, Pilz, Francisco, Ellingboe, Taussig, Fraser, Bortz, Trimble, Garehime. PUEBLO – Heath, Levine, Eisert, Gergens, Jackson, Lybarger, McCalpin, Siegfried. STERLING – Meyers, Garner, Fechter, Berry, Wisdom. WESTMINSTER – Clemmons, Wilson, Barcafer, Thompson, Douglass, Coe, Leinen, Howe.</p> <p>Convention staff: Parliamentarian – Mrs. J.T. Strate. Secretaries – Mmes. Theron Nelson and Robert Shreve. Elections Committee – Mmes. Andrew Vlasman (Durango), W.L. Meyers (Sterling), and William Heath (Pueblo). Reading Committee – Mmes. J. Fagg Foster (Cherry Hills), Rolland Hoops (Jeffco). and Malcolm Correll (Boulder).</p>
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Nominees for the State Board were presented by Mrs. Walter Lowrie, who chaired the Committee of Mmes. Norman Furniss, Oliver Stonington, Robert Perry, and Robert deKieffer: President – Mrs. E.G. Fisher (Jeffco), Ist VP – Mrs. Norman Furniss (Fort Collins), 2nd VP – Mrs. Lloyd Joshel (Denver), Secretary – Mrs. Robert deKieffer (Boulder), Treasurer – Mrs. Amos V. Wilson (Westminster), and Directors – Mmes. Tom Stein (Cherry Hills), Robert Perry (Denver), Mancourt Downing (Boulder), Kenneth Johnson (Grand Junction), Richard Stare (Denver), and Miss Helen Richardson (Boulder). Elected as Nominating Committee Chair was Mrs. Robert Hacker (Fort Collins).

Council of 1964.

President Margaret Fisher convened the Council at the Paradise Valley County Club on April 6, 1964. The 31 delegates from 16 local Leagues heard the Treasurer Mrs. Wilson report a cash balance of \$2,763.29, and adopted an annual budget of \$9,082.50. A portion of the budget was to be used in remodeling the state office.

Melissa deKieffer led a discussion of the Coordinator Program by which 55 visits to local Leagues had been made during the year. Suggestions were made that a Coordinator from Durango be appointed, Coordinators make six or seven visits to a local League each year, that the role of the Coordinator be reviewed, that a State Board Member have a local item portfolio, and that the State Board review the progress of five different local Leagues each month. The local League presidents reported problems in getting and orienting new members.

The position on Reapportionment was expanded to include an evaluation of sub-districting, as proposed by Sue Joshel. Supreme Court action, the role of county commissions, the possibility of a citizen initiative, and anticipated legislation were discussed. Sybil Downing reported successful committee work on reviewing the State Constitution, with attention given to selection or election of Auditor, Regents of the University, and state judges. According to Phyllis Stare, action was continuing with topics on surface and ground water supplies, recodification of children's laws, and state institutions. Mrs. Udall reported on the Governor's Commission of 100, which was reviewing finance, metropolitan affairs, and other state problems. Mrs. Booth reported that the Mayor's Committee on Municipal Finance recommended seeking two constitutional amendments: (1) to eliminate the single school district requirement for Denver, and (2) to broaden and clarify revenue-raising powers of home rule cities. Mrs. Marler gave information on voting records of Members of Congress, explained how the candidate questionnaires were developed, and discussed the new requirements for voting in presidential elections.

Convention 1965.

The Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs was the site of the Tenth Biennial Convention of the League of Women Voters of Colorado on April 19–20, 1965. President Margaret Fisher presided and Mrs. Kircher, president of the Colorado Springs League, welcomed 74 delegates representing thirteen Leagues and ten members of the State Board. Mrs. Fisher introduced past presidents of the Colorado League, state board, members of the provisional League of Longmont, and committee members appointed to conduct the business of the convention. These included a Budget Adjustment Committee of Mmes. Edward Wasson, Andrew Vlasman, Amos Wilson, Walter Wilson, and Thomas Stein. On the Reading Committee were Mmes. Arthur Stanley, Ward Barcafer, and C.H. Reynolds. Mmes. Jack Babb, D.E. Evans, and O.G. Stonington were the Elections Committee.

Treasurer Mrs. Wilson reported a balance on hand of \$4,162.27. Questions arose on the necessity of maintaining such a large balance, suggestions were that it be used to cover expenses for new Leagues, paid office staff, a "Know Colorado" publication, voters service in non-League communities, and improved equipment in the state office. Jane Wasson and Pauline Stein presented a proposed budget of \$9,084.10, which was increased to \$10,979.20, and was adopted with increased funding for more effective State

services in voters service, field service to include regional workshops, organization of new Leagues, program assistance for local Leagues, a Duplicate Presidents Mailing for each state board member, and the purchase of a postage meter. This represented an outlook of optimism and enthusiasm on the part of the Convention delegates. A Current Agenda on "Constitutional and Statutory Provisions for Financing Governmental Services in Colorado" was adopted along with CRs on structure of state government, water, local government, and children's laws.

Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Furniss had represented the Colorado League at the national League Council, where an emergency Current Agenda item had been adopted: "Apportionment of State Legislatures." This included an evaluation of the basis of representation, as determined by federal Constitutional and statutory provisions. Apportionment was a concern for Leagues throughout the country, and Colorado had been one of the states reviewed in the 1964 ruling of the Supreme Court that both houses of state legislatures must have districts as equal in population as practical.²⁹ This decision came to be known as the "one person-one vote" ruling. Reapportionment had been discussed and debated in the General Assembly beginning in the 1950s and continuing into the 1960s. The League in Colorado also had continued its research and study of apportionment all of that time.

Council 1966 meets in Littleton.

The 1966 State Council met at the Littleton Library on April 13, 1966, with President Margaret Fisher in charge. All local Leagues, except Greeley, were represented, including the new provisional in Longmont.

Two changes in the program agenda were made by the delegates. An emergency program item, "Air Pollution in Colorado and its Control," was presented by Kate Stonington (LWV Denver) and approved by the delegates. Sybil Downing proposed a change in the Standard to read: "Selection of Regents of the University of Colorado by Appointment," which also was approved. Delegates also voted League support for a proposed constitutional amendment on Merit Selection of Judges.

The Inter-League Committee of the seven Leagues in the Denver area that had joined together to cooperate on mutual local program issues announced a Convention to be held in May to restructure itself as the League of Women Voters of Metro Denver, an inter-League organization.

Eleventh Biennial Convention in 1967.

On April 18–19, 1967, the Eleventh Biennial Convention was held at the Moore-Dale Lodge near Bailey. President Margaret Fisher and Jefferson County League President Mrs. Cromwell welcomed 13 state board members and 59 delegates representing 10 Leagues. The President reported that membership had increased to 1,746 in fifteen local Leagues and the Provisional League in Rio Blanco County.

A special projects fund of \$656.54 was reported in addition to a balance of \$4,120.29. Mrs. Seifert presented a budget of \$13,520, with pledges totaling \$11,178. Several local Leagues increased their pledges and a budget of \$13,398.30 was approved.

The Program selected by the delegates consisted of two items. Sybil Downing presented the arguments for studying sources of revenue for Colorado government, and Laboyta Garnand gave information on the need for more stringent controls of air pollution:

- I. "Evaluation of available sources of revenue in Colorado with consideration of proportionate financial responsibility of the various levels of government.
Continued support of a tax system which is flexible enough to meet the

²⁹ **Agenda**, p. 1. [Print ed. n.30.]

changing needs of the state, economical and convenient to administer and based on the principle of ability-to-pay; opposition to unnecessary constitutional restrictions on taxation and finance."

- II. "Support for measures to strengthen control of air pollution in Colorado, and for strict enforcement of present state laws together with adequate provision for their implementation."

National board member: Mrs. Thomas Snelham.

Convention Staff: Mrs. R.G. Daniels, parliamentarian; Judy Dixon, Executive Secretary; Pat Perry, office assistant, Fran Seifert, budget chair. **Reading Committee:** Mmes. Foster (Aurora), Hallack (Colorado Springs), White (Durango), Siegfried (Pueblo). **Elections Committee:** Mmes. Fechter (Sterling), Steinmark (Greeley), Thompson (Longmont). **Budget Adjustment:** Mmes. Seifert, Wilson, Vlasman, Stein, Williams, Davies, Uhrlaub. **Nominating Committee:** Fannie Pilz, May Clark, Melissa DeKieffer, Eleanor Heath, Charlotte Hoops.

State Board: Margaret Fisher, Sue Furniss, Susanne Joshel, Eleanor Heath, Relva Wilson, Sybil Downing, Laboyta Garnand, Helen Richardson, Pauline Stein, Jeanette Mackenzie, Marjorie Vlasman, Caryl Miller, Charlotte Hoops, Pat Perry, and Patricia Keller.

Non-board Chairs: Gertrude Martinez, Ruth Stark, Beth Antil, Rosalie Schiff, Jane Wasson, Florence Wilson, Ann Herbert, and Phyllis Stare.

Patricia Keller reported that the League's legislative action had included opposition to the "Children's Code" being passed without the Aid to Dependent Children amendment. An amendment concerning local government had been defeated.

The Nominating Committee's report, presented by Fannie Pilz, included Sue Joshel for president, with board members Mmes. Rolland Hoops, Jack Babb, William Heath, Eugene Pilz, Eugene Evans, Herbert Reynolds, Harvey Lance, Patricia Keller, Robert Dixon, and Miss Helen Richardson.

Council 1968.

President Sue Joshel welcomed 46 delegates and 16 state board members to the State Council met on April 16-17, 1968, at the Ramada Inn in Pueblo. Local League presidents responded to roll call by giving the number of members: Adams 37, Aurora 30, Boulder 282, Cherry Hills 85, Colorado Springs 208, Denver 606, Durango 68, Englewood 41, Fort Collins 95, Grand Junction 7, Greeley 52, Jeffco 238, Littleton 136, Longmont 46, Pueblo 88, Sterling 38, and Loveland provisional 45. Membership had increased to 2,161 members. The state budget was increased to \$15,428.82, with local League support totaling \$12,881.50. Office Manager Pat Perry requested replacement of office equipment that had become obsolete.

Topics discussed in caucus meetings included: state property tax, income tax, school finance, air pollution, ballot issues, solid waste disposal, League lobbying and the LEGISLATIVE LETTER, water, children's laws, and the "Crisis in the Cities." A statement on the crisis in cities was developed and sent to the Governor. A panel on national convention activities was presented by Mmes. Boyle, Siegfried, Cromwell, and Davies to provide advance information for local League delegates at the LWVUS convention.

The national board had announced that a 50th Anniversary Celebration in 1970 would be the focus of a drive to raise \$11,000,000. The logo used for this celebration had been designed by a Colorado League member, Eleanor Welshon of the Jefferson County LWV.

Twelfth Biennial Convention.

On April 16-17, 1969, the Twelfth Biennial Convention was held on the CSU campus in Fort Collins. State President Sue Joshel and Fort Collins President Mrs. Joseph Weitz welcomed 110 voting delegates, including 16 on State Board.

Judy Dixon presented the slate of nominees for State Board: President Mrs. Lloyd Joshel (Denver), Ist VP Mrs. J.W. Bradbury (Colorado Springs), 2nd VP Mrs. John Ragsdale (Littleton), Bernard Stoecker (Longmont). Mmes Rolland Hoops (Jeffco), Carl Levine (Fort Collins), and Edward Estlow (Denver) were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee.

State Board: Sue Joshel (president), Fannie Pilz, Isabel Boyle, Relva Wilson, Charlotte Hoops, Dorothy Lewis, Roberta Bradbury, Evelyn Lance, Laboyta Garnand, Edith Evans, Eleanor Colwell, Patricia Keller, Kate Stonington, Jeanette Mackenzie, Doris Rothenberg, Greta Brown.

Delegates: ADAMS – Virginia Gossert (president), Carolyn Thompson, Clara Thomas. ARAPAHOE – Sally Parsons (president), Nonie Ragsdale, Fay Strauss, Judy Henning, Gretchen Peacock, Rosemary Coleman, Gladys Foster, Rosalie Schiff, Lydia Brown, Kay Dixon, Pauline Stein, Betty Mulvey. AURORA - - Beverly Parker (president), Jeanne Schreiber, Mary O'Dell. BOULDER – Zoe Mankick (president), Mary Derr, Audrey Ralphs, Gay Barnes, Jean Barker, Sarah Jacobson, Jeanne Jickling, Beverly Hiza, Mary McMahan, Maggi Markey, Mary Schler, Barbara Tamplin, Louise Bradley. COLORADO SPRINGS – Mary Kyer (president), Rose Lovell, Sue Rieger, Berta Walsky, Florence Van Skike, Alice Keeffe, Cathleen Barber, Mrs. Tom McLaughlin, Mrs. Jerry A. Donley. DENVER – Katherine Schomp (president), Peggy Albers, Pat Booth, Anna Lee Briggs, Addie Cohen, Vivian Dodds, Janis Falkenberg, Jo Garrett, Charlotte Estlow, Pat Havekost, Judith Pearl, Patricia Jackson, Reeva Kurtzman, Dorothy Leaf, Fran Seifert, Phyllis Stare, Joan Sussman, Betty Richardson, Virginia Stone, Faye Weinberg, Janet Willard, Lorie Young, Lucille Miller, Margaret Roche, Dorothy Sobol, Clare Graham, Mary Ann Alles. FORT COLLINS – Jean Weitz (president), Marilyn Parke, Nan Rubin, Joan Boes, Darlene Hinkle, Jan Reynolds. GRAND JUNCTION – Mary Van Camp (president), Gail Youngquist. GREELEY – Jeanine Dunwell (president), Marion Pearce, Mrs. Paul Murphy, Mrs. Charles Jones, Mrs. John Harrison. JEFFCO – Bobbie Cromwell (president), Barbara Duey, Nan Brehmer, Ann Herbert, Lois Lamberson, Fran Yehle, Flodie Anderson, Ruth Bishop, Peggy Goldberg, Bette Seeland. LONGMONT – Viki Poucher (president), Susan Spurr, Leona Stoecker. LOVELAND – Donna Mooman (president), Janet Armstrong, Nancy Jo Lopp. PUEBLO – Virginia Bradfield (president), Dee Clary, Betty Halbig, Beverly Moore. STERLING – Delores Christner (president), Joanne Jefferies, Karlene Ferguson.

Observers: CRAIG – Helen Loyd, Jeanne Brown.

Visitors: FORT COLLINS – LaVerna Barnhart (Coordinator), Caroline Frye (Convention Co-chair), Ann Haberstroh (Convention Co-chair), Pat Dietemann, Augusta Levine, Georgia Locker, Ruth Noble, Barbara Phillips, Fran Thompson, ARAPAHOE – Judith Hamilton. LONGMONT – Mrs. Roger Charlton. BOULDER – Ruth Correll, Liz Hawkins (Coordinator). DENVER – May Clark (Coordinator), Judy Dixon (Coordinator), Pat Perry (Exec. Secretary), Mrs. Walter Wilson (Coordinator), Dorothy Lowrie. LOVELAND – Mrs. Janes McLucas (Co-Secretary). JEFFCO – Sue Hansford, Mrs. E. Harshman, Florence Wilson. GREELEY – Mrs. Robert Chesmore, Mrs. Charles Jones. COLORADO SPRINGS – Elizabeth Hylbom.

Convention Appointments: Parliamentarian – Marcille Wood (Fort Collins). Reading Committee – Mmes. Paul Murphy (Greeley), Ralph Schomp (Denver), Joseph Weitz (Fort Collins). Credentials – Mmes. Paul Azari, William Graves, and Robert Haberstroh (all Fort Collins). Budget Adjustment – Mmes. Amos Wilson, Eugene Evans, Eugene Pilz, J.W. Bradbury (all State Board); A.J. Bradfield (Pueblo), and George Stewart (Durango). Assistant Secretary – Mrs. James McLucas (Loveland).

This was the first State Convention for the League of Women Voters of Arapahoe County, which had been formed by a merger of the Leagues of Cherry Hills, Englewood, and Littleton on Mary 25, 1969. Nonie Ragsdale was president of the Littleton League with 140 members; Doris Wells, Englewood, 35 members; and Ellen Reesy, Cherry Hills, 86 members. The Westminster League had expanded and changed its name to the League of Women Voters of Adams County in 1961.

Delegates approved a budget of \$17,048.64, and adopted Program items:

- I. Financial responsibility for governmental services, evaluation of the financing of education in Colorado. (Presented by Mrs. Lance)
- II. Interrelationships of functions of government: the role of the state in coordinated approaches to local government problems. (Presented by LaBoyta Garnand)
- III. State Government Executive Branch: Support of measures to reorganize the administrative departments . . . with powers clearly defined and coordinated, under a governor authorized and accountable for their administration, and a non-salaried, part-time Civil Service Commission. Judicial Branch: Support of nonpartisan selection of judges on an appointive-elective basis and support for measures which facilitate efficient administration of justice in the state. (Presented by Patricia Keller)
- IV. Children's Laws – Support of measures to ensure public responsibility for the protection, care and training of dependent, delinquent, and handicapped children.

Water and the environment continued to be important topics. A panel of League members – Mmes. Donald Garrett, Gerald Jeffries, and Bruce Mackenzie – discussed "Western Water – Challenges and Choices." At dinner, Dr. Daniel M. Ogden, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at CSU, spoke on "Opportunities for Action to Improve Our Environment."

The highlight of the second day of the Convention was the "50-Year Speak-out." To celebrate the first fifty years of the League in Colorado, three long-time members addressed the convention on April 17, 1969. Elizabeth Blanc was one of the original members of the Women Citizens League and a former state president. Ruth Herdman participated in the 1945 reorganization of the League in Greeley. Dorothy Hill described her experience as a suffragist. She had been active in the League for many years, including several years in Boulder.



State Voters League Elects

Elected Thursday at the biennial convention of the Colorado state League of Women Voters in Boulder were (front row, left to right) Mrs. Robert Krouse, Colorado Springs, finance director; Mrs. D'Arcy McNickle, Boulder, president; Mrs. Marshall Howe, Westminster, legislature; Mrs. T. R. Edwards Jr., Pueblo, reapportionment study; Mrs. Norman Furniss, Fort Collins, secretary and foreign policy director; Mrs. William A. Courtney, Jefferson Cy.,

co-director for national continuing responsibility; (back row, left to right) Mrs. William B. Miller, Denver, first vice president and state continuing responsibility; Mrs. Robert deKieffer, Boulder, organization director; Mrs. E. J. Fisher, Jefferson Cy., second vice president and international relationships; Mrs. Norma Lort, Cherry Hills Village, treasurer, and Mrs. R. Dana Russell, Littleton, co-director for national continuing responsibility.

4/3/61 Post

Denver Post, April 8, 1961



OPPOSING PARTY LEADERS SHARE PLATFORM

Colorado's national committeewomen, Mrs. Fletcher Swan, Republican (left), and Democrat Mrs. Jean Graham, shared the speaker's platform Wednesday at the 8th biennial state conference of League of Women Voters of Colorado, being held at the University of Colorado through Thursday.



Wanda Babb--Sen. Peter Dominic--Sue Joshel
May 1967