

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

NEWS BULLETIN #8

January, 1957

Virginia Gibson, President

"A Man's life is what his thoughts make it." Marcus Aurelius

Unit
Meetings

Wednesday morning, Jan. 16th 9:30 A.M. Y.M.C.A.

Wednesday Evening, Jan. 16th, 7:30 P.M. at the home of Mrs. C.M. Nicholson, 215 Park Place, Decatur.

Program: Continuing Responsibilities

Discussion Leaders: Marcia McCracken, assisted by Lola Smith,

Melba Griffin, Mary Cresswell, Marian Frederickson, Helen Leigh, Eileen Gebhardt, Elise Hurst, Helen Ruth Schnabel, Florence Cox and Virginia Gibson.

With the opening of the Illinois General Assembly, we plan a very timely review of the League's legislation on Continuing Responsibilities. These Units are a must for every League member: older members need to be refreshed on what we have accomplished and what action may be forthcoming in the next six months; new members need to know in what areas the League has studied and acted.

Following are the subjects to be covered:

Constitutional liberties, FEPC, Protection of minority groups (CR'S 1 & 10) Home Rule (CR 2)

Protective measures for women and children (Cr 3)

Improved election procedures (CR 5)

Improved Personnel administration (CR 6)

Financing of social welfare (CR 7)

Education: Financing & Organization (CR 8)

Reapportionment of legislative districts (CR 9)

Improved public health (CR 11)

Cauline Martin, Unit Chairman

FOCUS ON THE
WORLD CRISIS

Our National Board has requested that we concentrate during the month of January on bringing information to ourselves and the community concerning the basic issues involved in the current three areas of world conflict;

Suez Canal, Israeli-Arab, East European

Your local Board is in the process of setting up a meeting the last of January for which we hope to secure a qualified speaker. You will be telephoned the time and place. We hope that every League member and her husband will attend this meeting and bring friends and neighbors also.

YOU'D LIKE
TO KNOW

That on Dec. 7th Marian Frederickson, Irene Colvis and Melba Griffin attended a state meeting in Chicago on local Current Agenda planning.

Also on Jan. 7, Sylvia Cohn attended a State Budget planning meeting in Chicago.

Jan. 9, The State Water meeting was planned and set up by our Katherine Donovan, State Chairman of National Item 11, and attended also by Mary Cresswell, Marge Unger and Virginia Gibson.

On Jan. 22, there is to be a state meeting on National Item I, the Federal-Loyalty Security study. Lola Smith, local Chairman is planning to attend. If you would like to attend also, please call Lola, 2-1764.

Attendance at State meetings is financed by the League. In many cases the League can send three members since State pays train fare for one and your local League finances the other two. If there is ever any meeting you wish to attend, please call either the local Chairman of the study or the president, Virginia Gibson, 3-4344.

COMMITTEE
MEETINGS

The following organizational committees have been set up to meet during January:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Mrs. C. N. Nicholson, Chairman, Mrs. Nat Kessler, Mrs. Ayrlie Morris, Mrs. C.F. Gebhardt, Mrs. John Fairs.

To be elected at the Annual Meeting in March:

President, Vice President, Secretary,
3 Directors, 3 members of Nominating Committee.

If you have any recommendations for nominations you wish to make, please call Betty Nicholson, 8-9446.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: Miss Grace Bridges, Chairman, Mrs. H. G. Bolton, Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. G. R. Cohn.

Of primary concern to League members, this committee will consider the advisability of increasing dues. If you have any suggestions, please call Grace Bridges, 6043.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Mrs. Gerald Cox, chairman, Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, Mrs. William Montgomery, Mrs. Russell West and Mrs. G. R. Cohn.

How should the League dollar be spent? Where can it be stretched? Call Florence Cox, 3-8892, if you can help this committee.

LOCAL
CURRENT
AGENDA

Local Agenda Committee: Mrs. Lee Leonard, Mrs. John Donovan, Mrs. J. A. Stound, Mrs. Charles Griffin, Mrs. Ralph Fredrickson, Mrs. Forrest Martin, Chairman

Local current agenda

Please send in to Cauline Martin by Jan. 16, in writing, any suggestions for subjects on our local Agenda. This is your responsibility and your opportunity to voice your desires and make yourself happy. This will help to make our program interesting to us. So please think it over--put your suggestions on paper & get them to me: Cauline Martin, 235 Park Pl.

STATE CURRENT
AGENDA ITEMS

The State Board has issued the call for first-round suggestions. Your local Board has forwarded the following suggestions:

Katherine is chairman

1. Basic revision of the Judicial Article of the Constitution to provide for court reorganization and nonpartisan selection of the judiciary.
Reason: Item is midway and should not be dropped.
2. The Board felt that perhaps an item dealing with some aspect of Welfare would be advisable because of membership appeal. The Board was unable to formulate a specific item.
3. Study and action on state laws pertaining to local property assessments and township assessors.
Reason: The laws are insufficient as to
 - (a) Qualifications of assessors
 - (b) Method of paying assessors
 - (c) Time allotted for assessing
 - (d) Methods in which assessments are to be determined.

If you would like to see some particular phase of State Government studied and acted upon, please mail your suggestion RIGHT AWAY to: League of Women Voters of Illinois, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.

WORKSHOPS

Are you signed up for a workshop? That's where you get the most personal satisfaction out of League work. That's where you let your hair down, argue, discuss, read, analyze, shake loose your prejudices, accumulate your facts, build solid personal structure of the League. It must be broad in its membership, thorough and selfless in its exploration.

JUDICIAL WORKSHOPS: Thursday, January 10th, 7:30 PM, Mrs. C.F. Gebhardt, 1390 W. Macon. Our exploration will take us into the court system as it is now; differences between what we have and what has been proposed; following the progress of the resolution through General Assembly in the coming months; and we hope, attendance at one or more of the committee hearings on the resolution. If you are interested we are still in the formative state of this workshop so you won't be out of the swim by joining us now. Call 2-3229.

WATER WORKSHOPS: Tuesday January 15th, 9:30 AM, Mrs. John Donovan, 648 W. Prairie. Our goal is to discover the essentials that will contribute to the development of a sound water policy. We will examine the national agencies, state and local agencies involved in any phase of the water problem. Our January 15th meeting is a must for all Leaguers interested in this workshop. We will study the Hydrological Cycle

and geological formations that aid or hinder the flow of water. We would welcome any members who want to join us. Call 2-4894.

FEDERAL-LOYALTY SECURITY WORKSHOPS: Middle of February, Mrs. Clifford Smith. Watch your February bulletin for the specific date and place.

The Federal-Loyalty Security study will probe for the answers to the following questions:

- (a) Why has the League adopted this item?
- (b) Whom does this subject concern?
- (c) What are the Loyalty-Security programs?
- (d) Where are these programs leading today?

Please call me, 2-1764, if you would like to join in the League's study of this item.

Lola Smith
Individual Liberties Ch.

LET'S GO

When the weather improves we're going to take a trip through the County Offices. Many Committee members found areas of Go-See of great benefit and improved understanding. Watch your future bulletins for specific times and plan to go with us.

Melba Griffin
Local Government, Ch.

REMEMBER
WHEN

you went to City Council meetings and dutifully made notes of what happened. Attached is the final report of your accumulated work. If you still have copies of the Home Rule report and the Council-Manager Form of Government report, dig them out and read to refresh your memory. If you failed to keep your copies or have joined the League since they were published, there are extras in the file. Call Virginia Gibson, 3-4344 if you would like to have them.

Welcome the New Year, meet it day by day
With patience and humility of heart.
So when this year at last has slipped away,
You will courageously have played your part.
Louise Darcy

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Decatur makes the following recommendations for acceptance or rejection by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Please keep this issue of the Bulletin and bring it with you to the Annual Meeting, March 28th.

Article VI.

Financial Administration.

I. BY-LAWS REVISION

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues of five dollars (\$5.00) shall be payable April first. Any member who fails to pay her dues within six months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Article VII.

Meetings.

Section 3. Quorum. Twenty-two members shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois

Article IX.

Program

Section 3. Current Agenda

Clause d) 1. Recommendations for Current Agenda submitted by voting members two months prior to the annual meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the annual meeting provided that: (1) the annual meeting shall order consideration by majority vote, and
(2) the annual meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote

Section 4. Continuing Responsibilities

Clause b) 1. The annual meeting may act upon any change proposed by a member if such change has been sent to the Board of Directors two months prior to the annual meeting but has not been recommended by the Board of Directors, provided that: (1) the annual meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote, and (2) the annual meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote

Grace Bridges, Chairman
By-Laws Committee

II. OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate:

President - Mrs. H. W. Gibson
1st Vice President - Mrs. Loring Unger
Secretary - Mrs. E. J. Cresswell
Elected Directors:
Mrs. James Leigh - 1 year
Mrs. Ralph Fredrickson - 1 year
Mrs. Clifford Smith - 2 years
Mrs. L. L. Colvis - 2 years
Mrs. H. G. Bolton - 2 years
Nominating Committee:
Mrs. William Winn, Chairman
Mrs. Forrest Martin
Mrs. Neal Doubleday

Betty Nicholson, Chairman
Nominating Committee

III. BUDGET

Budget 1956-57	Actual 1/14	Anticipated Deficit	Proposed Budget 1957-58
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Receipts

Dues 10 N				
105 R	390.00	345.00	45.00	330.00 550.00
Contributions				
Member 28	215.00	173.00	42.00	175.00 150.00
Other 56	750.00	616.00	134.00	930.00 735.00
Miscellaneous	35.00			760.00
Reserve for publication "This is Macon County"				1000.00 1000.00
	1,390.00	1,134.00		2435.00 2435.00

2460.00

(con't)

	Budget 1956-57	Actual 1/14	Anticipated Deficit	Proposed Budget 1957-58
EXPENDITURES				
✓ State & Nat'l.	550.00	550.00		ok = 650.00
✓ Equipment & Supplies	25.00	11.33		25.00
✓ Postage	20.00	7.68		20.00
✓ Telep. & Teleg.	10.00	11.88	1.88	10.00
✓ Pres. Expense	25.00	25.00		ok 50.00 (25.00)
✓ Convention Expense	200.00	127.10		150.00
✓ Delegates Conf.	100.00	47.00		75.00
✓ Committees-Membership,				
Finance, Publicity	30.00	35.25	5.25	30.00
✓ Meetings	50.00	28.41	10.00	50.00
Local Publications	10.00	18.25	8.25	10.00
State & Nat'l. Pub.	80.00	52.55		75.00
✓ Bulletin	125.00	83.80	40.00	125.00
✓ Action in Community	150.00	109.20	35.00 (Sands)	175.00*
Special Project				
"This is Macon Co."				ok - 1000.00
✓ Miscellaneous	15.00			15.00
	1,390.00	1,107.45	85.00	2435.00

*Up \$25.00 to include Adult Activities brochure

Florence Cox, Chairman
Budget Committee

2460.00

**IV. LOCAL
CURRENT
AGENDA**

Proposed Items:

- I. A Study of Township Government
- II. Analysis, with action where needed, of County Government.

changed

Items suggested by the membership but not recommended by the Board are:

Study of traffic problems in Macon County with emphasis on setting up a traffic court in Macon County.

A study of a city junior college to learn a) whether or not Decatur needs such a college, b) what problems the city would face if the need should be demonstrated.

Evaluation of Decatur's water problems.

WOULDN'T YOU

like to meet Mr. M. Adler, Director of the Division of Rural Counsels of Israel's Ministry of the Interior? Mr. Adler will be in Decatur Thursday, Feb. 14th to meet with all League women interested at 2:30 PM. The Rabbi has kindly offered the basement of the Temple on West Prairie as a central meeting place of our convenience.

**MEETINGS OF
INTEREST**

The Champaign League invites us to attend their February luncheon, Feb. 18th at 12:45 PM at the Urbana Lincoln Hotel. Their speaker is Mrs. Clifton Utley, Acting Director of the Midwest Office of the Institute for International Education. Her subject will be "The United States in Today's World". Reservations must be in Saturday, Feb. 16th. Luncheon cost is \$1.25. Call Virginia Gibson if you are interested in going, 3-4344.

AND

The Legislative Committee of the Association of Commerce invites League members and their husbands to attend a dinner at the Decatur Club Ballroom Feb. 15th (Friday), 6:30 PM, \$2.30 per. You will have an opportunity to hear and question State Senator George P. Johns and Representatives Barrett F. Rogers, George M. Grandfield and Robert W. McCarthy. Make your reservations direct by calling the Association of Commerce office, 5167. Maybe they'll even accept it if you call not later than early Friday morning.

THANK YOU

These women have attended local government meetings this year: School Board #61: Mrs. Russell West, Mrs. Edgar Bachrach and Mrs. Thomas McCracken. City Council: Mrs. M. N. Bennett, Mrs. H. G. Bolton and Mrs. R.E.Greenfield. Board of Supervisor's: Miss Gertrude Hill.

STATE MEETING

Mrs. Clifford Smith attended the meeting in Chicago Jan. 22nd on National Item I.

**COMING UP -
WILL YOU BE
THERE?**

The Township Caucus for township nominations Feb. 16th The Board of Supervisors will discuss the possibility of appointing a Supervisor of Assessments in their March Meeting.

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

SPECIAL!!

Mr. Lindley Hurtt, Chairman of the Local Assessment Study for the Board of Supervisors of Macon County will present the findings of his committee to League Members at the Units February 20th.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

"All the ills of democracy can be cured by more democracy."

Alfred E. Smith

UNIT
MEETINGS

Wednesday Morning - March 20, 9:30 A.M. at the Y.M.C.A.
Wednesday Evening - March 20, 7:30 P.M. home of Mrs. Edgar
Bachrach, 1680 W. Wood.

SUBJECT: The Federal Loyalty-Security Programs

As a prelude to the discussion-type meetings an interesting skit, "Uncle Sam Visits His Psychiatrist" will be presented by Mrs. James Hurley, Mrs. Thomas Hurst and Mrs. Kirby Riley.

Come join us in talking about this very important subject. Your National Voter of February 15th, features one phase of the loyalty-security programs. Perhaps you know personally, of some cases that would interest all of us.

Members of the committee are Mrs. Neal Doubleday, Mrs. Nat Kessler, Mrs. H.G. Bolton, Mrs. C.M. Nicholson, Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. Gerald Cox, Mrs. Helen Miller and the chairman Mrs. Clifford Smith.

ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 28th, 12:45 P.M.

LUNCHEON: Decatur Club, Price: \$1.75

SPEAKER: Mr. Robert Patterson, attorney for Decatur Township, will speak on Township Government.

This is your opportunity to get first-hand, the report on all the League's activities for the past year. Bring your February bulletin for reference to the Budget, By-Laws, nominating slate and local agenda. See you there.

MEMBERSHIP
DUES

for the year 1957-1958 will be payable at the Annual Meeting, March 28. Please make your checks payable to the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois. Bring your dues or mail them to Mrs.

G. R. Cohn, 777 So. Monroe.

LEGISLATIVE
SCHOOLS

March 26 - Sessions at State Capitol

Senator George P. Johns and Representative Barrett F. Rogers have accepted our invitation to dinner at the Washington Park Pavilion in Springfield on the evening of March 26. Dinner price is \$2.25. A similar invitation has been extended to Representatives Robert W. McCarthy and George M. Grandfield by the League of Women Voters of Lincoln. Delegates from both Decatur and Lincoln are looking forward to an interesting discussion with these men. Both Representative Grandfield and Rogers have offered to show us the Lounge.

Mrs. Loring Unger, Mrs. Forrest Martin, Mrs. Charles Griffin, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt and Mrs. H.W. Gibson will attend from Decatur.

The Legislative meeting has been postponed from March 22 - to March 29 at Clinton. Dinner will be at the "Lucky Stop Cafe", price \$2.25 at 6:30 p.m. Call the Association of Commerce, 5167 to make your reservation. They will also see that you have a way there if you need it.

CONTINUING
RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board recommends that the Welfare item be removed from Current Agenda to Continuing Responsibilities:

CR #4: The League supports continued study and action in field of Geriatrics and Mental Health.

CONSERVATION
AND WATER RESOURCES

A survey made by the New York Times found the American dream of unlimited expansion soon may face a test by water.

According to the survey the three D's---drought, distribution, and dirty streams--spell a possible dead end for continued growth of industries and cities, as well as potential disaster for farmlands.

Water is vital to us all now and in the future. In order that our water resources may be developed and conserved to meet our present expanding needs and adequate planning provided for the future, we must know what is involved. It's the

1. Attendance sheet
2. Annual meeting sheet
3. April 16-17 sheet
4. Conservation sheet
5. State Proposed
current agenda

City Council meets Mon. and Thur. 10 A.M., Fourth floor County Building.
School Board meets Second Tues. monthly 7 P.M. Decatur High School, S. door.
County Board of Supervisor's, meets the second Tuesdays and Wednesdays in March, June, September and December on 5th floor of County Building. 10 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

VOTER'S
SERVICE

The following letter was sent to Candidates for Supervisor:

Dear Sir:

The League of Women Voters tries to inform the public of candidates' opinions on pertinent questions to help them vote intelligently.

We ask you to answer the following five questions "Yes" or "No" and return them in the enclosed stamped envelope before Monday, March 18th.

The questions and answers will be published in the Decatur Herald and Review on Sunday March 31st.

We thank you for your cooperation and will appreciate a prompt response.

Questions to be asked candidates for supervisor:

1. Do you favor the creation of a City of Decatur Township?
2. Will you support a County Supervisor of Assessments?
3. Do you favor the establishment of a County Health Unit?
4. Do you believe the rabies program should be enforced?
5. Do you think supervisors should support the decisions of the County Zoning Board of Appeals?

Voter's Service Chairman
Mary C. Cresswell

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR'S WORK

Local Level After our organizational meeting on county government, ten committees were formed to study various phases of the work. Individually the various committees called on county personnel to inform them in their particular field. As a group the county committee visited the sheriff's department and office of the recorder. Earlier in the study the entire committee was also encouraged to attend the Board of Supervisors and township meetings. Committee reports were compiled and in September the whole committee met and decided that an over-view of the structure of the government of Macon County was logically the first step to present to the membership. In October the group met again to plan the method of presenting our material. The program was given at the November units.

Also the county committee on assessments and finance gave the membership background information to supplement a study being made by a special committee of the Board of Supervisors on the advisability of a Supervisor of Assessments.

Melba Griffin, Local Government, Chairman

Individual Liberties National Item 1: The Federal Loyalty-Security Programs.

As this report is written our work-shop is in progress, but the unit meetings will not be held until March 20. By March 15, we will have had five work-shop sessions. One of special interest to the committee was attended by Mr. Orville Allinson, personnel director of the Army's Signal Corps Depot in Decatur. Thus the committee had an opportunity to ask questions of someone directly responsible for employing persons under the Defense program.

Earlier in the year, part of my time was spent (and continues to be) as The League's representative to the Decatur Council on Adult Activities. The Council published a brochure in which the League explained its purpose and program. Thirty-five thousand copies were distributed in the community.

Lola Smith, Individual Liberties,
Chairman

Voter's Service More than two dozen talks on the Blue Ballot Revenue Amendment were made before election by members of the Speakers Bureau to PTA groups, church and other meetings and in homes.

Several members passed out the Blue Ballot literature downtown the day before election.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. H.W.Gibson, President

"Schoolhouses are the republican line of fortifications."--Horace Mann

UNIT
MEETINGS

Wednesday Morning - April 24, 9:30 A.M. at Y.M.C.A.
 Wednesday Evening - April 24, 7:30 P.M. home of Mrs. T.L.Hurst,
 2095 West Sunset

SUBJECT: Water, Water ? ?

Plenty of water, but none to waste! Come to the Unit Meeting and enter into the discussion of "Water from the Rainbarrel, to multi-purpose projects." This is a new subject, enthusiasm runs high.

Notice change of date of Unit meetings, the FOURTH Wednesday instead of the third. See you there.

Discussion leaders, Pauline Winn at "Y" Rachel Hurley in the evening. Resource Committee, Jeanette Adelman, Irene Colvis, Mary Cresswell, Katherine Donovan, Rebecca French, Virginia Gibson, Anne Pettee, Marg Unger.

ANNUAL
MEETING
REPORT

OFFICER'S: elected for 1957 are the following:

President - Mrs. H. W. Gibson - 1 year
 1st Vice President - Mrs. Loring Unger - 2 years
 Secretary - Mrs. E. J. Cresswell - 2 years

Elected Director's:

Mrs. James Leigh - 1 year
 Mrs. Ralph Fredrickson - 1 year
 Mrs. Clifford Smith - 2 years
 Mrs. L.L.Colvis - 2 years
 Mrs. H. G. Bolton - 2 years

Nominating Committee:

Mrs. William Winn
 Mrs. Forrest Martin
 Mrs. Neal Doubleday

Mrs. C. M. Nicholson, Chairman
 Nominating Committee

Local Current Agenda: Item 1

Item 1. A Study of Township Government

Item 2. Analysis, with action where needed, of government units within the county.

Although Item 2 includes Item 1 - it was felt by the Board that Township government needed a separate committee.

Budget Adopted: A budget of \$2,460 was adopted for operation for the coming year.

By-laws: The Revised By-laws will be distributed to the membership in the fall. The Board discussed the possibility of having the membership list and the By Laws printed in booklet form. A final decision will be made at a later Board meeting.

STATE CONVENTION

The Biennial meeting of the League of Women Voters of Illinois will convene May 13, 14, 15 in the Congress Hotel, Chicago.

The Board has appointed Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Mrs. L.L.Colvis, Mrs. John H. Fairs and Mrs. H.W. Gibson as official delegates.

Any League members wishing to go as visitors, please contact Virginia Gibson, 3-4344 for information.

MONEY, WHO
SAID "DUES"?

Dues for membership year starting April 1, 1957 will be \$5.00. Please mail your check in to: Mrs. Gershom R. Cohn, 777 South Monroe, Decatur, Ill.

INVITATION

The Board has issued an invitation to Mrs. Remick McDowell to come June 6, to visit our Board meeting. Mrs. McDowell is on the State Board in charge of Public Relations.

ASSOCIATION
OF
COMMERCE

Association of Commerce Legislative meeting will be held Friday, April 12, at 6:30 P.M. at Blue Inn in Lincoln, Illinois. All League members making reservations should call 5167. This is your opportunity to meet and discuss current bills with State Representatives. Please take advantage of it.

ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL

has invited the Decatur League to meet with them Thursday night April 25, the meeting will be at 6:45 P.M. in the ballroom of the Hotel Orlando. Dinner costs \$2.85. The speaker will be Dean Miriam Sheldon, Dean of Women at the University of Illinois. Make reservations on or before April 22, with Daisy M. Uphouse, telephone 3-8409, or after 5 P.M., 2-5889.

SUMMARY OF YEAR'S WORK, CONTINUED

PUBLICATIONS During the year 1956-57 materials have been ordered for all workshops, for two church groups, for two public school teachers and for a few individuals in and out of the League itself. We still have copies of Illinois Constitution, Voter's handbook and Freedom Agenda Booklets. Call 4806 if you need any material, we have a complete list of all available Publications.

Helen Leigh, Publications Chairman

WELFARE Due to the fact we had Focus on the Future, the Local Welfare item was not undertaken.

Marian Fredrickson, Chairman

WATER The Water Committee composed of thirteen members, met ten times starting in December. The committee is introducing "Water Study" at the April unit meetings. Anyone wishing to join this group is most welcome.

Katherine Donovan, Chairman

ACTION Telegrams and letters were sent U.S. Senators urging them to restore cuts which had been made in the U.N. Technical Assistance Program. Members responded to my requests, on occasion to write letters to Representatives regarding specific items. Oh yes, the cuts in the U.N. Technical Assistant Program were restored.

Marcia McCracken, Action Chairman

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION The Revenue Amendment was studied and reviewed in Workshops, two Unit meetings. Give away material, radio, newspapers, speeches to organizations, tagging on Election Day, before the Amendment came to vote. We used our own committee as speakers.

Although the Amendment was lost, at this time, the public were somewhat better informed, we hope.

Marge Unger, Constitutional Revision
Chairman

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION - Proposed Judicial Amendment

The Workshop on the Judiciary was scheduled to begin in November, but we held only two meetings before Christmas. After the first of the year we met regularly once a week until Unit time in February. Study of the proposed article has been with us for a long time. However we began at the beginning and tried to bring ourselves up to date by studying, first of all Article 6 of the Constitution, and then the new proposal text and explanatory summary. At the conclusion of our study we worked out a little skit which we called "Dramatizing the Judiciary". Our cast were the members of the resource committee.

We have in our files copies of 1956 draft also a chart "Illinois Courts at a Glance" and a question and answer folder, in addition to other supplementary material which we offer to lend any interested League member. As we have said before, the proposed judiciary article has been with us for a long time; and since nothing was done during the last General Assembly concerning it we are in the position of "standing by" in as much as the League is committed to support the Judicial Amendment. You will be advised when there is anything new to report here.

Eileen Gebhardt, Judicial Item Chairman

PUBLIC RELATIONS: We have a large scrap book containing pictures, newspaper articles, features, stories, etc. concerning the activities of the League. During the League's work on the Revenue Amendment we had cards printed and mailed to Service Clubs and other interested groups, notifying them of the Leagues' Speakers Bureau on the Revenue question. We have made an effort to publicize all activities of the League through the Newspaper. There was an article and picture at the time Mrs. Reubhausen spoke on the United Nations. Also when Dr. Sands was in Decatur for our "Focus on the Future" program. We have tried to contact the chairman in each instance and work with her in an effort to develop the best publicity approach.

Eileen Gebhardt, Publications Chairman

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

News Bulletin #12

May, 1957

"Abraham Lincoln was once asked to give his definition of diplomacy. "Well," he mused, "I guess you might say that it's the knack of letting the other fellow have your way."

UNIT MEETINGS

Wednesday morning, May 22, 9:30 A.M. - Y.M.C.A.
Wednesday evening, May 22, 7:30 P.M. at the home of
Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 So. Monroe

Program: Reports by your delegates of the Convention held in Chicago, May 13, 14 and 15, Mrs. H. W. Gibson, Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Mrs. L. L. Colvis and Mrs. John H. Fairs.

NOTES FROM MAY 2 BOARD MEETING

Mrs. Remick McDowell, Member of State Board, chairman of Public Relations, will be guest at the June board meeting, held at the home of Mrs. H. W. Gibson, June 13. (note change in date) This meeting will be concerned primarily with the orientation of Board Members.

ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE

sponsored Legislative Dinner will be held in Decatur at the Blue Mill on June 21 at 6:30 P.M. Make your reservation with the Association of Commerce, tel. 5167. Your husbands will enjoy this also.

This meeting time has been changed from June 14. There will be no meeting in Mt. Pulaski on May 10.

ACTION

Requests for ACTION by the League of Women Voters of Illinois have been complied with on the following items :

HB 185, Equality of Employment Opportunity Act - in committee

The Honorable George Granfield, Representative, 47th Representative District

Dear Mr. Grandfield:

The vote of the League of Women Voters of Decatur in favor of HB 185 was made by 95% of those members present. The reasons for that decision were as follows:

1. Since we were organized in 1946, education has not materially changed the picture in the Decatur area.
2. Discrimination by business and industry causes the Decatur High School Distributive Education program to discourage Negro children from participation.
3. Nation-wide there has been no repeal by any of the 12 states & 30 cities that have enacted such laws.
4. It is better for the states to handle the problem than to encourage the Federal Government to do so by default of state action.
5. It provides employers, desiring not to discriminate, protection against prejudices of their customers.
6. The world has become too small for us to continue to preach democracy and fail to practice it.
7. It is morally right.
8. It is economically sound.
9. Only improved economic positions for non-whites will bring about improved conditions in other areas of community life, such as housing.
10. Some League members favored the education process in past discussions but we have come to feel, now, that this problem cannot be cracked without legislation and that such legislation will be accepted and acted upon by the residents of the state.

This letter was sent to Senator W. Russell Arrington on SJR 17, A Resolution to Amend Article VI of the Constitution of Illinois.

Dear Senator Arrington:

The League of Women Voters of Decatur wishes you and the other committee members to know that we support the Joint Bar draft as it is expressed in HJR 17 and SJR 17.

We hope that any conclusions reached by your committee will contain:

1. Provision for consolidation of all trial courts into a single Circuit Court for each Circuit.
2. That it will streamline the appeal procedure.

3. That it will vest in the Supreme Court general administrative authority of all courts.
4. That it will contain the permissive referendum for the selection of judges.

Mary Cresswell, Action Chairman

DUES - 1957
VERSION

Sylvia Cohn is ready and anxious to receive dues for 1957, \$5.00, per year. At Board meeting she reported a continuous mail response. Why not join this group? Send checks to

Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 S. Monroe. Thanks heaps.

1957-58
BOARD
MEMBERS

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President
Mrs. Loring Unger, 1st Vice President, Program & Units
Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, 2nd Vice President, Public Relations and Judicial
Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, Secretary & Action
Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer
Mrs. James Leigh, Finance
Mrs. John H. Fairs, Bulletin
Mrs. Ralph Frederickson, State item dependent on Convention Action
Mrs. Clifford Smith, Federal Loyalty Security
Mrs. L. L. Colvis, Membership
Mrs. H. G. Bolton, Township
Mrs. T. L. Hurst, Voters Service
Mrs. Porter French, Water Study
Mrs. Edward Booth, Publications
Mrs. William Winn, Chairman, Nominating Committee

COFFEE
HOUR

The Summer Meeting will be a Coffee Hour either the last week in July or the first week in August. Time and place to be announced later. If you have any interested friends you would like invited, give their names to:

Irene Colvis, Membership, 8-3331
559 So. Taylor

FINANCE
DRIVE

will take place in September as usual. A committee made up of Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. Gerald Cox, Mrs. Harold Meenen, Mrs. T. L. Hurst, Mrs. David Beggs, Jr. and Mrs. H. W. Gibson, will meet late in May to draw up the "blue prints" for operation. The list of solicitors will be given later. Please say "Yes, I'd love to" if you are called upon to help. September 10, is the date, mark your calendar.

Helen Leigh, chairman

FROM WASHINGTON
D. C.

There was a newspaper report on May first, that President Eisenhower called for financial sacrifice in the struggle for peace.

President Eisenhower made a special plea for his Foreign Aid Policy in an off-the-cuff speech to the National Council of the League of Women Voter's. Our own Katherine Donovan was present.

Mrs. Anne Wheaton was recently appointed Women's Publicity Director for the Republican National Committee. Of special interest to us is the fact that in 1924 she was Public Relations Director for the League of Women Voter's.

She became so involved and well known in political circles that ultimately she took charge of Press Relations for Mrs. Wendell Wilkie, Mrs. Thomas E. Dewey, twice; and Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower during their husbands presidential campaigns.

Ella Kuntz, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

NEWS BULLETIN #13

SEPTEMBER 1957

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

"You must have long range goals to keep you from being frustrated by short-range failures." Charles C. Noble

LUNCHEON
MEETING

THURSDAY, September 19, 1 P.M.-----Decatur Club-----Lunch \$1.85
Mr. Louis D'Alba, United States Army Corps Engineer, will be our speaker.
He is well informed on both the Oakley Reservoir, and Water Resources.

The three big agencies concerned with our national water resources are often pulling in three different directions. One of the "big three," the Army Corps of Engineers, will be ably represented by Mr. Louis D'Alba. Be sure to hear him, and get the Corps's point of view on the Oakley Dam project and other water planning problems.

Tickets are available for non-members, reservations may be made with Irene Colvis, tel. 8-3331, 559 S. Taylor.

FINANCE
DRIVE

Mr. Walker Mills will give an informal talk to twenty-five of our members, Tuesday, September 10, at a 9 A.M. breakfast at Greider's.

Afterwards we will disperse to solicit in our Annual Fund Drive. We have to raise approximately nine hundred dollars over and above dues, and have received about three-hundred dollars through the mail. If any of you feel a twinge of conscience just address an envelope with check to:

Helen Leigh, Finance Chairman
So. Side Country Club

WELCOME

to new members, joining the League during the summer:

Mrs. C. E. Barnes	345 Maryland Heights Rd.
Mrs. C. W. Ferguson	747 W. Forest
Mrs. Merchant Cushing	137 Park Place
Mrs. W. C. Tillett	261 S. 19th

LOOK TO THE
FUTURE

LOOKING FORWARD TO OCTOBER UNIT MEETINGS.

In our meetings last March we took a "Bird's Eye View" of the Federal Loyalty-Security Program. Remember the skit, "Uncle Sam Visits his Psychiatrist"?

Now we should be thinking about the subject from the standpoint of possible legislation that may be proposed in the next session of the Congress.

To whet our interest for the October discussions, Decatur League Members have a special opportunity this month. Elsewhere in the Bulletin a regional meeting is announced to be held right here in our own home town on September 23rd. And featured at this meeting will be the Federal Loyalty-Security program subject, with our State Chairman in charge.

If you would enjoy helping to make plans for the October Unit Meetings, let me know.

Tel. 2-1764, Lola Smith, Chairman

REGIONAL
CONFERENCE

Monday, September 23rd, YMCA, 10 A. M. to 3 P.M.

This is your opportunity to attend a state League meeting right here in Decatur. Make your reservation with Mrs. O. E. Schlacter, tel. 3-1354
Luncheon price is \$1.50.

League members from Champaign County, Danville, Galesburg, Lincoln, McLean County, Peoria and Springfield will be with us for this all day meeting. Members from the State Board will preside and the meeting is slated to give a "Jet-Eye View" on membership, assorted meeting techniques and National Item 11.

DECATUR REPRESENTATIVES
ON STATE COMMITTEES

Mrs. R. E. Lewis has accepted an invitation to join the state committee on Public School Finance. Mrs. G. R. Cohn has accepted membership on the State Finance Committee.

UNIT "Come and learn with us".

ORGANIZATION Unit Chairman for 1957-58 will be Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, mornings, and Mrs. Gerald Cox for evenings. These are your hostesses for every unit meeting, they will provide a place for you to meet, also take note if you do not appear. You will be missed.

Something new will be tried this Fall. All meetings will be held in homes. A survey of the members indicated their preference for either meeting morning or evening unit. If not always convenient, choose the unit time to fit your schedule.

Marge Unger, Program Chairman

FALL PROGRAM Mark November 7th on your calendar. The Fall Program Conference is an all day lecture series to be held in the Sherman Hotel in Chicago.

CONFERENCE The program has not been released as yet but it will be experts on areas of state and national program. You travel at your own expense and reservations must be made for the luncheon. Details on the Conference will be in the October bulletin. In the meantime set November 7th aside as a day well worth the time. We will probably go up on the early morning train and be back in Decatur by 7:30 P. M.

MORE ON THE Then watch for the views of the Soil Conservation Service and the WATER FRONT Bureau of Reclamation, in your newspapers and other sources. Read your National Voter for August, 1957. You are the judge!

A fall workshop and the November unit meetings will follow up Mr. D'Alba's talk, with discussions on this very controversial subject---WATER.

Rebecca French, Water Study Chairman

NATIONAL Now is the time to start thinking about what you would like to study PROGRAM as a national item. Recommendations for the first round of suggestions are due in November 21st. Specific recommendations should be written

our together with your reasons for suggesting the item and mailed to Virginia Gibson, Mrs. H.W. 160 Kellar Lane

DUES Sylvia Cohn, 777 S. Monroe, our very able Treasurer, is ready and waiting to receive your year's DUES. Please send your check for Five Dollars soon, it will help with the bookkeeping.

NOTE Condensation of Program Activity of the Decatur League. The material will be available to the League members at the September 19th meeting at the Decatur Club. Another good reason for making a reservation with Irene.

CONGRATULATIONS to Irene Colvis and her committee for the successful Coffee Hour held on August 1st. The attendance was good, the weather-man cooperated, the skit enjoyed.

Ella Kuntz, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

"Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half of the time."

E. B. White

UNIT
MEETINGS

October 16th

Wednesday Morning 9:30 A. M. 316 South Linden

Wednesday Evening 7:30 P. M. 160 Kellar Lane

Program: "FEDERAL LOYALTY* SECURITY"

Discussion leaders, morning Mrs. Nat Kessler

Evening Mrs. Neil Doubleday

Mrs. Hilmer Landholt is hostess for the morning group, Mrs.

H. W. Gibson, evening hostess. Coffee will be served.

Research Material to be used, and we hope you read prior to meeting National Voter Articles,

Liberty and Security in Brief.....Dec. 15, 1956

Security at Work.....Feb. 15, 1957

Aftermath of Cole V. Young.....April 15, 1957

Security Commission Report.....July 1957

COME AND MAKE THIS DISCUSSION A LIVELY ONE.

Lola Smith, Chairman

ONE out of every TEN

It is time to see if we can come to some agreement as to our views on the Federal Loyalty-Security programs which cover about ONE out of every TEN

adult citizens in this country --

1. Those who work for Uncle Sam
2. Those who wear his uniform
3. Those who work on American ships, or on strategic docks
4. Those who handle classified information in defense plants, or
5. Those who work with atomic secrets.

What are these programs designed to do? Are they achieving their goals? Do you think these programs should cover more or less people than are now included?

MONEY--

INTERESTED?

We are happy to announce that our Fund Drive Goal has been reached and the money is still coming in a little at a time. It could not have been reached without the generosity of our own membership and

the ability and tenacity of our solicitors.

THANK YOU!

The following people solicited funds:

Mrs. Arthur Adelman

Mrs. Edgar Bachrach

Mrs. H. G. Bolton

Mrs. Edward Booth

Mrs. G. P. Cohn

Mrs. L. L. Colvis

Mrs. E. J. Cresswell

Mrs. John Donovan

Mrs. John H. Fairs

Mrs. Ralph Frederickson

Mrs. Edwina Irving Funk

Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt

Mrs. H. W. Gibson

Mrs. William Hipsher

Mrs. Richard H. Holscher

Mrs. Thomas Hurst

Mrs. J. C. Leigh

Mrs. Arylie Morris

Mrs. Forrest Martin

Mrs. Russell Oplinger

Mrs. Fred Schudel

Mrs. E. L. Simmons

Mrs. Elbert Smith

Mrs. Clifford Smith

Mrs. L. L. Unger

Mrs. Wm. P. Winn

Finance Committee consists of:

Mrs. Clifford Smith

Mrs. David Beggs Jr.

Mrs. Thomas Hurst

Mrs. Gerald Cox

Mrs. Harold Meenen

Mrs. H. W. Gibson

Mrs. J. C. Leigh,

Chairman

FALL PROGRAM CONFERENCE
AND OPEN HOUSE

Speaking of meetings: Thursday, NOVEMBER 7 is our big one of the year, not just for chairmen and committees but for every member of the League. Full details will be given about the annual fall Program Conference at Chicago in the next issue of the ILLINOIS VOTER, but let me just list for you now the outstanding speakers which have been secured for that day's program:

Speech on "Needed - a Federal Water Resources Policy" - Former Wyoming Governor Leslie A. Miller, chairman, First Hoover Commission Task Force on Natural Resources.

Panel on Election Laws and Procedures - Rep. Wm. E. Pollack, Rep. Jack Bairstor, and Mr. Samuel De Carl, Chicago Board of Elec. Comm.

Speech on "The Individual and Government" - Dr. Herman Finer, Professor of Political Science, Univ. of Illinois.

We regret to announce the resignation of Mrs. Richard Holscher from our Board, as Election Laws and Procedures, chairman. Her husband is being transferred out of town.

We are happy to welcome Mrs. Russell Oplinger as Public School Finance chairman, without Board responsibility.

STATE MEETINGS October 16, 10 A.M.
Place: League, State Board Office
Program: A morning Panel
Free time for lunch
1:15 P.M. Speaker, Professor Gilbert White of the University of Chicago. Going from Decatur will be Mrs. Porter French, Mrs. L. L. Colvis, Mrs. Ralph Fredrickson.
Public Relations in the "Round", a meeting October 16 at Central YM, 19 So. LaSalle, from 10 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

*Kalchauer
Brown
Elliott
Galeon*

Remember U. N. Day October 24

WATER The November Unit meetings will be on the subject of WATER! Materials will be available for purchase and STUDY, at the October Unit Meetings. We're counting on you to help us.

"THE LEAGUE
AND I"

November 12.
"Getting to know you" - Coffee at 9:30 A.M. - for new members.
Getting to know other new members; Getting to know your League.
At home of Irene Colvis, 559 S. Taylor.

Irene Colvis, Membership Chairman

GAME SEASON Let's carry the ball! Dues must be paid this month or membership dropped. You will wish your name on the list, we are sure. A "home run" with dues to Sylvia Cohn, means victory.

BOARD

MEMBERS An invitation from Virginia Gibson to a discussion meeting at her home over a cup of coffee of those matters of interest and importance to the Board. October 24th, 1 - 3 P.M.

HISTORICAL Do you know that the Code of Hammurabi established priorities for water use? Water for man and beasts first, of course.

Do you know that the "hydrologic cycle" was described in the Scripture "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; into the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again."

Do you know that archaeologists have learned that a long unbroken drought forced southwestern Indians to migrate northward more than six hundred years ago? Tree ring studies at the University of Arizona have defined this period as 1276 to 1299. See April, 1957 FORTUNE article, "Strategy for Drought" to learn how the farmers are applying Operations Research to the Great Plains.

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - 1958-60 SUGGESTIONS

- I. An evaluation of the federal-state-local distribution of policy powers and administrative duties to determine their proper relationship to each other.

Reasons for study.

1. The federal government has acquired ever increasing power through the default of action by states and localities to solve problems within their own boundaries.
2. The acquisition of such power is a much less painful operation than the relinquishing of it.
3. Determination of what are properly state and local functions is of primary importance because the farther removed the solution of the problem from the taxpayer, the more difficult it becomes to understand, the more expensive to administer.
4. If problems are not solved within the states and by states taking into account prevailing social and economic conditions, true solutions on the federal level are almost always poor compromises at best, obstructing in almost as many areas of the country as such legislation directly aids in other areas.
5. As solutions to problems are farther removed from the citizen, they tend to relieve him of the need to think politically, to participate politically; eventually lack of knowledge and magnitude of the accumulated problems leads him to seek a "strong man" to lead the country.

Possible Action

1. Dispensing information through all avenues to the community.
2. Pressure of public opinion upon legislators to assume their proper responsibilities and to resist pressure to assume responsibilities clearly belonging to a form of government to which they were not elected.

- II. A review of the national economy to see whether the League should recommend tighter credit control.

Reasons for study

1. Has the farm decline been the result of a natural regression from an abnormally high level or a true recession?
2. Are home builders realistically meeting the needs of the \$3,000 to \$6,000 income group, or is easy credit, low down-payments and long term contracts permitting an economic section of the country to purchase homes they could not possibly keep even in a minor recession.
3. Are the influx of stamp redeeming coupons and \$1.00 down-\$1.00 a week, signs of retailers' resistance to a consumer demand for lower prices?
4. Are Federal Reserve actions to date strong enough to adequately slow down and control the mounting consumer debt?
5. Is the present 70% margin sufficient on stocks and bonds?
6. Do people really understand how the lack of reduction in the federal debt affects their purchasing power?
7. Is the SEC performing the function for which it was created?
8. Since November, 1956, it has become apparent that the primary cause of present inflationary trends is not solely the inability of supply to meet demand, but one of an increasingly cheaper dollar. The administration has undertaken the indirect control method of increasing interest rates in an effort to tighten the credit market and reduce the amount of money in circulation. Present trends indicate that this program is achieving directly the opposite effect:
 1. It has not reduced the total amount of consumer debt.
 2. It has boosted the costs of handling the federal debt, with accompanying inflationary effects.
 3. It has not succeeded in decreasing the amount of money in circulation.
 4. It has not succeeded in raising the value of the dollar.

Possible Action

1. Dispensing information through all avenues to the community.
2. Possible legislative action depending on whether our study shows the need for
 - a. further legislation or
 - b. better enforcement of legislation already on the books.

- III. Further study of Water Resources and reimbursement policies.

Ello Kuntz
Circulation Editor

Dean Farn
Bulletin Editor

Your Board has put the following three letters in the mail. They are self-explanatory.

October 3, 1957

Letter to the Editor
Herald & Review
Decatur, Illinois

Dear Sir:

Some citizens in the community are assuming that the League of Women Voters of Decatur favors a City of Decatur Township. This is not the case. On the questionnaire sent to candidates for the Board of Supervisors last March, the League asked the question, "Do you favor the creation of a City of Decatur Township?"

On questionnaires the League may ask questions concerning any current political issue. The League may or may not have studied the area covered by the question. Candidates' Questionnaires are a service to the voter in which the League acts as a neutral middle-man, collecting candidates' answers on current issues and then publishing both questions and answers for the voter's benefit.

A general study of township government is scheduled this fall and winter which will include a study of a City of Decatur Township. Until the study is completed, the League cannot take a stand for or against this issue.

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

160 Kellar Lane
Telephone 3-4344

October 3, 1957

Mr. Ralph Brown
Town Clerk, Decatur Township
Macon County, County Bldg.
Decatur, Illinois

Dear Mr. Brown:

Last March the League of Women Voters of Decatur sent a questionnaire to candidates for the Board of Supervisors which contained the question, "Do you favor the creation of a City of Decatur Township?" A questionnaire to candidates is comprised of questions on current issues. They may or may not concern an area the League has studied.

A Township of the City of Decatur has not been studied by the League, therefore we do not have a stand either in favor of this move or against it. Because Township government is an area with which we are not yet fully acquainted, the membership of the League voted last March to include such a study in our program for this year.

The League's study will be conducted under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. G. Bolton. The committee is large and is comprised of many members new to the League. We hope that you and all officials of Decatur Township government will be as patient and helpful to them in this study as you have been upon other occasions when we have asked for your help.

Sincerely yours,

cc/ Mr. B. F. Johnson, Supervisor
Mr. William Brannan, Assessor
Mr. Francis Stratman, Highway Commissioner

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President
160 Kellar Lane

October 3, 1957

Mr. William R. Mattson, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Macon County, County Bldg.
Decatur, Illinois

Dear Mr. Mattson:

Many people in the community are assuming that the League of Women Voters of Decatur favors the creation of a Township of the City of Decatur. This is not the case. The League has not yet studied this issue and could not take a stand either for it or against it at the present time.

The League may study only items decided upon by the membership. Our first opportunity to open a detailed township study was made by the membership for this year. One of the great values of the League is that its leadership may not promote action until the membership studies and decides what action may be promoted. This holds true for state and national items as well as local.

The League believes that time to study the issue of a Township of the City of Decatur is desirable. We believe, too, that members of the community should have an opportunity to evaluate and understand the report made by the committee of the Board of Supervisors before the Board takes action upon such a report.

cc: Mr. Harry F. Johnston, Chairman
A City of Decatur Township Committee

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President