

"The conflict-ridden mind is likely to be closed to the treasures around it....Once that mind is set free, it may again reach toward the health-supporting, indestructible riches in the world of nature and in the world of man.....

Bonaro W. Overstreet

UNIT MEETINGS

Wednesday Morning, Jan. 18th, 9:30 A.M. Y.M.C.A.

Program: A report on Mental Health

Discussion Leaders: Morning, Mrs. E. L. Simmons, a board member of the Illinois Association on Mental Health and Mrs. Lyle Huff, Secretary to Macon County Mental Health Assoc.

Wednesday Evening, Jan. 18th, 7:30 P.M. Y.M.C.A., with Discussion leaders Mrs. Ben Nolen, State Chairman for Mental Health and Mrs. C. F. Duerwer, Chairman of Mental Health P.T.A.

To most of us this will be an opportunity to learn first hand what progress has been made toward establishing a new Mental Health Clinic in Decatur and it is our hope that every League member will avail herself of this opportunity at one or the other of the Unit meetings. Make a note to attend and bring a friend with you. If you are a new member and need a ride or do not wish to come alone, just call me and I will arrange to have you picked up.

Cauline Martin, Chairman, phone 9236

!! SPECIAL EVENT !!

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st
1:00 P.M.

Decatur Club Building

Price: \$1.50

Guest Speaker: Professor George Frampton

Subject: "The Procedures in Loyalty-Security Determination"

Dr. Frampton is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Illinois College of Law and we feel very lucky indeed to have secured him as our speaker for this luncheon.

The Champaign League has had Prof. Frampton and speak most enthusiastically of him. In fact, they tell us, he was so interesting and his subject of such timely interest to both men and women they are thinking of having him repeat his talk at another meeting.

This will be an open membership meeting, so those of you who wish to bring your husbands—or if you have a prospective new member, invite them to come with you. As you know this is one of our "big events" of the year. You will all be called later in the month as a reminder.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

A letter of resignation as 2nd Vice-President has been received from Mrs. Fred Schudel and regretfully accepted by your board. Mrs. Hurley will assume the duties of Public-Relations chairman. Mrs.

John (Eleanor) Fairs has accepted an appointment on the board, serving as Bulletin Editor and Mrs. Donald Dame accepts board position as Welfare Chairman. Welcome girls, and we will do our best to help make your new jobs ones of interest and pleasure for you.

THE COFFEE POT'S BACK ON THE STOVE

WORK SHOPS

Voters Service workshop is back in swing again. Meetings are being held each Thursday morning in the home of Pauline Winn, 2090 West Riverview at 9:30 a.m. This study of the Election code and Election laws is of vital interest to us all, especially this coming year and I'm sure many more of you (new members especially) would like to know more on this subject. Here is your opportunity. There will be approximately 4 workshops on this so you can see you still have time to catch most of the information first-hand, by just merely showing up and "tuning in". This is open house so come along...

Pauline Winn, Ch. Voters Service, phone 7757

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

I'LL RAISE THE ANTE TO TWO CUPS OF COFFEE....so says Melbe, vying with Pauline for the consumers favor (you members being said consumer).

Local government workshops just entering the formative stages so here's the time to get in on the ground floor and learn all about it! Your County and Township governments and how they are interrelated. Melba has been months....yes, honestly, as far back as last

August she was haunting the Assessor's office, the Dog pound and the Sanitary District office to gather simply fascinating material for you members to work on. Give her a call and tell her you want in....

Melba Griffin, phone 3-7181

**FARM
SURVEY**

To date the Survey is about half finished. What with Christmas cooking, baking and Santa Claus coming to town, things got a bit slowed up but we hope to get finished within the next two weeks. If there are any of you who could take off a half day and make one of these surveys please call me....

Marjorie Gardner, phone 2-1778

COMING UP!

CANDIDATES MEETING:

As you all know, 1956 is one of the BIG election years. Millions of Americans will go to the polls in April to nominate for the highest Candidate in our country, that of President and on down through the ranks of our political files. The League, as part of its Voters Service to the Community, will endeavor to inform the citizens of Decatur and surrounding counties about their candidates for various offices in the forthcoming Primary by again holding their Candidates Meeting in March in the Decatur High School Auditorium. Due to the illness of Pauline Winn, our Voters Service Chairman, the herculean task of preparing for this Candidates meeting this year has been accepted by Lola Smith, brave soul that she is. The preliminary meeting was held on January 9th in the home of Mrs. Gibson. This is perhaps the Leagues largest project of the year, and to have a successful candidates meeting requires the concentrated effort of EVERY LEAGUE MEMBER....Young, Old, Tired or Indifferent....if you are a League member your help is needed. There are a thousand and one things to be done (and if you think this is an exaggeration just ask Lola)....Telephoning, Typing letters, formulating questionnaires, securing a moderator, time-keepers, interviewing candidates, checking filing dates, etc. etc. etc., see, a thousand and one things. A hectic time, but lots of fun to participate in, so won't you please call Lola, and tell her you will help, in any capacity from baby sitting to escorting the Governor through town. She will welcome that call....her phone 2-1764DO IT NOW!

A REMINDER

From our President, Virginia Gibson:

The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois, shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The policy of the League is to take action on local governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Platform of the League of Women Voters of the United States....Article II. Sec. 1-2 of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois.

League Committees responsible for organization and administration will please have their reports ready for the February bulletin. It is the policy of the League to give a full month before the Annual meeting for the membership to consider these reports. This is your opportunity and responsibility to have an active part in the making of the League program, keeping in mind, our program is based on governmental issues only.

**FOR
SALE**

Freedom Agenda Pamphlets:

Sets of six booklets at \$1.50 per set are available to League members. In October when discussion meetings were set up, many of our members for various reasons could not attend. However, many expressed an interest in the material. These booklets will be on display at the luncheon meeting this month. They are well worth a little space in your reference library at home or may be of value for program use in some of your organizations. To refresh your memory the titles are: The Bill of Rights and our Individual Liberties - Where Constitutional Liberty Came From - Freedom of Speech and Press - Constitutional Liberty and Seditious Activity - the Constitution and Congressional Investigating Committees - The Constitution and Loyal Programs.

Lola Smith, Freedom Agenda Chairman, 2-1764

1. Nominating Committee:

Mrs. Gerald Cox, Chairman, 834 W. Division, phone 3-8892

Members: Mrs. Neal Doubleday, Mrs. C. M. Nicholson, Mrs. Thomas McCracken and Mrs. J. W. Hurley.

Offices open for election:

2nd Vice-President

Treasurer

3 Directors

Please send your suggestions for these board positions to the committee as quickly as possible.

2. Local Agenda Committee:

Mrs. Perley Lupton, Chairman, 619 W. Forest, phone 2-4293

Members: Mrs. Porter French, Mrs. Clifford Smith, and Mrs. E. C. Stivers.

One of the most important items to be voted upon at the Annual meeting in March is the Local Agenda. WHAT do you wish the League to concentrate on in 1956-57? The committee is waiting for your suggestions.

3. Budget Committee:

Mrs. George Kuhns, 1492 W. Decatur, phone 5520.

Members: Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. Robert S. Brown, Mrs. G. R. Cohn.

You know of a better method of raising money for the League....or of spending it?? Send in those ideas, they will be given consideration.

4. By-Laws Committee:

Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Chairman, 1311 California, phone 8-4055.

Members. Mrs. Neal Doubleday, Mrs. Lowell Gill.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE SCHOOL BOARD JANUARY 31st. WHETHER YOU ARE FOR OR AGAINST THE ISSUE OF INCREASING THE SCHOOL BOARD, VOTE! IT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

NEW
NEWS-
HEN

As you have already noticed in the changes in board positions, Eleanor Fairs will be your new Bulletin Editor, beginning with the February issue.

Eleanor is a very capable gal, and I'm sure you are in for some interesting reading, League-wise and maybe other-wise, who knows?? If any of you, through the months come into possession of news items of interest to League members, call them in to Eleanor, she will welcome them I know.

And here I wish to present a big bouquet of Red Roses.....To Mrs. E. B. Freyfogle, a new member (Tinkey to you Leaguers who have not met her) who has offered to assist on the Bulletin in that she will pick up the material when it is finished at the publishers, assemble it, address, staple it together, stamp and mail it. Tinkey says its her contribution to the League this year as she has several wee ones at home still at the "under the feet" stage and she is unable to make meetings regularly. I think you will have to agree with me this proves there is a place and a job for everyone in the League. There are very few glamour spots but each and every one of them can be fun and rewarding. So once more I urge you all to put forth a little more effort in 1956 and make it a truly Happy League Year for yourselves.

And so,

Confuscious says:

It is perhaps a more fortunate destiny to have a taste for collecting shells than to be born a millionaire.....

Anybody wants trade their gold-plated Cadillac for my shell collection?

Rachel Hurley, Bulletin Editor

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

Mrs. John H. Fairs, Bulletin Ed.

Sing a song of politics,
How things have gone awry,
Four and twenty candidates
Baked in a pie;
When the pie is opened
And those birds begin to sing,
You and I who made the pie -
Have got to eat the thing!

UNIT MEETINGS

Wednesday morning, Feb. 15th, 9:30 A.M. Y.M.C.A.
Wednesday Evening, Feb. 15th, 7:30 P.M. Y.M.C.A.

Program: ARE YOU A POLITICAL QUIZ KID?

Can you name candidates to be nominated in the April 10th Primary for ..

1. State's Attorney.....?
2. Representative Committeemen.....?
3. State Senator.....?
4. Delegates to National Convention..?
5. Governor.....?

Can you tell their function in the Political Organization of Illinois?

You can fit the pieces of this Quiz together if you come to the Unit Meeting, February 15th.

Committee - Morning Session: Mrs. James Hurley, Miss Grace Bridges, Mrs. Charles Griffin, Mrs. William Winn, Mrs. James E. Key.

Evening Meeting: Mrs. H. W. Gibson, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, Mrs. E. C. Stivers.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES: "Measure to counteract inflation or deflation"....

Morning Session: Mrs. R. E. Lewis

Evening Session: Mrs. Gerald D. Cox

Pauline Winn, Voters Service Chairman

Event of the year!

CANDIDATES MEETING**

See you there!

Please, mark the date March 8th on your calendar and reserve that evening for your attendance at our eighth candidates' meeting. (a note to older members: there were no major primary elections in 1949 and in 1953.) The place, as usual, will be the Decatur High School Auditorium. The time will be 8:15 P.M.

When you go up the steps to the main corridor of the High School building, you will immediately feel the under-current of excitement filling the halls. Friends of the candidates will add to your collection of safety matches, pocket combs, etc. The candidates, themselves, will be meeting League members, renewing acquaintanceships with each other and finding their places for the stage appearance.

At the entrance to the auditorium itself, ushers will greet you cordially, give you a printed program and you will hear lively music being played by the Woodrow Wilson Junior High School band.

A new moderator, Mr. Robert Shade, will preside at our meeting this year. Mr. Shade is well known to many of you as former director of news at W T V P.

Then you will have the unique privilege of seeing, hearing and questioning candidates of both parties on the same platform. It is my personal opinion that no other experience--neither T V appearances nor party meetings can take the place of this March 8th meeting in helping you compare the candidates.

Don't hesitate to recommend the Candidates' meeting to all the people you can. It's always more fun to have a full house!

Watch the newspapers for more information as the date approaches.

General Committee: Helen Leigh, Rachel Hurley, Florence Cox, Katherine Donovan, Melba Griffin, Elizabeth Lupton, Pauline Winn, Marsha McCracken, Dorothy Morris, Virginia Gibson, Lola Smith.

Typists: Mrs. Wm. F. Kuntz, Mrs. G. J. Cresswell, Mrs. Harold Meenen, Mrs. Fritz Woyna, Mrs. Eugene Dorsey.

Ushers: Mrs. H. W. Pettee, Mrs. Wm. Gardner, Mrs. George Kuhns, Mrs. Lowell Gill, Mrs. Dorr Taylor, Mrs. Neal Doubleday, Mrs. E. B. Freyfogle, Miss Gertrude Hill, Mrs. Nat Kessler, chairman.

Calling Committee: Mrs. Edgar Bachrach, Mrs. Ralph Frederickson, Mrs. Richard Wood.

Lola Smith, Chairman

WORKSHOPS

Local Government: How about joining the "Know your country" study? There are a number of committees functioning, but there is always room for more members on each. County government covers so many fields that its bound to hit one of your particular interests. Also you can adapt the time to your own schedule as only a few will be working on the same problem. Give me a ring, and I'll fill in the details!

Melba Griffin, Chairman
phone 3-7181

Voter's Service: Usually, when a work-shop group has their material ready for presentation at a unit meeting they are ready to call it quits, and say "thank goodness, that's done" but not this bunch of girls. They feel they have just reached the stage where "A little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing" and want to continue the workshop for their own edification, and the fun of it. It's never too late to join in, you're welcome.

Pauline Winn, Voter's Service
phone 7757

1. Nominations for OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, FOR 1956-57 AS SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Second Vice President.....Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt

Treasurer.....Mrs. G. R. Cohn

Directors.....Mrs. John H. Fairs, Mrs. Donald Dame,
Mrs. Loring Unger

Nominating Committee for 1956-57 -- Mrs. Perley Lupton, chairman

Mrs. Nat Kessler, Mrs. Ayrlie Morris.

Submitted by Mrs. Gerald Cox, Chairman, 1955 Nominating
Committee

2. CURRENT AGENDA:

1. A study of local welfare, with action where indicated.
2. Analysis, with action where needed, of governmental units within the county.
3. A study of city transportation problems, with an eye toward city ownership and operation of bus line.

Submitted by Local Agenda Committee: Mrs. Perley Lupton, Ch.

Your local board recommended the first two items. The Local Agenda is to be adopted at the Annual Meeting in March. The above outline is a suggested agenda by the committee. Any member of the League may bring their suggestions for the Agenda to the floor at the Annual meeting. In fact you are urged to do so. Mark your calendar now for March 28th, and bring this bulletin with you.

3. BY-LAWS:

A recommendation for a change in the local By-Laws will be in the March bulletin. It is not in this bulletin due to the necessity for State board approval before being presented to the membership.

Marsha McCracken, Chairman

BUDGET REPORT

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

ITEM	'55-'56 Budget	Actual Feb. 1	Proposed '56-'57
<u>Expenditures</u>			
State & National	\$515.00	\$515.00	\$515.00
Supplies	25.00	17.81	25.00
Postage (not bulletin)	15.00	19.00	20.00
Telephone & Telegraph	10.00	7.19	10.00
President's Expense	25.00	25.00	25.00
Convention Expense	200.00	103.90	200.00
State Conferences	150.00	57.16	100.00
Committee Expense	25.00	25.97	30.00
Meetings	55.00	30.38	50.00
Publications	90.00	187.27	90.00
Bulletin	100.00	95.75	125.00
ACTION in Community	150.00	9.76	150.00
Bank Charges	5.00	.09	-----
Miscellaneous	10.00	32.36	15.00
Totals	1,375.00	1,126.64	1,355.00

INCOME

Dues	405.00	390.00	390.00
Contributions			
Members	220.00	207.50	215.00
Friends	750.00	629.00	750.00
Totals	1,375.00	1,226.50	1,355.00

Anne Kuhns, Chairman

FARM SURVEY

The farm survey is finished with forty-six interviews completed, and our report has gone into the state office to be compiled with the rest of the state reports. My thanks to all the members who helped on this survey. It was hard work, but in true League fashion, the girls managed to have fun doing it as you can tell from some of these highlights reported:

Katherine Donovan and Ruth Hipsher were a little down-hearted on their first trip out due to the fact they found some competition in that an auction sale was going on in their territory, and as Ruth points out "How can you make a survey interview sound as enticing as a glib auctioneers low price on a manure spreader?" But a Leaguer never says die---they returned the following day and completed their project.

Rachel Hurley says she can verify the fact that our President, Virginia Gibson could well qualify for the Olympic high jump team after having seen the leap she, Virginia, made over a gate post when three friendly pigs came up to greet her at one of their stops. (Virginia says they were as large as elephants--Rachel says they were little bittie ones.)

Mary Cresswell didn't include this in her report but 'twas told to me that even romance was encountered on her trip out. Seems a traveling salesman, in a red convertible was working the same circuit as Mary, and they got to "tooting their horns" at each other, when one would pull in a farm yard just as the other pulled out...It was evident Mary didn't let romance interfere with her work tho as her reports came through in fine shape.

Eleanor Fairs reports that one of the farm housewives maintains the "city folks" have the best go--if they run short of money all they have to do nowadays is go on a TV show and pick up a thousand or two, while the farmer has to live within a "quota"....

My thanks again to these members who helped on this survey: Virginia Gibson, Helen Leigh, Katherine Donovan, Ruth Hipsher, Eleanor Fairs, Mary Cresswell and Rachel Hurley.

Marge Gardner, Chairman Farm Survey.

The League has been asked to present a program at the Dennis School Parent Teachers Association meeting February 16th and Marcia McCracken, Florence Cox and Katherine will give a panel discussion. Their subject will be: "The School and Your Pocketbook"

MEETINGS:

Melba Griffin and Margaret Morris attended a meeting on Local Agenda in Chicago on February 3rd.

Pauline Winn will attend the Voter's Service meeting in Chicago on February 17th.

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

Mrs. John H. Fairs, Bulletin Editor

"Reality plus Dreams equals Idealism. Reality plus Humor equals Conservatism. Reality plus Dreams plus Humor equals Wisdom."

Lin Yutang...The Importance of Living.

**UNIT
MEETINGS:**

Wednesday Morning - ONLY - March 21, 9:30 at the Y.M.C.A.

PROGRAM: Freedom Agenda: "Freedom of Speech & Press"
"Individual Liberty in the U.S.A."

What's your opinion:

What control should government have over your thoughts, speech and actions? If you were on trial in the Federal Courts for bank robbery, what principles of law would protect your life, liberty and property? Discussion leader: Mrs. Nat Kessler.

PLEASE NOTE, ONLY ONE UNIT MEETING THIS MONTH, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO ATTEND THE MORNING MEETING.

ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 28th 1:00 P.M.

LUNCHEON: PASTEL ROOM, ORLANDO HOTEL, PRICE: \$1.50

Don't miss the fun that is being planned for you at the Annual meeting this year! As you all know, after President Eisenhower's announcement this week, everyone is beginning to get "political minded", so members of the League are preparing a "Cracker Box Quiz", and YOU are needed to take part...either as a contender or on the cheering squad.

This is also your opportunity to get a first hand report on all the League's activities for the past year, so try to be on hand. Bring your February bulletin for reference to the nominating slate and the local agenda.

INVITATION TO YOU: Attend RED CROSS Open House, March 6-10 -- 2:00 to 8:00 P.M.

We have a request to increase our pledge from \$515.00 to \$550.00 to State and National. Your local board recommends that this be done at the Annual Meeting.

PROPOSED ACTION

A committee from your local board composed of Pauline Winn, Helen Leigh, Florence Cox and Rachel Hurley, will formulate a questionnaire on the proposed school board election, April 14th, 1956. If you have questions to ask the candidates, please send them to Mrs. Winn, 2090 W. Riverview, on or before March 16th.

WHAT MAKES THE WHEELS GO 'ROUND?

Here's a chance to see first hand your local board in action. An invitation will be extended to three members at a time to sit in on actual Board meeting. When your turn comes, say YES, spend an informative hour or so. The Board would welcome any suggestions you might have in improving their methods of procedure.

We wish to welcome new member Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, 316 S. Linden, phone 3-0410, and welcome back with gladness Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, 1390 W. Macon, phone 2-3229.

Change of Address: Mrs. Fritz Woyna, 11 Higdon Drive, - 3-1133.

NOTE MEMBERS. Please make changes on your membership list.

**ELECTION
DAY**

Are you registered to vote in the Primary, April 10th?

Remember: Good Government is Everybody's Business.

VOTE!!!

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED BY MARCH 12TH

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR'S WORK

LOCAL LEVEL:

Voter's Service - Because we were not as active in Political Action in the community as in previous years, we undertook several new projects, in order to help orient new members and familiarize old members with the true meaning of Voter's Service.

Questionnaire - Questionnaire was sent to all city candidates. Questions and answers were published in the newspaper Sunday before the April 1, 1955 City Election.

Orientation Meeting - At the Orientation Meeting for new members, I used a number of posters to illustrate some of the ways Voter's Service can be accomplished in Decatur. The posters depicted the Candidate's Meeting, Registration, building Public Opinion, correct voting procedures, etc. Miss Muriel Perry from the Public Library was present at

the meeting. She suggested that we have a display of the posters at the Public Library. This was done before our Finance Drive to keep the public informed of League activities. Voter's Service had not been a part of our Orientation of new members heretofore. I would recommend that this always be a part of the orientation of new members because many of them are interested in this part of League Work.

Larkdale Annexation - Because the Larkdale Annexation was subject to a Referendum, October 4, the League Board voted to do a Voter's Service so that they might vote intelligently. There was a full page spread in the newspaper the Sunday before the annexation referendum with questions from the League and answers from the objectors, Mr. Lubin and the City Council members.

Voters Service Workshop - This is the first time that a Voters Service Workshop has been held in the Decatur League. We are studying The Election Code of Illinois, The Illinois Voter's Handbook, Political Parties, Their Organization and Influence, Choosing the President of the U. S. A. The Workshop has been a busy and interesting one. We are planning to present part of the material to the membership at the February 15th Unit Meeting. I would strongly recommend that this workshop be a part of League study each year. It is of particular benefit to new members and many older members of the League have attended.

Candidate's Meeting - Our Candidate's Meeting will be held March 8 at the Decatur High School Auditorium. This is before the Primary April 10th. The napkins advertising the meeting are to be used again. The newspapers are giving their usual fine support to Mrs. Clifford Smith, Chairman and Mrs. James Hurley, Public Relations Chairman. Forty-three candidates were asked, thirty-four accepted, Mr. Robert Shade is to be the moderator, and the timers will be two students from Millikin University.

Station WSOY alloted us a fifteen minute program, which was covered by Mrs. Floyd Birt, Mrs. Ernie Cresswell, discussing the candidates meeting.

A panel of four members, Mrs. William Gardner, Mrs. Forest Martin, Mrs. Perley Lupton and Mrs. William Hipsher gave a thirty minute skit on League background and the candidates in general.

Mrs. Clifford Smith, general chairman of the candidates committee, was interviewed on WTVP television, March 5th.

Pauline Winn - Voter's Service, Chairman

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

The League's public relations within our community is very good. The daily newspapers and the weekly Advertiser have all been generous in giving us various types of publicity and space in the news whenever we ask for it.

League members have been attending Council meetings for the past year, and the feeling prevails that we are now accepted as practically being a part of the "council family"...in fact, we've been told, the Mayor is inclined to look around with a worried frown IF the League member is not in her seat at roll-call.

The League is represented on many and varied civic groups in Decatur. On the Association of Commerce committees we have a member serving in the following capacities: Legislative Committee, Mrs. H. W. Gibson; Public Health, Mrs. Ayrle Morris; Education, Mrs. Wm. Winn; Taxation, Mrs. Thomas McCracken; Decatur Neighborhood, Mrs. Charles Griffin; Mrs. Forest Martin and Mrs. Ralston Goss are serving on the Council of Social Agencies; Mrs. Clifford E. Smith on the Decatur Adult Education Advisory Committee; Mrs. Wm. Gardner on the Temporary committee on United Nations; Mrs. Gibson on the temporary committee of the advisory school board committee.

Our two radio stations and television station have been most cooperative in giving us time for special events, especially our Candidates meeting, with interviews and spot announcements.

We have furnished panel members and material for PTA programs.

We have taken advantage, when the occasion presented itself, to use the "Letters to the Editor" column in the newspapers to make known our views on certain issues at all levels of government.

In our Candidates meeting, we believe we used every media of publicity possible from newspaper articles to printed napkins, dispersed at all civic dinners, luncheons, etc., also all service club groups...even to the "kids" bulletin board at one of the local supermarkets!

All in all, we are proud of our public relations in our community and will continue to maintain this same good-will for the coming year.

Rachel Hurley, Public Relations Chairman

PUBLICATIONS:

During the past year much material was ordered for the Chairman of Freedom Agenda, all of this was used in the Freedom Agenda discussions which were held at the library and the Y.W.C.A. in October. Two hundred "Facts About the League" were also ordered, plus 1500 United Nation Pamphlets, which were distributed in Central Park during United Nations Week. In the study of Local Government--15 issues of Know Your Country and 5 issues of Know Your Town Government were ordered. Under the Constitution Revision Chairmen some of the following material was ordered: 5 Briefing Materials on Constitution Representation, 4 copies of Making Foreign Policy - U. S. A., 4 facts about 25% Tax Limit, 1-A Glossary of Tax Terms and 11-Toward A Coordinated and Flexible State Fiscal

Structure. Under Voters Service - we ordered 15 copies of Choosing the President, U.S.A., 14-Program Making Material 55-56, 14-National Board Report and 14-The Role of the Political Parties. There was also much material ordered for the International Relations Chairman - such as What's the U.N. to Do, The Citizen and the U.N., a Recording of Points of View, World Trade and quite a few other pamphlets were ordered along with all of the above material.

Jeanette Adelman, Publications Chairman

FINANCE:

Report of the Finance Drive: Number of contributors - members 37, non-members 58, total of 95. Goal budgeted, members \$220.00, non-members \$750.00, total \$970.00. Amounts received, members \$212.50, non-members \$629.00, total \$841.50. Twenty-two members participated in the drive.

Helen Leigh, Finance Chairman

COUNTY STUDY:

In January an organizational meeting for the study of county government was held. Seven different committees were formed to study the various phases of the work. The individual members are prefacing their research by general reading on county government, followed by work on their own specific problem. Library work and study will be followed by interviews with county officials, attendance at town and county meetings as the work progresses.

Melba Griffin, Local Government chairman

MEMBERSHIP-ACTION:

We have welcomed twelve new members and one returned-to-town member. We had a membership breakfast at Sylvia Cohn's in July, we have used the Welcome Wagon to distribute material to newcomer's in town. A concentrated effort has been made all year to see that new members got to Unit Meetings, a car pool was arranged, new members have been picked up by some older member.

All calls for action have been answered at State and National levels. Our Congressmen, State Representatives, and U. S. Senators and Representatives, have as always been cooperative and interested in the League's point of view on governmental issues.

Cauline Martin, Membership and Action Chm.

STATE LEVEL

Constitutional Revision:

(a) Revenue From September 27 to October 25 five workshop meetings were held weekly in the Y.W.C.A. to study the present revenue structure and features in the state of Illinois and to consider the features of the Proposed Revenue Amendment. On November 16 at two unit meetings the highlights of the present Revenue Article of the Illinois constitution were presented to the membership along with a summary of the outstanding changes which would be effected if the proposed Revenue Amendment is approved by the voters.

(b) Judicial Reform So far this year Judicial Reform has not been an item for study in the League of Women Voters of Decatur. It is hoped that a field trip or court visit may be arranged later to offer interested persons an opportunity to consider the various aspects of this particular subject.

Marcia McCracken, Constitution Revision, Ch.

NATIONAL LEVEL

Freedom Agenda - As most of you know by now, the Freedom Agenda project is an educational program designed to increase our understanding and appreciation of the role that individual freedom plays in our system of government. It also recognizes the need for national security.

After a number of workshop meetings early last year, we had three unit meetings in April using as a basis for discussions two of the Freedom Agenda booklets, "The Bill of Rights and Our Individual Liberties" and "Where Constitutional Liberty Came From." The meetings were very well attended and included representatives from eighteen other organizations in the city.

In May we participated in a series of television programs over WCIA sponsored by the Champaign County League. Mr. Charles Lippert, Mr. Jon Anderson and myself (Mrs. Clifford Smith) composed a panel representing Decatur. Our subject was "The Constitution and Congressional Investigating Committees." Preceding our appearance on the program was a short but excellent and dramatic skit in which local Little Theater actors played the parts of two senators and the president of the Senate in the period just before the Civil War during an investigation of John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry.

During the summer, arrangements were started for two discussion groups to meet during October and early November. In September our newspapers gave excellent editorial notice of these meetings, but only the Y.W.C.A. group with Gertrude Hill as leader held them as scheduled. Freedom Agenda material was also used for some of the regular Y.W. groups with Mr. & Mrs. Nat Kessler as leaders.

In January Professor George Frampton of the University of Illinois, Law School spoke to us at a luncheon meeting on "Procedures in Loyalty-Security Determination".

This month a panel from the League will give a program for the Y.W.C.A. Public Affairs luncheon meeting. Mrs. C. M. Nicholson, Mrs. Neal Doubleday, Mrs. Nat Kessler and Mrs. John Donovan will appear there using the individual liberties theme.

A final means of using the Freedom Agenda material has been the giving of sets of the booklets to Decatur High School, the four Junior High Schools and to the office of the County Superintendent of Schools.

Lola Smith, Freedom Agenda, Chairman

World Trade:

We started our work last Fall with a Unit meeting on the United Nations. The meeting was on Oct. 19th, culminating three workshops. We stressed the accomplishments of the U.N. over the ten years it has been in existence. The League also took part in a city wide celebration of United Nations week.

Farm interviewing, a part of the World-Trade survey, started in November, with about 100 interviews over a wide area to cover. We were not able to complete all the interviews due to the lack of woman power, the holidays and bad weather, however we do feel we made a good showing and obtained some excellent interviews. Last week, at the request of State, Katherine Donovan, Rachel Hurley and Pauline Winn were out taking pictures to show just how the interviews were conducted.

I have a request from State for some human interest stories as a result of our survey. If any of you interviewers can come up with some funny and/or interesting experiences, please send them to me or call me and I'll try to get them down on paper.

Marjorie Gardner, Chairman World Trade

PROPOSED CHANGE IN LOCAL BY-LAWS

Article IX

Program

Sec. 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of program.

Sec. 2. Local Program. The Program consists of the local governmental measures and policies on which the League of Women Voters of Decatur may take action. The Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities as hereinafter defined constitute the Program.

Sec. 3. Current Agenda. The Current Agenda shall be limited to such local governmental issues as the membership shall choose for action in the following manner:

- a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Current Agenda.
- b) The Proposed Current Agenda shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.
- c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Current Agenda as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d) 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 a two-thirds vote and (2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- e) Changes in the Current Agenda, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that: (1) the information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and (2) final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Sec. 4. Continuing Responsibilities. Continuing Responsibilities shall be those positions on local governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Decatur has given sustained attention, on which it may continue to act, as determined by the Annual Meeting.

- a) The Continuing Responsibilities may be amended by a two-thirds vote of any Annual Meeting provided notice of the proposed changes shall have been sent by the Board of Directors to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.
- b) 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 two-thirds vote, and (2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- c) Every six years the Board shall review the Continuing Responsibilities and submit to the members its recommendations for keeping the Continuing Responsibilities current, using the regular procedure for amendment outline in (a) and (b) of this section.

Sec. 5. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors. Marcia McGracken Chm.

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

"Doing easily what others find difficult is talent:
doing what is impossible is genius." Amiel

UNIT

MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9:30 AM, Y.M.C.A. April 18th

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 7:30 PM, Y.M.C.A. April 18th

PROGRAM: Discussion of Illinois Trader and OTC

Resource Committee: Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. William Hipsher,

Mrs. William Gardner, Chairman, for AM; Mrs. Arthur Adelman,

Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. H. W. Gibson, PM.

This is a discussion of the results of the industrial and farm survey made by League members in Illinois. We know you will be interested in finding out what the heads of our industries and the farmers in this state think about World Trade and how it affects them.

MAY

LUNCHEON

MEETING

Third TUESDAY, May 15th - 1:00 PM, Decatur Club

There will be no unit meetings in May. Instead we will have one luncheon meeting to hear the report of the National Convention. If you are unable to be with us for luncheon, please feel free to come in for the meeting at 2 PM.

ONCE

AGAIN

Gals, it's that time of the year again.

Please send your dues for 1956=57 to

League of Women Voters of Decatur

Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer

777 S. Monroe, Decatur, Illinois

The sum is \$3.00 for the year, plus any contribution you care to make in advance to our Finance Drive. Thank you muchly'.

Sylvia Cohn

CONVENTION

NEWS

The National Convention of the League of Women Voters will be held April 30 through May 4th at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago. Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President, will serve as delegate for the Decatur League. Mrs. J. W. Hurley, Mrs. William Winn and Mrs. John Donovan go to aid in the hard work of running a convention. Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt and Mrs. Loring Unger will visit. There is still a place for visitors on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 1st and 2nd. Call Virginia Gibson, 3-4344, for further details.

BOUQUET

TIME

Spring, and what better season to "pick bouquets"? Let's talk about the Candidates' Meeting for School Board members. 500 were in the audience, with 25 of the 34 candidates there. The bouquet part is a quote from the Board meeting spoken by Virginia Gibson: the chairmen for this meeting, Pauline Winn and Rachel Hurley "outdid themselves", and Pauline certainly goes out-of-office in a "blaze of glory" -- end quote. Thanks, for a job well done, gals.

ELECTION

DAY

To all League members residing in School District #61: Remember to vote April 14th for school board members.

NATIONAL

CURRENT

AGENDA

Your local Board mailed to the National Board, on the second round of Current Agenda suggestions, approval of the two items as listed in your National Voter, February 1, 1956.

WELCOME

To Mrs. Lee R. Leonard, 1694 W. Sunset, 8-6278 a new League member and a newcomer to Decatur.

ODDS 'N ENDS.....You will receive, attached to this bulletin, a letter outlining policy suggestions that will be up for discussion at the National Convention. Please read it carefully.

Pauline Winn's Voter's Service committee will take their material to a meeting of the Contemporary Living group of AAUW on the evening of April 17th.

Mrs. Hilmer Landholt will serve as the League representative on the Decatur Women's Council.

Mrs. File, Mrs. French and Mrs. Landholt were our first member representatives to discover "What Makes the Wheels Go 'Round". If you are called to sit in on a Board Meeting, please find the time to do so. There is no better way to know the League.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

CURRENT AGENDA	Adopted by the membership at the Annual Meeting as the local Current Agenda for 1956-57: I. A study of local Welfare, with action where indicated. II. Analysis, with action where needed, of governmental units within the county.
ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS	Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, 2nd Vice-President Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer Mrs. Donald Dame, Elected Director, 2 years Mrs. Loring Unger, Elected Director, 2 years Mrs. John H. Fairs, Elected Director, 2 years
BY-LAWS	The following amendment to the local By-Laws was approved at the Annual Meeting. LEAGUE MEMBERS: please clip and attach to your copy of the By-Laws.

Article IX

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Sec. 5. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors.

Character is made by what you stand for, reputation by what you fall for.

--- Alexander Woolcott

I fell for this job.

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor.

TO MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR:

*Mr. Herbert C. Martin
4403 W. 3rd Ave.
Amarillo,
Texas*

The Amarillo League of Women Voters of Amarillo, Texas, has prepared the following proposals which will be debated and accepted or rejected at the National Convention, April 30-May 4, 1956.

PROPOSAL #1: A local League shall comply with all requests for opinions from the League of Women Voters of the United States and the State League or explain its reason for not doing so. (To be added to paragraph on Program Factor, page 2, Local Leader's Handbook)

PROPOSAL #2: That the National Board establish a policy and practice of providing local Leagues with factual results of League opinion surveys when such information is requested.

PROPOSAL #3: Results of opinion surveys shall not be made available verbatim to officials, newspapers or the public, although general statements may be used to emphasize the strength of League positions. (To be inserted immediately following the sentence beginning "Time for Action..." found at the top of page 12, Local Leader's Handbook. Insertion be italicized and mandatory.)

Background

These proposals arise out of dissatisfaction with the League of Women Voters of the United States' stand against the Bricker amendment. In August 1953, the National Board sent a request to all Local Leagues to study the proposed Bricker Amendment and submit a consensus of opinion regarding it. DECATUR HAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED SUCH REQUESTS TO BE MANDATORY. Accordingly workshops were arranged under the chairmanship of Mrs. Clifford Smith. Three meetings were held with the workshop members probing the pros and cons. A fourth meeting on Nov. 3rd was arranged with 2 lawyers, Mr. J. E. Jackson and Mr. Charles Lippert, one definitely pro and one definitely con. The accumulation of these four meetings was presented to the membership at 3 unit meetings on Nov. 18 and 19, 1953, pro and con. The results of membership opinion were sent to the National Board in January, 1954. At that time we were keeping no record of unit attendance, but I believe it is safe to estimate that out of a membership of 131 in 1953, Decatur's opinion was based upon approximately 35 members who were interested enough to either join the workshop or attend the unit meetings. This means approximately 26% of the membership decided and acted for all the membership.

Structure of the League

On all levels, local, state and national, the League has patterned itself after the manner of government in the United States. Our units resemble the town meeting in that material is discussed and when action is contemplated, agreement reached. It has been assumed that when proper notification is given the membership through the local bulletin, lack of majority attendance of members does not hamper the League from acting, and acting in the name of the total membership. Decisions are similarly reached in state and national conventions. Thusly, when your representatives in either the state General Assembly or the Federal Congress, study, discuss and vote upon a measure, they do not go back to their constituents and count heads to decide their vote. If they did, no issue would ever reach a final vote. These assemblies would become inoperative. So it is with the League, should we establish the practice of counting heads and each time insist upon 51% agreement before action, we would never act. BY VIRTUE OF YOUR VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEAGUE, YOU ARE COMMITTED AS A MEMBER TO LEAGUE DECISIONS, YOUR ABSENCES AND YOUR SILENCE NOTWITHSTANDING. So it is in government. Your absence from the polls does not prevent the election of government officials or prevent those officials from passing legislation in your name.

Proposals #1, 2, 3:

Your local Board believes that Proposal #1 will be seriously debated and may pass but that #2 and 3 will be voted down by the National Convention. Your local Board is opposed to all 3 proposals as worded.

- 1 (Proposal #1 is opposed on the basis that the word "opinions" alone does not clearly designate how the proposal will be interpreted. The implication by Amarillo is that they are against "consensus". If they designate counting heads with majority membership agreement mandatory, they are removing the League, locally, state and nationally, clear out of the action field and committing it to the status of study group only.) If "opinions" is designated to mean "consensus of those present" your local Board would not oppose an amendment to that effect.

Your local Board has agreed that should amendments be offered to Proposal #1, your delegate use her best judgment since the Board is not opposed to a request from National Board for study and consensus of opinion of those present, becoming mandatory upon the local League.

- ✓ (Proposal #2 has two implications:

1. that local Leagues must submit opinions based upon agreement by 51% or more of the membership. This implication is clear because the very fact that such a proposal is submitted implies that national should not act unless it is acting for a majority of the membership.
2. Secondly, it implies a distrust of the National Board.)

*- Less not
get sentiment
over the Natl
Board*

(OVER)

3

This proposal, if enacted, would have one of three results:

1. Leagues would become mere study groups or,
2. To ensure action in the name of a majority, membership would be slashed to 1/3 of the present 127,000 members. Your local Board bases this upon the feeling that we do not believe other Leagues are different from Decatur in the ratio of active members, or
3. Less drastically, it means separating locally the active members from the inactive members and permitting only the active members voting privileges....and when we act, we act in the name of active members only.

Should Proposal #2 pass, proposal #3 would be a foregone conclusion and would not matter one way or another.

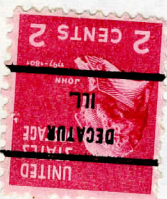
Conclusion

This matter merits your serious consideration. If you are in disagreement with your local Board or wish further explanation, please call me immediately.

Virginia Gibson - 3-4344
President

*Amarillo's isn't practical -
Rules for membership*

*city
160 Kellan drive
Mrs. H. W. Bloom*



League of Women Voters
43 N Country Club Rd,
DECATUR ILLINOIS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

News Bulletin #4

June 1956

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

"We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing,
while others judge us by what we have already done."
Longfellow

COFFEE HOUR

THURSDAY MORNING, 9:45 A. M. COLONIAL RESTAURANT - July 19
ATTENTION ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP A social hour for all members, their
friends, and new people in town. This is to be a "keep in touch" affair.

Come bringing your enthusiasm. Call reservations to Cauline Martin tel. 8-9236. If you have any
new folk, you would like the committee to invite, Cauline would like to know; new neighbors,
new in another organization who are interested in League.

Mrs. Forrest Martin, Membership chairman

NOTES FROM MAY 15, BOARD MEETING

There will be a member from State Board at our September Board meeting
to orientate new Board members.

WELCOME

To Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, 220 Delmar Avenue, tel. 8-5444. Mrs. Cresswell
is Voters' Service Chairman. The Board says goodbye to Mrs. William Winn,
Pauline. Thank you for a "job well done."

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON MEETING

Mrs. Oscar M. Ruebhausen of the National Board will be in Decatur for
the September Luncheon, September 20. Mrs. Ruebhausen has been the
League's official observer at the United Nations for a number of years. She
is a most forceful, dynamic speaker and those of us who heard her at

National Convention know you will thoroughly enjoy listening to her. By September, vacations
will be over and each and every one will wish to pick up the reins again. SEE YOU THERE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTION

Our Macon County government study plans to have its material assembled
and ready to present to the units in the fall. We're hopeful that our efforts
may yield fruit for a booklet of value to the community. Following are the
committees and their members who are working on this county project:

1. Background and characteristics. Board of Supervisors, Mrs. M. N. Bennett, Mrs. John Morris,
Mrs. Charles Griffin.
2. Supervision of elections. Mrs. E. C. Stevens, Mrs. William F. Kuntz, Miss Grace Bridges.
3. Assessment and finance, Recording and Property management and Planning and Zoning. Mrs.
H. W. Gibson, Mrs. Lowell Gill, Mrs. Loring Unger.
4. Justice. Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, Mrs. Perley Lupton.
5. Welfare, Health and Education. Mrs. Ralph Frederickson, Mrs. Ayrle Morris, Mrs. J. A.
Melrose and Mrs. M. D. Weaver.
6. Civil Defense, Fire Protection. Mrs. James Hurley, Mrs. Thomas McCracken.
7. Highways, Agricultural Extension Work. Mrs. William Hipsher, Mrs. L. L. Colvis.

Mrs. Charles Griffin, Local Government, Chairman

1956-57 BOARD MEMBERS

Elected Officers:

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

Mrs. J. W. Hurley, 1st Vice President, Public Relations

Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, 2nd Vice President, Constitutional Revision: Judicial

Mrs. Fritz Woyna, Secretary

Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer

Elected Directors:

Mrs. James Leigh, Publications

Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Action

Mrs. Forrest Martin, Membership and Units

Mrs. John Fairs, Bulletin Editor

Mrs. Loring Unger, Constitutional Revision: Revenue

Mrs. Donald Dame, Local Welfare

Appointed Directors:

Mrs. Charles Griffin, Local Government
Mrs. Arthur Adelman, Conservation
Mrs. Clifford Smith, Individual Liberties
Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, Voters Service

DUES
DUES
DUES

How about it Gals! We want you'al again for another year...We like you!
We need you! 1956-57 dues are payable NOW, to

Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer
777 S. Monroe, Decatur, Ill.

The sum is \$3.00 for the year. Thanks so much. The Board hopes to finish the Finance Drive during the summer months, concentrating in August. Sylvia Cohn, Treasurer

NOMINATED

To serve with the three elected members of the Nominating Committee, the Board appointed Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt and Mrs. John H. Fairs.

ALL-DAY
MEETING

Held in Chicago, June 7, Mrs. Charles Griffin, Mrs. E. J. Cresswell and Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, attended both morning and afternoon meetings. Discussion covered proposed Revenue Amendment, which the League supports in the fall elections. Stressed the importance of co-relating the work of the three fields of Revenue, Publicity and Voters Service. It was stressed that activity for passage of the Revenue Amendment be concentrated in October.

SOMETHING TO
THINK ABOUT

"If you approach league work as a valued opportunity to carry forward your belief in American democracy, you will be rewarded by a knowledge that you are helping to make it a reality; but even more significant, the experience will develop your own capacities, it will cause you to grow, it will add immeasurably to your personal sense of fulfillment by providing you with a practical way to make your town, your state, your nation (and perhaps the world) a better place to live in for those who follow".
Mrs. John Lee to Convention Delegates.

Have you ever asked yourself: Why, of all the organizations in the United States, is the League of Women Voters the only organization whose papers, letters and publications are in the Library of Congress?

The answer is simple: We are a living, breathing record of the social, economic and political history of the United States for the past thirty years. We are there because no historian can truly record or interpret the history of this nation from 1920 on, without research into our work.

Our tradition is magnificent; our Future can flame ever brighter. It will, so long as every League member feels a deep burning desire to know, to understand and to preserve American democracy for herself, her family and her nation.

Virginia Gibson, President

YOUR
PERSONAL
PRIVILEGE

The League of Women Voters of Illinois voted support of the Revenue Amendment which will be voted on Nov. 6th. This Amendment permits Classification of property for tax purposes. Work for the passage of this amendment will be concentrated in October. Won't you please volunteer to help then.

Marge Unger, 8-4879

NATIONAL
CONVENTION
NOTES

It was the first convention at which every state in the union plus Hawaii and Alaska was represented. 1,081 delegates representing 85% of the membership voted overwhelmingly to continue support of the United Nations and OTC and to oppose the Bricker-Dirksen Amendment. They adopted the following agenda:

Item 1: INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES: Evaluation of the federal loyalty-security programs, with recognition of the need for safeguarding national security and protecting individual liberties.

Item 2: CONSERVATION: A study of Water Resources.

Our prize bit: From the Chicago Tribune, reporter covering his first League of Women Voters National Convention - "In more than 20 years of covering conventions all over the United States, I have never before covered one in which the direction was continually issuing from the floor to the rostrum."

Results of the Trade Survey are out in two pamphlets:

Illinois Trader - .75¢

Facts and Attitudes on World Trade - .35¢

This survey conducted by the League of Women Voters is the most comprehensive survey in the field of World Trade that has ever been attempted by any organization, professional or volunteer. It is well worth your reading. You may obtain copies by calling Helen Leigh, 8-4806.

I heard via-the-grape-vine; that the May 15th, luncheon meeting held in the Decatur Club, was one of the most out-standing of the year. I wasn't there, were you? The best things always occur when one stays away. A word to the wise is sufficient. Have a wonderful summer.

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

NEWS BULLETIN #5

SEPTEMBER 1956

Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President

"If we mean to have heroes, statesmen and philosophers,
we should have learned women."

Abigail Adams

LUNCHEON MEETING

THURSDAY, September 20, 12:45 P.M. -- Y.M.C.A. Lunch \$1.50

This is the 10th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Decatur. We are hoping our charter members and Past Presidents will be with us. As we told you in the June Bulletin: Mrs. Oscar M. Ruebhausen of the National Board will be in Decatur for this meeting. Mrs. Ruebhausen has been the League's official observer at the United Nations for a number of years. She is a most forceful, dynamic speaker and those of us who heard her at National Convention know you will thoroughly enjoy listening to her.

Mrs. Cauline Martin, Membership Chairman

WELCOME

New members joining us after our last bulletin of the spring are:

Mrs. H. G. Bolton	1047 W. Leafland	4956
Mrs. Robert L. Crawford	1489 W. Riverview	2-2015
Mrs. Henry B. Malone	8 Greenridge Drive	3-3546
Mrs. J. A. Stoune	121 N. Taylor	2-0094

We also wish to welcome to the ~~Board~~ as Welfare Chairman, Mrs. Ralph Frederickson, 1417 West Macon, telephone 2-2448. We are sorry Mrs. Donald Dame's crowded schedule forced her resignation and hope she will have time for League work in the future.

INFORMED VOTER'S

If you are willing to invite some neighbors and friends to your home for a coffee hour, at your own convenience before election, we will gladly supply a resource person on the Blue Ballot Amendment. Call Eileen Gebhardt, telephone 2-3229.

On Monday November 5th, day before election we will need volunteers for downtown distribution of literature on the Blue Ballot. Let me know if you can help.

Mary Cresswell, Voter's Service, 8-5444

KNOW-YOUR-COUNTY In spite of heat, golf, vacations, house painting, and visits from in-laws, most of the reports on county government are in. Since we tackled a big job, don't expect us to be experts even in our particular area of study, but we're ready and eager to share our experiences and findings with you.

Melba Griffin, Local Gov't. Chairman

FINANCE DRIVE

Our 1956 fund quota has not yet been reached. The drive will of necessity, continue through September and the total raised will be reported in the Bulletin next month.

We are happy to report the following members on our solicitation team:

Mrs. Arthur Adelman	Mrs. Gerald Cox
Mrs. John Donovan	Mrs. Funk W. McLean
Mrs. H. W. Gibson	Mrs. J. W. Hurley
Mrs. Berwyn Foster	Mrs. Ayrle Morris
Mrs. E. L. Simmons	Mrs. G. R. Cohn
Mrs. Floyd Birt	Mrs. John H. Fairs
Mrs. Ernest Cresswell	Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt
Mrs. Ralph Frederickson	Mrs. Wm. Hipsher
Mrs. Charles Griffin	Mrs. Thomas McCracken
Mrs. Nat Kessler	Mrs. C. M. Nicholson
Mrs. Forrest Martin	Mrs. Clifford Smith
Mrs. Fred Schudel	Mrs. William Winn
Mrs. T. L. Hurst	

If any members wish to contribute, please mail your check directly to Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer, 777 South Monroe Street.

Helen Leigh, Finance Chairman

REGIONAL
MEETING

Sept. 10, 1956, Champaign, Danville, Decatur, Lincoln, McLean County, Morgan County and Springfield were guests of Bloomington League. Lunch inclusive.

Subjects discussed were Revenue Amendment, Expansion of Membership, Money, Money, Money, and how to get it. Those attending were Virginia Gibson, Kathryn Donovan, Mary Cresswell, Marge Unger, Shirley Landholt, Eleanor Fairs, Pauline Winn, Cauline Martin and Melba Griffin.

Marge Unger, Constitutional Revision;
Revenue, Chairman

Don't forget our regular unit meetings will begin in October, the third Wednesday. The Board needs YOUR HELP. Discontinuing of Night Sessions of Unit Meetings may result unless more interest is shown. Will you let us hear from you? We hope to have at least fifteen in attendance at each NIGHTLY SESSION. The girls presenting the material like support. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM THOSE INTERESTED IN NIGHT UNIT MEETINGS.

Cauline Martin, Unit Chairman, 8-9236

STATE
VISITED
US

We were most happy to have Mrs. Clarence Goelzer, Organization Chairman of the State Board, as our guest both at the Board Meeting, Sept. 6th, and at the Meeting on County Government the evening before. She had many good ideas to offer us.

NON-PARTISAN

The League can never emphasize the word too often. A candidate for election November 6th is distributing literature containing "His record each term has won approval or recommendation for re-election by the League of Women Voters.--" The statement implies that we are endorsing the candidate. It is of course a misleading statement which we will do our best to counteract by a letter to the Editor Sunday, September 16th.

REVENUE

The Speakers' Bureau has the following engagements for the month of September: Sept. 19th, Oak Grove PTA; Sept. 20th, Oakland, Oglesby and Riverside PTA's.

GLOBE
TROTTING

Part of the Progress Report of the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund, Inc. Pakistan, Mrs. Elizabeth Halsey returned from 14 months in S. E. Asia, five in Pakistan. There she worked with the All Pakistan Women's Association, and also conducted a seminar on organization affairs with the Pakistan Association of Social Workers. Among the fruits of the joint labors of Mrs. Halsey and Pakistan Assn. of Social Workers is a Leadership Handbook for Office-Bearers & Members of Organization in Pakistan. This is going to be revised slightly and printed here for use by interested groups anywhere.

On Mrs. Halsey's return, there was no rest for the weary. Since March 8 she has made 45 talks in 18 states and appeared on 10 radio and TV programs. The interest is tremendous in customs and ideas in other areas --- and what hunger there is for mutual understanding.

Both CCCMF and the Asia Foundation, which financed this East-West expedition, have reason to feel they have done a good job. The right person, a little money, and lots of understanding!

"Every trouble has a way of seeming smaller if we face it boldly."

Anonymous

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs Bulletin Ed.

Lord Chesterfield said. Learning is acquired by reading books; but the much more necessary learning, the knowledge of the world, is only to be acquired by reading men, and studying all the various editions of them.

UNIT MEETINGS: October 17th
Wednesday Morning, 9:30 A. M., Y. M. C. A.
Wednesday Evening, 7:30 P. M., 2275 W. Forest
Program: "WHAT'S WRONG WITH LOCAL TAXES?"
Discussion leaders, Eileen Gebhardt and Pauline Winn
Resource Committee for the morning meeting: Marcia McCracken and Virginia Gibson. For the evening session Resource Committee: Marcia McCracken. Coffee will be served, address 2275 West Forest. Need transportation call Cauline Martin.

The Unit Chairman and Resource Committees are working hard to make this years Unit Meetings, challenging. Do try to make this one of the "places you wish to be" the third Wednesday of each month.

Cauline Martin
Membership and Units, Chairman

YOUR VOTE IS YOU

Here are the plans under way for promotion of a YES vote on the Blue Ballot Revenue Amendment:

Speaker's Bureau Assignments: -

July 10	Zion Chapel, Blue Mound - Virginia Gibson
Sept. 19	Oak Grove PTA - Marge Unger
Sept. 20	Oglesby PTA - Eileen Gebhardt and Pauline Winn
	Riverside PTA - Marge Unger
	Oakland PTA - Virginia Gibson
Sept. 27	District Legislative Meet, Illinois Congress PTA - Gibson
Oct. 1	Decatur & Macon Co. Woman's Council - Unger
Oct. 9	Westminster Coffee Group - Marcia McCracken
Oct. 10	Business and Professional Women - Florence Cox
Oct. 11	Pugh PTA - Gibson
Oct. 12	First Methodist Church Group - Katherine Donovan
	Methodist Church Women - Cox
Oct. 16	Clinton PTA Council - Cox
	Ministerial Association - Gibson
	Johns Hill PTA - Gordon Davis
Oct. 17	League Units - Gibson, McCracken, Gebhardt and Winn
	YW Public Affairs luncheon - Gibson
	Roach PTA - Davis
	Toastmistress - Gibson
Oct. 18	Baptist Church Women - Gibson
	Maroa PTA - Donovan
	William Harris PTA - Cox
Oct. 25	Lawyer's Wives - McCracken
Nov. 5	Sisterhood - Sylvia Cohn

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE?

Since the Association of Commerce Board voted to endorse the Revenue Amendment, a meeting of representatives from interested organizations has been called for 4 PM., Wednesday, October 10th, to pool ideas on promotion. Virginia Gibson and Marge Unger will attend for the League.

We need volunteers to distribute Blue Ballot literature downtown, Monday November 5th. Won't you please call me and offer your help? telephone 8-5444.

Mary Cresswell, Voter's Service
Marge Unger, Revenue

MEMBERSHIP

The new membership list will be out sometime this month. Be sure to save it as it will be the only copy you will receive for the year.

We are in the process of setting up the committees to work on program: Federal-Loyalty Security; Water Resources; Judicial and Welfare. Won't you please call and indicate the area in which you would prefer to work.

Cauline Martin, Membership - 8-9236

We accept with regret the resignations of Rachel Hurley and Jeannette Adelman. Eileen Gebhardt (Mrs. C. F.) has accepted the position of 1st Vice President, chairman of Public Relations and Elizabeth Foster (Mrs. Berwyn E.) 2nd Vice President, Chairman of the Judicial item. Elizabeth has resigned as Chairman of the Nominating Committee since a Board member may not hold that position. The new Chairman will be announced later.

Elise Hurst (Mrs. Thomas) has accepted the job of calling you to attend City Council meetings, School Board meetings and meetings of the Board of Supervisors. When she calls you, please try to find the time to attend. Nothing is expected of you in the way of reports, etc. It's just your opportunity to learn first hand how local government operates.

Your Board agreed to close the Finance Drive although we again failed to make our goal. We will have the final figure in the November Bulletin.

Your Board also appointed a By-Laws Committee to make a study of the local By Laws in order that they may conform to changes made in the National By-Laws at the last National Convention and also to study the various serious question of finance in relation to the necessity or lack of necessity for an increase in dues. The committee is composed of Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Mrs. H. G. Bolton and Miss Grace Bridges, Chairman.

PROGRAM
CONFERENCE Tuesday, October 30, Congress Hotel, Chicago - Price \$4.00
 including luncheon. Speaker's: Dr. Richard Browne, "What's Ahead
 for Illinois?" and Dr. Dexter Perkins, "Popular Government and
Foreign Policy". We wish we had more space to tell you about the speakers and the conference. Since we haven't, take the word of any League member who has attended such conferences in years past, they are well worth your time and money. If you would like to be included in the group that goes, call and make a reservation with Virginia Gibson, tel. 3-4344. Reservations must be made not later than October 24th. See you there.

GLOBE TROTTING,
CONTINUED Once more from the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund, Progress
 Report: Mrs. John Gillin has visited Brazil, Uruguay, Peru, Costa
Rica, Guatemala as a State Dept. consultant on a survey jointly
planned with CCCMF. Just as in the Far East women have emerged from purdah to become active citizens so the women of the Americas are beginning to leave traditional custom of being only homebodies and more and more entering the larger community of citizens.

Italy. A grant of \$3,500 has been made to the Society to Combat Illiteracy. Progress in fund raising within Italy is visible but not yet sufficient to carry the total budget for their wonderful work.

Austria. The CCCMF has renewed for one more year its grant of \$360 to the Austrian
Ass'n. of The United Nations High School International Relations study clubs.

To snatch a sentence from the Bulletin of a year ago, those of you gals looking for something different to do that is interesting, think on this:-Quote, "Now isn't it about time some of you gals pitch out those old "next year I'll do more League Work" ideas and get started" enquote.

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Ed.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

NEWS BULLETIN

November 1956

Virginia Gibson, President

"Liberty is one thing you cannot have unless
you are willing to give it to others"

Wm. Allen White

UNIT Wednesday Morning, Nov. 14th, 9:30 A.M. Y.M.C.A.
MEETINGS Wednesday Evening, 7:30 P.M., 235 Park Lane
PROGRAM: "An Overview of the Government of Macon County."

Do you know what your county authorities do? You're paying for it, so why not attend the November unit meetings for pertinent information?

Resource committee, morning meeting:

Mrs. W.N. Bennett
Mrs. Wm. F. Kuntz
Mrs. Loring Unger
Mrs. H.W. Gibson
Mrs. C.F. Gebhardt
Mrs. Hilmer Landholt
Mrs. Wm. Hipsher
Mrs. Lowell Gill
Mrs. Ralph Frederickson
Mrs. J.A. Melrose
Mrs. James Hurley
Miss Grace Bridges
Mrs. Charles E. Griffin

Evening meeting:

Mrs. John Morris
Mrs. E.C. Stivers
Mrs. Berwyn E. Foster
Mrs. H.W. Gibson
Mrs. C.F. Gebhardt
Mrs. Hilmer Landholt
Mrs. Wm. Hipsher
Mrs. L.L. Colvis
Mrs. E.B. Freyfogle
Mrs. J.A. Melrose
Mrs. Thomas McCracken
Mrs. Ayrle Morris
Mrs. Charles E. Griffin

PUBLICITY

Did you ever hear of the old Southern gal who said, "I wouldn't want to output you, Ma'am". Well, you would not be "outputting" me if you called to see what our Publications Catalogue has to offer in any of your fields of interest. Telephone 4806.

Helen Leigh

Publication Chairman

PROGRAM PLANNING CONFERENCE

The Program Planning Conference held on October 30 at the Congress Hotel in Chicago represented high level planning by the State Board. The entire program was designed to stimulate thinking in the various fields of government, looking toward a timely program for the League to adopt at the convention next May. The first speaker on the program Tuesday was: Dr. Richard G. Browne, Executive Officer of the Illinois Teacher's College Board, who spoke on "What's Ahead for Illinois." He discussed the tasks of improving the structure and function of government at the state level, which he said is a problem always before us. The speaker for the luncheon meeting was Dr. Dexter Perkins, Professor of American Civilization, Cornell University. His topic was "Popular Government and Foreign Policy." He discussed events since 1945 at the end of the war, pointing up the rivalry between the United States and Soviet Russia. He talked about NATO, the Warsaw Pact, Red China, The peace with Japan, the U.N. and the fast breaking Middle East problem which was uppermost in everyone's mind. There were question and answer periods at the conclusion of both talks. Mrs. Phillips' topic was "What's Ahead for the League." She reminded the group to consider in our thinking on program planning the League's list of continuing responsibilities, the fields we might be most helpful in at both the State and National levels. Each and every League member is invited to send in suggestions. They should be in to the State Office not later than January. It is to be hoped that we will all contribute to the suggestion file for program planning ---our next most important thing to consider after voting November 6th!

Eileen Gebhardt.
Public Relations

WORKSHOPS ON THE JUDICIARY

Workshops on the Judiciary will begin in November. We have a wealth of material, and review and study at this time should prove to be very worthwhile and interesting, particularly so in view of the fact that the propped Judicial Article is in the process of undergoing additional changes. This is something we will

see discussed through the Press in the coming month. In January when the General Assembly convenes, we will be in a position to understand what is going when the Judicial Article again comes up. Unit meetings on this and the present court structure in Illinois will be given in January. Dates, places, etc., of the Workshop will be given at the next unit meetings.

Elizabeth Foster.
Judicial Item, Chairman

FLYER

Elise Hurst hopes to have a list of League Members who will be sitting in on School Board, Board of Supervisor's and City Council ready for our next Bulletin. Elise asks that any member interested in this activity to call her, telephone 8-4795.

FROM THE
TREASURER

Just a few of you still owe dues. Will you please send your \$3.00 to Mrs. G.R. Cohn - 777 South Monroe, Decatur, Illinois.
Sylvia Cohn, Treasurer

CONGRATULATIONS
AND THANKS

To Girl Scout Troops - Jr. High and Sr. High who made posters for every precinct in Decatur, showing how to vote correctly. Two Girl Scout troops placed the posters in 29 precincts (to work toward a badge). Mr. Tangney had the posters delivered to the other precincts when delivering election supplies. He hopes to collect and store them for use another year.

The following members distributed literature on downtown streets on Monday afternoon and evening, November 5th, preceding election:

Mrs. H. G. Bolton
Mrs. James Key
Mrs. Clifford Smith
Mrs. H.W. Gibson

Mrs. Thomas McCracken
Mrs. Ralph Frederickson
Mrs. Nat Kessler
Mrs. James Leigh

Mary Cresswell, Voter's Service

ATTENTION:

Attached is your copy of Membership list. This is the only copy you will receive.

LOUIS D. BRANDEIS SAYS: "The greatest progress will perhaps be made if all of you can give larger thought to your duties than to your rights."

Democracy demands more obedience to the moral law than any other form of government."

Tinky Freyfogle, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Ed.