

"The pre-eminence of a free government will be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affection of its citizens and command the respect of the world."

-- George Washington

UNIT
MEETINGS
Tuesday, February 17, 9:15 A.M. 61 E. Emerson "Bring the Children"
Program - Don Davis, Public Housing Administrator, will talk on
Urban Renewal. Mrs. Lloyd D. Ater, hostess.
Wednesday, February 18, 9:30 A.M., 2 Edgewood Ct., Mrs. R. M. Lawrence, hostess
Wednesday, February 18, 7:30 P.M., 1379 W. Macon, Mrs. Neal Doubleday, hostess
Program - Mr. Ford, City Planning Director, will speak at both of the Wednesday
meetings on Urban Renewal. Jane Auby is chairman of the Urban Renewal Resource
Committee.

IMPORTANT
LUNCHEON

February 11, at 12:45 P.M. at the Y.M.C.A.
Representative William L. Springer will speak on Foreign Trade
Lunch, \$1.50 - Reservations by Mon. Feb. 9 to Irene Mills, 2-3654.

URBAN
RENEWAL WORKSHOP

First meeting will be held Monday, March 2nd at the home of
Jane Auby, 110 N. Westlawn, 9:30 A.M. Be thinking about this
group and sign up at the February Unit meetings if you are
interested.

- Jane Auby, Urban Renewal Chairman, tel. 8-2919

CANDIDATES
MEETING

Stephen Decatur High, 8 P.M., February 25th.
Dr. Daniel Gage is to be Moderator.

Virginia Gibson, General Chairman, Jane Auby and Mary Riley co-Chairmen. Mary Cresswell, Chairman of Ushers, with Irene Mills, Barbara Ater co-chairmen of program; Melba Griffin in charge of publicity, Dottie Booth, Art and Posters; Irene Colvis and Helen Gill, securing moderator; Pauline Jurgens, Mildred Protzman, typing; Eleanor Greenfield, Janet Wilson, Distribution of publicity. Many others are also contributing their time to making this meeting a great success. As of February 6, 38 candidates have been heard from and are planning to attend.

We backed the new form of government, let's all do our part in securing the best men for Decatur's council and be individual publicity agents. It promises to be a most rewarding meeting.

Millikin students will be timers.

DEATH OF THE BIG
CREEK RESERVOIR

We can't always win!
Poor planning always leads to costly emergency measures.

Keep your "Decatur Water Resources" (blue and white leaflet - remember) and refer to it when the Corps of Engineers report on Oakley Dam appears about six months from now. The subject of "Decatur's Water Resources" will be current as long as there's a Decatur.

- Rebecca French - Chairman.

Nominating
Committee
Report

President Irene Colvis
1st Vice President Irene Mills
Secretary Mary Cresswell

Elected Directors

2 years - Eleanor Fairs, Janet Wilson and Mary Barnes
1 year - Lola Smith

Nominating Committee

Chairman - Lou Cole, Florence Cox and Sarah Kessler

To be filled: 1 year 2nd Vice-President

Submitted by Nominating Committee:

Anne Kuhns, Chairman, Shirley Landholt, Melba Griffin, Dottie Booth, Irene Mills.

NATIONAL
ITEM

A new publication entitled Illinois River Basin is a series of selected sections of a full report on the watershed of the Illinois River made by the U. S. Army Engineer District Corps. Some sample section headings are: Watershed and tributaries; Topography; Agricultural land use and development; Transportation facilities. It appears quite readable. This publication is .20¢ and if you would like one I will see that you get it.

Keep in mind the handsomest and most ambitious new League publication New Perspectives in Foreign Policy which many of you have already seen and bought. It is a readable, lucid and challenging presentation of our National Item.

Do you know of someone outside the League who might be interested? If you do, let me know, tel. 8-6056, and I will make the contact if you like.

- Dottie Booth, Publications Chairman

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Hurst on the birth of a son February 3rd. Mother and son are doing fine -- name, Ronald Thomas.

FOREIGN POLICY

This old-fashioned winter has caused changes in some of our plans- such as the cancellation of my trip to Chicago to attend the state conference on Foreign Policy. At the height of the ice-storm the night of January 20, we had an electrical fire in our basement. Various complications ensued.

However, the following week on the 29th, things began looking up. The League's dinner speaker, Dr. Stephen Chang, gave an interesting and thought-provoking review of our China policy--or, perhaps I should say Lack of Policy. Now we must really make some decisions in this area.

Before you read these lines, we shall have had our Congressman, Mr. William Springer, here for a luncheon meeting to talk to us on Foreign Policy. His interest in World Trade and information from his recent trip to the Orient should further inspire us to take part in the workshop and the March Unit Meetings.

Our basic League publication for the study is "New Perspectives in Foreign Policy", 50¢, is a real bargain. Look up your National Voters beginning May 1958 for articles on world trade, foreign aid, etc. Don't overlook current books, magazine articles, newspaper re-leases on world problems. In March we shall ask, "What do you think?"

Interested members thus far:

Mrs. H. J. Pettee

Mrs. Porter French

Mrs. T. C. Traver

Miss Grace Bridges

Mrs. Walker Mills

Mrs. Ray Wilson

Mrs. G. R. Cohn

Won't more of you join us for exhilarating discussions? tel. 2-1764.

- Lola Smith, Chairman

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 17 & 18 - Units
Feb. 25 Candidates Meeting
March 5 - Primary to select candidates for April vote
March 5 - Board Meeting
March 17 & 18 - Units
March 31 - Annual Meeting
April 2 - Board Meeting
April 9 - State Council, Chicago
April 14 & 15 - Units
April 21 - Vote on Mayor and Councilmen
April 21 & 22 - State Legislative Schools
REPORT OF COMMITTEES TO VOTE ON AT ANNUAL MEETING
Budget -- Nominating -- Local Agenda

If you missed Dr. Chang, we are sorry. After his wonderful report, we felt we had really experienced the "aroma of China".

WE WERE THERE

Irene Colvis represented us at this meeting in Chicago; Foreign Policy, January 22. And on Jan. 24, also Chicago, Ruth Hipsher, our chairman for study of water on our National Agenda, attended and is full of ideas. If you are not called to work on this item and are interested in learning more about H-20 in the State of Illinois, call Ruth Hipsher, tel. 8-2687.

	BUDGET	ACTUAL 12/31/58	PROPOSED BUDGET '59-'60
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Dues	550.00	505.00	625.00
Member Contributions	160.00	193.50	175.00
Other Contributions	800.00	901.00	825.00
TOTAL	1 510.00	1 599.50	1 625.00
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Equipment & Supplies	25.00	12.51	35.00
Postage (not Bulletin)	25.00	26.80	60.00
Telephone	10.00	1.25	10.00
President's Expense	50.00	50.00	50.00
Delegates to Regional and Chicago meetings	75.00	40.45	125.00
Finance & Membership Committee Expense	30.00	15.75	30.00
Bank Charges	5.00		5.00
Convention Expense	175.00	175.00	175.00
Meeting Expense	40.00	21.01	55.00
Publications, State & Natl.	75.00	64.21	75.00
Local	10.00	11.03	10.00
Bulletin	130.00	77.35	135.00
Action in Community	175.00	96.17	175.00
State & Natl. Services	675.00	675.00	675.00
Miscellaneous	10.00		10.00
	1 510.00	1 266.53	227.50*
Additional gift		25.00	
		1 291.53	1 625.00

FOREIGN
POLICY

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Mrs. G. R. Cohn		

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- Lola Smith, Chairman

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Miscellaneous	10.00		10.00
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Additional gift		25.00	
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Budget Committee:

Mrs. G. R. Cohn
 Mrs. E. J. Cresswell
 Mrs. John H. Fairs
 Mrs. Dan Gannon

Mrs. Forrest Martin
 Mrs. William Miller
 Mrs. William Winn
 Mrs. C. M. Nicholson, Chairman

Legislative Schools: During each session of the Illinois General Assembly the League sponsors, for its members at the state capital, Legislative Schools. The school familiarizes members with workings of the General Assembly and makes our State Government come alive. We are allowed 4 delegates (more if another League doesn't use its quota). We attend sessions of House and Senate, committee hearings and get in on-the-scene briefing on legislation of League interest. There is also time for questioning and discussion with our own State Legislative Chairman.

LOCAL AGENDA

After our first meeting, the members of the Committee agreed to discuss with Board members and other league members any suggestions we might receive. The only suggestion we have had in the meantime is that we limit the local agenda to one item and that it must therefore be the Urban Renewal item, inasmuch as the League is still working on it. We have, however, changed the wording somewhat in order to broaden the possible scope of study, as follows:

1. Urban Renewal and Area Planning: Study of urban renewal and area planning and analysis of Decatur's need for an effective urban renewal program, with action where indicated.

We have added to Local Continuing Responsibilities the other two 1958 local agenda items, and the list is now as follows:

Local Continuing Responsibilities:

1. Continued support of school financial and organizational needs where such support is deemed in the best interests of the community.
2. That the Council Manager form of government is preferable to the commission form of government.
3. That we will continue to support a sewer system which provides all citizens of the Decatur Sanitary District with adequate sanitary facilities.
4. Township and Council Manager study and analysis of governments within Macon County with action where indicated.
5. Decatur's water resources, with special reference to the proposed Big Creek Development, and allowing action if consensus is reached.

We suggest that Items 2 and 4 be combined as follows:

"That the Council Manager form of government is preferable to the commission form of government and that we will support the Council Manager form of government; that we will continue our interest in Township governments within Macon County."

The Committee feels a responsibility to include in this report the fact that we considered putting a school item on the agenda, in view of possible changes coming up affecting School District 61. We did not do this because we feel that the work-load involved in the Urban Renewal item is so big that nothing else should be considered. We feel that the community may expect the League to work on any school problem arising, and we want to point out that it will be impossible without further study, which we cannot do this year unless a school item is on the local agenda. We simply want to create an awareness of the situation as we think it exists at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Leigh Jane Auby
 Mary Barnes Mildred Protzman
 Bonnie Livergood Marian Fredrickson
 Eileen Gebhardt, Chairman
 Local Agenda Committee, 1959

Circulation Editor, Ella Kuntz

Bulletin Editor, Eleanor Fairs

"Honest statesmanship is the wise employment of individual meanness for the public good."
- Abraham Lincoln

UNIT MEETINGS

Tues., Mar. 17, 9:15 A.M., Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset
Wed., Mar. 18, 9:30 A.M., Mrs. F. R. Martin, 235 Park Pl.
Wed., Mar. 18, 7:30 P.M., Mrs. Walter T. Mills, 1487 W. Macon

Program: "New Perspectives in Foreign Policy", a discussion with members of the Workshop as Resource People. Come and see what happens when we open Pandora's Box.

FOREIGN POLICY IS REALLY EXCITING

If you doubt this statement ask any of the following members participating in the Workshop: Miss Grace

Bridges, Mrs. B. C. Dahlman, Mrs. Porter French, Mrs. Lowell Gill, Mrs. Wilmer Landholt, Mrs. Robert E. Lewis, Mrs. William Miller, Mrs. Walker Mills, Mrs. H. J. Pettee, Mrs. Thomas Protzman, Mrs. Lee Sentman, Mrs. T. C. Traver, Mrs. Kirby Riley and Mrs. Ray Wilson.

At the March Unit Meetings, we plan to have a "Pandora's Box" for your written questions on any phase of foreign policy. As announced previously the discussion will be based on material in the booklet "New Perspectives in Foreign Policy." If you should have several questions, please write them on separate slips of paper and bring them with you to the meetings.

In connection with our study of foreign policy, economic aid to developing countries is a very important question. The Development Loan Fund is a new approach to part of the problem and supplemental appropriation for it in 1959 has been requested by President Eisenhower. Please try to read your National Voters for December 1958 and February 1959 on this subject.

Lola Smith, Foreign Policy Chairman.

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, Mar. 31, 12:45 P. M.

LUNCHEON: Decatur Club, Price \$1.85

SPEAKER: Mrs. John Donovan, will speak on "Aspects of the League".

Catherine is Vice President of State Board of Directors; Conservation Chairman of National Item, #2. This is your opportunity to hear all reports and see your local officer's. Make your reservation with Irene Mills, tel. 2-3654.

BUDGET CORRECTION

Under proposed budget '59-'60, insert \$10.00 for Miscellaneous Expenditures. Change total figure to \$1,625.00.

Be sure to bring February Bulletin to Annual Meeting on March 31 together with any questions you might have on the proposed budget.

DUES

It is that time of year again! Dues for the year 1959-60 will be collected at our Annual Meeting on March 31st, or send your check for \$5.00 to "League of Women Voters", % Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 S. Monroe, Decatur, Illinois.

Nominating Committee Report Continued:

2nd Vice President...Mary Lou Schlachter

Elected Director...One Year...Jane Auby

LOCAL AGENDA

Study of Decatur's area planning and urban renewal program with action where indicated.

LOCAL CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Support of measures designed to improve the structure and/or to increase the efficiency and economical operation of governments in Macon County. *of School District No. 61 and*

2. Support of a sewer system which provides all citizens of the Decatur Sanitary District with adequate sanitary facilities.

3. Support of sound development of Decatur's water resources.

This is a substitute wording Local Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities, to be presented at the Annual Meeting for your adoption. The content is not changed. Bring both February and March Bulletins to Annual meeting.

URBAN RENEWAL WORKSHOP

Started Monday Mar. 2, - Those participating to date are Ella Kuntz, Lillian Stivers, Barbara Ater, Irene Colvis, Dottie Booth, and Jane Auby.

Expecting more at the next meetings, Barbara Ater is co-chairman and the next meetings will be held at her home, 61 Emerson Drive. Call Barbara for directions.

The next meeting will be invaluable for receiving background Urban Renewal material, regulations governing Workable Program, Federal Aid. Mr. Springer has been most helpful in sending reading material on Urban Renewal and Bills brought up in the House of Representatives and Senate.

Unit meetings on Urban Renewal will not be set up until late Fall due to scope and activities of the Workshop. So if you think you have time, come along and join us for an interesting local study.

Those who are interested in doing city surveys keep in mind that the League will be called upon for such activity in the near future.

Jane Auby, Chairman.

NOTICE...Please bring your February & March bulletins to Annual Meeting March 31.....

CALENDARTEAR OUT AND SAVE

Mar. 11 - 9:30 AM Water Workshop, Mrs. Wm. Hipsher, 285 S. Glencoe
 Mar. 13 - 9:30 AM Foreign Policy Workshop, Mrs. Clifford Smith, 1684 W. Riverview
 Mar. 16 - 9:30 AM Urban Renewal Workshop, Mrs. Floyd Ater, 61 Emerson Drive
 Mar. 17 - 9:15 AM Unit Meeting on Foreign Policy, Mrs. Thomas Hurst, 2095 W. Riverview
 Mar. 18 - 9:30 AM " " " " " Mrs. Forrest Martin, 235 Park Place
 Mar. 18 - 7:30 PM " " " " " Mrs. Walker Mills, 1484 W. Macon
 Mar. 31 - 12:45 PM ANNUAL MEETING...Decatur Club
 Apr. 1 - 9:30 AM Water Workshop, Mrs. William Hipsher, 285 S. Glencoe
 Apr. 2 - 1:00 PM Board Meeting, Association of Commerce Rooms, Decatur Club
 Apr. 7 - 6 AM - 6 PM - Election of Park Board Members
 Apr. 11 - 11 AM - 7 PM - Election of School Board Members
 Apr. 14 & 15 Units
 Apr. 21 & 22 Legislative School, Springfield, Illinois
 Apr. 21 Vote for Mayor and Councilmen

NOTICE -- Please bring your February and March bulletins to Annual Meeting for copies of budget and local agenda.

ENCOURAGEMENT From the Editorial in the Dec. 1958 issue of the "Journal of the American Judicature Society". "The results of woman suffrage have not come up to expectations....On the contrary, we rise to offer a sincere word of tribute to the women voters and their organizations, and specifically the League of Women Voters, for their sincere, unselfish and intelligent interest in the betterment of the administration of justice throughout the country."

ANNUAL REPORTS:Water Workshop, Local Item:

The study group for this item sponsored two go-see trips to the Big Creek and Oakley areas, on July 1 and Oct. 22, with Mr. Beeson, city conservationist, as guide. Twenty members went on the trip, and were rewarded by a better understanding of their community and of conservation, as well as specific information for our project.

Workshops, with ten members participating, were held on Nov. 5, Dec. 3 and Jan. 7. Also, a meeting with 20 league members present was held on Nov. 13 with Dr. Greenfield, water engineer at Staley's and chairman of the Council's water advisory committee, giving a lecture on the water needs of Decatur and Big Creek in particular.

Findings of the workshop were presented in a leaflet entitled "Decatur's Water Resources", which was mailed to contributors and members. At the January unit meetings, open discussion by all the members resulted in consensus to support the Big Creek bond issue.

Although the Big Creek proposal lost two to one at the polls, we gained through furthering new understanding of Decatur Water Supply, supporting a measure which needed citizen support and getting acquainted with some fine professional people.

Rebecca French, chairman

Program Summary for the Year.

The programs of three general open meetings brought interesting speakers to supplement the current study of the League. Dr. Cleary, of the University of Illinois, presented the pros and cons of Judicial Reform at a September luncheon. In January, Dr. Stephen S. Chang spoke about Red China at a dinner meeting, which many husbands attended as guests. Mr. William L. Springer was our speaker on Foreign Trade at a February luncheon.

The three units, two morning and one evening, have met each month in the homes. This has seemed to be more successful than holding the meetings in public meeting places.

Mary Lou Schlachter, chairman

Local Government

The March 3rd Herald-Review column by Otto Kyle told of an attempt in 1867 to make Decatur the State Capitol. It failed. Maybe those interested tried but once.

On our Second referendum, we succeeded in changing Decatur's form of government to a Council Manager. The League likes to feel that it had a big hand in this success.

We had members on the Citizens Committee that instigated the change, we had members that passed petitions, we had a chain telephone committee, we had a car pool and we gave Voters Service. Let's pat ourselves on the back, at least with one hand!

Helen Leigh, chairman

Township Study and Action

For one, one-half years a League Committee of ten members studied Decatur Township Government as it is and as it was proposed to be under the city township. Our conclusions were published May 1, 1958 in a nine page report. We refused to join the Association of Commerce and the Decatur Newspapers on a pro city township stand for these reasons.

1. So many conflicting laws have been passed by the General Assembly pertaining to city townships that it is impossible, before the change is made, to determine either the physical or fiscal structure of that government.

2. The League could find no single over-riding benefit to the community in general from the change: for every injustice the change would correct, it would create new injustices in other geographical areas.

3. We believe it is extremely poor governmental policy to ask for a "blind" vote on any issue. The voter has the right to have facts available that will provide him a base for determining preference.

Virginia Gibson, chairman

Judicial Amendment:

Judicial Item: Our League has held many workshops and several units on Judicial Reform. This year in support of SJR 47, or Court Reform, we concentrated our efforts by working with the county committee, giving a skit to various organizations, talks to some organizations and articles in the daily and weekly newspapers. Court Reform lost in the State but carried in Macon County.

Mrs. Robert Cole, chairman

Election Laws and Procedures: A review of Registration, ballots, primaries, education or training of judges, short ballot, and consolidation of election were given at our unit meetings this year. This resulted in the formation of a group of new members solely for the study of election laws.

Mrs. Robert Cole, chairman

Membership:

We were happy to welcome fifteen new members this year. They came to be members, for the most part, as a result of our well attended Summer "Coffee" and the new "Bring the Children Unit". Elise Hurst, whose untiring efforts and the generous offer of her home for a meeting place deserves and gets our warm appreciation. Barbara Ater had the February meeting for this group. Do plan to attend a meeting of this group. Their enthusiasm and interest are contagious.

The zeal of League members and their personal contacts in other community groups are most effective in getting and keeping League members. Our general meetings were a dinner meeting with husbands and guests invited, also two luncheon meetings. We are grateful to the Board, the membership and to the calling committees for their cooperation.

May we ask that each member interest one person in League membership in the coming year? There are many fine women in Decatur to whom League membership should be offered. Bring a guest or two to Unit meetings this month.

Welcome to these newest members:

Mrs. Thomas Abernathy	3 Peggy Ann Dr.	8-5191
Mrs. R. C. McMillin	465 W. Macon St.	2-5239
Mrs. B. C. Dahlmann	4183 Lake Shore Dr.	3-9385

Irene Mills, chairman

Voters Service:

Our League was busy the past year in being of service to voters--- Members spoke to various groups on the Judicial Amendment and also five other issues voted on in November General Election; got petitions signed and later worked for change to Council-Manager government for Decatur; informed themselves and others concerning the referendum on acquiring land for Big Creek Dam and Reservoir; informed to lesser degree on street improvement referendum; had a most successful meeting to present candidates for Mayor and City Council to the voters. Also we got Girl Scouts to make signs for each voting place on marking ballots correctly.

Elise Hurst, chairman

Publicity

The Public Relations Committee used the following media to publicize the happenings of the League to the general public; namely, newspaper, radio and TV. Numerous articles and pictures were printed in the paper about our meetings and also, about the subjects which were being studied by the League. We had several radio and TV programs about our Candidate's meeting. At the present time, we have planned three more radio programs on Nancy Norman's program on WDZ, one each in March, April and May.

We sincerely hope the work of the League has been publicized to a great many people this year who have not known of it before".

Publications:

The Public Library was a focal point for League Publication displays this year. They had informative displays at the time both the judicial amendment and the water bond issue were voted on. During United Nations week thanks to Lola Smith our Foreign Relations chairman, the library purchased 250 Pocket Reference to the UN pamphlets in addition to the 500 that were donated by the League to be picked up by library patrons. Copies of our new Handbook together with publication lists were placed in all the secondary schools in Macon County. As a result of this we learned that one of our Decatur schools recently ordered 83 items from a State Publication list.

Any other helpful suggestions for spots of interest to distribute our publications?

Dottie Booth, chairman.

School Finance Committee met four times in the early fall for the purpose of revising our previous years' study, bringing some of the facts and figures up-to-date, and preparing our presentation for the October Unit meetings. The consensus of the membership seemed to indicate that most of the problems in school finance would be solved if the basic tax structure and assessment procedure were revised.

Our study was most interesting but also can be considered as well worth while if only to give added importance to the need for change in our revenue practices.

Lucy R. Oplinger, chairman

Foreign Policy

In October our project in the community was the distribution of copies of the League's publication "Pocket Reference on the United Nations". The local League gave away 500 copies and the Decatur Public Library purchased 250 additional copies for those who wished to have them.

Workshop sessions based on "New Perspectives in Foreign Policy" are now being held. Fifteen members are participating in five workshop meetings in preparation for the March unit meetings.

Two meetings with outside speakers have been devoted to foreign policy subjects. At a dinner meeting Dr. Stephen Chang reviewed "Our China Policy". At a luncheon meeting our Congressman, Mr. William Springer talked on "World Trade".

Lola Smith, Chairman

GLOBE TROTTING CONTINUED

It has been quite a time since we have included the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial material in the Bulletin...lack of space.

This month from the Washington, D. C. office comes word of two ladies from the Argentine, Senoras Berzero and Miri, who have just completed a two months trip in the U.S.A., sponsored by the CCCMF, leaving Washington on September 30, visiting New Jersey, Connecticut, Ohio, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa and New York. These visitors studied citizenship education intensively, observing methods used by the League of Women Voters.

At Home and Abroad The fact that experience gained in one part of the world can be adapted for use in many others continues to be strikingly demonstrated.

A CCCMF consultant from Michigan, Mrs. Leonard Rall, conducted a workshop in Brazil, where her husband was a member of a U. S. Mission. She was able to share with over 30 Brazilians results of her local LWV experience--- As a result of this, we have received statements like this: "Your course was a great benefit to me"; "I think with your help and the Power of God I shall be useful to society and to my country."

And from within the U. S. A., we continue to get reports from communities which have shared in the visitors' exchange programs. Results show a deepened understanding, respect and sympathy for the problems of other nations and doubled intensity of interest in our own. Over and over again it works both ways!

Mrs. Marc Law left in early November for Greece and Italy. While there, she will use a grant from CCCMF to observe the progress of UNLA, the Ligue Hellenique, and other groups which have received assistance from us.

Apologies to Irene Colvis, the editor has been forgetting to put at the top of our Bulletin that Irene is president, will try to correct the error.

Ella Kuntz, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

DON'T FORGET TO BRING THE FEBRUARY AND MARCH BULLETINS TO THE ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 31

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

News Bulletin #19

April, 1959

"We're born free

Mrs. L. L. Colvis, President

but we're not born wise,

And we must become wise in order to remain free," someone said.

UNIT April 14, Tues. 9:15 AM - Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset
MEETINGS April 15, Wed., 9:30 AM - Mrs. H. W. Gibson, 160 Kellar Lane
April 15, Wed., 7:30 PM - Mrs. Robert L. Cole, 1734 Foster
PROGRAM: What to Do About Water? - Read "Whose River is it?" in March National Voter
The Water Workshop members are: Mrs. W. R. Winn, Mrs. Dan Gannon, Mrs. B. C. Dahlmann, Mrs. John Donovan, Mrs. L. L. Colvis, Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, Mrs. H. J. Pettee, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, Mrs. Wm. Hipsher, chairman.

WATER
RESOURCES
WORKSHOP

National Agenda, Item 2:

Support of those national water policies and practices which promote co-ordinated administration, equitable financing, and regional or river basin planning. Your Water Resources Committee have been meeting weekly for the last two months, studying the Illinois River basin as a basis for better understanding of our National Water problems.

We started with a review of the development of the St. Lawrence Seaway; which we found extremely interesting.

We are now ready to tackle the interpretation of public law 660 as one means of working toward consensus on a National Water Policy.

Mr. Alex Van Praag has consented to meet with us Wed. Apr. 8 to discuss Water Supply problems and answer any questions we care to put to him.

ANNUAL
MEETING
REPORT

Officers elected for 1959 are the following:

President. Mrs. L. L. Colvis, 2 yrs.
1st Vice President. Mrs. Walker Mills, 2 yrs.
2nd Vice President. Mrs. O. E. Schlachter, 1 yr.
Secretary. Mrs. E. J. Cresswell, 2 yrs.
Treasurer. Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 1 yr.
Elected Directors. Mrs. John H. Fairs, 2 yrs.
Mrs. Clifford Smith, 1 yr.
Mrs. Ray Wilson, 2 yrs.
Mrs. C. E. Barnes, 2 yrs.
Mrs. Lawrence C. Auby, Jr., 1 yr.
Appointed Directors. Mrs. Lloyd D. Ater, 1 yr.
Mrs. B. C. Dahlmann, 1 yr.

Nominating Committee- 1959-60 -

Mrs. Robert L. Cole, chairman
Mrs. Gerald D. Cox
Mrs. Nat Kessler

LOCAL AGENDA

Study of Decatur's area planning and urban renewal program with action where indicated.

LOCAL CONTINUING
RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Support of measures designed to improve the structure and/or to increase the efficiency and economical operation of governments in Macon County.
2. Support of a sewer system which provides all citizens of the Decatur Sanitary District with adequate sanitary facilities.
3. Support of sound development of Decatur's water resources.

PUBLICITY

chairman Mary Barnes has set up programs over Radio Station W D Z at eleven A.M. monthly, covering general League information.

March 23, 11 A.M. General Program on League, Mrs. Wm. Winn and Mrs. C. E. Barnes
April 14 Voters Service, Mary Cresswell and Irene Colvis
May 12 Foreign Affairs, Lola Smith, Irene Mills and Mrs. Robert Lewis
April 21 Vote -- Mayor and Councilmen

URBAN
RENEWAL
WORKSHOP

Workshops are still going strong. Mrs. Lloyd Ater has taken over as chairman of the subject and if you would like to join the group, now or later, call Barbara, 7-2442.

* MAY *
* UNITS*

May units will be a report from our Delegates to Illinois League of Women Voters State Convention. Unit dates have been changed to May 26 and May 27.

MEMBERSHIP
DUES

for the year 1959-60 are payable as of April 1, 1959. Please remit your check for \$5.00 to Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 S. Monroe. Sylvia will be pleased to add your name to the growing number already signed.

WE ARE to an All Day Workshop on Germany, in Champaign, May 6th. Luncheon speaker,
 INVITED Professor Emmerson Commach, room 314 of Illini Union Building.
 9:30 - 11:30 A.M.
 Luncheon 12 to 1:30 P.M.
 1:30 to 3:30 P.M.

Reservations must be in by May 2, price \$1.35, Irene Mills will be happy to take yours,
 tel. 2-3654.

LEGISLATIVE During each legislative session, the League of Women Voters of Illinois pub-
 NEWSLETTER lishes a Legislative Newsletter. This spot report keeps members posted on the
 status of significant legislation related to League program, on some of which
 a Time for Action may be issued. It also carries notes on certain other bills of probable
 interest to Leaguers. It is issued irregularly, as legislative happenings warrant it; in
 1957 there were nine issues varying from three to five mimeographed pages. Presidents and
 their assistants receive the newsletter without charge. Anyone else may subscribe for \$1.00.
 If anyone is interested just let me know.

Dottie Booth, Publications chairman.

NEW MEMBERS

Decatur League of Women Voters extends a warm welcome to:
 Mrs. Gary L. Hein.....3115 MacArthur Road tel. 7-6418
 Mrs. Robert McNail.....37 Fairview Place 3-2326
 Mrs. Evart Peterson.....2081 W. Forest 8-0515
 Mrs. Paul Reeder.....2399 W. Main 8-7310
 Mrs. A. G. Webber III.....288 S. Glencoe 8-5351

Irene Mills, Membership chairman.

Dates to remember

CALENDAR

Tear Out and Save

April 7	Township elections
	Town Meeting - 2 P.M. County Building
April 9	League State Council Meeting, Chicago
April 11	Election of School Board Members
April 14	W D Z - 11 AM, Voters Service Broadcast
April 14	Unit Meeting - Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset
April 15	Unit Meeting - Mrs. H. W. Gibson, 160 Kellar Lane
April 15	Unit Meeting - Mrs. Robert Colé, 1734 Foster
April 21	Vote - Mayor and Councilmen
April 21	Attend Legislative Session in Springfield
April 22	" " " " "
May 6	All Day Workshop in Champaign on Foreign Policy
May 12	W D Z - 11 AM, Foreign Affairs, Broadcast
May 19	State Convention, Peoria
May 20	" " "
May 21	" " "
May 26	Unit Meeting
May 27	Unit Meeting

SINCLAIR

OIL

salutes the League of Women Voters

for advocating the highest principles of political responsibility, and for
 its concerted effort to establish a comprehensive policy--specifically to safeguard, con-
 trol and wisely use the water resources of the whole nation.

Sinclair public service messages like this one are appearing in: Time - Newsweek -
 Saturday Review - Natural History Magazine - National Geographic Magazine.

Of

Interest to us, is we have had calls for our Publications from groups in the Community
 working on legislation who have found them both helpful and informative.

Dottie Booth, Publications chairman.

Ella Kuntz, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

Mrs. L. L. Colvis, President

"With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it, nothing can succeed."

- Abraham Lincoln

UNIT MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 26, 9:15 A.M. - Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset
 Wednes., May 27, 9:30 A.M. - Mrs. C. E. Barnes, 345 Maryland Hts.
 Wednes., May 27, 7:30 P.M. - Mrs. O. E. Schlachter, 73 Fairview Pl.

PROGRAM: State Convention: The State Convention has not been so near geographically for a long time. Mrs. Walker Mills, Mrs. O. E. Schlachter, Mrs. B. C. Dahlmann, and Mrs. L. L. Colvis will give reports as delegates, about the May 19, 20 and 21st meetings in Peoria.

At Convention, there will be talks on "Urban Renewal" by Mrs. Blucher and "Looking Ahead with the League" by Mrs. Phillips; as well as program making for our next two years, the State Agenda. Our delegate gals will be full of enthusiasm. Come to Unit Meeting.

Better still, how about going over to Peoria yourself? Contact Mary Barnes, 7-2297, or Shirley Landholt, 3-0410, for transportation for one day - Thursday, May 21.

URBAN RENEWAL WORKSHOP

had its "kickoff" meeting in March at the home of Chairman Jane Auby. Participants were: Lillian Stivers, Irene Colvis, Ella Kuntz, Barbara Ater, and Jane. June Roby and Gayle Peterson later joined the group.

Since then, other meetings have been held at the home of Barbara Ater.

This workshop is important because it affects everyone in the community either directly through its effect on housing conditions in a particular area or indirectly through social problems which are increased by a lack of proper housing, etc.

During the summer the Workshop will be reading about the Workable Program and other items pertaining to Urban Renewal. Any member of the League who finds literature on Urban Renewal please save for the fall Unit meetings or contact Barbara Ater, 7-2442.

One other meeting is tentatively planned for Monday, June 1, at 1:30 P.M. before adjourning for the summer. Place...61 E. Emerson.

Barbara Ater, co-chairman, Urban Renewal

ACTION IN COMMUNITY -- Mrs. H. W. Gibson and Mrs. E. C. Stivers recently talked to the Eisenhower high school government classes on structure of state government and our new city government.

LET THE PEOPLE KNOW -- Mrs. Walker Mills and Mrs. Robert Lewis discussed our Foreign Policy on our Monthly Radio program, 11 A.M., WDZ, Tues., May 12.

Foreign Policy -- Champaign League invited us to their Foreign Policy workshop: Attended by Shirley Landholt, Janet Wilson, and Irene Colvis. You really missed a descriptive study of the political and economic situation on East and West Germany as well as an informative and picturesque "Trip Through Russia" given by Professor Kammic.

MONEY

To date we have received dues from sixty-five members. We are trying to have our 100% membership paid up before June 30. Please send your check for \$5.00 to Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 South Monroe.

SUMMER COFFEE

"Our only Social Affair" for League members; how about bringing an interested person? This will be held sometime this summer at the convenience of the hostess. Please watch the paper for announcement of date and place. It is always so enjoyable; see you there.

FOREIGN POLICY -- Summer is a good time for reading. Our Foreign Policy chairman recommends a must, "What We Must Know About Communism", by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. "What We Must Know About Communism" gives it beginnings, its growth, and its present status.

The library has many other suggestions for general membership and workshop members. If you run out of reading material call Lola Smith; she has more, tel. 2-1764.

Water Resources -- As we travel this summer we will (I hope) keep our eyes open for river basin development, irrigation methods, and other water projects over our great country. Bring the ideas home to your water resource committee. Ruth Hipsher and Betty Gannon have talked their husbands into taking them on the Cal - Sag boat trip on the canal in Chicago. We will expect a "ripple by ripple", "wave by wave" report from them.

Inside the Capitol or Legislative School

Two busy and fascinating days in Springfield for Mary Barnes, Betty Gannon, Eleanora Dahlmann, Irene Mills, and Irene Colvis visiting Illinois Legislature and committees in action were part of League activities.

(continued next page)

One of the pleasantest parts of the trip was the dinner at Washington Park Pavilion where several Leagues were host to their Senators and Representatives. The Decatur League had as its guests, Senator George Johns and Representatives John Alsup and Barrett Rogers. We were especially proud of our gentlemanly guests who stayed for the entire evening. Each legislator or senator gave a short talk on pending bills and committee work interesting to the group. They commended League members for their interest in good government and thorough study of issues as well as their candidates meetings and other non-partisan activities.

The delegation from Decatur saw both Houses in session and were present when the Daylight Saving bill passed in both Houses. Luncheon in the Legislative Lounge with Representative Rogers as host was a continuation of our legislative discussion. We attended House Committees on Judicial, Education, and Welfare. A highlight of the trip was the joint session of the Senate and House when Governor Stratton presented his budget. We came away with some invaluable information on law-making, law makers, Senate calendars, and House calendars, as well as a continued interest in good government.

C A L E N D A R

Dates to Remember

May 12	11 A.M., W.D.Z. - Our Foreign Policy, Mrs. Walker Mills, Mrs. Robert Lewis
May 19	State Convention at Peoria
May 20	" " " "
May 21	" " " "
May 26	9:15 A.M. - Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset
May 27	9:30 A.M. - Mrs. C. E. Barnes, 345 Maryland Heights
May 27	7:30 P.M. - Mrs. O. E. Schlachter, 73 Fairview Place
June 1	1:30 P.M. - Workshop - Urban Renewal, Mrs. Lloyd Ater, 61 E. Emerson
June 4	12:30 P.M. - Board Meeting - Mrs. G. R. Cohn, hostess, 777 S. Monroe
July ?	Summer Coffee - place ?
Sept.	General Membership Luncheon
"	Finance Drive
Oct.	Unit Meetings start for season.

MEMORANDUM

(the Official League publication from the Washington, D. C. office)

Trends Do you know that of the many uses of water, four will be of special concern in the future?: irrigation, industrial supply, recreational water use, and waste carrying? Many people do not realize that waste disposal is an important function of water. Of course, if carried to excess this function results in pollution, since pollution is waste-disposal which disregards the other uses of water.

Do you know that supplemental irrigation is coming to the eastern part of the country, where formerly it was just a curiosity? Irrigation is a very heavy water user. Its expansion in the regions where the largest cities and the heaviest industrial use will continue to be located must inevitably create competition for both local and regional supplies.

Do you know we are in a period of water development comparable to the building of the railroads in the period from 1860-1900? We are just over the threshold of a period in which a similar kind of construction activity is taking place. At the end of the next twenty to thirty years one will be able to look at a map of the United States and see two or three or four reservoirs for every one shown on our present map, and the works for the regulation of water will have been "frozen" into the landscape.

Do you know that a recent study dealing with "Relative Costs and Benefits of Land Reclamation in the Humid Southeast and Semi-Arid West", showed that production cost of similar crops in a specific location in the East; and another under irrigation in the West, indicated much lower costs in the East? If this is so and widely recognized, we may find substantial federal investment supporting additional agricultural water demands in the East where the return for the Federal dollar might be greater than in the West. The growth of the upstream water development programs (dams, etc.) by the Soil Conservation Service under the amended Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1956 will result in impoundment of flood waters to help meet this demand. The cost of these developments will fall largely on the federal taxpayer, and will be tremendous.

Have a nice summer.

Ella Kuntz, Circulation Editor

Eleanor Fairs, Bulletin Editor

SUMMER COFFEE
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF DECATUR

C O M E

T O

T H E

C O F F E E

WHEN:

July 8, 1957
Wednesday
9:30 A.M.

WHERE:

Home of
Mrs. Henry Bachrach
25 N. Country Club Road

PROGRAM:

What Are We Doing?

This is our only purely social affair
of the year and we are looking for
you.

This year we are asking members to
bring guests interested in League
activities, League work, or League
results.

Most of the morning will be spent in
"chit-chat" and how we love to do
that, or do you like to listen - time
for that too.

COMMITTEES:

Program:

Mrs. Walker Mills
Mrs. C. E. Barnes
Mrs. O. E. Schlachter

Notices:

Mrs. L. C. Auby Jr.
Mrs. E. J. Cresswell
Mrs. L. L. Colvis
Mrs. W. F. Kuntz

Food:

Mrs. G. R. Cohn
Mrs. Edward Booth
Mrs. John Fairs

"Twas the night before League day and
all through the house
Not a creature was stirring but Melba
and spouse.

She tossed and she turned in a night-
marish dream,
Then all of a sudden awoke with a
scream.

"Oh, darling, it's awful - the League
in Decatur
Has dwindled away and won't be any
greater.

I haven't attended since Heaven knows
when
Though I've often resolved I would
start once again.

I've always assumed that the others
would see
That the League in Decatur was kept
going for me.

And now I can't go - it's completely
disbanded.
Why didn't I do what my good sense de-
manded?"

"My dear," said her spouse, "I am not
sympathetic.
Your League work could scarcely be
called energetic."

Now may I remind you that this was a
dream.
At midnight some things may not be what
they seem.

(Adapted from South Shore
Branch Bulletin)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS
Mrs. L. L. Colvis, President

"Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted,
nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider."
Francis Bacon

LUNCHEON
MEETING

TUESDAY, September 29, 12:45 P.M. YMCA - Fun Club Room - Downstairs Luncheon will be \$1.70.

SPEAKER: Mr. John E. Dever, Decatur City Manager, "Municipal Government Operations"

Mr. Dever feels that this subject is especially appropriate since the city is currently in the midst of preliminary planning of large scale urban renewal projects. COME - and bring a guest! This is an open meeting.

RESERVATIONS: Please give reservations to Mary Lou Schlachter by noon^{5PM} Monday, September 28. Phone 3-1354.

PROGRAMS FOR
THE FUTURE

October - Water Resources
November - Foreign Policy

CALENDAR

- September 10 Finance Drive, Greider's Mezzanine, 9:30 A.M.
- September 15 Bring the Children Unit - 9:15 A.M.
Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 West Sunset
- September 17 Urban Renewal Workshop - 9:30 A.M.,
Mrs. Lloyd D. Ater, 61 East Emerson Avenue
- September 22 Regional Meeting, Peoria, 10:00 A.M. YWCA
- September 29 Member & Guest Luncheon, 12:45 P.M. YMCA Fun Club Room
- October 2 Board - Chamber Commerce Rooms, 1:00 P.M.
- October 20 Bring the Children Unit, 9:15 A.M.
- October 21 9:30 A.M. Unit
7:30 P.M. Unit

Watch your October Bulletin for further details on Unit Meetings.

Watch your National and State Voter for information on current agenda. Mrs Walker Mills has been appointed to serve on the state constitutional convention committee.

REGIONAL
MEETINGS

League State Regional meetings will be held in Peoria, Tuesday, Sept. 22, in the YWCA, for conservation, membership, program, and unit committee chairman. The time is 10 A.M. - 3 P.M. We expect two members from each committee to attend. If interested, call Irene Colvis, 8-3331.

THANKS!

Our summer coffee was a great event, with a record of more than sixty present. Dottie Smith and Eleanor Fairs were in charge of the food. Irene Mills was in charge of the program given by Catherine Donovan, Sylvia Cohn, and Barbara Ater. Mary Barnes took care of publicity.

Eleanor Fairs has resigned from the board. They are moving to Pittsfield, Mass. where her husband's position takes them. Having Eleanor here for a few years is one of the pleasures of League - knowing and working with interesting people.

DUES	*****	DUES	*****	DUES	*****	DUES	*****	DUES	*****	DUES
Just a few are still outstanding, so dig down and send your check for \$5.00 to Mrs. G. R. Cohn, 777 South Monroe, Decatur, Illinois										

VOTERS SERVICE

The League of Women Voters will undertake a project to assist men and women in the armed services to cast an informed absentee vote in elections. This year, it will be on state and local levels. Next year, the League will provide information on a national level. Service men and women may make their requests through families or friends back home, or they may write directly to the local League.

URBAN
RENEWAL

The fall workshop on Urban Renewal will begin on Thursday, September 17, at 9:30 A.M., at 61 East Emerson Avenue. Since Decatur's Urban Renewal Workable Program is nearly completed and the Planning Commissioner hopes to submit this to the Housing and Home Finance Administration no later than October 1, and the revision of the housing code is in the final stages, this workshop is very timely. See you on the 17th!

Barbara Ater, Chairman, Urban Renewal Workshop

FINANCE DRIVE

Time again for our youngsters to return to school and for our thoughts to turn to the League's very essential project - our Finance Drive. This is our only money making project during the year, and it enables us to carry out the purpose of League through Voters Service, Candidates' Meetings, Publications, etc.

A letter to you is included with this issue of the Bulletin. Because of your wonderful cooperation last year, we reached our goal within two weeks. I know that we can count on you to mail your check promptly.

Pauline Winn, Finance Chairman

P.S. If you feel that you can't send a check but want to help solicit, please call me or Irene Colvis. 9-7757

WATER RESOURCES

Five members of the water resources committee had an excellent opportunity to evaluate our study on Thursday, August 27, at the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Conference on "Water Survey and Industry", in Springfield.

Our October unit meeting will be devoted to a conclusion of our three year Study and an effort at consensus on our "Built in Position".

We hope you will review "Little Drops of Water", or "On the Water Front" and other material in your "Voter" as a help to understand our position.

Please call Ruth Hipsher, if you want additional material.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

A state committee has been formed to organize the work of Constitutional reform. A study outline and bibliography will be ready about the middle of September. There will be a meeting in Chicago October 1, to discuss a tentative plan. On November 18, Constitutional Convention membership. A long look at the present constitution with particular attention to areas of elections, finance, courts, structure of government, home rule, and methods for changing it, is the suggested way of getting ready. I am looking forward to my work on this state committee with great interest.

Irene Mills

APPOINTMENTS

We welcome Mrs. Robert McNail (Ruth) to the board as bulletin editor. Ruth is one of those capable individuals we are fortunate to have in our League membership.

We are proud to have four League members teaching in the Decatur school system this year. Woodrow Wilson school will certainly gain by the services of Mrs. Hans Wolff, Mrs. Charles Griffin, and Mrs. Floyd Birt. Johns Hill is equally fortunate in having Mrs. Richard Lawrence as a teacher.

BOARD WATCHING

This year we have a regular committee board-watching the City Council. There are 10 regulars, with 2 members being assigned a definite Monday night each month. We have five alternates, and board members also act as alternates when needed. Our committee has been functioning since June 1, and it has been fascinating to be "in" on the beginning of the City Manager type of government. It was particularly interesting to me to watch the business man City Council develop and become adept at handling problems and procedures. Another thing noted with interest was the difference between council meetings before and after Mr. Dever arrived on the scene. Our city manager seems to have the ability to tie things together. Any league member interested in being an alternate, or just satisfying women's curiosity, call Marilyn Kessinger, 3-1307.

PUBLICATIONS

UN-The United Nations. . .a candid appraisal Could you give some advantages and disadvantages of bloc voting in the UN? Do you know why United States use the UN more, or the advantages of Russian membership in the UN? These questions are answered and other pertinent information is given by Mrs. Zelia Ruebhausen in her candid, easy reading style under such broad headings as "The Power of the UN", "The Russians in the UN", "Bloc Voting", etc. Mrs. Ruebhausen, our League of Women Voters representative to the United Nations for 13 years, tells in her preface, "If you read this pamphlet you are among the special few in the United States who are sufficiently interested to want to be well informed about the United Nations. Surveys reveal that only about 15% of our population has an interest in international relations, even though all of us are vitally affected by them."

Are you one of the 15%? The pamphlet will be available at unit meetings, or by contacting me. The price is 35¢.

Dottie Booth, Publications Chairman

Ella Kuntz - Circulation Editor

Ruth McNail - Bulletin Editor

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. L. L. Colvis, President

"Where there is much desire to learn, there of necessity will be much arguing, much writing, many opinions; for opinion of good men is but knowledge in the making."
- John Milton -

CALENDAR

- October 1, Thursday, Board meeting, Chamber of Commerce Rooms
- October 6, Tuesday, State League of Women Voters regional meeting, Champaign
- October 14, Wednesday, State League of Women Voters regional meeting, Normal
- October 20, Tuesday Bring-the-Children Unit, 9:15 A.M. (See Elise's comment on Mrs. T. L. Hurst, 2095 West Sunset page 2)
- October 21, Wednesday Morning Unit - 9:30 A.M.
Mrs. H. J. Pettee, 1470 West William
Evening Unit - 7:30 P.M.
Mrs. Gerald Cox, 834 West Division
(Program, We reach consensus on our Water Item.)
- October 24, Saturday UN DAY - A good day to read "The United Nations, A Candid Appraisal", by Mrs. Ruebhausen
- October 29, Thursday Urban Renewal Workshop, 9:30 A.M.
Mrs. Lloyd Ater, 61 East Emerson
- October 29, Thursday Board meeting (November meeting, due to conflicts)
- November 10, Tuesday School Vote
Unit Meeting, Foreign Policy
- November 11, Wednesday Unit Meeting, Foreign Policy (This is Veteran's Day; if you have children who will be home from school this day, attend the Tuesday Unit Meeting.)

Regarding the October Unit Meetings: After 3 years of study, we pass our conclusions on to National. To come well informed, read the water item in each of the 1959 National Voters, "Little Drops of Water", and "On the Waterfront". The resource committee will be on hand to give facts and figures. Members of committee: Mrs. B.C. Dahlmann, Mrs. Dan Gannon, Mrs. Wm. R. Winn, Mrs. E.J. Cresswell, Mrs. L.L. Colvis, Mrs. H.J. Pettee, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, Mrs. Thomas Protzman, Mrs. Porter French, and chairman, Mrs. Wm. Hipsher.

There will also be a discussion on the School Vote. Read your Oct 59 Nat Voter for 3 columns Lively Issues

CONSENSUS

What is it? For the League of Women Voters, consensus means an agreement among a substantial number of a representative group of members (not just a simple majority) reached after sustained study and group discussion.
Why do we have it? Consensus is a prerequisite to the League's taking any position on national, state, or local government issues. Consensus also determines what action, if any, is to be taken on the item under consideration.
Why does your opinion count? It is essential that when a League position is announced, the members are informed and in basic agreement. This is true for positions taken by our local League; local Leagues in the State determine State League position; in turn, State Leagues determine National League position. What could be more democratic?
In the October units we are taking consensus on the water resources item. In the November units we are taking consensus on the foreign policy item. Your opinion counts a great deal.

NATIONAL PROGRAM

November 25 is the deadline for suggestions for our National League of Women Voters' program. If you would like any changes in national continuing responsibilities, or have any suggestions for national program, send them to your local board by November 5.

FINANCE DRIVE REPORT WILL BE IN NOVEMBER BULLETIN!

**PUBLIC
RELATIONS**

Mrs. L.L. Colvis and Mrs. C.E. Barnes made a spot announcement on radio station WSOY, September 12, on the League's program for Decatur Resources.

**INTERESTED
REVENUERS!**

The Zonta Club has invited the League members and their husbands to a dinner at the Hotel Orlando, October 22, at which the speaker will be Rep. Robert McCarthy of Lincoln. Mr. McCarthy is vice-chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and is considered an authority on revenue and taxes. His subject will be "Whither Taxes?". Call Janet Wilson, Revenue Chairman, for further information.

NEW MEMBERS

The League welcomes the following as new members.

Mrs. A. H. Burg	123 S. Taylor	Tel. 3-8744
Mrs. David Carr	747 W. Cushing	2-6482
Mrs. James Kessler	2575 Eucl	3-6596
Mrs. Sam Loeb	14 Montgomery Place	2-5682
Mrs. Robert Miller	2081 W. Sunset	3-0585
Mrs. Robert Mueller	3974 Skippy Drive	7-6787
Mrs. Raymond Richert	1433 W. California	3-1379
Mrs. Glen Stringfield	3360 W. Main	9-1383
Mrs. Donald Volentine	632 W. Prairie	3-0153
Mrs. Marion Fox	1817 W. Forest	8-0581

**BRING THE
CHILDREN UNIT**

We will dispense with coffee, and start promptly at 9:15 in order to have more time for discussion - which we always wish for at 11:00.

We can have 2 women to look after the children each time, if 20 members will pay \$2.50, now, instead of 50¢ each meeting. Having more toys for the children would be helpful; perhaps each child could bring a toy to share and take back home each time. Remember, if you cannot go to Tuesday's meeting, go to Wednesday morning or evening meetings.

-Elise Hurst-

**STATE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN
VOTERS
REGIONAL
MEETINGS**

Water resources, unit, membership, and program committees were represented at the Peoria meeting by Mrs. O.E. Schlachter, Mrs. Robert McNail, Mrs. L.L. Colvis, Mrs. Edward Booth, and Mrs. L.C. Auby, Jr. (and a big thank you to the grandmother who kept two babies).

We hope to give our membership some of the spark Mrs. Cocroft gave her sample unit meeting and the facts (all of them) that our own Mrs. John Donovan, as resource COMMITTEE, gave to this unit. Speaking of an expert on water resource, we have one in our own membership. Aren't we lucky?

Public relations, publications, and bulletin committee representatives will be going to Champaign, Oct. 6. (Student Union Building, University of Illinois, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.)

Foreign Policy, local agenda, budget, and nominating committees will go to Normal, Oct. 14. (Student Union Building, Illinois State Normal University, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.)

**FOREIGN
POLICY**

**KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR RADAR SCREEN FOR THE U.N. AND
WORLD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

October 24 is officially United Nations Day but we urge League Members all during this month to help make people in Decatur more aware of the U.N. organization and its future. We have available several copies of "The United Nations -- A Candid Appraisal" by our own Mrs. Ruebhausen, the League's official representative at the U.N. for 13 years. The price per copy is just 35¢. Do you belong to any church, club or school group that would like some interesting and up-to-date observations on the U.N. in action? The booklet also contains a suggested discussion outline.

May I also call to your attention that during U.N. week, the Decatur A.A.U.W. will be sponsoring Julia Bock Miller in "Zigzagging Around the World". Her illustrated story of the U.S.S.R. and World Byways will, no doubt, be of interest to League members both from the standpoint of the U.N. and our other foreign policy items.

We need to begin NOW to think of SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW FOREIGN POLICY ITEM. The deadline for sending suggestions to our state office is Nov. 25. This is your opportunity to take part in the "grass-roots" program-making leading to the final adoption of agenda items at the next National Convention in 1960 - not so far away as it may seem now. To help you in this task, we'll have a Foreign Policy Workshop and unit meetings before the deadline date. We welcome new participants to the workshop which will begin the week following Oct. 16. The exact date will be given to you by telephone if you are interested. In the meantime, please read your National Voters of the past several months as we focus on World Economic Development.

Lola Smith, Chairman - Telephone 2-1764

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. L.L. Colvis, President

"Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre, but they are more deadly in the long run."

-Mark Twain-

CALENDAR

November 10, Tuesday	VOTE * VOTE * VOTE * Polls open 6:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
November 10, Tuesday	9:15 A.M. - Bring the Children Unit Mrs. T.L. Hurst, 2095 West Sunset
November 11, Wednesday	9:30 A.M. - If you cannot attend this meeting, go to evening Unit. Mrs. R.H. Oplinger, 152 Cobb
November 11, Wednesday	7:30 P.M. Unit. Mrs. Kirby Riley, 4 Kater Drive (Directions: South on Rt. 51 past Orlando Motel; take first street to left. Medial Drive, and go to its very end where it runs into Imboden. Turn left on Imboden, and drive to 3rd intersecting street, which is Kater Drive. Mary lives on the corner.)
November 12, Thursday	9:30 A.M. Urban Renewal Workshop, Mrs. Lloyd Ater, 61 East Emerson
November 18, Wednesday	Program Conference, Chicago
November 19, Thursday	7:30 P.M. Board Watchers Meet Mrs. L.L. Colvis, 559 South Taylor
November 24 9:30	Revenue Workshop Organization Mrs. Ray Wilson, 62 East Emerson (See Comments under "Revenue")
December 3, Thursday	Meeting for Election Laws Committee in Chicago
December 9, Wednesday	State Council meets in Chicago

UNIT PROGRAM

NATIONAL CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES - A brief review by Mrs. Neal Doubleday.

FOREIGN POLICY - Subject: "Our Share in Meeting the Rising Expectations of Newly - Developing Countries" The Resource Committee: Mrs. Porter French, Mrs. Lowell Gill, Mrs. Hilmer Landholt, Mrs. Walker Mills, Mrs. Thomas Protzman, Mrs. Kirby Riley, Mrs. H.J. Pettee, Mrs. Lee Sentman, Mrs. T.C. Traver, Mrs. C.E. Smith, chairman.

FOREIGN POLICY

Just off the press is our new foreign policy booklet entitled "World Economic Development - Our Part in a Common Effort". As this "tool" states, "It becomes more and more apparent that foreign aid is here to stay." It is almost impossible for the governments of the newly-developing countries to survive unless there is outside assistance. The United States has responded in a piece-meal fashion. Now it is time to ask ourselves "What are the essential characteristics of an adequate program?"

The resource committee members have thoroughly enjoyed our workshop sessions. Now we hope a large number of League members will find the unit meetings a spur to increased interest in learning more about the realities of world economic development.

Have you read your October National Voter? It deserves complete coverage, for it will set you thinking about a number of things.

- Lola Smith, Foreign Policy Chairman

FINANCE DRIVE

Hats off and a sincere vote of thanks to all of you who worked on the Finance Drive. Our goal of \$1,000 was reached, and at this point has gone over by \$100.

Typing was done by Virginia Gibson and Ella Kuntz. Letter planning was done by Florence Cox. Solicitation was done by Board members, and these other loyal solicitors: Edwina Funk, Marion Fredrickson, Helen Hein, Elise Hurst, Sarah Kessler, Helen Leigh (A special star as a former Finance Chairman giving her support), June Roby, Pauline Smith, Janet Wilson.

Pauline Winn - Finance Chairman

WELCOME

We are pleased to announce, since our October list, another new member:
Mrs. Roger Mauterer (Mary Beth) 109 Benton Drive Tel. 7-2476

OUR BOARD, 1959-1960

President	Mrs. L.L. Colvis
First Vice President	Mrs. Walker Mills
State Item 3 Constitutional Convention Chairman	
Voters Service Chairman	
Second Vice President	Mrs. O.E. Schlachter
Program Chairman	
Unit Chairman	
Secretary	Mrs. E.J. Cresswell
Treasurer	Mrs. G.R. Cohn
Membership Chairman	Mrs. L.C. Auby, Jr.
Public Relations Chairman, Radio, TV, Press	Mrs. C.E. Barnes
Publications Chairman	Mrs. Edward Booth
Bulletin Editor	Mrs. Robert McNail
National Item 1, Foreign Policy Chairman	Mrs. Clifford Smith
State Item 1, Revenue Chairman	Mrs. Ray Wilson
Local Item, Urban Renewal Chairman	Mrs. Lloyd Ater
State Item 2, Election Laws Chairman	Mrs. B.C. Dahlmann
National Item 2, Water Resources Chairman	Mrs. Wm. Hipsher
Local Agenda, Board Watching Chairman	Mrs. G.L. Kessinger
Nominating Committee:	Mrs. Robert Cole, Mrs. Gerald Cox, Mrs. Nat Kessler
	Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. Ray Wilson.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mrs. C.E. Barnes
Mrs. G.R. Cohn
Mrs. Dan Gannon
Mrs. C.M. Nicholson
Mrs. G. H. Stringfield
Mrs. W.R. Winn
Mrs. Ralph Fredrickson, Chairman

LOCAL AGENDA COMMITTEE

Mrs. L.D. Ater
Mrs. James Kessinger
Mrs. Harold Tenney
Mrs. E.C. Stivers
Mrs. Paul Reeder
Mrs. Thomas Protzman
Mrs. Porter French, Chairman

VOTERS SERVICE

Question and answer sheets from the Board of Education were given out at our Sept. luncheon and Oct. unit meetings. These contained figures on assessed value per child, tax rates in Macon County for schools - and for schools similar in size to Decatur's - along with other factual information.

Highlights:

1. In 1963, four years from now, there will be 3,355 more children in Decatur schools than there are this year, an average of over 800 more each year than the year before.
2. This year, teachers' salaries were not increased, and because other school systems increased theirs, Decatur lost much of its competitive position when hiring teachers.
3. There will be two ballots. One concerning issuing bonds for new buildings and additions amounting to \$6,296,000 which, when all bonds would be out, would increase taxes 17¢ per \$100 assessed value. One concerning an increase in education fund tax rate limit from \$1.80 to \$2.20 to provide teachers, equipment, and supplies (salaries account for 80%).

Our local continuing responsibility item reads, "Support of measures designed to improve the structure and/ or to increase the efficiency and economical operation of School District #61, and of governments in Macon County".

The League does not take a stand on an issue unless it has been studied on the local agenda within the last six months, and a consensus reached.

Tags reminding voters to exercise their voting privilege were distributed through the schools, Vote, November 10.

Irene Mills, Voters Service Chairman

WATER RESOURCES

Consensus on our Water Resources Item was reached at our Oct. unit meetings. The report to National has been sent in with our recommendations for a national water policy, with emphasis on state and local responsibility. When these reports are evaluated, we will hear from our National committee on League readiness for future action.

Ruth Hipsher, Water Resources Chairman

URBAN RENEWAL

Since Sept., along with our regular study meetings, this workshop has gone on a "go see" tour of the proposed Urban Renewal sites in Decatur, and attended the City Council meeting when Decatur's own Workable Program was presented to the City Council. Our next workshop will meet on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 9:30 A.M. in my home at 61 East Emerson. We are scheduled to report to the Units on this topic the early part of next year. See you on Nov. 12.

Barbara Ater, Urban Renewal Chairman

REVENUE

All those who would like to answer "What is a fair tax?" get in line. Morning workshops are about to start. A sign-up sheet will be presented at the next unit meetings, and an organizational meeting will be held in November.

Janet Wilson, Revenue Item Chairman

ELECTION LAWS AND PROCEDURES

This is on the State agenda, and a worth while study should result in League members becoming better acquainted with procedures to be eligible for consensus by fall of 1960. That is little time to determine our conclusions, thus the more who participate, the higher average we shall have achieved.

As soon as Mrs. Randall, State Chairman of Election Laws and Procedures, gives the signal, we must be set and ready to go. This will be right after the first of the year. In the meantime, make every attempt to get into the workshop.

Eleanora Dahlmann,
Election Laws and Procedures Chairman

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Our First Task - Inform Ourselves. At a State Committee meeting in Chicago on November 2, a general outline was proposed and discussed under such headings as:

1. General Theories, such as, "What are the differences between a constitution and laws made by the legislature?" "How much detail is needed in a constitution?"
2. Present Illinois Constitution - What is in the bill of rights? Are there any new rights that need to be added?
3. Problems - Those that can only be done by constitutional revisions or can be done by legislation.
4. Convention - How - Why - Is it superior to a piece-meal amending process?

Mr. John Bebout, a member of the Constitutional Revision Commission of the National Municipal League will speak on November 18.

This is just a sampling of the questions posed. Would you like to begin to be a part of this study? It affects everyone in problems of school finance, taxation, labor relations, social welfare, State aid, etc. It is to be a long range study. You can become a better informed citizen, parent, and League member.

Irene Mills, Constitutional Convention Chairman

EXCHANGE

You might be interested in the Local Agenda items under study this year by other Leagues in Illinois. As we pick them up from our exchange bulletins, we will attempt - space permitting - to pass them on to you.

QUINCY is making a study of the public welfare services in Quincy and Adams County with particular emphasis upon the public assistance program, and services for dependent children and the aged.

KEWANEE is considering possibility of having a junior college. It was voted last April to help the junior college committee with its promotion as their local project this year. They are now sampling local League sentiment, knowing that work with the junior college committee will constitute, in the public eye, taking a stand in favor of the project.

Ella Kuntz - Circulation Editor

Ruth McNail - Bulletin Editor

DECEMBER, 1959

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Mrs. L. L. Colvis, President

A
VERY
MERRY
HOLIDAY
SEASON * A
BRIGHT NEW
YEAR FROM THE
BOARD MEMBERS
T
O
YOU

TONGUE-IN-CHEEK ADMONITIONS * * * * * USEFUL FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Never ask of money spent
Where the spender thinks it went.
Nobody was ever meant
To remember or invent
What he did with every cent.

- Robert Frost

It's a very odd thing -
As odd as can be -
That whatever Miss T. eats
Turns into Miss T.

- Walter De La Mare

Your League Board met at the home of Mrs. L. L. Colvis the morning of Dec. 4, a more relaxed meeting than usual, with no pressing December business. Some of the items discussed can well be passed on ahead of the January Bulletin.

LUNCHEON MEETING: You will want to hear your State President, Mrs. Harper Andrews, when she talks to our Decatur League, Tuesday, January 26. Mark down the date as soon as you get your 1960 calendar. This will be a luncheon meeting for the membership to be held at 12:45 P.M. Mary Lou Schlachter is making the necessary arrangements, and the place will be announced in your January Bulletin. Mrs. Andrews' topic is tentatively titled, "A Woman's Place is in the League".

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Lola Smith brought to the Board meeting a good supply of the Adult Activities bulletin for 1959-1960. If you have not received one in the mail, and desire a copy, or perhaps an extra one for a friend or new resident of Decatur, try getting one from Lola.

LOCAL AGENDA: If you have ideas or suggestions for Local Agenda items, call Rebecca French, or drop her a card. She would welcome your opinions on what you think is most urgent or timely for Local study.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: With April closer to us than we realize, the Nominating Committee has the tough job of helping to determine next year's officers. If you have a capable member-friend, well suited to be a League officer, let Lou Cole know about her. The Nominating Committee, at least, will be grateful.

Virginia Gibson brought her comprehensive report on Macon County's forms of local government to Board meeting. While the report is still in preliminary form, we were impressed by the huge amount of research and pure, hard work that has gone into it. You will be hearing more about it, later.

We will be able to have a meeting with U. S. Representative William Springer, February 13. Keep an eye on your bulletins for further news.

Shall I ask the brave soldier, who fights by my side
In the cause of mankind, if our creeds agree?
Shall I give up the friend I have valued and tried,
If he kneel not before the same altar with me?

- Thomas Moore