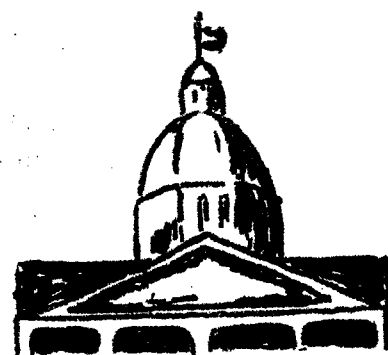




Tallahassee VOTER



League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, Florida

PURPOSE: To Promote Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active
Participation of Citizens in Government

President - Mrs. Charles K. Mann
1511 Hasosaw Nene

Vol. VI No. 4
February-March, 1968

CALENDAR

- February 27th - City Commission election (No primary this year).
March 5th - County School Bond election
March 8th - National CA Foreign Policy study on Evaluation of U.S. Relations with Mainland China. Place - Lemoyne Art Foundation, 214 South Calhoun St. 8:00 p.m.
March 7
March 28th - Annual Meeting - Dinner - University Room of the Duval Hotel, 7:00 P.M. Annual election of officers and business meeting. Speaker to be announced.
April 2nd - Pre-Council Meetings - A Voters Service Conference will be held at the Everglades Hotel from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. in Miami. (Details elsewhere). Presidents' Breakfast.
April 3rd - State Council will convene at 1:30 and adjourn at noon on April 4. Everglades Hotel in Miami.
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SCHOOL BOND ISSUE

EVERY LEAGUE MEMBER MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND WORK IF APPROVAL OF THE LEON COUNTY SCHOOL BOND ISSUE IS OBTAINED.

When we reached consensus on the bond issue, we realized the campaign would be an uphill battle. We were right. Opposition is organized, voters are confused, the timing brings difficulties, no one really wants to pay more taxes, and besides "maybe the state will pay for everything."

The League has joined other individuals and groups who are also concerned about Leon County schools, and Dorothy Mann is a member of the steering committee which is organizing support for the bond issue. Fact sheets have been prepared by the Chamber of Commerce, in connection with the Citizens Committee for the Bond issue and the school administration and are available at both places for League members to use and to distribute. They are already being distributed widely at P.T.A. and other group meetings. We have furnished speakers, upon request, for organization meetings and will continue to do so. The Chamber of Commerce is the clearing house if any group wishes a speaker.

Meanwhile, each League member has a responsibility, First, remind freeholders of the purpose of re-registration for this special election. And second, try to inform as many people as possible about the need for the bond issue, and encourage affirmative votes for it.

If there are questions, Evelyn Martin, Margaret Menzel and Dorothy Mann can either answer them, or find someone to answer them, or find the answers.

ONE WEEK LEFT

An Expression of Appreciation

HOW TO SUPPLY

For the past three years the League of Women Voters' Education Committee, first, under the chairmanship of Dr. Margaret Menzel and continued under the chairmanship of Dr. Evelyn Martin have made a study of the Leon County school situation; observed faithfully at school board meetings, made visits to the schools and reported their findings to League and to the Community. The service rendered by this group to the League and the Community is invaluable.

More recently in connection with the school bond issue, the group met with Ruth Chapman acting as coordinator for the league with the Citizens Committee for the School Bond issue, and formulated the following statement which was released to the Democrat verbatim, signed by your president and Evelyn Martin, Chairman, Education Committee:

LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR THE LEON COUNTY BOND ISSUE

The Tallahassee League of Women Voters has taken the official position of actively supporting the 1968 Leon County Bond election. This position results from the customary League procedure of thorough study of local school needs conducted over a three-year period. Such study involved examination of State school surveys, analysis of budgetary needs, presentations by school administrative officers, and visits to schools.

The League believes that the evidence indicates this proposed bond issue will relieve overcrowding, provide safer, healthier classrooms, and insure conformity to mandatory minimum standards for continued accreditation.

The League study indicates that the economy of Leon County is capable of supporting this bond issue and that a less than two mills tax increase should not be an impossible burden for the taxpayer.

President

Chairman, Education Committee

To our very faithful school board observers Shirley Taylor, Jean Devore, and Margaret Menzel, who many times stayed beyond the call of duty (to 7 and 8 p.m. sometimes), to Dr. Evelyn Martin, Jinni Pankaskie, Bobbie Baker, Ora Kromhout, and all of the others who have contributed to the success of this committee we express our most heartfelt appreciation.

Because there is a League of Women Voters, things happen.

A new league member attended a committee meeting on Human Resources in the summer--one of the things discussed by concerned members was what could be done to help prevent school drop-outs with so many children going into new school situations in the fall. This member went home and pondered the question along with her husband as to what could be done to help prevent drop-outs. The following is her story which league members heard about at the Human Resource meeting:

Tutoring-in -- School Projects

A small pilot tutoring project was conducted in four Leon County junior high schools this past fall. It was an attempt to discover if individual tutorial could give substantial help to low achievers (mainly students reading three to five years below grade level who might be considered potential drop-outs). Eight tutors from Florida A. & M., F.S.U., and the community were each working with one student three hours a week. Each Monday evening the tutor group met with Dr. Frank Wolfe of F.A.M.U. who helped the tutors diagnose and treat the student's problems. The project was funded through Dr. Frank Banghart's office of F.S.U. The project terminated at the start of Christmas vacation due to lack of funds. There is hope it can be initiated again in an expanded form next year.

Every one of the tutors felt his student had gained more in actual reading achievement, motivation and/or self confidence during the short project than he had hoped for at the start.* None of the tutors was a reading specialist, and some had had no teaching experience. The ability to reach an individual student, to identify his needs and interests is a highly personal factor independent of experience (but dependent on expert consultation). It is hoped that, if the project does begin again, there will be many people of all ages in this community who would enjoy tutoring in the schools.

*One or two of the students gained one or even two whole reading levels in less than three months.

Susan Pflaum, Project Director

Margaret Garvue and Susan Pflaum, both of whom were tutors in the project expressed the feeling that it was the one to one ratio that made the difference. It is one thing to have a full time tutor in the school who helps many students but quite another to have the interest of one special individual the primary concern. The students selected for the tutoring project were chosen by their teachers and they had to be agreeable to working with the tutors. This was a very important, interesting project and we hope that it will continue in the near future and grow. Congratulations to Susan and Margaret for your part in a very worthwhile project.

Fran LaLaur reported on a new day care center which has been opened in the Bond area. It is organized by the local CAP office and all help is on a volunteer basis. They need assistance of many kinds, including people to help take care of the children and help prepare food, toys, clothes, and transportation for occasional field trips. She reports that a few league members have already been giving some of their time and a new member (as a result of the last meeting) Carolyn McMullin is taking her small child and going over to help as are some of her friends. So if you have been asking "What can I do to help" here are some good examples.

The meeting on China to be held March 7th, at LeMoyné Art Foundation will cover a wide range of related subjects. Those participating in the presentation are:

Gail Franceschi - China - from a historical standpoint, effects of its people and character.
 Lois Wood ----- China as a world power
 Eleanor Moore --- Cultural revolution
 Edith McCollum -- China and U.S. Foreign Policy

Marge Meeter and Annelle Sterk (Chairman) will serve as resource people.

INFORMATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held March 28th, at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be in the University Room of the Duval Hotel. Choice of entree - Ham or Turkey - includes salad, two vegetables and dessert - Price \$3.00. We are trying to arrange for a speaker who will be interesting for husbands to hear also. Call Marge Meeter 877-6326, or Doris Partridge, 224-4056. Deadline for reservations is Monday the 25th.

The Board recommends the following for our local program:

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA: (1)

COMMUNITY PLANNING: Give attention to community planning, with support of measures which will provide the best long range comprehensive planning for the community.

Outlook for work: A study of consolidation of city and county government and services. Develop a yardstick for good planning and zoning. A study of the budgets, tax structures, other services --.

The Board recommends putting Education on CR.

LOCAL CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITY: (1)

EDUCATION: Continued support of measures which would promote improved quality of public education in Leon County.

The Nominating Committee presents this slate for 1968-69:

President - Mrs. Harold Chapman
 2nd V.P. -- Mrs. J. Clark Weaver
 Treas. ---- Mrs. William Watson
 2-Year Dir. Mrs. Martin Dyckman
 Mrs. Dorothy Sidwell
 Mrs. Louis Schneider
 1-Year Dir. Mrs. Robert Garvue
 Nom. Com.: Mrs. Hortense Wells
 Mrs. Irene Edmonds
 Mrs. Bobbie Baker

Submitted by: Margaret Menzel
 Juanita Forbes
 Doris Partridge
 Marge Meeter
 Enid Myers, Chm.