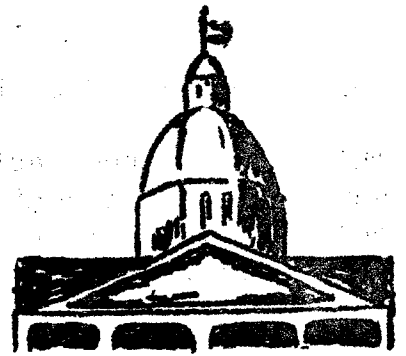




# Tallahassee VOTER



League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, Florida

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

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1025 Alachua Ave.

Editor - Mrs. N. E. La Seur  
Rt. 9, Box 905

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## CALENDAR

- July 10 - Board Meeting - Margaret Moorer's Studio - 523 8th Ave. - 8:00 P.M.  
July 18 - General Membership Meeting - Constitutional Revision - at the home  
of Mrs. J. Clark Weaver, 1708 Myrick Road  
August -- Board Meeting - time to be decided at July Board Meeting
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## LEAGUE STOOD UP TOO

"The poor people have stood up. It is time for every American from every walk of life, of every creed and color to stand up with them."

So said Sterling Tucker of the Urban League, National Coordinator of the June 19 National Solidarity Day in inviting the participation of all concerned Americans and organizations who support progress toward equality of opportunity through democratic nonviolent means and interracial teamwork.

While sympathizing from the outset with the broad goals of the Poor People's Campaign, the League has heretofore refrained from any formal commitment to support the Campaign itself or to endorse its specific legislative and administrative aims. We have, of course, continued to work independently to press for congressional action in our own defined area of human resources which reinforce the goals of the Poor People's Campaign.

While some of the goals of the Campaign go beyond our positions, the League was represented in the Solidarity Day Convocation to show that we are united with this nation's poor in their effort to achieve dignity, equality of opportunity, and justice, and to show that we respect and applaud their efforts in their own behalf to seek by non-violent assembly redress of their grievances.

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Leon Mead (Mildred)	1919 Chowkeebin Nene	877-4778
Mrs. Herbert Wills	1313 Lehigh Drive	877-7557
Mrs. Robert Summertil (Abby)	2022 Old Fort Drive	877-1673

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

2.

This will be the last issue of the Voter until early September - but League activities will continue, informally, through the summer months. Although the only scheduled meeting will be on July 18, committees will meet for study and discussion, as called.

Members will want to remember the July 18 meeting - when Betty Dyckman will lead a discussion on Constitutional Revision. Please note that the meeting date is the day before the scheduled 20 day Constitutional Revision session of the legislature will end. It should be a lively and informative meeting!

Please, if you have not already done so, select a committee now and call the chairman. These study groups are among League's most exciting happenings and you'll be sorry if you miss out on the fun. New members, particularly, are urged to indicate their choices. For your information, the chairmen are:

Inez Weaver	-----	Local CA	-----	City-County Planning
Betty Dyckman	-----	State CA	-----	Constitutional Revision
Dorothy Sidwell	----	National CA	---	Foreign Policy
Margaret Garvue	----	National CA	---	Water Resources
Margaret Menzel	----	State CA	-----	Education
Jean DeVore	-----	Local CA	-----	Education
Irene Edmonds	-----	National CA	---	Human Resources

You may have read in the newspapers that LWV, at its national convention, adopted a housing support position. Because of member interest, and sometimes member puzzlement, at this action - a position taken without consensus - we are including in this Voter the entire memorandum sent to local and state League presidents, explaining the convention action. You will need to read this carefully and thoughtfully, to assure understanding of how this action was taken.

This will be a busy summer in our city, state and nation. We must all try to keep abreast of events in our current areas of interest: education, city-county planning, Constitutional Revision, and human resources. So keep reading and thinking -- and we'll see you in September.

Ruth Chapman

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HOUSING SUPPORT POSITION ADOPTED AT CONVENTION

Human Resources: Support of equality of opportunity for education, employment, and housing. Evaluation of means to achieve equality of opportunity for housing and of further measures to combat poverty and discrimination. (As amended by the Convention)

Delegates to the 28th National Convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States, in six section meetings of the Convention body designed to allow wider discussion, in caucuses called by delegates at every available uncommitted time, and on the Convention floor, wrestled with the problem of how the League should respond to events that had occurred between the time of local and state League national Program making of both First and Second Rounds and the Convention. There had been, since April 4, two shock waves, the assassination

of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the ensuing reaction of people in the cities. Also, since April 4, there had been the passage of the Civil Rights Bill, which included a section on fair housing, a bill which had languished in Congress for many months with even optimistic proponents dubious of passage of the fair housing section.

The national Board, in its pre-Convention Board meeting, like the Convention, had wrestled with the implications of the April events on the proposed Human Resources item. It modified its proposal, principally by advancing the time table for the study envisaged in equal opportunity in housing and of further means of combating poverty. The Board proposed to the Convention "Human Resources: Support of equality of opportunity for education and employment. Evaluation of equality of opportunity for housing and of further measures to combat poverty and discrimination."

The Convention amended the Board proposal by changing the wording to read: "Support of equality of opportunity for education, employment, and housing," rather than "Evaluation of equal opportunity for housing."

#### Background for Convention Action

Leagues all over the country had indicated to both Program-making rounds a strong desire to expand the Human Resources item to include a study of housing and to investigate further measures to combat poverty and discrimination. Many local and state Leagues already had positions on fair housing. In fact, several Leagues had suggested that the national item should include a support position in housing without prior national study. The Board concluded, however, that the movement to adopt a support position in housing should come, if at all, from the Convention. The delegates would be in better position to speak for their Leagues if indeed they thought there was agreement in support of equality of opportunity for housing.

#### Validity of consensus adopted by Convention action

The national by-laws permit adoption of a support position by Convention action; the Convention during its meeting is the sovereign body of the League with power to "consider and authorize for action a Program" (Article IX, Sec. 5). The local League Handbook (p. 18) states that "Members at the Annual Meeting and delegates at the state or national convention may express a League position in the program-making process. Through the selection and wording of items the delegates may reaffirm positions long held or may express new ones, based on consensus which they believe the members have reached but which up until that time had not been stated as a position." See also p. 25 of local League Handbook where the possibility of delegates to state on national conventions expressing a consensus and formulating a position through the adoption of state or national program is discussed.

There are precedents for such Convention action: In 1958 the Convention adopted "Support of those national water policies and practices which promote coordinated administration, equitable financing, and regional or river basin planning." (The Board Proposed Water item had read: "Promotion of the optimum development and use of water resources consistent with river basin needs.")

4.

## Implications of the housing support

Support of equal opportunity for housing means that the League believes that all persons should have the same rights to buy or rent dwellings regardless of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin. It means, further, that the League believes these rights should be secured by law.

Under this position, limited action like the following is possible:

1. Action to support the intent of housing provisions of the 1968 Civil Rights Act (P.L. 90-284) or to prevent weakening or repealing them.
2. Action to prevent weakening or repeal of existing local or state fair housing ordinances, regulations, or laws.
3. Action to promote community understanding of provisions of fair housing regulation or legislation.

Leagues already having housing positions will continue to act, of course, in their communities or states in support of these local or state positions.

The target date is December 1, 1968, for developing guidelines by which Leagues will be able to determine whether or not fair housing regulations or laws at local, state, or national levels are effective and, if not, what improvements should be sought.

No Times for Action are anticipated from the national office before such guidelines are developed. Local and state Leagues without local or state League housing positions will await these guidelines before taking local or state action more specific than that spelled out under the present national housing support position.

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Mr. Philip Pitts, City Planner, has resigned to take a teaching position at Florida State University, and continue his education. We wish him success in the new undertaking, but the Planning-Zoning Committee will miss his cooperation and help in their work.

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## STUDY OF ELECTORAL COLLEGE

For the first time in modern League history, delegates at the national convention adopted a new not-recommended national Program item - a study of the Electoral College.

The national board suggests that members prepare for this study by observing operation of the Electoral College in the 1968 presidential election.

Local League study will begin sometime in January 1969.

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## Recommended for summer reading:

### Human Resources

Jobs and Growth - Conference on Economic Progress - \$.50.

Progress or Poverty - Leon Keyserling, Dec. 1964; Conference on Economic Progress - \$1.00.

The Role of Wages in a Great Society - Leon Keyserling, Conference on Economic Progress - \$.50, 1001 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036.

Poverty in America - University of Michigan Press.

Economics - Paul Samuelson, McGraw Hill Book Co.

Guaranteed Income - Robert Theobald, Doubleday.

Poverty American Style - Wadsworth, Belmont, Cal.

The Economics of Poverty - An American Paradox: Prentice-Hall.

Cities in a Race with Time - Jeanne Lowe.

Magazines: "Saturday Review," Feb. 1; "Time", May, 1968; "Look," June 11.

#### Foreign Policy

Asian Drama - Gunnar Myrdal, Pantheon Books.

How Communist China Negotiates - Arthur Lall, Columbia Univ. Press.

Negotiation with the Chinese Communists: The United States Experience - Kenneth Young, McGraw Hill.

(These are quite expensive books to buy - try the libraries.)

Our Finance Drive netted \$445.25. We sold \$1,339.75 in advertising and the cost of publishing the new county-city Booklet was \$894.50. This was more than estimated, so our finance drive fell short of its goal by about \$150.00. Know any affluent League supporters who would help balance our budget?

These booklets will be distributed free of charge to schools, Supervisor of Registration office, Chamber of Commerce, City Hall, etc., for distribution to new residents.

Our thanks to Dorothy Dodd for writing the booklet, Marian Buford for being finance drive chairman, and Dorothy Mann for helping with both. And a pat on the back for those who thought they couldn't possibly solicit ads, and found it wasn't really so bad, after all.

Several League members have contributed games, old magazines, books, etc., to the Human Resources Clearing House. If you have anything of this sort that your children have outgrown, please pass it on to them. They can use all they can get. The Clearing House is at 622 N. Copeland. They can also use volunteer help. The tot lots also need playground equipment, or money to buy it.

PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES CHECK TO MRS. WILLIAM WATSON, 2528 MISSION ROAD, if you have not already done so. These were due in April, and if not paid soon, you will no longer receive your voters.

Miss Verna Nistendark  
Rt. 2, Box 109  
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