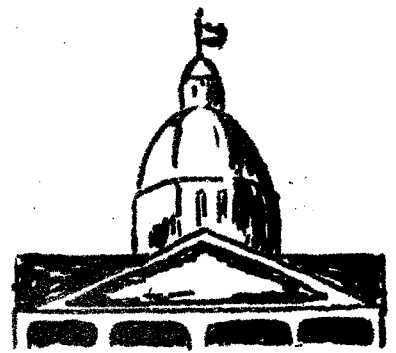




Tallahassee VOTER



League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, Florida

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

President: Mrs. Harold E. Chapman
1025 Alachua Ave.

Editor: Mrs. N. E. La Seur
Rt. 9, Box 905
March, 1969

Vol. VII, No. 8

CALENDAR

- March 12 -- General Membership Meeting, Tallahassee Federal Lobby, 440 North Monroe - 8 P.M. See Article in this Voter regarding program.
- March 19 -- Board Meeting, Home of Margaret Moorer, 8:00 P.M.
- March 25, 26, 27 -- State League of Women Voters Convention, Tampa
- April 10 -- Annual Meeting - Dinner Meeting - Skyline Restaurant, 7:00 P.M.
-

COME TO OUR BIRTHDAY PARTY

Mark your calendar now for Thursday, April 10, and plan to attend our annual meeting and buffet dinner. We are going to celebrate National League's 50th birthday and Florida League's 30th birthday. It will be at the Skyline Restaurant at 7:00 P.M. The price will be \$2.50.

We've worked hard all year and now let's just have some fun and chatter. No speeches - no consensus to be reached - no problems to be solved. We'll do a little - but very important business; elect new officers, adopt a budget, and vote on our local program for next year. We are planning a fun evening - which all birthday parties should be.

The telephone committee - bless each one! - will call you for reservations. If you haven't been called by April 6, make your reservation with Sally Brooks, 224-3651.

LOCAL PROGRAM FOR COMING YEAR

It is time for all League members to think about local program for the coming year. The board recommends continuing the two items we are now studying - Local Education, and Community Planning and Zoning. You will find these studies further detailed in your current yearbook. If you have other ideas, bring them to the annual meeting, and let us hear about them.

SCHOOL DESEGREGATION

Dr. James Beck, Florida A & M University, will speak at the general membership meeting March 12 about what is being done in other cities to help accomplish school desegregation.

STATE CONVENTION

Four delegates will represent the Tallahassee League at state convention in Tampa, March 25-27. They are Fran LaSeur, Margaret Menzel, Dorothy Sidwell, and Ruth Chapman.

LOCAL CONSENSUS ON U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

1. What should be the objectives of U.S. policy toward the People's Republic of China?

First, coexistence, then mutual cooperation, with the aim of working toward peace.

We are against policies of isolation or containment.

2. Does your League support changes in specific U.S. policies?

We suggest five changes in U.S. policy in this order:

1. Recognition of the People's Republic of China
2. Representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations
3. Removal of trade restrictions
4. Cultural Exchange of scholars, artists, doctors
5. Removal of travel restrictions between the two countries

3. Should the U.S. take the initiative in relaxing tensions?

Yes. We believe if the U.S. takes the first step by recognizing China that the Chinese might change their attitude toward us.

LOCAL CONSENSUS ON FINANCING EDUCATION IN FLORIDA

1. Members strongly favored major state support with leeway for districts to tax themselves. Ad Valorem taxes should be retained as the source of local support. No millage limitation, either constitutional or statutory, should be imposed. Present local support should not be reduced, but state support should increase, thus increasing the proportion of state funding.
2. The state should assume more responsibility for funding capital outlay, at least until building programs catch up with needs, since state financing is more equitable, more economical, and more efficient.
3. Most of the services financed by the state should be included in the MFP package; coverage should be broadened rather than limited. Feeling was that the MFP has worked well but should be better funded. Special programs should be limited to those of temporary or unpredictable nature, such as matching funds for new Federal programs.
4. Tax structure in support of education as well as other state obligations should be revised to include both personal and corporate income taxes and severance taxes, to assure a broader, more stable, and less regressive tax base. Tax exemption loopholes should be plugged. The present 4¢ sales tax should be retained with present exemptions.
5. We did not reach consensus regarding earmarking of funds or the basis on which funds should be redistributed; we feel further study of the pros and cons is needed before taking a position on these questions. There was a feeling that equitable distribution might be simplified by encouraging consolidation of smaller and less efficient school districts, wherever this is feasible.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

Dues will be due at annual meeting - \$7.50 each. And yes, it's close to income tax time - we know that too!!!

LAST CALL TO SEMINARS!

There will be two legislative seminars for League leaders, and interested Leaguers this spring. The first will be held Tuesday noon to Thursday noon, April 22, 23 and 24. The second will be Tuesday noon to Thursday noon, May 20, 21 and 22. Registration fee is \$4.00 for each seminar. Out-of-town Leaguers will be staying at Howard Johnsons on the Apalachee Parkway. Registration fees must be in the State Office by April 1. If you are interested in attending one or both of these seminars, please contact Fran La Sear before March 19. More detailed information about the plans for these seminars will be forthcoming to your board shortly.

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES - LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FLORIDA

The state board is recommending several changes in the by-laws of the State League for consideration at the State Convention later this month. Changes are of wording rather than substance. The cost of reproducing all of these changes for our membership to read is beyond our financial capabilities at this time. If any member is interested in reading them, please contact one of your board members and borrow her copy of the January Board Report.

LOCAL CONSENSUS ON STATE TAXES

1. What criteria should be used to evaluate a state-local fiscal system?
Members felt that the League's present canons of good taxation were essentially the criteria that should be used. They expressed concern over the working of "consistency with economic goals" canon. The feeling was that this was too general and dubious in its wording. They also wished to add a fifth canon. That is "a broad varied base for stability of revenue."
2. Does Florida's fiscal system meet these criteria? If not, what improvements would you recommend? Why?
The entire membership agreed that Florida's present fiscal system does not meet these criteria. They recommended a more equitable tax structure, a central tax agency, no constitutional limit on type of tax or limit on state indebtedness. They, additionally, recommended three new taxes:
 1. Corporate income tax
 2. Severance tax
 3. Personal state income taxThe general feeling was that there should be no increase in sales tax and that existing loop-holes in the property tax exemption should be plugged.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

B U D G E T

Year - APRIL 1, 1969 - MARCH 31, 1970

	<u>Current 1968-69</u>	<u>Proposed 1969-70</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
<u>General Administration</u>		
President	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Board Tools and Expenses	50.00	25.00
Administrative Committees		
Finance (Mimeographing, Postage)	50.00	50.00
Membership (Yearbook, membership meeting)	50.00	30.00
Operating Costs		
General Supplies (Stationary, etc.)	40.00	20.00
Postage (P.O.Box, Stamps)	42.50	25.00
Telephone and Telegraph	20.00	10.00
<u>Capital Expenditures</u>	--0--	--0--
<u>Delegates, Travel and Affiliations</u>		
National Convention	100.00)	
State Convention	125.00)	242.50
Workshops and Regional Meetings	25.00)	
<u>Programs and Activities</u>		
Publications (Net)		
State and National	60.00	25.00
Local	30.00	--0--
Tallahassee Voter (Postage, Mimeographing)	125.00	225.00
Program Committees (publics. for comm. & comm. expns)		
National	20.00	5.00
State	20.00	5.00
Local	20.00	5.00
Community Services		
Meetings	20.00	20.00
Voters Service	150.00	25.00
Action	50.00	25.00
Support for State and National Services	500.00	500.00
Totals	<u>\$1,547.50</u>	<u>\$1,287.50</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Dues (75 members 1968-69; 85 members 1969-70)	562.50	637.50
<u>Contributions</u>		
Members	200.00	300.00
Non-members	350.00	350.00
From Reserves	435.00	--0--
Total	<u>\$1,547.50</u>	<u>\$1,287.50</u>

A word of explanation seems in order as the budget for the coming year is presented:

Last year's actual income did not equal our anticipated income. Some cuts in the budget were necessary during the past year, and no reserve is available for next year.

Thus, the new budget is a realistic appraisal of anticipated expenses and income, and although it is a decreased budget, on paper, in reality it is not.

The nominating committee presents this slate of officers for the coming year:

President ----- Mrs. N. E. LaSeur
1st V. P. ----- Mrs. Martin Dyckman
Secretary ----- Mrs. Karl Brooks
2-Year Dir. --- Mrs. James Beck
 Mrs. Rebecca Hawkins
 Mrs. Robert Palmer
Nom. Comm. ---- Mrs. H. R. Partridge
 Mrs. Duane Meeter
 Mrs. Harold Chapman

Submitted by:

Mrs. Hortense Wells, Chmn.
Mrs. Howard Baker
Mrs. J. H. Taylor
Mrs. J. Clark Weaver
Mrs. Hank Mannheimer

(Mrs. George DeVore has consented to fill the remaining year of an unexpired term.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is a personal and warm note of thanks to each one of you. It's been a rewarding year for me, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn the valuable things that only this office can offer.

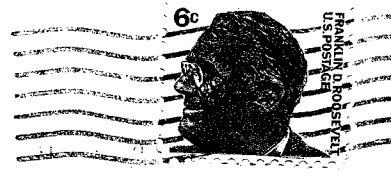
And I want to express to the membership my own appreciation for the patience, good humor and wit, and loyalty of your board members. They have given their time, talents and support in generous measure and the League is much richer for their service. I know that I speak for all of you, in saying thanks to each one of them.

We have much to do. I look forward to deeper and greater achievements in the months and years ahead of us.

Ruth

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
P. O. BOX 2624
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32304

TALLAHASSEE,
MAR 7,
PM 3
1969



Miss Verna Nistendirk
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