



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. LaSeur
Rt. 9, Box 905

Vol. VII No. 2

May-June, 1968

CALENDAR

- May 21 --- Workshop in Orlando on Local Current Agenda and State Education Items.
- May 23 --- General Membership Meeting - Human Resources: Crises in the Cities - Lemoyne Art Foundation - 125 N. Gadsden - 8:00 P.M.
- May 28 --- Second Primary Election and School Bond Issue Election for new school construction.
- June 6 --- General Membership Meeting - Study and discussion of proposed Constitutional Amendments pertaining to Education. LeMoyne Art Foundation - 125 N. Gadsden - 8:00 P.M.
- June 12 -- Board Meeting - Margaret Moorers Studio - 523 E. 8th Ave. 8:00 P.M.
- June 20 -- General Membership Meeting - Human Resources -
- July 10 -- Board Meeting - Margaret Moorers Studio - 523 E. 8th Ave. - 8:00 P.M.
-

EDUCATION NOTES SCHOOL BOND ISSUE

The referendum for the approval of the Leon County School Bond Issue has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, May 28. All funds provided by the Bond Issue will be used for building and maintenance. Although the Legislature has provided additional funds for Leon County, these funds will be used mainly for teachers' salaries, transportation, textbooks, ad valorem tax relief, and educational improvement expenses other than construction and maintenance. Therefore, it is up to the county to provide the largest portion of capital outlay funds.

The School Board says the Bond Issue can be financed for slightly less than two (2) mills, or \$2.00 tax per thousand dollars of the assessed value of property. However, School Board officials have reported that property taxes probably will not increase because the millage roll-back will nearly off-set the amount needed to pay off the Bond Issue.

A vote of 50% plus one of the registered freeholders is needed to pass the Bond Issue, SO BE SURE TO GET OUT AND VOTE ON MAY 28.

NEW PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENTS ON THE BOARD

Mrs. A. L. Buford Publications
Mrs. Dorothy Sidwell Foreign Policy
Mrs. Robert Garvue Water Resources
Mrs. Randolph Edmonds Human Resources

COMMUNITY PLANNING
Inez Weaver, Chairman

At the request of the League Community Planning committee, your Board, at its May meeting, sent a letter to the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Commission urging the approval of the provision in the Commission's Policy and Procedure Statement that all meetings of the Commission be open to the public and the press. Copies of the letter were sent to city and county planning officers and to the Tallahassee Democrat.

At the regular meeting of the Commission on May 9th, Mr. Jack Yaeger, Chairman, told the League observer that the letter was incorporated into the minutes of the meeting and would become a part of the public record.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Irene Edmonds, Chairman

The May 23 meeting on Human Resources will deal with the crises in the cities of our country. We are studying the Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, and will try to bring to you some of the findings of that report. To give you some background information on the thinking in these areas and stimulate your thinking, we give you the following excerpts from the 1967 Report of the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

On Ghetto Life

"One minute we are looking ahead and we think we see something and we turn around and again all we can see is darkness ahead. And sometimes at a time like this all they can do is strike out into the night. They don't know what they are reaching for out there."

"If nothing changes there is going to be trouble. People are tired of talking to themselves. My grandmother said things would get better and my mother said they're going to get better but I don't see any change. The cops keep pushing us, telling us to move on. We are in perpetual motion."

"-Outside of this district time marches on - They build better and they have better but you come down here and you see the same thing year after year. People struggling, people wanting, people needing, and nobody to give anyone help."

"-This neighborhood is a quagmire - a big quicksand. I guess it's the low adequacy of the housing - the low morals of the whole place. It's one big nothing. I mean you can live here for millions and millions of years and you will see the same place, same time and same situation. It's just like time stops here."

case of babies

On Education

"-We go to school and we all want to go to college. We want a good education and we set out for it...We go to school and the first thing we do is stand and we say the pledge. The pledge says that this is a free country and everything - We go into our history class and we learn what a free country it is. Then we walk out of the school doors and it is the end of it. You go back to your crummy little house and try to get a crummy little job and all you know is that your accent is different from everybody else's and so you just can't make it."

On Housing

"-(A Person) rents a broken-down room for \$21 to \$24 a week that is rat infested and has cockroaches running all over the place. There are holes in the ceiling where the plaster has fallen down and the people have to share a bathroom. The so-called furnished apartments usually contain a few chairs, a table and an old rusty bed.....Frequently, social workers tell families to move out of these homes where the rents are too high, but they never find them decent homes where rents are lower."

On Police Protection

"One family had called the police because of an incident in the area. They waited 10 minutes, 15 minutes, 20 minutes and there was no response. Then someone was smart enough to think of calling the police, saying "Get out here quick, there is a Negro beating up a white man". The Police were there in two minutes."

In Cleveland there was no effective channel for complaining about, and resolving the merits of alleged police mistreatment. Negroes who did complain were told by the commanding officer of their district: "Look, investigating complaints takes quite a bit of time and manpower so this is what I am prepared to do - I will have the police officer whom you have indicated has violated your rights submit to a lie detector test. If he is found to be lying I will go downtown and make sure he is reprimanded or dismissed from the force. On the other hand, I want you to submit to a lie detector test and if it proves that you are lying, I will personally go to the judge and see that you be given six months in jail and fined \$1,000 for filing a false claim with the police department." "This practice," he said, "usually resolved the matter."

On Militancy

"They (Negro Youth) can't sit back and believe everything they've been told that things are going to get better because things aren't getting better. Things are getting worse and children that grow up in a poor area in this generation and getting more sophisticated of what is going on around them are going to let you know."

"We would like to be able to proceed along the established democratic lines for change if this is possible, but if this is not possible, then we will have to do whatever is necessary to make these changes."

"So when things blow in the city people sit back and want to know why, and all the time we're telling you why."

"If this country has the resources to put a man on the moon, certainly it has the resources to effectively deal with the socioeconomic problems that face the minority citizens. Unfortunately, at this time I happen to feel that the country does not have the will to address itself to these problems."

PLAN TO ATTEND THE MAY 23 MEETING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE PROBLEMS AND DISCUSS THEM WITH OTHER LEAGUERS. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL PROBLEMS FACING OUR NATION AT THIS TIME. WE MUST ADDRESS OURSELVES TO THESE PROBLEMS AND WORK DILIGENTLY TOWARD THEIR SOLUTIONS.

OBSERVERS PROGRAM 1968-1969

Coordinator - Annelle Sterk

I. School Board - 2:00 P.M. Murat Building - first and third Wednesdays

Chairman - Jean DeVore (Mrs. George)	2350 Armistead Road (32303)	385-2081
Bonnie Mannheimer (Mrs. Hank)	2100 W. Randolph Cir. (32303)	385-1556
Suzanne Leif (Mrs. Robert C.)	924 Chestwood Ave. (32303)	385-2526
Barbara Nardi (Mrs. G. L.)	916 Chestwood Ave. (32303)	385-6301
Cherry Shadduck (Mrs. A.M.)	2107 Gibbs Dr. (32303)	385-3263

II. County Commission - 9:00 A.M. Court House - second and fourth Tuesdays

Chairman - Dorothy Mann (Mrs. Chas. K.)	1511 Hasosaw Nene (32301)	877-4945
Pat Clarke (Mrs. James W.)	1821 Ivan Drive (32303)	385-5282

III. City Commission - 2:30 P.M. - City Hall - Second and Fourth Tuesday

Chairman - Anna Qualls (Mrs. L. L.)	1017 Cherokee St. (32301)	877-2632
Juanita Forbes	702 S. Ride (32303)	385-3318
Martha Chapman	129 N. Franklin Blvd. (32301)	224-4666
Nelle Sewell (Mrs. John T.)	3203 Robinhood Dr. (Box 707) (32302)	385-3743

IV. Planning Board (City-County) - 7:30 P.M. - County Court House, Court Rm. #3
Second and Fourth Tuesday

Chairman - Inez Weaver (Mrs. J. Clark)	1708 Myrick Drive (32303)	385-1779
Ora Kromhout (Mrs. Robert)	227 Westridge Drive (32304)	222-0481

V. Board of Community Action Program - Quarterly Meetings - Location varies -
Evening Meetings

Chairman - Irene Edmonds (Mrs. Randolph)	315 Barbourville Dr. (32301)	224-8934
Fran La Seur (Mrs. N.E.)	Rt. 9, Box 905 (32301)	385-1974
Ann Megargee (Mrs. Edwin)	2241 Monaghan Dr. (32301)	385-3918
Jean Easton (Mrs. Dexter)	2908 Lasswade Dr. (32303)	385-2381

VI. Cabinet - 10:00 A.M. State Capitol - Every Tuesday

Chairman - Lois Wood (Mrs. Harry)	725 Stiles Ave. (32303)	385-2451
Ruth Engwall (Mrs. Ruth V.)	101 S. Meridian St. (32301)	222-0008
Rebecca Hawkins (Mrs. Rebecca W.)	1026 McLendon Dr. (32303)	877-2448
Pat Denmark (Mrs. Tom)	1809 Sharon Road (32303)	385-4679

Purposes of the Observer Program

1. To represent the public interest by presence at meetings of public boards, and thereby to check on routine procedural matters, such as:
 - a. Adequate study of problems and use of experts before decisions are made.
 - b. Efficient and practical approaches to problems.
 - c. Full presentation of details of problems, both at meetings and in newspaper reporting.
2. To gather information on areas pertinent to current League study programs.
3. To evaluate trends and emphases developing in the field of government, using the following bases:
 - a. Need for wider public information and for League in-depth study.
 - b. Relationships of local interests to state, national and world interests.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Michael Garstang (Elsabee) 1908 Sharon Road 385-2823
 Elsabee will be an associate member until September when she will
 be sworn in as a U. S. citizen.

Mrs. G. L. Nardi (Barbara) 916 Chestwood Ave. 385-2526

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES.

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

