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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Huntington, West Virginia
October, 1963

Mrs. Rodney G. Schroeder, President
Mrs. Donald G. Dornbach, Editor

HOW INFORMED ARE YOU?

In step with our purpose of an informed and active citizen participation in government, the League is conducting a "Know Your ABC's of Local Government" discussion series. The first meeting in this educational series was held on October 2 at 8 p.m. at the Jr. League Community Center. It was conducted by its co-chairmen, Giovanna Deveny and Nancy Matthews. The initial meeting included an orientation to how the League works as well as an interesting question and answer period on all aspects of local government. This helped to illustrate how very uninformed the average citizen is on this subject. In this series, active group participation is being encouraged. Thus, questions pertinent to our local government were assigned various members of the audience. They were asked to secure the answers and report back to the group at the next meeting. All interested League members are encouraged to join this group. For further information contact Giovanna Deveny at 522-3016 or Nancy Matthews at 736-4539.

LEST WE FORGET!

General Meeting, 8 p.m. Oct. 16
Jr. League Community Center

Our next general meeting on October 16 will have a very pressing national and local problem as its discussion subject: "Water Management", with special stress on pollution. West Virginia is blessed with ample rainfall, vast forests and great rivers. In the past, the latter two have been taken too much for granted and some mismanagement has occurred. Now, together with the Federal and State Government, Industries and an alerted citizenry, we try to correct our past mistakes. How? Only through study will we be able to begin to understand the vast ramifications of a problem that touches us every minute of our life, from the first cup of coffee in the morning to our children's future jobs.

A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME, PLEASE.....

League members, "old" and new, are requested to fill in the following questionnaire and mail to Nancy Matthews, Membership Chairman, at 6227 Walmott Drive. These will be put on file and shall serve as a most needed source of recruitment data.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Date

Name

(Year Joined League)

Address

(Telephone)

Profession

ACTIVITIES: (state & local board positions, committees,
unit participation

(YEAR)

Check all types of League work in which you are interested:

- STUDY ITEMS
- () United Nations
 - () Foreign Economic Policy
 - () Constitutional Revision
 - () Water Resources
 - () CR's
 - () Orientation Course

- COMMITTEES
- () Finance
 - () Typing
 - () Arrangements (meetings)
 - () Telephone
 - () Unit Hostess
 - () Bulletin
 - () Membership
 - () Observer at City Council Meetings

THE LEAGUE PROGRAM: CURRENT AGENDA AND CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES.....

"The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government" (from the Local League Handbook.) It seeks to carry out this purpose through the Program, which is determined by League members on the national, state, and local levels. Governmental issues chosen by members (on any level) for concerted action are called CURRENT AGENDA items. CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES (CR'S) are positions on issues to which the League has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

For the benefit of new members, and to refresh its not so new ones, we shall review the League's CR's and its Current Agenda.

The NATIONAL PROGRAM was adopted at its national convention (held biennially) in 1962.

A. The CURRENT AGENDA is:

1. Continued support of the United Nations system and an evaluation of means to strengthen that system under present-day conditions.
2. Continued support of U.S. policies to promote world economic development and an evaluation of opportunities to expand regional cooperation.

B. CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

1. Water Resources: Support of national policies and procedures which promote comprehensive long-range planning for conservation and development of water resources. Among these policies are: (a) better coordination and elimination of conflicts in basic policy at the federal level; (b) machinery appropriate to each region which provides coordinated planning and administration; (c) cost sharing by government and private interests in relation to benefits received and ability to pay.
2. Loyalty-Security: Support of standardized procedures, "common sense" judgment and greatest possible protection for the individual under the federal loyalty-security programs; opposition to extension of such programs to nonsensitive position.
3. District of Columbia: Support of self-government and representation in Congress for citizens of the District of Columbia.
4. Tax Rates: Opposition to constitutional limitations on tax rates.
5. Treaty Making: Opposition to constitutional changes that would limit the existing powers of the Executive and the Congress over foreign relations.

The STATE PROGRAM was adopted by the state convention (held biennially) in 1963.

A. The CURRENT state AGENDA is:

1. A study of the state constitution, and the support of revisions which provide government responsive to the needs of the people of West Virginia.
2. Water Resources of West Virginia.

B. CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

1. Revision of the tax limitation amendment to effect increased benefits to local taxing units.
2. Strengthening and extending the civil service system.
3. Support of measures contributing to improved finance and organization in public education, including transferral of the functions of the state board of school finance to the state board of education, a more adequately financed school funds program, and increased local and state support through such measures as reappraisal of West Virginia property.

On the LOCAL PROGRAM level the proposal for great emphasis to be put on building membership through a sustained Voter Service Program was adopted.

AT YOUR FINGER TIPS

Pamphlets on the various phases of our current Water Resources study will be available at the general meeting. Joyce Levy, Publications Chairman, will be glad to help secure those you are interested in at a very nominal price.

THE RESPONSIBILITY IS OURS!

Between now and November 20, the By-Law deadline for first-round national Program suggestions, each League member has a distinct responsibility. Each of us should think through, and then voice her best judgment for a national Program on which she wishes to work during 1964-65. Help to choose the best possible vehicle through which to accomplish the purposes of the League of Women Voters in the next two years.