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League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area Bulletin, January, 1966

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Huntington, West Virginia
January, 1966

Mrs. Rodney G. Schroeder, Pres.
Mrs. Neil Gibbins, Editor

LEAGUE EVENTS

March 19 - Annual Luncheon Meeting

Jan. 11 DHR Daytime Group met at Mrs. Henryetta Hager's.

Jan. 12 DHR Evening Group met at Mrs. Rodney Schroeder's.

Feb. 8 The Development of Human Resources daytime group will meet at 9:30 at Mrs. Henryetta Hager's, 611 12th Ave., Rear

Feb. 9 The Development of Human Resources evening group will meet at 8:00 at Miss Frances Sattes's, 1240 15th St.

Both groups will come to consensus on the following questions:

- Q. 1. The following criteria could be applied to federal programs providing equality of opportunity for education and employment:
- (a) The nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in education and employment should include participation of government at all levels and private institutions as well.
 - (b) Programs should be carefully tailored to the educational or employment needs of the people they are intended to reach.
 - (c) People for whom community action programs are designed should be involved in the planning and implementation of those programs.
 - (d) Programs should assist people to become self-supporting, contributing members of society.
 - (e) The programs should be nondiscriminatory.
 - (f) The programs should be administered by qualified personnel.
 - (g) Research pilot projects and continuing evaluation should be encouraged and, where feasible, built into programs.
 - (h) Programs may be closely related but should avoid unnecessary duplication.
 - (i) State and local government should contribute to the extent their resources permit; at the same time, adequate federal funds for the establishment and continuation of programs should be available if necessary.

Does your League approve or disapprove in part or in full of each of these standards? Should any of them be changed or elaborated? Should there be additions to the list?

- Q. 2. Should the problems of depressed areas which cut across state lines be handled regionally? If so, what kinds of administrative arrangements could or should be established? What kinds of development programs should be established?
- Q. 3. Should the federal government provide advice and other forms of assistance to communities facing problems of integration in employment and education? If so, what kinds of help should be given?
- Q. 4. What means should the federal government have at its disposal to enforce nondiscrimination in education and employment?
- Q. 5. What conclusions has your League reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present federal programs to provide equality of opportunity for education and employment? Which kinds of programs do you support? oppose? Do you think additional and/or different programs are needed?

Please give suggestions to the Board for a Local Item Study for next year.

APPORTIONMENT OF STATE LEGISLATURES

At the Dec. general meeting the following consensus questions were discussed and consensus was reached:

Q. I. IN INTERPRETING THE CONSTITUTION, COURT DECISIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT THE BROAD STANDARD FOR THE BASIS OF REPRESENTATION OF ALL STATE LEGISLATURES SHOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY POPULATION. SOME PEOPLE THINK THIS STANDARD SHOULD BE MAINTAINED; OTHERS THINK IT SHOULD BE CHANGED. WHAT DOES YOUR LEAGUE THINK?

A. The consensus of our League was that the standard as it stands now of population being the basis of representation of all state legislatures, should be maintained. The League members tried to be objective, but they strongly felt that this standard should be maintained. The word "substantially", some felt, left some leeway as it was and they wondered just how this word really should be interpreted.

Q. II. IF YOUR LEAGUE THINKS THERE SHOULD BE NO CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION, PLEASE GIVE YOUR REASONS.

A. Our League definitely felt that population should be the only basis for representation, because people should be the only factor represented in the state legislature. We felt that the various interests and groups would still be represented as the population itself was represented. We were inclined to agree with the "political scientists" in general that single-member districts for the representation basis of one house and multi-member districts for the representation basis of the other house, in a bicameral legislature, would give the various groups and interests of the electorate their voice.

Q. III. WHETHER OR NOT YOUR LEAGUE FAVORS AN AMENDMENT, WHAT SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN ANY APPORTIONMENT AMENDMENT TO THE U. S. CONSTITUTION?

A. This question our League felt it couldn't answer, because it felt that factors other than population should not be allowed to determine the standard for representation. It felt that no other factor should be permitted.

Q. IV. ANY OTHER AGREEMENT REACHED BY YOUR LEAGUE

A. Our League felt that some precaution should be taken that would force the body (according to each state constitution) responsible for reapportionment of the state legislature after each federal census to act, this prohibiting a situation such as we previously had from reoccurring.

Also our League felt that if an amendment did pass the Congress, it should be ratified by the convention method.