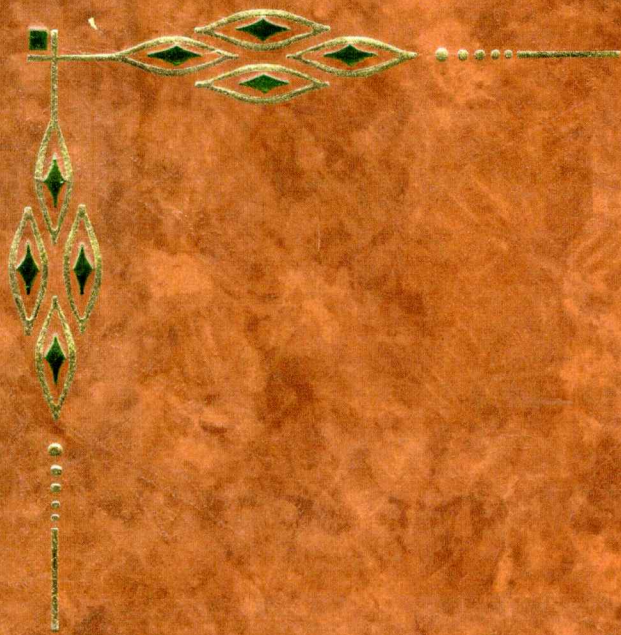
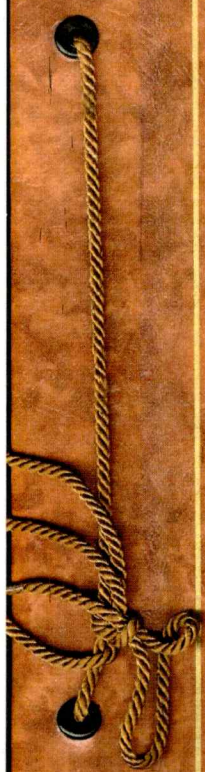




Scrap
Book



WOMAN OF THE WEEK: RUTH CLUSEN

The Ford-Carter Debates

By JANE PERLEZ

FOR THE LAST four months Ruth Clusen has been a walking advertisement for the year's most talked about television show. As one of the more subtle touches of her campaign to get the candidates face-to-face, the president of the League of Women Voters glued a sticker to her well-travelled green Samsonite carry-on. It reads: '76 Presidential Debates.

Mrs. Clusen, a woman of considerable cheerfulness and unfailing energy, wanted those Ford-Carter debates badly. She knew they would be a shot-in-the-arm for the League. Beyond that, they fitted in with the League's expressed goal: to educate voters and to get them to the polls.

"The 1960 figures show us that we had the highest turnout at the polls in more than 40 years. The numbers have decreased since and most analysts say the 1960 debates lent a vitality to the process. We've been concerned about the constant drop in numbers not voting.

"Also," continued Mrs. Clusen, "the debates will offer to the electorate something more than the packaged political messages of the candidates. There is something about seeing the two major candidates on the same platform, in the same place, at the same time that has a chemistry all its own."

Mrs. Clusen is delighted with the format—no pat speeches allowed, no opening statements, and the relative ease with which the bargaining was settled. She was there during the two negotiating sessions in Washington and reports that the atmosphere was "not tense. The overriding factor was that the two sides wanted to do it."

The best time to see Mrs. Clusen during a one-day visit to the city from the League's Washington headquarters was at 7 a.m. She came in the night before, arose to a 6 a.m. wake-up call and was already well into the morning news and breakfast when we arrived.

She has been national president of the League—a non-paying post—since 1974, a period in which the organization has determinedly weathered difficult circumstances. Membership dropped in 1970, but has now leveled to 140,000, including 4000 men. Increasing numbers of women going into the workforce has meant less interest in volunteering but there's hope that a side effect of the League's new high profile will attract more members.

Mrs. Clusen joined her local chapter in Green Bay, Wis., in 1952. "I'm almost ashamed to say I've not been off a League's board since." She was Wisconsin state president from 1962-66 and joined the national board at the end of her state term. Until her election as national president—there have been all of nine League presidents in the 56-year history of the organization—she channeled most of her energy into the League's environmental activities.

She calls the League "my avocation and vocation." Indeed it seems a natural for her. She was born in Wisconsin, where her father, Elmer Chickering, was a high school principal and her mother, Ruth, a teacher. As a nine-year-old in Louisville, Ky., where the family moved briefly, she can remember politics was household talk. "My father had the cover of a magazine and I can remember his saying: 'If you can identify this man I'll give you 25 cents.'" The bright kid recog-



A matter of chemistry.

Post Photo by Terence McCarlin

nized Benjamin Franklin disguised in modern dress.

Back in Wisconsin, she attended the University of Wisconsin's Eau Claire campus and earned her BS in 1945.

She met Donald Clusen, also a teacher, when her father, then head of a boys' juvenile institution, hired him. They married in 1945 and have two daughters, Kathryn and Elizabeth. Clusen is now deputy warden of Wisconsin's state reformatory and, at best, sees his wife on weekends. She tries to keep a Tuesday through Thursday schedule in Washington—she stays at the Jefferson Hotel—but speaking engagements and interminable conferences keep her away from Green Bay a good deal of the time.

Mrs. Clusen makes clear the presidential debates are more than an ad hoc outgrowth of the League's series of televised primary forums held with the contenders for the Democratic nomination. Last year, the League hired former public television producer, Jim Karyn, to direct the primary forums. Karyn came along with a proposal for presidential debates as well. In May, at the League's national conference at the New York Hilton, Mrs. Clusen formally announced the debate plan. She got an immediate nod from Democratic national chairman Robert Strauss, and a lukewarm nibble from the Republicans' Mary Louise Smith.

Once the President ad-libbed his yes, the League was inundated with free advice, requests for tickets, suggestions of locale and

not least, reporters letting it be known that they'd be available to ask the questions. Mrs. Clusen says that the League has established a steering committee for the tricky job of choosing the moderator and three reporters.

It is not yet definite, but the choice of questioners and moderator will probably be different for each of the three occasions. Beyond that: "Getting the right mix for each debate is difficult," she says. "It would be a mistake to get too academic questions. On the economy, for example, you can get an economist's theories but what the public is interested in is the rate of inflation. They want to know: 'How it affects me.'"

As an officeholder of the League, Mrs. Clusen must keep her personal political leanings to herself. As a voter in Wisconsin she is not registered with either party. But she does say she has given consideration to running for Congress once she leaves the League: "Wisconsin has yet to elect a woman to the Congress and regardless of being a woman, I've had close workings with the federal government."

She has been intrigued by environmental work, an interest that got her on the U.S. delegation to the U.S.-USSR Joint Committee on Environmental Protection in Moscow in 1974. Two years earlier she was at the National Wildlife Federation Symposium in Stockholm.

She is, at 54, a down-to-earth woman,

with a frequent laugh and an easy manner. She is shortish, with pale blue eyes and coiffed gray hair. She clearly revels in being busy, though as she went into an Aspen Institute conference on "Politics and Television" at the Waldorf this week—she was chairing a session on "long-range problems"—she confided: "You sometimes wonder if you haven't heard every word before."

She is an avid supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment and earlier this year she moved the 1978 national convention from Chicago to Cincinnati because Ohio had ratified and Illinois had not. During the vigorous debate at this year's convention on whether the League should drop the word "women" in its name, Mrs. Clusen diplomatically kept her counsel.

Now, she says: "I was thoroughly in accord with the decision not to change. I think it was the wrong time. Particularly when women are trying to achieve things in their own right. I don't think it was a good time. And I'd heard from a good many men that they didn't want the change." A colleague of Mrs. Clusen's reports that the president also cracked at the time that she didn't want to head an organization with the acronym LOV.

She received the news of the suit from the American Party, protesting the debates as an infringement of equal time for all candidates, during her New York visit. The League has the services of a Washington law firm and Mrs. Clusen sees the suit and any others as being potentially beneficial. "Maybe they will clear the air," she said. For herself, she has been scrupulously careful not to appear in recent weeks in any place or forum with any of the presidential candidates, no matter who.

"We've had legal advice on everything," she said. "Legal fees are going to be a big part of our expenses. We've heard every day that someone was going to sue us." To cover the cost of the debates—and the lawyers—the League is starting a fund-raising drive. The Federal Election Commission has ruled that money given to the '76 Presidential Debates does not constitute a campaign contribution. Individuals can give any amount of money—even beyond the \$1000 limit placed on donations to the campaigns of the primary candidates.

While the announced ground rules for Philadelphia do not allow for Carter and Ford to directly talk to each other, Mrs. Clusen says: "I wouldn't be altogether surprised if they do it themselves. The format is less sterile than the '60 debates; less limited. Perhaps it won't happen the first time but maybe they'll be loose enough the second time around. They are both rather direct people."

She has met both men: Ford at the White House, Carter during the primary forums. During Anne Armstrong's tenure at the White House a group of 12 women were invited to discuss with the President "substantive issues on our minds. I remember asking his attitude on [federally funded] day care centers and I remember his saying that he didn't think the concept worked." This week she was invited—although couldn't attend—the White House ceremony for the signing of the day care bill.

This weekend Mrs. Clusen has gone home to Green Bay. Her daughter Elizabeth, 21, is getting married two days after the debates. "I was hoping they'd be married any week but that one," she laughed. "But we're having nothing at home. And I told my daughter that I'd be home for it, but that's all I could promise."

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Proposed state charter

Chicago Daily News 9/2/70

LWV approves constitution

By Henry Hanson

The League of Women Voters of Illinois Tuesday unanimously approved the proposed new Illinois constitution.

Delegates to the special assembly also voted to favor single-member Illinois House districts, merit selection of judges and a voting age of 18—all to be presented as separate issues to the voters.

Earlier, the proposed new

Illinois constitution won high praise as "an amazing document for 1970."

The phrase was used by Mrs. Alice Ihrig, of Oak Lawn, chief lobbyist for the league.

"Perhaps it was not as new and shiny as we would have hoped," said Mrs. Ihrig.

"But it is a document far better than most of us anticipated when we first looked at

the faces of the delegates last December. It is for 1970 an amazing document."

DELEGATES WERE expected to give a ringing endorsement to most if not all of the proposed new constitution late Tuesday at their meeting in Arlington Heights. It already has the approval of the state board.

The 10,000-member league becomes the first, and one of the most influential, organiza-

tions to take a position on the constitution.

SINGLED OUT for special praise by Mrs. Ihrig was the Bill of Rights article. It contains an open occupancy requirement, something the state Senate repeatedly has refused to adopt.

"Considering the tenor of our Legislature, the Bill of Rights is an excellent article,"

Turn to Page 22, Column 4

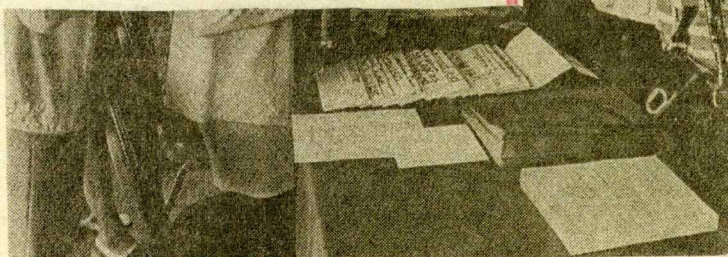
stitution for the first time bans sex discrimination, adding:

"We've come a long way, baby."

MRS. MARY Helen Robertson, league president, called the proposed revenue article "far more flexible than

come tax base, to indirectly bring about a graduated state tax. However, this is considered an unlikely prospect in the foreseeable future.

In view of last week's successful women's liberation strike, the delegates are expected to approve a proposed Bill of Rights which forbids discrimination because of sex.



Concerned about con con, members of the League of Women Voters of Illinois sign in for a day-long meeting at the Arlington Towers Hotel, Arlington Heights. Daily News Photos/Charles Krejci

New Stamp Has Interest for Women's Group

Members of the League of Women Voters of Decatur have a special interest in the 6 cent stamp that will go on sale for the first time in Adams, Mass., on Aug. 26.

The stamp commemorates the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment, granting women the right to vote.

Adams was selected for the first day of issue because it is the birthplace of Susan B. Anthony, pioneer crusader for women's rights. Miss Anthony was founder and president of the National American Women Suffrage Association, which became the League of Women Voters in 1920.

The commemorative will be on sale in Decatur on Aug. 27.

The stamp was designed by Ward Brackett of Westport, Conn. It is horizontal and printed in blue showing a modern woman at a voting machine. In the background are a number of suffragettes, a reminder of the days when women did not have the vote.

As official sponsor of the stamp ceremonies in Adams, the League has designed a special envelope to be used for first day covers. Information on obtaining the official cachets can be obtained in Decatur from Mrs. Robert C. Schade or Mrs. Charles Hippler.

The Bill of Rights article in the present century-old Constitution does not mention women. It begins, "All men are by nature free and independent . . ." and goes on to guarantee various rights to men and "all persons." But no mention is made of women.

THE LEAGUE also is plumping for these features in a new constitution:

- Single-member House districts, rather than a continuation of the present cumulative voting system under which three state representatives are elected from each

district in order to ensure strong minority representation. Con-con delegates plan to submit this question to voters as a separate issue.

- Appointed rather than elected judges. This also is to be submitted to voters as a separate issue. Chicago Democratic organization con-con delegates want to retain partisan judicial elections. Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie and most Republican delegates want an appointive judicial system aimed at removing the judiciary from politics.

- A system of reapportionment of legislative and congressional districts every 10 years that would avoid the threat of an at-large election. Any deadlock would be broken by drawing from the hat one of two names submitted by the Illinois Supreme Court. The person whose name is drawn would serve on a bipartisan eight-member commission and presumably break tie votes.

- A new revenue article without a 5-per cent ceiling on a flat-rate individual income tax. The league contends such a ceiling would penalize the poor as increased taxes are needed.



Mrs. Raymond E. Robertson Calls meeting to order

Alexander Rejects Con-Con Product *Review 9/3/70* Reform Try Turns Sour

By Richard H. Icen
Lindsay-Schaub News Service
Springfield

The sweet taste of constitutional reform has turned sour for 27-year-old John Alexander of Virden, one of the youngest delegates to a Constitutional Convention that is finishing its work today.

Alexander says he will work against adoption of the convention's main work product. He added that it would be "hypocritical" for him to sign something he cannot support at closing ceremonies today. He does not plan to attend.

Although Alexander was disappointed with the convention's product, Samuel W. Witwer, convention president, in remarks prepared for the closing day ceremony today, said the constitutional convention "is a test in microcosm of our national will to continue as one of history's great nations and civilizations."

Witwer said the proposed constitution is neither reactionary nor radical and is not regressive or visionary, but practical.

A large number of dignitaries, including Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie and possibly Mayor Richard J. Daley of Chicago, were expected to be on hand at the ceremonies that began at noon.

Alexander did add that he

might support one of the items on separate submission — the 18-year old vote, something for which he has campaigned.

"I don't think, though," he added, "that any of the items outside the main package have any chance of being adopted." His objections to the main package include:

— The revenue article, he feels, is even more restrictive than the one written in 1870.

— The refusal of the convention to keep legislative and judicial reform sections in the main document. "Right now it is likely that both will be beaten as separate items. This means the

current system will prevail," Alexander said.

— The proposed executive article has few improvements over the 1870 document. He believes more elective offices should have been made appointive.

Among the separately submitted sections, Alexander is not satisfied with the legislative article, which he says does not meet the problem of the size of the General Assembly.

"There are some good things in the main document — the pollution article and the amendment process — but I don't think there are enough significant changes," he added.

Alexander's involvement in constitutional reform culminated late last year in his election as one of the convention's three vice presidents.

As both a graduate student and teacher of political science, he has been involved in the reform movement for at least the last four years.

His decision to run for delegate from his home district was an outgrowth of all these activities. He was optimistic that the convention could streamline and modernize Illinois government.

Voters will ratify or reject the new constitution in a special referendum Dec. 15. If the document wins voter approval, it will take effect July 1, 1971.



John Alexander

Review Con-Con Has Its Baby, *9/4/70* Ready or Not

By Coleman T. Mobley
Lindsay-Schaub News Service
Springfield

After nine months, the Constitutional Convention gave birth Thursday to a 36-page document that could grow to be vitally important to every citizen of Illinois.

The proposed constitution was both praised and attacked before and after the 116 delegates formally signed the document and adjourned to let the voters determine its fate on Dec. 15.

The final session was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Samuel W. Witwer, the tireless president of the convention. After some formalities, each of the delegates moved to a desk used by Abraham Lincoln in the same chamber of the historic Old State Capitol. The delegates signed three copies of the proposed constitution. The formalities took 55 minutes. After several speeches, the convention adjourned "sine die" at 2:39 p.m.

Delegate Paul F. Elward of Chicago declined to sign because he had not had a chance to read the document. His decision was in line with the close attention to detail that has marked his career. Delegates may sign the proposal through Sept. 30.

Thomas C. Kelleghan of West Chicago also refused to sign. He opposes the new document and asserted that to sign it would be misinterpreted by his constituents as an endorsement.

Kelleghan, one of the most conservative delegates, claimed that the convention was too radical.

Other delegates and most special guests had great praise for the document. Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie singled out a separate issue on judicial reform that he said would be a hallmark of the convention. Witwer called the proposal balanced, neither reactionary nor radical.

There was no doubt among those present that the Dec. 15 election would be preceded by a hard-fought campaign. Partisan politics are expected because of opposition to certain issues that has been expressed by Chicago Democrats.

One of these issues will be judicial reform. The Democratic faction had managed to defeat reform moves in the waning days of the convention, only to lose their advantage when several members of the group overslept one morning.

Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago, ruler of the Democratic faction, did not show up for the ceremony. He cited a previous commitment, but some observers saw it as the start of crusade by Daley against the constitution.

Daley's son, Richard M. Daley, a delegate to the convention, told Lindsay-Schaub Newspapers that the Democrats would not decide on whether to support the constitution until after the general elections on Nov. 3.

Total Con-Con Cost Was \$2,977,000

Lindsay-Schaub News Service
Springfield

Total cost for the nine-month Constitutional Convention that closed Thursday was \$2,977,000. The convention adjourned in the black leaving about \$60,000 for restoration of the Old State Capitol.

At its peak of activity the convention employed 81 staff members and at the close 42 were still on the payroll. Total staff costs were \$428,961.

The 116 delegates produced 582 separate proposals that were condensed by nine substantive committees into 14 articles. The new document contains about 4,000 less words than the 1870 Constitution.

Over 800 witnesses testified before committees in Springfield and another 2,000 appeared at 17 regional hearings. About 500 days were spent in committee work. A total of 116 plenary sessions were held. The delegates received \$75 a day for the first 100 days and \$625 a month salary for eight months. At the end they were working for nothing.

Private groups supported by private donations are expected to finance the campaign for adoption of the new document.

The Illinois League of Women Voters has already endorsed the new document. Other endorsements, and rejects, will be coming as copies of the document are made available for public study.

ILLY REVIEW

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1970

15 CENTS

Illinois Voters Will Decide Dec. 15 on New Constitution

By Robert Shoup
Springfield (AP)

Illinois voters will decide Dec. 15 whether they prefer a newly proposed 1970 state constitution or the present century-old document.

Delegates to the state constitutional convention ended an 18-hour final session at 3 a.m. today by setting the date of the general election on the new charter. If approved it will take effect July 1.

Aside from the constitution question, voters will deal with

four other issues on the ballot Dec. 15.

They will decide on whether to keep state supreme appellate and circuit court judges elective or have them appointed by the governor and whether to have multi-member house districts with cumulative voting or single-member house districts.

Other issues on the ballot will be whether to abolish the death penalty and whether to lower the voting age to 18.

The delegates gave final approval to the last article of the

proposed charter Tuesday night, but some members of the convention continued to speak strongly against the document.

John Alexander of Virden, a convention vice president and one of the youngest delegates, promised that he would actively campaign against the passage of the new constitution.

One reason Dec. 15 was decided as voting day was to give delegates an opportunity to campaign either for or against the charter, copies of which will be sent to all voters in the state.

Sam Witwer of Kenilworth, convention president, praised the proposed document and said he wasn't concerned with Alexander's plans of opposition.

Printing Dispute

The delegates passed the final article amidst strong argument over who should print the proposed document. Some delegates charged that a strong union vote would be cast against it if it was printed by nonunion printers as originally planned.

At the insistence of delegates who represent labor organizations, the convention adopted a resolution which said, in part, that "officers and staff members take whatever measures are necessary to terminate the work now being done by nonunion printers for this convention and are necessary to insure that

any printed material promulgated by this convention be printed by union workers and bear the printers' unions label."

The resolution meant cancellation of a verbal agreement with the R. R. Donnelley Printing Co., Chicago, that had begun publication of an original copy of the new constitution.

The resolution was sponsored by James Kemp and William Lennon, union representatives and attorneys of Chicago.

Kemp said the proposed new charter would be in jeopardy if the state's two million union members and their families chose to defeat it.

The resolution was approved 60 yes, 39 against with two passing. After the vote, Joseph P. Pisciotte, convention executive director, phoned the Donnelley company and asked that work on the original copy be ceased.

Pisciotte began a search for an alternate printer who employed union printers to prepare a copy of the constitution that could be signed in ceremonies scheduled to begin at noon on Thursday at the old state capital.

Gov. Richard Ogilvie, Illinois congressmen, members of the Illinois Supreme Court, members of the General Assembly and other dignitaries are invited to the signing ceremonies.

Sunday H & R Con-Con Praise

The League of Women Voters of Decatur appreciates the excellent reporting you have given the recent Constitutional Convention. You have done an outstanding public service to voters by keeping them informed of the progress of this history-making group of delegates.

At a "C" Day Assembly in Arlington Heights on Sept. 1, the League of Women Voters of Illinois became one of the first, if not the first, large state-wide organization to unanimously approve the newly proposed constitution. We plan to campaign vigorously for its approval by the voters on Dec. 15.

On proposals to be submitted separately to the voters, the league supports single-member house districts rather than a continuation of the present cumulative voting system under which three state representatives are elected from each district.

The league will endorse a merit system for selecting judges replacing the present system of judges running under political labels for their first term. Purpose of this is to remove the judiciary from politics.

The league believes the voting age should be lowered from 21 to 18.

The league has championed a constitutional convention for 25 years and members agree that the proposed constitution is, for 1970, an "amazing document."

Mrs. Robert Schade

President

Mrs. C. V. Crow

Con Con Chairman

League of Women Voters

Of Decatur

9/13/70

Some Schools 'Out of Balance'

By Lawrence Reh
Of the Herald and Review
If racial and intellectual balance are desirable ideals for school enrollments, District 61 has taken a step backward this year.

That conclusion is implied in an evaluation of new attendance districts for Decatur elementary schools which was released Saturday by the Decatur League of Women Voters.

Overall, the number of schools which are "out of balance" has not been altered significantly by the school board's retreat from last year's efforts at socioeconomic integration, said study chairman Mrs. Robert A. Ohlsen.

But the degree of imbalance in the suspect schools has increased, according to the League report.

District officials label a school "out of balance" if its enrollment shows twice as many low achievers as high achievers — or if the reverse is true.

Low achievers are those who rank in the bottom quarter of achievement test scoring for elementary students district-wide. High achievers rank in the top quarter.

Ideally, the school district told the League, a school's enrollment should break down as a 25-50-25 distribution of achievement scores.

In the 1968 school year 15 out of the district's 27 elementary schools were imbalanced intellectually — six on the high side, nine low.

The 1969 redistricting reduced that number to 10 schools, with three high and seven low. Further redistricting in 1970 left the number of imbalanced schools at 10.

But, the League points out, those 10 are much farther from the ideal 25-50-25 breakdown now than they were in 1969.

For example, Durfee School, at 1222 E. Grand Ave., has been imbalanced to the low side all three years, starting with a 55-39-6 ratio in 1968.

The 1969 integration plan

brought a more representative enrollment to Durfee, though still unbalanced on the low side, of 34-55-11.

All the gain of 1969 was lost, the League indicated, by the 1970 attendance plan which set Durfee back to a 53-42-5 distribution.

Muffley School, at 88 S. Country Club Rd., experienced the same sort of pattern in reverse. It had been regarded as overbalanced with high-achieving students.

In 1968, its enrollment showed a 12-47-41 achievement breakdown, but the 1969 plan brought it to 19-49-32, close enough to the ideal for the district to consider it balanced.

In 1970, the district shows the Muffley ratio at 11-45-44, farther out of balance than it was in 1968.

On the surface, it would appear to be desirable for a school to have as many of its students as possible in the high-achieving group, but because the figures are computed district-wide, such attempts are self-defeating, according to the League.

A number of schools having a disproportionate number of high achievers makes it virtually inevitable that other schools will have overly large numbers of low achievers.

The League is committed to educational studies which show that low achievers benefit academically from classroom contact with middle and high achievers.

"A student assigned to a school with too many low-achieving students does not have equal educational opportunity," the League's report concludes.

Most alarming in the trend toward higher degrees of imbalance this year than last, the League reports, is the implication for minority students.

In the three-year period, the total number of children assigned to low-achieving schools declined from 35 per cent in 1968 to 23 per cent in 1969 to only 18 per cent in 1970.

But on a racial breakdown, gains for black children in 1969 were reversed in 1970, according to district enrollment figures quoted by the League.

In 1968, 86 per cent of all black children of elementary school age in Decatur were assigned to schools considered low-achieving by the district.

The 1969 shuffle cut that figure to 36 per cent, "an improvement toward equal opportunity in the district," the League said.

But the 1970 figures indicate that while fewer students are now assigned to "low-achieving schools" (due partially to the razing of Oakland, a badly imbalanced school) the percentage of black children has climbed back to 42.

Since more black students have been reassigned to low-achieving schools, and the total assignment to low schools has dropped, the figures imply that white children were more frequently reassigned to middle- or high-achieving schools.

Racial enrollment patterns at individual schools bear out that conclusion. Of the five low-achieving schools this fall, four show increases in percentage of black students — Durfee alone jumped from 25.8 per cent black to 51.6 per cent.

At the same time, only one high-achieving school (South Shores) increased its black enrollment, and then only by one per cent.

All the schools which the district considers imbalanced to the high end have fewer than 10 per cent black students, except South Shores which has 18.5 per cent, about equal to the district-wide ratio of black students.

The argument that black students are naturally poorer at academic achievement is broken by the fact that under the 1969 attendance plan both Oakland and Parsons schools were high-achieving, while having substantial black enrollments.

Parsons, with the customary curriculum and programming, had a 13-48-39 profile of achievement while enrolling 17.5

per cent black students, near the district population average of 18 per cent.

Oakland, which had only fifth graders and the spontaneous learning center, had a 19-40-41 profile of achievement with 21.8 per cent black students.

REV. HARRIS ACCEPTS NEW POST

STORY PAGE 7



The Voice OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY



Vol. 2, No. 38

Thursday, September 17, 1970

PHONE 429-4627

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Price - 15¢

WOMEN LEAGUE OF VOTERS DISCLOSE RACIAL IMBALANCE

The league of Women Voters of the United States supports equal opportunity for education as part of the development of human resources. The Decatur League has been active in support of racial and socio-economic integration in the schools in order to provide a more equal opportunity for all the children.

Ideally, each school within the district should reflect the varied economic, racial and sociological backgrounds of the people in the entire district, rather than only the specific geographical location of a school building. Every student, then, would be provided with an educational environment likely to stimulate him.

Students are expected to benefit in two ways. First, early contact with persons of varied backgrounds should increase understanding and improve human relationships. If integrating does not occur before junior-high age, prejudices may be set and be difficult to overcome. Second, studies have shown that low achieving students benefit academically from classroom contact with middle and high achievers. Therefore a student assigned to a school with too many low-achieving students does not have an equal opportunity for education.

In Decatur, about 18 per cent of the elementary pupils are black. Ideally, each school should enroll approximately 18% black students to maintain racial balance.

The district-wide distribution of achievement test scores should also be reflected by each school. Standardized tests to measure reading ability are given at the third to sixth grade levels. A school should have 25% of its pupils scoring in the bottom quarter district-wide, 50% scoring in the middle half, and 25% scoring in the top quarter district-wide. The ideal school profile would read 25/50/25.

The accompanying chart shows the percent of the total enrollment (without special education classes) who are black in each elementary school in the school years 1968-69, 1969-70, and 1970-71 as projected by district staff in May of 1970. The pupils scoring in the lower quarter, middle and upper quarter of the achievement tests.

The Decatur district has designated a school as a low-achieving school when more than twice as many students rank in the lower quarter district-wide than in the upper quarter. A school

is also considered out of balance if more than twice as many students rank in the upper quarter district-wide as in the lower quarter. The chart shows that in 1968, nine schools were low-achieving, while six were high achieving. In 1969, six schools were low achieving, (Grant and Spencer as one), while three were high achieving. A total of six fewer schools were out of balance in 1969 as in 1968. In 1970, five schools are low achieving and five are high achieving, an increase of one more being out of balance.

Elementary schools Durfee, Grant, Harris, Ullrich and Washington have been low-achieving schools the three years shown on the chart, though each became less unbalanced in 1969 as in 1968, and more unbalanced again in 1970. In each school, the percentage of black enrollment is about the same or increase in 1970 over 1969.

Similarly, the high achieving schools have become more out of balance towards the high end, as well as the number of high achieving schools increasing. In all but one, the percentage of black enrollment has gone down.

In 1968, 35% of all the children in the district were attending low-achieving schools. They did not have an equal opportunity for education. Eighty-two percent of all black elementary children were in low achieving schools in 1968. In 1969, twenty three percent of the children were in low achieving schools and 36% of all black children were in low achieving schools. This shows an improvement toward equal opportunity in the district. In 1970, 18% of all children are in low achieving schools, and 42% of black children are in low achieving schools. There is an improvement for white children, but a larger percentage of black children will not have and equal opportunity for education.

The plus and minus signs on the far right side of the chart indicate whether a school has become less or more out of balance. A plus sign shows an improvement, or a shift towards the ideal school profile, in 1970 as compared to 1969. Those schools with no sign had little change. Seven schools became more balanced, while fifteen schools became more out of balance. Of the fifteen, seven shifted to the low achieving end.

EDITORS NOTE -

AS EVERYONE KNOWS, THE LEAGUE IS A NON-PARTISAN GROUP OF WOMEN WHO SEARCH OUT THE FACTS AND PRESENT THEM TO THE PUBLIC IN AN UNBIASED FASHION.

DECATUR'S CHAPTER HAS BEEN MOST EFFICIENT IN BRINGING OUT THE GOOD POINTS OF THOSE CIVIC MINDED PERSONS AND POLITICIANS WHO ARE DESERVING. BY THE SAME TOKEN, THEY EXPOSE THE SUBTLE BIGOTRY OF THE UNDESERVING. THESE CATS HAVE BEEN ON RADIO, T.V. AND EVERYTHING ELSE, DENOUNCING THE RELEASE ON RACIAL BALANCE IN THE SCHOOLS. ALL THEY ARE DOING IS PROVING THE POINT THE LEAGUE HAS TRIED TO MAKE, YOU MAKE YOUR OWN RECORD, NOT THE LEAGUE; BUT AFTER YOU'VE MADE IT, THEY CERTAINLY WILL OPEN IT UP TO THE PUBLIC.

9/17/70
WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CHART.)

Definition of Achievement Profile as used on char. Each school's achievement profile is developed to show how its students rank in the entire district. The first of each set of figures on the right side of the chart indicate the percent of students in the school scoring in the bottom quarter district-wide. The second number shows the per cent scoring in the middle half, and the third figure shows the percent scoring in the top quarter district-wide. Special education students are not included in either enrollment or achievement figures.

SCHOOL	% BLACK ENROLLMENT			ACHIEVEMENT PROFILE		
	1968-69	69-70	70-71projected	68-69	69-70	70-71projected
Adams	10.5	22.8	21.2	17/50/33	21/55/24	28/47/25
Brush	0	11	10.3	17/56/27	26/59/15	28/57/15
Dennis	4.1	25	21.1	9/44/47	22/52/26	21/45/34
Durfee	69.3	25.8	51.6	55/39/6	34/55/11	53/42/5
Eldorado-Excellior	0	0	0	21/54/25	19/54/27	15/53/32
Enterprise	0	22.9	17.7	10/62/28	23/55/22	19/51/30
Franklin	1	13.1	8.7	17/52/31	19/48/33	23/47/30
French	23.9	25	25.1	21/44/35	23/40/27	18/50/32
Garfield	20.1	10.5	15.7	39/42/19	23/55/22	31/47/22
Gastman	14.0	15.4	18.4	23/45/32	20/59/21	24/56/20
Grant	0	11	10.8	35/54/11	26/61/13	32/56/12
Harris	20.8	31.3	33	39/46/15	33/31/16	44/46/10
Lincoln	9	5.5	4.2	44/43/13	34/51/15	23/57/20
Muffley	0	15.1	3.1	12/47/41	19/49/32	11/45/44
Oak Grove	0	13.9	11.3	15/54/31	12/55/33	14/59/27
Oakland	66	21.8	--	53/37/10	19/40/41 *	--
Oglesby	3.5	4	3.6	31/51/18	20/63/17	21/64/15
Parsons	0	17.5	9.1	8/48/44	13/48/39	11/45/41
Pershing	0	14.5	11.9	10/52/30	22/54/24	32/49/19
Pugh	23.5	--	--	28/54/18	--	--
Roach	5.3	13.1	13.3	25/53/22	25/57/18	25/51/24
Southeast	4.8	25.2	27.1	25/45/30	20/57/23	19/47/34
South Shores	3.1	17.4	18.5	8/41/51	18/49/33	18/42/40
Spencer	0	10.1	6.7	34/51/15	26/61/13	23/58/19
Stevenson	5.9	11.4	8.1	26/53/21	22/59/19	11/62/27
Ulrich	50.4	63.5	64.3	62/35/3	51/44/5	68/31/1
Washington	76.3	56.8	59.3	55/39/6	47/46/7	45/45/10
W. Wilson elem.	--	--	38.2	--	--	32/38/30

* Oakland enrolled only 5th grades and the Spontaneous Learning Center

**LEAGUE DELEGATES
ATTEND MEETING**

Four Decatur women attended a meeting last week in Arlington Heights where the Illinois League of Women Voters voted to approve the proposed new Illinois Constitution.

Attending as delegates from the local chapter were Mrs. Clifford E. Smith of 1684 W. Riverview Ave.; Mrs. Edward Beck of 4021 Newcastle Dr.; Mrs. Charles J. Meyerson of Route 1 and Mrs. Charles E. Hippler of 536 W. William St.

*Review
9/16/70*

Fick Questions Report

By Lois M. Moore
"I hope citizens who hear about or read the League of Women Voters report on our schools will keep three points in mind," John E. Fick, Board of Education president, said.

Fick referred to a report made public Sunday on racial and intellectual balance in Decatur public schools.

The three points are:

"1. The league supports busing and wanted it kept up, and its report plainly is intended to give only a pro-busing picture of some very complicated educational problems.

"2. The league suggests there are standards for mixing students of various abilities and races to get the best educational results.

"This is not the case. Decatur

schools have never adopted such standards because we know of none, and no research has ever discovered any standards for mixing which are sure to produce good results, despite the fact many millions of dollars have been spent by school districts and the federal government on such research.

"3. The league, in effect, is attacking the neighborhood school idea. Unfortunately to undermine neighborhood schools, the league is willing to lead some Decatur parents to think their children are not receiving good education.

"In fact, the district is doing as much or more for each individual student as it has the funds and ability to do so."

Fick also said, "I wish special interest groups would turn their

attention elsewhere and let our schools get back to normal."

Over-all, the number of schools which are "out of balance" (racially and intellectually) has not been altered significantly by the change from last year's efforts at socioeconomic integration, it was reported Sunday.

However, the degree of imbalance in the suspect schools has increased, according to the league report.

Projected Figures

Enrollment and achievement profiles listed in the report chart were projected for 1970-71 in May.

However, a study spokesman for the league said a check with the school office in August indicated there was no significant change from the May figure.

Analysis 'Impossible'

Oakes Refutes League Report

The reference which the Decatur League of Women Voters made on racial ratio and achievement balance in each school were cited as impossibilities by Robert Oakes, school superintendent.

Oakes made the comment after reading the report in its entirety.

The report, published Sunday, referred to the 18 per cent ratio of black students district-wide.

It also made the assumption all schools should be balanced achievementwise, he said.

"Both of these become physical impossibilities in setting up an attendance area for each school."

Oakes also referred to an earlier statement, made after reading the news story on the report.

"It leaves the impression that matters stated in terms of racial and achievement distributions are a fact in the 1970-71 school year when, in fact, they were developed from a study over several months of projections made during public redistricting

hearings in May and not on what is fact today.

"As of this date we have not tested in terms of achievement and will not start this testing till October," Oakes said.

"The results will not be available until December or January.

"It will be at that time when we can determine the balance of achievement at any given school," he said.

"Neither have we, as of this date, made an analysis of the racial composition of any school," Oakes said earlier this week.

John E. Fick, Board of Education president, also criticized the report earlier.

FREEDOM GROUP HOLDING MEETING

They came to the statewide conference Saturday, Sept. 12, from 8:30 a.m. 'till 5:00p.m. The conference was sponsored by the United Citizens Committee for Freedom of Residence Inc. in Illinois. It was held at the New Canaan Baptist Church, 1381 Cantrell Street. The purpose was to get concerned citizens groups, church leaders, civil rights group, labor and business groups, civic and professional groups to consider the 'human rights' section of the proposed new Illinois constitution. There were community representatives from all over Illinois, also a beautiful turn out from concerned citizens and various groups. There were cases of soft drinks given to the delegates by yours truly, compliments of the Mayor James Rupp.

Rev. Muse and I were the host and hostess of the delegates. We take this time to thank each one from Decatur who attended and for the beautiful displays that you brought. Special thanks to the League of Women Voters, and the Torrence Park Citizens Committee. Your participation was great.

Mr. E.H. Dansby Jr., a member of this committee's advisory council, spoke along with other speakers

that included : Dr. Martin Bickham, 1st chairman of the Illinois Human Relations Commission in 1943; Miss R. Susan Johnson, from Chicago regional office of HUD; Mr. Leon Perry, public relations officer for Gov. Ogilvie's dept. of human resources; Mr. Donald S. Frey, Evanston attorney and chairman of Illinois FOR.

Voters this has been a long hard struggle. Let us achieve equality of opportunity by going out and voting on November 3, 1970. The United Citizens Committee urge all people in Illinois to support the provisions in the new Illinois constitution. We have been working for a 'new dimension' in human freedom. We are proud that so many human rights groups in Decatur adopted our theme. I was complimented in behalfs of the committee on how much warmth flowed thru. I was so proud of the committee and the community of Decatur, WSOY. WAND, the Hearld & Review, the Spot-Light, the Voice, and the roving reporter. And if I ahve missed anyone, may God bless you.

Then they went home to their own communities, to continue to work for all man-kind. May God bless each of them; and please dear God! May our dreams come true.

YOUR ROVING REPORTER: Mary Reatha Jennings

Voters League Speaks

Group Raps Comments

By Lois M. Moore

The Decatur League of Women Voters today criticized some comments made regarding its recent report on the effects of the Decatur elementary school redistricting plan.

A story on this report was published in the Herald and Review Sept. 13.

John E. Fick, Board of Education president, issued a public statement that week regarding the report on the racial and achievement balance in the public schools.

The league today said it recognizes the right to difference of opinion regarding educational philosophy.

"However, Mr. Fick, Board of Education president, has chosen to interpret to the public what the league stands for, rather than the content of the report.

"Certain misleading statements need to be corrected," it said.

"The league, neither locally nor nationally, has supported busing as such.

"The league does have a national position in support of equal opportunity for education

which calls for both quality and integrated education.

"However, there are many ways of accomplishing integration and the league does not have a position favoring one technique over another," the statement said.

Boundaries

"If in drawing school boundaries to accomplish a measure of racial or socioeconomic integration, any district needs to establish bus routes, then this seems one reasonable way to get children to their assigned schools," it said.

"However, if children in a district can receive equal opportunity for education while attending the schools closest to home, then this is a happy convenience for all."

The league also said, "It is unlikely all schools will reach perfect racial and achievement balance, due to many factors operating in any district.

It referred to a survey by Harold Howe II, commissioner of education, U.S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare, which was commissioned by Congress in Section 402 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

This and others were used by

the League in reaching conclusions about Decatur schools.

The commissioner's report does not indicate standards for any individual district, the league's statement said.

"It does indicate the positive aspects of integration on achievement found across the nation. People concerned with public education can use the survey results to get a better picture of their own district."

"Concern has also been expressed publicly about the fact that 1970 figures are projections rather than actual enrollment.

"A check Sept. 10 with district officials indicated there had been no substantial variations in what had been projected," the league said.

Still speaking of the projections, the league said these are the same ones presented to the school board at the time it was deciding on boundaries to be implemented this fall.

A reference also was made to the suggestion that special interest groups might better turn their attention elsewhere than the schools.

"The pleas for public concern and support have been forgotten," the league's statement said.

"For 20 years the league has supported most building bond issues and referendums to increase funds for the schools.

Purpose Defined

"The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

"Organizations which gather and disseminate information act to protect public interest. Surely this leads to a strong, responsive school district and a better education for the children."

The league's statement also mentioned the identification, in its report, of schools "not in balance," which it said has been used by district officials for several years.

District 61 reports are available in which schools are identified as low or high achieving, as a means of comparison with the district as a whole, it said.

Fick Answers Charges

Board President Criticizes Release

John E. Fick, Board of Education president, was again critical of the League of Women Voters today.

"The leaders of the League of Women Voters have again criticized our school district and its duly elected school board, this time by an unsigned press release," he said.

"The league supported the Community Commission on Integration (CCI) busing plan and complains when I point out that fact to the public.

"It is curious that the league tells us its purpose is to give out information and then prefers we not be informed about its pro-busing policy," Fick said.

"The league continues to talk only about such educational research as seems to support its preconceived notions. They refuse to inform the public such research has been attacked by educational scholars many times.

"The league should admit there is no evidence that mixing abilities or races brings better educational results," Fick said.

He also said, "The only purpose I can see in these continued pronouncements by the league is an effort to destroy public confidence in the majority of our school board."

Fick also referred to recent board elections, as he said, "That majority was elected despite behind-the-scenes work of many league officers and members.

"The league cannot deny it wants the Board of Education to ignore the wishes of the great majority of Decatur citizens.

"The majority members of this Board of Education will not turn their backs on the voters. We shall listen to the people who elected us," Fick said.

"The league wants us to work against public opinion. We refuse.

"We are here to be servants of the people and we will not force the public to swallow busing no matter what the League of Women Voters says."

Robert Oakes, school superintendent, said he had no comment this morning because he had not seen the league's statement.

"I will respond if I feel a response is necessary after I have seen it," Oakes said.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

To the Editor

The Decatur League of Women Voters recognizes the right to differences of opinion regarding educational philosophy. Anyone may interpret his own way the facts found in the League's recent report of Effects of Elementary Redistricting Plans. However, Mr. Fick, Board of Education president, has chosen to interpret to the public what the League stands for, rather than the content of the report. Certain misleading statements need to be corrected.

The League, neither locally nor nationally, has supported busing as such. The League does have a national position in support of equal opportunity for education which calls for both quality and integrated education. However, there are many ways of accomplishing integration and League does not have a position favoring one technique over another.

If in drawing school boundaries to accomplish a measure of racial or socio-economic integration any district needs to establish bus routes, then this seems one reasonable way to seem children to their assigned schools. If all children in a district can receive an equal opportunity for education while attending the schools closest to home, then this is a happy convenience for all. It is unlikely all schools will reach perfect racial and achievement balance, due to many other factors operating in any district.

The most comprehensive report available about equal educational opportunities for individuals in the nation was commissioned by Congress in Section 402 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This survey was conducted by Harold Howe II, Commissioner of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The League used this study and others in reaching conclusions about Decatur schools. Of course, the commissioner's report does not indicate standards for any individual district. It does indicate the positive aspects of integration on achievement found across the nation. People concerned with public education can use the survey results to get a better picture of their own district.

The identification in the League report of schools "not in balance" has been used by district officials for several years. District 61 reports are available in which schools are identified as low-achieving or high-achieving as a means of comparison with the district as a whole.

Concern has also been expressed publicly about the fact that 1970 figures are projections rather than actual enrollment.

A check September 10th with district officials indicated there had been no substantial variations in what had been projected. The projections are the same ones presented to the school board at the time it was deciding on boundaries to be implemented this fall.

It has been suggested that special interest groups might better turn their attention elsewhere than the schools. The pleas for public concern and support have been forgotten. For twenty years League has supported most building bond issues and referendums to increase funds for the schools. The purpose of League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. Organizations which gather and disseminate information act to protect the public interest. Surely this leads to

a strong responsive school district and a better education for the children.

Mary Jane Hippler

State Official To Address Voter League 9/24/70

The Decatur League of Women Voters will turn their attention to "Trends in Public Welfare" when Henry L. McCarthy, chief of the community services division of the Illinois Department of Public Aid, addresses its meeting Sept. 29. The time is 7:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The meeting is open to the public.

McCarthy's discussion is part of the league's human resources committee's study on income maintenance programs.

Before 1961 when he joined the Illinois Department of Public Aid, McCarthy was Commissioner of Welfare in New York City and before that was regional director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

More Federal Funds Needed For State Aid

By Karen T. Lobeck

A call for federal takeover, or at least a higher percentage of federal monies, for state public aid programs was made Tuesday night by an Illinois Department of Public Aid division chief, speaking in Decatur.

Henry L. McCarthy addressed the Decatur League of Women Voters with a three-part speech which included:

—Illinois public aid programs and statistics.

—Nationally recommended programs such as the Nixon plan.

—The need for more or total federal aid to states.

McCarthy also explained a low percentage of persons now receiving state public aid are unemployable.

He said while persons may be "theoretically somewhat employable," most fall short of being "currently placeable employees."

Such an employee would be under 45 years old, in good health and have had reasonable work experience, McCarthy said.

This, he said, is the division's rule of thumb for employables because it is based on employer standards.

He said of the 640,000 persons presently using state public assistance, probably "not more than 5,000 at any one time could be regarded as currently placeable employees."

Of the different public aid programs, McCarthy seemed to be the most optimistic about getting potential employable persons from mothers on Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

He said that in some cases it would be desirable for the community, mothers and children, for the mother to be employed and "get away from the drudgery, misery, hopelessness, need, despair . . . without any hope of escape at all."

In this vein, he noted that child care centers are needed.

On the national scene, he said he favored Nixon's plan in many aspects, but not in all of them.

One disagreement was the registering of persons on aid to work.

Based on his earlier statements on the number of unemployables on public aid, he indicated such a plan would not work.

He repeatedly stressed the need for education and work experience as roads toward employment.

Racial Figures Given

Black Student Total Is 16.8 Pct.

Lois M. Moore	Centennial	315	58	18.4
School District has	W. Wilson	174	71	40.8
nt black students this				

Middle

Jefferson	755	92	12.2
Johns Hill	747	165	22.1
Mound	656	115	17.5
Roosevelt	576	49	8.5
W. Wilson	399	100	25.1

High School

S. Decatur	2,002	290	14.5
Eisenhower	1,531	330	21.6
Lakeview	949	26	2.7
MacArthur	1,839	203	11.0
x W. Wilson total building has			29.8 per cent black students.

Fick Comments

"I don't think there are any significant educational consequences to the racial makeup of a school, at least I have found no evidence of any and I have tried to read widely on the subject," John E. Fick, board president, said.

Ullrich, he said, was not changed by the redistricting, nor was French.

He said there was substantially a higher percentage of black students in Durfee before the Community Commission on Integration plan was put into operation than there is now.

Last year several were bused in and out of that school area.

Washington and Durfee, he said, reflect the neighborhood.

Fick also sees a need to stabilize neighborhoods so they do not turn from a concentration of one race to another.

Stability in neighborhood patterns should be encouraged.

He saw the need to be that of moves being made on the basis of house or neighborhood rather than the race of someone or ones in the neighborhood.

He also saw the need to find a way to rehabilitate older neighborhoods.

W. Robert Schwandt, a board member, said the information released Tuesday indicates that some schools will have as high, or higher, black enrollments than it was predicted in May. Also, it indicates some of the suburban schools have as low, or lower, black student total than it was predicted.

In the latter category, he cited Muffley as an example.

Schwandt also pointed out that 14 or 15 schools were within 1 per cent of May's projected figure.

"The educational opportunities at Ullrich, Washington and Durfee are suffering from racial and socio-economic makeup," he said.

If a group has a predominantly lower socio-economic makeup, it doesn't have the opportunity for wider horizons found in the other schools, Schwandt said.

"Nothing succeeds like success and there is a lot less success in those schools," he said.

PAGE FIFTY-SIX

School Board 'Racism' Is Charged by Dansby

By Lois M. Moore

Dissent among Board of Education members was again apparent in Tuesday's meeting.

Racism was used by one of its members in connection with some actions taken by the board. Three members of the board responded immediately.

"Racism, or to call someone a racist, is in my opinion, a grievous insult," E. H. Dansby Jr., said. "It implies that the person or persons concerned are guilty of committing serious injustice. I think that is exactly how we of this school board are guilty."

To be specific, he said, "I mean that we, some more than others, are guilty of fostering and perpetuating deprivation of some of the citizens of our community for no other reason than

the color of their skins.

Dansby said he believes most of the board is aware of what it is doing because of the public announced intent to return the system to the neighborhood school type of education.

Dansby said it is obvious that overt racist practices in real estate markets strongly discourage blacks from moving into most all-white neighborhoods in order to gain access to the better schools serving those neighborhoods."

Dansby also touched on involvement in administration, ignoring the superintendent's recommendations and jeopardy of staff speaking out.

"There are many indications that lead me to believe there is increased involvement by some of the board in the administrative, rather than sticking to the policy making procedures

that are the board's responsibility.

"It is also my opinion that any one in this system who exercises the basic freedom of expression places himself in jeopardy," Dansby said.

Jeopardy

"I believe the latest action to adopt the administrative salary schedule is evidence of the jeopardy of which I speak — a punitively motivated action.

"Rationale that cause me to believe this board is guilty of racism is that never is there more board involvement in administration than when there is an issue which might remedy subordination," he said.

"The superintendent's recommendations are ignored especially when those recommendations might remedy subordination."

He also said community efforts that could well help to remedy subordination are ignored or refused by the board.

In another point, Dansby said, "This system continues to avoid any curriculum revision to include the contributions of ethnic minorities to the history of the United States.

"How long are you going to allow this educational system to teach your children a false philosophy," he said.

"Why don't we tell the rising generation the truth — that all intelligent study proves that pigmentation does not reflect inferiority or superiority of any segment of our society.

"Why do we continue to neglect to incorporate into our educational system carefully selected literatures of the various ethnic groups so we can have a better understanding and be better able to communicate with every segment of our society?"

'Disease'

"Because of these points, I am convinced that racism is the dread disease affecting this board and much of the community," Dansby said.

Cooperation among the board members was also mentioned.

One board member responding was Larry Hamilton, who said, "I, too, would like to see the board cooperate, but think it is an impossibility as we have basically two philosophies here."

He objected to inference that some schools are better than others.

He also recalled a personnel action of about two months ago when both Dansby and himself voted against a recommendation.

"I think we each had our reasons. I didn't question his and he didn't question mine."

Hamilton agreed housing was a problem but felt the responsibility was up to the courts.

Mrs. Betty Ploeger said she had asked for more cooperation among the board members when she first was elected but her plea fell on deaf ears.

"It takes two sides to cooperate," she said. "It takes mutual respect."

Fick objected to the term racism being used in action of the board regarding the neighborhood school concept.

He did not think this was accepted in the neighborhood school concept in the community, state or country.

The neighborhood school is a sound educational institution, he said.

"All (board members) are sensitive to responsibilities to the public," Fick said.

He thought an apology from Dansby was in order to members of the board and to the public who put the members on the board.

Review
9/23/70

Racial Figures Given

Black Student Total Is 16.8 Pct.

By Lois M. Moore
Decatur School District has 16.8 per cent black students this year.

Highest percentages are in the elementary schools, with the highest being the 68.2 at Ullrich, 66.4 at Washington and 54.4 at Durfee.

Racial composition figures were given to Board of Education members Tuesday.

As of Sept. 9, the racial composition data revealed a district enrollment of 20,930 students. Of these, 3,507 are black students.

Elementary enrollment is 11,476, with 2,137 black students, or an 18.6 percentage.

Middle school enrollment is 3,133, with 521 black students or a 16.6 percentage.

Senior high school enrollment is 6,321, with 849 black, or a 13.4 percentage.

Racial composition by level and by school, is as follows:

School	Enrollment	Black	Pct.
Elementary			
Adams	398	70	17.6
Br. College	405	36	8.9
Dennis	649	146	22.5
Durfee	513	279	54.4
Eldorado	217	0	0
Enterprise	244	83	18.7
Excelsior	237	0	0
Franklin	451	43	9.5
French	304	86	28.3
Garfield	592	88	14.9
Gastman	241	40	16.6
Grant	194	23	11.9
Harris	657	204	31.1
Lincoln	293	18	6.1
Muffley	662	17	2.6
Oak Grove	486	56	11.5
Oglesby	328	15	4.6
Parsons	569	50	8.8
Pershing	255	31	12.2
Roach	604	68	11.3
Southeast	457	69	15.1
South Shores	543	102	18.8
Spencer	349	16	4.6
Stevenson	442	35	7.9
Sunnyside	74	13	17.6
Ullrich	343	234	68.2
Washington	280	186	66.4

Centennial	315	58	18.4
W. Wilson	174	71	40.8

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x W. Wilson total building has a 29.8 per cent black students.

Fick Comments

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In the latter category, he cited Muffley as an example.

Schwandt also pointed out that 14 or 15 schools were within 1 per cent of May's projected figure.

"The educational opportunities at Ullrich, Washington and Durfee are suffering from racial and socio-economic makeup," he said.

If a group has a predominantly lower socio-economic makeup, it doesn't have the opportunity for wider horizons found in the other schools, Schwandt said.

"Nothing succeeds like success and there is a lot less success in those schools," he said.

PAGE FIFTY-SIX

School Board 'Racism' Is Charged by Dansby

By Lois M. Moore

Dissent among Board of Education members was again apparent in Tuesday's meeting.

Racism was used by one of its members in connection with some actions taken by the board. Three members of the board responded immediately.

"Racism, or to call someone a racist, is in my opinion, a grievous insult," E. H. Dansby Jr., said. "It implies that the person or persons concerned are guilty of committing serious injustice. I think that is exactly how we of this school board are guilty."

To be specific, he said, "I mean that we, some more than others, are guilty of fostering and perpetuating deprivation of some of the citizens of our community for no other reason than

the color of their skins.

Dansby said he believes most of the board is aware of what it is doing because of the public announced intent to return the system to the neighborhood school type of education.

Dansby said it is obvious that overt racist practices in real estate markets strongly discourage blacks from moving into most all-white neighborhoods in order to gain access to the better schools serving those neighborhoods."

Dansby also touched on involvement in administration, ignoring the superintendent's recommendations and jeopardy of staff speaking out.

"There are many indications that lead me to believe there is increased involvement by some of the board in the administrative, rather than sticking to the policy making procedures

that are the board's responsibility.

"It is also my opinion that any one in this system who exercises the basic freedom of expression places himself in jeopardy," Dansby said.

Jeopardy

"I believe the latest action to adopt the administrative salary schedule is evidence of the jeopardy of which I speak — a punitively motivated action.

"Rationale that cause me to believe this board is guilty of racism is that never is there more board involvement in administration than when there is an issue which might remedy subordination," he said.

"The superintendent's recommendations are ignored especially when those recommendations might remedy subordination."

He also said community efforts that could well help to remedy subordination are ignored or refused by the board.

In another point, Dansby said, "This system continues to avoid any curriculum revision to include the contributions of ethnic minorities to the history of the United States.

"How long are you going to allow this educational system to teach your children a false philosophy," he said.

"Why don't we tell the rising generation the truth — that all intelligent study proves that pigmentation does not reflect inferiority or superiority of any segment of our society.

"Why do we continue to neglect to incorporate into our educational system carefully selected literatures of the various ethnic groups so we can have a better understanding and be better able to communicate with every segment of our society?"

'Disease'

"Because of these points, I am convinced that racism is the dread disease affecting this board and much of the community," Dansby said.

Cooperation among the board members was also mentioned.

One board member responding was Larry Hamilton, who said, "I, too, would like to see the board cooperate, but think it is an impossibility as we have basically two philosophies here."

He objected to inference that some schools are better than others.

He also recalled a personnel action of about two months ago when both Dansby and himself voted against a recommendation.

"I think we each had our reasons. I didn't question his and he didn't question mine."

Hamilton agreed housing was a problem but felt the responsibility was up to the courts.

Mrs. Betty Ploeger said she had asked for more cooperation among the board members when she first was elected but her plea fell on deaf ears.

"It takes two sides to cooperate," she said. "It takes mutual respect."

Fick objected to the term racism being used in action of the board regarding the neighborhood school concept.

He did not think this was accepted in the neighborhood school concept in the community, state or country.

The neighborhood school is a sound educational institution, he said.

"All (board members) are sensitive to responsibilities to the public," Fick said.

He thought an apology from Dansby was in order to members of the board and to the public who put the members on the board.

Review
9/23/70

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

To the Editor

The Decatur League of Women Voters recognizes the right to differences of opinion regarding educational philosophy. Anyone may interpret his own way the facts found in the League's recent report of Effects of Elementary Redistricting Plans. However, Mr. Fick, Board of Education president, has chosen to interpret to the public what the League stands for, rather than the content of the report. Certain misleading statements need to be corrected.

The League, neither locally nor nationally, has supported busing as such. The League does have a national position in support of equal opportunity for education which calls for both quality and integrated education. However, there are many ways of accomplishing integration and League does not have a position favoring one technique over another.

If in drawing school boundaries to accomplish a measure of racial or socio-economic integration any district needs to establish bus routes, then this seems one reasonable way to get children to their assigned schools. If all children in a district can receive an equal opportunity for education while attending the schools closest to home, then this is a happy convenience for all. It is unlikely all schools will reach perfect racial and achievement balance, due to many other factors operating in any district.

The most comprehensive report available about equal educational opportunities for individuals in the nation was commissioned by Congress in Section 402 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This survey was conducted by Harold Howe II, Commissioner of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The League used this study and others in reaching conclusions about Decatur schools. Of course, the commissioner's report does not indicate standards for any individual district. It does indicate the positive aspects of integration on achievement found across the nation. People concerned with public education can use the survey results to get a better picture of their own district.

The identification in the League report of schools "not in balance" has been used by district officials for several years. District 61 reports are available in which schools are identified as low-achieving or high-achieving as a means of comparison with the district as a whole.

Concern has also been expressed publicly about the fact that 1970 figures are projections rather than actual enrollment.

A check September 10th with district officials indicated there had been no substantial variations in what had been projected. The projections are the same ones presented to the school board at the time it was deciding on boundaries to be implemented this fall.

It has been suggested that special interest groups might better turn their attention elsewhere than the schools. The pleas for public concern and support have been forgotten. For twenty years League has supported most building bond issues and referendums to increase funds for the schools. The purpose of League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. Organizations which gather and disseminate information act to protect the public interest. Surely this leads to

a strong responsive school district and a better education for the children.

Mary Jane Hippler

State Official To Address Voter League

The Decatur League of Women Voters will turn their attention to "Trends in Public Welfare" when Henry L. McCarthy, chief of the community services division of the Illinois Department of Public Aid, addresses its meeting Sept. 29. The time is 7:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The meeting is open to the public.

McCarthy's discussion is part of the league's human resources committee's study on income maintenance programs.

Before 1961 when he joined the Illinois Department of Public Aid, McCarthy was Commissioner of Welfare in New York City and before that was regional director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

More Federal Funds Needed For State Aid

By Karen T. Lobeck

A call for federal takeover, or at least a higher percentage of federal monies, for state public aid programs was made Tuesday night by an Illinois Department of Public Aid division chief, speaking in Decatur.

Henry L. McCarthy addressed the Decatur League of Women Voters with a three-part speech which included:

—Illinois public aid programs and statistics.

—Nationally recommended programs such as the Nixon plan.

—The need for more or total federal aid to states.

McCarthy also explained a low percentage of persons now receiving state public aid are unemployable.

He said while persons may be "theoretically somewhat employable," most fall short of being "currently placeable employees."

Such an employee would be under 45 years old, in good health and have had reasonable work experience, McCarthy said.

This, he said, is the division's rule of thumb for employables because it is based on employer standards.

He said of the 640,000 persons presently using state public assistance, probably "not more than 5,000 at any one time could be regarded as currently placeable employees."

Of the different public aid programs, McCarthy seemed to be the most optimistic about getting potential employable persons from mothers on Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

He said that in some cases it would be desirable for the community, mothers and children, for the mother to be employed and "get away from the drudgery, misery, hopelessness, need, despair . . . without any hope of escape at all."

In this vein, he noted that child care centers are needed.

On the national scene, he said he favored Nixon's plan in many aspects, but not in all of them.

One disagreement was the registering of persons on aid to work.

Based on his earlier statements on the number of unemployables on public aid, he indicated such a plan would not work.

He repeatedly stressed the need for education and work experience as roads toward employment.

Decatur Scene

Political Forum Set for Oct. 27

Before each election, the League of Women Voters presents a public, nonpartisan forum at which Decatur and Macon County voters can hear and meet the candidates.

Candidates from both political parties running for offices at the county and state levels in the Nov. 3 election will present their platforms and views at 8 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Hotel Orlando.

Candidates who have said they will attend include:

Robert C. Miller, Urbana, Democratic challenger for the 22nd U. S. Congressional District seat now held by Rep. William L. Springer, Champaign Republican (Springer has not indicated whether he will be able to attend)

Robert W. McCarthy, Decatur, incumbent Democrat state senator from the 50th District.

O. George Ryan, Decatur, Republican candidate for state senator.

Rolland F. Tipsword, Taylorville, Democrat incumbent, state representative from the 52nd District.

John W. Alsop, Decatur, Democratic incumbent state representative.

Jim Doster, Decatur, Republican challenger for state representative.

William M. Tangney, incumbent Democrat, and Gilbert A. Hoppe, Republican, candidates for Macon County clerk.

Frank A. Meara, Democrat, and Henry B. Curry,

Republican, candidates for Macon County treasurer.

Ray Rex, Democrat, and William H. Maddox, Republican, candidates for Macon County sheriff.

J. Roger Britton, Democrat, and Howard E. Brown, incumbent Republican, candidates for Macon County superintendent of educational service region.

CANDIDATE FORUM

Candidates from both major political parties will speak at the compare the candidates forum, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, at 8 p.m. today in the Hotel Orlando.

SET FOR T.P.?

A case of toilet tissue was stolen Monday night in a break-in at the McGaughy Grade School at Mount Zion, sheriff's deputies said.

Deputies theorized the tissue will be used later for Halloween pranks.

League of Women Voters

Review 10/20/70

Candidates Assemble

By Mary Ann O'Connell

Decatur and Macon County voters will be able to compare the candidates running for office in the Nov. 3 election at a League of Women Voters meeting on Oct. 27.

Candidates from both political parties running for offices at the county and state levels will present their platforms and views at 8 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Hotel Orlando.

Before each election, the League of Women Voters presents a public, non-partisan forum at which voters can hear and meet the candidates.

Candidates running for the United States Congress, the Illinois senate and house of representatives and county offices will be at the Oct. 27 meeting.

Each candidate will have three minutes in which to present his platform and qualifications.

There will be a question and answer period and a coffee at the end of the meeting.

"We've invited Congressman

William L. Springer, but he hasn't indicated whether he'll be present or not," Mrs. Charles Meyerson, league vice president, said.

The only other candidate who hasn't said whether or not he will be at the meeting is State Rep. A. Webber Borchers.

"He (Borchers) said that he wasn't interested in anything that the league sponsors, but he may decide to attend," Mrs. Meyerson said.

Candidates who have said they will attend include:

Robert C. Miller of Urbana, Democratic challenger for the 22nd U.S. Congressional District seat now held by Congressman William L. Springer, Champaign Republican

Robert W. McCarthy, Decatur, incumbent Democrat state senator from the 50th District

O. George Ryan, Decatur, Republican candidate for state senator

Rolland F. Tipsword, Taylorville, Democrat incumbent, state representative from the 52nd District

John W. Alsop, Decatur, Democratic incumbent state representative

Jim Doster, Decatur, Republican challenger for state representative

William M. Tangney, incumbent Democrat and Gilbert A. Hoppe, Republican, candidates for county clerk

Frank A. Meara, Democrat and Henry B. Curry, Republican, candidates for county treasurer

Ray Rex, Democrat and William H. Maddox, Republican, candidates for sheriff

J. Roger Britton, Democrat and Howard E. Brown, incumbent Republican, candidates for superintendent of educational service region.

Moderator of the forum will be Robert C. McIntire, chairman of the political science department at Millikin University.

The league's purpose in sponsoring the event is to give as many voters as are interested a chance to get first-hand personal information from the candidates.

Robert McIntire Is Moderator For Candidates

Robert C. McIntire will serve as the moderator for the League of Women Voters' candidates meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Hotel Orlando.

McIntire is the chairman of the political science department at Millikin University.

Candidates for state senator and representatives and all county offices are scheduled to speak at the public meeting.

Review
Decatur, Illinois, Wednesday, October 23, 1970

League Meeting

2 Contestants Offer Bouquets

Two candidates for county offices complimented members of the opposite party Tuesday night in a League of Women political meeting.

The candidates for office appeared at the Hotel Orlando to give brief statements and to answer questions from the 150 people who attended.

The first compliment was paid by Gilbert A. Hoppe, Republican candidate for county clerk.

He was asked how he would improve the operation of the county clerk's office, an office now held by Democrat William M. Tangney.

"At the present time I have nothing in mind. I haven't found any fault with the office," Hoppe said.

Frank A. Meara, Democratic candidate for county treasurer, said the treasurer's office is a good one.

He went on to add that a part of the reason for the good operation is that he helped make it that way when he was treasurer four years ago.

Meara opposes Republican treasurer candidate, Henry B. Curry.

Candidates for U.S. Representative in Congress, state senator, state representative, superintendent of the Macon County educational service region, county clerk, county treasurer and sheriff were invited to attend the meeting.

Only incumbent U.S. Rep. William L. Springer, Champaign Republican, did not attend.

As always, the program was hampered by the requirements of time, each candidate being given three minutes to make a brief statement.

Legislative candidates as a group were then given 15 minutes to ask questions, with answers limited to 1½ minutes. County candidates as a group followed that procedure.

As moderator, Robert C. McIntire, chairman of the political science department at Millikin University, was kept busy with the buzzer which signaled expiration of the time limits.

The two county sheriff candidates were asked if that office should be "keeper of the public morals" so far as motion pictures are concerned.

Democrat candidate Ray Rex

and his Republican opponent, William H. Maddox, said they oppose motion pictures and literature of the type commonly believed detrimental to public morality. But they said they believe control of them, if control is to be imposed, belongs on a higher level than the sheriff's office.

State Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, a candidate for re-election, told those attending the meeting that politicians aren't the only thing wrong with politics.

"One failure of you, the voters," Borchers said, "is that you don't put the candidates on the spot and find out what they really think. You send people to the state legislature and to Congress with no idea of their views."

Borchers is on the ballot with incumbent Democrat State Reps. John W. Alsop of Decatur and Rolland Tipsword of Taylorville, and outgoing Macon County Sheriff Jim Doster, also a Republican.

Editorials Our Opinions

His Views Sought

10/29/70
WE FOUND the statement of State Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, before the League of Women Voters Tuesday interesting.

Mr. Borchers, seeking re-election, said, "One failure of you, the voters, is that you don't put the candidates on the spot and find out what they really

think. You send people to the state Legislature and to Congress with no idea of their views."

We agree with Mr. Borchers.

But we were surprised to hear him say it.

Mr. Borchers is the only candidate of the four running for state legislature in the 52nd district who failed to return a questionnaire of his views to this newspaper.

In addition, Mr. Borchers was the only candidate of the four who refused our invitation to come in and meet with our editors to discuss the issues.

We did not endorse Mr. Borchers' candidacy.

We do not know where he stands on the issues we believe are important in the campaign.

BORCHERS CLARIFIES

FEELING TOWARD LEAGUE

State Rep. A. Webber Borchers said he was misquoted by an officer of the Decatur League of Women Voters in a story in Tuesday's Review.

"I said 'I cannot agree with many things the league is doing because they are becoming so liberal in their thinking,'" Borchers said.

Borchers denied that he said he wasn't interested in anything the league sponsors.

Borchers' feelings were referred to in a story about the league's Compare the Candidates forum at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Hotel Orlando.

Meet-the-Candidates Meeting Attracts 150

By John R. Harpster

Approximately 150 persons — most of them voters but including a sizeable number of prevoting youngsters — attended the League of Women Voters Meet-the-Candidates meeting in the Hotel Orlando ballroom Tuesday night.

The program produced only one surprise — during a question and answer session for county office candidates.

Gilbert A. Hoppe, Republican candidate for county clerk, fielded the question and perhaps set record for candor in doing so.

He was asked how he would improve the operation of the county clerk's office if he wrests it from Democratic incumbent William Tangney next Tuesday.

"At the present time I have nothing in mind," Hoppe said. "I haven't found any fault with it."

Candidates for U.S. Representative in Congress, state senator, state representative, superintendent of the Macon County educational service region, county clerk, county treasurer and sheriff were invited to attend.

Only incumbent U.S. Rep. William L. Springer, Champaign Republican, did not attend.

As always, the program was hampered by the requirements of time, each candidate being given three minutes to make a brief statement.

Legislative candidates as a group were then given 15 minutes to ask questions, with answers limited to 1½ minutes. County candidates as a group followed that procedure.

As moderator, Robert C. McIntire, chairman of the political science department at Millikin University, was kept busy with the buzzer which sig-

naled expiration of the time limits.

The two county sheriff candidates were asked if that office should be "keeper of the public morals" so far as motion pictures are concerned.

Democrat candidate Ray Rex and his Republican opponent, William H. Maddox, said they oppose motion pictures and literature of the type commonly believed detrimental to public morality. But they said they believe control of them, if control is to be imposed, belongs on a higher level than the sheriff's office.

Dep. County Treasurer Henry B. Curry, who has held that office for the past four years and seeks to move up Tuesday as the Republican candidate for treasurer, told in his preliminary remarks about efficient operation of the treasurer's office during the past four years.

Frank A. Meara, Curry's Democrat opponent, conceded that the Macon County treasurer's office is a good one.

"And part of the reason," he said, "is that I helped make it that way when I was treasurer from 1962 to 1966."

Finally, State Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, a candidate for re-election, told those attending the meeting that politicians aren't the only thing wrong with politics.

"One failure of you, the voters," Borchers said, "is that you don't put the candidates on the spot and find out what they really think. You send people to the state legislature and to Congress with no idea of their views."

Borchers is on the ballot with incumbent Democrat State Reps. John W. Alsop of Decatur and Rolland Tipsword of Taylorville, and outgoing Macon County Sheriff Jim Doster, also a Republican.

Constitution To Be Subject Of Discussion

Elbert S. Smith, vice president of the Illinois Constitutional Convention, will discuss the proposed constitution Tuesday with the Decatur League of Women Voters.

Smith, a Decatur delegate to the convention, will speak at 8 p.m. in the Westminster Presbyterian Church parlor.

Persons interested in supporting the new constitution may join the citizens committee to promote its ratification, according to Mrs. C. V. Crow, league member.

F.G. Brown of 89 Ridge Lane Dr. is the committee chairman.

League Eyes City School

The continuing study of ways to improve public education in Decatur will be discussed by members of the Decatur League of Women Voters Tuesday and Wednesday.

The meetings will be at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday in Westminster Presbyterian Church with a babysitter provided, and at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the home of Mrs. Russell Oplinger, 152 Cobb Ave.

Members will discuss and form conclusions about community responsibility to the school system after a presentation by the league's education committee. Chairman of the committee is Mrs. Robert A. Ohlsen.

Women Voters Set Meetings on Public Education

Two discussion meetings on how to improve public education in Decatur will be held by the League of Women Voters. Members will discuss community responsibility to the school system following a presentation by the League education committee.

The meetings will be Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Russell Oplinger, 152 Cobb Ave. A babysitter will be provided for the Tuesday session.

Review
Decatur, Illinois, Tuesday, November 10, 1970

League Backs Junior College

By Mary Ann O'Connell

Members of the Decatur League of Women Voters decided today to support the establishment of a junior college in Decatur.

Putting their decision into action, league members will work with the committee of Citizens Supporting Maconland Junior College and will disseminate information on the need for and benefits from a local junior college.

The consensus decision to support the establishment of a junior college was made following a report on junior colleges made by the league's education committee.

That report and one on educational opportunities offered students attending Decatur's public schools were given at a league meeting today.

Those reports will be repeated at a 7:30 p.m. meeting Wednesday in the home of Mrs. Russell Oplinger of 152 Cobb Ave.

Benefits that the league's education committee see coming from a local junior college include:

- Providing post high school educational opportunity to persons unable to afford private colleges or commuting to another junior college

- Making technical, semi-technical and general education available to those needing it for employment or for upgrading employment

- Stopping the drain of persons who stay in other communities where they receive their technical training.

The league report said that last year Decatur paid \$174,000 in tax costs to other junior college districts where 319 Decatur students attend junior college.

League members decided to work with the Citizens Supporting Maconland Junior College, which is campaigning for an affirmative vote on a

referendum to establish a junior college here.

The second portion of the league's meeting today concerned educational opportunities for children in Decatur schools, especially in relation to preventing school dropouts.

Mrs. Robert Ohlsen of 111 Westdale Ave., education committee chairman, said that the committee's report was a spin-off from its work last spring in comparing the Decatur school district with others in the state.

At that time the committee found that Decatur in 1968 had a 21.6 per cent dropout rate of students from its schools.

"We've found that the needs of the dropout can not easily be separated from the needs of all students," Mrs. Ohlsen said.

While the league's report focused on the causes and ramifications of the dropout student, it also took into account the quality of education for all children. One of its conclusions was that the local community has a responsibility to require the school system to develop each child's potential.

That league members said could be done by having a well informed electorate.

League members said that there needs to be a massive community information program to make people aware of the problems and their part in the solutions.

More League Members Back Junior College

Decatur League of Women Voters members attending Wednesday night's meeting agreed to support the establishment of a junior college here.

That position was identical to the one members attending a meeting Tuesday adopted.

However, board action is required before that position becomes an official stand of the Decatur League of Women Voters.

When it meets next Thursday, the league's board is expected to act on the consensus reports supporting the establishment of a junior college.

At the meetings Wednesday and Tuesday Decatur league members indicated they will work with the committee of Citizens Supporting Maconland Junior College.

First & Review Women Voters

Schedule 11/24/70 Two Meetings

"Alternatives to Welfare" will be the topic of two December meetings of the Decatur League of Women Voters.

The first meeting will be Dec. 8 at 9:15 a.m. in Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1360 W. Main St., with babysitting provided.

The second meeting will be Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Robert Forbes, 2 Forest Knolls.

League members will be participating in a state and national league effort to arrive at answers to questions on alternatives to welfare.

"The answers arrived at locally will be forwarded to state and national headquarters to be weighed along with reports from other locals to determine policy on the topic," Mrs. Frank Verbanac, chairman of the league's Human Resources Committee, said.

Bond Issue Draws Support

By Lawrence Reh

Endorsements from three area government officials led the way Monday in a unanimous show of support at Decatur's public hearing on the proposed state antipollution bond issue.

Though less than a dozen persons appeared in City Council chambers for the hearing conducted by state Sen. Robert W. Mitchler, they were all warm in their enthusiasm for the issue.

Decatur City Manager W. Robert Semple, Shelbyville Mayor James O. Finks and Decatur Sanitary District Supt. Charles E. Hughes all urged passage of the bond referendum Nov. 3 to raise \$750 million.

The funds would provide a pool from which the state could finance up to 25 per cent of the cost of new or improved waste treatment facilities for Illinois communities.

"We believe it will make all the difference in the world to us locally," Hughes said, "if we can go to the public asking for 20 or 25 per cent financing instead of 70 per cent."

Hughes referred to a projected Decatur referendum for a bond issue to build as much as \$6.9

million in improved waste treatment facilities here.

If the state bonds are approved Nov. 3, it would add 25 per cent state aid to the local project, qualify the district for 50 to 55 per cent federal aid and leave only 20 to 25 per cent to be paid by district taxpayers.

"The difference is between bearing \$4.6 million locally or only about \$1.7 million," Hughes said.

Semple emphasized Decatur interest in aid for upstream communities whose sewage problems may have a direct bearing on Lake Decatur, the local water supply.

Aid to Decatur waste treatment, he said, is also important to communities downstream on the Sangamon, whose water quality is affected by Decatur discharges.

"Passing this measure is important to retired persons especially," Finks said. "They cannot bear constantly increasing local taxes out of their fixed incomes."

"No new taxes would be required for the state bonds," he said, "but if they are not approved, local taxes would surely have to be hiked to pay for the achievement of water quality standards."

"All of us here apparently are in favor of the issue," said Mrs. R. Mack Butler, a representative of the Decatur League of Women Voters.

"My concern is over how few of us are present — can we reach the rest of the public and get a big enough yes vote to pass this issue?" she asked.

Sen. Mitchler explained that the biggest danger to passage of the referendum would be the voter who ignores the special ballot.

"If a person votes for representatives in the General Assembly, thereby establishing that he went to the polls, but does not vote either way on the bond issue, he will effectively cast a no vote," Mitchler said.

The referendum must obtain a majority vote of the total number who are counted as voting for General Assembly.

"If we explain the issue sufficiently," Sen. Mitchler said, "I feel there will be few blank ballots, and few no votes."

The League of Women Voters got special praise from Mitchler, who said that every hearing in the state but one has had the League represented.

Mrs. John C. Weinman, chairman of the Decatur League's antipollution study committee, and Mrs. Stephen Dodge also represented the local women's group.

"Can the state afford to spend the money on these bonds?" Mrs. Weinman asked Mitchler.

"It's my belief that the state, like your family and mine, must

first pay for the absolute necessities in its budget, trimming back on other expenditures if necessary," the legislator replied.

"I consider the pollution question an absolute necessity," Sen. Mitchler said.

Referendum Draws Support

Bond Okay Would Aid Decatur

By Lawrence Reh

"It's pretty hard to be against this bond issue," Decatur engineer William F. Blank told a public hearing audience today.

Not one of the other dozen persons who ventured out in cool, drizzly weather for discussion of a \$750-million state antipollution referendum voiced any opposition.

Concern with public health and problems arising from inadequate human waste treatment was raised by Blank, chairman of the South Central Illinois Health Planning Council.

The bond issue, which will face Illinois voters Nov. 3, would provide funds from which the state could aid in financing of waste treatment facilities up to 25 per cent of project cost.

Blank spoke at a hearing conducted by state Sen. Robert W. Mitchler, chairman of the Commission on Water Pollution and Water Resources.

He was joined in his support by R. Lee Slider, another member of the health council and also chairman of the solid wastes subcommittee of the Sangamon Valley Environmental Improvement Committee.

Official local government en-

dorsements for a "yes" vote came from Decatur City Manager W. Robert Semple, from Shelbyville Mayor James O. Finks and from Decatur Sanitary District Supt. Charles E. Hughes.

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"Can the state afford to spend the money on these bonds?" Mrs. Weinman asked Mitchler.

"It's my belief that the state, like your family and mine, must first pay for the absolute necessities in its budget, trimming back on other expenditures if necessary," the legislator replied.

"I consider the pollution question an absolute necessity," Sen. Mitchler said.

Though only Mrs. Weinman and Finks were present in City Council Chambers at the time the hearing was to begin, other persons entered as testimony got under way.

Review
10/12/70

Brown Heads Charter Drive

F. G. Brown of 89 Ridge Lane Dr. has been named chairman of the Decatur Citizens Committee to promote ratification of the 1970 Illinois Constitution.

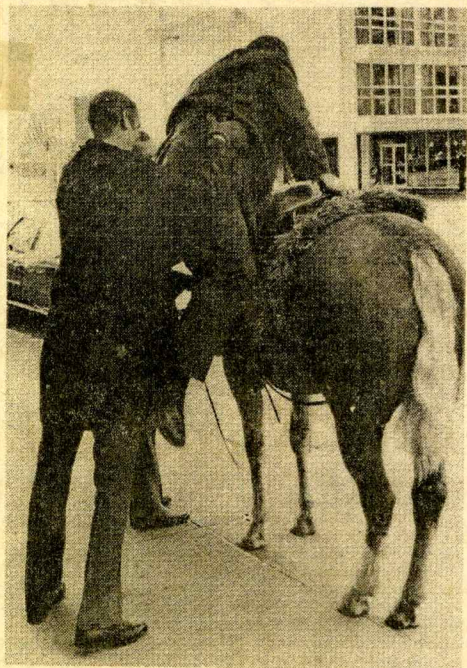
Brown served as Decatur area chairman of the successful 1968 campaign for the call of the Constitutional Convention.

The referendum proposing the convention call was approved by a 3 to 1 plurality in Macon County.

The proposed 1970 Constitution will be submitted to voters Dec. 15.

As chairman of the Decatur Citizens Committee, Brown will coordinate all local campaign activities including organization of campaign workers, distribution of promotional materials on the 1970 Constitution and general program of public information.

Brown has been president of the F. G. Brown Insurance Co., Inc., 122 S. Main St., since 1967.



Staff Photo by Doug Goumen

Mayor Mounts Up

Mayor James H. Rupp was up (with help) and away today. He rode a horse in a ceremony to open the Macon County Citizens Constitution Committee office at 134 S.

Main St. He left (the easy way) in a new car. The act was to symbolize the 1870 Illinois Constitution and the proposed Constitution.

Bafford Offers Con-Con Unit Key to Success

A victory token was offered today in the opening of the Macon County Citizens Constitution Committee office at 134 S. Main St.

The space was used as Democratic headquarters during the Nov. 3 campaign.

Hallie B. Bafford, Democratic county chairman, offered a door key to F. G. Brown, constitution committee chairman, and said "I hope you have as much success as the Democrats did in the Nov. 3 election."

H. G. "Skinny" Taylor, Republican chairman, let the incident pass without comment.

State Township Officials Refuse Charter Stand

Township officials of Illinois, in their 61st annual convention in Peoria, declined to take a stand on the proposed Illinois Constitution.

Troy A. Kost, executive secretary of the township officials association said:

"The Constitutional Convention delegates went to Springfield and completely rewrote the Illinois Constitution instead of making amendments to the present one."

"Consequently the proposed Constitution needs thorough study and analysis before we can conclude it is better than that which we now have."

Kost urged all voters to study the new document and to cast their votes in the Dec. 15 constitutional referendum.

He urged voters not to let the proposed constitution to succeed or fail by "default."

SMART COED

Council Cites Home Rule in New Charter

Portions of the proposed 1970 Illinois Constitution apparently will be supported by the Decatur City Council.

The council agreed informally Tuesday to endorse certain sections of the proposed Constitution, primarily Section VII, which deals with local government.

Illinois voters will decide the fate of the proposed Constitution Dec. 15.

The council declined to give a blanket endorsement to the entire document, noting that its recommendation should be limited to those areas which directly concern city government.

Voters can make up their minds on the total document after weighing recommendations on various portions made by the special interests involved, the councilmen reasoned.

The council reached a consensus after hearing a recommendation from Corporation Counsel Hilmer C. Landholt.

Landholt explained various aspects of home rule provisions contained in the document.

Formal action on the endorsement is expected to be taken Monday night.

Charter Gets GOP Backing

The executive committee of the Macon County Republican Central Committee Tuesday night voted approval of the proposed Illinois Constitution.

H. G. "Skinny" Taylor, chairman of the central committee, said the action follows that of the state Republican organization.

Approve Package

I feel that it is the obligation of Illinois voters at Tuesday's constitutional election to mark their ballots on approving the "package" or charter itself. It is the first question on the ballot and the primary responsibility of the voter even though the four separate propositions are also important.

Despite a recent campaign of misrepresentation, the new charter promises to be a far better document than the old Constitution. Vote Yes on the Package.

Lucille Crow
Decatur

Panel Okays Charter, Judge Appointment

Appointment of judges and approval of the proposed Illinois Constitutions is recommended by the executive committee of the Decatur Bar Association.

The committee made its recommendation after receiving reports from two special committees.

Hilmer C. Landholt headed a committee that brought in the suggested approval of the Constitution.

Thomas W. Samuels was head of the committee that approved the appointment of judges, rather than selection by election.

Donald G. Baird, president of the Decatur Bar Association, said the action of the executive committee is being submitted to the members of the association.

Rank and file bar members will be asked to vote on the recommendations. The results of the bar action will be announced next week, Baird said.

The committee action in Decatur follows a previous stand recently taken by the Illinois Bar Association following a poll of state members.

Constitution Group Selects Finance Head

James A. McKinney of 210 S. Delmar Ave., assistant vice president of the Citizens National Bank, has been appointed chairman of finance of the Macon County Citizens Constitution Committee.

The appointment was made by F. G. Brown, chairman of the organization.

The local citizens committee is one of several that have been formed in the state to support passage of the proposed 1970 Illinois Constitution.

The committee has headquarters at 134 S. Main St.

COMMITTEE OPENS OFFICE

Decatur Tribune 11/25/70

The Macon County Citizens Constitution Committee opened its headquarters in Decatur today in a rather unique manner. Mayor James Rupp arrived at the 10:00 a.m. ceremony at 134 South Main Street riding a horse, and departed after the ceremony in a 1971 Cadillac.

Committee Chairman, F.G. Brown, said the horse and the new automobile were selected to symbolize the difference between the present Illinois Constitution, and the proposed 1970 Constitution which the committee supports.

The Mayor created a bit of a stir on Main Street as he trotted up to committee headquarters astride a horse from the Flying Ranch. On hand to greet him were Brown and other members of the committee, members of the League of Women Voters, and representatives of the Macon County Farm Bureau and the United Auto Workers Union. All these organizations support the new Constitution.

The Mayor's been a good sport about this," Brown said, "and we appreciate his support

of the document. You have to be pretty dedicated to get up on a horse on a cold day like today."

Between now and the December 15th vote on the new constitution, the citizens committee will work to support passage of the document. Literature will be distributed and is available at the headquarters office...a speakers bureau is being organized...and voters having questions about the constitution may call the office for information. The number is 423-5157.

Desegregation Report Is Sent

By Lois M. Moore

Decatur League of Women Voters, along with other leagues in the country, has sent a report on school desegregation to the league's national human resources committee.

The committee requested leagues to send illustrated statements to the league's national office in Washington, D. C.

Education is one of the subjects studied by the human resources committee.

The national office will use information from the various leagues in the country to prepare its presentation before the Senate Select Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity. Sen. Walter F. Mondale of Minnesota is the chairman.

The request from the national league committee referred to the fact that "extensive hearings, under way periodically since April of this year, have included statements from key national figures on the educational effects of segregation and desegregation; education for the urban core; the relationship between housing, jobs and education and on the economics of equal educational opportunity."

The human resources committee presentation may be in mid-January, according to recent information.

The Decatur report is almost a three-year history, Mrs. Robert C. Schade, Decatur league president, said.

It begins with a Chicago meeting attended by some Board of Education members and some school personnel.

This meeting preceded the formation of the Community Commission on Integration (CCI).

The report covers the formation of the CCI and its subsequent plans for secondary and elementary schools, along with some information on hearings and meetings.

It also mentions the school board elections of 1969 and 1970 and the effects, plus the redistricting plan adopted by the board in May of this year.

It also mentioned some present information, including the public's interest in other public school areas, such as textbooks.

Mrs. Schade said newspaper clippings to illustrate different periods were sent along with the report. This was requested by the national committee of its member groups.

TOMORROW

Is A Day Of Decision

VOTE ☐

For The 1970 Illinois C

- Make possible the exemption of food, medicine and necessities from sales taxes---impossible now!

- Prohibit specifically a graduated state income tax --- no limits in the present Constitution

- Guarantee that property tax relief can be granted in the form of homestead exemptions or rent credits--- forbidden by the 1870 Constitution.

- Commit the State to improve public

Area Preferred 1-Man Districts

Charter Opposed Here

By Glen R. Cooper
Macon County voters, in Tuesday's referendum:

- Rejected the 1970 Constitution.
- Upheld a special provision for single-member House districts.
- Accepted a provision that judges be elected.
- Upheld the death penalty.

— Rejected a plan to lower the voting age to 18 years.

The charter was rejected on a vote of 9,359 against and 8,937 in favor.

The charter also failed to win the necessary votes to have a majority.

There were 18,600 votes cast in Macon County and a majority vote would have to be 9,331 votes in favor of the charter.

This shows the charter vote was 364 below the required number for a majority.

Records of County Clerk William M. Tangney shows that about 31 per cent of the 110 voting precincts in the county shows that the opposition to the Constitution came from the eastside precincts of Decatur and the rural townships.

The vote tabulation also shows that 9,359 voters opposed the Constitution and 11,238 opposed abolishing the death penalty.

It is apparent that many electors passed their vote on the charter but marked ballots for one or more of the special provisions.

The vote on the special proposals had no effect if the charter vote failed.

The governing factor in Macon County is the results from the statewide tabulation.

The breakdown of the vote on the special provisions shows this result in Macon County:

1-A (Multi-member House districts), 7,551.

1-B (Single-member House Districts), 9,301.

2-A (Election of judges), 10,837.

2-B (Appointment of judges), 6,632.

Abolishing the death penalty, 6,327 yes and 11,238 no.

Lowering voting age, 8,099 yes and 9,596 no.

Tangney said there will be a canvass of the county vote Thursday in his office. Even though the referendum was on a nonpartisan basis, the canvass will be supervised by the Democratic and Republican party chairmen, or their

Do you approve the proposed 1970 Constitution? Y - 8,937 N - 9,359

1.

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL THE LEGISLATIVE ARTICLE OF THE PROPOSED 1970 CONSTITUTION CONTAIN CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY?

1A.	Election of the 177 members of the House of Representatives from multi-member districts by cumulative voting.	7,551
	OR	
1B.	Election of the 177 members of the House of Representatives from single member districts.	9,301

2.

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL THE JUDICIAL ARTICLE OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CONTAIN CONCERNING THE SELECTION OF SUPREME, APPELLATE AND CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES?

2A.	The election by the voters of Judges nominated in primary elections or by petition.	10,837
	OR	
2B.	The appointment of Judges by the Governor from nominees submitted by Judicial Nominating Commissions.	6,632

SHALL THE 1970 CONSTITUTION CONTAIN PROVISIONS:

3.

Abolishing the death penalty?	Y - 6,327 N - 11,238
-------------------------------	----------------------

4.

Lowering the voting age to 18?	Y - 8,099 N - 9,596
--------------------------------	---------------------

Complete, unofficial Macon County vote

Cook County Too Strong

Area Rejects Constitution

Central Illinois voters overwhelmingly rejected the new Illinois Constitution Tuesday, but their votes were no competition for the "yes" votes of Cook County.

Central Illinois voters were also on the losing side on two of the four separate issues on the ballot — cumulative voting and lowering of the voting age.

Downstate residents voted to eliminate the cumulative voting system of electing state representatives, feeling that the alternative, single member districts, would give them better representation. But Chicago area residents voted strongly to retain cumulative voting, overriding the downstate vote.

Central Illinois voters rejected the proposal to lower the voting age to 18 but again their vote was overridden by Cook County voters who favored the proposal.

Both Central Illinois and Cook County voters agreed not to abolish the death penalty and to continue electing judges, rather than appointing them.

A breakdown of voting on each proposition in counties in The Daily Review circulation are follows. All figures represent the vote with all precincts reported.

CHRISTIAN — all precincts reporting; constitution, yes 2,072, no 4,734. Cumulative voting 2,762; single member districts 3,006. Election judges 4,735; appointment judges 1,220. Abolishing death penalty yes 1,801, no 4,490. Lowering voting age to 18 yes 2,210, no 4,331.

DEWITT — all precincts reporting, constitution, yes 1,

391, no 2,289. Cumulative voting 1,527; single member districts 1,815. Election judges 2,658; appointment judges 822. Abolishing death penalty yes 1,124, no 2,399. Lowering voting age yes 962, no 2,618.

DOUGLAS — all precincts reporting, constitution, yes 1,391, no 2,289. Cumulative voting 1,527 single member districts 1,815. Election judges 2,658; appointment judges 822. Abolishing death penalty yes 1,124, no 2,399. Lowering voting age yes 962, no 2,618.

MOULTRIE — all precincts reporting; constitution, yes 1,031, no 1,521. Cumulative voting, 1,068; single member districts, 1,217. Election judges, 1,862; appointment judges 513. Abolishing death penalty, yes 771, no 1,545. Lowering voting age, yes 812, no 1,649.

PIATT — all precincts reporting; constitution, yes 1,124, no 2,108. Cumulative voting, 1,267; single member districts, 1,639. Election judges, 2,210; appointment judges, 863. Abolishing death penalty, yes 963, no 2,122. Lowering voting age, yes 1,101, no 2,002.

SHELBY — all precincts reporting; constitution, yes 1,635, no 3,478. Cumulative voting, 2,050; single member districts, 2,428. Election judges, 3,652; appointment judges, 1,063. Abolishing death penalty, yes 1,256, no 3,567. Lowering voting age, yes 1,669, no 3,249.

Related stories on pages 1, 56

LAST KING

Croesus was the last king of Lydia in Asia Minor and accumulated great riches.

Area Preferred 1-Man Districts

Charter Opposed Here

By Glen R. Cooper

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Tangney said there will be a canvass of the county vote Thursday in his office. Even though the referendum was on a nonpartisan basis, the canvass will be supervised by the Democratic and Republican party chairmen, or their representatives, and members of Tangney's office.

The vote in the referendum was by the traditional paper ballots and not on voting device punchcards.

Tabulation of the ballots by the judges was also done by hand.

Tangney said this procedure did not delay greatly getting the results released to the public.

Tabulation of the votes cast in the 110 precincts of the county was completed shortly after 10 p.m. Tuesday.

Tangney commended the election judges and others who worked in the referendum.

He said as soon as the canvass is completed, the results will be forwarded to the office of the secretary of state for certification.

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Complete, unofficial Macon County vote

Historic Breakthrough for Illinois State Given Flexibility

— Chicago Daily News

IN A HISTORIC breakthrough, Illinois voters have approved a new constitution to replace the state's century-old charter. Through voting on the special propositions did not show the same spirit of progressiveness, adoption of the basic document gives the state and its subdivisions the flexibility they have long needed to cope with the increasingly complex problems of modern society.

It will not be up the General Assembly, Gov. Ogilvie and local government leaders to implement the 1970 constitution in keeping with the mandate handed down by the voters in Tuesday's special election.

The overwhelming sentiment for constitutional reform surprised even some of its more optimistic backers, who had expected a closer outcome. On the practical side, approval of the charter provides new tools to deal with hundreds of problems that could not be foreseen when the 1870 constitution was adopted. Even more impressive was the demonstration of a new spirit in Illinois — a spirit that belies its reputation as a stronghold of reaction and isolation from the realities of contemporary life. In voting as they did, Illinoisans showed themselves more progressive-minded and aware of 20th Century challenges than did the residents of more than a half dozen states, including New York, which have rejected constitutional revision in recent years.

The Illinois vote, moreover, reflected appreciation of a task masterfully done by the constitutional convention which was made up of delegates broadly representative of the state's diverse social, economic, geographic and political elements. While many voters undoubtedly had reservations about some of the charter's provisions, they nonetheless recognized that no document of this type could please everybody — that it inevitably had to fall back on compromise and accommodation for widespread acceptance.

Despite the campaign of misrepresentation, ignorance and fear waged by the charter's foes, it proved of little avail among thoughtful voters who were convinced that the document's good points considerably outweighed its flaws. The support of the charter by both major parties and the state's leading civic, professional, church, business and independent union organizations exerted far more influence than did the opposition expressed by right-wing extremists and some normally respectable organizations which should have known better.

The negative impact of a tight vote Downstate, where opposition ran strong, was overcome by a much heavier turnout in Chicago and Cook County suburbs, where support ran better than 2 to 1. Mayor Daley's Democratic organization was especially effective in

Elsewhere
In Illinois

mustering a heavy majority for the charter, and The Daily News, which had called upon the mayor to exercise leadership in the fight, is glad to acknowledge

Learned From Others

A Step Forward

—Chicago Tribune

THE APPROVAL of a new constitution by Illinois voters is an event of national importance as well as a step forward for Illinois. Since 1967, new state charters have been defeated in seven other states. Some of the rejections resulted from efforts to do too much at one time, but most of them were caused by campaigns of fear financed by officeholders and others whose jobs were jeopardized.

The Illinois Constitutional Convention profited by the mistakes made in other states. Its proposals were modest, and most of them were compromises. Four controversial issues were submitted separately and did not threaten the main document.

Opposition to the new constitution therefore was fragmented. There were the labor leaders who wanted to give the legislature unlimited taxing powers — a proposal which would have sealed the doom of the charter. But the labor leaders are intelligent men; they recognized the many merits of the constitution, and they evidently decided not to conduct an aggressive campaign. At any rate, a great many union members obviously voted in favor of the new constitution.

Opposition also came from a group called Save Our Suburbs, which issued a pamphlet charging that the constitution would lead to "confiscatory taxation, unlimited spending, metropolitan regional government." The pamphlet contained many misstatements and misrepresentations, and no doubt it deluded some voters. But the constitution won in the Chicago suburbs, as well as in the city. The vote in the county as a whole was two to one yes.

Downstate the vote was tight, indicating remarkable indifference or lack of understanding of the issues. Downstaters as a whole rejected the constitution by a margin of about 100,000 votes. This was consistent with a voting pattern that goes back many years. A good many downstate counties have never

that he did an outstanding job. It should not be lost on those convention delegates, including some independents from Chicago, who took a perverse pleasure in trying to cross up the Chicago Democratic delegation — even when it was not warranted.

The main battle has been won at the polling booth by the Illinois voters who marked their ballots to assure a better future for themselves and their children. Now it is up to our elected officials to show a commensurate sense of responsibility.

voted for any constitutional change.

The credit for the constitution's victory belongs to many Illinoisans, living and dead. Every governor for more than 50 years has pleaded for modernization, and most legislators have acknowledged the need of changes. The League of Women Voters has been toiling quietly in this vineyard for 30 years, even when the cause seemed hopeless for many reasons of practical politics.

The recent campaign enlisted the support of almost every responsible statewide organization. Organizations which expressed disapproval were mostly those with some special ax to grind. A good deal of the downstate opposition probably was generated by local officeholders whose jobs could be abolished under the new constitution.

The new charter becomes effective on July 1. The state legislature then must enact many new laws to put the constitutional changes into effect. Drafting of these laws should begin as soon as possible; so the new General Assembly should act accordingly.

Exercise of Freedom

— Chicago Sun-Times

ILLINOIS CITIZENS have taken part in an extraordinary exercise of freedom. They ordered a new Constitution written, chose the men and women deemed most qualified to write it, and on Tuesday they adopted it as the state's basic law. The framing of a constitution is indeed the people's business, and the people of Illinois have earned the privilege of pride.

The government of the state will no longer be rigid and limited as it has been under the 1870 charter. The government now can be flexible and responsive to needs of urban as well as rural areas. It can play a proper role in the American federal system. So can the cities, which, for the first time, will have home rule and a

forceful voice in shaping their own futures.

There are states which have rejected proposed constitutions in recent years. It is sufficient here to say that tribute is due the delegates of the Sixth Illinois Constitutional Convention. They kept their heads on straight during the long and wearisome deliberations and emerged with a document acceptable to the voters. We look forward to seeing Con-Con delegates in the General Assembly and in other high office.

Lastly, there is special tribute to be paid Samuel W. Witter of Kenilworth, whom we endorsed for the Con-Con presidency, merits the thanks of the state for his service in that post and for his 25 years of effort on behalf of constitutional reform. The reform is now embodied in the Illinois Constitution of 1970.

School Desegregation Report Given

By Ron Ingram

"The Decatur situation has become a test of the democratic system of balancing majority rule with minority rights."

That is the conclusion of the Decatur League of Women Voters' report on school desegregation which is being sent to the league's national human resources committee.

The national office will use information from various league chapters across the country to prepare its presentation before the Senate Select Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity, which has held a number of hearings since April.

The Decatur League's report states:

"We feel that the Decatur experience offers some suggestions to other communities concerned with de facto segregation."

"Before formation of a (integration) plan, a calendar of community education should be devised. To shape an attitude of acceptance of the need for integration, the public must first understand that need."

"If the community is to willingly accept major changes and some inconveniences, it must know how the results will benefit all."

"The school district personnel should be closely involved in the planning from the start. Here also, is a need to know and accept the reasons. Then the traditional community respect for teachers could be used to educate the public."

"Professional expertise could and should be used in a

School Action, and the polarization of the community.

—The redistricting plan adopted in May by the Board of Education.

—The petition for injunction against this plan, filed in U.S. District Court by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Taking up the current aspects of Board of Education actions, the report states:

"School Board actions now reflect the community attitude of conservatism and traditionalism."

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optimistic backers, who had expected a closer outcome. On the practical side, approval of the charter provides new tools to deal with hundreds of problems that could not be foreseen when the 1870 constitution was adopted. Even more impressive was the demonstration of a new spirit in Illinois — a spirit that belies its reputation as a stronghold of reaction and isolation from the realities of contemporary life. In voting as they did, Illinoisans showed themselves more progressive-minded and aware of 20th Century challenges than did the residents of more than a half dozen states, including New York, which have rejected constitutional revision in recent years.

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Taking up the current aspects of Board of Education actions, the report states:

"School Board actions now reflect the community attitude of conservatism and traditionalism.

"One board member, who has served since 1967 and consistently opposed integration efforts, is now board president (John E. Fick). His position has been that his responsibility is to carry out the wishes of the majority, as shown by election results.

"The interests of this majority has now extended into areas other than integration. In years previous to the CCI, the public was largely apathetic about school matters except those involving money.

"No tax rate increase for the education fund of the district has been passed since 1956. Since 1967 and the polarization of the community over integration, many school issues have become controversial and widely discussed at school board meetings, radio 'talk shows' and in newspaper 'letter to the editor' columns.

"Some of the recent issues of concern are discipline, textbook content, administration appointments and innovative programs."

Review
1/7/71

Air Pollution League Topic

Air pollution will be discussed and a consensus taken on what should be done about it at two League of Women Voters meetings next week.

League members will meet at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1380 W. Main St.

A second meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the home of Mrs. Gerald A. Redford of 1553 W. Main St.

Members of the league's environmental quality committee will conduct the meeting.

Results of the meetings will be sent to the national league headquarters to help determine the league's national approach to air pollution.

*Sunday
Herald & Review*
1/17/71

League Proud Of Library

The League of Women Voters congratulates the city of Decatur on the opening of its fine new library.

Back in 1965, following a two-year study of the needs of the library, the League decided to support promotion and planning of a new main library building.

The study pointed out that the old facility contained less than half the floor space needed to serve a community of this size, and had many additional inadequacies such as structural weakness, insufficient seating capacity, lack of public restrooms, audio-visual rooms, group meeting space, music-listening facilities; and inaccessibility to the library collection by the public because of a lack of stairwells, doorways, crowded stacks and no elevators. Aged and handicapped persons were unable to use the library because of the many steps.

The League worked for public awareness of the need for a new main library building because outmoded and inefficient facilities and location were hurting the ability of the library to serve Decatur adequately.

Our beautiful new library in the converted Sears Building (completed at one third the cost of construction of a new building) will fill the needs of the community in the areas listed above. It also fills us all with a sense of community pride in a job well done.

Mrs. Robert Schade
President

Mrs. C. V. Crow, Chairman
Library Resources Committee

2/7/71

Bonds Economical

On Tuesday the Decatur Sanitary District will ask voters to approve two separate bond issues. The first proposal asks that \$1,750,000 in bonds be authorized for improvement of waste treatment plant facilities, and the second proposal asks that \$750,000 in bonds be authorized for extension of intercepting sewers and improvement of pumping stations. We strongly urge you to vote yes on both issues.

The total cost of the first project (improvement of waste treatment plant facilities) will be \$7,125,000, but Decatur will receive about 50 per cent of this cost from the federal government and about 25 per cent from the state. The financial burden for Decatur residents will therefore be considerably reduced if Decatur residents approve the bond issue.

It should be noted that Decatur now is number nine on the priority list to receive federal funds. In order to meet new, strict water quality standards, these improvements must be made, and if Decatur voters do not approve the bond issue,

we may jeopardize our priority position with the federal government and could be forced to pay a much greater percentage of the cost of these improvements.

The total cost of the second project (intercepting sewer extension and pumping station improvement) will be \$1,550,000. The bond issue asks for \$750,000, and the remainder of the cost will come from available funds and possibly some federal funds.

Voters should also be aware that the 1953 bond issue will be completely retired by Dec. 1, 1972 (from the tax levy of 1971). Because that bond issue was for a greater amount than the bond issues now being sought, there will be no increase in taxes due to the present bond issues.

Karl Weinman

Environmental Quality

Committee

Ruth Schade

President

League of Women Voters

Congress^{2/3/71} To Be Topic

"Congress and the Contemporary Quality Crisis" will be the subject of a talk by Dr. William L. Morrow at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9 in the Decatur Public Library, 247 E. North St.

Dr. Morrow, associate professor of political science at De Pauw University in Greencastle, Ind., will speak at the public meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

An authority on contemporary political systems in the United States, Dr. Morrow is the author of the book "Congressional Committees."

He served as special assistant to Sen. W. Stuart Symington of Missouri and Rep. Lee Hamilton of Indiana under an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship in 1965-66.

Dr. Morrow is listed in "Outstanding Young Men of America, 1970."

Candidates^{Review} To Speak^{2/14/71}

Candidates for the Decatur City Council primary election have been invited to speak Thursday at the League of Women Voters candidates meeting.

The session will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Decatur Public Library, North and Franklin streets.

A question and answer period will follow short introductory statements by the candidates.

There are 15 candidates for the Feb. 23 City Council primary election.

Primary Next Tuesday

Council Candidates' Views

Bolz



Henry H. Bolz

John F. Dunn



John F. Dunn

John F. Dunn, 34, of 523 Sheffield Dr.

Education: B.S. in chemical engineering, University of Notre Dame; J.D. in law, University of Notre Dame.

Occupation: Attorney at law, Morey and Dunn.

Additional training and experience: Member local, state and American Bar Association, board member Decatur Mental Health Center, coordinator of Halfway House project; board member and vice president of YMCA, 1970 membership campaign chairman; board member Catholic Charities of Decatur; steering committee of FISH of Decatur.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council — Decatur is a city with great potential. However, in order to move ahead in the manner that citizens of our community deserve, new ideas and fresh approaches are needed to meet the complicated challenges that face our municipalities in the '70s. To get the job done, Decatur needs responsible, youthful leadership on the part of those qualified by background and experience to analyze and solve our problems on a community-wide basis in the interests of all our citizens. I have been active in numerous community service projects, serving on several United Fund agencies and working with people at all levels. This service is rewarding. I would welcome the opportunity to broaden my base of service to our city by taking an active role in city wide leadership as a city councilman.

Urgent needs — Completion of the Oakley project, construction of the Interstate highway link up, better housing, action on the urban renewal projects, and review of spending programs to

eliminate wasteful practices and cut inefficiency are obviously matters of urgent concern to our community. Less obvious, but equally important is the need to develop a positive community attitude supported by a solid base of genuine citizen involvement in worthwhile projects. Boards and governmental units at all levels need to know what the voters really are concerned about. If our citizens speak out and if those elected to positions of leadership are not only the ones best qualified by background and experience but those who are committed to listen, Decatur can face the challenges of the future with confidence. With the right leadership Decatur can hold and attract the people with work skills necessary to sustain its economic health. Good leadership will shape and direct growth so that the quality of life in housing, education, recreation and in all areas will be significantly upgraded. Decatur should assume its rightful role as leader among all communities in our state.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Fifteen candidates are seeking six nominations as Decatur city councilmen in the primary election next Tuesday. The Decatur League of Women Voters has asked each candidate for information on his education and qualifications for office, and has posed two questions to each candidate. The Review today begins publication of this information, as it was supplied to the newspaper by the league. Publication will be in alphabetical order.

facilities and improve blighted areas are needed. If current discussions and studies indicate a need for a junior college for the Decatur area, the City Council should join citizens in advocating this facility, if and when they do.

Now that the Kirkland and Griswold buildings have been added to Millikin Campus, we should encourage the cultural and athletic and other programs to make the fullest possible use of these facilities for the men, women and children of this area. We should continue in touch with Millikin University and its plans and needs as initiated by the late President Paul McKay, with whom the council worked closely, and help as we are able to carry out its ideals and plans for excellence and greatness.

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Decatur City Primary Next Tuesday

Council Candidates' Views



Rev. Mart Luther Ellison

Rev. Ellison

Martin Luther Ellison, 62, of 1087 W. Cerro Gordo St.

Education: Grade School

Occupation: General Maintenance, Warren & Van Praag, Inc.

Additional training and experience: Minister for 40 years, which has kept me involved in making decisions for people from all walks and levels of life, race, creed and color. Have had courses in theology, English and general education since leaving school; one semester at Millikin University studying religions of mankind from the primitive age to current times. My travels in France, Germany and the Philippines added greatly to my experience and education. A very wide circle of evangelistic tours all across the country have acquainted me with the general conditions and needs of the country. I have a diploma in refrigeration (domestic and commercial).

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council — Because I have loved people all my life and I think I can help. My plans are to restore much of what has been lost, that our area needs.

Urgent Needs — A change of atmosphere that will bring about the calmness of our area that we need so badly for our existence.

— 1. To cut taxes. Taxes must go down now.

— 2. To bridge the gap between the City Council and the public by going to the people in their own areas, asking and answering questions. When the council respects and turns to the people regarding some of their actions before it is completed, the people will do likewise for the council.

— 3. Less spending of tax money, without lowering the quality of service.

— 4. The people will be consulted in all cases of grave importance to them.

— 5. General street improvements.

— 6. No parking fees after 4 p.m. five days a week; Saturday free. Parking meters are spread over too wide an area, and beyond parking meters, there should be no parking limit. Fees and fines are too high.



Clarence R. Flint

C. R. Flint

Clarence R. Flint, 63, of 2114 W. William St.

Education: Decatur Public Schools; B.S. business administration, Millikin, 1930.

Occupation: City councilman, Housing Authority commissioner, investment management.

Additional training and experience: A life-long resident of Decatur, I know very well its history, its progress and its problems. My four years as a member of the council have prepared me for even more effective and meaningful service during a second term.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council — I have enjoyed my four years of service as a city councilman and think I have made a contribution to the orderly development of the city. In seeking a second term I continue to be motivated by a sincere desire to help bring the best possible city government to all the people of Decatur. Decatur is a good city. It can be a great one. I would like the opportunity to continue my efforts to this end through intelligent, compassionate, dedicated and I hope competent service.

I am prepared to give all the time and study necessary to prepare for informed decisions and responsible action on all proposals and issues. To that end I would make myself available, at any reasonable time, to confer with any group, organized or unorganized, and any individual who might have a proposal, suggestion or idea and help them get it before the city staff for study and before the council for discussion and decision.

Urgent needs — Implementation of the new state Constitution as it relates to city government.

Urban renewal in the Torrence Park area.

Low rent housing.

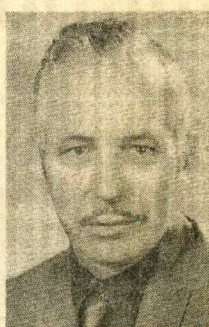
Expanded water supply.

Expansion of water treatment and distribution system.

Storm sewers.

Interstate highways.

Expansion of parking space on western perimeter of the downtown area.



C. W. Gallagher

C. W. Gallagher

C. W. Gallagher, 52, of 1707 S. Country Club Rd.

Education: High school
Occupation: Locomotive engineer and vice general chairman of United Transportation Union, General Committee of Adjustment, Enginemen

Additional training and experience: I am an incumbent and have held this office four years. I have been active in union affairs for 20 years as well as representing labor on various committees prior to my election in 1967. I was appointed to these committees by Mayor Arnold. I have represented labor as well as the city of Decatur in hearings before the House and Senate in Washington, D.C. (Oakley Dam) and in Springfield to see the governor in regard to highway program.

Why do you wish to be a member of the City Council — I feel I can be of further service to Decatur and its citizens by speaking out on issues, and not afraid to do so. I have brought to the council a voice from the average working man. I am the first man to be elected to the council from the ranks of labor. All of the present men on the council are management, officials of companies, retired men or own their own business.

Urgent needs —

— 1. More housing for the elderly and the poor.

— 2. Retain passenger train service.

— 3. An understanding between the races.

— 4. Oakley Dam project.

— 5. New bus service for Decatur.

— 6. Attract new industries.

— 7. Build overpasses at heavy traveled school crossings to prevent any further killing of our school children.

— 8. Have full time police officer attend all grade schools, to instill in our children while they are in their formative years a respect for law and order and its policemen. Let them see and learn that policemen are not pigs but are here to help, not hinder. I feel very strong about this. We must counteract the militants' teachings and the lack of respect for law and order children get, even in their own home.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Fifteen candidates are seeking six nominations as Decatur city councilmen in the primary election next Tuesday. The Decatur League of Women Voters has asked each candidate for information on his education and qualifications for office, and has posed two questions to each candidate. The Review continues publication of this information, as it was supplied to the newspaper by the league. Publication will be in alphabetical order.



Lloyd G. Harrington

L. Harrington

Lloyd G. Harrington, 46, of 1168 W. Marietta St.

Education: High school
Occupation: Hourly employee, A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.; part time employee, Hargrave Security Inc.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council — I believe that it is time that someone besides management personnel do all of our thinking for us. I think that it is time that we, the working class, can think for ourselves.

Urgent needs of Decatur — To finish the I-72 Interstate now and to get the Oakley dam built. To do something about the unemployment problem. We have to get Lake Decatur cleaned up.

Decatur City Primary Next Tuesday

Council Candidates' Views



Jake J. Harris



Alan Martin



Rev. I. M. Muse

Jake J. Harris

Jake J. Harris, 35, of 1019 West Tuttle St.

Education: 1962 B.S. degree in biology, Tennessee State University; 1970 M. Ed. degree in educational administration and supervision, University of Illinois.

Occupation: Assistant dean of students at Stephen Decatur High School.

Additional training and experience: Drafted recommendations for and participated in recruiting of black teachers for Decatur Public Schools; drafted recommendation for estab-

Alan Martin

Alan Martin, 30, of 11 Dakota Dr.

Education: Eisenhower High, Decatur; bachelor of science degree in economics and management from Millikin University, Decatur. Also attended North Carolina State; University of Tulsa; and University of Maryland.

Occupation: Industrial engineer, Wagner Castings Co., Decatur.

Additional training and experience: My education, military training, and work experi-

Rev. I. M. Muse

I. M. Muse, 48, of 538 North Dunham St.

Education: Two years in college.

Occupation: Minister of the New Canaan M.B.C.; counselor for Decatur Macon County Opportunities Corporation.

Additional training and experience: I have been active in community affairs. I have served on the Human Relations Commission. I have worked with the DMCOC for the past five years working with the poor. I have served as director for housing department with the DMCOC. I do know the needs of the people because I am working with them every day. I do feel that I am qualified to serve on the City Council.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council — Because I can better serve the people of Decatur. I can represent all the people. I can be able to bring a better relationship between the white and black and better understanding between the police department and the black people in the city. I will work hard to prevent a raise in taxes.

George McGovern has Washington (c) New York Times

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A similar plan was in effect during the 1969-1970 school year. This, explained Wright, was the principal reason for the board's latest action.

had not been subjects of Army spying. "I have talked with some people who flatly told me they saw my file," said Mikva, noting he is scheduled to testify on the matter before a Senate hearing next week. Mikva said Laird's action fell "far, far short of what he promised, of really getting a handle on military intelligence. Either and widening it for these conversations. These conversations been taking place at two months. The review panel will include the civilian undersecretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, and only one military man, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. It will be headed by Asst. Secretary of Defense Robert F. Froehke.

Ar in April

Defense Robert F. Froehke. Parents should register their children in the community's schools be in the community's schools Wednesday. This applies to children who will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1, 1971, and all children entering first grade who have not attended kindergarten. Parents should register their children in the community's schools be in the community's schools Wednesday. This applies to children who will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1, 1971, and all children entering first grade who have not attended kindergarten. Parents should register their children in the community's schools be in the community's schools Wednesday. This applies to children who will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1, 1971, and all children entering first grade who have not attended kindergarten.

Decatur City Primary Next Tuesday

Council Candidates' Views



Hope Norman

Hope Norman

Hope Norman, 27, of 2995 E. Wood St.

Education: Graduate of Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee, with bachelor of science degree in math and chemistry.

Occupation: Claim adjuster, State Farm Insurance Co., Decatur. I am a past school teacher in the Danville Public School system, Danville, Ill.

Additional training and experience: I am an active member of the community, including the NAACP. I am also an active member of the Impact Organization staff, which is a group oriented to fight drug problems here in the city of Decatur. Also, I am a Friendship House volunteer, which makes me active with the youth of Decatur. I have also been named one of the Outstanding Young Men of America, 1970 Edition. Therefore, because of my activities involving the city of Decatur and its citizens, where my interests mainly are, I feel that I more than qualify for the position of City Councilman.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council? — I believe that if I could serve on the City Council, that this would give the opportunity to make the citizen more effective, and bring more citizen involvement into the city government. I do believe that if we had more citizen involvement in the city, that we would eliminate many of our problems. The only way that we can make this a more successful place for living for us all, is to get some effectiveness and cooperation from each and all. I hope that I may be able to do this.

Urgent needs of Decatur — Among the most important needs of the city of Decatur is bringing in industry and creating more jobs, so that we will eliminate some of the poor conditions that some of the people in Decatur are living under. If we could bring in more industry, such as the Oakley dam project, which would mean jobs, money, and resources for the city of Decatur, it would improve our living standards, and tend to help our housing problem. One of the other things I think is most needed in the city of Decatur is a junior college. This would not only improve and benefit the youth in the community, but would also return some of the revenue that we send to surrounding cities each year.



David L. Morgan

David Morgan

David L. Morgan, 40, of 44 North Country Club Rd.

Education: High school graduate.

Occupation: Senior engineering clerk, in electrical engineering department, Illinois Power Co.

Additional training and experience: Before seeking employment with IPC I was associated with my father in the grocery business. I have just completed my 18th year of employment with IPC. I am a veteran of the Korea conflict.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council? — I wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council, so that I may help represent the people of Decatur. I feel that by being on the council I can best achieve my goal of helping to promote a city that is progressing in an atmosphere for the well-being of its citizens. In the past there has been very little representation by the working man. I believe that my election to the council would help to change this and give the working person a voice. At the same time, I realize that without a favorable atmosphere for business there would be less jobs. An expanding economy helps all citizens.

Urgent needs — I feel that if Decatur is to continue to grow it will be necessary for this community to actively support the Oakley reservoir; a junior college; I-72 including ingress and egress from the city; and an improved sanitary sewage system. We need to continue to work toward the elimination of blighted areas such as Torrence Park area. Crime and traffic accidents have been on the increase, stronger efforts must be made to make Decatur a safer place in which to work and live.

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Thomas A. Piekutowski

T. Piekutowski

Thomas A. Piekutowski, 44, of 1401 N. McClellan Ave.

Education: Graduate of Decatur High School; two years evening courses at Millikin University.

Occupation: Traffic specialist.

Additional training and experience: Former vice president of Local 855, AIW; former president of DNA transportation fraternity. I have taken courses in professional business management; supervisory training; marketing; personnel and community relations; transportation management and analyzing alternatives. In the past I was chairman of a Cub Scout pack, commissioner of Garfield Boys Baseball, and advisor for Junior Achievers.

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council? — I feel that I can represent a different group of citizens who are not represented at this time. This in turn would provide new interest in the city government. I also believe that a stopping point must be reached in commercializing around our schools, and a need to eliminate the special use permit being issued by our Planning Commission and city advisors. The only way to accomplish these projects is to become a councilman.

What do you feel to be the most urgent needs of Decatur at this time? — The most urgent need for the community of Decatur at this time is to close the communication gap. There is a definite lack of communications between the city officials and the general public. From my viewpoint, and the people who encouraged me to seek the position of councilman, too many decisions are made in favor of a few and not the majority. The present attitude of our good citizens who don't even bother to vote is that they feel that our government is no longer represented by the people and for the people. We must regain their confidence and return to that form of government.

A junior college, support for the Oakley dam, more positive moves controlling pollution, and synchronized traffic lights are urgently needed.



John W. Ziese

John W. Ziese

John W. Ziese, 43, of 1635 W. Forest Ave.

Education: B.S. business administration, Millikin University.

Occupation: President of Eakin, Inc.

Additional training and experience: President, Swain and Myers Assoc. Inc., five years (1964-1969).

Why do you wish to be a member of the Decatur City Council? — All citizens should give to their community as much time as possible based on their particular skills and background. Decatur needs to get moving — younger people should be interested in their government. I will encourage this. Decatur is a good town, but it could be a great town.

Urgent needs — Provide additional employment opportunities through encouragement of the leaders to promote additional business and industry.

Reduction of the type of taxes which discourage new industry from locating in a community and present a less restrictive building code to commercial prospects.

Encourage a highway system to Decatur's retail market, which is to the south.

Women Voters Have Selected Mrs. Ohlsen

Mrs. Robert W. Ohlsen of 111 S. Westdale Ct. has been elected president of the League of Women Voters of Decatur.

Elected to serve with Mrs. Ohlsen during a luncheon Wednesday at the Decatur Club were:

First vice president, Mrs. John C. Weinman of 382 Delmar Ave.

Third vice president, Mrs. Frank Verbanac, 12 Dakota Dr.

Secretary, Mrs. J. William Coberly, 445 N. 35th St.

Directors of the league will be Mrs. Dennis Forbes of 12 Medial Dr., Mrs. Robert Forbes of 2 Forest Knolls, Mrs. James L. McVay of 3021 Lynwood Dr., Mrs. Marvin Cook Jr. of 42 Meadow Terrace, Mrs. David Marshall of 155 S. Glencoe Ave. and Mrs. Robert C. Schade of 142 Point Bluff Dr. (immediate past president).

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1971

Congress Is Topic Of League

Congressional procedures and reforms will be the subject of a public meeting which will be held Wednesday by the League of Women Voters at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Robert Forbes of 12 Forrest Knolls, chairman of the local Congress Committee, will tell about her impressions and observations of Congress as they relate to the present league study of Congress. Mrs. Forbes recently returned from a statewide league trip to Washington, D. C., where members observed Congress in action and met with Sen. Adlai Stevenson and Rep. William L. Springer.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. with a film showing the progress of a flood control bill through Congress. Relationships between the three branches of government, procedures for framing legislation and ways to encourage passage of bills are emphasized.

A review of the 1970 Legislative Reorganization Bill that took effect with the opening of the 92nd Congress in January will be given.

Review 4/29/71 School Bill Fails 15-1

The Illinois House education committee voted Wednesday to give a do-not-pass recommendation to a bill prohibiting assignment of students to schools outside the attendance unit in which they reside.

State Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, the bill's chief sponsor, was the only committee member to vote in favor of the proposed bill.

The vote was 15 to 1 against a favorable recommendation.

The bill would have amended the state school code to require that attendance units established by a school board be contiguous and to permit pupils to attend school reasonably close to home.

Appearing as witnesses against the bill, during a committee hearing prior to the vote, were Harold Johnson, president of the Decatur branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Mrs. Robert Schade, president of the Decatur League of Women Voters; Horace G. Livingston Jr., publisher of the black newspaper "The Voice"; and Marvin S. Lieberman, former vice chairman of the Community Commission on Integration.

board. Review 4/30/71 Correction

Mrs. Robert W. Ohlsen is president of the Decatur League of Women Voters, not Mrs. Robert W. Schade as stated* in an article in Thursday's Daily Review. Also, Mrs. Gerald Redford, represented the League at a hearing of the Illinois House Education Committee in Springfield Wednesday instead of Mrs. Schade as was reported to the Herald.

D. Weber May 17/71

League States Concern Over Civil Freedom

Concern over erosion of civil liberties was expressed by the delegate body of the 50th Anniversary Convention of the League of Women Voters of Illinois, meeting in Chicago April 27-29.

By an overwhelming vote the members agreed to expand their program item on the preservation of the individual's civil liberties to focus their study on rights to privacy, no-knock provisions, stop and frisk, wire-tapping laws and detention.

Decatur delegates were Mrs. Robert Olsen, Mrs. John Weinman, Mrs. Charles Meyerson, Mrs. Frank Verbanac and Mrs. Clarence Crow.

Six other program items were adopted for the next biennium. New studies are policy and controls relating to use of land, and correctional procedures in Illinois. Main aspects of the study will concern administration of bail bond laws, probation and parole service, appropriate facilities for detention, diagnostic and rehabilitation programs in institutions.

Long standing interest in constitutional revision and implementation will continue by initiation and support of legislation to implement the 1970 Constitution in the areas of League consensus. The Leagues throughout the state will support improved election laws and procedures including a State Election Board, and support will be continued to improve the structure and operation of local government.

League interest in child welfare will be continued by support of legislation to improve statewide Day Care Services and local, regional and statewide services of agencies serving Illinois children and their families.

During convention a resolution was passed to urge the Illinois General Assembly to be one of the 38 states to ratify the constitutional amendment awarding the right to vote to the 18-year-old. Letters urging legislators toward this action were written by the delegates.

A motion was passed that the Illinois delegates to the Interim Council of the League of Women Voters of the U.S. instruct and direct the National Board of the League of Women Voters to exert its influence on President Nixon to extend diplomatic recognition to the People's Republic of China and to withdraw United States opposition to seating of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. The motion was passed overwhelmingly by the delegates.

DAILY NEWS 4/28/71

Women voters urged to study land-use policy

By Harlan Draeger

The League of Women Voters of Illinois was urged here Tuesday to undertake a major, statewide study of land-use policy and control.

The study was recommended by the league's state board, which was highly critical of present land-use practices.

NEARLY 500 WOMEN were expected to vote on the proposed new program and several others at the Illinois league's 3-day convention in the Pick-Congress Hotel.

"We need to explore types of land-use controls in addition to zoning," said the state board, in urging the comprehensive study.

"Presently, state land-use policy is an aggregate of hundreds of unrelated decisions made by single-purpose agencies, local governments and private developers without regard for each other or for regional and state concerns."

THE LEAGUE was urged to explore state and regional zoning, "including the supply and opportunity for low and moderate-income housing." The league already is on record in favor of dispersed public housing, a spokesman said.

The league also was urged to study the "environmental impact of land use."

The state board said that "non-planning" in such fields

as housing, traffic, parking and highway construction have "contributed to today's urban crisis."

Part of this crisis, it said, results in "people abandoning central cities to move to suburbia, where the same problems will eventually follow."

THE BOARD cited the impact on low-income people of demolishing or abandoning 1,400 buildings each year in Chicago. "Exclusionary zoning practices on the part of some communities contributes to the housing problem," it said.

Other issues before the convention include granting the right to vote to 18-year-olds in state and local elections.

Ratification Support Sought

The League of Women Voters of Decatur has called on Representatives John W. Alsup, A. Webber Borchers and Rolland F. Tipsword, to urge Rep. W. Robert Blair, Speaker of the House in Springfield, to call a vote on a proposal lowering voting age

to 18 in all elections.

Ratification of the proposed constitutional amendment requires approval of 38 states. Unless ratification from Illinois comes in this session of the Illinois General Assembly, a vote could be delayed until after the 1972 elections.

Juvenile Facilities To Be Topic

The status of juvenile detention facilities plans will be discussed at the 9:15 a.m. Wednesday meeting of the Decatur League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Nelson Lovelace and Frank Cerny will explain the possibilities and outlook for better juvenile detention facilities at the session in Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1360 W. Main St. Both are members of the Macon County Child Welfare Association, which is working on a juvenile detention facilities plan.

Local delegates to the state league convention will give a report. All members and the general public are invited to the meeting. Babysitters will be provided.

*May 10, 1971
Decatur Review*

Sun Times 4/24/71

Women's league urges OK of vote at 18 in Illinois

Delegates to the 50th annual convention of the League of Women Voters of Illinois Wednesday unanimously adopted a resolution in favor of lowering the voting age to 18.

The delegates, meeting in the Pick-Congress Hotel, urged members to bring pressure on the General Assembly to pass the vote at 18 proposal.

They also began a study of four new policy positions which will be voted upon Thursday by the 450 delegates who represent a membership of 10,000. These were the legalizing of abortions in Illinois, penal reform, health care services and child welfare.

They also will vote on six other policy items already on the agenda concerning Constitutional revision and implementation, operation of local government, added protection of the individual's civil rights, improved day care services, improved election laws and study of governmental land-use controls and policy.

In keeping with its resolution to lower the voting age, the league has lowered its eligibility rules for membership in the organization to 18.

Junior College Described as Bargain

Review
5/14/71

By Tom McNamara
Regional Editor

Creation of a junior college district in Decatur would be a bargain for Decatur School District taxpayers, 25 witnesses indicated Thursday night at a public hearing.

The Illinois Junior College Board conducted the hearing to determine if a need exists for calling a referendum to establish the Maconland Junior College.

Based on testimony received Thursday night, the junior college board is expected to approve a referendum for early fall.

Robert B. King, vice president of the Citizens National Bank of Decatur and a member of the citizens committee, discussed the district's proposed financing.

He said 19 cents for each \$100 assessed valuation would be needed to establish and operate the junior college. He said the 19-cent figure does not include money for either the purchase of a facility or a site.

The 19-cent figure also is based on an expected assessed valuation of about \$375 million in the district.

King said Decatur School District taxpayers now are paying

about nine cents for each \$100 assessed valuation to send students to out-of-district junior colleges. He said this is expected to increase to 19 cents in two years.

Costs have increased from \$2,866 in 1966-67 to an expected \$247,788 this year, King said. The number of students attending junior colleges from Decatur has increased from 10 in 1966-67 to 406 this year.

The complete breakdown of number of students and costs follow: 1966-67 10 students \$2,866; 1967-68 42 students \$18,222; 1968-69 221 students \$111,157; 1969-70 319 students \$174,872 and

1970-71 406 students \$247,788.

King said the most prudent and economical use of the 19 cents would be in the community where students live and where the tax dollars originate.

He estimated \$600,000 leaves the Decatur community when its junior college students go elsewhere to school. The costs include the tuition chargebacks and room and board.

Malcolm H. Forbes, dean of arts and sciences at Millikin and chairman of an ad hoc committee working with Millikin and Maconland to form the junior college, said:

"We should not underrate the role which a public two-year college would play in raising the average intellectual level of the community. The city and county would both stand to profit from having its citizens better informed as well as more skilled."

"I sincerely believe we would all share in the advantage which would come from expanded educational opportunities right here in Decatur."

Anthony J. Perry and Gerald Nolan, administrators of Decatur Memorial and St. Mary's Hospitals respectively, spoke in support of the junior college and how it could train health technicians.

Gerald A. Redford, assistant to the president at Millikin, said Millikin once again goes on record in support of a public junior college in Decatur.

Redford said Millikin has made every effort to meet the educational needs of the Decatur community, but recognizes that its resources have not met and will not allow it to meet all these needs.

Creation of the public junior college, continued growth of Millikin and where both can be achieved with a savings to the

taxpayers are the hopes of Millikin, Redford said.

He said many resources already exist at Millikin and that it would cost millions to create a library, physical education center, fine arts center and other facilities.

"If dual use can be made of existing structures, programs and facilities, there are obviously financial benefits for us all. At a time when demands on tax dollars are growing, ways of effecting economies must be examined," he said.

Two women from the audience, Mrs. Robert Olson representing the League of Women Voters, and Mrs. Thomas Hurst representing the Decatur PTA Council, spoke in support of the bill and promised their organizations' support of a referendum.

No one spoke against the proposed junior college. Robert E. Wilson, editor of the Maroa Prairie Post and a long-time foe of junior colleges in the Decatur area, was not present.

The proposed Maconland district would include only those areas in the Decatur School District.

Representatives from labor, business and industry also spoke in support of the junior college as a means of expanding educational opportunities.

Robert Oakes, Decatur School District superintendent, said Maconland would provide educational opportunities for many people — both students and adults — who may not otherwise attend school.

W. Robert Semple, Decatur city manager, suggested the junior college could provide classes in police and fire science. He said such programs would improve the level of law enforcement and fire prevention in Decatur.

25 Spoke for Maconland College

Twenty-five witnesses testified in support of the proposed Maconland Junior College at Thursday night's public hearing in the Kirkland Fine Arts Center on the Millikin University campus.

The complete list of witnesses and who they represent is:

Jack L. Hunter, chairman of the citizens steering committee for Maconland Junior College.

Edwin Jokisch, a Decatur attorney who also is a member of the citizens committee.

Malcolm H. Forbes, dean of arts and sciences at Millikin University and chairman of an ad hoc committee to work with Maconland at Millikin in establishing the junior college.

Robert Oakes, Decatur School District superintendent.

Anthony J. Perry, administrator, Decatur Memorial Hospital.

Gerald Nolan, associate administrator, St. Mary's Hospital.

R. J. Stengel, Decatur dentist representing Decatur Dental Society.

Dorothy Miller, a dental hygienist who works in Decatur and graduated from Lake Land College in Mattoon.

Dr. John Erickson, Decatur veterinarian representing South Central Illinois Health Plan Council.

George Prust, director industrial relations, A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.

Bartlett Simpson, manager employe and community relations, General Electric Co. plant in Decatur.

Donald Klisares, training and safety manager, Caterpillar Tractor Co. plant in Decatur.

Larry Abel, supervisor of training for the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. plant in Decatur.

Levander Robinson, representing Harold Johnson, president, Decatur chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

James C. Patrick, executive vice president, Decatur Chamber of Commerce.

Gene H. Brooks, vice presi-

dent in charge of farm department, Citizens National Bank.

Dwight Patrick, representing the Decatur Trades and Labor Assembly and the Allied Industrial Workers Council of America.

W. Robert Semple, city manager of Decatur.

Norman E. Russell, executive secretary, United Way in Decatur and Macon County and executive director of Council of Community Services.

Rev. William G. Bodamer, Jr., president board of directors, Decatur and Macon County Opportunities Corp.

Delbert L. Young, director, vocational education, Decatur School District.

Robert R. King, vice president, Citizens National Bank.

Robert A. Nichols, member citizens committee.

Gerald A. Redford, assistant to the president, Millikin University.

Mayor James H. Rupp whose statement was read by Semple.



Associated Press Wirephoto
BINGO GAMES LEGISLA-
TION will be administered by
Mrs. Jeanette Mullen, house-
wife and mother of a Cornell
College junior. Gov. Richard
Ogilvie signed the bill legaliz-
ing bingo last week.



THE ROLE of the League of
Women Voters (LWV) will be
the topic of a talk by Mrs.
Robert S. Ihrig of Oak Lawn,
president of the Illinois LWV,
at the local league's 25th an-
niversary celebration at 7:30
p.m. Wednesday in the
fellowship hall of First
Lutheran Church, 250 W.
Decatur St. She is a member
of the Citizens Task Force on
Implementation of the Illinois
Constitution and served on two
Constitutional study com-
missions. She also is active in
library organizations.
Decatur Beacon 7/5/71

Sunday H&R - 3/27/71
**Test Aides
Thanked**

We would like to thank the
people in the following groups
who gave their time to help
Decatur have a successful lead
poisoning testing program:

The Macon County Health
Department

The Decatur Macon County
Opportunities Corp.

The Community Council of
Block Clubs

St. Mary's Hospital Aux-
iliary

FISH
The League of Women
Voters

Disciples On Volunteer
Enlistment

St. John's Lutheran Church
St. James Catholic Church

VISTA

Ray Batman
Program Coordinator
Dr. A. J. Kiessel
Medical Coordinator
Barbara Scarlett
Outreach Coordinator
Tony Stahl
Transportation Coordinator

6/1/71
**Answers
for you?**

When was the Decatur League
of Women Voters founded? —
Decatur reader.

A. The Macon County Chapter
of the League of Women Voters
was organized in 1924, and in
1946 it was designated the
Decatur League of Women
Voters.

Send questions to Answers
For You, Decatur Herald, Box
311, Decatur, Ill., 62525. Only
questions submitted by mail
will be answered. No answers
by return mail.

LEAGUE TO HOLD CELEBRATION

The Voice

Prospective members and anyone interested
in learning more about League of Women Voters
activities are especially invited to attend the
LWV of Decatur's 25th Anniversary Celebration.
The event will take place Wednesday evening,
September 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship
hall of the First Lutheran Church, 250 W. Deca-
tur St.

Such items as Day Care, US Congress, Elec-
tion Laws and Schools are part of the large pro-
gram that League will focus on. Chairmen of
all League's study-action committees will be
available and happy to answer questions along
with those in charge of Voter Service, Member-
ship, and publications.

Mrs. Robert S. Ihrig of Oak Lawn, Presi-
dent of the League of Women Voters of Illinois
will be both guest of honor and speaker at the
celebration. She will speak on the current
role of the League both statewide and national-
ly.



Staff Photos by Doug Gaumon

From left, Mrs. Dennis Forbes, Mrs. Robert Olsen, president, and Mrs. Weinman.

Anniversary Year *Aug. 30, 1971* *Decatur Review* League Sets Tea

An address by the state president and a parade of hats, designed and modeled by members, will be featured Wednesday, Sept. 8 at the 25th anniversary tea of the League of Women Voters of Decatur. It will be at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the First Lutheran Church.

The hats, made recently in the home of Mrs. John Weinman, 382 Delmar Ave., will denote the various areas of study being undertaken by the league during

1971-72. League members will focus on day care, the U. S. Congress, election laws and schools as a large part of their study.

Mrs. Robert Ihrig of Oaklawn, the state league president, will speak about the current role of the league, statewide and nationally.

Mrs. Weinman, program and action vice president, will narrate the parade of hats.

Current members, former members and persons interested in the League are invited.



Wearing foreign policy is Mrs. Clifford E. Smith.

Questions Answered

Torrence Panel Is Quizzed

By Cheryl D. Peck
An urban renewal project must be beneficial to the people who are living in that area and it must be a humane project," Fred Spannaus, coordinator of the Torrence Park Citizens Committee, said.

Spannaus answered questions about the citizens committee, the Torrence Park urban renewal project, and the Torrence Park area in general during a panel discussion Wednesday night in the Decatur Public Library auditorium. About 30 persons attended the discussion sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Decatur.

living in an urban renewal area must benefit from it. "Housing must be provided that they can afford and they shouldn't be placed under any unnecessary hardship such as having to move away from the area they live in and then back again," he said. He said some Torrence Park residents are losing confidence in the urban renewal project.

"I don't believe it is the city's fault that the project is being delayed. The city hasn't yet received information to compute cost estimates," he said. "The neighborhood definitely needs redevelopment and many of the residents have not made repairs on their homes, such as repairs on their roofs or installing new furnaces because they don't know how long they will be living in their homes," Spannaus said.

"They feel it would be senseless to, for example, install a new furnace, because if they had to move out in two years, they wouldn't have received the full value of the facility," he said.

A question of whether private capital could be used in the Torrence Park area was then raised. "It is questionable whether it could solve the problems there, but some private developers are interested in being involved in development of single family

THE DECATUR REVIEW

fixing roofs or installing new furnaces because they don't know how long they will be living in their homes," Spannaus said.

"Where urban renewal has been carried out successfully, it had a strong project area committee behind it," he said. During the discussion, comparisons were drawn between the Torrence Park area and Greenwood Manor. "I don't think it will be another Greenwood Manor because I think it looks much better than Greenwood," Spannaus said.

Spannaus then emphasized that it is a duty of the citizens committee to work with the city staff to develop a realistic relocation plan. "If the urban renewal project is cancelled, there is still a need for the citizens committee," Spannaus said.

Westbrook asked Spannaus what percentage of persons was represented by the citizens committee. "I don't know but I think it

would be high. When I talk to them in their homes, they say 'Keep up the good work,'" Spannaus said.

Those who are not active participants in the committee say either that they are too old, work long hours, or have large families to take care of, he said.

Beaman said he feels that the city's department of community development and the Torrence Park Citizens Committee have

Suggestions Are Made On Day Care

By Dawn Ritchie

Making recommendations on which children should receive day care and how programs should be funded and administered, was the task of a Decatur League of Women Voters meeting Tuesday.

The local group met Tuesday and another local group will meet at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the home of Mrs. Thomas Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset Ave. Their recommendations will be sent to the Illinois League of Women Voters, who will then present its stand on day care.

The 25 women who attended the meeting in Westminster Presbyterian Church seemed to agree that:

— Day care facilities should, ideally, be available for any child whose parents want him to attend. They pointed out a need for day care centers to be open nights and on weekends for parents who work.

— Developmental materials should be available to children who would be taken to a day care center for an hour or two, and that a more structured developmental program should be set up for children who are at centers for more time.

— Day care centers should be located in areas where the need is greatest and near an elementary school.

— Day care should be provided with payment for a child made on a sliding scale, according to the parent's ability to pay for the service. The women also will recommend that, if funds are limited, day care be provided for children of parents who most need the service. This would probably be a working mother who could not otherwise keep her job and needs it for livelihood.

— Funds for day care facilities should come from all available sources. The state, they said, would act as an informational and coordinating agency for the local groups.

— The state also would be in charge of licensing, as it is now, not setting up guidelines for day care centers. The state would inspect day care centers periodically, also, the women agreed.

League of Women Voters president, Mrs. Robert W. Barbara) Ohlsen, said a board of league members will put the recommendations of both groups together, and if there are differences of opinion in some areas, will decide the local league's position and send it to the state organization.

League Topic Is Day Care

Day care will be the topic at League of Women Voters unit meetings at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Tuesday's meeting will be in the Westminster Presbyterian Church parlor. Wednesday's meeting will be in the home of Mrs. Thomas Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset Ave.

Torrence Park To Be Topic Before Panel

A panel discussion on Torrence Park will be conducted at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Decatur Public Library Auditorium.

The discussion is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Decatur.

Participating will be Fred Spannaus of the Torrence Park Citizens Committee; Frank Beaman of the Community Development Department and Donald Davis of the Decatur Housing Authority.

Dick Westbrook of WAND television will moderate the discussion.

Questions from the audience will be accepted after the discussion.

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Dick Westbrook of WAND television will moderate the discussion.

Questions from the audience will be accepted after the discussion.

Dec. 5, 1971
Sunday H. & R.

A Good Group Seeks Election

SINCE THE Decatur community some weeks ago supported creation of Macon and Community College, 40 citizens of Decatur have become candidates for the first board of trustees.

Saturday residents of the district must make seven difficult choices — the members of that board.

The board could be filled several times, so excellent is the general calibre of the candidates.

This was demonstrated Thursday at the Decatur League of Women Voters "meet the candidates" meeting.

Seldom has such a program been so successful with so many candidates, most of them using a two-minute speaking period effectively.

Radio station WSOY should be commended for carrying the program as a public service, as should the Junior Chamber of Commerce for its own endorsement process.

Some of you may have turned to this page anticipating our recommendations for trustees. We are still in the process of conducting interviews, and our endorsements will be made known as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, we are publishing elsewhere in the newspaper today pictures, brief biographies and a summary of candidate responses to a questionnaire we sent them.

We would have to go far back in our experience to find a group of candidates as a whole so deserving of community support.

Only seven can be elected. We hope that those who are not will offer themselves to further public service, either to the community college or in other civic undertakings.

It is a good group.

Mrs. Hurst Tells Role Of Study Unit

No meeting date has been set yet for a task force to study school financing in Illinois, according to Mrs. Thomas L. Hurst, 2095 W. Sunset Ave.

Mrs. Hurst, a part-time teacher in reading and English at Mound Middle School, has been named to the study group.

She said she was contacted for the position by John W. McCarter Jr., director of Illinois Bureau of the Budget, who is chairman.

She said the group will try to find an alternative method for financing public schools because the property tax has reached the saturation point. Court decisions in California, Texas and Michigan have indicated property tax is an unfair base for supporting public schools, she said.

Mrs. Hurst said a committee with a broad base from across the state and with different interests and backgrounds was desired.

"My background is from 14 years in studying school finances in League of Women voters, Parent - Teacher Association and other groups," Mrs. Hurst said.

"Over the years, I have testified before the Illinois School Problems Commission and legislative committees," she said.

However, Mrs. Hurst indicated she would not be representing any groups.

"Each is on his own," she said.

"I feel education is the most important function or service the government provides and I have felt all these years it is very bad to be dependent upon property taxes because of the inequalities that it has," Mrs. Hurst said.

These inequalities are in the amount of money available for the education of each child from district to district and also because of the inequality of taxes from district to district because of the difference in assessed valuation per pupil, according to Mrs. Hurst.

Most Candidates Agree on Goals

By Cheryl D. Peck

Most of the candidates for the Board of Trustees of Maconland Junior College agree on what the college's goals and objectives should be as well as what the board's responsibilities will involve.

This became apparent when 38 of the 40 candidates gathered Thursday night in Eisenhower High School to speak briefly.

The meeting, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, was attended by nearly 100 persons and was moderated by Warren Boldt, public affairs director for radio station WSOY.

One idea which was voiced frequently by many of the candidates was that the seven members of the board must work together as a unit; each, however, drawing from his background for contributions.

Another widely shared idea is that one of the most important initial tasks of the board will be to select a president for Maconland.

Several adjectives were used to describe what a good president should be such as qualified, capable, experienced, innovative, imaginative, and competent.

Many of the candidates also agree that the community college must fulfill the educational needs of the community and the students — more specifically, offer programs that will encompass a wide spectrum of interests.

Even more specifically — to provide technical studies which are largely vocational in nature; provide two-year academic programs clearly transferable to four-year institutions, and provide terminal programs of general education for students not planning to transfer to four-year institutions.

Also, provide continuing education in general, cultural and vocational subjects for adults.

The candidates stressed the importance of coordinating with existing facilities, such as Millikin University and Decatur Public Schools, rather than duplicating them.

Several made the point that the trustees should be the policy-making body and that they should not involve themselves in the everyday administrative operation of the community college.

A few candidates discussed the importance of developing a facility that contributes to the educational process — a central location.

One candidate referred to the board of trustees as the "monitor of the pulse of the community."

Another mentioned that the college must repay the taxpayers with skills and talent that will make this area more productive.

Another candidate said the board should promote harmony with all levels of the college and with the community, and avoid the divisive situation now facing the educational system in the community.

And all the candidates present at the meeting spoke about aspects of their backgrounds that could be utilized if they were elected.

Some said their business and administrative backgrounds could be drawn upon when determining the college's fiscal budget.

Others said their experience in industry could be useful, and working class candidates said their status could be valuable in understanding the needs of average citizens.

Some said they wanted to help the community by having a seat on the board. They want that position to be their contribution to this community.

And almost all the candidates said they realize the time that would be involved in serving as a trustee, and that they have that time to devote.

Funds to Be Lost

Plea Made for Aid

A plea for some type of legislative action to ease the almost certain loss of \$420,000 in state aid next year by the Decatur public schools was made to the Illinois School Problems Commission Tuesday.

Making the plea and presenting the district's case was Karl Meurlot, director of business affairs.

Meurlot spoke to the commission in Collinsville and reported on his remarks to the Board of Education Tuesday night.

The district is receiving this year approximately \$840,000 in density funds for having more than 20,000 students in average daily attendance.

If district projections are correct and the attendance figure falls below 20,000 in 1972-73, Meurlot told the commission, the district will have to repay \$420,000 in state funds.

There is little hope the district will not fall below the stated figure, he said.

"Our pleadings went something like this," Meurlot said. "Two years ago you recognized that the larger school district had unique problems."

"You convinced the legislature to recognize this problem. You did provide us with, at that time, a 7 per cent increase in aid if we had over 20,000 in weighted average daily attendance."

Now the need has arisen again, he said.

However, Meurlot said members of the legislature who

sit on the commission said they understood the district was asking the legislature to authorize increases in taxes which the district could not get approved locally.

As representatives of the people the Decatur district is asking a lot of them, the legislators told him, Meurlot said.

They also told him they do not like not representing the will of the people in an election year, he said.

The commission told a person who appeared earlier before it with about the same type of problem to come back next year, costs were too high and this was an election year, Meurlot said.

The board also heard a report on its facilities subcommittee from board member Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt, who heads the committee.

The committee has only two more schools to visit and will do so Thursday, he said.

Saturday the committee will meet with representatives of the League of Women Voters at 1 p.m. and with a group of residents interested in Stephen Decatur High School as a facility at 1:45 p.m. in the Keil Building to hear their views.

In the near future the committee will have meetings with other groups and individuals who wish to comment on the district's physical plant, Dr. Ankenbrandt said.

Proposed policies dealing with business office and non-instructional operations and recognition of employee organizations for collective

negotiations purposes were tabled for 30 days.

The policy on negotiations is modeled after a policy of the Aurora Board of Education and is aimed primarily at district teachers.

The proposed policy states in part:

"Recognition shall not be accorded any organization which asserts the right to strike, picket, withhold services, take a professional holiday or otherwise interfere with the official business of the board, including, but not limited to the operation of public school with pupils in attendance receiving instruction."

A suggestion by Dr. Ankenbrandt to send a telegram to Gov. Richard Ogilvie and another to State Supt. Michael Bakalis urging them to appoint a representative of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to the governor's School Finance Commission was approved by the board.

The commission currently contains a representative of the Illinois Education Association, Dr. Ankenbrandt said, and, although it is not a partisan suggestion, he feels an IASB representative could contribute much beneficial data to the commission's effort.

The board also approved membership in the Council of Large District Boards of Education, an offshoot of IASB for districts of more than 7,000 enrollment. The membership does not cost the district anything.

(Related Story Back Page)

Maconland Candidates To Meet Public

Candidates in the Maconland Community College board election will meet the public at a meeting Dec. 2 in the Eisenhower High School at 7:30 p.m.

Each candidate will make a brief statement at the meeting, sponsored by the Decatur chapter of the League of Women Voters.

WSOY News Director Warren Boldt will moderate the meeting.

DECATUR SUNDAY HERALD AND REVIEW

Decatur, Illinois,

Ogilvie Names Study Group

Chicago (AP) Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie and Michael Bakalis, state superintendent of public instruction, announced Saturday the appointment of 22 persons to study school financing in Illinois.

John W. McCarter Jr., director of the state bureau of the budget and former assistant to the director of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget, was appointed chairman of the finance group

Ogilvie noted the group will develop plans for a basic reform of school financing. "I think this is the most serious challenge we face immediately," he said.

Other finance members named are:

Ivan A. Baker, superintendent

of school district 163, Park Forest; Norman J. Beatty, executive vice president of the Chicago Civic Federation; William P. Cote, director of research of the Illinois Education Association; Dr. Leo Cohen, professor of economics at Southern Illinois University.

David E. Connor, president of the Commercial National Bank of Peoria; David P. Eisenman, staff associate to the vice chancellor for academic affairs,

University of Illinois; Donald F. Eslick, associate superintendent of public instruction, division of governmental relations.

Leon D. Finney Jr., executive director of the Woodlawn Chicago Organization; Robert J. R. Follett, president of Follett Publishing Co.; Leonard Gardner, secretary of the Illinois Agricultural Association; Dr. G. Alan Hickrod, professor of educational administration, Illinois State University.

Charles H. Hindersman, dean of the school of business of Southern Illinois University; Illinois Rep. Gene L. Hoffman of Bensenville; Dr. Ben C. Hubbard, chairman of the department of educational administration of Illinois State University.

Mrs. Thomas L. Hurst, a part-time Decatur teacher and active in the League of Women Voters; Bishop William E. McManus, director of education of the

Archdiocese of Chicago; C. Virgil Martin, board chairman of Carson Pirie Scott and Co. of Chicago; Richard M. Miller, president of the River Forest Board of Education.

Robert Stickles, comptroller of the Chicago Board of Education; Mitchell S. Watkins, president of Mitchell S. Watkins and Associates, a Chicago consulting firm; and Allan L. Woodson, assistant principal of the Grant Middle School, Springfield

Social Studies Plan Okayed But Concept Approval Deferred

Although new course titles and descriptions for a kindergarten through 12th grade social studies curriculum were approved Tuesday night by the Board of Education, approval of concepts on which the curriculum is based was deferred.

Objections to some of the concepts, especially those in the area of anthropology and sociology were raised by board member Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt.

The social studies material received Tuesday by the board was the preliminary presentation of a task force made up of social studies teachers and ad-

ministrators which has been working on revision of the curriculum since October, 1970.

Final recommendations on textbooks and related materials to implement the proposed curriculum will be forthcoming from the task force before the end of the school year.

Quoting from the section of the social studies concepts in anthropology, Dr. Ankenbrandt noted several statements with which he disagreed.

Among these were: "Practically all important differences in human behavior are understandable as variations in learned patterns of social behavior — not differences in biological apparatus, type of blood, or any other genetically inherited mechanism."

"Historical circumstances, not heredity, determine a people's cultural achievements."

"No scientific basis has been uncovered for determining the superiority of one culture over another."

"No significant differences exist in the innate intelligence and capabilities of human beings from varying social and ethnic backgrounds."

Such statements are not in accordance with scientific fact, Dr. Ankenbrandt said.

"I think it is wrong to imply that environment has everything to do with a person and his behavior and how he turns out," he said. "Just as it is wrong to imply that it's all environment or all heredity. It's a combination of both."

As board members and educators, those present Tuesday night should try to improve the environment as much as possible and try to provide every child, no matter what his background, with the maximum opportunity to develop himself into a happy, productive member of society, he said.

The concepts will be discussed by the task force and a board committee then returned to the board for action.

Sections of the social studies curriculum dealing with the elementary, middle and high school levels were outlined to the board by task force representatives for each level.

Richard E. Sevier, social studies teacher at Mound Middle School, noted the reasons for the

change in curriculum proposed at the middle school level.

The task force, Sevier said, wished to move away from the two-year chronological study of American history in the middle schools since this repeats what the intermediate grades teach.

Other reasons given were to allow students to realize more life experiences for the social sciences, move more toward inquiry methods of study and meet the needs of students who are more aware of the happenings in their world.

From this came eight courses for the middle schools in anthropology, environment, American geography, ethnic studies, man's quest for peace, man's attempt to understand himself, consumer education and man learning to govern himself.

At the high school level, Dennis Downey, MacArthur High School social studies teacher, said outside experts, high school students, city and county government officials, the League of Women Voters, Decatur Chamber of Commerce and Decatur Bar Association members were among those consulted on how social studies curriculum could best serve the City of Decatur.

"We feel the proposed program will provide students with practical answers to understanding problems they will face when they leave high school," Downey said.

"We also feel our program provides much flexibility in meeting individual needs on a more individual basis," he said.

Recommended in the new curriculum is a course entitled "The Contemporary World," which would be required for two semesters in the ninth grade. The course would introduce students to urban living and problems associated with a city such as Decatur, basic economic principles and urban patterns and geography in the world.

Other electives available to high school students would include "The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe," "The Far East," "Rise of Civilization to 1750," "Renaissance to Waterloo," and "Rise of the Modern World," to name a few.

Related Stories Page 6.

School Facilities Study Group Considering Survey of the Public

By Lois M. Moore

The legality of a referendum on public opinion concerning the type of school building program to pursue is being investigated.

The school district's attorney has been asked to check into the legality of the proposal, according to school officials and Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt, chairman of the board's facilities committee.

The committee, made up of three board members and several citizen representatives, has been studying the facilities of the Decatur District.

Saturday organizations and individuals presented viewpoints.

A list is being compiled of other persons who would like to talk to the board subcommittee about ideas, Dr. Ankenbrandt said.

No date has been set for such a session.

The League of Women Voters has suggested a preference for possible school organization of kindergarten through fifth, sixth through seventh and eighth through twelfth grades.

Another possibility suggested would put the fifth grade in the middle school.

A number of alternatives have been discussed concerning facilities in the district.

One is to build a high school to replace Stephen Decatur High School or replace both Stephen Decatur and Lakeview high schools.

Such a school would probably cost between \$6 and \$8 million if it were to handle 2,000 students or about \$9 to \$12 million if it were to handle 3,000 students.

Another was that proposed by Illini School Survey Associates in a study in which a new junior high school was proposed with Centennial and Woodrow Wilson going back to junior high schools.

The new junior high or middle school cost was reported at \$1,540,000, with three new elementary schools at an expected total cost of \$1,870,000.

That grade organization included kindergarten through sixth, seventh through ninth and tenth through twelfth grades.

It would phase out Stephen Decatur as soon as practical after 1973.

A modernization of elementary building is part of the total program.

Another alternative is to do an extensive remodeling of Stephen Decatur.

The estimate, which would include air conditioning part of the building was \$1,750,000. This would also include repairing burned out areas.

The air conditioning would be for a two-fold purpose.

One would be to help with the noise problem and the other would be the possibility of using the building as a summer school center at the high school level.

Discussion also involved the function of Stephen Decatur if it is remodeled. One suggestion was to make Stephen Decatur a magnet school rather than Lakeview. Another was the desirability to limit enrollment to utilize space in the building.

It would cost approximately \$450,000 to do the urgent and necessary life safety code work at Stephen Decatur, according to Karl E. Meurlot, director of business affairs.

This would not include the items designated as desirable.

Meurlot also indicated a bond issue for whatever is necessary could be a solution.

"The reason we can do this without an increase in the tax rate right now is because we are maturing bonds at the rate about \$1 million a year."

"The new bonds could be added to our present bonded indebtedness in such a manner that we would continue to mature our debt at the present rate of \$1 million a year and thereby hold our tax rate in the bond and interest fund at approximately the same rate as taxpayers paid the last two years."

Yet another alternative discussed involved phasing out Stephen Decatur and building

additions on Lakeview, MacArthur and Eisenhower high schools, assuming high school remains four years.

In speaking of the facilities, Meurlot said as the instructional program is changed there is an increased need for upgraded facilities at all levels and this permits a school originally constructed for junior high students to be used for elementary.

Meurlot also pointed out remodeling of Stephen Decatur would still leave it with some limitations since there are no provisions for physical education and other instructional programs that require outside facilities.

He indicated no matter what alternative is followed it will require a bond referendum since there is not sufficient revenue in the building fund to accomplish this work.

Such a bond issue would likely include funds to complete all safety code work in schools, he said.

League Of Women Voters Supports High Quality Day Care For All Children

Support for high quality day care available to all children whose families wish to use it with priority to those in greatest economic need has been expressed by the League of Women Voters of Illinois, of which the League of Women Voters of Decatur is a member.

The League consensus, reached after more than a year of study, research and debate, describes quality day care as a program which includes educational programs, involvement of parents, and a socio-economic mix of children. Among programs which might be used with day care are infant care including well-baby health care, latch-key care for children after and before school hours, nighttime care, special services for retarded and handicapped and provision of more day care homes.

Families using day care service should pay according to their ability, the League suggests; but the remainder of the cost should be made up by public and private funds with the federal government bearing the major financial responsibility. If funding is limited, services should go first to low-income families, regardless of whether the family is receiving public assistance.

The League feels that the state should take an active role in securing funds from public and private sources, including encouraging local participation and funding from business, industry and unions.

The League asks that the state continue to license day care facilities and to set and enforce standards, particularly in the areas of physi-

cal setting and staff. Program responsibility, League members feel, should be at the local level. Present licensing procedures by the state are generally acceptable, the consensus states, but Leagues felt that overly strict or overly complicated licensing should not be permitted to inhibit the setting up of a facility.

The Leagues also saw a role for the state in promoting inservice training of personnel and for community colleges in providing training programs for day care staff.

Following this agreement on principles of adequate day care programs in the state, the League will work for appropriate legislation. A number of Leagues in the state have been involved in starting day care facilities and in working with community groups supplying these services.

Day Care Supported

Support for availability of high quality day care service to all families wanting it has been given by the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

The state league's stand comes after consensus was reached by its member leagues.

Priority should go to those families in greatest economic need, according to Mrs. Robert W. (Barbara) Ohlsen, president of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, who explained details of the statewide consensus.

She said families using day care service should pay according to ability. Remainder of the cost should be made up by public and private funds with the federal government bearing the major financial responsibility.

She added that if funding is limited, the Illinois league feels the services should go first to low income families, regardless of whether the family is receiving public assistance.

The Illinois league is asking that the state continue to license day care facilities, including the setting and enforcing of standards.

However, program responsibility should be at the local level, Mrs. Ohlsen said.

She said league consensus is that the state should take a role in promoting in-service training of personnel.

In addition, community colleges should take a role in providing training programs for day care staff, according to Mrs. Ohlsen.

She said the member leagues of the Illinois league will work for appropriate legislation to implement its stand.

No Action Expected Pollution Unit Aim of Resolution

By Michael A. Smith
Lindsay-Schaub News Service

The Central Illinois Mayors Association, scheduled to meet Friday in Bloomington, apparently will take no official action on a resolution to amend the Illinois Environmental Protection Act.

Mayor William Waldmeier, Pekin, has prepared such a resolution. But he said this week he would not press for a vote on it at Friday's meeting.

The principal effect of the resolution, would be to strip the Pollution Control Board of its powers to issue cease and desist orders and levy fines.

The Waldmeier resolution would lodge such powers in the circuit court in the district in which the alleged pollution violation occurred.

Steve Klein, a spokesman for the board, called Waldmeier's resolution "preposterous." He said it would emasculate the board.

"The people of the state should note who these municipal leaders are who are attempting to weaken and undercut the Environmental Protection Act," Klein said.

"They are the same people who are in favor of pollution control measures except when

they hit home and affect their own interests," he said.

Waldmeier said there were two main reasons for postponing action on the resolution. First, he said it was gaining support the longer it was being publicly discussed.

He also hopes to "more completely document by example the reasons such a resolution should be adopted and ultimately enacted into law."

Generally, Waldmeier said mayors and other city officials were opposed to the present situation in which the board sets standards, hears cases against violators and determines penalties.

"It's a question of being denied due process of law," Waldmeier said. "What is their (the board's) fear of going to court. What's wrong with justice? That's my point."

Several organizations opposed to the Waldmeier resolution, such as the Illinois League of Women Voters, point out that polluters convicted by the board have the right of appeal to a state appellate court of competent jurisdiction.

Throwing all pollution cases into circuit courts already hard-pressed with overcrowded dockets would hold up decisions for months and years, the

league says. In the meantime, pollution would continue.

For similar reasons, Gov. Richard Ogilvie vetoed a bill last September that would have allowed appeals from board decisions to circuit courts rather than appellate courts.

Waldmeier said city officials believe the board has set unrealistic standards and adopted a threatening and condescending attitude toward them.

Specifically, Waldmeier said many city officials were disturbed over a concept developed by the board in the Champaign Boneyard Creek case. The board decided municipalities were ultimately responsible for policing all sources of sewage connected to municipal sewers.

Waldmeier said his documentation would be completed in time for the next mayors meeting March 24 in Mattoon.

He expects the resolution to be approved at that meeting and forwarded to the board of directors of the Illinois Municipal League. He expects the league to submit the resolution in the form of legislation to the General Assembly.

Smith's Government Experience Long, Varied

By Robert W. Sink
Lindsay-Schaub Newspapers
Senior Writer

In the opinion of his fellow delegate, David Davis Sr., of Bloomington, "If it had not been for the presence of Elbert Smith the state of Illinois might not have had the Constitution of 1970. He spent a great deal of his time holding together an operation which at times was in serious danger of falling apart."

Davis and Smith were delegates to the recent Constitutional Convention, and Smith was one of three vice presidents. According to Davis (and others), Smith was the most active of the vice presidents.

"He had the happy faculty of reconciliation," says Davis.

That was in 1970. Now, with a record that also includes naval service in five Pacific invasions during World War II, eight years in the Illinois state senate and four years as state auditor of public accounts, Elbert S. (Al) Smith of Decatur is one of three candidates for the Republican nomination for Congress from the 21st district.

The other two candidates are Edward Madigan of Lincoln and O. George Ryan, also of Decatur. The contest is regarded as between Smith and Madigan.

Some devotees of the youth culture (but not Madigan), who regard age as more reprehensible than armed robbery, are stressing Smith's age (60) as against Madigan's (36). Smith regards all of these experiences as grist for his mill.

Military Experience

"Looking back," says Smith, "I think even my military experience furnished some insights into the way the federal government works."

It isn't that he was a desk-bound officer. He was the skipper of an LCI gunboat, and holds the Silver Star and two Bronze Stars. The Silver Star is awarded only for action against the enemy.

An LCI was a shallow draft vessel that could move in close to shore and carried weapons that could fire 1,000 yards. About a dozen of them would line up about 100 yards apart, firing as they approached to blanket the landing areas along the beach. They carried crews of 75.

Once Smith's craft was hit by a kamikaze. Kamikazes were Japanese suicide pilots who dove their planes onto American vessels in an attempt to sink them.

"There really wasn't room for it," grinned Smith. "But he didn't sink us."

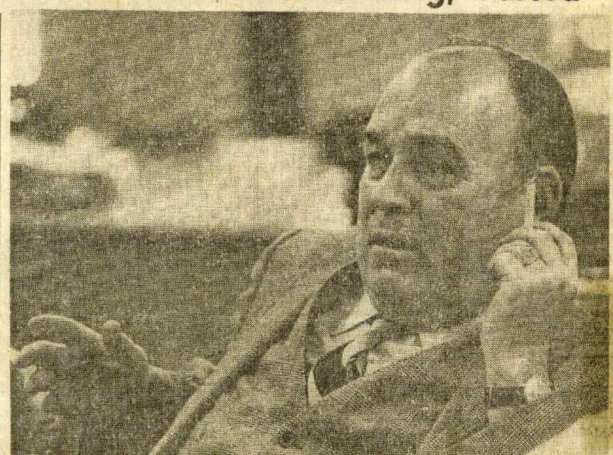
After World War II, Smith ran for and was elected to two terms in the Illinois Senate, starting in 1948. While in the Senate, Smith served on the Commission for Higher Education appointed by Gov. William J. Stratton. He headed the subcommittee on scholarships, which fashioned the program for state scholarships based upon need and scholastic ability that has continued since in largely the same pattern.

While in the legislature Smith also was a member of the committee to visit state institutions of higher learning. One result of this was to make him more aware of the importance of education in the district.

Education Interest

"I'd estimate there must be 55,000 voters in this district who are concerned with higher education. Most of them are in Champaign County, with the University of Illinois and Parkland College. But McLean County has Wesleyan and Illinois State, Macon has Millikin and Logan has Lincoln College."

Smith still was in the Senate when it was discovered that the



Elbert S. Smith offers experience in state government and the Constitutional Convention.

state auditor, Orville Hodge, had been faking vouchers to steal money from the state treasury. The state's loss ran at least to seven figures. It was a major crisis for the Republicans.

First they set about filling the interim vacancy with Lloyd Morey, who had just been retired as president of the University of Illinois. Then they looked for a candidate of impeccable reputation to run in the next election and settled on Smith. This apparently lauded the situation, because Smith was elected and served four years in the office.

Smith says that as auditor he carried out all of his campaign promises. One of the things that happened was that he sponsored legislation to divest the office of its non-controller type functions.

This removed the auditor's supervision over banks, savings and loan associations and cemetery funds, although supervision over cemetery funds was handed back to the office later.

"This had the effect of taking a great deal of patronage away from the office," Smith says.

Duplicate Records

Smith also instituted duplicate microfilming of the auditor's records, with the duplicate copies stored away from the auditor's office.

Along the way Smith has found time to back the Gateway amendment, which made possible easier amendment of the 1970 Constitution, and merit appointment of judges. Smith was among those who favored merit judges in the Constitutional Convention, but the best they could do was to have this included in an alternative proposition in the referendum on the new Constitution. It was defeated.

At this point in the campaign, Smith's organization, at least outside Macon County, seems amorphous. When the Republican county chairmen met in Champaign in December, Smith's primary opponent, Edward Madigan, seemed to be the only candidate. Rep. John Hirschfeld of Champaign, who had been expected to run, announced that he was not a candidate.

After the Macon County representatives returned home their thinking coalesced around Smith. Macon County had not had a congressman since the late Rolla McMillen in the '40s. Further, the Macon County leadership felt that a candidate from a small county could not carry Macon and Champaign against the threat posed by a strong Democratic candidate, State's Attorney Lawrence Johnson of Champaign.

With the strong backing of H. G. (Skinny) Taylor, Macon County Republican chairman, Smith announced his candidacy. A member of the Decatur City Council, John W. Ziese, is his campaign coordinator.

His Decatur backers include Ray Livasy, president of the Millikin National Bank, Thurman McDavid, a Decatur bakery proprietor whose uncle Horace was a prominent Democrat political figure in Decatur a few decades back; Dean and William Madden, and Clarence Flint, also a Decatur councilman.

Smith reports that early indications show there will be few Republican defectors from his campaign in Macon County. While he concedes the point made by Madigan that Logan County cast more Republican votes than Macon in 1970, he predicts that Macon will double or triple its Republican vote in the coming primary.

Smith concedes that Madigan, who was in the race earlier, is far ahead in lining up backers from the Republican political apparatus in the other six counties in the district.

However, he is not conceding any of these, except for Madigan's home county, Logan, and even here he hopes to make serious inroads. He has hosted a dinner for Logan politicians, addressed a Mount Pulaski luncheon club, accepted an invitation to a coffee and is shaping a committee.

He has spent perhaps more time in McLean, a strong Republican County, and is assembling a corps of supporters. He and Madigan have addressed the same Bloomington woman's club.

Smith may be farther behind in Champaign County at the moment, but it might be correct to say that he enjoys the benevolent neutrality of Champaign County Republican chairman, L. C. "Jack" Martin. The latter is among those who doubt that a candidate from two counties distant, and a small county at that, can carry Champaign against Johnson.

An intangible plus for Smith is that he will enjoy support throughout the district from "good government types," the voters who, over the years have put across such projects as the various blue ballots, the Gateway amendment, and the 1970 Constitution.

Some of these are appearing as volunteers in Champaign County, and a coffee and a cocktail party already have been scheduled. Also there are indications of support from individuals who have been identified with "good government" projects of the League of Women Voters.

Smith comes naturally by his interest in public service. His grandfather was an earlier E. S. Smith who came to Rantoul in the 19th century and read law with a legendary figure remembered only as "Cap" Smith, who later E. S. Smith moved to Sangamon County, where he became an assistant state's attorney in the 1880s.

From that position, he was elected state's attorney and then served in the Illinois State Senate, finishing his public service as a circuit judge.

Mother a Writer

Elbert Smith's other grandfather was Dr. O. B. Babcock, who, among other things, was a surgeon in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was stationed at Camp Butler, just east of Springfield, at Lincoln's death, and was a pall bearer at the services in Springfield.

Elbert's mother was Madeline Babcock, who, in addition to her role as housewife, also authored an excellent novel, "The Lemon Jelly Cake" which won critical respect if not best-seller sales.

Elbert Smith was born in Sangamon County in 1911. The family moved to Decatur while he was a child. Smith's father was a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. He assisted in organizing the Farm Bureaus in Macon and Logan Counties and was Macon County's first farm adviser.

Smith attended Oakland School, in what at that time was Decatur's West End, and was graduated from Decatur High School in 1930. He attended Millikin University for two years, then completed work for his law degree at the University of Alabama.

WOMEN VOTERS ELECT OFFICERS

Mrs. Charles Meyerson of 175 Park Place has been elected President of the League of Women Voters of Decatur.

Other officers elected were Mrs. James Coberly, first vice president; Mrs. Frank Verbanac, second vice president; Mrs. Stephen Dodge, third vice president; Mrs. Robert Butler, secretary; and Mrs. Marvin Lauterjung, treasurer.

Officers will assume their posts on April 1.

Elected to serve as directors for the next two years are Mrs. Robert Ohlsen, Mrs. Jay Sensenig and Mrs. Clifford Smith. Mrs. James Johnson and Mrs. David Marshall will serve the last year of two year terms.

Women Voters Announce Their 1972 Program

A 10-point program to be followed by the League of Women Voters of Decatur during 1972 has been announced by the organization.

The program involves schools, the environment, human resources, civil rights and the city and county government.

The announced platform includes:

- Decatur public schools: support the middle school grade organization; support increased funds for quality education and adequate space; and place emphasis on local community responsibility to require the school system to develop each child's potential.

- Junior college: support the further development of the Community College of Decatur.

- Decatur's environmental quality: support adequate storm and sanitary sewers.

- Human resources and civil rights: continue evaluation of housing plans and programs for the Decatur area; support provisions for enforcement of the fair housing ordinance in Decatur; and support funds for the Decatur Human Relations Commission.

- County and township government: study the governments in connection with the 1970 state constitution; and study their effectiveness in providing for the needs of the people of Macon County.

- Council-manager form of city government: support the council-manager form of city government.

Club Calendar

Items for listing in the calendar must be received in writing by the Women's Department before 5 p.m. Tuesday before Sunday publication. Please include a telephone number where you can be reached from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday
Decatur Atonen group for family members from 12 to 20 years old who live in an alcoholic family situation, 4 to 7 p.m. in Adolf Meyer Center.
Use west drive, third door (blue).
American Business Women's Association, Marigold Chapter, 2 to 4 p.m. in the home of Mary Jane Mothney, Route 2, for enrollment fee.
Women of the Moose, enrollment ceremony at 4 p.m., followed by a p.m. potluck dinner and dance in Moose Lodge.
Ladies Auxiliary to Oren L. Davis Post 99, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meeting for all past commanders and past presidents of 4 p.m. in the VFW Club Room.
Oren L. Davis Post 99 and its auxiliary, 1 p.m. memorial service and 2 p.m. business meeting at 11th district meeting in the VFW Post Home in Paris.
American Business Women's Association, Amato Chapter, serving tea from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Lions' Room at 2903 Corner Circle.

Monday
PEO, Chapter GR, 1 p.m. in the home of Mrs. David Mack, 201 Fielding.
PEO, Chapter BW, 12:15 p.m. luncheon in the home of Mrs. Emmett Jurgens, 361 N. Summit. The program on population problems will be given by Mrs. Ben Gern, educational director of Planned Parenthood of Decatur, Inc.
Garden Club of Decatur, 4:30 a.m. at Parkview Plaza to leave for annual flower and garden show in Chicago.
Elks Ladies Auxiliary, 1 p.m. business meeting and cards in the Elks Club Room.
Mecox Shrine, 7:30 a.m. birthday party in the Masonic Temple.
PEO, Chapter BC, 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Verne Ruby, 141 Delmar. Leonard Sturm will be guest speaker.

Tuesday
Decatur Audubon Society, Birding Activity Group, 7:30 p.m. in the home of Rachel Smith, 224 E. Clay.
Garden Club of Decatur, 12:30 p.m. luncheon and welcome for new members in Central Christian Church, Mrs. Don Eddy at Sullivan will give a program on "New Ideas with Flowers."
PEO, Chapter IF, 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. N. J. Henney, 212 S. Stevens. Custom interiors will present the program.
Temple B'nai Abraham Duplicate Bridge Club, 7:15 p.m. in the temple 1226 W. Eldorado. Open to the public; novices welcome. Call reservations to Mrs. G. R. Cobb.

La Leche League of Nursing Mothers, 8 a.m. in the home of Mrs. Robert Larsen, 2253 Fulton.
PEO, Chapter CX, 7:45 a.m. in the home of Mrs. Paul Smallwood, 251 N. Church.
Big Sister Club, 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Elgin Hewitson, 2102 Gary.
National Secretaries Association, 6:30 p.m. in Doner's Italian Village, Dr. G. Richard Locke will be guest speaker.
Daughters Club, 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Ella Curtis, 428 W. Olive St.
Decatur Chapter Delta, founders day banquet with 6:30 p.m. social hour and 7 a.m. dinner in the Fluntridge Room of the Decatur Club.
League of Women Voters, 9:15 a.m. convocation meeting on bail bond and release on recognizance in the Westminster Presbyterian Church parlor.

Wednesday
League of Women Voters, 7:30 p.m. convocation meeting on bail bond and release on recognizance in the home of Prof. Harold, 101 St. Wendel.
Ladies Auxiliary to Oren L. Davis Post No. 99, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meet at 9:45 a.m. in the VFW Club Room to go to Jacksonville State Hospital to entertain veterans.

Fick Answers League

A letter written in response to one sent the Board of Education by the League of Women Voters has been made public by John E. Fick.

Fick is board president but said he is responding as one member of the board and not purporting to have expressed the total opinion of the board.

The League had stated a proposed public advisory survey concerning facilities was ill advised.

In his letter, Fick said he wondered if the League does believe in representative government if one defines it in terms of the responsibility of those "elected to public office to in fact represent the people who elected them and to refrain from adopting policies they know are disapproved of by the citizenry."

He refers to the League's support of busing for racial balance "in the face of overwhelming community disapproval."

Fick also refers to the League's concern that such a survey — which will not be held following an opinion of the board's attorney — would lead the public to expect an opportunity to express its opinions and desires on other issues.

He stated he hoped the public would have such a reaction and would insist upon the right to express opinion and that he thought this healthy.

Regarding the comment of the board leading the public, not following it, Fick said, "It should be obvious to your League that the public cannot be led to accept policies which are abhorrent to the public."

He referred to integrated education, saying in part, "It has long been plain to me that if those citizens who profess support for integrated education would merely move within our city to the vicinity of our schools that have larger black enrollments, they would be numerous enough to accomplish

racial balance in all of our schools without need for the school district to resort to such artificial means as gerrymandered school districts or forced busing.

"I would welcome a special study under perhaps Mrs. Marshall's leadership. (Mrs. David Marshall is the League's local schools chairman and one of the signers of the League's letter) by your organization concerning such questions as, for example, how many of our own members would be willing to relocate into some of the areas of our city where housing patterns are producing neighborhood schools with so-called racially imbalanced enrollments."

Fick's letter to the League was sent in care of Mrs. Marshall. The greeting included both Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Robert Ohlsen, president.

Mrs. Ohlsen and Mrs. Marshall had signed the League's letter to the board.

Women Voters Discuss Corrections

Illinois Corrections will be the topic for discussion at the League of Women Voters March meetings. Consensus will be reached by the membership on such questions as "Should the courts make more use of release on recognizance?" and "Should victimless crimes (those without damage to per-

son or property) be part of the criminal justice system? (Among crimes usually classified as victimless are drunkenness, drug abuse, gambling and prostitution.)"

The Decatur consensus on Corrections combined with the opinions of the rest of Illi-

nois' local leagues will form a State league position on Bail Bond and Release on Recognizance.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Francis E. Horan, 101 S. Westlawn. Visitors are welcome.



THE ROLE of the League of Women Voters (LWV) will be the topic of a talk by Mrs. Robert S. Ihrig of Oak Lawn, president of the Illinois LWV, at the local league's 25th anniversary celebration at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the fellowship hall of First Lutheran Church, 250 W. Decatur St. She is a member of the Citizens Task Force on Implementation of the Illinois Constitution and served on two Constitutional study commissions. She also is active in library organizations.

Survey Opposed League Tells School Board Why

The proposed survey of public opinion concerning the facilities program has been deemed inadvisable by the League of Women Voters.

The opinion was expressed in a letter addressed to the Board of Education, which has been made public.

The letter was signed by the league's president, Mrs. Robert Ohlsen, and its local schools chairman, Mrs. David Marshall.

The letter reads: "The League of Women Voters believes in representative government with the active participation of informed citizenry. The proposed survey of public opinion would not be in the best interest of this school district.

"As voting citizens, we expect

the board to lead the public, not follow it. In any decision-making process, the board has access to all the pertinent facts and information and should call for a recommendation from its professional staff rather than from the public. Then it is the board's responsibility to make a decision and win the public's support.

"The citizens should have an opportunity to express their opinion in a long term decision such as a facilities program. However, this opportunity could be offered through public hearings, statements at board meetings or testimony before committees.

"Calling an advisory referendum or straw vote has certain dangers. For instance, voters are forced to make a choice without access to all the facts. Since not every choice can be included in the final decision of the board, it becomes more difficult to convince the public of the board's wisdom.

"Another danger is that no matter how many times the nonbinding effect of the survey is explained, some citizens will expect the majority opinion to prevail. The board may find itself in the embarrassing situation of the public in effect turning down what may later be the staff's recommendation. Further, once the board has conducted this survey, the public will expect similar opportunities to vote on other issues.

"Not only is this referendum inadvisable, but one called so quickly with so little time to present information to the public, is particularly unwise. You are shirking your responsibility of leadership by asking the public to express its opinion without knowing the opinion of the professional staff or board."

Board of Education Calls Special Meeting

A special Board of Education meeting has been called for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Keil Building concerning the opinion survey.

The purpose of the meeting, if held, is to develop a schedule of questions to be put to the public as part of a nonbinding survey to be held in conjunction with the April 8 election.

There is a possibility, however, the meeting may be canceled contingent upon the determination of the legality of such a survey in conjunction with an election.

This had not been determined as of this morning.

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The state league's stand comes after consensus was reached by its member leagues.

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Decatur, Illinois, Thursday, October 7, 1971

Questions Answered Torrence Panel Is Quizzed

By Cheryl D. Peck

"An urban renewal project must be beneficial to the people who are living in that area and it must be a humane project," Fred Spannaus, coordinator of the Torrence Park Citizens Committee, said.

Spannaus answered questions about the citizens committee, the city's Torrence Park urban renewal project, and the Torrence Park area in general during a panel discussion scheduled night in the Decatur

living in an urban renewal area must benefit from it. "Housing must be provided that they can afford and they shouldn't be placed under any unnecessary hardship such as having to move away from the area they live in and then back again," he said.

He said some Torrence Park residents are losing confidence in the urban renewal project. "I don't believe it is the city's fault that the project is being delayed. The city hasn't yet received information to compute cost estimates," he said.

"The neighborhood definitely needs redevelopment and many of the residents have not made repairs on their homes, such as

fixing roofs or installing new furnaces because they don't know how long they will be living in their homes," Spannaus said.

"They feel it would be senseless to, for example, install a new furnace, because if they had to move out in two years, they wouldn't have received the full value of the facility," he said.

A question of whether private capital could be used in the Torrence Park area was then raised.

"It is questionable whether it could solve the problems there, but some private developers are interested in being involved in development of single family

THE DECATUR REVIEW

housing in that area," Beaman said.

Spannaus then emphasized that it is a duty of the citizens committee to work with the city staff to develop a realistic action plan.

"If the urban renewal project is cancelled, there is still a need for the citizens committee," Spannaus said.

"Where urban renewal has been carried out successfully, it had a strong project area com-

mittee behind it," he said.

During the discussion, comparisons were drawn between the Torrence Park area and Greenwood Manor.

"I don't think it will be another Greenwood Manor because I think it looks much better than Greenwood," Spannaus said.

Westbrook asked Spannaus what percentage of persons was represented by the citizens committee.

"I don't know but I think it

would be high. When I talk to them in their homes, they say 'Keep up the good work,' Spannaus said.

Those who are not active participants in the committee say either that they are too old, work long hours, or have large families to take care of," he said.

Beaman said he feels that the city's department of community development and the Torrence and, from this use, we got the name "rubber."

PAGE THIRTY-THREE

worked relatively well together. "We've had differences of opinion and some long discussions, but they haven't created any problems for us," Beaman said.

RUBBED OUT
In 1770, the English chemist, Joseph Priestly, discovered that the material could be used as an eraser to rub out pencil marks and, from this use, we got the name "rubber."

Our "two for" bill

Before the first
take 15% off



Staff Photos by Doug Gauman

From left, Mrs. Dennis Forbes, Mrs. Robert Olsen, president, and Mrs. Weinman.

Anniversary Year League Sets Tea

An address by the state president and a parade of hats, designed and modeled by members, will be featured Wednesday, Sept. 8 at the 25th anniversary tea of the League of Women Voters of Decatur. It will be at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the First Lutheran Church.

1971-72. League members will focus on day care, the U. S. Congress, election laws and schools as a large part of their study.

Mrs. Robert Ihrig of Oaklawn, the state league president, will speak about the current role of the league, statewide and nationally.

The hats, made recently in the home of Mrs. John Weinman, 382 Delmar Ave., will denote the various areas of study being taken by the league during

Mrs. Weinman, program and action vice president, will narrate the parade of hats.

Current members, former members and persons interested in the League are invited.



Wearing foreign policy is Mrs. Clifford E. Smith.

DeCATUR REVIEW
April 3, 1972

THE DECATUR

Board of Education Candidates Tell Views on District Problems

Results have been compiled by the Decatur League of Women Voters from a questionnaire it sent to each of 12 Board of Education candidates.

The 10 candidates who responded answered questions dealing with finances, local control of schools, child development and grade organization.

Candidates seeking the two three-year seats in the April 8 election are Mrs. Elizabeth Perry, Hal Harrison, T. Robert Mabry, Roger E. Metz, Ralph M. Monts, Jesse W. Price, Thomas L. Scott and Odis J. Stevens.

Price and Stevens did not respond to the questionnaire.

Candidates seeking the two-year term created by the resignation of William A. Jones are Mrs. Cheryl Crocker, Connie J. Peters, Dr. Richard Pacholski and Mrs. Betty Ploeger.

Mrs. Ploeger, Scott and Monts are the incumbents.

In answer to the question — what do you think are the most important considerations in determining grade organization in the district? — Mrs. Perry said "physical, emotional and mental maturation of the individual child."

The most important consideration is where the facilities are available for the best opportunity to learn, Harrison said.

Harrison said he believes the four-four-four system is good but feels some college subjects ought to be taught the senior year of high school, especially college English.

Mrs. Ploeger feels there are two important considerations, the educational and emotional maturity of the student and the existing facilities available to the district.

"It is my experience based on data available that the emotional and educational maturity levels break naturally after the sixth and eighth grades," she said.

The opinions and judgments of both the community and professional staff are an integral part of making such a grade organization decision, Mrs. Ploeger said.

Monts said he would prefer the primary consideration be selection of grade organization providing the most effective education for district children, but realizes more practical matters will be the controlling factors.

These include the community deciding how much it is willing to spend on facilities, the ad-

ministration recommending the best organization to make use of staff and facilities and the flexibility in application of changing educational techniques, Monts said.

"The first consideration in determining grade organization must be to insure that the maximum educational opportunity is offered all students," Scott said. There is a question of who is qualified to judge which organization is best, he said.

Scott said he would not presume to answer a question experts have not been able to agree on since he is not an educator.

Mabry said he would like to see the middle school idea (sixth through eighth grades) reconsidered. He said the idea was discontinued without any data to determine its effectiveness.

"Grade organization must be determined by the use of information to demonstrate the most effective learning program," he said.

"The most important aspect in determining grade organization is to always keep in mind the needs and learning potential of the individual student whether he be accelerated or handicapped in learning facilities," Metz said.

"We should consider which plan the majority of the people would prefer, as well as which plan is the most educationally sound," Mrs. Crocker said.

Facilities must also be considered, she said. The administration is in a position to know which plan is best but its decision should be reached after conferring with teachers and principals to seek what plan they prefer.

"The board's only involvement in this decision should be to act on the recommendation made by the administration, and to do so in a manner which reflects the desires of the community," Mrs. Crocker said.

Dr. Pacholski said he favors a five-three-four organization because it would maximize the educational opportunities for all students and would allow a high degree of choice for parents and students wherever benefits from choice are to be obtained.

Secondary students benefit from full, four-year curriculum in language, math, English and social studies without breaking continuity, he said. Sixth graders benefit from instruction by teachers working in their major fields.

Miss Peters said she favors homogeneous grouping under a vertical system because it allows for more specialized attention for at least each group of children.

The middle school concept of sixth through eighth grades is also favored by Miss Peters as the best system permitting gradual directed transition between elementary and high school education.

"It allows for flexibility of curriculum and permits administrators and teachers to specialize in developing educational programs uniquely designed for preadolescents," she said.

Another question asked the candidates was, "How would you assure that each child will receive educational opportunities to develop his individual potential?"

Due to budgetary limitations, a district must first provide highly skilled teachers who believe in positive goals for individual children, Mrs. Ploeger said. A teacher's empathy, direction and inspiration can do more to develop a child's potential than many dollars spent in other ways, she said.

program they need and provide an analysis of individual needs, he said.

"This would require an expanded special education program, expansion and upgrading of existing vocational and innovative programs, evaluation and placement of personnel to most effectively use their skills, continued review of curriculum and an effective working relationship between teachers, administrators, board and community," Monts said.

Scott said the district must continue to expand, as finances permit, programs designed to meet varied individual needs. Curriculum revisions will benefit all students, college-bound or entering the labor market, he said.

Vocational and special education programs are outstanding, Scott said. The combination of existing programs provides the opportunity for all students to develop to their full extent.

Mrs. Perry said she would strive for greater emphasis on educational innovations and learning techniques, expand proven programs, emphasize smaller classes and more personalized instruction, provide a curriculum relevant to today's child and let the educators do the educating.

Lower class children put into upper middle class schools are at a disadvantage because they do not have the preschool education others do, Harrison said.

Special teachers should be brought into slum area schools to give this student the opportunity he needs, he said. He also indicated he would continue the vocational program since it helps the noncollege-bound student to develop his potential.

Mabry said he feels the lab school should function at all grades, special education should be expanded, gifted funds be sought and expanded curriculum at all levels be provided.

The board must adopt policy that encourages development of individualized programming, he said.

Programs should be developed that initiate and provide the student with educational opportunities on his own specified level of learning, Metz said. These include special education programs for the retarded, innovative programs for the slow learner, regular class studies for the average student and innovative programs for the accelerated student.

Mrs. Crocker said the district must implement a program to properly evaluate a child's potential in the early grades so he is placed in the program that best suits his needs and abilities.

"I shall support innovative programs recommended by the administration and teachers if I am assured these programs are not just for the sake of change," she said.

The curriculum must be made relevant to the child's experience, Dr. Pacholski said. The district should provide maximum opportunities for lab work in science and foreign languages.

Teachers should be encouraged to individualize instruction and given the tools with which to do it, he said. Computers could be more adequately used. High quality extracurricular activities are needed.

Miss Peters said she feels busing does not accomplish educational opportunities but rather tends to increase problems.

She said she would attempt to improve methods of special education, and encourage the board to use any federal and state research and support available for preschool Head Start and similar programs.

and Mrs. Betty Ploeger.

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In answer to the question — what do you think are the most important considerations in determining grade organization in the district? — Mrs. Ferry said "physical, emotional and mental maturation of the individual child."

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Another question asked the candidates was, "How would you assure that each child will receive educational opportunities to develop his individual potential?"

Due to budgetary limitations, a district must first provide highly skilled teachers who believe in positive goals for individual children, Mrs. Ploeger said. A teacher's empathy, direction and inspiration can do more to develop a child's potential than many dollars spent in other ways, she said.

No child's potential can be developed without the learning of basic skills, she said.

Such assurance is possible only if all financial resources were made available to provide for the substantial and varied needs of the district and if effective use of all facilities, staff and training aids is made, Monts said.

To achieve this goal the district must have improved facilities, a diagnostic center to channel children in to the pro-

existing programs provides the opportunity for all students to develop to their full extent.

Mrs. Ferry said she would strive for greater emphasis on educational innovations and learning techniques, expand proven programs, emphasize smaller classes and more personalized instruction, provide a curriculum relevant to today's child and let the educators do the educating.

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Candidates Answer Questionnaires

Local, State Duties Discussed

THE DECATUR REVIEW

The relationship between state and local control of public education and solutions for the public schools' financial problems were topics discussed by candidates in answering a League of Women Voters questionnaire.

Such contact paves the way for educational improvements and upgrading of education itself, Metz said.

Ralph M. Monts, an incumbent, said he believes the quality of educational program and the realization of the goal that allows each child to fully develop his individual potential is more important than who controls the schools.

"Probably the most effective program would result from a blend of state and local control that would combine the awareness of local problems, needs and aspirations with resources the state could provide and which might not be available to individual districts," he said.

Thomas L. Scott, an incumbent, said he believes local control is the most critical issue of this election.

State responsibility for education is limited to financial and administrative support while local school boards are granted statutory authority over local school matters by the school code, Scott said.

"The prerogatives of decision making expressed through elected school board members, must remain with the districts' voters otherwise taxpayers will have no control over how and where their children will be educated or their tax money spent, he said.

Local control is of vital importance, Mrs. Cheryl Crocker said. District 61 citizens have the right to say how their tax money should be spent and their educational system run.

"We should not be unwilling to listen to advice from the state level, as we must be open minded enough to realize that there are other ideas or programs that might be better than our own," she said.

Incumbent Mrs. Betty Ploeger said ultimate control of all local school districts rests with the

electorate who expresses themselves in the annual school board elections.

"If I was convinced we did have, I'd hire the best efficiency expert in educational finance and abide by his recommendations and findings," she said.

Mrs. Ferry said she would use funds cautiously to avoid costly mistakes and try to get every available state or federal grant to supplement local tax dollars.

"I feel the budget should be closely examined and a rebudgeting of some funds should take place," Harrison said, although he admitted he had not studied the question as he would like to.

"If it is seen that more money is needed, the voters should be asked, but hopefully the problem can be solved without this," he said.

Maby said the board must move effectively to determine spending priorities. Litigation and its causes between the board and teachers must be removed, he said, thus conserving funds for education.

Grants should be sought and district administrators expected to fight for such grants, he said.

"The educational dollar must be spent to most effectively realize its value but not at the expense of necessary flexibility in educational programs," Maby said.

The present board has phased out several schools, is planning to phase out several more and then building new facilities, Metz said. Why build new buildings when it would cost less to remodel the old ones, he asked.

Metz said he completely supports phasing out busing and restoring neighborhood schools. Decatur taxpayers presently spend about \$250,000 annually on busing, and if the neighborhood schools were in functional order this figure could be cut drastically.

The board finance committee is presently reviewing every

aspect of income and expense applicable to the district, Monts said. This extensive review will lead to recommendations to the state and board for greater efficiency and maximum revenue from all sources, he said.

The review will provide a basis for informing the community of present and projected financial needs of the district, Monts said. By creating a community-wide awareness of where we stand presently and the additional financial help needed, the board can gain community support for meeting district needs through increased tax support or other means, he said.

There is no panacea for solving the district's financial dilemma, Mrs. Ploeger said. "We should all disabuse ourselves of the notion that state funds or federal funds somehow come from somewhere else or grow on trees," she said. "All tax funds come from one source — the taxpayer."

A long-term goal is to reassess priorities of all tax bodies, local, state and federal, placing a greater emphasis on education and its need for a greater share of tax dollars, she said.

"This must be done on a state to the public the district's financial condition so the electorate may have adequate information on which to judge the need for any referendum, he said. The financial problems of the district cannot really be solved

and federal level through plans such as revenue sharing or grants for construction of physical plants but with no strings attached," Mrs. Ploeger said.

On a short-term basis living within the budget and avoiding deficit spending is important, she said.

Candidates Jesse Price and Otis Stevens did not respond to the League questionnaire. Monts said deficit spending can be used on a short-term basis but is not a long-term solution. The only remaining solution is increased federal or state aid.

Scott said the problem is so complex the district can provide only a portion of the answer. "Various state and federal commissions studying school finance may provide some solutions through measures such as revenue sharing," Scott said.

The board must communicate to the public the district's financial condition so the electorate may have adequate information on which to judge the need for any referendum, he said. The financial problems of the district cannot really be solved

but they can be alleviated, Mrs. Crocker said, through community awareness of the problems at hand.

"Only when the citizens are alert to what is being provided with their tax money, will they be willing to support any further expenditures," she said.

The district should take advantage of all possible grants and must not be too proud to accept outside help or have the fear that it will be obligated to turn over local control to the benefactor, Mrs. Crocker said.

Local citizens are taxed to near capacity and a new source of revenue other than the property tax is needed, Dr. Pacholski said.

District financial problems could be dealt with by working for state and federal legislation to provide more funds for education, he said, also by examining and rearranging some present budget priorities.

Salaries of administrative staff could be reviewed and some possible cuts made there, he said. Communication between board, teachers and parents needs to be improved.

Miss Peters said she believes there is ample money to run the

LAND USE CONSENSUS TO BE FORMULATED

Consensus meetings on land use will be held by the League of Women Voters at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday in Westminster Presbyterian Church and at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in First United Methodist Church

D+R 4/10/72

Question of County Executive Debated by County Candidates

By Cheryl D. Peck

County office and Illinois legislative candidates briefly expressed their views on specific questions asked them Tuesday night at the YMCA.

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters the "Meet the Candidates" program was moderated by Lois Howlett of radio station WDZ.

More than 50 persons heard candidates for the offices of clerk of the circuit court, recorder of deeds, coroner, and county auditor respond to the question — "Is there a need for a county executive?"

Democrat Circuit Clerk John T. Curry said he is in favor of a county executive or manager and he feels the need is great.

"Most of all so that we, the office holders would have someone working with us daily, someone that is readily available to help work out any problems that we might have."

His Republican opponent, Melvin J. Closs, declined to give a yes or no answer to the question, saying, "I have to study it much more."

Democrat Recorder of Deeds John H. Bohn said he was not sure what is meant by "is there a need for a county executive?" except if it was something like a city manager and because of certain rules that bind the county there is not much chance to think about a county executive.

His Republican opponent, Elmore E. Morland, said county government is spreading out and has expanded considerably.

"It needs coordination. I wouldn't say it needs a county executive. I believe what it does need is a professional staff for purposes of coordination," Morland said.

Dr. V. T. Turley, Democratic candidate for coroner, did not respond to the question, but they think will be the most

Republican Coroner Phares G. Thompson said he felt there is no need for a county executive officer at this time, "but when the county and townships consolidate, there will be a need."

County Auditor Richard D. Ferre, a Democrat, said a county executive can do only what he is permitted to do "whether he is elected or appointed."

"If he is elected, the people will know exactly his limitations. If he is appointed, God help the people," he said.

"But why don't we stop kidding around and say it. The county already has a county executive — strike that — a county manager. Better still, let us not add dignity to this person."

The county has a county manipulator," Ferre said. "Bossism and years of exercised control over the County Board is what this country doesn't need anymore."

He said "two board members sitting it out in the penalty box because they dared to speak their minds; higher taxes, more expenses and less services, and inconsistent policies, no policies and confusion," are examples of what he was referring to.

Ferre did not name the "county manipulator," Ferre's opponent, Henry M. Novak, was not present.

State's Attorney Basil G. Greanus, a Democrat discussed judicial reform statewide concerning the probation office saying that office "works diligently to make probation meaningful and not an empty ritual."

Allen F. Bennett, who is a Republican seeking the office of state's attorney, said, "Any more information to reform the judicial system is good, but the system is good."

Candidates for the Illinois legislature were asked what they think will be the most

critical problems for the next legislature and if they have solutions for those problems.

"The problem facing us is the size and shape of the budget," said State Sen. Robert W. McCarthy, D-Decatur.

"In the last session the budget size was \$7.5 billion. This should be viewed against the last budget of Gov. (Samuel) Shapiro (\$3 billion), an increase in four years of 150 per cent," he said.

"We presently are victims of an inflationary onslaught where the thrifty are robbed, the poor are penalized, the prudent are pilfered, and the lender becomes a victim of larceny," he added.

Lois Raber, a Republican seeking the office of state senator, said, "the most interesting problem we have is what to do with the money we will get from the government (revenue sharing.)"

State Rep. John W. Alsop, D-Decatur, said he feels the main problem for the next legislature is the direction taken in raising revenue and "what will be done with it."

State Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, said two problems for the legislature in the spring will be the "never ceasing question concerning the tax dollar, and the growing power of the bureaucracy."

State Rep. Roland F. Tipsword, D-Taylorville, said "money — how much we can cut down on spending in Illinois" is a problem facing the legislature.

Electing bargaining for public employees, gun control, and ap-

Letter to the Editor:
Thank you for your editorials and thanks to James Dedman for his beautiful article of last week.
I am very pleased to have my faith restored in the people of Decatur. It is good to know that there still enough people who can see through the muddy waters. The DEA, League of Women Voters, Mrs. Botts, Mr. Bill Hansen, WCIA, WDZ, Herald & Review, OEO, and The Voice all tried their best to discredit the School Board and sway the election.
The parents of Decatur should be happy to know that the test scores of our children took a sharp upturn this year — the first time in years. I hope that all segments will now get behind the School Board and help our children continue to improve.
Charolette McGhee

Women Voters' Meet Candidates Night Scheduled

The Decatur League of Women Voters will sponsor a "Meet the Candidates Night" at 8 p.m. Oct. 17 in the YMCA, 151 W. Prairie Ave.

Mrs. Thomas Protzman, voter service chairman, will be in charge of the meeting.

She said this year the league is putting the emphasis on local candidates and their role in good local government.

"County government affects all residents and their tax dollars, and the voters choose the man to spend the tax money efficiently and effectively," Mrs. Protzman said.

Candidates for the legislature from the 51st District, circuit clerk, recorder, state's attorney, auditor and coroner have been invited to appear at the meeting.

Lois Howlett To Moderate Program

Lois Howlett of radio station WDZ will be moderator for Tuesday night's "Meet the Candidates" program sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

The meeting will be at 8 p.m. in the YMCA.

Local candidates will be asked to respond to these questions:

Is there a need for a county executive?

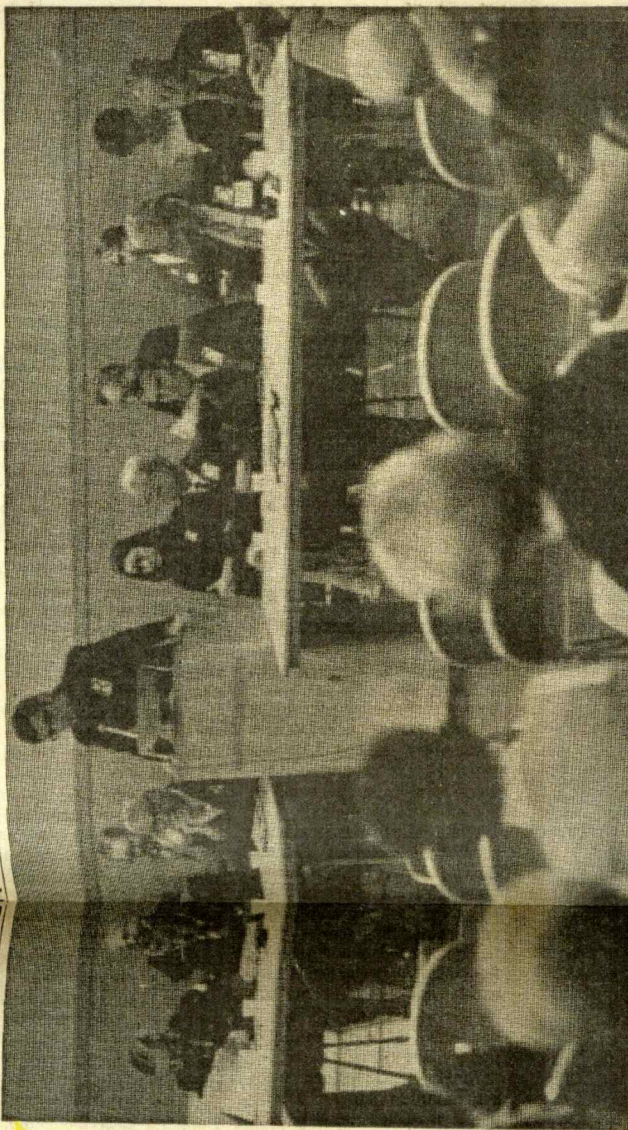
If elected, what would you do to change or improve the office?

Candidates for the office of state's attorney will be asked if they feel further reorganization or reform of the judicial system in Illinois is needed.

Legislative candidates from the 51st District will be asked to comment on the most critical problems facing the next session of the General Assembly. Solutions for these problems will also be asked.

There will be a coffee following the meeting.

State's attorney candidate Allen Bennett speaks as other county and state legislature candidates sit nearby.



Staff Photo by Doug Gaymon.

Decatur Tribune
4/12/72
THANK YOU



Decatur Herald-Examiner 10-29-72

'It's an Advantage To Be a Woman'

By Jean Novotny

Lois Raber's campaign isn't just a one - woman campaign.

In her bid for state senator in the 51st senatorial district she has women both as her campaign manager and her assistant campaign manager. They are her daughters, Martha, 22, and Mary, 21.

Martha, a political science graduate of Millikin University, is the campaign manager but she asserts that her mother "is pretty much her own woman. I'm really just supplementing what she's doing."

Mary likes to work behind the scenes. She is a senior at the University of Denver and is spending this semester doing her practice teaching in physical education in Decatur elementary schools. Millikin University is supervising her work here while she helps in her mother's campaign.

While Martha is traveling the three counties in the district with Mrs. Raber, Mary campaigns in the teachers' lounges and passes out promotional four - year calendars. She adds, "And I'm the cooker and cleaner. I take care of my Dad . . . I love the people in a campaign but I don't have that certain flair or feel for politics."

When Mary returned from her summer job at a day camp in Rochester, N.Y., she set the goal of meeting two new people each day. She adds, "Some days it's a real effort . . . but we believe in our cause."

Martha is enthusiastic about politics and has even thought about running for office herself. She says, "I have put myself in mother's place and I think I could do it. I love people . . . It's an advantage to be a woman in politics . . . People are nicer to girls."

And Mary adds, "It's a good time for a woman to run." Their mother is the only woman running for state office on the Republican ticket in downstate Illinois.

The young campaign manager says, "I've never really been militant about women's lib but women are discriminated against . . . As a woman I'd like to see her in the Senate to represent women . . . Men have been deciding the rights of women all along."

And she adds, "Women should have a bigger part in the laws that affect them."

Martha, Mary and Mrs.

Raber met Mrs. Richard Nixon at a tea earlier this month in Chicago.

Of the experience Martha says, "It was really a treat to meet Mrs. Nixon but she was there because of her husband's accomplishments. It was more thrilling for me to meet the women candidates because they were there because of what they had done themselves."

She echoes her mother's opinion in saying, "She thinks women are needed in the legislature because they have more foresight than men . . . who else would think of having four - year calendars?"

Martha feels that being a woman is important in politics, and she adds, "But that's not all it takes. Mother stands up to men not in an overpowering way but in an equal way."

The Raber girls' campaign efforts have centered on getting their mother's name known. They helped organize a canvass, passed out hundreds of calendars and have written personal postcards to voters in "swing" precincts as well as to their former classmates at MacArthur High School.

Their brother, John, a student at Tulane University in New Orleans, La., helped in the campaign by getting his friends to register before they left for school.

Martha says the campaign is "like a contest to see how many more people we can reach each day. Every day we try to do that."

Her sister Mary adds, "There's always a little more to do."

And campaign manager Martha says, "It's so easy to sleep at night."

Lois Raber for State Senator

*Director
Harris & Review
10-29-72*

VETERAN STATE SEN.
Robert McCarthy is opposed in the 51st District election Nov. 7 by Lois Raber, a Republican committee worker and former member of the Macon County Board.

The district is composed of Macon, Shelby and Christian counties and includes a small corner of Sangamon County.

The campaign started out on a high level, but has moved toward a free-swinging battle as the race comes down to the wire.

Sen. McCarthy, who has been in Springfield for 18 years, is one of the top Democrats in the state Senate in terms of seniority.

Using a strong base of labor support through the years, he came into prominence in the last session on subjects of bond issues and interest rates.

He has built his campaign around two themes. He claims his experience is valuable to the district and he pictures himself as an inflation fighter.

Mrs. Raber has chosen to make issues of integrity ("You'd never find me trying to fix a parking ticket"), of being a spokesman for schools, and of having a woman's voice in the

state Senate.

She has taken an unusual stance in looking with great care at campaign contributions — even rejecting one because she found the contributor had sent equal checks to both candidates.

She asked, "What do you suppose he was trying to do?"

Mrs. Raber has raised one question that required some thought.

"Mr. McCarthy has been over in Springfield for all these years. If that's so valuable, what does the district have to show for it?"

In an interview with the editors of the Herald and Review, Sen. McCarthy provided a part of the answer when he ticked off several projects for which he claimed some credit but pointed out that he did not choose to run on that basis.

He said, "After you mention these, someone will ask, 'Well, what did you do for me lately?'"

In context with these interviews, it became clear that Sen. McCarthy is more concerned with what he sees as statewide problems than with the immediate problems of the

district.

This is not to suggest that Sen. McCarthy did not help the district. He sponsored and helped pass a bill that allowed the Decatur School District to retain density funds — an important factor in placing the district in a surplus position.

However, as such, it remains Mr. McCarthy's experience in the state Senate is of a larger benefit to Mr. McCarthy than it is to the district.

The second phase of Mr. McCarthy's campaign demonstrates a naive knowledge of economics and is based upon claims that are invalid.

We share Mr. McCarthy's fear of inflation, but we fail to see how his actions would help those who are hurt most.

He speaks of savings achieved by ceilings of interest rates for state bonds, but these are savings in theory — not in fact.

His ceiling on interest rates for state borrowing has saved nothing yet. The interest paid was well below the ceiling limits he proposed.

And his claims for lowering loan interest by his ceiling on rates under state usury laws will only raise the closing costs when money is tight.

To put this in simpler terms, if you ever wanted to buy real estate and found you could afford the payments but not the closing costs, you will understand what it is Mr. McCarthy's economic proposals did to you.

We don't consider that a victory for the little guy or a step towards fighting inflation.

The way to hold down interest rates is in competitive bidding for loans. The more bidders, the lower the rates will be. Sen. McCarthy's concept ignores the lower interest rates available in states without ceilings.

His claims are based in politics, not in fact.

No editorial position on this race can neglect Sen. McCarthy's role in the ticket fixing case.

Sen. McCarthy's contention that he pleaded guilty to a non-existing charge may be accurate.

However, it is not the actual fixing of the parking ticket that has concerned us. It was the intent to knowingly do something wrong for money that bothered us.

We view it as a moral question — not a legal problem. And we judge it harshly because this was an act that was paid for, not done only as a favor.

The moral judgment is confirmed, in our opinion, by the attempt by Mr. McCarthy to slip the traffic ticket into the state files after the situation was uncovered. This we judge as a second instance of knowingly doing something wrong in an attempt to conceal the first error.

In Mrs. Raber, we find a woman who has spent time studying the issues. We do not agree with all of her positions.

But given the choice between these two candidates, we endorse the candidacy of Mrs. Raber for state senator from the 51st District.

They Want You to Vote With Awareness

They're not after your vote. They just want to be sure you vote and that you do it with some awareness.

This non-partisan group is the League of Women Voters, whose 125 local members are interested in voter service.

They've printed voter information sheets for distribution in the county and have helped in voter registration drives in cooperation with precinct committeemen and women and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

But only about 70 people showed up for their main election year effort, a candidate's meeting on Oct. 17.

The group's president, Mrs. Charles Meyerson, says, "The League thinks it makes an interesting program. We're

always disappointed in the public response. The candidates always cooperate."

The league invited the candidates for county and legislative offices, asked them to speak for three minutes and then gave them one minute to answer any questions.

Mrs. Meyerson adds, "You get another impression of them when you see them in person... seeing their minds work."

Because of its non-partisan position the league concentrates on issues rather than on personalities. Members compile fact sheets on candidates' qualifications and standings on issues on all levels of government to help their members be more informed voters.

presidential race is available at the Decatur Public Library.

League members are encouraged to work in their political parties as individuals, but board members do not.

Of the members Mrs. Meyerson says, "some are strictly non-partisan and independent. Others are very active in partisan politics. We probably tend to get the women who are independents."

Women interested in one particular party are not likely to find us attractive." She adds, "It takes both parties working together... Self government should involve all the people. We believe it should be possible for the average person to understand government."

A JACK-O-LANTERN conveys a voting message from Martha, left, and Mary Raber, above, right.

Legislative, County Candidates Give Views

By Cheryl D. Peck

Candidates for the Illinois legislature discussed what they think will be critical problems for the next legislature during a "Meet the Candidates" program held Tuesday night at the YM-CA.

About 50 persons attended the meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters and moderated by Lois Howlett of radio station WDZ.

Candidates for both the Illinois legislature and county offices spoke briefly.

State Senator Robert W. McCarthy, D-Decatur, said a critical problem for the next legislature "is the size and shape of the budget."

"By size I mean how many dollars will the state of Illinois spend, and by shape I mean how much money shall be appropriated to each of the more than 83 branches of state government," he said.

McCarthy said that in the last session the budget size was \$7.5 billion. He said this should be viewed against the last budget of Gov. Shapiro of \$3 billion.

"The 1972 Ogilvie budget costs a family of four about \$2,500. The Shapiro budget cost the same family about \$1,200. If we proceed at the same rate of spending, four years from now the cost of Illinois government for the family of four will be \$6,250," he said.

He continued, "That size budget is unacceptable to me — it fuels the fires of inflation — inflation the No. 1 domestic enemy in this country."

"We presently are victims of an inflationary onslaught where the thrifty are robbed, the poor are penalized, the prudent are pilfered and the lender becomes a victim of larceny," he said.

State senate candidate Lois Raber, R-Decatur, said she feels the most interesting problem for the next legislature is what to do with money the state will get from the federal government revenue sharing.

She cited other issues including whether or not annual sessions will continue in the

legislature, adding she feels a need for consideration of bi-annual sessions. She said she also feels there should be a limit on campaign funds and the amount of time spent in campaigning. "One-year campaigning is just too much," she said.

"The main problem for the next legislature is the direction taken in raising revenue, and what will be done with it," said John W. Alsop, Democratic state representative from Decatur.

State representative A. Weber Borchers, R-Decatur, said two things will be concentrated on during the legislative session in the spring.

"One is the never-ceasing question concerning the tax dollar and the other is the growing power of the bureaucracy," he said.

"Mental health, the Environmental Protection Agency and public health have a bureaucracy under law making rules and regulations like they were judicial and even executive law," he said.

He continued: "There are things to do to cut down costs to Illinois. We are fourth in payments for welfare and aid — we must do something about births on welfare."

State representative Rolland F. Tipsword, D-Taylorville, said "Money — how much we can cut down on spending in Illinois — and welfare" are critical issues facing the next legislature.

"We must address ourselves to reformation of taxes and eliminate unnecessary spending at this particular point in time," he said.

Concerning welfare financing, he said, "It is up to us to see that new jobs are created in Illinois so that the number of wage-earning and tax-paying citizens are increased."

Seeking a seat in the state legislature as a representative is Jeffrey K. Davison, R-Decatur, who said, "Collective bargaining for public employees, gun control, and appointment of officials versus election" are issues for the next legislature.

He said he is against gun control and against appointment of officials.

State's Attorney Basil G. Greanias, D-Decatur, and his opponent, Allen F. Bennett, R-Decatur, were asked if they feel further reorganization or reform of the judicial system in Illinois is needed.

Greanias told the gathering the judicial system is made up of the trial and appellate courts, the probation office, the prosecutor's office and the public defender's office.

He then discussed reform statewide as to the probation office. "In Macon County we are fortunate to have Russell Hoen-dorf, a veteran of 25 years, heading that department, and local judges who consider probation a serious matter and a valuable tool in the rehabilitation process."

He said probation is not granted in Macon County until there has been a full investigation into the life, family history, educational background, criminal and employment record, the circumstances of the commission of the offense and following a hearing by the court.

Bennett said he feels any more information to inform the judicial system is good but the system is already good.

He cited ways in which the office of state's attorney could be improved including a "re-evaluation of the cooperation the state's attorney has with law enforcement officials in the county."

He also said there should be an examination of the administrative procedure used by the present state's attorney's office adding that he feels his experience in business would help bring a business knowledge to the office.

He further feels an explanation of the services rendered by that office are necessary for better public understanding. "The biggest change I can offer is new ideas," he said.

Candidates for the offices of

clerk of the circuit court, recorder of deeds, coroner, and county auditor were asked if there is a need for a county executive.

Circuit Clerk John T. Curry, a Democrat, said, "Yes, I am in favor of a county executive or manager. I feel the need is great."

He continued, "Most of all so that we the office holders would have someone working with us daily, someone that is readily available to help work out any problems that we might have."

He also cited some improvements in the circuit clerk's office including a centralization of the office and all the files; the setting up of a complete new system of keeping accountability of evidence and disposing of same, and the fact that \$8,000 has been put into the budget to start microfilming — "but only that which the supreme court administrator and the law will allow."

Curry's opponent, Melvin J. Closs, said he must give further study to the question of whether there is a need for a county executive.

He added that he feels his 17 years in business "gives me qualifications to administer at an efficient level."

Democrat John H. Bohn of Decatur, recorder of deeds, said he is not sure what is meant by a county executive except that it might be something like a city manager.

His opponent, Elmore E. Morthland, R-Decatur, said county government has expanded and is spreading out. "Cooperation is needed. I won't say we need a county executive but we need coordination," he said.

County Coroner Phares G. Thompson, R-Decatur, said he feels there is no need for a county executive at this time.

He said he would not change the operation of the coroner's office "at all." He said he has

"fine cooperation" with law enforcement officials in this county.

Seeking the office of county coroner is Dr. V. T. Turley who said the office of coroner requires "technique and good common sense."

He emphasized that if he is elected coroner he would attempt to have a morgue established in Decatur.

"A county executive can do only what he is permitted to do whether he is elected or appointed," said County Auditor Richard D. Ferre, D-Decatur.

"If he is elected the people will know exactly his limitations. If he is appointed, God help the people," he said.

"But why don't we stop kidding around and say it — the county already has a county executive — strike that — a county manager. Better still let us not add dignity to this person. The county has a county manipulator," he said.

"Bossism and years of exercised control over the county board is what this county doesn't need anymore."

Ferre called witness to "two board members sitting it out in the penalty box because they dared to speak their minds; higher taxes, more expenses and less services, and inconsistent policies, no policies and confusion."

Ferre continued, "There are 24 board members — although unwieldy — a legislative body that can and should make all the differences to a better and responsive county government, but the board is run by a power block of four or five members that keep all the other members totally in the dark with half information and half truths."

"The problem right now is when will the county board ever require consistent policies of themselves instead of only when it suits the manipulators," he said.

Ferre's opponent, Henry M. Novak, R-Decatur, was not present.

THE DECATUR REVIEW

Wednesday, October 18, 1972

WOMEN VOTERS OBSERVANCE SET

Next week will be League of Women Voters Week in Decatur. Mayor James Rupp will proclaim the observance in a special ceremony Monday in Central Park.

During the month of March the League will distribute its Voters Directory, a local reference guide published annually. The guide, which is free to the public, will be distributed at various banks as well as at the office of the Macon County clerk.

Other activities of the League this month will be membership coffees in the homes of members and a fund-raising drive with a goal of \$1,000 to be used for the League's work in the community. 3-4-73

League Plans Week's Events

The League of Women Voters of Decatur will Monday officially begin activities planned for League of Women Voters Week.

Mayor James H. Rupp is expected to make an official proclamation of League of Women Voters of Decatur Week at 1 p.m. Monday from a booth in the northwest corner of Central Park.

League members will be distributing material, including their new issue of the Voters Directory, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday at the booth in Central Park. 3-4-73

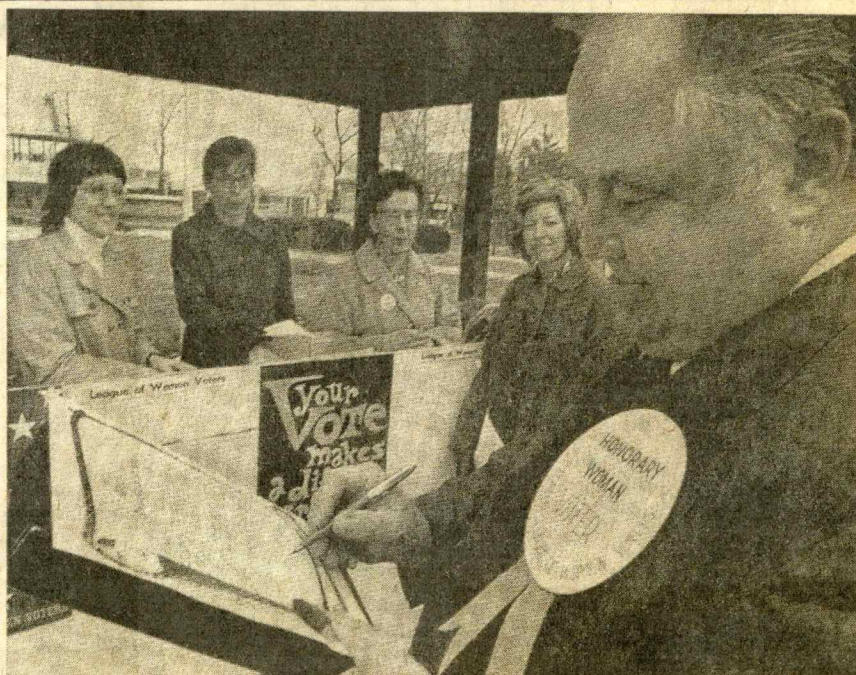
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MEETING OPENS

The annual convention of the League of Women Voters of Illinois opened at a luncheon session today at the Holiday Inn East in Springfield.

About 450 women are attending the meeting which will continue through Thursday.

The convention dinner will be Wednesday evening. Addressing the group will be Chicago urbanologist, author and lecturer Peter DeVise, who is the assistant director for health information for the Illinois Regional Medical Program.

State officials and members of the General Assembly have been invited to the banquet. 4-3-73



Mayor Becomes Woman Voter

Decatur Mayor James H. Rupp became an "Honorary Woman Voter" Monday in ceremonies in Central Park.

The mayor proclaimed this as "League of Women Voters Week." With the mayor from left, are Mrs. Marvin Lauter-

jung, Mrs. Robert Ohlsen, Mrs. Charles Meyerson and Mrs. Thomas Protzman. The

group will sponsor coffees, meetings and a fund drive this week.

Editorials

Our Opinions

Decatur Herald

Publicize Township Proposals

Feb 2, 1973

A TIME of testing for township government in Illinois is less than a year away.

County boards and township officials are beginning to be obvious in their silence on the subject.

By Jan. 1, all counties but Cook having the township form of government must adopt a plan for altering township lines to meet minimum size standards.

According to the law passed last year, each county board's plan must result in townships with an equalized assessed valuation as of Dec. 31, 1972, of not less than \$6 million or an area of not more than 126 square miles.

On the basis of assessed valuation alone, about 600 townships in 83 affected counties do not meet the minimum standards. This is more than 40 per cent of the 1,395 townships spread across the affected counties.

Only Downstate counties with the commission form of government or significant concentrations of people will be relatively unaffected by the legislature's mandate.

In counties such as Effingham, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Macoupin, Saline, Shelby, Washington and Wayne, though, there will be a potential for county board and taxpayer evaluation of township government on a scale not known for decades.

Once county boards come up with their plans, they then must place them before voters by no later than the general election of November 1974. No suggested change will become effective

unless it is approved by a referendum submitted specifically to the voters of the affected areas.

This is the "loophole" in the law. If voters are not aware of the issue and do not express themselves at the polls, townships could go back once again to business as usual without knowing what the voters really want.

County boards should get to work now on their plans for altering, changing and consolidating townships or creating new townships.

The boards, township officials and respected organizations such as the League of Women Voters, should begin explaining to voters why townships should or should not be altered.

There has been a hue and cry for decades about the efficiency or waste of township government in Illinois.

Now is the time to begin helping taxpayers understand what all the argument has been about. Waiting until later this year or sometime in 1974 will be unfair to taxpayers and an irresponsible act on the part of the local officials.

PAGE FORTY

Township Budget Eyed

Transfer Explained

By Steven R. Hurst

Decatur Township authorities met today with four representatives from the League of Women Voters in a public hearing called to explain the township's proposed 1973-74 fiscal budget.

T.W. Brinkoetter, township supervisor, explained the transfer of \$90,000 from the revenue sharing fund to the road and bridge fund.

The transfer of these federal

funds should mean a slight decrease in the township tax levy, he said.

The reduced levy, depending on interpretation, could mean a lower federal allocation next year.

"That could happen," Brinkoetter said, "but we will have to see."

Also included in the proposed \$1,201,245 budget were funds for improvements at the township animal shelter.

The budget appropriation from federal funds to the shelter is \$8,500.

The care of township cemeteries also will receive attention with a planned improvement of roads in Greenwood Cemetery receiving high priority.

This will be the first year the township budget is approved by the board of auditors rather than the electors in the township.

New legislation takes that authority from electors at the town meetings. The town meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday.

Increased salaries for three township officials did not come under question at today's hearing.

If the board of auditors approves the budget as it stands, Alma Byers, re-elected town clerk, will receive \$3,000 increase to \$13,000.

The salary for re-elected Assessor Robert W. Davis will move to \$13,700, up \$700.

Brinkoetter's salary as supervisor acting as administrator of the township relief program will be up \$1,000 to \$14,000.

The League of Women Voters' representatives learned today an increase in the cemetery expenditures is in part necessary for leaf disposal because of the ban on burning.

The women also questioned the officials about procedure for buying insurance and major equipment purchases.

Brinkoetter and Mrs. Byers explained the purchases are made after bids are received if the expenditure is major.

Township Attorney Robert R. Uhl said any expenditures planned for revenue sharing which are ruled illegal will be void in this fiscal year.

The cemetery expenditure, for example, calls for \$52,000 from revenue sharing. Should a federal opinion prohibit using the funds for these purposes, the projects and purchases will be set aside until the 1974-75 budget is drawn up.

Delegate

Mrs. John Weinman of 382 Delmar Ave. is among 1,400 delegates attending the national convention of the League of Women Voters in San Francisco this week.

New national officers and issue topics will be selected during the convention. Delegates will also participate in special events, including a vote to decide whether men should be included as full members, a rally in behalf of the Equal Rights Amendment and a panel discussion of women in politics.

WOMEN VOTERS HAVE FUND DRIVE

The League of Women Voters of Decatur is seeking "partners" this week through a finance drive.

"Partners of the League are those contributors who realize that every dollar given to the League of Women Voters is returned to the community ten-fold through voter service activities, studies of issues and action on positions," explains a League spokeswoman.

League members are now making personal calls on individuals and businesses in order to realize their \$850 goal.

The group will wind up its activities at a meeting Saturday at the home of Mrs. Robert Ohlsen, finance chairman. The worker obtaining the highest percentage of her quota will receive a macrame wall hanging done by Mrs. Ohlsen.

3-23-73

Voting Book Is Available

A limited number of the 25th edition of the "Illinois Voters Handbook" is available from the local League of Women Voters, according to Mrs. Charles Meyerson, president, of 125 Park Place.

Other copies, at \$2.25 each, may be ordered from the League of Women Voters of Illinois, 67 E. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. 60603.

The handbook is the first published since the adoption of the 1970 Illinois Constitution.

The latest edition of the "Voting Reference and Directory for Macon County" is expected to arrive from the printers "any day now," Mrs. Meyerson said.

Compiled by the local league, the pamphlet lists voting requirements, polling places and city and county officials. The publication is free.

Decatur Daybook

What effect changes in the Department of Children and Family Services will have locally will be discussed by three speakers at a LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS meeting at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday at First Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Tucker, area director of placement for the department, Robert Ohlsen of the joint Cantrell and Webster Hall committee, and Betty Sunnen, Webster Hall social worker, will give addresses at the public meeting.

Decatur Review
March 4, 1974

Women Voters Name Officers, New Directors

The League of Women Voters of Decatur has elected its slate of officers for the upcoming year.

Mrs. Charles Meyerson was re-elected president, but will not begin her term until April 15. Mrs. Frank Verbanac will serve in the interim.

Other officers are Mrs. John Weinman, second vice president; Mrs. Lavelle Staley, third vice president; Mrs. Edward Beck, secretary; and Mrs. Marvin Lauterjung, treasurer. Mrs. Thomas Protzman will continue as first vice president.

Directors are Mrs. James Moore, Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. J. Gary Campbell and Mrs. P. J. Cantoni. Mrs. James McVay and Mrs. Harold Lantz will continue their terms as elected directors.

For the upcoming year, the local organization will support its positions on county and township governments, environmental quality, the council-manager form of city government, Decatur public schools and human resources and civil rights.

WOMEN VOTERS BEGIN STUDY

The League of Women Voters of Decatur and Leagues throughout the country have started a nation-wide short term study of campaign financing. Mrs. Elbert Smith of 510 S. Seigel St. is chairman of the local study group.

The study will include discussions on spending, funding and use of the media. Results of the study will be considered in forming a consensus opinion of the entire League, according to Mrs. Smith.

The League has been studying the national legislative process for the last three years. *3-29-73*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS BEGIN YEAR

Mrs. Charles Meyerson heads the League of Women Voters slate of officers which will begin its term of office this month.

Serving with her will be Mrs. Thomas Protzman, first vice president; Mrs. J. William Coberly, second vice president; and Mrs. Lavelle Staley, secretary.

Newly-elected directors are Mrs. Laszlo Sipos, Mrs. James McVay, Mrs. W. H. Hobbs and Mrs. Harold Lantz. Serving the last year of their two-year terms as directors are Mrs. Clifford Smith and Mrs. Jay D. Sensesig.

The League's two new studies will be on local water quality and on the structure and operation of Decatur's council-manager government. The women will continue their study of county and township governments.

Decatur Review

League Seeks Funding Reform

THE LEAGUE of Women Voters plans a major lobbying effort this year for legislation to reform the way money is raised and spent for political campaigns.

League President Lucy Wilson Benson announced the plan after support for reform was overwhelmingly expressed in a national poll of the membership.

The legislative package for which congressional support will be sought is to be a mix of private and public financing. Small contributions would be encouraged through tax credits and the federal income tax one-dollar checkoff already in use.

Additional government money would go to those candidates who have demonstrated what the League would call "substantial public support."

Also probable is pressure for ceilings on the amount that could be spent on any one campaign and for full disclosure of all money raised and spent.

Mrs. Benson puts the issue of financing reform and its public-private aspects in needed per-

spective by pointing to the dangers that could result if the citizen is effectively frozen out of the campaign process.

"In our fervor for cleaning up the dirtier aspects of political campaigning, we mustn't make it a sterile operation—too pure and fragile to be touched by the hands of the people," she said. "We think that 100 per cent public financing would remove an important element of citizen involvement."

Judgment should be reserved for now on whether all aspects of the League's legislative proposals are sensible. More details will be needed.

Judgment need not be reserved, though, on the broad strokes of what the membership seeks. The group's approach would process from the special interests and encourage maximum citizen involvement.

That is a needed common sense approach which should be carefully considered by all Americans as they encourage their senators and representatives to legislate against the excesses of campaigning for public office.

Decatur, Ill. Herald - Jan. 19, 1974

Double Standards Told *ERA Coalition-Sponsor*

Speakers Cite Discrimination

"Man's job. What is a man's job?" Mrs. Aline Guthrie asked her audience Thursday night.

"I took a job that was a man's job. They said, 'You can't move those 50 gallon barrels.' I said, 'Can't I' and I moved them."

Mrs. Guthrie, first woman re-

gional representative for the Allied Industrial Workers of America, spoke on women in the work world at an open forum on the Equal Rights Amendment.

About 100 persons attended the event at the YWCA.

Mrs. Guthrie was one of six women speaking on women and work, credit, family laws, the military and female delinquents.

Their talks frequently pointed up double standards as applied to females.

"Women have to take their place," Mrs. Guthrie said, adding with passage of ERA this should happen faster than ever in the labor trades.

Noting that many women in labor are the sole support of their families, Mrs. Guthrie said women must be allowed equal pay for equal work and a chance to do any job they are capable of.

"I need money to take care of my children. I need money to take care of myself. . . . They don't charge me any less because I'm a woman."

But if you are a young female, juvenile justice may treat you differently than a boy, according to Mrs. Mary Abu-Saba, a doctoral candidate in counseling psychology at the University of Illinois.

Mrs. Abu-Saba said there is a double standard for female juvenile offenders in the areas of longer sentences and nature of offenses.

The longer sentences stem from an old opinion that female criminals were basically different from men, she said. They were thought to be more amenable to correction with longer sentences needed to do this, she

said.

Researchers, Mrs. Abu-Saba said, have found that reasons for female delinquency, given in order of frequency, are: running away, incorrigibility, sex offenses, probation violations and truancy.

However, she said, the first two are frequently just nice terms for sexual activities.

Sexual activities are actually the primary reason females are adjudicated, she said. With boys it is "boys will be boys," she added. But with girls it is "sexually deviant, incorrigible, ungovernable."

In the area of education, Mrs. Carol Tuschhoff, a Mound Middle School reading teacher, advocated considering home economics for boys and industrial arts for girls.

"I think the home, society, the school, needs to stress the whole individual. Not the boy boy or the girl girl."

She also stressed the importance of learning to fend for oneself, whether male or female.

"We have no right to let anyone come out of the home or the schools without having something to support themselves."

But if you're married and supporting yourself you'll find discrimination with credit, according to Mrs. Mary Bond, vice president of the Decatur Chapter of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

She said married women must include their husband's name and place of employment on

credit card applications.

Also, she noted, a married woman's salary is not applicable when buying a home even if the salary is larger than a man's.

Speaking in another area, Martha Hunt, vice president of the Decatur Chapter of the National Organization for Women, talked on inequalities in the military system.

She noted that women must have high school diplomas to enlist while men don't.

Also, Mrs. Hunt said, there are unequal benefits for the spouses of women in the service.

Physical requirements for Army officers "effectively exclude a lot of women," she said, by setting a five foot six minimum height requirement.

Another speaker, Mrs. Ann Limerick, an occupational therapist at Adolf Meyer Center, talked on family laws.

She noted that ERA opponents say it will weaken the husband's obligation to support the family.

But, Mrs. Limerick said, traditionally the courts have been hesitant to get involved with this matter unless the marriage breaks down.

Nor would ERA invalidate alimony, she added, saying supporters favor extending alimony in some conditions to the husband, too. The ERA would also extend child custody to both parents, giving no preference to the mother, she said. What is best for the child would become the primary concern, she added.

Women's Groups: Hours Given Add Up

One woman makes cancer dressings.

Another tutors.

Another provides transportation for a blind girl.

And the hours, the volunteer hours, add up.

One woman's organization gives money to a shoe fund for the schools.

Another provides scholarships.

And the money adds up.

Thousands of dollars and thousands of hours given to the Decatur community.

Nobody knows exactly how much is given overall by the Decatur women's organizations.

Often times the organizations themselves don't keep track of such things as volunteer hours.

But a survey of 20 women's organizations in Decatur shows more than \$100,000 given in donations and services to the community during 1973.

And that doesn't include two large organizations, the hospital auxiliaries, which are open to men and women.

The women's organizations reported a total of 47,989 volunteer hours for 1973.

At just minimum wage — \$1.60 — that would be \$76,782.40 worth of free services to the community.

In addition, the groups spent about \$26,658 during 1973 for community projects. That added to the volunteer hours brings the total to \$103,440.40.

And when the time and money of the St. Mary's and Decatur Memorial hospitals' auxiliaries are included, the figure jumps even higher.

The auxiliaries gave a total of \$102,000 in funds and \$98,248 in 61,405 volunteer hours to the hospitals.

The places in the community which receive services from the organizations are as far-flung as the organizations themselves.

Some, such as the American Business Women's Association's five Decatur chapters, have set projects. They provide scholarships each year.

Others, such as the Altrusa Club, determine major projects throughout the year. During 1973 they sponsored "Operation Identification, a system which involves the marking of valuable objects to discourage thefts.

One of Decatur's largest fund donors is the Junior Welfare Association. The group gave \$14,900 to various Decatur projects including the shoe fund for Decatur school children during its 1972-1973 fiscal year.

Other organizations and some of their 1973 projects in-

clude:

— Jayettes: delivery of Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, watermelon party for Progress School, visit to elderly to deliver Santa Mobiles and assist with Jaycee projects.

— American Association of University Women: scholarships to Millikin University and the Community College of Decatur.

— Big Sister Club: sewing cancer bandages, providing transportation for the elderly to a doctors' clinic and for a little blind girl, and buying shoes and clothing for needy children to wear to their father's funeral.

— Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War: hospital work.

— YWCA International Club: furnishing speakers for schools and other organizations.

— Lambda Tau Delta Sorority: giving service to the elderly, mainly at Longview.

— League of Women Voters: studying and distributing information on governmental issues and voters service.

— Millikin Dames; helping mail material to alumnae, conducting tours of Kirkland Fine Arts Center and giving teas for celebrities.

— Women of the Moose: scholarships for registered

nurses, and an Easter egg hunt.

— Newcomers Social Club: food for the poor project, food and clothing drives, and telephoning new people in Decatur to welcome them.

— Decatur Woman's Club: scholarships, helping with civic organizations' drives, and maintaining a flowerbed at Progress School.

— Women's Relief Corps, Dunham 4: collecting donations to help hospitalized veterans and donating to various drives.

— Zonta Club: helping support the dental clinic of the Decatur Public Schools.

— Decatur Pen Women sponsor creative writing contest and art contest for children.