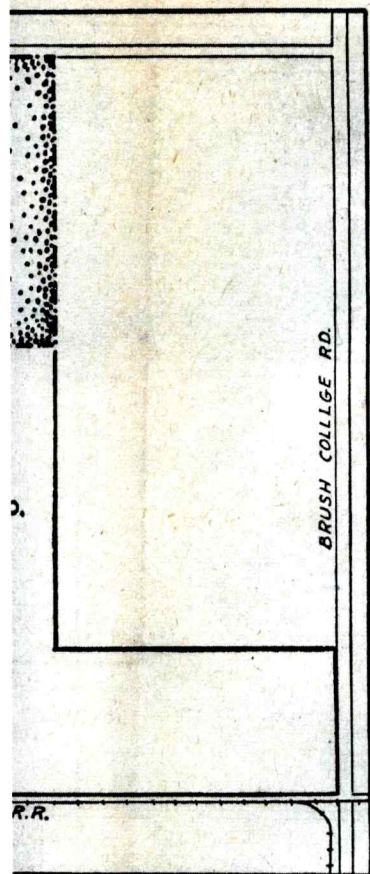


on on Larkdale Annexation



main —the proposed Larkdale Addition.
n try tion.

Commissioner Homer L. Chastain: No.

Commissioner Herbert E. Hill: No.

Commissioner Forest L. Kirby: No.

Q. Would you care to make an estimate within five or 10 years as to the possibility that growth of the city will make this area part of the city even though voters fail to approve annexation now?

Answers:

Sablotny: Should the voters fail to approve annexation of this area, and at a later date the area became industrial, I doubt very much if annexation to the city would become a reality within the next 10 years.

Loftus: Yes, I believe that in 10 years this area will be sufficiently built up to necessitate its being included as part of the city.

Chastain: Portions of this and adjoining areas will no doubt be within the corporate limits of the City of Decatur, depending of course on future developments.

Hill: There's a possibility it may be more than 10 years if this

the north of the present Caterpillar plant.

Loftus: Not so far as I know. However, I do know that Mr. Riley did recommend to the present City Council that the Larkdale area be used for residential purposes.

Chastain: Not to my knowledge.

Hill: To my knowledge—no. On the other hand, in a recent meeting Mr. Riley stated very clearly that he could not find anything drastically wrong with the Larkdale annexation.

Kirby: Not as far as I know.

Q. In order that the voter might have a clearer understanding of this issue, would you state your reasons for voting for the Larkdale annexation?

Sablotny: Everything was done according to the law regarding this annexation and no City Council has ever refused annexation of property to the corporate limits of the city.

Loftus: It was the proper thing to do under the following circumstances: (1) The petition for annexation was approved by the County Court. (2) So far as I know, the City Council has never refused annexation to any area meeting all legal requirements. (3) The annexation was looked upon with favor by the City Plan Commission. (4) The annexation was recommended, and for residential use, by Harland Bartholomew & Associates, for whom I have very high regard.

Chastain: I believe that the recommendations of Harland Bartholomew & Associates given to the prior City Council—that this area is an excellent residential area—are sound from all angles and should be followed. Also I have been and still am for annexation to the corporate limits of the City of Decatur, all areas that can be made or are contiguous and desire to annex. This seems to me to be a more orderly development than fringe development without proper utilities in county type developments.

Hill: As far as I know it has always been the practice to grant annexations properly and legally presented.

Kirby: It met with the city planning board's approval.

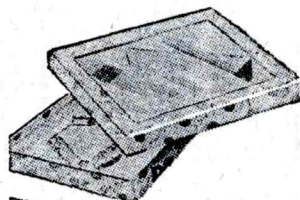
Q. Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

All five: No.

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V. Loftus:

industrial.

Kirby: If Decatur continues to grow in the next seven or eight years at its present pace it seems only logical that the vast spread will take in one new addition after another, thus forcing our city population in boundaries to extend outward in practically every direction.

Q. During the time Harland Bartholomew & Associates have been employed by the City Council, have they ever, at any time recommended that the Larkdale area be reserved for industrial purposes?

Answers:

Sablotny: Not to my knowledge. In our meeting with Russell Riley, their representative, he stated that in his opinion industry should go to the east rather than to



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Decatur

out?

A. Minimum 50 foot lots. About 20% of these lots will be 60 feet.

Q. What price range homes?

A. Minimum \$10,500 to \$11,500—all three-bedroom homes.

Q. How many homes do you plan to build in it?

A. Approximately 600.

Q. Will the units be individually styled?

A. Units will be individually styled, architecturally planned and designed. Color also studied by color experts for a friendly community atmosphere. Every dwelling constructed in the Larkdale addition is to have either a basement or a utility room.

Q. Are lateral sewers and curbs to be incorporated in the cost of each home?

A. All utilities are to be incorporated in the selling price. City standards will be observed in the construction of curbs and gutters, streets, watermain, sanitary sewers, and storm drainage structures.

Q. Upon what do you base the need or demand from the community for this type of development?

A. Our company has been interested in getting a housing project under way in the Decatur area for the past two years on account of the tremendous industrial expansion that Decatur has enjoyed. After some research by our people, we determined, to the best of our ability, that the Decatur area would require about 1,500 homes in a price bracket that would enable the industry-employed workers to afford these homes.

Q. What factors, other than financial, entered into determining its geographical location?

A. After studying the maps of the Decatur area, we soon realized that the urgent need for housing had caused individuals and builders to develop large areas with the well and septic tank type of developments in half acre tracts or larger with very little, if any, police or fire protection. We then had the engineering firm of Chastain, Francis & Associates prepare a large scale map indicating all of the fringe areas that now surround Decatur that would show us just what areas might still be available where the city limits could be extended. To our amazement, as well as to the mayor, council members, zoning and planning boards, we

insured by a company you are affiliated with or by a company designated by you?

A. No. However, some financing companies often insist that they cover the insurance with their mortgage.

Q. Will you handle the selling of these homes or will any real estate dealer in this area be entitled to sell them?

A. The sale of these homes will be handled by one or more reputable real estate dealers that would be a member of the Decatur Real Estate Board.

Q. Do you have any further comments you would like to make?

A. It is the belief of many persons engaged in city planning that the importance of "prevailing winds" in the selection of suitable residential sites has lessened substantially in many general areas within the past decade or two. For example, a few years ago all railroad trains traveling in and through Decatur were steam powered and used coal or oil for fuel. As of now for instance the Wabash railroad uses only diesel power thus eliminating the smoke and soot complaint tied in with "prevailing winds" of years past.

Answers to Questions Sent to Objectors

Q. Do they object to a non-resident developing an area in the Decatur neighborhood?

A. No. Had a resident developer attempted to develop a residential area where the Larkdale addition is attempting to develop, the same objections would have been filed.

Q. Are these homes to be financed by a Lubin controlled company only? If so, do they object to that?

A. We have no way of knowing whether or not the homes proposed to be built in the Larkdale addition will be financed by a Lubin controlled company. Our objections are not directed toward the company financing these homes.

Q. Do they believe there exists no demand for the price range home Mr. Lubin plans to build?

A. We don't know. The objectors do not know of any survey that has ever been made to determine the demand or need for such a number of homes in a concen-

the project were located in another section of the Decatur neighborhood?

A. No. We do not feel that these objections would have been made had the proposed Larkdale addition been located in or near a neighborhood to Decatur suitable for smallhouse residential uses.

Q. Do they know the style of home Mr. Lubin plans to build? If so, do they object to the style and why?

A. It has been proposed that homes in the Larkdale addition will be similar to the homes built in Springfield and from such observation candidly state that the Springfield development is now bordering on a slum area. The type of home proposed, without either utility room or basement, provides no opportunity for the owners for storage of any sort, resulting in the yard area being cluttered with all those things normally stored in basements and utility rooms.

Q. Why object to this annexation when other non-resident developers such as Tri-State were not objected to?

A. The Tri-State development in Decatur, contrary to your ideas, was by local developers. However, had Tri-State or any other developer attempted to do that which is being attempted in the proposed Larkdale annexation, objections would have been filed to such a development regardless of who the developer was.

Q. Do they (the objectors) own property that they believe will be annexed to the city as a direct result of the Larkdale annexation?

A. Some of the objectors feel that they will be annexed to the city of Decatur as a result of the Larkdale annexation, and while they do not object to being annexed, they object to the proposed

permit as to rezoning and annexation without any formal hearing contemplated and required by law.

Answers to Questions By City Council

Q. Since the City Plan Commission plats show this area to be agricultural, is it possible for the area to be designated either residential or industrial until acted upon by the Zoning Board of Appeals after annexation?

Answers:

Mayor Clarence A. Sablotny: It is possible for the County Zoning Board to zone this property either residential or industrial. Upon annexation, request must be made to the City Plan Commission for classification of zoning required.

Commissioner Jack W. Loftus: No.

industrial.

Kirby: If grow in the years at its only logical take in one other, thus lation in bo ward in p tion.

Q. Durin Bartholomev been employ cil, have th recommende area be rese poses?

Answers: Sablotny: edge. In ou Riley, the stated that i should go to



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Pending Petitions

Supreme Court Ruling Might Force Federal Housing Law

By Fred P. Graham
(c) 1967 New York Times
Washington

Events are quietly under way here that could lead to the creation of an effective federal fair housing law—not by an act of Congress, but by a decision of the Supreme Court.

As the Supreme Court opened its 1967 term this week with the usual round of secret conferences on pending petitions for review, two factors made this result possible.

One was the presence among the petitions of an appeal which contends that the United States already has a law against racial discrimination in housing — an 1866 statute that has been enforced once in this century as a fair housing law but has since been almost forgotten.

The other was a series of discussions in the Justice Department, where some top officials are arguing that the government should enter the case as a friend of the court and urge the Supreme Court to resuscitate the old law so that the lower courts can use it to bar discrim-

ination in housing.

These events date back to the summer of 1965, when Joseph Lee Jones and his wife Barbara Jo picked out a pleasant lot in Paddock Woods, a new subdivision in suburban St. Louis, and offered to pay the advertised \$28,195 price to have a house built on it. But Jones is a Negro and his wife is white, and their offer was rejected.

Congress at that time had not even begun to consider the ill-fated fair housing law that succumbed to a Senate filibuster in 1966. So the Joneses' lawyer tried a long shot: he sued the developers on the theory that existing statutes and constitutional amendments, read in the light of the latest Supreme Court decisions, already and up to an enforceable fair housing law.

At the heart of the argument is the Civil Rights Act of 1866, passed to implement the Thirteenth Amendment, which outlawed slavery. The law said: "All citizens of the United States shall have the same right, in every state and territory, as is enjoyed by white citi-

zens thereof, to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold and convey real and personal property."

Remains on Books

This law has been recodified and blended with subsequent legislation down through the years, but it still exists on the statute books, currently in section 1982 of the United States Code (where it is printed alongside President Kennedy's ineffectual Fair Housing Order of 1962).

In 1903, a federal judge in Arkansas did enforce the 1866 law to block a landowner from refusing to lease land to a Negro, but otherwise most lawyers have assumed that a succession of Supreme Court interpretations of the reconstruction laws and amendments have made it unenforceable.

These decisions held that the Thirteenth Amendment, which can be enforced against individuals, could be used only to stop people from treating Ne-

Notable & Quotable

Lucy Wilson Benson, president of the League of Women Voters of the U.S., in a talk at the Monadnock Summer Lyceum at Peterborough, N.H.:

For more than 50 years, the League of Women Voters has operated according to a belief in the value of informed participation in our system of self government. However, of late, it's becoming more and more difficult to really be informed.

We seem to be drowning in a form of informational overkill—constantly bombarded by an ever-changing kaleidoscope of events, happenings and personages. Just when we feel we're beginning to grasp the meat behind a particular piece of news it disappears from view to be replaced by another swirling set of scenes and circumstances.

Wall St Journal 8-24-71

Agriculture forum open to public

A free, public forum about government in agriculture will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in Decatur Public Library auditorium.

Mike Carr, farm/business editor of the Herald & Review, will moderate a discussion among panelists Jim Lilly, editor of Prairie Farmer magazine; Lloyd Reeser, president of the American Agriculture Movement of Illinois; and Willard Severns, Illinois Farm Bureau district director.

The forum is sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the library.

The league points out it is concerned about farm policy because it affects consumers who buy food and voters and taxpayers who fund the government farm programs.

H+R
3/18/88

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, ~~February 8~~, 1971

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

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday March 20, 1988

—Central Illinois

Ag panel disputes federal role

The federal government will continue to be involved in American agriculture, three observers agreed Saturday. But the degree and type of that involvement was a subject of dispute.

The topic was the subject of a public panel discussion sponsored by the Decatur chapter of the League of Women Voters. Government involvement in agriculture is the current national study topic for the league. Eventually, local chapters will reach a consensus that will form the basis for district and national discussion.

However, reaching a consensus is not a foregone conclusion when the panel represents the diversity

of opinion of the Decatur group. The members were Jim Lilly, editor of Prairie Farmer magazine; Lloyd Reeser of Weldon, president of the American Agriculture Movement of Illinois; and Willard Seaverns of Moweaqua, district director for the Illinois Farm Bureau. Mike Carr, Herald & Review farm/business editor, moderated the discussion.

Reeser said the future is not necessarily a matter of "more" government involvement, but a question of "the direction and purpose of that involvement." The AAM believes the government should play a strong role in setting conditions that allow for higher farm prices.

Seaverns agreed there will continue to be government involvement, but said it should not be in the area of income support. He said the suitable roles for government are in research, foreign aid and foreign sales.

Lilly said the matter is more than just a question for U.S. voters and policy makers because the whole world must be involved in the food supply. "We can't feed the world," Lilly said. "The world must feed itself."

11/23/72

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
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Swift and Silent

Sen. Simon Describes Convention Call Action

By Paul Simon

In Saturday Review

WITHOUT fanfare, the legislative body of Senator Everett Dirksen's home state in March passed a resolution calling for a precedent-shattering convention to amend the Constitution of the United States.

No Illinois legislator—including those of us who opposed the resolution—then knew the full significance of our action.

About the time Illinois was "considering" the resolution, Chicago's American published a story indicating that as many as twenty-seven states had passed resolutions calling for such a convention, but the weekend after the Illinois action The New York Times reported that thirty-two states had taken action—only two short of the thirty-four needed to mandate Congress to call a convention.

Illinois's action was swift and silent.

Dirksen Request

On March 1 the resolution was introduced by the Republican leadership of the House, at the specific request of Senator Dirksen. The next day it passed that body without committee hearings and without much discussion.

The Senate received it on March 6, and the resolution was given a Committee-of-the-Whole hearing—which, because the Committee of the Whole is the Senate itself, may sound impressive to the uninitiated, but actually means no committee action.

There was one witness: John Alesia, an officer of the United Steelworkers Union, who testified against it. No one testified for it, yet it carried by a straight party vote—despite the fact that the Supreme Court's reapportionment decision had given the suburbs a big increase in power and therefore meant that Republicans from the suburbs in effect were voting against their districts.

In less than two weeks, with only a handful of us discussing the matter, Illinois had called for a convention which could alter the structure of government.

Relative Ease

To illustrate the relative ease of changing the U. S. Constitution, and the indifference of the states on the matter, I asked the legislature's bill-drafting agency to prepare a dummy measure to appropriate \$5 to the Department of Children and Family Services for the purchase of a new wastebasket.

While a resolution of the utmost importance to the nation breezed through without even semi-serious attention, my measure for the wastebasket would have to go through four committees (two in each House), six readings, two separate roll calls requiring a favorable vote by a majority of legislators, and even then might be vetoed by the Governor.

If I wanted to give the \$5 to the department before the next biennium, a two-thirds majority would be required. Almost no such safeguards are present for a resolution to change the Constitution.

Only one group generated any opposition to the resolution passed in Illinois: The League of Women Voters (referred to by one of my unadmiring colleagues as the "League of Women Vultures") stimulated a few telegrams of opposition.

Reversal Sought

After The New York Times story revealed the immediacy of the threat, I introduced a resolution in the Senate to rescind the action taken. A Chicago suburban representative, Anthony Scariano, introduced a similar resolution in the House.

We were backed by several organizations and by some news media, but by then it had become a party issue. Though the original resolution did not receive committee consideration the motions to rescind were sent to committee.

I had two proposals that day before the Senate Executive Committee, one calling for a nonpolitical full-time pardon

sion had given the suburbs a big increase in power and therefore meant that Republican organizations and by some news media, but by then it had become a party issue. Though the original resolution did not receive committee consideration the motion to rescind were sent to committee.

I had two proposals that day before the Senate Executive Committee, one calling for a nonpolitical full-time pardon and parole board, the other the resolution to rescind. The Republican leader of the Senate spoke against my parole board bill, which had been recommended by every organization studying Illinois' archaic penal system. He said it was "too complex" to be considered then. Next came the resolution to rescind, and the same GOP leader said that the original action had been "amply discussed."

The Senate Democratic leader, Thomas A. McGibbon, protested, "The original resolution was railroaded through the legislature and everybody knows it." But again by a straight party vote—the motion lost.

Puzzle

One of the real puzzles is: Why should such a resolution calling for a Constitutional Convention be pushed?

Both the Gallup and Harris polls show that public opinion overwhelmingly accepts the Supreme Court reapportionment decision. Illinois political leaders of the majority party are defying opinion on this matter for several reasons, among them:

1. They know that the public really does not seem to care much. We received hundreds of times more mail on issues like registering guns, legalizing bingo, and teachers' pensions.
2. For the more conservative members—and almost all of Illinois' GOP senators fit that category—this was a chance to slap at the Supreme Court.
3. Powerful special interest groups want to keep state legislative bodies under their control. The "one-man-one-vote" decision makes this more difficult.
4. There continues to be fear of the big city—in Illinois' case, Chicago. (It is apparently not understood that the same system which can throw an imbalance in one's favor can throw an imbalance against him—that ultimately the only protection is in the "one-man-one-vote" principle.)

His next step, presumably, is to take this idea to a Constitutional Convention. What is to stop him?

Cities Compared

Lower Assessed Value Affects School Tax

By Gary Wisby
Of the Herald

Although Decatur's public school tax rate is much higher than those of three other Illinois cities, Decatur collects much less per student.

Schools Supt. Dr. Rolland W. Jones pointed that out Sunday in reacting to a recent study by the Decatur Chamber of Commerce comparing the tax rates of Decatur, Peoria, Rockford and Springfield.

Decatur's assessed school tax valuation last year \$15.59 per student, compared to Peoria, \$24; Rockford, \$21; and Springfield, \$18, he said. The levies are payable this year.

The Decatur rate of 2.6483 is much higher than the other three cities' — Peoria's is only 2.03 — but Decatur's assessed valuation, to which the rate is applied to produce the levy, is considerably lower.

Decatur's valuation last year was about \$341 million, compared with Rockford, \$679 million; Peoria, \$522 million and Springfield \$399 million.

The school district's per-student tax levy stacks up even more poorly against those of districts elsewhere in the county and state.

The per-student figures in the county's seven other districts ranges up to \$27.28, he noted, and one Piatt County district gets \$114.10 per student.

"When I look at these," said Jones, indicating the figures, "it's a wonder we're able to keep going."

It may be that property in Springfield, Peoria and Rockford is assessed at a value closer to its actual value than in Decatur, said the superintendent. If that is true Decatur is getting proportionately less for its property wealth than the other three cities.

Another factor explaining the district's higher school rate is its number of parochial and private school pupils, indicated Jones.

Decatur had only 3,114 students in that category, he said, compared with Springfield, 8,000; Peoria, 8,900; and Rockford, 2,700. The figures, the latest ones available, are for 1965.

That means Decatur is "educating a greater percentage of its kids in the public schools" than two of the three cities, said Jones.

The tables released by the Chamber of Commerce showed

that Decatur's total tax rate over the past five years has been higher than those of the other three cities, and that its school tax rate was largely responsible for that.

Letters to the Editor

Valuations Tax Rate Factor

To the Editor:

On Sept. 14 and 18, the Decatur newspapers said in headlines that the total tax rate for Decatur was higher than Springfield, Peoria, and Rockford. Such a comparison of tax rates is meaningless without understanding the importance of the relation of the tax rate to the assessed valuation of property.

Although Decatur has a higher total tax rate than the other communities, it has a lower total assessed valuation. Thus, the realized total tax income is less in Decatur than in the other cities.

In order to compare the school district tax rates, one must also know the per pupil assessed valuation. This is the total equalized assessed valuation of all property in the school district divided by the number of pupils in average daily attendance.

For example, Peoria's 1965 assessed valuation of \$23,267 per pupil, and its tax rate of \$2.03 per \$100 of assessed valuation (lowest of the four school districts) would bring in \$472.32 per pupil; Decatur's lower per pupil assessed valuation of \$16,549 and higher tax rate of \$2.65 would bring in only \$438.54 per pupil or \$34 less.

To put it another way, if

both the Decatur and Peoria schools has a \$1 per \$100 tax rate, Decatur schools would receive only \$165 per pupil whereas the Peoria schools would receive \$232, because of its higher assessed valuation per pupil.

The relationship between tax rates and assessed valuations is shown again with the county tax rates of Decatur and Rockford. They are almost the

same, 23.6 cents and 22.4 cents respectively, but because of Rockford's assessed valuation of \$962,570,371, which is almost twice as large as Decatur's \$499,504,078, Rockford's county would receive almost twice as much tax income as would Decatur's.

Mrs. W. H. Tilley
President
League of Women
Voters of Decatur

Safe, Studious Women Voters']

Some Members Balk

At Touchy Issues

By Diane K. Shah
FROM WESTPORT, CONN.

SUDDENLY this peaceful, wealthy bedroom community of 30,000 residents was in an uproar. A plan, called Project Concern, to bus 25 black children from neighboring Bridgeport into Westport schools, was well on its way to implementation, effective next January. But even more controversial than the busing itself was the notion that the local chapter of the League of Women Voters had blitzed the town with busing propaganda to bring off Project Concern.

The league's role as a prime mover on this touchy issue did not sit well with many townspeople, including some league members. Grumbled Mrs. Virginia Lewis, a longtime Westport resident: "I had the feeling the league came out once a year around election time. When did it become so activist?"

To many, the 50-year-old league, founded in 1920 to inform women how to use their newly won franchise, is primarily a nonpartisan voter-information service that prepares in-depth reports on local candidates and issues, and works to turn out voters at the polls. The league is also widely reputed as a research-study organization that undertakes exhaustive studies on government conduct and public affairs, and follows up with well-written, thoroughly documented position papers on issues it has studied.

Usually, Not Much Splash

In most communities, the league generates little splash. The issues it espouses are fairly "safe," such as improving garbage disposal and juvenile detention facilities, updating the town charter, revamping the city budget, working toward a state constitutional convention, or developing better recreational areas.

But contrast that tradition with an incident that occurred during the league's biennial convention in Washington, D.C., last May.

In an unprecedented move, on May 5, Mrs. Lucy Wilson Benson, the national president, acting on a spur-of-the-moment motion from the floor, interrupted one meeting to allow interested delegates to



Members of the national board and staff, meeting recently in Washington to map out league strategy.

it considered were unequal educational opportunities in Bridgeport, Conn., a city of 100,000, 10 miles away. Bridgeport contains an inner-city core of underprivileged blacks, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans.

The investigation was carried out by the leadership of Mrs. Elaine Gross, the chapter's human resources chairman. Busing programs in other cities were studied, in addition to the merits of compensatory education, and other innovative approaches. The study lasted from November 1958 to March 1969, a comparatively short time for such an undertaking, but according to Mrs. Gross: "We wanted to implement something as quickly as possible." What the group decided should be

sensus is written up, stating what the majority opinion seems to be, but also noting any dissent.

According to the Westport league president, Mrs. Jackie Heneage, the consensus turned out in favor of Project Concern. However, even at that point, the league was aware the issue would cause controversy in the town.

Explained Mrs. Gross, the human resources chairman who led the Project Concern study: "Obviously at that time there were mixed feelings amongst the group whether the league should take a stand on a very controversial issue. But we felt that because of the national position—that is, steps should be taken to allevi-

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what the school children in Bridgeport. Many Westport residents thought the league should wait the outcome of the study before acting on its own plan. But the league went ahead with its push for Project Concern. The five-man school board seemingly reacted to the impact.

At one controversial school board meeting in March, a letter from Bridgeport's superintendent of schools, Lester Silverstone, was presented. The letter requested consideration of developing "some type of working relationship" between Bridgeport and Westport schools. Mr. Silverstone wrote: "One possible source of assistance might lie in the placing of urban children in some suburban elementary schools."

1950s, trade was a hot issue, and the league was very active in it."

And indeed, the League of Women Voters does have a long history of political activity. In fact, by definition, the league is a lobbying organization. It is doubtful if any U.S. senator or congressman has not heard from the league on one issue or another. When told the league had only 160,000 members, one senator reportedly exclaimed: "I thought there were millions of them."

Indiana Sen. Birch Bayh, a Democrat, knows the league well, for it is strongly backing his effort to bring about Electoral College reform. Senator Bayh warmly praises the league: "The league combines

include research and publication of information on "issues," as well as Voter Service activities.

What all this means is that the league, by tapping Education Fund contributions for certain activities it has always paid for, will now be able to free more money for action. The combined budget for the league and the Education Fund for the year April 1, 1970, through March 31, 1971, totals \$1,775,766.

But more than the dollar factor, Mrs. Benson stresses this reason for the recent awareness of league activity. "I think a lot has to do with the issues, and with an issue being lively when the league has a position on it. It's true we are involved in more things, but then, this is an activist time."

There is speculation, too, that because these are activist times, people tend to be more touchy about issues. Whereas 10 or 15 years ago league members could study legislative reform without musing each other's hair, today league positions on busing and construction of low-income housing in suburban areas are bound to cause controversy.

'We Seem More Activist'

Says Mrs. Heneage, the Westport league president: "The league is taking up touchy issues in certain places for some



Scads of reports inform voters. —Photographs by D

ate inequality in education... because of the directive we had been given by local members, and because of the rationale behind Project Concern. It was a valid thing to support.

The question then arises: How far should the league go to "support" it? The Westport league decided to undertake a major effort. What ensued in the following months was the biggest reform campaign the town had ever known. The league held some 50 "coffee," inviting members of every civic group, the P-TA, the school board, religious organizations, social clubs, men's and women's clubs, doctors, lawyers, almost every type of group in the town, to hear the league stand on Project Concern.

In the meantime, the Urban Coalition at the behest of the Westport school board was undertaking a two-year study of ways to aid disadvantaged

Plugging Project Concern

Nothing further was done until the following November, when a two-page advertisement appeared in the Westport paper spelling out the advantages of a busing program called Project Concern, which was already in effect in several Connecticut communities. The same day, a meeting was held to inform Westport league members of the plan. This would be followed up by four unit meetings the next week to take a consensus on Project Concern.

Unit meetings are held for the conference of the membership. Because it is often difficult to find one time suitable for everybody, a chapter will schedule several times when members can show up for a consensus. According to league bylaws, votes are not permitted on an issue. Instead, after a lengthy debate, a consensus is reached.

Up From the 'Grass Roots'

To understand what happened in Westport, it is necessary to see how the league operates. It is structured on three levels — local, state, and national, with the power flow designed to move up from the "grass roots" to the national office in Washington, D.C. Thus, most league activities emanate from the 1,300 local chapters spread out in cities and towns across the nation. When the chapters meet once a month, it is usually to discuss "issues," and again there are three kinds of issues, local, state, and national.

Each chapter decides which local issues to study. Typically, these focus on town government, education, taxes, and zoning. In addition, each chapter in a state suggests to the state board items of study on reform, or taxation. Each chapter also proposes issues of nationwide import to the national 18-member board. The proposals are voted upon at the league's biennial convention. A "dictum" is then sent back down telling the chapters which national issues to study.

This is how the Westport busing affair started — with a dictum from national in 1968 to study equal opportunity in education. Westport is a wealthy, predominantly white community (there are perhaps 14 black families). Educational opportunities in the town are fairly uniform, and the level of curriculum is far superior to that in most school systems. Thus the Westport league board decided to investigate what Westport could do, as a suburban community, to help ameliorate what

Says Mrs. Heneage, the Westport league president: "The league is taking up vigil had been called to protest U.S. intervention in Cambodia."

To Mrs. Todd C. Storer, a Tulsa league member, delegate participation in the demonstration was not proper league behavior. "I take a real dim view of that," she comments. "I feel those gals at the convention from our city were sent with our funds to act in an official capacity for the league."

Only the day before, the convention had voted overwhelmingly against taking up Cambodia as a study issue. In fact, the league has never delved into U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia, and Mrs. Storer believes the delegates were wrong to show up at the antiwar protest. Although delegates supposedly went on their own, many wore their league badges.

Another source of concern to some league members was the youth conference the league sponsored at Fort Collins, Colo., last October. The purpose of the conference was to provide for an exchange of ideas that might help the conferees more effectively confront and resolve vital issues in their communities. Some 200 "youth and adult activists were invited," as the league's official monthly organ, The National Voter, described it, with some of the participants representing such organizations as Students for a Democratic Society, the Black Student Union, and the Black Panthers.

Not only is the league tackling controversial issues at the national level, but in some communities, too, local chapters are taking on touchy issues. In some towns, the league is gaining a reputation as a powerful pressure group. The Westport chapter is a case in point.

Memo to the School Board

As a result of the letter, Dr. A. Gordon Peterkin, the Westport school superintendent, wrote a memo to the school board saying: "In view of current interest in the possibility of early implementation of Project Concern, I would expect this possibility might be given early attention in that Study (Urban Coalition)."

Although the school board eventually voted to wait for the Urban Coalition's recommendations, many persons in Westport believe Project Concern will be implemented, largely owing to the league's efforts. The Coalition's study is due in December, and the school board intends to implement some type of educational program for Bridgeport school children in January 1971.

The effect of the league's push for Project Concern was to split Westport. Recalls Mrs. Lucia Donnelly, an editor for the Town Crier, a local daily, which is now defunct: "I received calls from many outraged citizens. Some were opposed to busing, but others disputed the league tactics. They felt the league was using bulldozing tactics just to get the thing through."

Complained one woman: "The league split the town apart, and the town is still polarized. There are over 200 women in the Westport league, but only 70 took part in the Project Concern consensus, and of those, perhaps 40 backed it. But those 40 wore everybody out."

Many Westport residents contend the town itself is opposed to Project Concern. A handful of concerned citizens sent out a poll to every registered voter in the town. Of the 40 per cent return, 83 per cent said they were against the busing. However, it must be noted, there was no space on the poll sheet to show support for the program. Nevertheless, many ask, should the league under these circumstances try to push such a controversial issue? Mrs. Jackie Heneage, the Westport league president, answers:

"I really don't think I could say a majority of people in town are in favor of Project Concern, 'cause I really don't know. Should we go ahead if everybody is not in favor? I think yes, we should, because of what has happened in other towns that have tried the program. People change their minds when they become acquainted with it and they discover it's really a very small program, but that the kids involved in it are helped."

A Basic Change?

Does the Westport affair typify a change in the League of Women Voters from a basically research-study oriented group to one that is activist? Mrs. Lucy Wilson Benson, the national president, says she doesn't believe so.

"The league has never been a research or study organization alone, although some people have that impression. It's always stressed political action with study. I know it seems we're more active now, but I'm not sure that we actually are. Certainly in its first years, the league was tremendously active. An enormous amount of congressional and state legislation was worked on by the league in the 1920s and the 1930s, and through the years. In the

a high degree of careful and thoughtful study with a tremendous reservoir of energy and interest. It is a powerful force for effective reform."

The league boasts a healthy record of successful reform efforts. The first came in 1921, with passage of the Sheppard-Towner Act, which provided for Federal grants-in-aid to the states for maternal and child-care programs. Other legislation passed with league endorsement included the Social Security Act in 1935; the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act in 1938; renewal of every Trade Agreements Act since 1934; U.S. ratification of the United Nations Charter in 1945; the Economic Opportunity Amendments in 1967; and the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965.

An Early Defeat

The league is not always successful in its efforts. One defeat came in 1920, when Congress voted not to join the League of Nations. The women had worked hard to push U.S. entry into the league.

On each of the issues the league takes up, a tremendous amount of research and paper work is done. Nobody can even hazard a guess on the volume of league papers stored in the Library of Congress. And because league members make themselves so well informed on various issues, they are often called upon to testify at congressional and state hearings.

Why then has the league suddenly come under fire for being an activist organization? One reason: funds. Says Mrs. Benson: "Money has a lot to do with the impression the league is more active. For years, a financial stranglehold kept the league from moving in and taking the kind of action it wanted to."

Mrs. Benson and her national board have acted to break that stranglehold. For the first time in league history, a national fund drive is under way. The goal — \$11,000,000. The avowed purpose of the campaign: "To prepare for even more significant responsibilities in citizen participation in government in the decade ahead."

Chosen to chair the campaign drive was John W. Gardner, chairman of the Urban Coalition and a good friend of Mrs. Benson's. To date, \$6,500,000 has rolled in. About two-thirds of it is from league members' contributions; the rest is from corporate and foundation gifts. Among them: \$50,000 from Humble Oil; \$30,000 from AT&T; \$30,000 from IBM; \$18,000 from the United Steelworkers of America; \$15,000 from the Louisville Courier-Journal & Times; and \$5,000 from the Johnson Publishing Co., which puts out Ebony magazine.

The league is not allowed to accept tax-deductible gifts. To overcome that obstacle, contributors were asked to make out their checks to the Education Fund, a research and development arm of the league, which is allowed to garner tax-deductible gifts. As separate legal entities, the league and the Education Fund, created by the league in 1957, were headed by separate boards. Several months ago this was changed so the national board of the League of Women Voters also sits on top of the Education Fund.

Under this set-up, the league can use some of the funds earmarked for the Education Fund, if the monies are spent for "educational" purposes. This would

people. We may seem more activist to these people, because suddenly they're aware the league is promoting something that somehow hurts them, or something they disagree with very strongly."

This development has caused some members to drop out of the league. Explains Mrs. Richard Kluck of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., a Pittsburgh suburb: "The particular group I belong to is extremely liberal. It seems like the decisions always go one way, as if the girls' minds were made up before an issue is even broached. Dissenters' views are not being heard as they should be. I've tried to make my point at a number of meetings, but I was somewhat afraid to push it."

It is interesting to note the league's policy on dissent. All members are encouraged to speak out, of course, but if a whole chapter disagrees with a national position on an issue, it cannot publicly dissent in the name of the league.

The charge that the league is liberal-oriented has been voiced by others besides Mrs. Kluck. Mrs. Storer, the Tulsa woman who objected to participation by convention delegates at the Washington peace vigil, is dropping her membership. "I'm a conservative, and I guess the league is just too liberal for me."

Mrs. Margaret Bryant, first vice president of the League of Women Voters of Virginia, notes: "In the most conservative cities in Virginia, there are no league chapters."

Middle-Class, Middle-Aged

League membership is predominantly composed of middle-class, middle-aged whites. The very rich, the very poor, and the young, for the most part, do not join the league. Though anyone 18 and over is eligible for membership, few women under 30 sign up. Nor do the blacks, generally speaking. Recently, two black leaguers were voted to the national board, and several head their local leagues. In some cities, however, the league must step cautiously to accommodate black members, without causing friction in the community.

In South Carolina, black women are members of every league chapter in the state. Often this can present a sticky situation. Says Mrs. Keller Baumgardner, president of the South Carolina league: "Sometimes, it's less controversial for us to meet in a public place instead of a member's home. We do this because of the way some neighbors in some locations might feel."

Oddly enough, a smattering of men have joined the league. But they are not given full status. Instead, they are deemed "associate members." Joseph M. Cronin, a faculty member at Harvard University, recently wrote a jesting letter to league President Mrs. Benson maintaining the Male Liberation Front of registered voters is demanding: the dropping of the modifier "women" from the League of Women Voters; a minimum of 20 per cent male officers; and an annual "Man of the Year" award for voter service.

But the league, an outgrowth of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, which spearheaded a 72-year drive for the female vote, is not really interested in integrating its ranks. Though denying any feminist overtones, the league maintains it has done quite well for itself propelled by woman power alone.



Staff Photo by Doug Gauman

In ruffles and petticoats of 50 years ago and in trim styles of today, representatives of the Decatur League of Women Voters attended City Council Monday to witness the signing of their proclamation.

The order, signed by Mayor James Rupp, designates the week of May 4 to 10 "League of Women Voters Week," commemorating the 50th anniversary of the local organization.

Primary activity during the week will be the League's finance drive during their "Year of the Voter."

Dresses of the early 1900 era were supplied by the Macon County Museum.

The light colored dress, worn by Mrs. Robert C. Schade, belonged to Miss Edith DeGroat of 1115 N. Main and was originally made for her high school graduation in 1905.

The dress worn by Mrs. Richard Hughes belonged to Miss DeGroat's mother in

1915; the coat, to her grandmother, Mrs. Sophrania Hunble in 1910.



After 50 years, which way will the league march?



Library of Congress photo

'We go

The league could become even more politically active, increase emphasis on women's rights, and reach more inner-city residents and young people. It would emphatically like more marchers — from both ends of the economic spectrum. But it will remain a thoughtful band that considers issues carefully before crusading.

By Susan Hunsinger

Staff writer of *The Christian Science Monitor*

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lems for league study. One of the most appropriate places to work for equal opportunity, league women are learning, is in the suburbs, where most members live.

"Our essential effort must be focused on ourselves . . . and on our own community institutions which are racist and exclusive and which perpetuate poverty," said Mrs. Smith, now legislative chairman for the Massachusetts league board. She referred to school textbooks, suburban industry and church rosters, and the exclusion of low-income housing.

Leagues all over the country are studying zoning laws and how to make them more flexible. The November, 1969, issue of Current Review, a national league publication, identifies the various exclusionary zoning practices and suggests ways to curb them.

The Los Angeles league is working to reduce the suburbanites' fear of the "invasion" of low-income housing and multiple family dwellings. "The league has joined with realty groups and fair-housing councils in sponsoring seminars to explain housing needs, to show that low-income housing does not mean an instant slum or ghetto," says Mrs.

says. By the time the general problem had become specific in Vietnam, she thinks public — and perhaps league — attitudes were already too polarized.

The absence of these issues may result partly from league procedures — which are as time-consuming as they are democratic. Before an issue can be added to the league program, a substantial majority, or "consensus," must agree on its importance for league study. At the local level, the only opportunity to suggest an issue is at the league discussion meeting.

League procedures, according to Mrs. Benson, should allow for the member who cannot be present at the meeting, and, perhaps, for the suspicion that "meetings are getting more and more out of style." But the league is reluctant to introduce any mechanism which might lead to the mere registration of opinion rather than considered judgment.

Some of the league's traditional procedures — such as the parliamentary meeting — are proving inappropriate in the inner city. League members find that voter registration is no longer equivalent to voter service: many inner city residents have to be convinced of the power of the vote, or of testimony before

WHEN THE LEAGUE WAS founded 50 years ago, it was thought that every woman should join," says Mrs. Bruce B. Benson, current president of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

The founders, who had just won the 72-year-old battle for women's voting rights, felt responsible for educating the 20 million people they had helped enfranchise.

But the idea that the league was something for everyone was unrealistic, says Mrs. Benson. "Many people don't want to be involved even in a peripheral way with a citizens' government-oriented group."

Nevertheless, Mrs. Benson thinks "the potential of the league is infinitely greater than its present membership" of 160,000 women. In 1970—the 50th year for the league and women's suffrage and the 100th anniversary of Negro suffrage—the league is trying to achieve a more representative membership.

More black members

In the past few years the league has been concentrating on increasing its membership among minorities. Black membership has risen—nationwide.

The Alabama league president, Mrs. Sarah Cabot Pierce of Montgomery, says about one-quarter of the attendance at her league meetings now is black.

But, in essence, says Mrs. Benson, the wife of an Amherst College physics professor, "We are missing the two ends of the economic spectrum. We have very few wives of corporate executives and we have very few poor women."

The Alabama president, whose husband is in the insurance business, explains "there are not very many businessmen who approve of their wives getting involved in controversial issues. The native boys prefer the Junior League."

The lag in membership among the poor is in part attributed to attitudes unintended, but nevertheless expressed.

But members of minority groups—as well as poorer whites—may have felt uncomfortable at the meetings, often held in the homes of the well-to-do. Similarly, Catholics may have been reluctant to attend meetings held in Protestant churches. Now the league favors holding public meetings in public places.

Perhaps the most important determinant of league membership is the nature of league activities, which focus on broad issues and the structure of government.

"I think we have to accept the fact that we are a primarily white, middle-class group," says Mrs. Mary Grace Smith, former president of the Boston league. "Some people can't afford to be volunteers of [the league] sort. It's more important for them to use what leisure time they have to work on matters of immediate community interest"—such as upgrading the ghetto school rather than trying to abolish the Electoral College.

Even the middle-class, well-educated women who have always formed the league's hard core now have less time for volunteer activities. For many of these women—upon whom the league has depended—are going to work.

"This trend has already had a tremendous impact on the league," says Mrs. Benson. In an attempt to adapt itself to the schedules of working women, the league now holds more meetings at night and at lunchtime downtown.

And the league has for the first time embarked on a nationwide fund-raising drive for \$11 million—in part to pay professionals to do the routine office work formerly done by volunteers.

The league also wants the money to reach young people. "We have learned by experience that young people, even the biggest activists, are interested in using democratic processes to bring about change," says Mrs. Benson.

Last summer the league used \$100,000 of its education budget to recruit and transport 150 "highly politicized" young people—ranging from Black Panthers and SDSers to the Young Americans for

change, the Social Security Act of 1935, and the Muscle-Shoals proposal for public-controlled power facilities in the Tennessee Valley in 1933.

• Government reform—establishment of the merit system of hiring federal employees, 1934-40, and revision of state constitutions in Pennsylvania, Michigan, California, Iowa, Hawaii, and Florida.

• Foreign policy—every renewal of the Trade Agreements Act beginning in 1934, and recent U.S. efforts to ease trade restrictions with Communist China.

• Water—the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 and the Clean Water Restoration Act of 1966.

When asked what the concerned citizen could do about water pollution, chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Policy, Russell B. Train, replied recently, "Join the League of Women Voters."

Implementation stressed

But why join the league rather than a strictly conservationist group? The league, says Mrs. Benson, works to see that federal legislation gets implemented on the state and local level.

"It's not enough to lobby in Congress," says Mrs. Benson. "You have to follow it through. . . . You have to know who the polluters are, how much money they need to stop, what to do with the sewage, and you have to press all government levels for the money for treatment plants."

The league has always tackled highly political, or controversial, issues, but rarely those divided on a clear-cut party basis.

One of the league's problems is finding room for new issues, since the old ones don't fade away, they just expand. Water resources, for example, has been on the league program for 14 years. As if a sign of the program to come, the Massachusetts league board already includes an expert on thermonuclear pollution.

Equal opportunity also presents a never-ending number of public prob-

The Uruguayan experiment

Uruguay: A Contemporary Survey, by Marvin Alisky. New York: Frederick A. Praeger. \$6.50.

By James Nelson Goodsell

Uruguay's existence as a tiny buffer between two giant neighbors, Argentina and Brazil, has been called an historical accident. That description is correct in a sense, considering the way the British found themselves encouraging the two larger countries to put a chunk of land between them. But such a description fails to take into account the important role Uruguay has played and continues to play as an articulate, independent voice in Latin America.

As Marvin Alisky writes, "Uruguay has been a social laboratory, an inspiration to other Latin American nations seeking polit-

ical freedom." It is from this standpoint that Mr. Alisky unravels his survey of "Latin America's Switzerland." He quite correctly sees the Uruguayan experiment in representative democracy as unique in Latin America, although he clearly outlines the problems that Uruguay faces as a result of its social welfare experiments.

Recalling Winston Churchill's famous comment about democracy being the worst form of government, except for all the other forms that have been tried, Mr. Alisky says: "Uruguay seems to be the worst Latin American nation, except for almost all the others." This may cause some Latin Americans to blanch, and certainly will cause some Uruguayans to raise eyebrows, but Mr. Alisky points out that "despite economic pressures," Uruguay has not given up

"its broad-based democracy and genuine representative government." At the present time, with military rule in almost half the countries of Latin America, much of which borders on dictatorship, the Uruguayan accomplishment is all the more impressive.

Mr. Alisky's book is really a primer on Uruguay and could serve as a model for series on Latin America's 24 independent nations. Very little is left out, although many instances the reader would obviously have to go elsewhere for more detailed information. But for the general reader, this is a superb introduction to Uruguay. The geography, history, and current events of the country are all treated with enough description to afford an ample look.

Perhaps most important, Mr. Alisky points out that Uruguay basked in the advantage of having had a European guar-

id health, the Social Security Act of 5, and the Muscle-Shoals proposal for public-controlled power facilities in the Tennessee Valley in 1933.

Government reform—establishment of the merit system of hiring federal employees, 1934-40, and revision of state constitutions in Pennsylvania, Michigan, California, Iowa, Hawaii, and Florida.

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Equal opportunity also presents a never-ending number of public prob-

Barbara Margerum, Los Angeles league president.

Not feminist group

So far the national league has focused on the rights of minorities, but not, interestingly, on those of women. However, three state leagues—Alaska, Iowa, and Tennessee—have recently expressed interest in studying women's rights.

"It's a little hard to say why the league has not been interested in these issues" pertaining to the legal and financial status of women," says Mrs. Benson. "There has been a conscious, and perhaps unconscious, effort not to be a feminist organization, but to be a citizens' organization in the broad sense."

One of the broadest citizen concerns—the Vietnam war—has also escaped League study. "It's too bad that the League didn't get involved in studying the whole problem of national liberation way back in the 1950's," Mrs. Benson



By Peter W. Main, staff photographer

Mrs. Bruce B. Benson
League of Women Voters president

the city council—or housing authority—techniques which are second nature to the league.

Some members disagree about the group's primary function. "The league has one of the same divisions as the church," says Mrs. Benson. "The individual salvation-types vs. the social activists."

Some think the league's purpose is to educate the individual citizen to decide which action to take. The other trend is to say, yes, the role of the league is education, but you won't get needed changes unless you act in an organized political fashion.

Demonstrations argued

How organized is the league ready to be? The Massachusetts league closed its office last October 15 and urged members to participate in Vietnam Moratorium Day discussions. The national league participated in the June, 1968 Poor People's Campaign march when it got to Washington.

"As league president I feel that demonstrations are a useful political tool, guaranteed under the Constitution," says Mrs. Benson. But she has been severely criticized by some members who feel that demonstrations are not a "league-like" way to influence public policy. "They seem to forget we got the vote by demonstrating," she adds.

No matter what emphasis league members put on political action, they agree that numbers make a difference. The Massachusetts league, which has the largest number of local leagues and 12,000 members, has more influence than the Mississippi league, with 375 members, or the Alabama league, with 700.

At the national league convention in May, there may be a move to speed up league procedures to allow for a little more action, a little less discussion. While the Alabama president feels her league would prefer not to move so fast, she says, "Maybe that's the kind of world we live in."

From the bookshelf

broad-based democracy and genuinely representative government." At the present time, with military rule in almost half the countries of Latin America, much of which suffers from dictatorship, the Uruguayan accomplishment is all the more impressive. Mr. Alisky's book is really a primer on Uruguay and could serve as a model for analyses on Latin America's 24 independent nations. Very little is left out, although in many instances the reader would obviously like to go elsewhere for more detailed information. But for the general reader, this is a superb introduction to Uruguay. The geography, history, and current events of the country are all treated with enough depth to afford an ample look. Perhaps most important, Mr. Alisky points out that Uruguay basked in the advantage of having had a European guaran-

tee of territorial integrity in the 1800's, when such a guarantee counted. Without this British support, the historical accident might not have survived the vagaries of Latin American history of the past century. But survive it did and, aided by a homogeneous European population, Uruguay thrived. By the turn of the century, a prosperous Uruguay was ready for the social experimentation of José Batlle y Ordóñez—experiments which turned a somewhat feudal society into a welfare state.

Economic problems, particularly since the end of World War II, have brought serious dislocations to Uruguay. Labor unrest of almost unprecedented magnitude has beset the tiny land for the past decade and production in factories and in the fields has fallen off sharply. Economic collapse has

threatened repeatedly. The problem for Uruguay now is one of solving this critical situation.

Mr. Alisky asks: "Can a nation that exerted every effort for civil liberties and welfare benefits evoke a consensus that will stop fomenters of work stoppages from sabotaging economic growth?" The answer is in doubt. Mr. Alisky is on balance hopeful, but his analysis will leave many readers uncertain. The solution, he says, includes the expansion of the private sector of the economy while the public sector is kept at its current, high level.

Mr. Alisky's writing on Uruguay has appeared from time to time in these pages. This book is not, however, a compilation of these articles, but rather a fresh, concise, and instructive survey of one of Latin America's important nations.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1970

C1

League Women Protest

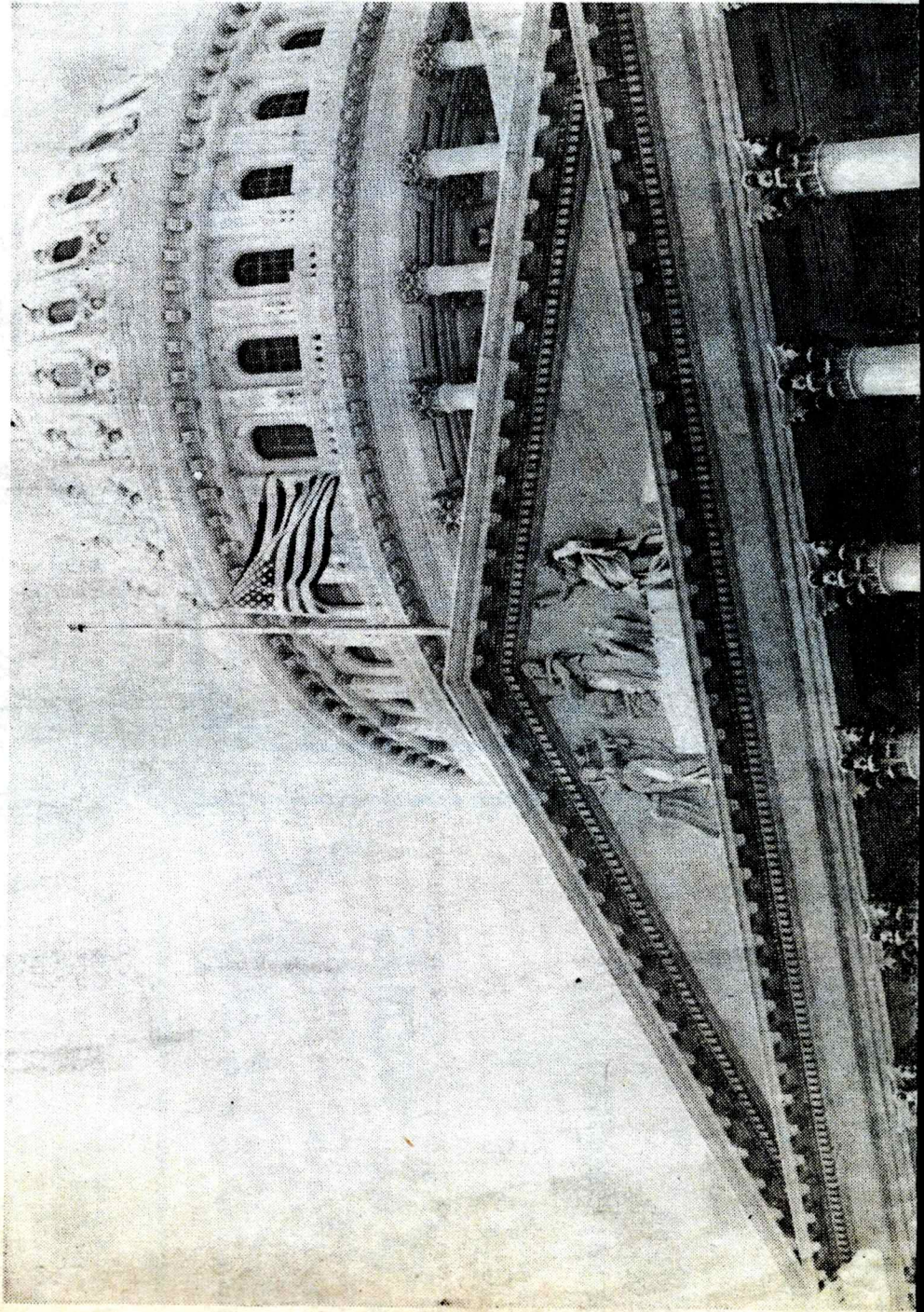
By Nancy L. Ross

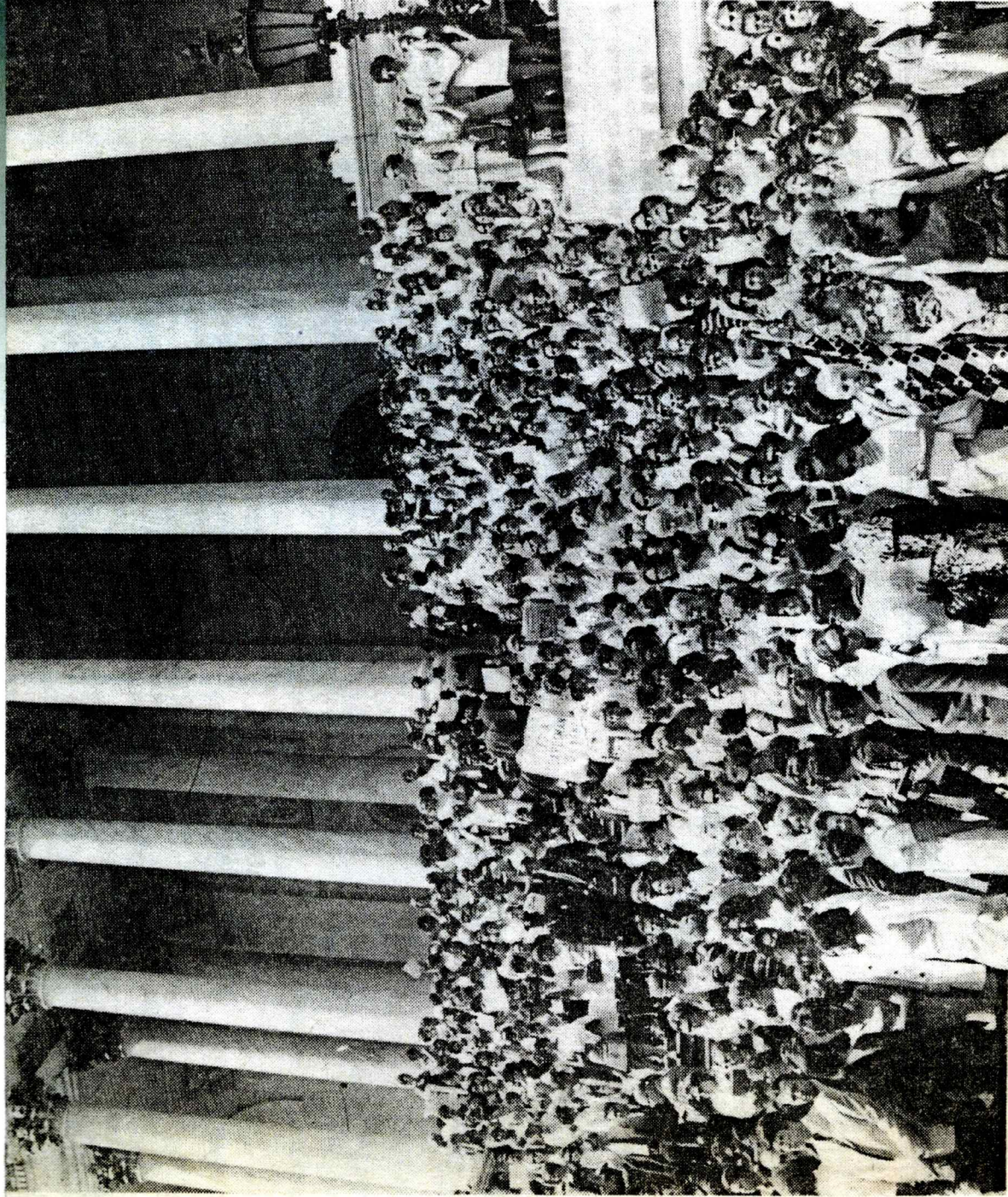
In a sharp break with tradition, the League of Women Voters suspended its national convention here yesterday to allow members to participate in a noon vigil on the Capitol steps to protest U.S. intervention in Cambodia.

In a related development Shirley Temple Black, the former child movie star appointed by Mr. Nixon to the U.S. delegation to the United Nations, told League members she believed any further escalation of the war in Indochina should be taken up by that international body.

Only Monday, the League voted not to consider resolutions on current issues like Cambodia on the grounds they had not been thoroughly studied at the grass roots level and a consensus brought to the convention.

However, a sufficiently large number of members still wished to express their





By Bob Burchette—The Washington Post
Hundreds of League of Women Voters delegates protest U.S. intervention in Cambodia yesterday on the Capitol steps.

personal viewpoints on the war so proceedings were adjourned for several hours to permit them to do so as individuals. It marked the first time within memory a national convention had taken such action.

Commenting on the vigil, a League member who asked not to be identified because she was representing another organization at the convention, said:

"The grass roots must be up in arms. This is the most activist convention I've seen. The League is always so careful not to do anything that does not have demonstrated local support. The League is so mainstream, so it means the grass roots must really be aroused (about Cambodia)."

None of the delegates saw any inconsistency in the League's philosophy of working within the Establishment (collecting and distributing information, writing to Congressmen, etc.) and refraining from partisan politics in their "individual acts of protest."

"We are acting as citizens; the League doesn't tell us what to do," said Mrs. Robert Shedd of Baltimore, expressing the sentiments of those who attended the vigil.

Mrs. James A. Welch of Simsbury, Conn., who did not participate because she does not believe in protests in general and this one in particular, agreed League members were free to act individually as they pleased. However, she feared that even though the demonstration did not represent the League's official thinking, it would be regarded by the public as having been sponsored by the League because the women went en masse.

See LEAGUE, C3, Col. 5

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.

League Deplores 'Crisis'

By Nancy L. Ross

In stronger language than it has ever used to a President before, the League of Women Voters wrote a letter to President Nixon yesterday expressing its "deep concern about the national crisis resulting from the extension of the war into Cambodia."

The letter was written on the fourth day of the League's national convention here, during which the nonpartisan, study-and-issue-oriented organization is celebrating 50 years of existence.

A League spokesman termed the letter "very strong for the League." She said that while the League had written to Presidents before, it had never done so in such a critical vein.

The letter continued, "We feel it is imperative that this turmoil in our country spread no further." It urged the President to "listen with close attention to the voices of all the people—the young and the mature, the poor and the affluent, the farm, the suburb, the city and the campus."

The League concluded, "The tragedy of a divided nation must be averted. Our free society and the democratic process must be preserved. Delegates at this convention ask you to exert your leadership to this end."

The letter to President Nixon came about as a result of requests from delegates and telegrams received from local League members at home urging the convention to express its concern.

See LEAGUE, B8, Col. 1

Rights Action Delayed

City Lacks Authority

The city may be helpless in taking any action on a list of Decatur Human Relations Commission suggestions to eliminate discrimination, Corporation Counsel Hilmer C. Landholt said Monday.

Landholt said that he is having a difficult time finding sufficient authority delegated to the City Council to enact some of the suggestions.

His statement came Monday after representatives of the League of Women Voters presented a letter endorsing the ordinance recommendations.

The league supported the commission's request for "equal participation" clauses in city contracts and for a re-appraisal of the Civil Service testing program.

"The legislation proposed (by the commission) is designed to increase opportunities for citizens of the minority group in Decatur. Therefore the Decatur League of Women Voters urges the council to adopt these proposals," the letter signed by Mrs. Merlin Barber, first vice president, said.

The league also endorsed the commission's suggestion for a "residential - lessor" licensing ordinance and an ordinance re-

quiring homes for sale to meet the City Housing code standards.

Landholt asked the representatives if the league would still endorse the proposed legislation if it knew the council had no power to enact them.

"I know that the league stands for constitutional authority," he said.

Landholt said that he is in the process of investigating the commission's requests and has not yet uncovered any power delegated the City Council by state law to enact them.

"I would hope an investigation of the matter would precede any blanket endorsement of things the council has no authority to enact," he said.

The league representatives said that they would relay Landholt's statement to their official board before commenting on whether or not they would continue to endorse the proposals in light of the council's apparent inability to act.

The commission recently adopted 12 recommendations in launching an assault on discrimination in Decatur.

Five recommendations were officially presented to the City

Council, along with requests calling for two new ordinances.

NAACP Starts School Housing Support Drives

Campaigns were formulated Monday evening by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to support housing and school integration proposals.

The Decatur branch of the NAACP adopted a resolution backing the recommendations which were advanced by the Decatur Commission on Human Relations on Feb. 13.

Branch members will present the resolution to the City Council to indicate their approval of steps aimed at increasing housing and employment opportunities for black people in Decatur.

A personal contact drive was also announced to encourage individual Negroes to write, phone, or speak personally with school board members regarding the elementary school proposals of the Community Commission on Integration.

The CCI plan was formally endorsed by the NAACP branch last month, but members indicated Monday that they do not believe that is enough.

"Since it is primarily black people who are affected by both the CCI and the human relations commission recommendations, it is appropriate that we not only express an opinion but actively campaign for what we want," Harold Johnson, branch president, said today.

Rev. S. W. Hale and Joe J. Slaw, both members of the human relations commission, spoke to branch members at the Monday meeting concerning the commission proposals.

Daily News

2/16/20

The ageless League ladies

Fifty years ago this month, the Suffragettes won their victory and transformed themselves into the League of Women Voters. And if the women, normally so reticent in matters of age, want to brag about passing the half-century mark, we're more than willing to brag right along with them. For the League has made a profound mark on American democracy in the years since women got the vote.

Some of the early fears—for example that women might gain control by voting as a bloc—never came to pass. The ladies of the League have

exerted their power in other ways. The main effort has been to inform—to inform themselves first and then to inform others on the facts behind the issues of the day, on the mechanics of voting, on the credentials of candidates. Nonpartisan on candidates but firm in its stand on issues it considers vital, the League has been and continues to be a major force for progress in America.

We salute the League ladies—all of them. And we'll believe almost anything they say except that nonsense about their age. They don't look a day over 21.

Decatur, Illinois, Wednesday, April 15, 1970

THE DECATUR REVIEW

League Sets Drive Vote for Washington Sought

The Decatur League of day after the April 15 federal Women Voters will participate in a nationwide drive to win congressional representation for the 800,000 residents of Washington, D.C.

The League will gather petition signatures Thursday through April 22, starting one

The drive to secure congressional representation for the District of Columbia is part of League of Women Voters activities during its 50th Anniversary year, designated as the Year of the Voter.

The petitions, calling for a constitutional amendment granting a congressional voice to Washington, D.C., residents, will be formally presented to Congress during the League of Women Voters National Convention in Washington, D.C.,

May 4 to 8. Decatur League president Mrs. Schade and Mrs. Clifford Smith will be attending.

In announcing the petition drive in Decatur, Mrs. Schade said that since Washington, D.C., is actually governed by the Congress, the lack of representation is a curtailment of an individual's right to participate in the affairs of the government. Without elected spokesmen in Congress, the

residents have no one to represent their views of national or foreign policy. In addition, Congress sets both federal and local taxes which the residents must pay.

PLAYS FRIDAY Atwood (Special)

Seniors of the Atwood-Hammond High School will present two plays Friday night. One is "The Rocking Horse Winner" and the other is "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

Women's Group Plans Juvenile Center Help

Review
5/13/71

By Mary Ann O'Connell

Approximately \$400,000 is needed by the Macon County Child Welfare Association to accomplish its goal of a new juvenile detention center with a rehabilitative program.

Frank Cerny and Mrs. Nelson Lovelace, members of the child welfare association, outlined the group's plans to the Decatur League of Women Voters Wednesday morning.

Cerny said the association plans to submit a proposal asking for \$200,000 to the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission.

No decision has been made on how the remainder of the funds would be raised, Cerny said, whether it would be through a public fund drive or holding a referendum.

"It seems the county Board of Supervisors would prefer to do it through a referendum," Cerny said.

Presently the Board of Supervisors is considering several plans for establishing a new juvenile detention facility to replace the one now used in the county building.

Just a new building isn't going to do much good unless there are friendly surroundings in it and an education rehabilitation program for the kids, he said.

"We do not have a detention facility for children that's suitable for 1971 standing," Mrs. Lovelace said.

Mrs. Lovelace said the association is planning to make a documentary of the present juvenile facility and one in Madison County, "which is a sample of what we want."

A speakers bureau is being set up by the child welfare association and speakers will show the documentary to groups.

She said a site selection committee will be named at the association's next meeting.

Cerny said plans are for a facility which would accommodate about 40 kids 16 years old and younger.

Consideration is being given to establishing a facility which would serve a multicounty area since that is a requirement of the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, he said.

Mrs. Robert W. Ohlsen, league president, said the league had adopted a support position for a juvenile detention facility a couple of years ago.

"The board decided we would join this committee," she said referring to the child welfare association.

DAILY REVIEW

ILLINOIS, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1971

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 ex-

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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.

League of Women Voters

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. Alsup, 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.

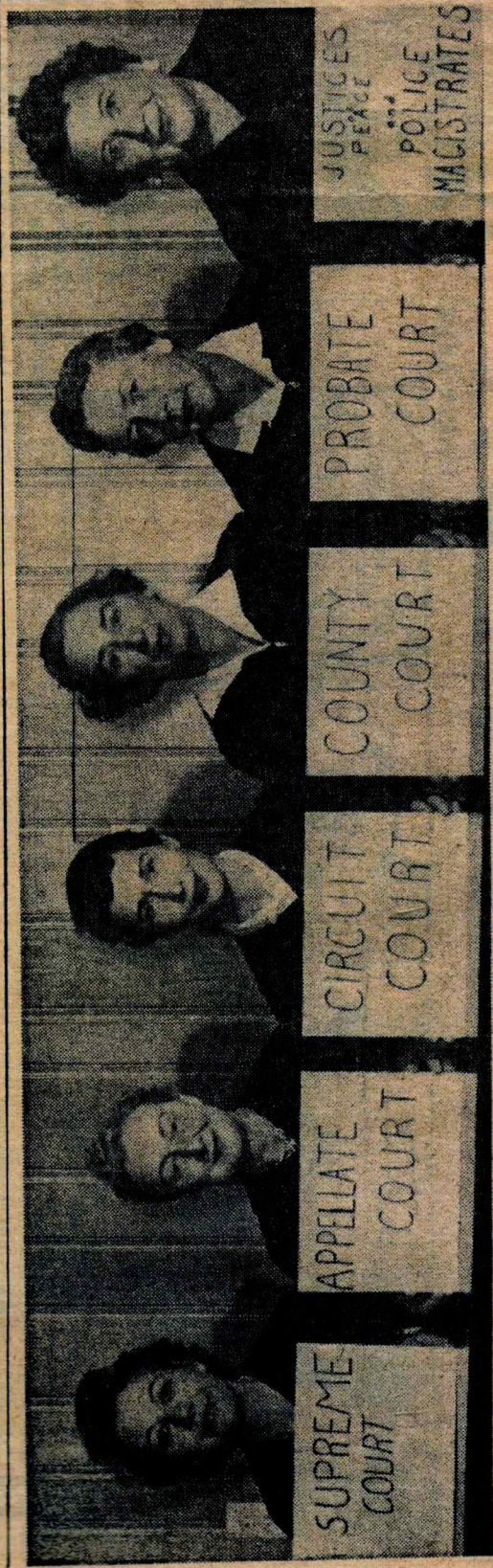
The league's purpose in sponsoring the event is to give as many voters as are interested a chance to get first-hand personal information from the candidates.

MAR. F.

Pauline
Decatur, Illinois, Friday, July 25, 1958.

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THE DECATUR REVIEW



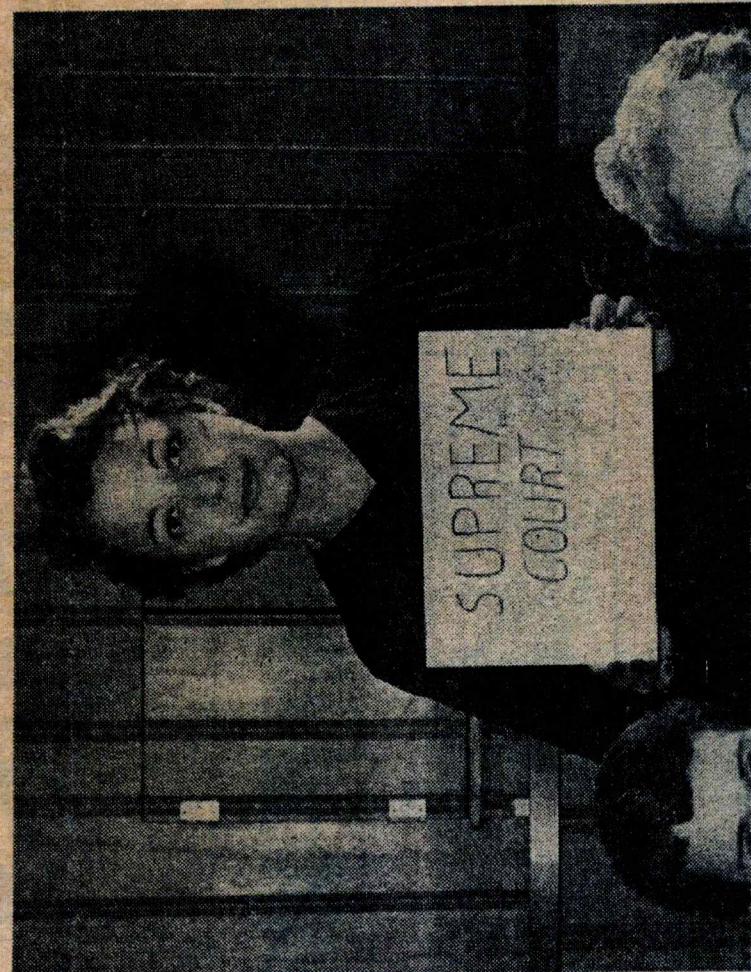
Opening the League of Women Voters' skit explaining the present Illinois court system are, from left, Mrs. Gershom Cohn, Mrs. Clifford Smith, Crestwell, Mrs. James Leigh and Mrs. Walker Mills. The League Adelma, 66 Eastmoreland Pl.

Women Voters' Skit Explains Proposed Court Changes

A skit presented at the League of Women Voters meeting Thursday morning in the home of Mrs. Arthur Adelma, 66 Eastmoreland Pl., clarified for members the court system of Illinois as it now exists. In the second half of the program, the women showed how the courts would be consolidated if the proposed judicial amendment is passed in the Nov. 4 election.

The present court system is substantially the same as it was in 1848-1870, they explained. It was then organized to meet the needs of about 500,000 people, most of whom lived on farms and in small towns. Due to poor communication and transportation facilities, the many independent courts, each a kingdom unto itself, seemed to be the solution.

Illinois now has nine million people with the large majority living in cities. With today's swift communication and transportation, the antiquated complex system of courts with every judge his own master, no longer makes sense, the



REARSAL DINNER
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because while some judges are busy and others are not, no one has all the facts and no one has the authority to do anything about it."

Delay in Jury Cases

Because of the enormous growth of cities and the tremendous volume of litigation arising from modern transportation, there has been a growing congestion in the courts so that jury cases are delayed from an average of two years in Decatur to six years in the Superior Court of Cook County.

The proposed judicial amendment will provide three major improvements, according to the League's presentation:

1. An integrated court structure
2. Administrative authority vested in the Supreme Court over all other courts in the state with a staff to assist in this work
3. Improvement of standards of qualifications for judges, procedure for removal or suspension of judges and a liberalization of the procedure for changing the method of electing judges.

Women and the courts they represent to explain the current court system are:

- Mrs. Gershom Cohn, Supreme Court
- Mrs. Clifford Smith, Appellate Court
- Mrs. Edward Booth, Circuit Court
- Mrs. E. J. Crestwell, County Court
- Mrs. James Leigh, Probate Court
- Mrs. Walker Mills, justices of the peace and police magistrates

System Explained

The women explained how the consolidation will work if the amendment passed.

Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Leigh and Mrs. Crestwell told of the operations of their respective courts as they would be absorbed into the Circuit Court:

The justices would be appointed by the chief judge and hold office as long as their services were satisfactory. They would be salaried and not need to depend on fees as they do today.

If a probate judge were elected, he would become a justice in the



Booth, Mrs. Gershom Cohn and Mrs. Clifford Smith.
(Herald and Review Photos)

Showing how the courts would be consolidated if the proposed judicial amendment is

come a justice in the Circuit Court and hear cases similar to those heard in the past. However, he would have directions from the chief judge and can ask him for help when needed.

Mrs. Booth told of the three classifications of judicial officers planned for the Circuit Court if it consolidates the ones mentioned above. There would be three classifications of judicial officers—chief judge (elected by his associates), associate judges and magistrates. The number of associate judges would be determined by the work load and be prescribed by law.

The women's program was arranged after the League members had made a study of the proposed amendment. Mrs. Robert Cole was chairman.

TEEN-AGE PARTY

Appellate Court

Representing the Appellate Court, Mrs. Smith pointed out that the amendment would make possible the selection of judges especially for that court in four judicial districts, one in Cook County and three downstate. And the Supreme Court would have the authority to assign additional judges to the four if the business of the court requires it.

If the amendment passes, Mrs. Cohn explained the administrative authority of the Supreme Court to

FOUR 4-H CLUBS GIVE

administrative director and staff who would collect and analyze the necessary statistics on the flow of state-wide judicial business. The Supreme Court will have jurisdiction of all final appeals from the Appellate and trial Courts. The Supreme Court would also be able to hear cases that the members deem important, not those the people of 1870 felt important such as boundary disputes.

The women's program was arranged after the League members had made a study of the proposed amendment. Mrs. Robert Cole was chairman.

Illinois

Decatur, Illinois, Thursday, October 27, 1988

School board urges 'no' to convention

By RON INGRAM

Herald & Review Education Writer

Decatur voters should cast a "no" ballot Nov. 8 on the proposal to call an Illinois constitutional convention, Decatur Board of Education members said Wednesday.

During a news conference at the Keil Administration Building, board Vice President Robert Emmons and members James Gollings and Jane Hawkins supported the stand of the Illinois Association of School Boards in opposition to calling a convention in 1990.

The board members were joined by Agnita Dupree representing the Decatur League of Women Voters, which also opposes a constitutional convention.

Gollings said the school board association objects to a convention because:

- There is no demonstrated need for one since the current constitution is a modern document written in 1970.
- Wholesale revision is not needed and if changes are required, there is an amendment process which can be used.

- A constitutional convention would cost an estimated \$12 million to \$31 million, money that could be better spent by the state in other areas such as education.

The state budget this year purports to have a lot of new money in it for education, Gollings said. But most of that money is going to the teacher retirement fund and is not being used for instruction, he said.

Hawkins said a convention could open the door to people with narrow concerns who are not interested in everyone's individual rights and freedoms.

Dupree agreed, saying special interest groups which have not been able to get what they want through the state legislature now want to open the entire constitution-building process.

The Illinois League of Women Voters polled its members early this year on the constitutional convention idea, Dupree said. Of those responding, 96 percent said a convention should not be held, she said.

"We now have bill of rights in the Illinois constitution that is as strong or strong-

er than the U.S. Constitution," Dupree said. "That is the kind of thing we could lose" if a new convention is called.

Emmons said the proposed convention is drawing a wide range of opposition from groups statewide, among them the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois State AFL-CIO.

Wednesday's news conference was part of a statewide effort orchestrated by the Committee To Preserve The Illinois Constitution, an organization made up of nearly 80 state and local groups. The committee urged its member groups to conduct news conferences throughout Illinois Wednesday to tout a "no" vote.

8-24-80 H2R

Petition question needs to be resolved soon

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Illinois supports amendments to the Illinois Constitution to achieve merit selection of judges, single-member districts and reduction in the size of the Legislature, and the indirect statutory initiative.

The league has had study and consensus on the issue of single-member districts three times in 10 years. The original position was developed preceding the adoption of the 1970 Illinois Constitution. The position was reviewed in 1973 and the league participated in a 1974 petition drive to put the issue on the ballot. The petition drive failed to collect sufficient signatures. The league studied the issue again in 1979 using pro and con material and the position in favor of single-member districts was retained.

The league participated with other groups in the recent petition drive to put a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot at the November election. The proposed amendment would establish single-member legislative dis-

HER 10-10-80 10

Davison: Rupp overdoes bills on insurance

By JIM LUDWICK

Herald & Review Staff Writer

State Sen. James Rupp's attention to insurance-related legislation in the General Assembly was criticized Thursday by his Democratic opponent, Jeffrey Davison.

Davison said that Rupp, a Republican from Decatur, worked for passage of 48 insurance-related bills "for which there is no public demand."

Rupp is a former insurance agent.

Davison's comments came during the first of a series of League of Women Voters panel discussions involving local candidates. The discussion was taped and will be broadcast on WAND-TV, Channel 17 in Decatur, at 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

During the discussion, Rupp said that insurance is important to the public and that many of the insurance bills he supported "were consumer-oriented, items like trying to stop discrimination."

But Davison rebounded later on a question about the Equal Rights Amendment, after Rupp said he opposes ratification of it.

Davison said he favors ERA because "I'm against discrimination, like the senator says he is on insurance areas."

Rupp and Davison also discussed other areas of Rupp's record in the state Senate, the possibility of in-

creasing the state's motor fuel tax, the future of legislative salary increases and other issues.

Rupp said he has tried to represent "everybody in the 51st District" rather than favoring special interests. He said he is particularly pleased with his work on a legislative package dealing with arson. He said his work on a child-abuse bill is "one of my proud moments."

Serving as moderator of the half-hour program will be Jane Bigelow of WAND.

The panel questioning the candidates consisted of Steve Eckert of WAND and Fletcher Farrar Jr., editor of Illinois Times.

The Rupp-Davison discussion will be the first of three programs to be sponsored by the league this month.

At 4:30 p.m. Oct. 19, WAND will broadcast a panel discussion featuring 51st District candidates for the Illinois House of Representatives.

The program will include Democratic incumbents John Dunn and B.T. "Tim" Donovan, Republican incumbent Webber Borchers, Republican Decatur City Councilman Michael Tate and independent write-in candidate Steve Denton.

At 4:30 p.m. Oct. 26, WAND will broadcast a panel discussion including U.S. Rep. Edward Madigan, R-Lincoln, and his Democratic opponent, Penny Severns.

tricts from which to elect members of the Illinois House of Representatives and would reduce the size of the House from 177 to 118 members.

The recently completed petition drive was successful under the laws in effect when the drive began. When the drive was well under way, the General Assembly changed the circulator and signer requirements of the law covering petitions. The Illinois Board of Elections has ruled that the new requirements apply to the completed petitions. The matter is now in the courts and needs to be resolved in time for the question on the proposed amendment to appear on the ballot in November.

Barbara Brown, President
League of Women Voters
Decatur

Candidates to appear in TV debates

10-3-80

A series of televised question and answer sessions with candidates for the state Senate, House of Representatives and U.S. Congress will begin Oct. 12 on WAND-TV, channel 17 in Decatur.

Arranged by the League of Women Voters, the series begins at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 12 with Decatur Democrat Jeffrey Davison and state Sen. James Rupp, R-Decatur, candidates for the 51st District Senate seat.

On Oct. 18 or 19, a program featuring legislative candidates state

Reps. John Dunn, B. T. "Tim" Donovan, both Decatur Democrats, and state Rep. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, and Decatur Republican Michael Tate will be aired.

The final program will be telecast Oct. 25 or 26 and will feature U.S. Rep. Edward Madigan, R-Lincoln, and his challenger for the 21st District seat, Democrat Penny Severns of Decatur.

The programs will be pre-recorded and broadcast dates and times finalized later. The candidates will be

questioned by representatives of the news media.

Motorist hospitalized

Howard E. Hull, 48, of 5448 Thrush Ave. was in serious condition in St. Mary's Hospital special care unit today after sustaining injuries when he turned his vehicle in front of a semi-trailer truck at U.S. 36 and 22nd St. about 10:55 p.m. Thursday.

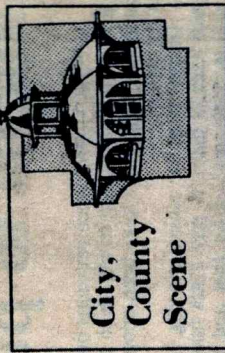
Hull was ticketed by police for failure to yield. His pickup truck, which was eastbound on U.S. 36,

turned into the path of a truck driven by Billy H. Carter, 49, of Plainfield, Ind. Carter was uninjured.

Lions clubs to sell candy

The four Decatur Lions clubs will conduct their annual Candy Day sale Oct. 10 and 11 at grocery stores and shopping centers throughout the city.

Proceeds from the sale will go toward the Lions Clubs of Illinois goal of raising \$1,250,000 this year to



help the blind, visually handicapped, deaf and hearing impaired.

Participating locally will be the Noon Lions, Breakfast Lions, Evening Lions and Lionesses.

'No-debate' decision ma

© The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Publicly, John Anderson is the candidate who is most unhappy about the apparent collapse of prospects for further "debates" in the presidential campaign. Anderson had counted on the joint appearances with Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan to sustain his long-shot bid for the White House. Without them, he has few cards to play.

But in traveling through the key states of Pennsylvania and Illinois last week and talking with some officials in both the Reagan and Carter campaigns, it became evident that there is a considerable degree of nervousness in those camps as well about the consequences of the "no-debate" decision.

Officially, the Carter campaign would have you believe it is delighted to have the debate monkey off its back.

Carter accepted the bid from the League of Women Voters to save the "debates" by having a Carter-Reagan one-on-one followed by a three-way match including Anderson. Reagan said no to that, ostensibly be-

David Broder Commentary



cause it would be unfair to Anderson and would require Reagan to prepare for three of the joint appearances while Carter did only two.

After taking a good deal of verbal and editorial abuse for boycotting the first of the League panels, Carter was happy to let Reagan be the fall guy.

But in the states where Carter is battling Reagan on even terms, there were some Democrats who suggested that Carter is still in trouble on the "debate" issue.

They made two arguments. Carter's paid media program is more

modest than Reagan's, in part because Reagan has the advantage of the "independent" expenditures by conservative groups and in part because the Reagan campaign has managed to lay off onto state Republican parties more of the costs of phone banks, direct-mail and headquarters operations than Carter has shifted from his budget to the Democratic state committees.

By absenting himself from what apparently will be the only "debate" of the year, Carter forfeited an opportunity to make his basic case for re-election to the biggest free audience of the campaign.

The second argument concerns the future of the Anderson candidacy. With the independent challenger's chances now declining, it is foreseeable, these Democrats say, that in three weeks or so Carter or his emissaries might be in a position to remind Anderson of his earlier pledge not to be a "spoiler," if his only effect were to increase Reagan's chances of victory.

But, as one astute Democrat remarked to me, "How in hell does

Herndon Review 10-4-80

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



"... THEN MR. CARTER SAID OK WITH REAGAN BUT NOT WITH ANDERSON. THEN MR. REAGAN SAID ALL THREE OR NOTHING. THEN WE HAD ANOTHER DEBATE PROPOSAL, BUT FLORENCE HERE FORGOT TO MAIL OUT THE INVITATIONS."

Illinois, Saturday, October 4, 1980

y hurt

Carter ask Anderson to step aside, if it's Carter, not Reagan, who has refused to meet Anderson in debate? I think we've got another (Ted) Kennedy situation, where Carter's refusal to debate makes the challenger reluctant as hell to quit the race just to accommodate Jimmy."

As for Reagan, leading Republicans in both Illinois and Pennsylvania — including both early Reagan supporters and some who are very close to running mate George Bush — expressed real misgivings about Reagan's decision to shut off further "debates."

"I would never be reluctant to send Ron Reagan into a debate," said his Illinois campaign chairman, Donald Totten. "He (Reagan) doesn't need to be protected," said a senior Republican official in Pennsylvania.

While these Republicans have great respect for the polling data of Richard Wirthlin, which made the Reagan senior advisory board believe the challenger was far enough ahead of Carter not to need another "debate," their own assessment of the situation in their states is less sanguine.

"I don't think we have this thing nailed down near as solid as it ought to be, when you're facing an incumbent," one top Pennsylvanian said he told Bush on his swing through Pennsylvania. According to him, Bush indicated he shared the sense that Reagan could not afford to "sit on his lead" and adopt a minimal-risk strategy of avoiding any face-to-face meeting with Carter.

An argument used by top Republicans in both states is that the shaky world situation makes a Reagan-Carter debate more imperative from Reagan's viewpoint — not less.

"If there's a date for a debate, and the Middle East or something else blows up, then the onus is on Carter if he cancels," I was told. "But if there's no agreement, and there's an international crisis, then he (Carter) becomes Mr. President and Mr. Commander-in-Chief on the news, and our guy (Reagan) is just another bystander, watching it all happen."

For all these reasons, the "missing debates" could undercut more than Anderson's campaign strategy,

Community

Decatur, Illinois, Wednesday, March 4, 1981



Photo by Herb Slodounik

ERA backer Cluney John with two-year-old son Danny.

Supporter

believes ERA won't go away

Outside, temperatures hovering around the zero degree-mark reduced the snow in the Westminster Presbyterian Church parking lot to a powdery consistency, scattering in all directions with the kick of a foot.

The snow's condition was comparable to that of the Equal Rights Amendment, the subject of a meeting one winter night in the church basement.

Some 25 supporters heard the familiar grim news: chances for passage in Illinois, and by implication the nation, were slim.

But instead of cursing a backward society or seeking scapegoats, the men and women broke into small groups to plot strategy for the final assault.

It was as if Gen. Robert E. Lee, prior to entering the Appomattox courthouse, prepared plans for an invasion of Chicago.

Days later, Cluney John sits in her dining room and between patient dealings with her 2-year-old son, explains the feelings present that night.

"Frankly, it's just the essential nature of the amendment," she says of the persistent optimism of the supporter.

"It is based on our feeling of an overriding need for changes in the laws."

Mrs. John, a former teacher who describes herself without hesitation as a housewife, is an admitted latecomer to the cause.

"I really did very little until about eight or 10 months ago," she relates. "I guess I had been one of the group that is very large — the quiet supporters of ERA."

A speech by Sonja Johnson, a Mormon who was booted from her church over ERA, fired Mrs. John's involvement.

"I was impressed with her integrity and her feelings," she remembers.

An active member of St. Thomas Catholic Church, Mrs. John found her own sense of practical religion touched.

"The Catholic Church has a strong social justice tradition, and to me the amendment is consistent with fulfillment of that tradition," she says.

Yet she acknowledged that many of her fellow Central Illinois Catholics would not share that view.

Unfairly, perhaps, the church is perceived by many to be a leading opponent of ERA ratification.

Bob Sampson Off the Beat.



"The church in the country as a whole has taken the lead," she says, hoping to correct what she terms an "unfortunate misconception."

"In some places, it's not unheard of for the church to be in the lead.

"But here, I am in a minority. The overriding majority of Catholics in this area perceive ERA as something they're afraid of."

But if Mrs. John is in a minority, she likes the company.

"The more I attended ERA meetings, I saw the tremendous diversity of the people working for ERA," she says.

"They were not the off-the-wall stereotypes you might expect. I met nuns, widows, young working women, students and housewives, like myself."

From this diversity came another explanation for the dogged optimism visible that night in the Westminster church basement.

"In a way, this has been very inspiring for me," she explains. "You meet people like Nellie Winick, women who are 50 years older than I am."

"They've worked for women's suffrage and then the ERA all these years and they are not cynical, bitter people."

"They realize it takes a while to get things done."

If they can persevere, so can others.

While she is not ready to concede defeat, Mrs. John admits the chances for ERA ratification could be better.

"The (June 1982) deadline will come and go. Perhaps we will have to bring it up again later. There's nothing that says we can't."

"The amendment is a good idea," she says. "Perhaps its time has not come."

But she and the others who planned strategy that night aren't going to idly wait for events to flow their way.

"The people who believe in it will continue to work until they see it accomplished," she promises.

"It's something that won't go away."

'Star Wars' forum topic

By DAWN MORVILLE

Herald & Review Staff Writer

Congressman Richard Durbin and a representative for his Republican counterpart squared off Saturday on "Star Wars."

Durbin, D-Springfield, and Craig Findley, administrative assistant for U.S. Rep. Robert Michel, R-Peoria, were panelists at a public forum sponsored by the Decatur League of Women Voters. About 50 people attended.

Durbin represents most of Macon County south of Pershing Road and Michel represents residents north of Pershing.

"Star Wars," or the Strategic Defense Initiative, is President Reagan's proposal to create a research program that envisions the use of futuristic technology, such as powerful laser and particle beams, to shoot down incoming missiles before they can explode over their targets.

The League has opposed SDI since it was first introduced in Congress.

Here are some highlights from the forum:

- Durbin said massive increases in SDI funding requests are taking money from other national priorities.

The Reagan administration has focused on SDI at the expense of conventional readiness, he said. The estimated cost of the system is \$1 trillion. The president has asked for a 62 percent increase in SDI funding this year, which Durbin said is wasteful.

He sees SDI as a major obstacle to an arms reduction agreement with the Soviet Union, although the president has denied it is a bargaining chip.

The congressman also said the system has scientific weaknesses and depends on computers.

With SDI, he said, there will be no "dry run" to get all the bugs out. "When you put all your eggs in the technology basket, you better be right."

The Soviet Union knows SDI would be an umbrella covering the United States, but not one without holes. It is 90 percent effective, he said.

As a result, he said the arms race will escalate. The Soviet Union will increase the number of its warheads to penetrate that remaining 10 percent and because of the uncertainty of whether SDI would work, the United States will build up our warheads as SDI is pursued.

- Findley called SDI "our referee in the sky to make sure both parties are going to honor their agreements."

He admitted that scientists are uncertain in the long-term about SDI. The proposal needs to be studied to determine if it will work.

SDI is a research program in its infancy that was downgraded before it began, he said. "If SDI is so inherently impossible, why is the Soviet Union so deathly afraid of it?"

Findley asked the crowd whether they thought the United States has a nuclear defense adequate to stop Soviet or other missiles in a surprise attack. A few raised their hands, while the others either disagreed or didn't know.

"Not only do we not have an adequate defense, we have no defense whatsoever," he said.

If implemented, SDI would be a defensive system that would not threaten human life, he said. However, it is necessary to protect the country, Findley said. "We know the first nuclear weapon launched will be the last."

SDI is a "moral" weapon only intended to destroy nuclear weapons aimed at the United States, he said.

By using it, the weapons race will stabilize and eventually slow down until nuclear weapons are eliminated, Findley said.

County studies cuts in budgets

By DAVE PETRINA

Herald & Review Staff Writer

An arbitrary 10 percent cut in the fiscal 1987-88 budgets of elected Macon County officeholders was eyed Monday as a way to find extra money for the new Law Enforcement Center.

Needless to say, officeholders attending the county board budget committee meeting didn't take kindly to the idea.

They said they would find it hard to cut expenses and still maintain the level of services taxpayers expect.

Reeder Miller, head of a Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce committee that studied county government, suggested the officeholders make the cuts, but be ready to explain to the committee what services would be dropped to carry them out.

The county must raise about \$578,228 to finance the center's first five months of operation in fiscal 1987-88.

The problem will be thornier in succeeding years because annual operating costs are projected at more than \$1 million.

The initial budget session was called by county board Chairman Donald Dipper, who asked officeholders to present new fiscal year budgets at the same level as last year. Most officeholders held the line except for state-mandated salary hikes totaling \$12,034 for several elected offices.

David Coopridge, regional superintendent of schools, presented a non-personnel expenditures budget of \$63,939 — about a \$200 decrease.

The county expects about \$7.9 million total revenue in fiscal 1987-88, including a 7-cent increase in property taxes and adding a \$450,500 balance from this year.

With no increases in expenses over this fiscal year, except the increase in officeholders' pay, the county would theoretically end the new fiscal year with a \$54,394 surplus.

But this doesn't take into account any wage increases or the half-million dollars in supplemental funds the sheriff's office will need to start up the law center.

Board member David Drobisch said the board must take a long hard look at the funds — about \$50,000 — the county provides to agencies such as the Macon County Cooperative Extension service, 4-H and senior citizens groups. Drobisch also urged the officeholders to institute fee increases recommended in the Chamber of Commerce study.

And Drobisch said the county board needs to start lobbying legislators to provide state funds to pay jail operating costs because the jail was built to meet state mandates.

Several board members questioned Sheriff Lee Holsapple about ways to cut center expenses.

Holsapple said he would operate the center with 76 people, 10 fewer than the state recommended; that at least 10 jobs would be dual-function jobs; and that he would seek to qualify for federal surplus foods to cut meal costs.

League slates forum on county government

"Your County Government: Time for Change?" will be the topic of a free forum Saturday.

The forum will be at 10:30 a.m. in the Decatur Public Library auditorium and is co-sponsored by the library and the League of Women Voters of Decatur. Discussion will be about a \$66,000 study of Macon County government completed this summer.

Panelists will be Richard Lutovsky, president of the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the study; Reeder Miller, who served as a team leader of survey takers on the study and is now leader of a task force of county board members studying the recommendations; board Chairman Donald Dipper, a Democrat; and board member Ralph "Skip" Wilcox, a Republican and member of Miller's task force.

The moderator will be Larry Klugman, a political science professor and community relations director at Richland Community College in Decatur.

Arnold & Renren 3/31/89

Candidates to address issues

By JIM ALLEN

Herald & Review Government Writer

Decatur City Council and Decatur Park District candidates will have one more chance to face off before the public on Saturday.

The League of Women Voters of Decatur and the Decatur Public Library will co-sponsor

a "candidates' meeting" at 10 a.m. in the library auditorium at 247 E. North Street.

The forum will likely be the last opportunity for the public to see all, or at least most, of the candidates in one place.

Voters on Tuesday will select three Decatur City Council members and three of the five commis-

sioners for the Decatur Park District Board.

The forum will be designed to give council candidates a chance to present their platforms and then take questions from the audience. Park district candidates will later be able to make remarks and answer questions as well.

WAND-TV's Dick Westbrook will moderate the event.

So far, water, police protection and neighborhood standards, in that order, have topped the issues in the city council race.

Although all the six candidates for city council have carved out their own stances on the question of beefing up the city's water supply, none has opposed the well fields currently being developed.

In the council race, incumbents Terry Howley (stockbroker), and William Oliver (quality-control worker) will be facing challengers Randy E. Morris (military surplus store manager), Lawrence "Larry" J. Peters (owner of an industrial and plumbing supply sales firm), Kent Mittelberg (retired executive) and William Mitchell (state public aid executive assistant).

In the park district races, candidates have each set different priorities for future projects. All have conceded funding from property taxes will be limited due to the decreases the district has seen in the last six years in assessed property values.

In the race for the two six-year

Forum facts

What: Candidates' forum for Decatur City Council and Decatur Park District candidates up for election on Tuesday.

Sponsors: Decatur Public Library and League of Women Voters. The forum will be moderated by WAND-TV's Dick Westbrook.

When: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Where: Second-floor auditorium (accessible by elevator), Decatur Public Library, 247 E. North St.

Format: City council candidates will have time to make opening statements and answer questions from audience. Park district candidates will also have time to make comments and answer questions.

terms on the park board, incumbent corporate pilot Robert D. Cooley and incumbent semi-retired banker William B. Cannon are facing three challengers: Decatur police Sgt. Donald Jack, veterinarian Dr. William R. VanAlstine and computer-store owner Jack Thomas.

For the two-year term for the time remaining in the post originally won by the late David Mayberry, the contest will be between insurance agent Lloyd R. Irish, retired MacArthur High School athletic director Jerry E. Curtis and stable manager Eulah M. Gahwiler.

Conference studies MS

A two-day teleconference on multiple sclerosis will be broadcast May 28 and June 4 at Decatur Memorial Hospital.

The subjects will be "Hope in New Treatment," "Fatigue and Multiple Sclerosis — What Causes It, How to Identify It and How to Manage It" and "4 Aminopyridine," a substance that works like cold therapy in people with the illness.

The teleconference features Floyd Davis, a professor and neurologist from Chicago.

Registration is open to anyone interested in multiple sclerosis. The cost for both programs is \$10. Registration deadline is May 1.

To register or get more information, call the Multiple Sclerosis Society Greater Illinois Chapter office in Peoria at 1 (800) 423-5774.

SDI is forum topic

The Decatur Public Library and the League of Women Voters will sponsor a forum on "Strategic Defense Initiative — Star Wars" at 10:30 a.m. May 16.

U.S. Rep. Richard Durbin, D-Springfield, and Craig Findley, administrative aide to Rep. Robert Michel, R-Peoria, will speak at the meeting in the library auditorium.

Screening clinic set

A screening clinic for children up to age 3 will be held May 19 and 20 at Grace United Methodist Church, 901 N. Main St.

Screenings are for all children, not just those with recognized problems. A "screening" is a series of tests, including vision and hearing exams, that helps parents spot developmental delays.

Sessions begin at 7:30 a.m. each day. The screenings are provided by Progress Resources Center, High Risk Infant Registry, C.A.S.E. and Grace United Methodist Church.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 423-3100.

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4/20/87

Roads get \$7.2 million in facelifts

By DAVE PETRINA

Herald & Review Staff Writer

More than \$7.2 million in state highway money will be used this year to improve several U.S. 36 intersections, complete work on the U.S. 36 bridge over Lake Decatur and build a new bridge on West Main Street.

The new two-lane concrete bridge over Stevens Creek near Dipper Lane will cost \$1.25 million. The contractor, Frank C. Feutz Co. of Paris, has 115 working days for the project.

Bill Hays, resident engineer of the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Highways, says the bridge should be completed by December.

The new bridge will be 209 feet long and 30 feet wide with 5-foot sidewalks on each side. The bridge will eliminate sharp curves at the approaches to the old bridge. A Fairview Park road is being relocated to accommodate the new alignment. The old bridge will be removed, Hays says, and a barrier also will be built to protect a large sanitary sewer nearby.

Intersections on U.S. 36 from Maryland Avenue to the Five Points will be improved, including adding some new turn lanes, widening and installing curb and gutter.

The rebuilding and resurfacing of the U.S. 36 bridge over Lake Decatur also is expected to be completed by December, Hays said.

However, two-lane traffic will continue as workers finish one set of two lanes and move to the other two lanes. The span actually was two separate bridges each carrying two lanes of traffic. A 6-inch-high concrete median was poured during the winter to join the two bridges, Hays said.

Workers will chip 1¾ inches of old concrete off the bridge deck and add 3¾ inches of a new type of concrete to the four lanes. Deck

drains also are being extended to empty away from the support piers.

About \$5.5 million is being spent on the intersection and resurfacing work from Maryland Avenue to the Five Points. Illinois Valley Paving Co. of Decatur is the prime contractor. The work at each intersection includes:

- Maryland Avenue, widen intersection, add new lighting, add westbound and eastbound left turn lanes on U.S. 36.
- Airport Road, add second right turn lane on eastbound U.S. 36.
- Modify median to improve drainage between Airport Road and 44th Street, take out crossover between the four lanes.
- 44th Street, add right turn and left turn lanes on eastbound U.S. 36 and add left turn lane on westbound U.S. 36.
- Baltimore Avenue, widen intersection, add eastbound left turn lane for U turns, add 200-foot eastbound right turn lane on U.S. 36.
- 36th Street, add eastbound left turn lane on U.S. 36 for U turns.
- 34th Street, on U.S. 36 add eastbound right and left turn lanes, add westbound right turn lane.
- Close median crossover and reconstruct closer to 36th Street.
- Country Club Road, lengthen eastbound U.S. 36 right turn lane and widen northeast corners.
- 27th Street, lengthen westbound U.S. 36 right turn lane, rebuild curbs, install new traffic signals; adding westbound U.S. 36 lane to extend to Five Points, 1,200-foot long retaining wall being built to East Main Street to accommodate new lane.
- Nelson Boulevard, add lane to create two westbound U.S. 36 lanes with stop signal, add left turn median, widen intersection.
- New asphalt finish layer to be applied from Maryland Avenue to North Street where project links with last year's \$2.9 million Eldorado Street resurfacing. Luminous tape lane markings will be applied to Eldorado Street to complete that project.

Illinois Paving also has a \$500,000 contract to resurface a downtown section of Franklin Street. The street has been "roto milled" and a base layer of asphalt will be applied next week. The manholes and catch basins will be brought up to grade and a finish layer is expected to be applied by June, says Hays.

Students to get first-hand look

By RON INGRAM

Herald & Review Farm/Business Writer

Students from high schools throughout Macon County will get a glimpse of government in action at Tuesday's county board meeting.

When the board convenes at 8:30 a.m. in the fifth-floor board room, it will be Student Government Day. Students will sit with board members and county officeholders during the meeting, be treated to lunch from the jail kitchen afterward and receive a tour of county offices in the afternoon.

The jail committee will ask the board for approval to negotiate with the Decatur Public Building Commission on possibly retaining parking areas at the southeast and southwest corners of the county building once the joint city-county law enforcement building is completed.

The law enforcement facility is

under construction just south of the county building. It will include a new jail and offices for the county sheriff's office and city police department.

The construction program has disrupted parking on the south side of the county building and temporary lots have been developed at the corners of the building to help alleviate the problems.

Any agreement negotiated with the building commission and the state would be brought back to the county board for approval.

The remainder of the board's agenda Tuesday appears routine. It will include appointments to the board of assessment review, the I-SEARCH Committee, the county zoning board of appeals and the county merit commission, as well as three routine zoning petitions.

A resolution will be presented for the annual adoption of the federal prevailing wage law.

- Central Illinois -

Seek 'new middle,' Goodman

By SUE BROWN

Herald & Review Lifestyle Writer

Ellen Goodman is a lot like your favorite neighbor.

Tuesday night the Pulitzer Prize winner's blonde hair was casually combed to the side, her shoes were practical flats, and the right seam of her silk suit jacket was ripped a tad just under the arm.

That naturalness and a sense of humor set a festive tone for the 840 people attending the YWCA's Women of Excellence banquet at the Decatur Holiday Inn. Syndicated columnist Goodman keynoted with a speech on people's changing needs, then seven Decatur women were cited for excellence in accomplishment.

It was that same convivial ease and ready laugh, though, that Goodman used to deflect the tougher questions at the press conference preceding her speech. She's clearly more comfortable behind a word processor, where she can reflect on and carefully construct her opinions, than a podium.

She'd make no predictions on whether the Senate Judiciary Committee will confirm Judge Robert Bork's appointment to the Supreme Court. Repeating her published opposition to stands he's taken on abortion and other family issues, she allowed, "The vote will be close, I think."

She hopes Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) and other women will stay in the race for president in 1988, but Goodman thinks it's too soon for a woman to land the top executive seat.

"Still, it's important for women to pave the way for those that will follow," she said. "You never win anything unless you keep trying."

She gave more to her audience at the banquet.

"Women need access to the best of the traditional male roles

— particularly success in the workplace — while they win respect for the traditional female roles, especially that of caretaker," Goodman advised. "We've been more successful at getting into the male world than changing it for the better."

She used a Washington, D.C.-based friend's anecdote to illustrate society's lack of respect for motherhood and family: "In this city it's more socially acceptable to say you're a transsexual than to admit that you're a homemaker not currently working outside the home."

Goodman believes the roles of home manager and parent will be more highly valued when men share them and women don't feel guilty about accepting this help.

The audience roared when she quoted another friend: "Women will be equal when that TV commercial about ring-around-the collar comes on and, instead of expressing remorse and vowing to try a new detergent, the actress tells the guy he ought to wash his neck."

One man in the crowd complained, in jest, that the joke was sexist. But there was overwhelmingly favorable response to Goodman's recommendation that women and men work together in a "new middle" between the poles of radical feminism and the ultra-conservative right.

Women should find ways to get the best of both the work and domestic worlds, she charged, and men should help them do that. She advocated, too, taking action in the community to help families whose partners have equivalent roles.

"Don't get discouraged," concluded the 46-year-old who has combined a demanding journalism career and a family for years. "Change comes slowly."



The crowd at the Women of Excellence banquet, one of seven women honored



1987's V

A reporter at Tuesday night's Women Of Excellence banquet asked keynoter, columnist Ellen Goodman, if Decatur men should fear that the YWCA's seven Women Of Excellence awardees will take over.

"You should feel lucky that you have such interesting and accomplished women," Goodman replied. Selected from 35 outstanding

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"You should feel lucky that you have such interesting and accomplished women," Goodman replied.

Selected from 35 outstanding achievers nominated by community organizations and individuals were these women:

Medicine :Diane Lucille Wentworth-Jensen, vice president of nursing at Decatur Memorial Hospital.



Columnist Ellen Goodman, right, speaks with Jeanne Connolly, co-chairman of the Women of Excellence banquet Tuesday.

ay, September 23, 1987

Goodman adv



Photo by Herb Slodounik

ence banquet applauds Charlotte Meyer, this year. Other winners are at right.

Women honored

Seven women took honors in the YWCA's Women of Excellence celebration Tuesday night at the Holiday Inn.

Those recognized and awards they received were:

- Nancy Roucher, Della Crowder Miller and Annette Van Dyke arts and culture award.

- Charlotte Meyer, Cora Bell Ryman education award.

- Penny Severns, Leona Bowman government and politics award.

- Diane Jensen, Sue Hagan and Dr. Clare Garber science and medicine award.

- Marcia Morey, Harriett Kirby athletic award.

- Nellie Winick, Fannie A. Bivans and Mary Love business and professional award.

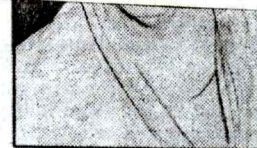
- Fanny Bassett, Marie Gray Baker community volunteer award.



Diane Wentworth-J



Nancy Roucher



Nellie Winick



Penny Severns



Marcia Morey

Goodman speaks

... Page A3

Herald & Review 9/23/87

Women of Excellence

Athletics: Marcia Morey, former Millikin champion swimmer who participated in the Olympics and now a teacher, writer and attorney.

Volunteerism: Fanny Powers Bassett, a worker for more than 30 years with the Decatur Memorial Hospital auxiliary.

Government: Sen. Penny Severns, D-Decatur, representing

Business: Nellie Blanchard Winick, retiree from the Hi-Flier Mfg. Co., where she worked her way from secretary to a vice presidency.

Education: Charlotte Meyer, retiree from a 40-year career in the Decatur Public Schools as teacher, principal and then assistant superintendent of elementary education.

Said awardee Marcia Morey, "I feel honored, and want to go out and contribute all that I can. And I'll give credit for my achievements where it's due: to the people of Decatur."

Her advice to other women: "Be at peace with yourself, then give the best of what you are to your work and your community."

Honoree Sen. Penny Severns



Photo by Herb Slodounik

ence banquet applauds Charlotte Meyer, this year. Other winners are at right.



Diane Wentworth-J



Nancy Roucher



Penny Severns



Nellie Winick



Marcia Morey

in the YWCA's Women of Excellence celebration Tuesday night at the Holiday Inn.

Those recognized and awards they received were:

- Nancy Roucher, Della Crowder Miller and Annette Van Dyke arts and culture award.

- Charlotte Meyer, Cora Bell Ryman education award.

- Penny Severns, Leona Bowman government and politics award.

- Diane Jensen, Sue Haggaman and Dr. Clare Garber science and medicine award.

- Marcia Morey, Harriett Kirby athletic award.

- Nellie Winick, Fannie A. Bivans and Mary Love business and professional award.

- Fanny Bassett, Marie Gray Baker community volunteer award.

Goodman speaks

... Page A3

Herald & Review 7/13/87

Women of Excellence

Athletics: Marcia Morey, former Millikin champion swimmer who participated in the Olympics and now a teacher, writer and attorney.

Volunteerism: Fanny Powers Bassett, a worker for more than 30 years with the Decatur Memorial Hospital auxiliary.

Government: Sen. Penny Severns, D-Decatur, representing the 51st District in the State Assembly.

Arts: Nancy Roucher, recently moved from Decatur to Sarasota, Fla., after founding the Decatur Area Arts Council and sitting on its board for 13 years.

Business: Nellie Blanchard Winick, retiree from the Hi-Flier Mfg. Co., where she worked her way from secretary to a vice presidency.

Education: Charlotte Meyer, retiree from a 40-year career in the Decatur Public Schools as teacher, principal and then assistant superintendent of elementary education.

Diane Wentworth-Jensen was tearful as she gripped her trophy. "This award is the highlight of my career so far," she said. "It's also made me glad I'm home in Decatur after 11 years of working in Muncie, Ind."

Said awardee Marcia Morey, "I feel honored, and want to go out and contribute all that I can. And I'll give credit for my achievements where it's due: to the people of Decatur."

Her advice to other women: "Be at peace with yourself, then give the best of what you are to your work and your community."

Honoree Sen. Penny Severns ducked fans' cameras to quickly respond to a remark made by a 1986 political opponent: "the district isn't ready for a woman," H. G. "Skinny" Taylor snapped. "The events of this evening certainly do prove him wrong," she said, smiling widely.

NEWSMAKER

Pulitzer doesn't clear cigar

Ellen Goodman discovered the day in 1981 after she won a Pulitzer Prize — the top journalistic honor — that things were going to stay pretty much the way they'd always been.

The nationally syndicated columnist still faces deadline pressure amid a cloud of cigar smoke courtesy of a colleague at the next desk at the Boston Globe.

"The Pulitzer didn't make it any easier to turn out my next column," she said in an interview with Herald & Review reporter Sue Brown. "Newspaper people don't have the time to sit back and rest on their laurels."

For a similar reason, Goodman says she can't pick a favorite among the three published collections of her columns: "Close to Home," "At Large," and "Keeping in Touch."

"Newspaper writing is so ephemeral," she explained, "that I think more about what I'm going to do next than what I've done."

Goodman's columns, featuring a humanist's perspective on a wide range of issues, regularly appear in this newspaper. And Central Illinoisans will have an opportunity to meet her Sept. 22 when she speaks at the Decatur Holiday Inn. The event is sponsored by the YWCA, which has paid Goodman \$7,000 for the appearance.

Q. What will you speak to Decatur residents about?

A. Social change needed, now that there's been a change in many women's values. Women have, over the past couple of decades, taken on many traditionally masculine roles, particularly that of wage earner, to balance out responsibility between the sexes.

But men haven't taken on as much of the traditionally feminine roles: nurturing children, organizing the home, for example. And communities and employers haven't done as much as they could to allow men and women to

help each other this way.

Q. How can Central Illinoisans help bring about positive social change?

A. By moving away from this intense individualism that our society has promoted and working together to get what's most need — adequate child-care services, for example. People and their families shouldn't have to solve such problems alone. It's only together that they can get the day care and other help they need from their employers and their communities.

And they should get over thinking these are "feminist" issues — they're "family" issues that affect men and children as well as women.

Q. Which of the current batch of political candidates seems to you to be more sympathetic to the needs of families?

A. At this point more Democrats than Republicans address family concerns. And younger candidates who've experienced the stress of two-career marriages are more empathetic, of course.

Q. Many Central Illinoisans say they believe the women's movement is dead, though more and more women are working to help support their families. Do you think that, as some people predict, things will go back to the way they were, when men earned money and women cleaned the house?

A. There are many men and women who don't want to lose the sharing of responsibility and reward between the sexes that the women's movement has helped promote. If these people will join together to persuade their employers and communities to help them keep these things going, none of this should die.

Q. We Midwesterners are aware that popular opinion is that people are more progressive on the more metropolitan East and

smoke

West coasts. In your travels to the center of the country, what have you observed?

A. The people who choose to live in the Midwest seem to me to very often be those who were raised there. And their decision to stay is made for the most positive of reasons: They have strong ties to their families and their communities. That gives the Midwest both a positive character and opportunity to influence general social change.

It can be hard, though, to remember that when you hear from the "leavers" who've moved east or west. You're bucking a tough trend, since we've become a nation of "leavers" who often put their individual interests above those of their communities.

Q. Why do you choose to live in Boston?

A. I was raised here, my family is here, and I've lived nearly all of my life here. I like the liveliness and energy of the city. And its large student population keeps us all young and intellectually stimulated.

Q. As a fellow journalist, how would you advise those of us at the Herald & Review who've been warned we could accelerate community problems, such as teen-age gang activities, by the writing we've done about them?

A. My experience is that you only hear from the people who disagree with you. I'd guess that there are a lot more people out there who want you to explore these issues and possible solutions.

Q. What can we here do to help the world beyond?

A. Listen closely to what candidates for local, state and national offices say. Vote for those you agree with. And be active in com-



BIO

Ellen Goodman

•Background: Born April 11, 1941, in Newton, Mass., to Jackson Holtz, a lawyer, and Edith Holtz, a homemaker. Childhood aspiration: to be "a mother." Graduated cum laude in 1963 from Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Mass., with a bachelor's degree. Majored in history.

Career: Started as a researcher at Newsweek magazine in New York, then moved on to write for the Detroit Free Press newspaper. Went home to Massachusetts in 1968 to write for the Boston Globe.

Personal: Married to her second husband, Robert Levey. She has a daughter, Katie, 19, and two stepchildren, Greg, 26, and Jenny, 27.

How is it combining family with career? "Not easy," Goodman admitted. "But then, we've a whole generation of young people who've been reared by two working parents. And

relax and realize they don't have to reinvent the wheel when they're both tending their families and their jobs. Now it's been done before."

Interests: Gardening vegetables and flowers, playing squash and reading "omnivorously."

Biggest disappointment: Goodman tried hard to answer this. "I'm not being resistant," she said. "But I just can't relate to disappointment."

Greatest accomplishment: "It's always, I hope, ahead of me. And I often see just showing up at the Globe in the morning to write my next column as a great accomplishment. It would be nice, too, if one of those columns were better than anything I'd written before."

Most inspiration for her writing comes from current events Goodman stays up on by reading piles of newspapers. "About a third of my ideas

a relative.

Ma-
Saturday in St. Ma-
Hospital.

Women to be cited

By SUE BROWN

Herald & Review Lifestyle Writer

Decatur will honor eight area "women of excellence" in a fall celebration featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Ellen Goodman as keynote speaker.

Nominations for women achievers are requested by the event's sponsor, the Decatur YWCA, before Aug. 1. There are eight categories of excellence, each dedicated to an accomplished area woman honored in the past:

- **Arts and culture**, dedicated to Della Crowder Miller (died 1968) and Annette Van Dyke (1898-1986). Miller wrote plays, poetry collections, articles and short stories. Van Dyke was a long-time Millikin University faculty member and an early promoter of dance.

- **Education**, dedicated to Cora Bell Ryman (1877-1963), a teacher and superintendent of Macon County schools for 16 years.

- **Government and politics**, dedicated to Leona Bowman (1874-1971), the first woman elected to a Macon County public office — superintendent of schools — and that was 14 years before women won the right to vote.

- **Science and medicine**, dedicated to Ellen Grimes, M.D. (died 1925), and Sue Hagaman (1841-1919). Grimes served Decatur women for more than 50 years. Hagaman helped establish Decatur Memorial Hospital.

- **Athletics**, dedicated to Harriet Kirby (1927-72), frequent winner of the Decatur city women's golf tournament.

- **Labor**, dedicated to Helen Duncan (1903-1963), business agent for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

- **Business and professions**, dedicated to Fannie A. Bivans (1875-1957) and Mary Love (1878-1964). Bivans was Decatur's first woman attorney. Love was vice president of Decatur's former Brown's Business College.

- **Community volunteerism**, dedicated to Marie Gray Baker (1893-1981), organizer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

All those nominating candidates will be named honorary sponsors of the "Women of Excellence" dinner, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Decatur Holiday Inn. Tickets are available at the YWCA for \$20, and organizations may purchase a table of eight. Reservation deadline is Sept. 14. For more information, call 423-3415.

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Decatur, Illinois, Thursday, June 25, 1987

Herald &
People

Weddings • Anniversaries • Engagements • Birthday

EVERETT UTSLER is the new store manager for Carpetland USA of Decatur.

The Mount Zion native graduated from Mount Zion High School. During the nine years he has been employed by Carpetland, he has been a warehouse manager in Decatur, warehouse manager and retail sales representative in Champaign and assistant store manager in Springfield.



Everett Utsler

JOHN CLARK and Vito Sammarco recently became partners in the Homer L. Chastain & Associates Consulting Engineers firm in Decatur.

Clark joined the firm in 1974. He received his bachelor's degree from Tennessee Technological University, and is a registered professional engineer and registered structural engineer for the state of Illinois.

Sammarco joined the firm in 1983. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, and is a registered professional engineer. Sammarco also is active in sev-



Dennis Henning

eral professional and technical organizations.

Dennis Henning is the new general manager in the Decatur office of the firm. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin, and is a registered professional engineer in both Wisconsin and Texas.

JENNIFER PRICE has joined the executive sales staff at WAND-TV in Decatur.

Price received her bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University, Charleston. She was formerly employed in the advertising sales field in both the Chicago and Decatur areas.



Jennifer Price

JEFFREY RYAN was recently named as the new marketing specialist at Ryan Equipment and Supply in Decatur.

Ryan is a Mount Zion High School graduate and the son of Wally Ryan, president of Ryan Equipment and Supply.



Jeffrey Ryan

NEW MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY FACULTY members this fall will include Frank Magiera of Chey-

On the

enne, Wyo., professor of finance; Trudi Cotner of Champaign, assistant professor of marketing, and David Harwell of Huntsville, Ala., technical director of theatre.

Magiera was assistant professor of finance at the University of Wyoming and also taught at the University of Louisville, Portland State University, Ball State University and Michigan State University. He holds a doctorate from Michigan State University and was also an aerodynamic engineer at McDonnell Aircraft Corp. in St. Louis.

Cotner has been an instructor of marketing at the University of Illinois, where she is completing a doctorate degree. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Northern Illinois University. She has held several positions in Macon County government from 1978 to 1984, including county administrator, economic developer and urban planner.

Harwell completed a bachelor of fine arts degree in theater at the University of Montevallo, Alabama. He has been an apprentice for several seasons at Cumberland County Playhouse in Crossville, Tenn., and an intern at Wayside Theatre in Middletown, Va. He is a member of the Southeastern Theatre Conference and Alabama Theatre League.

STEPHEN RAUPP of Decatur has joined Prudential Insurance

PEOPLE Honors

LUCY LINDSAY SMITH of Decatur, Robert Kowa of Decatur, Michael Waller of Farmington, Conn., and Jodi Marzorati Benson of New York, all Millikin University alumni, were recently given merit awards during the university's annual alumni dinner and awards ceremony.

Smith, a 1967 graduate, received the loyalty award. She is a case worker for the Illinois Department of Public Aid and a partner in Creative Interiors, an in-



First National Bank of Decatur. Kowa also is a member of the Millikin Athletic Hall of Fame, and was a member of the 1950-51 Millikin basketball team that was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Waller, a 1963 graduate, received the merit award. He is the executive editor and vice president of the Hartford (Conn.) Courant. He began his newspaper career at the Decatur Herald & Review while still a Millikin student, and has worked for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Louisville Times, the Courier-Journal, the Kansas City Star, the Kansas City Times and the Kansas City Star & Times.

replaces G. William Madden, president of A.W. Cash Valve Manufacturing Corp. in Decatur, who has served as chairman since 1984.

Kraft, president of Tabor Grain Co. in Decatur, has been on the board since 1983.

Trustees re-elected were David Blue, Barrington, president of Churney Company Inc.; James Dowd, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Urbana; David Griswold, Irving, Calif., a private investor; Julius Hegeler II, Danville, retired vice president of Peterson/Puritan Inc.; James Henson, Hinsdale, president of Jewel Food stores; Herbert Imhoff, Oak

PEOPLE e Move

Co. of America as a fully licensed agent.

He works at the company's district headquarters at 3133 N. Woodford St.

CINDY EDWARDS and Nancy Jo Batman have joined the Decatur Area Arts Council.

Edwards, a May graduate of Sangamon State University in the community arts management program, will be the arts council's assistant director.

She has a master of art degree, was the former arts program coordinator for the city recreation commission in Garden City, Kan., and served six years as special education teacher in Garden City High School. She has been active in arts management and theatrical performances while in Springfield. In Kansas, she developed ballet and movement classes for physically and mentally handicapped adults.

Batman of Decatur will be the new public relations coordinator and will edit the bi-monthly newsletter.

Batman is former coordinator of employee and community relations for St. Mary's Hospital and is a former reporter for the Decatur Review. She is a former weekly columnist for the Effingham Daily News and is current editor



Cindy Edwards



Nancy Jo Batman

of DoveTales, a monthly newsletter for Dove Inc.

FRANK BEAMAN has been named vice president special public relations services at Robert Nichols & Associates Inc., a Decatur advertising, marketing and public relations firm.

Beaman will direct specialized public relations services for Midwestern and national clients.

Beaman, a Decatur native, spent 25 years in broadcasting as a program host, moderator, reporter and news executive with radio stations WBBM, WGN and WKQX in Chicago. Early in his career, he worked for WSOY in Decatur and WTAX in Springfield.

A graduate of Millikin University, Beaman completed additional studies at Northwestern University and Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He was an adjunct faculty member at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern for nine years.

LEROY KESTNER, a sales representative at Northtown Ford in Decatur, has been recognized for sales excellence in 1986 with specialist level membership in Ford Motor Co.'s Ford Division 300/500 Masters Program.

This marks the 10th time Kestner has been honored by membership in this sales organization.

Seven other Northtown sales representatives also were honored for their performance



Frank Beaman



LeRoy Kestner

last year. They are Stan O'Bryan, Allen Robinson, Mark Lambert, Jim Lengsfeld, Martin Russell, Dave Gessaman and Joe Bob Green.

LARRY GRISCHOW is the new general manager of Miles Chevrolet of Decatur. Sonny Backs is now used car manager and Darcy Grinestaff is finance and insurance manager.

Grischow joined the dealership in 1982 after holding finance positions with General Motors Acceptance Corp. and Columbiana Buick-Oldsmobile, both in Youngstown, Ohio.

He attended Youngstown State University. He is a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and is active in local softball.

Backs has served as parts manager and service director since joining Miles in 1974. He is a member of Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Grinestaff, a resident of Mount Zion, attended Southern Illinois University. He joined Miles as a sales representative in 1984.



Larry Grischow



Sonny Backs



Darcy Grinestaff

• Buy Direct From Our Factory • Buy Direct From Our Factory • Buy Direct From Our Factory • Buy Direct From Our Factory



Save Up To 50%

Over nationally advertised brands

Buy Direct From Our Factory

consulting firm. She serves on the board of the Macon County Heart Association, the Humane Society of Decatur and Macon County and the McKinley Court Intermediate Care Facility. She also is a member of the St. Mary's Hospital and Decatur Memorial Hospital auxiliary and has been co-chair of Decatur's annual Fun Fair.

Kowa, a 1953 graduate, received the merit-loyalty award. He is the president of Huston-Patterson Corp. in Decatur. Kowa Graphics in Champaign, and Sigma Graphics, Ottawa. He is a member of the boards of Printing Industry of Illinois and

Lucy Smith



Robert Kowa



Michael Waller



Jodi Benson

Waller is a member of the board of directors of The Associated Press Managing Editors Association and the William Allen White Foundation at the University of Kansas. He serves on the professional advisory committee at Western Kentucky University and is a former member of the boards of the Mid-America Press Institute and the American Press Institute, central region. Waller has served twice on the Pulitzer Prize Jury.

Benson, a member of the class of 1983, received the young alumnus award. She recently played the lead role in the Broadway musical "Smile," and has appeared in several national theater productions. She has performed in the cabaret tour show, "Follies on Broadway" and the touring production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." In addition, she has appeared in "Marilyn: An American Fable," the touring production of "Sophisticated Ladies" and "Dreamgirls."

TOM DICKES has been elected chairman and Burnell Kraft vice chairman of the Millikin University Board of Trustees.

Ten trustees were also re-elected to three-year terms on the board.

Dickes, president of Christy-Foltz Inc. in Decatur, joined the board in 1978, serving as vice chairman the last three years. He

president of General Employment Enterprises Inc.; Philip Piety, San Carlos, Calif., president and chief executive officer of Wausau International Underwriters; William Requarth, Decatur, independent futures trader; and Jane Schroyer and Roberta Tabor, both of Decatur.

Kenneth Brown of Decatur, vice president for business affairs at Millikin, was re-elected secretary and treasurer of the board.

The board of trustees has 33 members serving three-year terms. Each year, one-third of those terms expire. The positions of chairman and vice chairman are one-year terms.

Nominations to the board are made by trustees serving on a nominating committee.

AGNITA WRIGHT DUPREE was recently re-elected president of the Decatur League of Women Voters. Other officers are Mildred Protzman, vice president, and Karen Jensen, secretary. New directors are Laura Verbanac, Lauri Thornton, Betty Melville and Sally Lantz. All are of Decatur.

ALFRED DUPREE was recently elected president of the Decatur Audubon Society. Other officers are Jeff Tish, first vice president; Mary Neureuther, second vice president; Eleanor Barnes, secretary, and F.W. Williams, treasurer. All are of Decatur.

PEOPLE Reunions

DECATUR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1957 will hold its 30-year reunion on Friday and Saturday. A pre-reunion get together will be held at 7 p.m. Friday in the Hamilton House, 500 W. Main St. A dinner and dance will be at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Decatur Holi-

day Inn. For information, call Sharon Wilson Powell at 877-0845 or Nancy Andrews Phillips at 429-1660.

THE PANA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962 will hold

its 25th reunion on July 3 at the Elks Club in Pana. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Dancing will start at 8:30 p.m. Members of the 1961 and 1963 classes are also invited to dance. For more information, call Phyllis Jackson at 422-9809.

PEOPLE United Way

ROBERT ALBRIGHT has been appointed chairman and Michael Schmitz has been named associate chairman of the county division of this fall's campaign for the United Way of Decatur and Macon County.

Albright, technical adviser for the Illinois Department of Transportation, graduated from Decatur High School and Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where he received a bachelor's degree in



Robert Albright

communications.

His community activities include trustee and supervisor for Whitmore Township, Boy Scout of America committeeman and merit badge counselor and associate county division chairman for last year's United Way campaign. He is a member and elder of First Presbyterian Church in Decatur.

Schmitz, assistant superintendent of the Macon County Regional Office of Education, graduated from Pana High School; Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where he received a master's degree in education administration; and Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, where he received a specialist degree in education ad-

ministration.

He is a member of the Illinois Association of School Administrators, Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools, State Food Distribution Advisory Council, Visiting Nurse Association Board of Directors and the Council of Community Services Family and Child Care Division.

Last year, the county division raised \$10,694.



Michael Schmitz

Animal shelter plan expected

Representatives of the Humane Society of Decatur and Macon County and will present county board members today with a proposal to operate and manage the county animal shelter.

The board is not expected to take any action on the proposal when it meets at 8:30 a.m. in the board room on the fifth floor of the Macon County Building, 253 E. Wood St.

Martha Tenney, humane society president, and Adele Julius, a humane society director, have already distributed copies of the proposal to the board's Environment, Education, Health and Welfare Committee. That panel will discuss it Oct. 21.

The society believes it can offer expanded service, better health care for animals and increase the community's confidence in the shelter at the same or lower cost. The shelter at 2400 N. Woodford St. is currently operated by the county, with the city and county each paying half the cost.

Although several Democratic members of the EEHW committee have viewed the proposal with skepticism, Republican member David Wilhour said, "I don't think you want to throw the thing out, because it does have merit."

In other business:

- The board will vote on several highway projects, including repair of a bridge on the Christian-Macon County line and bridge construction in Austin and South Macon townships. It also will vote on an

agreement with the state to receive federal funds for the reconstruction of County Highway 18 northwest of Argenta.

- Four zoning petitions will be presented for approval, including a request for a special-use permit for a one-chair beauty shop on the south side of Hampshire Road in Austin Township.

- The board will be asked to transfer county budget funds in two areas for the supervisor of assessment's office.

One is the transfer of \$20,000 from a fund appropriated for commercial appraisals the county might need done for board of review tax assessment hearing cases, which is not expected to be needed in the current budget year. That money will be put into the legal advertising fund to pay for advertising the quadrennial assessments published in newspapers in August.

Supervisor of Assessments S. Mark Hill had said in the past that the \$20,000 in that fund would not be enough. The Herald & Review charged the county about \$33,800 for legal advertising for the quadrennial listings. The rate is set by law. The county also has to pay bills for three community weekly newspapers that published assessments for three townships.

The other area in Hill's office is for maintaining the county's tax maps with Sidwell Co. The transfer is for \$40,000 from the county's animal control deficiency account.

increase foreseen

are currently negotiating new contracts and other county employees unions will soon be back at the bargaining table asking for wage increases.

For those reasons, Dipper sees a tax increase as unavoidable.

"I've tried to say I wouldn't go along with a full increase. I don't like it, but I don't see any help coming from state or federal" government, said the Democrat. "I'm not in favor of that but it looks like we don't have too many alternatives."

The full increase to which Dipper referred was increasing the county's property tax rate to the maximum allowed by law, which is 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The county currently taxes at a rate of 18 cents.

For the owner of a home with a \$60,000 market value, assessed correctly at one-third of market value and with a full \$3,500 homestead exemption, the tax increase would mean an extra \$11 to \$12 for county government.

The increase would bring in \$490,000 in new revenue, Dipper said, which will not pay for the new jail staffing. He predicts Holsapple might have to make cuts elsewhere in his budget.

Taxpayers can expect to begin paying at much as \$90 a year in additional taxes beginning next year for the next 20 years for construction of the new law center.

Dipper was preparing a memo late Monday to officeholders about the budget and will announce it at this morning's county board meeting.

He will tell officeholders to submit their budget proposals — minus personnel — as soon as possible to their board oversight committees for discussion. They are to use the same appropriation figure they currently have.

"There is no chance for any increase for any officeholders," Dipper said, adding that cuts are possible.

However, Dipper said many offices operate on small budgets and even a 10 percent cut would cripple them and still not solve the budget dilemma.

County board Republican David Drobisch met with officeholders late Monday afternoon about the budget and said some are upset with the likelihood they will have no new funds.

Decatur, Illinois, Tuesday, October 13, 1988

—Central Illinois

County tax increases

By DAWN MORVILLE
Herald & Review Staff Writer

Macon County government needs to increase its tax rate to keep out of the red.

That was the news Monday from county board Chairman Donald Dipper after he met with county Auditor Richard Ferre, Treasurer Jim O. Edgcomb and Republican board minority leader Benneft Bradley Jr.

Ferre explained the budget scenario this way:

- He and Edgcomb agree the county will have \$400,000 to \$500,000 left at fiscal year's end Nov. 30.

- Add the same revenue of \$6,942,000 for this year and get a total of \$7.4 million. If the county has the same expenses as this year, it will need \$7.8 million.

- That means a \$400,000 deficit. Although fees are expected to be \$200,000 to \$300,000 higher, the county will lose this year's one-time-only revenue increase of \$471,000 in the general fund.

The county has at least two major funding unknowns: staffing of the new county jail facility to be completed in October 1988 and union-negotiated salary increases.

Sheriff Lee Holsapple has estimated that the minimum number of new employees he needs is 56. For staff training and salaries, along with an expected increase in inmates, the sheriff estimates he will need an extra \$540,000 for five months in the 1988 budget.

Also, deputies and command officers

are currently negotiating new contracts and other county employees unions will soon be back at the bargaining table asking for wage increases.

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County Board OKs parking lots

The Macon County Board took the following action Tuesday:

- Approved building permanent parking lots on the southeast and southwest corners of the courthouse lawn for office-holders and the handicapped. Opposed were Democrats Mary Lee Brown, R.C. Smith and Annie Williams.

- Reappointed Donald R. Johnson as county Superintendent of Highways and approved a six-year contract that raises his salary from the current \$38,500 to \$40,500 this year and gives him annual \$1,500 raises.

Smith voted "no," saying he would rather see a wage re-opener. He said the county can't afford to continue raising salaries. Republican Phil Hogan also voted "no."

- Increased the county's dependent, neglected and delinquent children's fund by \$65,000. The fund, which pays for housing delinquent youth, is about depleted due to an increasing caseload.

- Approved a three-year, \$237,408 contract to provide police service for the village of Forsyth.

- Moved Decatur Township Precinct 54 polling place from McKeever Communications Inc., 2044 Walnut Grove Drive, to the Decatur Housing Authority Poole Street apartments, 899 W. Center St.

- Approved a year's lease for \$470 a month for space in the Decatur Professional Building, 363 S. Main St., for the state's attorney child support enforcement program.

- Named Joe McGlaughlin, 1372 W. Sunset Ave., to a three-year term as trustee on the Decatur Sanitary District, replacing Ann Seidman, whose term expired in May. He is chairman of the Macon County Democratic Party.

- Appointed Howard E. Brown, 1989 W. Macon St.; Annie Williams, 487 S. Broadway; Lennie O'Neal, 441 Stuart Ave.; Maurice Doyle, 5205 W. Main St.; Harristown; and Richard Reudi, 1672 W. Harrison Ave., to the Macon County Welfare Services Committee.

- Appropriated \$100,000 for engineering and right-of-way acquisition for improvements to the intersection of Mound and Brush College roads, near the site of the new Richland Community College campus. The pavement will be replaced, turn lanes built and traffic signals installed. Verne Roby will appraise land for right-of-way acquisition.

- Appropriated \$400,000 for engineering, right-of-way and construction expenses for improvements to County Highway 30 (the Elwin-Mount Zion Blacktop).

- Approved a settlement for \$3,900, minus payroll deductions, for Barry Jacobs, son of Republican board member Merv Jacobs. Barry Jacobs had worked for the county but quit to enter the service. When he later left the Army and asked for his old job, he was denied it. He is entitled to back wages under federal law.

- Approved a five-year lease with the Decatur School District for the old Grant School at 2240 E. Geddes Ave., which houses the regional office of education.

The cost will be \$1 per year, plus \$943 per month for maintenance and repair, plus utilities.

- Approved a special-use permit for Leonard Hostetler to operate a salvage yard on the west side of Illinois 121, south of the railroad crossing in Hervey City. He has agreed to several stipulations including erecting a fence along the front property line and storing all materials behind it.

- Approved the petition of Lyle E. Smith for rezoning from agricultural to single family residential property on the south side of the Cerro Gordo Blacktop west of Ruch Road.

- Approved a special-use permit for Vera Gardner to allow a residence on one acre zoned agricultural on the east side of Greenswitch Road, north of Hampshire Road near Maroa. Gardner wants to sell an acre to friends so they can care for her.

The staff opposed the rezoning, saying it would set a bad precedent of allowing a home on only one acre in prime farmland.

Study lists where county can save

By DAWN MORVILLE
and DAVE PETRINA

Herald & Review Staff Writers

A total of 89 recommendations was made in the "Macon County Governmental Review" study.

The review covered all county operations that report directly or indirectly to the county board or officeholders.

However, several agencies and operations were omitted because only minor housekeeping or administrative improvements were suggested, according to the report sponsored by the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce and released last week.

Those excluded were the assessment Board of Review, the Job Training Partnership Act office, the public defender's office, the probation office, the supervisor of assessments office, the law library, the mental health board, the building and zoning office and the veterans' commission.

Information will be shared with those offices, but suggestions were considered too insignificant to be published in the 81-page report.

Here are key recommendations for some offices in the study:

■ Macon County Board

- Establish a clerical support pool. Annual cost \$14,600.

■ Human Resources Management

- Write job descriptions for all position classifications.
- Develop personnel policy statements for all county employees. One-time cost \$1,000.
- Conduct a salary and benefit comparability review.
- Establish an employee compensation plan for all position classifications.

■ Purchasing Department

- Revise the purchase approval process. Annual saving \$117,500.

■ Risk Management

- Create a risk management advisory committee.

■ Data Processing and Communications

- Create a management information supervisor position to coordinate design, installation, operation and instruction on computers. Annual cost \$42,800.
- Develop a computer compatibility policy to standardize equipment and programming. Annual saving \$12,400.
- Set up countywide computer security guidelines.

■ Sheriff's Office:

- Transfer two deputies from the county jail — one each going

10,000 to 15,000 square feet and provide more parking. Added annual leasing cost \$36,200.

- Increase food service license fees from \$100 to \$300 annually to reflect costs. Added income \$60,000.

■ Highway Department

- Create assistant superintendent of highways job and eliminate one engineering technician job. Added annual cost \$6,800.

- Eliminate 4 a.m. to 1 p.m. winter shift and revert to standard 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift. Save \$1,000 annually.

■ County Clerk

- Transfer payroll and accounts payable functions to auditor's office. Save \$30,500.

■ Recorder

- Eliminate duties of deputy recorder. Elected recorder to provide all necessary office supervision. Eliminate one of six clerk jobs. Save \$17,000.

■ Circuit Clerk

- Establish interest-earning account to fund 11 separate checking accounts. Annual income \$21,000; one-time cost \$1,500.

- Remit to the treasurer \$17,000 in sheriff's fees from ordinance violation judgments held in trust since 1984. Continue to turn over such fees monthly. One-time income \$17,000; annual income \$6,100.

- Install computer system for recordkeeping, collecting funds, writing and issuing checks. Annual saving \$85,600; one-time cost

\$140,000.

- Charge \$36 annually to process child maintenance and support payments. Annual income \$216,000.

- Deposit postage fees for child maintenance and support payments with the treasurer as collected. One-time income \$20,000.

■ Circuit Court

- Link into circuit clerk computer system to reduce paperflow and employee workload. Annual cost \$1,200.

- Discontinue time payments of traffic fines.

- Install sound systems with recording capabilities in each courtroom. Cost \$12,000.

■ State's Attorney

- Add six word processors to complete secretarial functions on the computer system. Cost \$24,000.

■ Coroner

- Charge surrounding counties for services provided. Annual income \$2,700.

- Install personal computer for recordkeeping. Cost \$18,800.

■ Auditor

- Consolidate all accounting activities in auditor's office.

- Streamline invoice payment process.

- Install computers.

- Establish system to generate timely management information reports.

■ Emergency Services and Disaster Agency

- Conduct annual meeting on latest emergency response procedures. Cost \$200.

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to patrol and investigation. The two jail slots would be filled with correctional officers. Annual cost \$31,200.

- Increase fees to dispatch units for other towns, police, fire departments and to monitor private business fire alarms. Added annual income \$15,600.

- Notes two personal computers stand idle while manual bookkeeping continues.

■ Health Department

- Increase office space from

Computer finds crime patterns

By MARC D. ALLAN

Herald & Review Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD — A Chicago-area police department this month will begin a yearlong test of computer programs a state agency developed to help determine where crimes are likely to occur.

Samuel Bates, the research analyst who developed the software, said the programs should cut down the time it takes police to recognize crime patterns.

He said police should be able to take the information and make better use of their patrol time.

"The principal uses of (the programs) are going to be in speeding up crime analysis," he said. "It may not be necessarily doing things that are brand new, but maybe ... speeding up the decision process and making law enforcement more efficient."

Bates works for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, which coordinates the state's criminal justice statistics.

He said the programs, called STAC — Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Crime — should replace pin maps because they will tell police what times and days crimes happened, as well as the locations.

"We'll be taking the information and saying, 'What sort of things have you had over the last two or three weeks?'" Bates said. "'Have you had a rash of burglaries? Let's take a look at them. Let's put them into the program and run a whole bunch of analyses against them and give you the results.'"

The system will track robberies, criminal damages to property, motor-vehicle thefts, residential and non-residential burglaries, and thefts from motor vehicles.

He would not name the police department trying out the programs, but said the software will be added to the authority's Police Information Management System computer if the tests are successful.

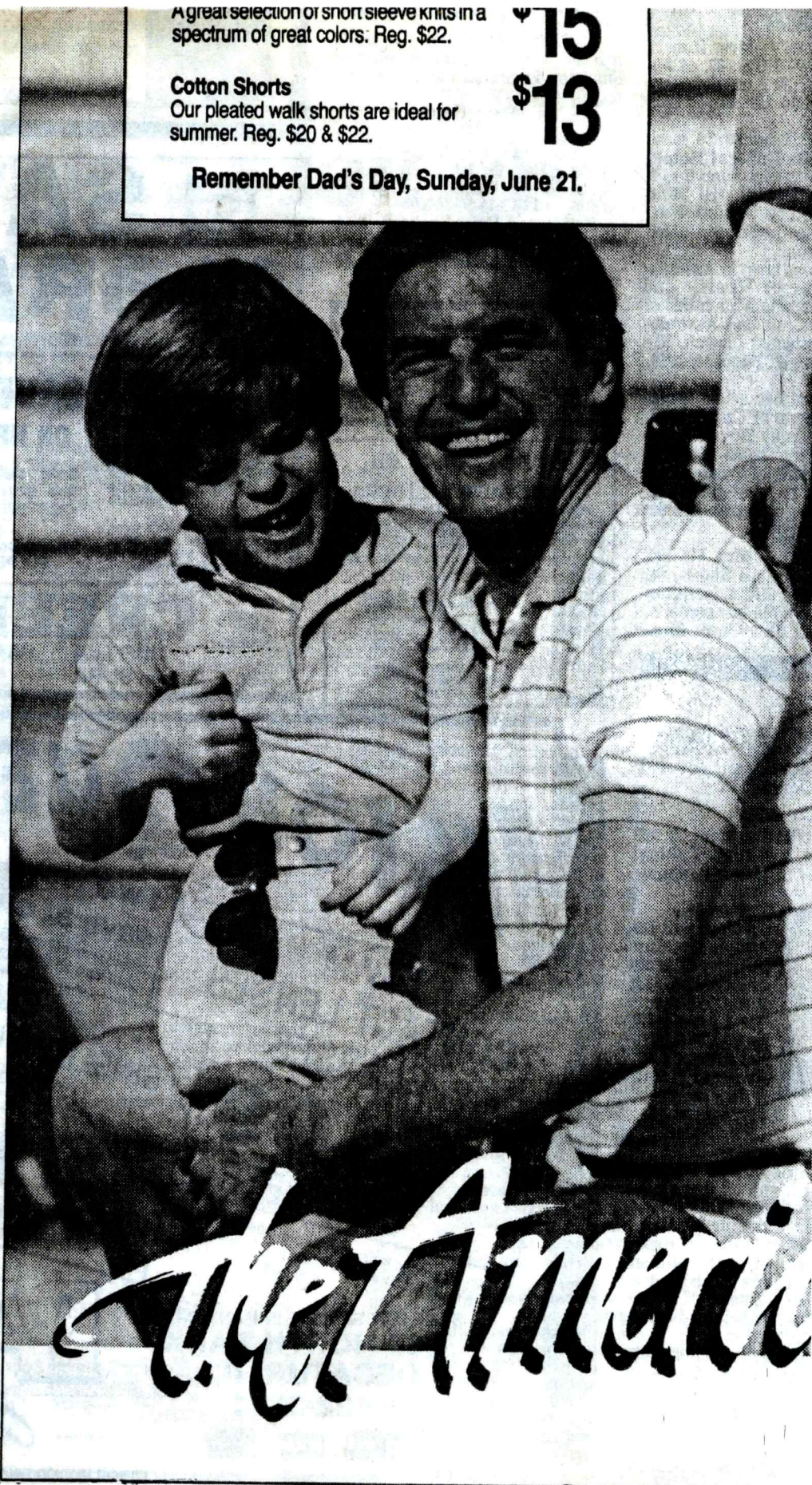
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15
13

Remember Dad's Day, Sunday, June 21.



The American

County told t

By DAWN MORVILLE

Herald & Review Staff Writer

Macon County government needs to catch up with the times in computer technology, office operations and money management.

Those were the highlights of the "Macon County Governmental Review" sponsored by the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce.

The study results — including 89 recommendations for improving government operations — were released Wednesday during an afternoon news conference.

The study found citizens generally receive good value for their county tax dollars, chamber President Richard Lutovsky said.

But the study attempted to find ways to make county government more man-

ageable and efficient. Following the recommendations could lead to substantial benefits, he said.

Carrying out all the recommendations could produce annual net savings of \$589,900 and would mean 19 jobs would be eliminated and 10 others created. The study was done under the guidance of the consulting firm of Warren King and Associates Inc. Volunteers from local businesses and industries devoted some 4,500 hours to the effort over 15 weeks.

Some of the proposals can be adopted immediately, while others require board action or officeholder initiative. Others would require changes in state law.

Board Chairman Donald Dipper said the study will be discussed in the July 14 board meeting or during a special board meeting he may call later this month.

The chamber suggest point a person to tion of the study the study team n volunteer to help the proposals.

Those working edged some of the ular because they proaches to man ment.

Here are the id the most controver

- Reduce the s from 21 members
- Abolish the committees and n new ones: financ legislative. The b

Suggestion: reduce board

By JIM ALLEN

Herald & Review Staff Writer

Beating a dead horse vs. reviving a good idea.

The recommendation to tighten the size of the county board is one that has surfaced before — and has been accomplished — in Macon County. But, the idea has been aired again, this time in the report just made public by the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce.

"At 21 members, the Macon County Board is large and relies on smaller committees to carry out most responsibilities. Recommendations in this report propose reducing the size of the board and realigning the committee structure, thus significantly changing the operation relationships with departments, agencies and functions," the report reads.

Specifically, it recommends hiring two full-time professionals who would report to the board and carry out directives on a day-to-day basis. The two executives would help coordinate budgets, administration, personnel, informa-

tion processing and similar activities, according to the report.

In addition, the report refers to the reduction of 1982 when the number was shrunk from 24 to 21. The report says the "board should continue the trend initiated in 1982, with a goal of reducing the board size from 21 to 14.

The move would improve communications, reduce redundant functions and save \$23,100 annually in board member fees, it says.

Two political scientists contacted Wednesday gave mixed reviews of the idea.

While saying it was a "salutary" idea, EIU political science professor Ed Brazil said it would be difficult to implement, given the board would have to make the decision to cut.

"Why do you need 21 people? It's not like the state legislature," Brazil said. "But, it's sort of like them having the key to the jailhouse. They're not going to want to give it away. If there's three guys sitting around and they're talking about how one of them's got to go, what do you think? It's



common sense as to what's likely to happen."

While EIU political science instructor Joe Connelly said he agrees full-time executives should be considered for the sake of professionalism, he said he thinks lowering the number of board members could have a negative impact on representation and cause unwanted consolidation of smaller townships.

"A few less (board members) might be more efficient, but the number 21 doesn't bother me."

Connelly also questioned the proposed number, wondering what might happen if seven members from each major party were elected. "Nothing would get through then," he said.

At the earliest, according to Illinois statutes, the county board could go through reapportionment 10 years after the last reapportionment. In short, that means it will have to wait until at least 1992.



o modernize

suggested the county ap-coordinate implementa-results. Lutovsky said members are willing to explain and carry out

on the report acknowl-proposals won't be pop-change traditional ap-gaging county govern-

leas likely to be among sial:

ize of the county board to 14.

board's seven standing eplace them with three e, administrative and board conducts most of

its business in committees.

- Hire two full-time professionals to augment the board and carry out its directives on a day-to-day basis.

The director of operations would act as a liaison between the board and officeholders, other appointed boards and governmental bodies; prepare grant applications; provide staff services and analyze the county's finances.

A supervisor of administrative services would be in charge of central services such as purchasing, risk management, building maintenance and personnel administration.

- Hire a personnel administrator to develop personnel policies, write job descriptions, determine staffing needs and recruit, test and interview job candidates.

- Pay board members a \$2,000 annual

salary with no mileage allowance for committee meeting attendance. They currently receive \$35 per diem.

- Resolve the current "impasse" between the board and county Auditor Richard Ferre on computerizing the budgetary and accounting system. Some board members have accused Ferre of failing to cooperate.

- Form a data processing advisory committee of private-sector specialists that could recommend equipment and programs. The county so far has computerized various offices on a "piece-meal" basis, the report said.

- County Treasurer Jim O. Edgcomb should develop a cash management system. Currently, investments are placed in short-term, minimum interest bearing accounts.

Most officials mum on survey

By DAWN MORVILLE
Herald & Review Staff Writer

What they haven't read they can't comment on.

That was generally the reaction as Macon County Board members and county officeholders were asked their response to a survey of county government.

Final copies of the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce-sponsored study were kept under wraps until a news conference Wednesday afternoon, with only the study's operating and executive committees receiving advance copies.

Board members, who late last year approved spending \$6,000 of taxpayer money toward the estimated \$66,000 cost of the study, only received copies late Wednesday morning, as did county officeholders. Many had not had time to read the 81-page report.

Asked why the report was kept secret, Chamber President Richard Lutovsky said, "That's your word. I don't choose to define it that way."

He said the Chamber approached the study in a straightforward way, promising to discuss the results with officeholders and county board leadership before it was published. That they did.

Circuit Clerk Paul Hogan, a Republican, said he read the recommendations about his office but, "I've got to study it in more detail. I really never understood what they were saying."

Hogan wasn't sure he could legally adopt some of the proposals.

The only elected officeholder attending the news conference was Republican Treasurer Jim O. Edgcomb, who said later he was there on behalf of the Blue Mound newspaper he co-owns.

But he had a reaction similar to Hogan's. Edgcomb said he found the news conference was well-orchestrated and came off just the way the Chamber

'That's your word. I don't choose to define it that way'

Richard Lutovsky, denying secrecy of report



within the law. If it looks more efficient, we'll give it a try."

But Edgcomb had a different outlook.

He questioned whether the report was realistic in suggesting changes that would require a change in the law that would affect all 102 Illinois counties.

Edgcomb believes that the three recommendations for his office were valid, but he disagreed with the application of them.

He was told to eliminate redundant accounting activities that are performed by his office as well as several others; develop a cash management system so a forecast of expected bills and projected surplus is available and money is invested to earn the most possible; and improve the rate of investment return by investing in longer-term instruments.

Edgcomb said all hinge on getting the county's budget and accounting system on the computer.

The treasurer said he also had "no idea" what the report referred to when it said there seems to be an "apparent casual method of handling cash."

Republican board member Ralph "Skip" Wilcox, who was briefed on the recommendations ahead of

Recorder's office passes acid test

By AMY RAGSDALE

Herald & Review Staff Writer

Phillip St. Clair put the county recorder's office to an acid test and was pleased with what he found.

"I talked to a lawyer, a surveyor and a real estate agent," said St. Clair, one of 34 committee members charged with evaluating county government for the Metro. Decatur Chamber of Commerce study.

St. Clair, who acted as a one-man team to evaluate the recorder's office, concentrated on talking to the people who use — rather than run — the office.

"In all cases I got high recommendations about the records kept," he said. "That was the acid test of the department — taxpayers that use the department and think it is a first-class operation."

St. Clair recommended the elimination of one \$17,000-salary clerical worker.

"I was amazed at what the (coroner's office) has been doing — what they're able to do — with the few people they have," said Norton Newcomb, a retired Army man, who visited the coroner's office, sheriff's office, health department and veterans' commission.

"Residents like me — I'm a taxpayer — should feel like they're getting their money's worth," he said.

What findings displeased team members?

Many point to the lack of computerization in the auditor's office and to incompatible computers in various offices.

"The complexity has led to inefficiency," said Duane Chicoine, who spent about a week attending

court sessions and interviewing judges, court reporters and judicial secretaries. "They handle so much paper. (They need to) computerize the shuffling."

Which county officials win from their evaluators?

"I found (Auditor Richard Ferre) to be a knowledgeable person, conscientious and a hard worker," said Robert Rasho, who visited the treasurer, auditor and country clerk and witnessed some of the disputes computerization is causing among those offices.

Newcomb was pleased to find Sheriff Lee Holsapple launching programs at the same time the team was pointing to their need.

James Sanner thought employees in the Regional Office of Education were "frank and honest. There was nothing that we were censored on."

Decatur, Illinois, Wednesday, November 4, 1987

lace

farmers' interest encouraging



Mike Carr

Commentary

ties to international agriculture. It is an apt choice, since the federal government clearly plays a vital role in international dealings and since domestic federal farm policy has a powerful effect on our agricultural exports and imports.

But it is so complex, and every action so intertwined with the actions and reactions around the

globe, that the half hour they had set aside soon stretched to nearly two hours. And we barely scratched the surface.

It would be easy to think that the ladies would get discouraged by the complexities of the subject. But that would be sadly under-rating the ladies of the league.

Their questioning was penetrating and intense, right to the end of the session. I'm sure in the perfect world of philosophers, where all we had to do was sit around and examine the issues, their questioning would have continued at that level for much longer.

But the session was rewarding to me even though it was necessarily incomplete. I found my reward in the knowledge that non-farmers were seriously examining

vital questions that most people avoid.

Agnita Wright Dupree, president of the Decatur chapter, admitted this is the first foray of the league into agriculture. But it is a foray the ladies are attacking with relish.

It was interesting to note, as the discussion progressed, that the league members had heard a great deal about the protected Japanese markets and the resulting high cost of food for the Japanese consumer. What they did not realize was that this is largely accomplished by having all imports sold directly to the government trading agency, which then resells the commodity into the marketing chain at whatever price will protect the domestic producers.

And they were somewhat surprised to learn that the European Community is at least as much a threat to our exporters as is Japan. In fact, where Decatur is concerned, I regard Europe as a greater threat.

It is the Europeans who continue to hold over our heads the threat of a tax on all vegetable oils, including soy oil. Although that tax has been voted down in EC councils, it could be revived.

It is the Europeans who always represent a threat to our market for corn gluten feed, a product the European cattleman will gladly use even at prices which make our own cattlemen shudder.

And it is the Europeans who are resisting proposals before the General Agreement on Tariffs and

Trade negotiators to eliminate all market-distorting agricultural subsidies by the end of the century.

Finally, it is the Europeans who are most responsible for flooding the world markets with cheap, subsidized sugar, disrupting the economies of third-world nations and forcing us to use the distasteful sugar quota system.

But that is one topic we never had a chance to get around to. And, since Decatur's two major corn sweetener producers are heavily involved in anything to do with the sugar program, it's one that would have raised a number of questions.

I'm sure the league members will get around to that one sooner or later.

Non-farmers' interest encourag

The League of Women Voters is not averse to tackling difficult subjects when it comes to establishing a position. In fact, so complex are the issues facing the league that its members are routinely allocated up to two years for research and debate before a position is reached.

I'm not sure two years is enough for their current project. I've been studying it for 27 years and I still don't know enough.

The topic is "consideration of the role of the federal government in agriculture."

This week the Decatur chapter asked me to meet with them to discuss, in particular, the local

Mike Carr is the Herald & Review farm/business editor



Mike Carr
Commentary

ties to international agriculture. It is an apt choice, since the federal government clearly plays a vital role in international dealings and since domestic federal farm policy has a powerful effect on our agricultural exports and imports.

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Book *HR* *Sept 15/1944*

League Tells Topics

Candidates Meeting Oct. 27

The League of Women Voters in Decatur this week announced topics for membership and public meetings during upcoming months.

Activities will begin next

Wednesday with a luncheon celebrating the 20th anniversary of the league in Decatur. Topic of discussion by outside speakers will be "The need for a Macon County Conservation District."

A public evening program Oct. 27 will be set aside for a "Candidates Meeting," with candidates for state and national offices invited to attend.

Exact dates for monthly meetings have not been set. Following are the topics to be discussed each month by the membership:

November—Illinois welfare service to children and their families

December—Conservation and development of water resources

January—Equal housing opportunities

February—U. S. foreign policy

April—Study of government planning agencies in Macon County

May—Study and evaluation of the operation of the Equal Opportunities Act in Decatur and Macon County.

DECATUR HERALD AND REVIEW
P. O. Box 311 Decatur, Ill. 62525

FRI DEC 15 1978

Bureau of Accuracy and Fair Play

Please answer the following questions relating to the news story attached to this questionnaire and correct any errors which you find:

ARE THE NAMES OF PERSONS and/or ORGANIZATIONS
SPELLED CORRECTLY?

Yes _____ No _____

Correction: _____

ARE ADDRESSES, AGES, TITLES OR OTHER
IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ACCURATE?

Yes _____ No _____

Correction: _____

DOES THE STORY PRESENT A FACTUAL AND
UNBIASED REPORT OF EVENTS?

Yes _____ No _____

Correction: _____

Voter league announces project

A new project by the Decatur League of Women Voters has been announced, while another one has been canceled.

League President Karen Jensen said the organization has canceled its planned study of the impact of declining student enrollment on Decatur public schools.

But in the spring, the league will start to monitor small claims proceedings in Macon County Circuit Court, she said.

The school study was scrapped because she said the league could not find enough people willing to work on it.

The league now is looking for volunteers to conduct its small claims court project, she said. Interested people should call Barbara Minich, the project director, at 423-2832 or 424-2806.

Mrs. Jensen said the study will be conducted in the spring. The league's recommendations will be compiled by early summer, she said.

The league already has monitored felony and misdemeanor trial proceedings in the Circuit Court. Some of the organization's recommendations have been adopted, she said.

The court has posted a bulletin board and daily calendar providing information on Circuit Court proceedings in the County Building, she said.

A recommendation that bailiffs be available in courtrooms at the beginning of trials also has been put into practice.

She said the league still is pressing for an booth on the main floor of the County Building to provide court information.

Pravara News Shoppert July 15, 1981

New President For Decatur League

Carol Campbell of 3330 N. Taylor, Decatur, is the new President of the Decatur League of Women Voters for 1981-1983. Mrs. Campbell, a mother of four, has been a League of Women Voters member since 1969. Since moving to Decatur in 1973, she has served on the League's Board of Directors and on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Improved Storm Drainage. Mrs. Campbell stated, "Action and visibility are planned for the Decatur League in the next two years!"

Maggie Lauterjung, Marianne Erickson and Barbara Emery will fulfill the offices of first, second and third Vice

Presidents, respectively. Mary Monihan is the League's 1981-82 Secretary. Susan Marshall continues as Treasurer.

The following League members have been installed as directors:

Barbara Brown, Publications; Newsletter - "The Decatur Voter", Sarah Schwehn; Criminal Justice, Mary Coberly; Referendum and Recall, Lucille Crow; Single Member Districts, Laura Verbanac; Action, Karen Jensen.

Program items scheduled for League study and public meetings include:

Water quality and availability - September and February; Health: Financial Access to Ser-

vices - October; Gender Discrimination in Illinois - January

Prospective members are encouraged to call Barbara Emery, Membership Vice President (875-2506) for information about membership.

November 24,
1978

Readers' Forum

Solve court space problems

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters'-sponsored court watching project has been urging better utilization of court facilities in the County Building for two years now. We, therefore, sympathize with Judge Rodney Scott's desire to have the county proceed quickly to make a new courtroom available soon for the ever busy and crowded traffic court.

County board members maintain they are trying to do exactly that and we hope they are. The need is great.

In the spring of 1977, after 21 community volunteers monitored Macon County Misdemeanor Court, we concluded that it was difficult to hear proceedings in that courtroom (Room 206) because people were streaming in and out of traffic court next door. Traffic court has a high volume of cases.

Teacher, pupils grateful for help of Millikin Bank

To the Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to the Millikin National Bank for all the kindness and courtesies extended to my class during American Education Week.

The week provided many memories which the students and I will treasure. Thank you for providing an opportunity for the public to see education in action.

Marjean Kelley
Second graders
Muffley School
Decatur

It has to be extremely frustrating for court personnel and court clients that traffic court has, for so long, been "floating" about the courthouse with no permanent location. We hope that court will be housed soon in space adequate enough to accommodate a high volume of clients.

Even when traffic court is finally located permanently, space problems within the County Building will not be solved. Lawyer-client conference space and witness waiting room space is very limited, often crowded, sometimes nonexistent. Attorneys are forced to meet their clients by elevator doors often which jams up corridors and causes confusion and overcrowding.

We hope the county board, as it reorganizes itself after the recent election, will attempt to address the serious space and facilities problems in the courthouse. Quality of justice is at stake.

Karen Jensen
President, Decatur League
of Women Voters
Project Coordinator 1977
Misdemeanor Court-Watching Project
Decatur

About letters

Letters to the editor must have a written signature and a street address or rural route number. The writer must permit use of his name. Letters of 350 words or less are preferred.

The Decatur Daily Review will not edit letters to meet space requirements.

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Decatur

It has to be extremely frustrating for court personnel and court clients that traffic court has, for so long, been "floating" about the courthouse with no permanent location. We hope that court will be housed soon in space adequate enough to accommodate a high volume of clients.

Even when traffic court is finally located permanently, space problems within the County Building will not be solved. Lawyer-client conference space and witness waiting room space is very limited, often crowded, sometimes nonexistent. Attorneys are forced to meet their clients by elevator doors often which jams up corridors and causes confusion and overcrowding.

We hope the county board, as it reorganizes itself after the recent election, will attempt to address the serious space and facilities problems in the courthouse. Quality of justice is at stake.

Karen Jensen
President, Decatur League
of Women Voters
Project Coordinator 1977
Misdemeanor Court-Watching Project
Decatur

About letters

Letters to the editor must have a written signature and a street address or rural route number. The writer must permit use of his name. Letters of 350 words or less are preferred.

The Decatur Daily Review will not edit letters to meet space requirements.

Sunday evening, I heard Forum on the radio and I was most surprised and pleased to hear your comments about the need for a traffic court room. Such support is very badly needed and very greatly appreciated.

This note is to thank you. I do not conceive how you find time to be so involved but your contribution should be recognized.

I hope to see you again when it is "watching" time and your committee will always be welcome.

Gratefully,

Rodney A. Scott
Rodney A. Scott
Chief Judge

Mrs. Karen Jensen
2180 Summit Court
Decatur, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Jensen:

RAS:cle

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, March 14, 1982

Stop inequities — support ERA

To the Editor:

Ms. Raker, in her letter (March 9, 1982), is incorrect with regards to the Equal Rights Amendment. The question of the required three-fifths vote was settled by a panel of three federal judges (*Dyer vs. Blair*, 1975). The three-fifths rule is in conflict with the U.S. Constitution which requires a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress, and is a federal power delegated to the states that cannot be limited by a state constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1981 that females would be exempt from the registration for the draft. The issue of the extension will be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court after the June 30, 1982 deadline.

Abortion is legal today! Abortion is not an issue of the ERA. In the three short sections of the amendment abortion is not even mentioned.

Social Security will be reformed with or without ERA. It will put greater emphasis on families who contribute from income of two salaries. It is doubtful that social security could be computed on a wife's assumed wages. A married woman living with her husband, and not employed outside the home, does not qualify for minimum wage, unfair labor practice, or workmen's compensation. A married woman, living with her husband, is entitled to only what her husband chooses to give her.

The opponents of ERA have used emotions and fear to distort the real significance of the Equal Rights Amendment. "Equality" does not mean "sameness." Legal rights should not depend upon sex, but other factors, factors which are common to both sexes. By upholding each woman's rights to choose her place in society can only dignify the important roles which have been traditionally hers.

Women must ask themselves what can happen if their husband dies, or their marriage breaks up; the problems of supporting their children, getting a job outside the home, obtaining credit, discovering the pension stops when the husband dies, or that without a will, the children inherit two-thirds of his property and you get one-third, or that inheritance taxes could force you to sell the family property? These are some of the inequities which would change with the passage of ERA.

Carol Campbell, President
League of Women Voters
Decatur

Ave. was recently elected president of the Decatur LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS for 1981-83.

Mrs. Campbell, a league member since 1969, has served on its board of directors and on the citizens advisory committee for improved storm drainage.

Other officers are Maggie Lauterjung, first vice president; Marianne Erickson, second vice president; Barbara Emery, third vice president; Mary Monihan, secretary; and Susan Marshall, treasurer.

The directors are Barbara Brown, publications; Sarah Schwehn, newsletter; Marg Coberly, criminal justice; Lucille Crow, referendum and recall; Laura Verbanac, single member districts; and Karen Jensen, action.

For membership information, call Barbara Emery at 875-2506.



Carol Campbell

League of Women Voters
Carol Campbell of 3330 N. Taylor

Evening H & R

July 14, 1981

Book Sale To Be Held

The League of Women Voters of Decatur is holding a book sale on Saturday, July 18 from 9 am to 5 pm at 2180 Summit Ct. Decatur. Hundreds of books, mostly paperback, will be on sale for under one dollar, with most books costing 25 cents.

All proceeds of the sale will go toward sup-

porting the works of the Decatur chapter of the League of Women Voters. The League is a non-partisan organization committed to open, responsive and effective government brought about by informed, involved citizens.

For more information call Kathy Sorensen 875-7200 x 287.

that, he said.

Speech set on recycling

4/11/79
Herald +
Review

The manager of a state program on recycling used motor vehicle oil will speak in Decatur Wednesday night.

Bob Lindquist, manager of the Illinois Institute of Natural Resources program, will speak at 7:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1360 W. Main St.

The speech, open to the public, is being sponsored by the Decatur League of Women Voters, according to member Barbara Emery. She said the league is considering starting a recycling program in Decatur.

LASTING SETTLEMENTS

Decatur and Mount Zion are the only early settlements in Macon County which have had a continued existence.

Readers' Forum

Majority should be only way

To the Editor:

February 14, Valentine's Day, marks the day rules will be considered and adopted in the Illinois General Assembly. Legislators can then vote to change the rules to use a simple majority to ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution. We hope they will do so.

Prior to ratification of our new Illinois Constitution in 1970, the simple majority was used to ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The new Constitution called for a three-fifths vote of both houses. This Article XIV, Section 4, of the Illinois Constitution has been declared invalid by the Illinois attorney general, on the grounds that it is in conflict with the U.S. Constitution. The court decision stated that the power to set the vote requirement rests solely with the state legislature as a delegated federal power that cannot be limited by a state constitution. So — the stage is set for the Valentine's Day vote on rules: will it be three-fifths or a simple majority?

We urge adoption of a simple majority vote for the following reasons:

— 1. The amending process to the U.S. Constitution is already very difficult. Two-thirds of both Houses of Congress must pass an amendment, and three-fourths of the state legislatures must ratify it.

— 2. Only seven amendments to the U.S. Constitution would have been ratified in our state had we been under the supermajority rule previously. Those that would not have passed here are: the 13th, 16th, 22nd, 17th, 24th, 18th, Child Labor and Slavery amendments.

— 3. Only five other states require a supermajority. If other states were to imitate Illinois and increase the vote requirement to an extraordinary majority, it would render the amendment process unworkable, and create an insurmountable obstacle where no change in the Constitution would be possible. For example, the U.S. Constitution itself would not have been adopted if a three-fifths vote requirement had been in effect in the 13 original colonies.

The Equal Rights Amendment is the first federal amendment to come up for consideration in Illinois since the 1970 constitution. ERA has consistently received more than majority support in both houses. Return to the majority rule for federal amendments allows citizens of Illinois to express their will through their legislators. Polls in Decatur and throughout Illinois show citizens want passage of ERA. Adoption of a simple majority vote for federal amendments will make ratification of ERA possible.

Karen Jensen, President
Decatur League of Women Voters

About letters

Letters to the editor must have a written signature, a street address or a rural route number, and a telephone number to assist in verification. The writer must permit use of his or her name. Letters of 350 words or less are preferred. Longer letters are judged on their merit. The Herald and Review will not edit letters to meet space requirements. Form letters, copies of letters and letters which are libelous or in bad taste will not be published. Thursday is the deadline for submitting letters for Sunday publication.

League plans court report

By Jim Ludwick

The Decatur League of Women Voters expects to be ready to evaluate the effectiveness of small claims proceedings in Macon County Circuit Court by the end of this month.

"We're interested in seeing that justice is being done," league President Karen Jensen said of the league's court project, which has involved about 20 volunteers.

The volunteers have been monitoring small claims court activity, a process which will be completed by the end of April.

Mrs. Jensen said monitors are accumulating data about the operation of the court, and the group will review that information later to see if any patterns are apparent.

For example, she said, the league is interested in whether those hiring attorneys to represent them in small claims court tend to fare better than those who go to court without attorneys.

The group also is taking note of how blacks and women are treated by the court.

Mrs. Jensen said that the only other place in Illinois in which a similar small claims monitoring project has taken place is Du Page County.

In that project, monitors completed a form after attending sessions of the court, and information on the completed forms served as a basic source of data for the group's analysis.

According to Mrs. Jensen, the Macon County chapter obtained a copy of the form used in the Du Page project and expanded and adapted it for use in Macon County.

Monitors in the Macon County project fill out two forms — a one-page checklist and a more extensive four-page report.

After monitoring of the courts is completed at the end of this month, the league will prepare statistical studies based on the information it has gathered. Then, conclusions will be drawn about what has been observed in the courts.

Mrs. Jensen said members of the group will discuss the league's conclusions with court personnel, and the responses will be included in a final report, to be released in mid-May.

Reasoning is erroneous

OPPONENTS OF the proposed constitutional amendment to give Washington, D.C., full congressional representation apparently have found supporters in Illinois pro-ERA faction.

A recent Washington Post survey found that Illinois is the only state outside of the South or West that is likely to reject the D.C. amendment. The survey found that ERA supporters in Illinois are the main reason Illinois will oppose the D.C. amendment.

It is an odd finding. A lot of silly reasons for opposing the D.C. amendment have been offered in recent weeks. But opposing it because ERA hasn't passed is among the silliest. ERA supporters responding to the survey said they will work against the D.C. amendment because they want no constitutional changes before ERA.

The flaw in that reasoning is that the

100 million women in the 50 states are represented in Congress. The 690,000 women and men in Washington, D.C., are not.

ERA supporters' opposition to the D.C. amendment is even more curious when you consider the basic question being debated. It is a question of equal treatment. Women are not treated equally with men in U.S. society. Citizens of Washington, D.C., are not treated equally with the 50 states in congressional representation.

Logically the supporters of both amendments should be natural allies. That they are not is indicative of the poor logic that has haunted ERA.

Single-mindedness is the bugaboo of society's attempts to be progressive. Illinois' ERA supporters should not fall prey to that flaw. Both ERA and the D.C. amendment deserve their support.

DECATUR SUNDAY HERALD AND REVIEW

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, October 22, 1978

Washington, D.C. needs voting rights

To the Editor:

Citizens of Washington, D.C. need to be enfranchised. They should be allowed to vote and have representation in Congress just as the rest of us.

The League of Women Voters believes everyone should have a say in their government. We, therefore, have supported representation in Congress for D.C. residents since 1924. We have been credited by Congress and the press as the organization most directly responsible for the recent passage in Congress of the D.C. Full Voting Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Thirty-eight states must ratify the amendment for it to become law and we hope Illinois will be one of the first states to ratify.

Right now, the 690,000 D.C. residents contributed \$1.4 billion in federal taxes in 1977 yet have no say in their government — that's "taxation without representation."

The casualty level for D.C. residents (237 killed) was higher than the level of 10 other states — yet the victims had no say in the decisions that sent them to

Vietnam — that's conscription without representation.

Of the 115 nations of the world with elected national legislatures, only the U.S. and Brazil deny representation in their legislatures for the citizens of their capital cities.

While groups around the state and nation work feverishly to gain equal rights for women with passage of ERA, we cannot forget that both men and women are currently denied civil and human rights in our nation's capital. Passage of the D.C. Full Voting Rights Amendment needs our attention and support.

Karen Jensen

President

Decatur League of Women Voters

1978-79?

PAGE SIX

Decatur Daily Review

"The Community Paper"

Opinions

Home rule gets publicity

HOME RULE and the attempt to get rid of it in Decatur continue to make headlines.

Decatur automatically became a home rule unit with adoption of the 1970 Illinois Constitution because its population was more than 25,000.

The home rule concept wasn't new.

A newspaper clipping from 1930 notes Decatur City Council members agreed to make a concerted effort to get the Illinois Legislature to restore to the cities home rule powers exercised by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

It also pointed out city officials had "been trying to get home rule back for 15 years."

In 1975, the Decatur City Council unanimously passed an ordinance permitting it to exercise its powers as a home rule unit. A year later, a group called Macon County Committee to Restore the Constitution began circulating petitions calling for a referendum to abolish home rule in Decatur.

The drive was thwarted in 1977, but has become a cause championed by Thomas C. Allen. On Monday night, Allen presented petitions containing almost 2,000 signatures to the council. The petitions call for a referendum on whether the city should retain home rule powers.

Allen says the citizens signing the petitions are asking for the right to "control our own lives, our own paychecks and our own destinies."

Meanwhile, a committee of the Decatur Chamber of Commerce will be appointed to determine what, if anything, the Chamber board should do if referendums are scheduled on retaining the city's home rule powers and the council-manager form of government. The council-manager form is another of Allen's targets.

The League of Women Voters of Decatur has concluded that both the home rule powers and the council-manager form of government should be retained.

Two years ago, when circulation of petitions began, we said it was hard to understand the reasoning of those who were circulating the petitions.

It still is.

We admitted then that home rule status gives the city wide latitude — it has the authority to do just about anything not prohibited by the state.

And we pointed out that without home rule, the city would have to go hat in hand to the General Assembly for many powers and be subject to the whims of the Legislature as well.

We said that as a home rule city, Decatur can determine its needs as well as whether it can afford them, and that the city had used its home rule powers sparingly and had not abused them.

We have neither seen nor heard anything since then that has changed our minds.

Decatur Daily Review

Family

Section 2

ERA text easy to find, not so easy to understand

QUESTION. Where can I get a copy of the Equal Rights Amendment? I'm just 19 and interested in getting more information.

I think a lot of people don't know what it's all about.

NEW VOTER, Mount Zion

ANSWER. Getting a copy of the amendment is no problem. Here it is:

"1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

"2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"3. This amendment will take effect two years after the date of ratification."

The Decatur Public Library Reference Room has a pamphlet file on ERA which includes publications pro, con and presumably objective. Some of this material can be checked out to read at home.

Pro materials are available from the League of Women Voters, Karen Jensen, 429-9702, or the Decatur NOW chapter, Mary Schruben, 428-9720. Con information can be obtained from Stop-ERA, P.O. Box 2014, Decatur, Ill. 62525.

It sounds as if you're well on your way to being an informed, participating citizen.

QUESTION. I have a problem and don't know how to go about solving it. Is there an animal law that people should keep their pets in and not let them run loose? If not, there should be.

The point is the cats are getting in my yard. I have a garden and don't want cat fur all over my vegetables. I have a fence but they climb over it.

If I had pets I wouldn't let them bother other people. I'd have more consideration. Do you know of a solution?

V.M., Decatur

ANSWER. There is no leash law as such for cats. But as a representative of the Decatur Humane Society explained, "A cat should not be running at large for its own safety."

Do your problem cats have tags on? There is an ordinance requiring all cats to be inoculated for rabies once a year and wear tags showing this registration. In addition, pets should not disturb peace or cause a nuisance.

Police Department is the place to

The Redford Files



With Barbara Redford

This group has 1,700 companies as members. They don't promise that their name removal form will keep you off all lists, but it should work for many.

It's only fair to mention that this association also has a name add-on form. It will put your name on specialized advertising lists in such areas as antiques, crafts, fishing, travel, photography, etc.

PROBLEM. I sent for two knives from Westbury Sales Co. in Westbury, N.Y., last August. I sent \$6 and then later wrote to them.

I have done business with them before, but I have no merchandise or answer to my letter. I suppose there has been some mistake or my address couldn't be read.

Would you check on it?

J.B., Decatur

ANSWER. It took some perseverance and patience, but as soon as Westbury saw a copy of the letter to the attorney general of New York, your knives were on their way.

(P.S. They could read your address okay — it was printed right there on the check they cashed.)

Send your problems, questions and requests in writing to the Redford Files, 1553 W. Main St., Decatur, Ill. 62522, of the Herald and Review, Box 311, Decatur, Ill. 62525.

Senior citizens

Meditation will be from 11 to noon Thursday in the Martin Luther King Jr. Center.

Happy hour will meet at 1:30 p.m. Thursday in the Freda Combs Center.

The Decatur Area Senior Citizens Council will meet 10-30 a.m. Thursday in the Freda Combs Center.

League Marks 20th Year

A 20th anniversary luncheon meeting is planned by the League of Women Voters of Decatur for Wednesday on the second floor of the Ambassador Inn.

A brief history of the league's first 20 years in Decatur will be given by Mrs. James C. Leigh. Past presidents will be honored at the anniversary luncheon. Blossom Redmon served as first president of the Decatur league in 1946-47.

Featured on the program will be a talk by Norman Greenberg and O. T. Banton on "The Need for a Macon County Conservation District."

Greenberg is past chairman of the county park system committee of the board of supervisors. Banton is a member of the board of supervisors' conservation and recreation committee. R. Lee Slider will present slides of historical and natural sites in Macon County.

Also on the program will be a 10 minute question and answer period pertaining to the proposed revenue amendment. Mrs. Frank Verbanac, chairman of the league's revenue study committee, will lead discussion.

Both the Macon County Recreation and Conservation District proposal and the revenue amendment will be issues voted upon in the November election.

The luncheon will begin at 12:45 p.m. The program is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Luncheon charge will be \$1.75. Reservations can be made with Mrs. Gordon Axon, 133 N. 33rd St.

Persons coming for the program only need not make reservations.

HR
Decatur, Illinois, Tuesday, September, 13, 1966



Herald and Review Photo

Campaign Display

Mrs. Charles Myerson, right, chairman of the League of Women Voters' finance drive, prepares a display at

the Unitarian House, 716 W. William St., where campaign kits were distributed Monday.

With her are Mrs. Harold Tenney, center, and Mrs. Frank Verbanac.

League Fund, Membership Drive Opens

Today through Saturday has been proclaimed League of Women Voters Week by Mayor James Rupp. The event coincides with the league's annual finance drive and marks the beginning of a year-long membership drive in Decatur and throughout the nation.

A kick-off coffee for the finance drive will be held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in the home of Mrs. Thomas Maginn of 111 S. Westdale Ave.

Mrs. Robert Mee of 279 Victoria Ct., finance chairman, says the funds collected in the community each year are used to support the league's program of voter education and community service to Decatur.

Funds raised last year were used to publish a revised edition of "This is Macon County, a Handbook of Local Governments;" to print and distribute the "Survey of Education and Employment Opportunities in Decatur;" the question and answer sheets for the Board of Education election and the information sheets on candidates in the last general election.

Funds raised also helped defray costs involved in conducting the public candidate's meeting for the general election, the television candidate's meeting for City Council, Park Board and township elections and the Community Conversation program.

Although the League of Women Voters is concerned with state and national as well as local government, all league funds are raised, and almost all league work is done locally by volunteer members.

Mrs. Robert Schade of 143 Point Bluff, membership chairman, says that membership in the league is open to any woman interested in learning about the government of her city, state and nation and about the issues confronting governmental agencies.



From left, Mrs. R. G. Mee and Mrs. T. A. Maginn plan fund-raising strategy.

Staff photo by Ken Kiley

League Plans Informal Meeting With Candidates

An informal meeting of candidates has been scheduled by the League of Women Voters on Oct. 15 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the Ambassador Motor Inn.

League officials said the meeting is "strictly nonpartisan and a part of the organization's voter service to the community."

The meeting is open to the public and a \$1 donation is asked to help defray costs.

A cash bar will be available.

There will be no formal talks by the candidates who will mingle with the crowd for personal conversations.

Candidates who have accepted an invitation to appear include:

U.S. Rep. Edward Madigan,

Republican, and his Democratic opponent, Mrs. Anna Wall Scott

Robert W. McCarthy, incumbent Democratic state senator, and the Republican contender, James H. Rupp

Incumbent state Reps. Roland F. Tipsword, Taylorsville; John F. Dunn, Decatur; Bennett "Sonny" Bradley, Decatur; and Alan F. Bennett, Decatur, Republican contender

Robert Steigmann, Harold Jensen and Henry Keller, candidates for circuit judge from the 6th Judicial Circuit

Paul Wright and Richard Mills, candidates for judge of the 4th District Appellate Court.

All county candidates and half of the County Board candidates are expected.

File Oct 1 - 1976

Review

Problems, Solutions Sought

League to Monitor County Court

Activities in one of the seven Macon County Circuit Court rooms will be monitored during March and April by citizen volunteers.

The project is sponsored by the League of Women Voters which is administering the Illinois Court Watching Project under a \$30,000 grant from the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (ILEC).

The project has been under way in other Illinois counties for the past two years, with Macon County joining it for the third and final year.

The goal of the project, sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters of Decatur, is to identify, and suggest solutions to, problems facing "consumers" of court services — victims, witnesses and defendants.

Mrs. Barbara Brown, Decatur League president, said the project locally will be confined to observation of the court of Judge John L. Davis, where misdemeanor cases are heard.

This busy "lower" courtroom was chosen, Mrs. Brown said, because it deals largely with

the type of case in which most persons contact the criminal law for the first time.

The volunteer citizen monitors, who will observe each session of the court, will collect information on continuances, dismissals, the conduct of persons involved, and the physical and informational facilities of the courts.

A report of the findings and recommendations, as well as the responses of officials of the legal system, will be issued by the League next summer.

About 20 or more monitors will be selected from citizen volunteers to carry out the actual court room observation.

Persons wishing to volunteer may contact Mrs. Brown at 429-7439.

Before volunteers begin their work they will be required to attend two training sessions to be held next month at times and places not yet finally determined.

The coordinator for the project is Mrs. Karen Jensen of the League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Ramona Deaton of the American Association of Uni-

versity Women has been named chairman of a steering committee which will supervise the training of monitors, assess the information collected, recommend ways to alleviate any problems which are noted, and confer with court officials regarding implementation of the recommendations.

Serving on the steering committee with Mrs. Deaton will be Charles J. Meyerson, a Decatur School Board member and patent attorney for the A.E. Staley Mfg. Co.; Lucy Murphy, of Junior Welfare; Lee Staley, of Church Women United; Leander Robinson, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Robert Basten, Dee Meyerson, Florence Cox, Elise Hurst, Chris Langer and Millie Protzman, all of the League of Women Voters.

John Weinman, a local attorney, will serve as legal adviser.

During the past two years court-watching projects sponsored by the League of Women Voters have been in operation in Cook, DuPage, Warren,

Champaign, St. Clair and Winnebago counties.

New programs this year, in addition to that in Macon County, will be in Will, McLean, McHenry, Kankakee, Adams, Kane, Jackson, Bureau and Knox counties.

During the past two years more than 500 trained citizen volunteers have observed more than 50,000 cases in 45 courtrooms.

The observation has resulted in a variety of improvements now under way in courts in a number of counties.

These include establishment of central information facilities; preparation of informational brochures for defendants and jurors; stricture procedures for granting continuances and fuller explanation to the public of judicial procedures.

Dr. David Fogel, executive director of the ILEC, has recommended that the program be designated an "exemplary project" by the federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, March 7, 1976

League Demeaned by Story

To the Editor:

I'm writing to protest a headline and story in the Sunday Decatur Herald and Review Feb. 29. It demeans an organization I love — the League of Women Voters.

The story reported on a state candidates' meeting sponsored by the LWV in Springfield Saturday, Feb. 28; the story picked up only a bit of "fluff" and inferred partisan backing of candidates — a thing our organization carefully avoids.

In fairness I note that related AP stories in the same paper on pages 1 and 4 report on more important facts which came out of the meeting.

As a veteran campaign watcher, I attended the meeting and enjoyed hearing fluff and facts from nine candidates who are contesting for the offices of governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of state. After each candidate made a statement, he could be questioned by the audience which included members and non-members. (I recall a retired member of the University of Illinois faculty, a minister, and a representative

of a state employees' union as identifying themselves at the microphone.) A discerning reporter should be aware of the possibilities of self-serving individuals or groups in such a meeting.

I'm proud that the LWV provides such forums for aspirants and voters — in spite of built-in hazards.

And I was proud of the courteous, firm manner in which the state league president Donna Schiller handled a fine meeting including one heated exchange and an occasional overly-persistent questioner; proud also that the only women on the state slates, one a Democrat and one a Republican, both mentioned their past participation as LWV members.

Nationally during this campaign year, the League Education Fund has sponsored a radio series "Candidates on the Line" and regional TV forums on the presidential primaries (next one Mar. 29 from New York City. Urge your favorite to take part). All are aimed at helping us make issues not images the basis for judgment in the present campaign.

Florence W. Cox
Decatur

Headline Was Unfair

To the Editor:

In regard to your coverage of the League of Women Voters of Illinois Candidates' Meeting published on February 29, 1976, I wish to take exception to the headline for the story by Paul Ingrassia. The headline reads, "The League of Women Voters Pounds Howlett, Praises Walker." The League did neither. The League is also nonpartisan and does not support or oppose candidates. It is quite true that segments of the audience did applaud, confront and question all of the candidates. The audience consisted of several hundred members of the public, as well as League members. This meeting was open to the public upon payment of one dollar admission fee. It was apparent to all in attendance that some of the candidates had packed the audience with their supporters.

I think you will agree that your headline was unfair. The League conducts candidate meetings as a service to all of the voters and we will continue to do so. However, we cannot assume responsibility for the reaction of the audience.

Donna Schiller, President
League of Women Voters

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Dean Huff you com
Gene Huff.

Tanks.

3-21-76

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HANSEN PHOTOGRAPHY

commercial/industrial photog

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Ad I



Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, March 7, 1976

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Florence W. Cox
Decatur

Editorials Our Opinions

Petty Action Won't Help ERA Pass

THE LEAGUE of Women Voters has decided to spank Illinois by shifting its 1978 national convention site to Cincinnati, Ohio, from Chicago.

The reason is that Illinois has not yet ratified the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the United States Constitution, explains league President Ruth Clusen, while Ohio has.

"We're putting our money where the ERA is," she says, which means in excess of one-half million dollars which would be spent on the convention, plus thousands more dollars the more than 2,000 delegates likely would spend on their own time.

"Leaders of states which do not believe that women deserve equality under the Constitution do not deserve our financial support," she adds, pointing to Illinois lawmakers who have "procrastinated" on the issue or actually opposed ratification as the reasons for this state's

poor showing and for the league decision.

The league's planned convention move to Cincinnati is exactly the sort of pettiness which backers of the ERA cannot afford to condone much longer if they ever are to be successful in adding a proposed 27th amendment to the Constitution to ban discrimination on the basis of one's sex.

We pointed out last spring that the ERA ratification attempt in the Senate finally may have been lost not necessarily because of the lobbying tactics of anti-ERA groups, but also at least in part because of the pettiness, the uncalled-for language and the loud-mouthed argumentative antics of some senators who were proponents of the amendment.

If there had been a calm, reasonable approach to the ratification question by proponents it is just possible

Illinois might be in the pro-ERA column at this moment. But Illinois is not yet in that needed position and now the league is adding insult to injury.

The League of Women Voters would be better advised to reverse its position of wanting to spank Illinois and Chicago, then to develop a strategy with other pro-ERA groups and state legislators which would be more likely to assure future ratification.

The league's latest decision only will increase the belief of anti-ERA opponents in Illinois, including legislators, that they are on the proper side of this issue. And the decision possibly even will convince some legislators who have been on the fence that a vote against ratification would be the best strategy.

The result only can be more, rather than fewer problems for proponents in gaining future ERA ratification by the General Assembly.

Hecatur Herald - 1-21-76

Unemployment and Housing Problems Discussed at City Candidates Forum

2-18-77
Decatur
Review

Unemployment and housing were the major concerns raised by an audience at a "meet the candidates" forum Thursday night in St. Peter's AME Church.

Appearing at the session were 2 of the 3 Decatur mayoral candidates and 3 of the 10 city council candidates who will face off in Tuesday's city primary election.

Also making statements at the forum were many of the candidates for the April 5 Decatur Township elections.

One person in the 25-member audience asked the city candidates where new jobs are going to come from as it appears Decatur is not expanding.

Mayoral candidate and city Councilman Elmer W. Walton said it is not within the power of city government to create jobs.

But he said he advocates the council taking steps to encourage new industries and the expansion of present ones — such as backing industrial revenue bonds and agreeing to extend water and sewer lines.

Steven Ryan, also a candidate for mayor, said if he were elected he would "see to it that the city manager's staff knows the number of unemployed people in Decatur."

He was referring to a statement by U. S. Rep. Edward Madigan, R-Ill., that Decatur officials may have used an incorrect unemployment figure when applying for funds under the Public Works Employment Act of 1976.

Council candidate Fred Vanderlaan said he is going to take action next month on the unemployment problem. He said he could not divulge any details.

Vanderlaan did indicate, in an interview with the Decatur Herald and Review last month, that the effort would involve cooperation among industry, social agencies and private concerns.

Betty Taylor, former president of the defunct Torrence Park Citizens Committee, asked the candidates what they would do to solve the problem of inadequate housing in the city.

She also said she was upset with the amount of vacant land remaining in the urban renewal project.

Council candidate William Oliver said he supports the idea of no house being sold or rented until a certificate of occupancy is issued, indicating the dwelling meets the minimum city code.

Vanderlaan agreed with Oli-

ver, emphasizing that landlords should be forced to fix up their properties.

Suggesting there was more of a need for additional apartment units in the city was council candidate Max Greenberg.

Walton outlined current rehabilitation efforts under the Community Development Block Grant program, whereby loans and grants are given to low-and middle-income homeowners to fix up their properties.

Saying he would rather give some \$1,000 in education than \$1,000 in funds, Oliver stressed the need for city programs to teach skills.

Commenting on the outlook for Tuesday's primary, several of the candidates said they are counting on good weather this weekend to make the final campaign push.

Greenberg characterized the campaign as low key and said most of his campaigning has involved personal contacts.

In Tuesday's primary, voters will mark one name for mayor and three for the council. The two mayoral candidates with the highest vote totals will go on to the April 19 general election, as will six council candidates.

Sen. Allen's death adds to political confusion in Alabama

Montgomery, Ala. (AP) — The death of U.S. Sen. James B. Allen has added more uncertainty to the already confusing political landscape in Alabama.

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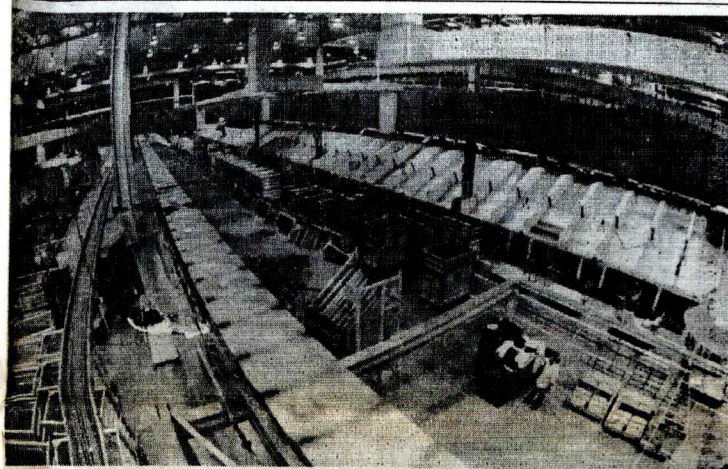
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Gov. James Thompson says he is willing to cooperate with federal prosecutors investigating allegations of misuse of federal funds by the governor's Office of Manpower and Human Development.

A spokesman for the U.S. Justice Department disclosed Thursday that the department had begun a preliminary inquiry into the allegations, which were turned over to it by U.S. Sen. Adlai Stevenson, D-Ill.

That disclosure came a day after Thompson announced that Lawrence W. Murray Jr. was being removed as director of the agency.

The manpower office oversees costly employment programs for the poor and disadvantaged, and is expected to spend \$125 million in federal funds next fiscal year.

Thompson said he knew nothing of the federal inquiry, but that "they're welcome to investigate whatever they like."

He said his administration would cooperate with any such investigation, saying: "All of state government is open to the federal government as far

as I'm concerned."

The allegations were given to federal lawyers on May 23 by Stevenson, a spokesman for the senator said.

If the allegations are found to have merit, they would be turned over to the FBI or to a federal grand jury, said Lee Radek, an attorney with the department's Public Integrity Section in Washington, D.C. Radek declined comment on specifics of the case.

Murray, 38, denied any wrongdoing and said he was aware of the information in Stevenson's hands. He charged that the Democratic senator acted on behalf of state Comptroller Michael Bakalis, Democratic candidate for governor.

"I have reason to believe that since the agency deals with various programs and large amounts of federal dollars, Bakalis has decided there must be something wrong there," Murray said.

But a spokesman for Bakalis' campaign headquarters said Murray's charges were "spurious as hell."

"I think it's really an attempt to distract attention from what is really at issue," said Frank Coakley, a Bakalis

Files on the manpower office compiled during recent state Department of Law Enforcement investigations would be made available to federal attorneys upon request, the governor said.

Thompson on Wednesday announced he was replacing Murray with Robert P. Goss, 34, of Woodbridge, Va. Goss has been intergovernmental relations officer with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Thompson said he was making the move because he felt the manpower director "should be a person who has worked with Congress and federal governmental agencies and developed a total familiarity with Washington processes."

A little more than a month ago, the Chicago Sun-Times reported that Thompson had ordered Murray fired because the governor had "lost confidence" in him.

Thompson declined to confirm or deny the report at subsequent news conferences, but said investigations by the state law enforcement department had turned up no wrongdoing by Murray.

Budget request for grants studied

By Gordon Britton
Lindsay-Schaub News Service
Springfield

The House Appropriations Committee Thursday began wading through the Illinois Board of Education's \$1.9 million budget request for special grants.

Until Thursday, legislative attention had been focused on the various proposals for the school distributive aid formula. But the special grants budgets typically have generated considerable controversy because each grant area is backed by special interest groups.

The grant areas which tend to gener-

ate the most excitement are special education, vocational education, desegregation assistance and bilingual education.

The most heated debate Thursday surrounded the state board's request for \$15 million to aid school desegregation programs. Committee chairman Thomas Hanahan, D-McHenry, told Superintendent of Education Joseph Cronin that House Democrats plan to kill the entire desegregation assistance request.

Hanahan said that because legislation granting the state board authority to

spend the money had been killed in committee, the Democrats see no reason to approve the \$15 million.

Cronin indicated his staff plans to amend other education proposals to give the board the spending authority. If Democrats carry out the threat it will be the second year in a row the legislature has refused to appropriate desegregation assistance money.

Education officials consider the desegregation money essential to holding together progress made in school desegregation so far. About 75 percent of the money would go to Chicago. Chicago schools still are on probation for failing to provide an adequate desegregation plan. The Chicago school board claims it cannot make progress toward desegregation without state financial support.

Downstate districts, many of which already have desegregated schools, are finding it increasingly difficult, because of tight budgets, to support those desegregation programs, school officials claim.

Downstate representatives on the committee sharply criticized the state board's recent decision to extend Chicago's probation even though the district has not provided a plan that includes a mandatory backup system.

Rep. Lynn Martin, D-Rockford, said, "We (Rockford schools) were put on probation for doing the very thing Chicago is being allowed to do. People are beginning to wonder about the fairness of the state board. We are being treated more harshly because we don't have the clout that Chicago has."

Cronin said that is not true because Rockford is no longer on probation and Chicago still is.

Thompson tells ERA backers he is not a 1-issue governor

Springfield (AP)

Republican Gov. James R. Thompson has received a vase of roses from a group supporting the federal Equal Rights Amendment, but then found they had a few thorns.

The roses were presented to Thompson Thursday by about 75 members of the group backing ERA. But several shouted protests as Thompson said that he couldn't be a one-issue governor, no matter how important ERA was.

"Two hundred years is long enough," shouted one woman, as Thompson explained that he would still campaign for a GOP legislator who opposes ERA.

"I can't condition my support and effectiveness as governor on one issue or I wouldn't be around very long," said Thompson, who supports ERA but has been criticized by women's groups for not doing enough to gain its passage in Illinois.

The vase of artificial silk roses was presented to Thompson by an Illinois-based group called Housewives for ERA, which met in Springfield to set up a nationwide organization.

Anne Pollis of Urbana, the group's president, said about 250 persons from a dozen states were on hand for the meeting. The roses, she said, "are a symbol of our femininity."

"We are women, we are feminine, the ERA is not going to change that," said Mrs. Pollis, chiding some ERA opponents who have charged that passage of ERA would destroy family life.

The group also handed out roses to members of the Illinois legislature, which repeatedly has refused to ratify the proposed amendment barring sexual discrimination. Thirty-five states have ratified ERA and three more must do so by next March for it to become part of the U.S. Constitution.

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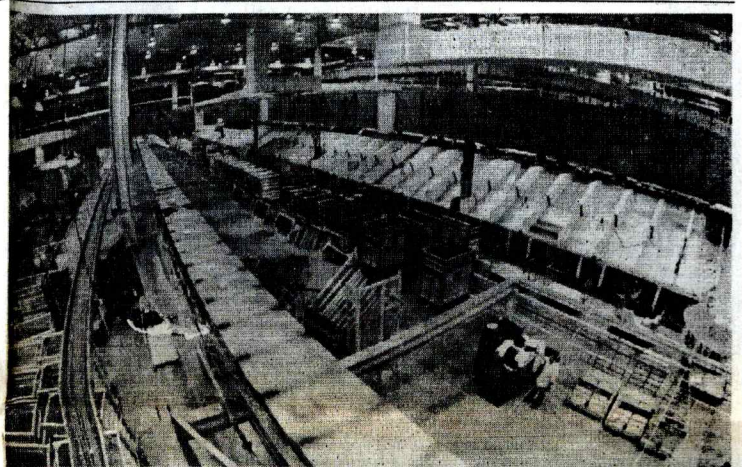
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Decatur Daily Review

"The Community Paper"

Opinions

Definition enlightening

FORMER CIA Director William Colby has a definition of morality that may go a long way toward explaining abuses of power in his administration.

In an interview with a national magazine Colby said it would be moral for the CIA to help Ugandians assassinate Ugandan President Idi Amin.

Throughout history governments have come up with any number of reasons for killing people they don't like or target. But only the despots have attempted to make murder, no matter how justified, a moral act. They have done so by twisting the meaning of morality.

Amin himself is a despot. He defines

morality to suit his own purposes. His death would not be any great loss to civilization. But killing him in the name of morality would make his assassins and those who help them little better than Amin.

Colby's definition of morality would base CIA involvement in assassinations too much on the definition of whom ever might be running the agency.

To avoid such abuses the CIA should function under a code that eliminates the need for loose definitions of morality. The CIA should not be involved in assassinations no matter how reprehensible the target.

Law fails to protect

IN MANY CITIES and towns it could become open season on journalists.

That observation of an Oklahoma broadcaster received wide circulation this week. It led off an Associated Press story on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling involving news organizations and search warrants.

The court said the offices of the media enjoy no special Constitutional protection against searches conducted under a legal warrant.

The Oklahoma broadcaster probably overstates the impact of the ruling.

The decision nevertheless could be more detrimental than it might seem to you as a citizen at some crucial points in the democratic process.

That's why it is bad law.

THOSE of us who work in newspapers and other media probably are at times too arrogant. We're human. We have human failings.

Even so, we often ask ourselves what you may have wondered in reading about the court decision:

"Why should the media be any more sacrosanct than anyone else?"

The answer isn't because we're us, or because your rights and those of others are unimportant.

The answer is that newspapers and other media often are trying to ferret out information about what the public

week been in effect then, the president at the early stages of those controversies might have found a reason to send the FBI or CIA into newsrooms to seize notes and documents vital to newspapers getting facts to you.

Maybe that's a bad example. Maybe you think the media were out to get Nixon and thus he would have been justified in heading the media off at the pass.

Consider Chicago. There, newspapers in recent years have conducted investigations into the corruption that infests the upper and lower levels of Democratic officialdom. The police and courts in Chicago are under the control of the Democratic machine.

When some of Mayor Daley's closest associates were in hot water because of newspaper investigations, wouldn't Mayor Daley have been tempted to allow searches of newspaper offices to make investigative reporting of his organization difficult or impossible? Apart from the chilling effect on reporters and their sources, what might have happened to evidence seized under a search warrant even if an appeals court eventually decided that the materials seized had to be returned?

Those are the kinds of problems involved in the U.S. Supreme Court's decision this week.

GOOD NEWSPAPERS will continue

Family farm has become a corporation

Two decades have brought radical changes

About the articles

Farming has changed considerably in the last few decades. It is almost a science today.

With the change have come problems for the farmer. His costs have increased, and that has forced many farmers who have operated on low-profit margins out of business.

In these articles, Richard Rhodes, journalist, novelist and one-time farm hand, looks at farming today.

By Richard Rhodes
Newspaper Enterprise Association
The fences have come down on farms all across Missouri.

Fields in Iowa are no longer necessarily rectangular; within their Jeffersonian boundaries, many follow the lay of the land. In flat western Kansas, they are often circular to accommodate the center-pivot self-propelled pipes that irrigate them.

Where cotton reigned in the South, cattle now are fed. Soybeans, which once were spurned as useless everywhere in rural America or were plowed under for green manure, darken the fields of summer.

Corn, wheat, cattle and hogs change shape and variety, go hybrid with vigor. Poultry are hardly farmed any more; one might say they are factory-farmed.

In the nearly two decades since I marked the beginning of adolescence by moving from Kansas City streets to the Drumm Institute, a 360-acre farm and boys' home outside Independence, American farming has changed radically and permanently.

It has not been swallowed by corporations, has not become "agribusiness." Not yet. The overwhelming majority of profitable farms today are father-son operations, father-son partnerships or family corporations.

But it has become lean and specialized, capital-intensive and cost-effective, the work of fewer men and women than ever before, the work of systems increasingly scientific and of massive machines.

And proudly, without exaggeration, it is the wonder of the world, a blessing we need not blush to count.

The Drumm Institute was a thriving, diversified farm when I arrived there in the summer of 1949. With 40 boys to pre-

serve from mischievous leisure, it was also deliberately labor-intensive and, therefore, persistent with practices already becoming antique.

We milked our cows by hand, having so many hands available. With oak-handled, copper-plated hoes, we hoed our field crops as few farmers any longer can afford to do.

I take it now as a model, somewhat enlarged, for the old family farm — a model against which to compare the high technologies of today.

The Drumm Institute is surrounded by suburbs now, and not much farming gets done there any more. But farming has changed everywhere in America. It has changed in response to economic necessity.

A long-standing policy of government-supported overproduction has meant that supply has frequently exceeded demand. The results of that imbalance have been cheap food for American consumers and marginal profits for farmers.

In 1971, before inflation boasted the figure, Americans spent only an average 15.7 percent of their disposable income for food. Compare the USSR at 30

percent. Europe at 26 percent and the developing countries at 65 percent.

Somehow in the public mind, the cheap food never reaches the supermarket. Farmers are forever defending themselves against charges of profiteering.

Retail food prices are high because the cost of processing raw farm products is high, not because the farmers are getting rich. Profits from farming over the long haul have averaged no more than 3 or 4 percent.

That is why corporate farming hasn't dominated agriculture in the United States except in certain specialized industries such as citrus fruits and broiler and egg production.

Low and frequently nonexistent profits and the rising cost of labor demanded increased efficiency and productivity of American farmers. With the help of intense scientific research — a legacy of the land-grant college system established after the Civil War — they delivered both.

The number of farms has declined; their average size has gone up.

The United States had 6.4 million farms in 1920. By the mid-1970s, only 2.3 million were left. Between 1959 and 1974, the average acreage per farm increased from 288 to 385, and the most successful farms were far larger.

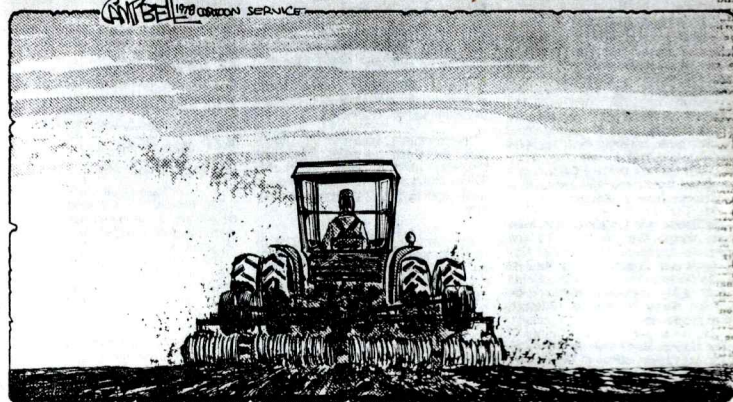
Today, in the Midwestern corn belt, one man, alone with his machinery, may farm 600 to 800 acres.

A million workers left the farm for the city between 1950 and 1955. Machinery took their place.

To get maximum return for his machinery investment, a farmer had to farm more land. In the mid-1950s, the average investment per farm in land and equipment was \$55,300. By the mid-1970s, that investment had swollen to \$158,600.

Few could afford to enter farming. If you have \$150,000 to invest, why invest it in 16-hour days for a profit of 4 percent? That's why so many profitable farms today are operated by fathers and sons.

But without increased productivity, all this farm expansion would have been disastrous.



Corn, soybeans, cattle in high gear

Hybridization increases farm production