

Annual Report

League of Women Voters of the U.S. This mailing is not going on
1200 - 17th Street, N. W. Duplicate Presidents Mailing
Washington, D. C. 20036

October 1965

TO: Local and Provisional League Presidents (Copy to State Presidents)
FROM: Mrs. Robert J. Stuart
RE: 1965-66 Local Annual Report

Your sample copy of the local Annual Report for 1965-66 is attached. You have been sent this sample copy so that at your next Board meeting you can tell each Board member exactly what information she will be requested to furnish to the national office later in the year. Perhaps you may want to take this sample report apart and distribute the appropriate sheet to each chairman.

The report forms to be filled out will be mailed to you about the first of the year. They will be identical with this sample copy.

Provisional Leagues will be asked to report on the activities which they have undertaken in preparation for local League status: Voters Service, meetings on Program, opinions on League positions and new consensus, and statistical information.

Deadline for returning the completed reports will be set by your state Board. By that date please fill in and return two copies to the national office. As many copies as your state Board requires should be sent to the state office. Of course you will want to keep one copy in your local files as a permanent record of your League's activities.

Since the national Board has a policy of never asking Leagues for anything it will not use, you should know why we need two copies of your annual report. One copy of your report is kept as a permanent record in the national office, to which we can refer when answering your letters. The second copy is distributed sheet by sheet to the national Board committee and staff concerned with the item or activity. From these separated sheets come accumulations of data which demonstrate trends, evolving patterns, shifting developments, SWAP SHOPS of ideas or of work, nationwide pictures of League activity. To speak authoritatively of the work of the League of Women Voters of the United States, one must of necessity be aware of what these local League annual reports contain, both as a unit, and also broken down into the components of League activity.

Estimating membership figures for March 31 several weeks in advance of that date has proved a bit troublesome. The reason for continuing the use of that date is that it is the one which has always been used and allows us to compare figures from year to year. May we suggest that your treasurer can supply information for each of the last several years on the number of members paying dues during the period between the time your report is filled in and March 31. From these figures an average growth for the period can be reached which is reasonable to use in arriving at the estimated figure. Actual paid membership plus this average growth for the period should not be far off the mark unless there is some unusual circumstance that has to be taken into consideration this year.

Estimated finance figures may be reached in the same way though the treasurer in making her estimate has the advantage of knowing the approximate costs of activities planned for the period to be covered. We realize these figures will not be identical with the figures made in the treasurer's Annual Report to her League which is prepared after the books are closed on March 31, 1966.

This year we are again providing three sheets for reporting work on local Program. If only one subject is reported on a sheet we are able without cross filing to continue to build files of local Program work in various popular subjects (for example schools, planning, juveniles, libraries) which we can share with you. If you have more than three local Program items, please use a separate additional sheet for each one, being careful to put the name of your League and your state on each sheet. We are also supplying three sheets for your state Program reports

Your Annual Reports serve quite another purpose in addition to providing the national Board and office and your state Board with a detailed picture of your League. The mechanics of compiling this Report serves to pull together all the threads of your League work, and this provides an opportunity for you to have an overall look at your League's progress. This is rewarding in so many ways that the chore of the paper work involved becomes incidental. We do all deplore the necessity of this much paper work, but it definitely "pays off." In this regard, may we urge you to request that your chairmen go to every length possible to have their reports typed and to use extra sheets of paper (with the name of the League and state on every sheet) whenever needed. A typed report will be read with much greater ease than a handwritten one. Surely in every local League there exists one member who can type and who will be willing to do this "one-shot" job. We will be more than grateful to her and to you.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS
67 East Madison St., Chicago 60603

Central 6-0315

January, 1966

TO: Presidents
FROM: Mrs. Raymond E. Robertson
Organization Chairman

Note to those receiving duplicate Presidents mailing: Report forms are being sent to Presidents only.

ANNUAL REPORTS DEADLINE:
MARCH 1, 1966

Enclosed are five (5) complete sets of the ANNUAL REPORT FORMS prepared by National. In addition, we are enclosing two (2) copies of the President's Annual Report Form and three (3) copies of the Publications Report Form prepared by the State Office.

Please read these instructions carefully. They are important for handling the reports.

You have five (5) sets of forms prepared by National to be used as follows:

- 1 set for your local League file
- 1 set to be divided for putting into each local chairman's file
- 2 sets to be sent directly to the National Office
- 1 set to be returned to the State Office

You have additional report forms from the State Office for our use:

- 1 copy of President's report to be returned to State Office with Annual Reports
- 1 copy of Publications Report to be returned to State Office with Annual Reports
(Additional copies of these are for your files)

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING ALL REPORTS IS MARCH 1, 1966. We suggest that you assign one person to collect reports from the various chairmen in your League. Return one complete set to the State Office: League of Women Voters of Illinois, 67 E. Madison St., Chicago 60603. Return two complete sets to the National Office: League of Women Voters of the U.S., 1200 - 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., 20036.

It is important that we have all the local League reports by this deadline so that the state chairmen can compile their reports based on those from the 77 Leagues and get our State Report to the National Office by our deadline. Please remind your chairmen that these reports are to cover League activity for the period from April 1, 1965, to March 31, 1966, and that they will need to make estimates in some instances for the month of March, 1966. Please do not hold up reports because of activities scheduled during March.

Use extra sheets of paper where necessary rather than crowd too many words into the space provided.

To Presidents

January, 1966

page two

We would also appreciate copies of materials or publications prepared by your League during the past year which will help us build up our files for use by other Leagues.

The Report Form on Local Board Recommendations should be filled out after discussion by your whole Board. It would be of great help to your Board to go over the complete report as it will give a good picture of your League's activities for the year and give direction in planning for next year's work.

PLEASE NOTE: There are three (3) sheets for reporting on State Program in each set of report forms. Because of our Single List, we do not have CRs as indicated on the forms from National. We request that report forms be used for your work on each of these state program areas: Child Welfare, Revenue, and CEJ. (Con Con, Election Laws, and Judicial.) Most Leagues have set up their state program work on this pattern. Because of the work on Revenue we suggested postponing work on Fair Housing until next year. If your League has covered this, ask your chairman to make a brief report on a separate sheet. WE THANK YOU.

1 set to be returned to the State Office
2 sets to be sent directly to the National Office

Additional copies of these are for your files
1 copy of Publications Report to be returned to State Office with Annual Reports
1 copy of President's report to be returned to State Office with Annual Reports
You have additional report forms from the State Office for our use:

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING ALL REPORTS IS MARCH 1, 1966. We suggest that you assign one person to collect reports from the various chairmen in your League. Return one complete set to the State Office, League of Women Voters of Illinois, c/o B. Madison St., Chicago 60607. Return two complete sets to the National Office, League of Women Voters of the U.S., 1200 - 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

It is important that we have all the local league reports by this deadline so that the state chairmen can compile their reports based on those from the VI League and get our State report to the National Office by our deadline. Please remind your chairmen that these reports are to cover league activity for the period from April 1, 1965, to March 31, 1966, and that they will need to make estimates in some instances for the month of March, 1966. Please do not hold up reports because of activities scheduled during March.

Use extra sheets of paper where necessary rather than crowd too many words into the space provided.

ANNUAL REPORT -- LOCAL LEAGUE

4/1/65 - 3/31/66

C O N T E N T S

Membership	<i>Juller</i>	1-2
Finance Chairman's Report.	<i>Joyson</i>	3-4 ✓
Treasurer's Report	<i>Inam</i>	5-6 ✓
National Current Agenda - Apportionment	<i>Kessler</i>	7-8 ✓
National Current Agenda - Development of Human Resources	<i>Frost</i>	9-10 ✓
National Current Agenda - U.N. & F.E.P.	<i>Kessler</i>	11-12 ✓
National Current Agenda - Water Resources.	<i>Sheel</i>	13-14 ?
National Continuing Responsibilities	<i>Kessler</i>	15 ✓
Voters Service	<i>Moore</i>	16-17 ✓
Public Relations	<i>Jenney</i>	18-19 ✓
State Program.	<i>Liverick, Verbonae, Kessler</i>	20a, 20b, 20c ✓
Local Program.	<i>Livergood, Bishop, Crow</i>	21a, 21b, 21c ✓
Local Board Recommendations	<i>Schubel, Hirsig, Libby</i>	22-23 ✓

will bring Sun.

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Has your Board any suggestions for changes in basic League policies. If so, please describe, giving reasons.

Count membership as of January 1 not an estimated March 31 count because the Jan. 1 date is more accurate. Many Leagues, including ours until a year ago, give 15, 14, or 13 months of membership for one year's dues for those joining in Jan. Feb. and March. Those members thus end up being counted in two years and sorry to say some do not join the next year. Thus the membership total is inflated unrealistically.

Perhaps something mentioned on other side might fit under this heading.

Have a "President Elect" so as to provide better leadership rather than often getting a President as of necessity who has not been thinking in terms during the previous year of being President and therefore not being as effective as she might have been had she been thinking about procedures and improvements.

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the national Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons.

More careful framing of consensus questions. On Human Resources we felt No. 2 which was really an afterthought should have come first and we felt No. 1 assumed a position had already been taken and this is not league approach. On Apportionment the questions were confusing in that II. A & B did not both ask for reasons, just A asked for reasons with B asking only for what amendment should provide.

Better titles for publications and articles in National Voter so as to let anyone seeing title know what it might be about. "Prospects for Education & Employment" and "Rights of Another Nation" (publications) and "Variations on an Old Theme" (Voter article) are several examples. At the beginning of articles in Voter the LW item wording should be given with indication as to whether it is now being studied or on which there is a position. Too much is assumed that even long-time informed L. members don't always know.

Annual Report forms could be improved. At least have question at end of each for chairman to report anything they have done which was not included in specific question. Not lump all state program together in separate sheets for reporting. For local and state program (and really national too) ask first for wording of item so as to have more meaning when future officers look over former reports. Ask for name of chairman or person writing report - also for future use of local leagues, especially. Ask for number of members on committee and perhaps number and percentage of members hearing report. See suggestions under state above, which would improve national too.

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS - Continued

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the state Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons and membership

Materials for study committees should be available sufficiently far ahead of when consensus is due so as to benefit from them.

Make "Time for Action" requests more clear - state at first and separate from rest specifically what is to be done and then get into explanation. Make perhaps sample paragraph which could be put in bulletin so that all Leagues emphasize the same most important points. Reminders that all members should be involved in action, especially letter writing, should be included in each "Time for Action." Suggest special mailing if bulletin won't be going out in time.

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the national Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons.

More careful framing of consensus questions. On Human Resources we felt No. 5 which was really an afterthought should have come first and we felt No. 1 assumed a position had already been taken and this is not League approach. On Apportionment the questions were confusing in that II. A & B did not both ask for reasons, just A asked for reasons with B asking only for what amendment should provide.

Better titles for publications and articles in National Voter so as to let anyone seeing title know what it might be about. "Prospects for Education & Employment" and "Rights of Another Nation" (publications) and "Variations on an Old Theme" (Voter article) are several examples. At the beginning of articles in Voter the LNW item wording should be given with indication as to whether it is now being studied or on which there is a position. Too much is assumed that even long-time informed L. members don't always know.

Annual Report forms could be improved. At least have question at end of each for chairmen to report anything they have done which was not included in specific question. Not lump all state program together but provide three separate sheets for reporting. For local and state program (and really national too) ask first for wording of item so as to have more meaning when future officers look over former reports. Ask for name of chairman or person writing report - also for future use of local Leagues, especially. Ask for number of members on committee and perhaps number and percentage of members hearing report. See suggestions under state above, which would improve national too.

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

Local Government Surveys: List those done by your League currently in print.

Observers Programs: List governmental meetings (Council, School Board, Planning Commission, etc.) regularly attended by your League.

LOCAL PROGRAM

(Report each subject fully on a separate page. Three forms, including this one, are attached. Use extra pages if necessary.)

Subject: Decatur Public Schools: 1/ Support of measures to provide adequate space and education programs. 2/ Study of ways to improve public education in Decatur.

1. League position (if any): Consensus was reached in September, 1962 and March 1963 that the League would support referendums to provide for two new junior high schools and additional elementary schools in specified areas of Decatur and an increase in the educational tax rate limit.

2. Publications issued (attach copy): Flyers for public distribution and fact sheets for League members. Attached

3. Activities during the year, including League meetings, action taken by League (testimony at hearings, ballot campaigns, letters, public meetings, important publicity, etc.):

1965

This period covers three referendums, dated May 8, February 19 and March 19, 1966. League members spoke before PTA's and at PTA coffees, during April. One member was on an open forum on WSOY. A specific article was prepared on a survey of auditoriums and all purpose rooms in elementary schools and was carried in newspaper articles. The cost of redesigning completed school plans to eliminate these was researched and also was quoted in the news media. Flyers were printed at League expense and distributed through the schools showing which schools were needed and where (22,000). Referendum did pass.

For the referendum on an increase in the education fund, the League worked through a newly formed Citizens for Better Education Committee, the League president serving as chairman of the committee and with three other League members, one who worked also on the Executive Comm. League members appeared three times on the radio, three times on TV, before service organizations and at PTA's. The flyer attached and sent home with the school children was printed at the Citizens' Comm. expense

but was prepared by League members. A fact sheet showing the need for a tax rate increase with detailed explanations on the state and local school funds to update League members was mailed to the membership. Various information sheets were compiled and sent to organizations listed with the local Association of Commerce and to all PTA presidents. We worked closely with other groups and did have a lot of news media coverage. Referendum did not pass.

Because the referendum failed by so few votes, 327 out of 9,325, and the need was urgent, the Board of Education asked for a smaller amount to be voted on March 19, 1966. We plan a canvass of votes and League members are volunteering to speak before PTA groups in areas where the previous one failed.

**Citizens for Better Education
remind you that**

**More Children
require
More Teachers
Vote**

YES	X
------------	----------

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1966

Elementary School Buildings

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Why?

Teachers for six new schools

**Teachers for handicapped children
(state required)**

Teachers for increased enrollment

Teachers for reduction in class sizes

Last increase in Education Fund tax rate limit voted in 1956 Number of children increased from 14,000 to 21,000 since 1956

WHY IS YOUR "YES" VOTE NECESSARY?

- To provide 48 additional teachers, other personnel and operating expenses for the new schools.
- To provide 20 additional teachers and specialized personnel for mentally and physically handicapped and socially maladjusted children as required by new state law.
- To provide for the increase in enrollment. (500 next year) (Since 1956 enrollment has gone from 14,000 to 21,000.)
- To reduce the size of many classes.
- To provide a balanced budget to prevent deficit spending. (\$300,000 deficit in 1965-66)
- To provide salaries that will enable Decatur to keep and attract good teachers.
- To provide same quality of education next year as this.

WHAT IF THE REFERENDUM FAILS?

- Oversized classes would become even more crowded as the number of children increases each year.
- The quality of education would deteriorate in all grades.
- Regular classes and teachers would be eliminated in order to provide classes for handicapped children as required by new state law.
- Good teachers would be difficult to keep and attract because of oversized classes and shortage of funds for salaries.

WHAT INCREASE IN TAXES WOULD THERE BE?

- Not more than 40¢ per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation when the full amount is needed.
- Property which would sell for \$10,000 and is assessed at full 55% would have a maximum additional tax of \$22 a year or 42¢ a week.

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO HAVE A REFERENDUM?

More revenue is desperately needed in the Education Fund. All expected revenue will not be enough to continue the present quality of education much less take care of 500 additional children next year. New federal funds can be used only for **new** projects. Property taxes are the only source for additional money. In order to get more money an increase in the tax rate limit has to be voted.

WHAT IS TO BE VOTED ON IN THE REFERENDUM?

An increase in the Education Fund tax rate **limit** from the present \$1.80 to \$2.20. (Ten years ago, March 1956, it was increased from \$1.40 to \$1.80.)

HOW MUCH MORE MONEY IS NEEDED NEXT YEAR?

About \$900,000 to take care of this year's expected deficit of about \$300,000 plus \$600,000 for (1) teachers for the new schools, (2) teachers for handicapped as required by new state law, (3) 500 more children, (4) some reduction in class sizes.

WILL REVENUE FROM NEW RATE PROVIDE ENOUGH?

Yes, for several years at least. It is not expected that the full 40¢ would be used immediately. On the basis of the present \$316,000,000 assessed valuation the maximum 40¢ would produce \$1,191,000 more revenue after 6% deduction for uncollected taxes and cost of collection.

DOESN'T INCOME FOR SCHOOLS INCREASE AS NEW HOUSES AND POPULATION INCREASE?

Yes, but not in proportion to the cost of educating each additional child. The assessed valuation averages \$16,000 per pupil. The expected \$3,000,000 increase in assessed valuation next year will average only \$6,000 instead of \$16,000 for each of the additional 500 pupils expected next year. This will provide only about 1/3 of the money needed from property taxes for these 500 children.

Citizens for Better Education urge you to VOTE YES X FEB. 19

Decatur Needs More Teachers Now!

**This local need can be met only
with local funds**

Should the Education Fund tax rate limit be increased from \$1.80 to \$2.20 per \$100 assessed valuation?	YES	X
	NO	

(at the time of printing)

These organizations recognize the critical need by their endorsement and urge your support. Vote YES February 19.

League of Women Voters
Decatur Council of PTA
Association of Commerce
Decatur Area Council of Churches
Mental Health Association of Decatur & Macon County
Decatur Education Association
Building Service Employees Local 344
Decatur Association of Educational Secretaries
N. A. A. C. P.
Citizens Consulting Committee for Board of Education
Council for Exceptional Children

prepared and paid for by
CITIZENS FOR BETTER EDUCATION

Decatur **NEEDS** More Schools Now!

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

of Decatur, Illinois

URGES YOU TO

Vote

YES	X
------------	----------

FOR THE

School Bond Referendum

When: Saturday, May 8, 1965 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Where: Elementary Buildings

Who: Every Registered Voter

Why: The League of Women Voters after a continuing study of the building needs of the Decatur Schools believes the proposed building program is a **realistic solution** to the **immediate** building needs of the schools and therefore urges approval of the bond issue referendum necessary to carry out the building program.

Decatur Needs More Schools Now!

WHY ARE MORE SCHOOLS NEEDED?

ENROLLMENT CONSTANTLY INCREASES!

- 5,645 **more** pupils this year than 10 years ago in the combined Decatur and former Lakeview Districts
- 525 **more** pupils this year than last year.
- 317 **more each year** (on the average) through 1969 according to City Planning Department study.

All classrooms in **all** elementary and junior high schools will be in use in fall of 1965.

Hundreds of kindergarten children and others are being transported to schools in other parts of town.

HOW CAN

MORE SCHOOLS BE PROVIDED?

From: Bond Issue to be voted May 8 \$3 million
Accumulated funds \$2 million

VOTE YES X FOR SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM

Saturday, May 8, 1965 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

WHAT WILL THE TAX INCREASE BE?

Seven cents (7c) for each \$100 of assessed valuation.

Example: **\$4.20 per year** on a \$10,000 house, assessed at about \$6,000 including multiplier.

What Schools Are Needed?

A BAKER WOODS JUNIOR HIGH TO:

- provide space for nearly 400 junior high pupils now crowded into **Lakeview**.
- relieve overcrowding at **Johns Hill** Junior High by providing space for **Muffley** area children.

A NEW OAK GROVE ELEMENTARY TO:

- provide space for children now being transported to **Oglesby**, **Garfield**, and **Pershing** Schools.
- release the all-purpose room at the present **Oak Grove** school, the gym at **Oglesby**, and the auditorium at **Garfield** for the purposes for which they were intended.

A NEW SOUTH SHORES ELEMENTARY TO:

- provide space for almost 200 children **now** being transported to **Southeast** and **Mary French** Schools.
- provide new space for children now crowded into present **South Shores** Elementary school.

A NEW MOUND ELEMENTARY WEST OF U. S. 51 AND A NEW MOUND ELEMENTARY EAST OF U. S. 51 TO:

- replace the present Mound building which will be converted to a junior high.
- replace rooms in "little" Mound building which will be demolished when U. S. 51 is widened.
- eliminate the necessity of transporting kindergarteners to **Harris** Elementary starting in 1965-66.
- eliminate need for elementary pupils to cross U. S. 51.

A MOUND JUNIOR HIGH (converted from Mound Elementary) TO:

- eliminate the necessity of transporting north area children to **Woodrow Wilson** and **Roosevelt Junior Highs**.
- relieve overcrowding in **Woodrow Wilson** and **Roosevelt**.

YES	X
-----	---

The League of Women Voters urges you to vote for these needed schools!

WHEN WILL BUILDINGS BE FINISHED?

September, 1966: Baker Woods Junior High

Oak Grove #2

South Shores #2

September, 1967: Mound West

Mound East

September, 1968: Mound Junior High

\$45,000 will be saved by constructing all four (4) elementary buildings alike and using the same architectural drawings and specifications.

REMEMBER — as you are standing in the voting booth — the issue to be decided is: "Shall I vote in favor of providing Decatur's children with needed classrooms?"

Shall bonds in the sum of \$3,000,000 be issued for the purpose of building and equipping four elementary school buildings and converting the present Mound Elementary School to a junior high?	YES	X
	NO	

DECATUR'S MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT: EDUCATED CHILDREN!

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization which has as its purpose promoting informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The League never supports nor opposes candidates nor political parties.

The League does support issues which have been thoroughly studied and on which the membership agrees.

League membership is open to everyone who subscribes to its purpose and principles.

In January 1965 when the League urged the Board of Education to submit a building bond referendum separate from an increase in the Education Fund tax rate our statement read in part as follows:

"Although the League is on record as supporting an increase in the Education Fund tax rate, we recognize the difficulty of determining the exact amount needed at this time because the amount of additional funds from the state and federal governments is undetermined. However, funds for buildings must come from local sources alone and buildings are needed immediately in the Decatur district. Therefore, the League urges that the Board consider submitting a building bond referendum alone to the voters at this time. You would have our support." (For full statement see February 1965 bulletin.)

It is now known what additional fund will come from the state and federal governments and therefore it can be determined what additional amount is needed to keep the education program at the level of 1965-66 and provide for increased enrollment and new requirements.

It is estimated that for the next three years an average of \$1,068,000 per year more revenue will be needed for the Education Fund than can be expected to be available from all sources. Therefore since the only way to obtain these additional funds is from local property tax, a referendum to increase the Education Fund tax rate is needed. Thus there is a strong likelihood that the Board of Education will call for a referendum sometime after the first of the year.

As our statement last January indicated, the League would support an increase in the Education Fund Tax Rate in line with its consensus for an adequate education program. Following the League policy of keeping members informed on areas of League special interest we are providing this information.

The Board of Education has not set a date for a referendum nor has it decided on the amount of an increase to ask voters to approve. However it would appear that a 40¢ increase is needed. Forty cents per \$100 assessed valuation would provide \$1,188,000 at the present assessed valuation of the school district of \$316,000,000. (See details at end.)

The last tax rate increase in the Education Fund was voted in March 1956 raising it from \$1.40 to \$1.80 which it is at present. Since then the enrollment has increased from 14,000 to 21,000, the number of school buildings from 25 to 35, the number of teachers from 522 to 925 and the cost per pupil has increased from \$299 to \$516.

The 1965 state legislature voted additional state funds which will amount to about \$700,000 beginning in 1966-67. (See details at end.)

The new Federal Elementary and Secondary Act can bring more funds in the Decatur schools but they can be used only for completely new projects; they cannot be used for any program in existence at this time nor to pay for teachers or other expenses necessitated by an increased enrollment.

The increase in local funds is needed to provide the following:

1. The same level of education as is being provided in 1965-66 and for additional teachers needed because of increased enrollment.
2. One new junior high and four new elementary buildings will be ready for occupancy by the fall of 1966 (one of the elementary buildings replaces the present Mound elementary which will be converted into a junior high for occupancy in 1967). To staff these new buildings in 1966 and somewhat reduce Junior High Class size will require 48 more teachers, 4 principals, 1 assistant principal, 2 nurses and 5 secretaries.
3. The state legislature passed a law making it mandatory rather than permissive for local school districts to provide special education for the educable mentally handicapped, the trainable mentally handicapped, the physically handicapped children, and the children with speech defects. Two-thirds of the cost of these mandatory programs must come from local funds. Decatur's present ²¹special education classes will have to be increased to at least 40 by 1969-70. Ten speech correctionists will be needed instead of the present staff of four, and three psychologists will be needed instead of one. The children who would qualify for these additional special classes are either in the regular classrooms now and taking a disproportionate share of teachers' time or are not able to be in school at all. The regular classroom program for the normal children will suffer unless additional funds are provided since the special education classes are mandatory.

The referendum would need to be held in early 1966 so that the Board of Education would know if sufficient funds would be available to employ the needed additional teachers. Interviewing of teachers for the next year has to be done early in order to obtain the better qualified.

DETAILS

The \$316, 000, 000 assessed valuation of all the property in the school district multiplied by 40¢ comes out to \$1,264, 000. Six percent (or \$75, 840) has to be subtracted because not all taxes will be paid, and the County Treasurer keeps a certain percentage for collection. Thus the school district can expect to receive only about \$1, 188, 000 from 40¢ tax rate.

Additional taxes voted in early 1966 would not be collected until 1967 but through the use of the working cash fund the additional money could be had without interest cost for 1966-67.

The increase in state funds for the Decatur District for 1965-66 will amount to about \$300, 000 since it will apply to only 5 of the 12 months. In 1966-67 this increase in state funds will be about \$700, 000 total since it will be for the full 12 months.

The state legislature increased the flat grant per pupil in average daily attendance to \$47 for all pupils grade 1-12 (previously for secondary it was \$32). The "foundation level" was increased from \$252 to \$330; however, the qualifying rate was also increased from 67¢ to 90¢ per \$100 assessed valuation thus making the increase proportionately less.

As you know, the state legislature says each child is entitled to a minimum amount of education, the "foundation level", formerly \$252 per year, now \$330. In order to provide this the state has an equalizing formula. To get state equalizing funds a school district must tax itself the amount of the qualifier, formerly 67¢, now 90¢. The amount of equalization paid by the state to any district is \$330 per pupil in average daily attendance minus the sum of the flat grant and the amount produced by the 90¢ qualifying rate applied to the assessed valuation of the school district. Additional funds for better than this minimum must be voted by local districts.

Summary of Information

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Pupils enrolled	14, 000	21, 000	21, 500
Elementary school buildings	20	27	30
Junior High school buildings	4	4	5
High School buildings	1	4	4
Teachers	522	925	
Average cost per pupil	\$299	\$519	
Education Fund Tax Rate per \$100 Assessed Valuation	\$1.40	\$1.80	

Mrs. Thomas L. Hurst, President

Mrs. Don R. Livergood, School Study
Chairman

APRIL 19, 1965

DEAR LEAGUE MEMBER,

WELL, HERE WE GO AGAIN! SURELY 1965 WILL BE KNOWN AS "THE YEAR OF THE BALLOT" IN DECATUR.

ON SATURDAY, MAY 8, RESIDENTS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT # 61 WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE ON A \$3 MILLION BOND ISSUE TO PROVIDE FOUR BUILDINGS - THREE NEW ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS AND THE CONVERSION OF THE PRESENT MOUND ELEMENTARY BUILDING TO A JUNIOR HIGH. DECATUR HAS NOT VOTED FOR NEW BUILDINGS SINCE 1956. IN SEPTEMBER, 1956, THE ENROLLMENT WAS 14,772; IN SEPTEMBER 1964, THE ENROLLMENT WAS 20,721 - AN INCREASE OF 5,949 PUPILS.

WE ARE ENCLOSING THE FIRST FOUR PAGES OF THE FACT SHEET OF MARCH, 1965. IT EXPLAINS THE LEAGUE POSITION AND GIVES THE FACTS ON WHICH THE POSITION IS BASED. ALSO, THIS COMMITTEE IS PREPARING A FLYER SIMILAR TO THE COUNCIL-MANAGER TO BE DISTRIBUTED SOON.

IN A STATEMENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON JANUARY 26, 1965, THE LEAGUE ASSURED THE BOARD OF OUR SUPPORT FOR A BUILDING BOND REFERENDUM.

"ALTHOUGH THE LEAGUE IS ON RECORD AS SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN THE EDUCATION FUND TAX RATE, WE RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULTY OF DETERMINING THE EXACT AMOUNT NEEDED AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS IS UNDETERMINED. HOWEVER, FUNDS FOR BUILDINGS MUST COME FROM LOCAL SOURCES ALONE AND BUILDINGS ARE NEEDED IMMEDIATELY IN THE DECATUR DISTRICT. THEREFORE, THE LEAGUE URGES THAT THE BOARD CONSIDER SUBMITTING A BUILDING BOND REFERENDUM ALONE TO THE VOTERS AT THIS TIME. YOU WOULD HAVE OUR SUPPORT."

(FOR THE FULL STATEMENT SEE THE FEB. BULLETIN)

MAY 8 IS NOT FAR AWAY. WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO. USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK OUT IN FAVOR OF THE REFERENDUM. THE FLYERS WILL BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION THIS WEEKEND. IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION AS TO PLACES TO SEND FLYERS, OR IF YOU CAN HELP WITH THE DISTRIBUTION, CALL JANET (877-5498), MYRA (428-2993) OR MARILYN MILLER (428-1748).

IN THE WORDS OF THE ANONYMOUS WRITER OF THE ANTI-COUNCIL-MANAGER LEAFLET, THE "NICE WOMEN" OF THE LEAGUE HAVE ANOTHER "BURDEN" TO CARRY!

MYRA BECKER, SCHOOL STUDY CH., 1965
JANET WESTENHAVER, CH., 1962-1965

This workshop has completed a two-year study of the financial problems and space needs of District # 61. This fourth report is concerned with space and staff needs from 1963-64 through 1968-69.

SPACE NEEDS

In an interview with Miss Charlotte Meyer, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools, this committee was given the following figures for projected enrollments at the elementary level. (K-6)

<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>
12,102	12,244	12,362	12,378	12,355

For 1963-64 there are around 12 thousand elementary pupils (11,933) so that by 1968-69 school officials are anticipating an increase in enrollment of 400 - 500, based on a static Decatur population.

Miss Meyer outlined for this committee on January 29 a building program which was essentially the same as Mr. Grant presented to the Board of Education on February 25 and which was published on February 26. Here is our summary of these reports:

TO BE READY BY:

September, 1966

<u>South Shores # 2</u> (est. 13 rooms)	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
Oak Grove # 2 (est. 10 rooms)	210 (about 7 rooms) (10 $\frac{1}{2}$ rooms by '67)
Baker Woods Junior High (600 optimum)	222 (about 8 rooms) (10 rooms in '67)
(airport area)	536
* * * * *	* * * * *
	*TOTAL COST \$2,320,000

September 1967

<u>Mound East</u> (est. 10 rooms))-----582 pupils or about 21 rooms in '67
<u>Mound West</u> (est. 15 rooms)	
<u>Eldorado Addition</u>	
* * * * *	
	*TOTAL COST \$1,508,000

September, 1968

<u>Mound Junior High</u> (600 optimum)	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
(remodel and addition to present building)	295 (from Mound and Pershing Elementary School areas)
* * * * *	
	*TOTAL COST \$ 754,000

<u>GRAND TOTAL</u> \$4,582,000

A South Shores # 2 school would:

1. eliminate the necessity to transport kindergarten pupils from South Shores # 1. (In 1963-64, 180 are transported to other buildings. In 1964-65 about 3 more rooms in addition to the kindergarten pupils will have to be transported to other buildings.) (180 Kindergarten pupils = $3\frac{1}{2}$ rooms or 7 classes in $\frac{1}{2}$ day sessions)
2. permit a more desirable class size at South Shores # 1. (This year the average class size for the whole school is 32.4. The third grade average is 38.3. If class sizes were reduced to 28 and if kindergarten pupils were accommodated at South Shores, $7\frac{1}{2}$ more rooms would be needed this year.)
3. provide for increased enrollment in the South Shores area due to new residential construction in that area.

An Oak Grove # 2 school would:

1. provide space for the Oak Grove pupils who are now transported to the Garfield School. (In 1963-64, 55 pupils were sent from Oak Grove to Garfield.)
2. provide space for the pupils from the Wilcox Addition who are now transported to Garfield School. In 1963-64, 39 pupils were sent to Garfield.)
3. permit a more desirable class size at Oak Grove # 1 where the average this year is 31.9.
4. permit a more desirable class size at Garfield where the average this year is 29.7.
5. eliminate the necessity for using auditorium space at Garfield for classrooms.

The Mound East and Mound West Schools would:

1. replace the present Mound Elementary School which is proposed to be remodeled into a junior high school.
2. provide neighborhood schools in that area.
3. eliminate the necessity for elementary students to cross highway 51.
4. permit a more desirable class size in Mound where average class size this year is 32.6.

The addition to the Eldorado School would:

1. provide more classroom space which will relieve crowding at both Eldorado and Excelsior.
2. provide improved toilet facilities for pupils.
3. provide better central facilities such as nurses's room, faculty lounge, storage for instructional materials, etc. which are all now in the principal's office.
4. provide an enclosed connection between the classrooms.

Junior High Enrollment 1968-69 (based on 1963-64 enrollments in grades 2 & 3)

School	Optimum Size	No New Buildings	With Baker Woods & Mound Jr. High
Centennial	575	580	580
Johns Hill	750	880	757
Roosevelt	700	848	830*
Woodrow Wilson	600	664	407*
Lakeview		413	
	2625 spaces	3405 pupils	
Baker Woods	600	.	536
Mound	600	.	295*
	3825 spaces		3405 pupils

* Some pupils from the Roosevelt area could be transported to the Mound Junior High and to Woodrow Wilson.

A junior high at the Baker Woods site (airport area) would:

1. take 413 seventh and eighth graders out of Lakeview Junior-Senior High where there are now 1100 pupils in a building with an optimum capacity of 800.
2. take 123 seventh and eighth graders from the Muffley Elementary School area who now go to Johns Hill Junior High.
3. relieve crowding at Johns Hill and Lakeview. (See chart)

A junior high in the Mound School area would:

1. take 257 seventh and eighth graders from the Mound and Pershing area out of Woodrow Wilson Junior High.
2. take 18 seventh and eighth graders from the Pershing area out of Roosevelt Junior High School.
3. relieve overcrowding at Woodrow Wilson and Roosevelt. (See chart)

Why is the combination of Baker Woods & Mound Junior Highs better than Baker Woods & South Shores Junior Highs?

The Baker Woods-South Shores combination would relieve crowding at only three buildings, Lakeview, Johns Hill, and Woodrow Wilson, but it would leave Roosevelt "stranded" with an enrollment considerably over the optimum - about 5 rooms.

The Baker Woods - Mound combination would relieve crowding at four schools, Lakeview, Johns Hill, Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson.

Senior High Space Needs

This committee finds no particular reason for concern about space at the senior high level within the next five years. In an interview with Mr. Norman Gore, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, we obtained the following figures for projected enrollments in grades 9 - 12.

It is evident from these figures that there will have to be some shifting of school boundaries or retaining of the ninth grade in some junior high building in order to take the pressure off S. Decatur High School.

<u>Building</u>	<u>Optimum</u>	<u>1963-64</u>	<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>
S. Decatur	1800	1597	1883	1998	2105	2196	2260
Eisenhower	1700	1500	1546	1477	1472	1443	1376
Lakeview	800	717	755	750	734	724	747
MacArthur	1600	1557	1540	1406	1428	1499	1530

5900 spaces

5913

STAFF NEEDS

In order to keep up with increased enrollments and maintain the status quo in pupil-teacher ratio and program, 75 more teachers will be needed by 1968-69.

	<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>	<u>Total</u>
Elementary	7	7	4	0	2	20
Junior High	7	0	6	6	7	26
Senior High	13	0	6	7	3	29
						75

The President Speaks . . .

The League was most pleased when the Board of Education decided to submit to the voters a school building bond referendum alone and not coupled with an increase in the tax rate for the Education Fund. It is an opportune time to do this since there is no question that buildings are needed and a considerable length of time elapses between approval of bonds and completion dates of the buildings. It will not be known how much, if any, additional money from local property tax will be needed for the Education Fund until it is known how much the General Assembly and Congress vote for schools. In the meantime the badly needed buildings can be under construction.

It might be well to explain here to our new members why the League did not support the school bond issue referendum in the fall of 1962, but supports the present one. In 1962 three junior highs were proposed -- Baker Woods, Mound and South Shores -- with elementary children to use parts of Mound and South Shores. The League, after careful study, felt it could not justify three junior highs at that time; recognized that one was needed in Baker Woods and that a second would be needed in a few years but at that time it was not possible to determine whether it should be in Mound or South Shores; and that more elementary space was needed. The membership agreed last March that the proposed \$5 million building program adopted by the school board is a realistic solution to the immediate space needs of the district.

We all need to work hard and speak out every time we have an opportunity and make opportunities to stress the need for these schools. We have to point out that every area benefits--not only the ones in which the new schools are to be constructed. For instance, families living in the Woodrow Wilson and Roosevelt Junior High areas would be benefited by a Mound Junior High because children from Mound are now being transported to those two schools, making classes very crowded. Since all rooms in all buildings will be occupied by this fall, many more classes will be held in all-purpose rooms, former library rooms, on stages, etc. If more schools are not built, it seems likely that more all-purpose rooms (such as those at Dennis, Muffley, Pershing, etc.) will have to be given over for classrooms, thus eliminating the physical education program at those schools.

Another thing to point out in getting as many "yes" votes as possible in areas with old buildings is that much of the Building Fund is scheduled to go for repairs, remodeling, up-dating, etc., but if the bond referendum should fail, then these improvements might have to wait in order to use more of the Building Fund for new construction.

The cost is small -- only seven cents per \$100 assessed valuation, which is only \$4.20 on a \$10,000 house (assessed at \$6,000).

Our job does not end with convincing people the schools are needed -- what is equally important is making sure those who are for the referendum vote Saturday. Take a little time to call your friends to remind them to vote. You might make a special effort to call parents of very young children. They may not get special reminders from other sources.

Wednesday, May 5, is the last day to vote absentee at the Keil Building. Residents who meet all requirements except registration can register at the County Clerk's office through Friday and still be able to vote Saturday.

. . . Elise Hurst

SOME COMMENTS ABOUT SCHOOL AUDITORIUMS

League members have indicated an interest in the controversy concerning auditoriums in elementary schools. Hopefully these few comments will be helpful.

Most people accept the advisability of having multi-purpose or all-purpose rooms. These rooms, particularly in suburban areas, serve primarily as the lunchroom facilities and as the place to conduct indoor physical education classes. You may recall that in the League report on programs in the Decatur Public Schools, it was pointed out that the Illinois Legislature has made daily physical education mandatory. The interpretation of the statutes in the Decatur district has been to require 20 minutes per day for grades 1 through 3 and 30 minutes per day for grades 4 through 6.

It would appear obvious that all-purpose rooms are constantly being used, for the P.E. program alone. A survey from Muffley School (which has both an all-purpose room and an auditorium) showed that the all-purpose room is scheduled for P.E. classes from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1:05 to 3:15 p.m. each day, with one exception---The band meets for 45 minutes once each week, because the orchestra is using the auditorium at the same time. This scheduling allows each class only two P.E. periods each week, with the third period every other week for fifth and sixth graders. Other P.E. period must take place either in the classrooms or outside. The room is used as a lunchroom from 11 to 1:05, including time to set up and clear away tables and chairs. Muffley can be considered typical of the size of many elementary schools in Decatur.

The Muffley survey also showed the use of its auditorium. The day is broken into eight periods and teachers sign up for use of the auditorium a considerable amount of time in advance. The principal states that there never have been more than three free periods in any one week. Some of the scheduled activities include: 1) Group singing by grade levels. 2) 4th, 5th and 6th grades assemble for Student Council discussions. 3) Programs by local resource people to supplement learning. 4) Many dramatizations and creative programs by the children, such as operettas, plays, often tied in with a study unit. 5) Patriotic assemblies and programs in recognition of holidays. 6) Marionette shows and plays, performed by outside groups. 7) Team teaching efforts, such as large group instruction in science for the fourth graders. 8) Educational TV viewing and film strip showings.

All-purpose rooms are sometimes built with a stage at one end, which makes possible its use as an auditorium by setting up chairs. But it is obvious the use of the room as an auditorium cuts into the amount of time it can be scheduled for P.E. classes. In addition, it should be pointed out that if a stage is included in the all-purpose room and the auditorium eliminated from plans, then the only money saving realized is limited to the cost of the seating area in the auditorium.

The cost of auditoriums in the three elementary schools to be built from the bond issue would be \$32,000 each, a total of \$96,000, or 3.2% of the \$3 million bond issue.

Those who oppose auditoriums feel that monies spent for this facility should be used for other purposes and they question the need for these facilities on the elementary level.

Perhaps the most important point for us to consider is not a judgment of the merits of auditoriums and/or all-purpose rooms or their uses, but to remember that the need for new schools NOW is critical and to be alert to the danger that a controversy over auditoriums could scuttle the building bond referendum.

We urge League members to work for the passage of the bond referendum regardless of their personal attitudes concerning auditoriums and to urge their friends and neighbors to do likewise.

--Myra Becker, Janet Westenhaver

(Over for facts about financing of auditoriums)

Financing Auditoriums

Most of you are aware of the fact that a Board of Education member, Joseph Katauski, has asked for the defeat of the school bond referendum because plans for elementary schools include auditoriums. He said he would ask for a new design eliminating auditoriums and for another referendum if the May 8th one fails. Since his objections are based mostly on cost, the school study committee has obtained the following information:

Putting together all the information obtained it ends up that doing as Mr. Katauski proposes, redrawing plans eliminating auditoriums and calling another referendum, only \$50,200 to \$60,200 could be saved. Or put another way, by spending this \$50,200 to \$60,200 more than his plan would cost all three auditoriums could be built. That would make each auditorium cost only about \$17,000 to \$20,000 more than Mr. Katausk's proposal.

From John Sweetnam, architect for the schools, it was learned that the cost of the seating area of an auditorium is about \$32,000; the cost of the stage is not included since if there is no auditorium the stage is placed in the all-purpose room. The seating area of an auditorium is less expensive than classroom space of similar area because an auditorium has cement block walls, no chalk boards, no built in wardrobes, shelves, closets, etc. Therefore the cost of auditoriums in the three elementary buildings to be constructed from building bond issue totals about \$96,000 or 3.2% of the \$3,000,000.

From Mr. Sweetnam it was also ascertained that the cost of redrawing plans leaving out auditoriums would be \$20,000 to \$30,000. This is because in the plan auditoriums are not placed at the ends of the buildings and could not simply be cut off like a couple of classrooms. Taking auditoriums out of the plans would require relocating stages and kitchens.

The same plan is to be used for all four elementary schools resulting in a savings of \$43,000. According to the bids received, if contracts for the first two buildings are awarded at the same time, \$3,300 will be saved. Bids were \$27,000 below estimates but if time has to be taken to redraw plans, Mr. Sweetnam said, the construction costs would be higher since skilled construction workers would be signed up for other projects.

From Sam Bliss, school comptroller, it was learned that the cost of having a referendum is about \$1,500 for salaries and supplies. It would be 60 days before another could be held.

Cost of redrawing plans, loss of other savings, and another referendum:

Cost of redrawing plans	\$20,000	-	\$30,000
Loss of savings in awarding two contracts at one time	3,300	-	3,300
Pro-rated loss in having 3 bldgs. alike instead of 4	11,000	-	11,000
Another referendum	<u>1,500</u>	-	<u>1,500</u>
	\$35,800	-	\$45,800

Net Savings (No auditoriums):

Cost of 3 auditoriums	@\$32,000	\$96,000
Cost to "save"	<u>\$35,800</u>	<u>45,800</u>
	\$60,200	\$50,200

SOME COMMENTS ABOUT SCHOOL AUDITORIUMS

League members have indicated an interest in the controversy concerning auditoriums in elementary schools. Hopefully these few comments will be helpful.

Most people accept the advisability of having multi-purpose or all-purpose rooms. These rooms, particularly in suburban areas, serve primarily as the lunchroom facilities and as the place to conduct indoor physical education classes. You may recall that in the League report on programs in the Decatur Public Schools, it was pointed out that the Illinois Legislature has made daily physical education mandatory. The interpretation of the statutes in the Decatur district has been to require 20 minutes per day for grades 1 through 3 and 30 minutes per day for grades 4 through 6.

It would appear obvious that all-purpose rooms are constantly being used, for the P.E. program alone. A survey from Muffley School (which has both an all-purpose room and an auditorium) showed that the all-purpose room is scheduled for P.E. classes from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1:05 to 3:15 p.m. each day, with one exception---The band meets for 45 minutes once each week, because the orchestra is using the auditorium at the same time. This scheduling allows each class only two P.E. periods each week, with the third period every other week for fifth and sixth graders. Other P.E. period must take place either in the classrooms or outside. The room is used as a lunchroom from 11 to 1:05, including time to set up and clear away tables and chairs. Muffley can be considered typical of the size of many elementary schools in Decatur.

The Muffley survey also showed the use of its auditorium. The day is broken into eight periods and teachers sign up for use of the auditorium a considerable amount of time in advance. The principal states that there never have been more than three free periods in any one week. Some of the scheduled activities include: 1) Group singing by grade levels. 2) 4th, 5th and 6th grades assemble for Student Council discussions. 3) Programs by local resource people to supplement learning. 4) Many dramatizations and creative programs by the children, such as operettas, plays, often tied in with a study unit. 5) Patriotic assemblies and programs in recognition of holidays. 6) Marionette shows and plays, performed by outside groups. 7) Team teaching efforts, such as large group instruction in science for the fourth graders. 8) Educational TV viewing and film strip showings.

All-purpose rooms are sometimes built with a stage at one end, which makes possible its use as an auditorium by setting up chairs. But it is obvious the use of the room as an auditorium cuts into the amount of time it can be scheduled for P.E. classes. In addition, it should be pointed out that if a stage is included in the all-purpose room and the auditorium eliminated from plans, then the only money saving realized is limited to the cost of the seating area in the auditorium.

The cost of auditoriums in the three elementary schools to be built from the bond issue would be \$32,000 each, a total of \$96,000, or 3.2% of the \$3 million bond issue.

Those who oppose auditoriums feel that monies spent for this facility should be used for other purposes and they question the need for these facilities on the elementary level.

Perhaps the most important point for us to consider is not a judgment of the merits of auditoriums and/or all-purpose rooms or their uses, but to remember that the need for new schools NOW is critical and to be alert to the danger that a controversy over auditoriums could scuttle the building bond referendum.

We urge League members to work for the passage of the bond referendum regardless of their personal attitudes concerning auditoriums and to urge their friends and neighbors to do likewise.

--Myra Becker, Janet Westenhaver

(Over for facts about financing of auditoriums)

ANNUAL REPORT -- LOCAL LEAGUE

4/1/65 - 3/31/66

C O N T E N T S

Membership	1-2
Finance Chairman's Report.	3-4
Treasurer's Report	5-6
National Current Agenda - Apportionment	7-8
National Current Agenda - Development of Human Resources	9-10
National Current Agenda - U.N. & F.E.P.	11-12
National Current Agenda - Water Resources.	13-14
National Continuing Responsibilities	15
Voters Service	16-17
Public Relations	18-19
State Program.	20a, 20b, 20c
Local Program.	21a, 21b, 21c
Local Board Recommendations	22-23

LEAGUE

Decatur

Trans: Thos. L. Hunt, Pres.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 1965 - March 31, 1966

1. What has been your League's experience with the "Single List?" Has it meant changes in Board organization or meeting plans? Do you think it has made for more flexibility or a realistic approach in program coverage? Has it affected work load? We have liked it. It has meant that not all chairmen of study items can be on board. That isn't really a problem since it isn't important for inactive items to have chairmen on board and with Program Coordinator board keeps in touch. It has made for more feeling of flexibility and realistic approach to program coverage. I don't believe it has affected work load, either more or less.
2. Has your membership increased or decreased this year? What, in your opinion, were the reasons? Increased slightly.
3. How have you tried to increase membership participation? Were your techniques successful? Yes, by asking study item chairmen to invite members personally to be on their committees other than just having a good announcement in bulletin. Some chairmen only called a few, others none, partly because they felt it shouldn't be necessary, and were too busy. Tried to get unit officers to promote attendance at units but they didn't do much partly
4. Have you adopted the Rockford Plan of dues collection? Do you think it has been helpful? If so, how? Yes. Not long enough to know but think it will be helpful. because many of our members go to different unit each month.
5. Do you have a Membership Committee with a year-round active program of membership recruitment? Please describe how they function? How does your Board help on membership? No. Plan was to have unit officers members of membership committee but Membership Chairman has not worked with them in that way but rather has tried to do everything herself - letters to guests and letters and telephone calls to names of prospects given to her. The last few months we decided we should promote attendance at unit and general meetings and membership participation on study committees rather than getting new members.
6. Does your Board understand its role in local program planning, presentation, consensus and action? Yes, because tentative plans for year are submitted by Program Coordinator, check on presentation and consensus before meeting. Not so good
7. Did State give you adequate guidance on state program? in handling "Single List?" What suggestions do you have for improvement? /on state /and nat'l /action.
Yes, as far as good material but our program schedule planned in August had to be rearranged when not until fall did we learn that, after not receiving equal housing directions and information even after several letters of inquiry, equal housing study was being put off until next year. And we would like to have known before the state revenue meeting in November that we were to have two meetings on Revenue. Fortunately the equal housing and revenue meetings were in consecutive months so we just dropped Housing and substituted Revenue.

(Continued)

8. Are there ways in which State could be more helpful to you on handling national programs and local programs?

Possibly supply outlines for presentation to help new chairman and those who have trouble sorting out the most important facts from the volume of material usually supplied.

9. Did State give you adequate guidance on organization? What suggestions do you have for improvement?

Quite good but I got most help from talking with a Champaign VP and finding out how they divide responsibility so as to make President's job easier and League operation better. More thought should be given to having all League's have a 3rd VP each a co-ordinator of Public Relations, Membership or Program.

10. What areas of League program and organization would you like to have covered at Board orientation meetings by a State Board member? Stress that board members should do creative thinking, not just do what has been done before, and point out their responsibility for thinking of improvements for all areas of League, not just their portfolio.

11. In what areas do you think your League has improved this year? (for example: membership participation in study and discussion, program presentation, consensus reaching, public relations, voters service, resource committee, publications, membership orientation) How did you accomplish this? Consensus reaching - explanation in board meetings, bulletin, at meetings at which consensus is to be reached so all members understand the process, importance, and results.

12. In what areas would you like to see your League improve?

More members on study committees although each committee for the most part have had sufficient number of members.

More members attending unit and general meetings.

13. Has your role as League president been a satisfying one? Yes. But many areas in which I'd like to have accomplished more but just not enough time on my part to promote. I hope after my term is over I can work in some of these areas. (Lack of time was due in large part to my having been on study committees (local) in which action during my presidency was most active - as a result I think our League was more effective in action but no time left for accomplishments in some other areas.)

Central 6-0315

LEAGUE Deater

PREPARED BY Mrs R.H. Luedi

PUBLICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT
April 1, 1965 - March 31, 1966

1. If your League has a local subscription service (i.e., members automatically receive publications on a regular basis in return for an annual fee), what is the price? \$1.50 How many subscribers? 36 Would you recommend it next year? yes Please list any non-League publications which went to subscribers this year:

none We have never included such

How do you promote the service? In Bulletin; ~~not~~ meetings; ~~not~~ announcements;

Comment on successes or problems you have had: when collecting dues; not large enough portion of members subscribe

2. If you do not have a local subscription service, would you recommend one for your League? _____ Why, or why not? _____

3. Do you keep a permanent file of publications as part of your job? yes How do you get copies of national publications for your files: As a subscriber to National's Duplicate Presidents Mailing? _____ As a subscriber to National's Publications Service? _____ From your President? 1 Or other (specify)? Public Relations Chairman (who receives both state & national Pres. duplicate mail)

4. How much did your League budget to spend on publications for Voters Service _____, Finance _____, Public Relations _____, and Membership _____?

5. List your League's own publications which are available or in preparation:

Title: This is Madant Co Date: 1960 Price: 50¢ (non free)
early stages of revision
Decision Schools 1963 10¢ (non free)

6. List League publications (National, State and Local) which are used in your schools, and state briefly how you promote them. There are many
- no new ones this year.

7. Can you suggest ways in which State can be more effective in helping you to do your job? Make publications on current studies available earlier.

8. Relate any unusually rewarding or successful ventures and/or frustrations you have had as publications chairman. _____

DECATUR

LOCAL LEAGUE

LOCAL LEAGUE DECATUR

ILLINOIS

STATE

STATE ILLINOIS

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

LOCAL LEAGUE FINANCE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 1965-66

Trans. Charles Drayson

- 1. What was the goal of Finance Drive held between 4/1/65 and 3/31/66?* \$1,550
- 2. How much was raised in Drive held between 4/1/65 and 3/31/66?* \$1,435.30

3. Number of persons who contributed: Total amount received from:

Members 54 \$ 296.30

Non-members (individuals) 78 \$ 704.00

Business Firms and other Organizations 31 \$ 435.00

4. Number of workers

Actual solicitors 29

All other workers 7

5. Number of all *gifts received in each of the following categories:

	<u>\$5-\$10</u>	<u>\$10-\$25</u>	<u>\$25-\$50</u>	<u>\$50-\$100</u>	<u>Over \$100</u>
No.	<u>97</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>7</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. Regarding business gifts only, please list:

a) number received from nationwide firms 3; from state-wide firms (if any) 2; from local firms 26.

b) How many business gifts were \$5 to \$10 7; were \$10 to \$25 20; were \$25 to \$50 4; were \$50 to \$100 ; were over \$100 ?

c) Give below names of nationwide firms, labor unions or organizations, etc. which contributed to the League this year.

Sears Roebuck and Company
York Division - Borg Warner
J. C. Penney Company

*If you are filling in this form before your drive has been held, please estimate results on the basis of last year's drive. Be sure to include membership contributions as well as non-member gifts (including business gifts) in your goal and amount raised.

(OVER)

LOCAL LEAGUE FINANCE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Continued)

1. What was the goal of Finance Drive held between 4/1/65 and 3/31/66? * \$1,250

d) List names of state-wide firms (if any) contributing to League:

2. How much was raised in Drive held between 4/1/65 and 3/31/66? * \$1,175.30

3. Number of persons who contributed from: Carson Pirie Scott and Company, Illinois Bell Telephone Company

Members \$ 286.30

Non-members (individuals) \$ 704.00

e) Regarding business contributions: Have you a success story (e.g., about a successful selling point), or a helpful procedure; (e.g., about establishing a good contact with a firm), or any good advice; (e.g., did you try a firm more than once with eventual success?) If so, please share with other Leagues here:

All other workers 7
Actual solicitors 22

5. Number of all gifts received in each of the following categories:

Over \$100	\$20-\$100	\$25-\$50	\$10-\$25	\$5-\$10
		5	22	27

6. Regarding business gifts only, please list:

(f) Comment on any particular difficulty in soliciting business firms from local firms

d) How many business gifts were \$2 to \$10? ; were \$10 to \$25? ; were \$25 to \$50? ; were \$50 to \$100? ; were over \$100?

c) Give below names of nationwide firms, labor unions or organizations, etc. which contributed to the League this year.

7. Did you have a Men's Advisory Committee? If so, describe briefly its composition and how it helped.

*If you are filling in this form before your drive has been held, please estimate results on the basis of last year's drive. Be sure to include membership contributions as well as non-member gifts (including business gifts) in your goal and amount raised.

(OVER)

Treas

LOCAL LEAGUE FOR Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

LOCAL LEAGUE TREASURER'S REPORT - 1965-66

(Please read explanation for each item on reverse of this sheet before filling in form.)

INCOME (estimated 4/1/65 - 3/31/66)

- 1. Dues @ \$ 5.00 from 149 members) \$ _____
(total dues)
- 2. Member Contributions (from 54 members) \$ 296.30
- 3. Non-member Contributions (from 78 individuals) From Reserve: _____
- (from 31 businesses) 435.00
\$ _____
(total contrib.)
- 4. Other Receipts (from Luncheon a) 4.06
- (from Publications b) 5.09
- (from _____ c) _____
- (from _____ d) _____
- (from _____ e) \$ 2180.30
(total Receipts)

- 5. From Reserve State and National Support: _____
- (from Earmarked Reserves: for KYT \$1164.28;
unallocated) a) 140.27
- (for delegates _____; for etc. _____) b) _____
- (from Savings to balance budget) \$ 1304.55
(total Reserves)
- 6. Total Income, including any taken from Reserve \$ 3484.85

EXPENDITURES (estimated 4/1/65 - 3/31/66)

- 7. Local Disbursements \$ 1030.89
- 8. State and National Support 850.00
- 9. Total Expenditures 1965-66 \$ 1880.89

CASH STATEMENT

- 10. Total Cash Balance on hand 4/1/65 \$ 2003.26
- 11. Total Estimated Cash Balance on hand 3/31/66 \$ 1968.56

(OVER)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT LOCAL LEAGUE TREASURER'S REPORT

Illinois STATE

1. **Dues:** Fill in rate of dues, number of members and total amount received.
 \$ 4.15 - 3/31/66
2. and 3. **Number of Contributions:** Consult Finance Chairman's report for these figures.
4. **Other Receipts:** Show in these four spaces only net profits (receipts minus expenses equals net profits) derived from such activities as: a) sale of publications (including calendars); b) fees charged for meetings; c) fees for reporting election returns; d) any other profit-making activities.
 \$ 289.30
 (total dues)
5. **From Reserve:** Fill in this figure only if funds were drawn from a) Earmarked Reserves (for a Know Your Town, or for future delegates expenses, or special publications or equipment, etc.) or b) drawn from savings to balance your expenses. Reserve is total cash balance on hand at end of previous fiscal year. It includes all money in all savings accounts, plus all money in all checking accounts.
 \$ 432.00
 (total contrib.)
 \$ 40.00
 \$ 20.00
7. **Local Disbursements:** Include all expenses except State and National Support.
 (total receipts)
8. **State and National Support:** Show actual amount of pledge, plus any additional gifts to state or national. Do not include cost of state and national publications or county council pledge. Those items will appear under local Disbursements.
 \$ 140.27
 (a) (b) (c) (d)
10. **Cash Balance 4/1/65:** Include total of cash in all checking and savings accounts even though some may be earmarked as in #5 above.
 \$ 130.45
 \$ 348.85
11. **Estimated Cash Balance 3/31/66:** You will arrive at this figure by adding 6, (Total Income 1965-66) and 10, (Cash Balance 4/1/65) and then subtracting 9 (Total Expenditures 1965-66).
 \$ 1030.89
 \$ 850.00
 \$ 1880.89

CASH STATEMENT

10. Total Cash Balance on hand 4/1/65 \$ 2002.84
 11. Total Estimated Cash Balance on hand 3/31/66 \$ 1968.84

(OVER)

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - APPORTIONMENT

- * 1. Please comment on how your League Board and membership responded to the adoption of the national emergency item on apportionment.

Of course, we'll do it.

- a) How did you select a chairman for the resource committee, recruit members for the committee?

President asked someone to do it. Announcement in Bulletin and phone calls to persons who would be interested recruited members for the committee.

- b) How did your Board handle planning and scheduling -- did you schedule extra membership and/or unit meetings or did you postpone membership consideration of other program items?

We arranged our program to allow for two units on apportionment early in the year.

- c) Was general membership reaction favorable or unfavorable to the extra work involved?

Simply accepted it.

- d) Was reaction favorable or unfavorable to the ability of the League to respond to a crisis situation and to meet an emergency?

Generally favorable.

- * (Please have this a Board answer rather than a Chairman's answer.)

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - APPORTIONMENT (Continued)

- 2. Comment on the guidance given by the national Board through its Board Reports and Memos on the development of the apportionment item.

Guidance from National was good.

I. Please comment on how your League Board and membership responded to the adoption of the national emergency item on apportionment.
Of course, we'll do it.

(a) How did you select a chairman for the resource committee, recruit members for the committee?

President asked someone to do it. Announcement in Bulletin and phone calls to persons who would be interested recruited members for the committee.

(b) How did your Board handle planning and scheduling -- did you schedule extra membership and/or unit meetings or did you postpone membership consideration of other program items?

- 3. Comment on the adequacy of materials provided by the national Board in the Kit and in the July 1965 NATIONAL VOTER Supplement.

Very helpful!

(c) Was general membership reaction favorable or unfavorable to the extra work involved?

Simply accepted it.

(d) Was reaction favorable or unfavorable to the ability of the League to respond to a crisis situation and to meet an emergency?

Generally favorable.

(Please have this a Board answer rather than a Chairman's answer.) *

Sam Keenan
(OVER)

2. Have any members of your League served in local programs related to the Human Resources item? In what ways, if any, has your League benefitted from this kind of membership activity?

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

- 1. Describe your League's coverage of the Human Resources item (Resource committee work, kinds and number of membership meetings, participation and response of membership).

The Resource Committee started meeting weekly in October, 1965. There were six members working steadily on the committee. *after a summer recess.*

The committee members prepared and heard individual reports on specific programs, emphasizing the pros and cons as found in newspaper and magazine commentary. The committee interviewed the Executive Director and Program Director of the local Community Action Program. A fact sheet was sent out with the local Bulletin to all League members, listing local, state and national programs. *The 2 Facts + Issues on D.H.R. were sent out on our local League Subscription Service in January.*

There were three unit presentations. 37 members attended these meetings. There was fair to good participation in the discussion.

The presentation followed the consensus questions, giving background information as needed. The committee members presented their conclusions on the consensus questions, which were then discussed by the members.

board reports were adequate in substance. The two facts & issues were particularly good, however, they came so late that there was very little time to make use of them.

Our only meeting was scheduled in January.

It was generally felt that the titles of publications "Prospects" and "Rights of Another Nation" were misleading and did not fairly represent the content of the publications.

ILLINOIS STATE

- 2. Have any members of your League served in local programs related to the Human Resources item? If so, in what capacity? In what ways, if any, has your League benefitted from this kind of membership activity?

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The Chairman of the Resource Committee serves on the Board of the Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation. This provided the committee with a close view of the workings of this organization. One other active League member is also on this Board. A number of League members are or have recently been employed in social work, and were able to give an inside view of poverty and unequal opportunities.

Several members of the committee interviewed

girls for the Job Corps camps last summer.

- 3. Comment on the guidance of the national Board and on the helpfulness of national materials.

Board reports were adequate in guidance. The two Facts & Issues were particularly good, however, they came so late that there was very little time to make use of them.

(Our unit meetings were scheduled in January.)

It was generally felt that the titles of publications "Prospects" and "Rights of Another Nation" were misleading and did not imply the content of the publications.

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

b1A

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - UNITED NATIONS AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY

Describe and evaluate your League's coverage of the foreign policy CAs (including I.C.Y., other U.N. activity, aid, trade, other).

On October 26th our League co-sponsored a city wide meeting on the UN with AAUW, Millikin University, Altrusa, Decatur Public Library. Our speaker for this meeting was Edward Lindsay, Editor of the Lindsay-Schaub newspapers, Mr. Lindsay had been present in San Francisco at the formation of the UN and had returned to Decatur to speak at a public meeting about the San Francisco conference. It seems appropriate that he be asked to speak 20 years later on the accomplishments, progress and changes in the UN. IGY pocket pamphlets were given to all present.

sbstT

On March 31st the League is cooperating with a number of community groups in sponsoring a visit from a State Department team. This team of men from the State Department will appear on radio and TV, speak at Millikin University and our High Schools, speak at a community meeting in the evening, and meet with the League and their guests at Luncheon. The State Department visits are under the auspices of the Extension Division of the University of Illinois.

Other U.N. activity

Comment, if you wish, on the guidance of the national Board and on the usefulness of national foreign policy materials.

(OVER)

UNITED NATIONS AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY (Continued)

Illinois STATE

Aid

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - UNITED NATIONS AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY

Describe and evaluate your League's coverage of the foreign policy CAs (including I.C.Y., other U.N. activity, aid, trade, other).

On October 25th our League co-sponsored a city wide meeting on the UN with AAU, Millikin University, Airman, Decatur Public Library. Our speaker for this meeting was Edward Lindsay, Editor of the Lindsay-Schub newspaper. Mr. Lindsay had been present in San Francisco at the formation of the UN and had returned to Decatur to speak at a public meeting about the San Francisco conference. It seems appropriate that he be asked to speak 20 years later on the accomplishments, progress and changes in the UN. IGY pocket pamphlets were given to all present.

Trade

On March 21st the League is cooperating with a number of community groups in sponsoring a visit from a State Department team. This team of men from the State Department will appear on radio and TV, speak at Millikin University and our High Schools, speak at a community meeting in the evening, and meet with the League and their guests at luncheon. The State Department visits are under the auspices of the Extension Division of the University of Illinois.

Other

Other U.N. activity

Comment, if you wish, on the guidance of the national Board and on the usefulness of national foreign policy materials.

(OVER)

Shell

Mrs Lester Shell

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

During the past year has your League worked in cooperation with another League on water? If so, which League(s)?

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - WATER RESOURCES

1. What has your League done under the national water item during this year?

No program presentation.

No workshops.

At one meeting a report was given of 1965 legislation on water resources.

If your League has a local water CA or CR, what has your League done under it this year?

No action on water resources

(OVER)

After water shed

WATER RESOURCES (Continued)

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

- 2. During the past year has your League worked in cooperation with another League on water? If so, which League(s)?

NATIONAL CURRENT AGENDA - WATER RESOURCES

1. What has your League done under the national water item during this year?
No.

No program presentation.

No workshops.

At one meeting a report was given of 1965 legislation on water resources.

- 3. If your League has a local water CA or CR, what has your League done under it this year?

No action on water resources

(OVER)

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

NATIONAL CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. How did your League inform your members on national Continuing Responsibilities? Please describe in detail any method which you found particularly successful. (Please use another sheet if necessary.)

At an 'all member' meeting on December 1st, a program was presented which included a discussion of National CR's and National Program Suggestions. A short presentation explaining each of the National CR's was given. At that time there was opportunity for discussion and questions. This was done so that an intelligent discussion might be made on National program suggestions.

2. Please describe any action your League has taken on national Continuing Responsibilities. How many members were involved? Do you think they found the experience satisfying? (Please be specific about what your League, your members and your community did on Home Rule for the District of Columbia.) Attach any newspaper clippings you may have related to League action.

Mrs. Daniel M. Moore, Jr. - Chairman
VOTERS SERVICE

In the period covered by this report many local elections and some state elections have provided opportunity for varied kinds of ELECTION VOTERS SERVICE. And an important continuing trend in Voters Service is CITIZEN EDUCATION for all -- highly educated people, High School graduates, grade school graduates, foreign-born or non-English speaking people, indigenous people in the inner cores of large cities, semi-literates.

You may need extra sheets on which to report all your Voters Service work, including your efforts to cooperate with the publications chairman of your League to promote Voters Service publications. Please read all the questions before beginning to answer any.

1. Of all your Voters Service techniques, which have proven to be most successful? Please explain.

I. ELECTION VOTERS SERVICE

1. What did your local League do to encourage registration, to inform the voter, and to get out the vote in any elections during the period of this report?

Since local issues upon which our League has a position were at the forefront this year, efforts and funds were applied to their promotion rather than on strictly Voters Service information.

2. What efforts were made this year to reach groups of people or geographical areas of your locality not usually contacted by the League?

- None
- a) Any comments on the success of this effort
 - b) Has your League produced Voters Service materials especially pointed towards these groups? Please attach samples.

3. Did you have Election Voters Service speaking engagements this year? No
How many? What groups did you speak to?

4. Please describe on an extra sheet of paper any unusual success story in the area of elections. (Attach clippings, if available.)

None

(OVER)

II. ORIENTATION IN GOVERNMENT -- CITIZEN EDUCATION in the area of government and politics is increasingly a concern of local Leagues.

1. Did you have any kind of workshop, single meeting, or series of meetings on government or practical politics? Open to the public? Please describe, including attendance. Attach agendas.

On September 14, 1965, during Women Voters Week we invited the three state legislators residing in Decatur to attend a special meeting and speak briefly on topics of their own choice. Two participated. The meeting was open to the public with attendance of about 40.

2. Did your League make any effort to reach groups of people not usually contacted by the League in your citizen education efforts. Describe successes or failures. What subjects did you cover? What materials did you use? Attach samples.

None

3. Did you have Citizen Education speaking engagements this year? How many? To what groups? Subjects of your talks?

None

4. Have you used in your League, or promoted with other groups, or taken to your schools

See Attached

a) DO YOU KNOW THE ABC'S OF YOUR TOWN'S GOVERNMENT?

b) YOU AND YOUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT?

c) THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES, U.S.A.?

d) CHOOSING THE PRESIDENT?

e) WHEN YOU COME TO WASHINGTON?

5. How can the national Board be of assistance to local Leagues in the citizen education area of Voters Service?

(OVER)

VOTERS SERVICE

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

4. Attached is our "Government Officials and Voting Reference" which was printed ^(8000 copies) for the first time this year. Since it was a first time project we felt the need to place it where the public would have easy access to it. We chose the banks, main and branch libraries and the offices of the Association of Commerce, City and County Clerks. The County Clerk later requested sufficient copies to be mailed with voters registration information to all new residents and within the city transfers during the coming year. We, also, are in the process of revising our booklet called "This is Macon County" which was first published in 1960.

League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois
provides

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND VOTING REFERENCE

January 1966

UNITED STATES SENATORS FROM ILLINOIS

Everett M. Dirksen (R) Pekin
Paul H. Douglas (D) Chicago

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, 22nd Illinois Congressional Dist.

William L. Springer (R) Champaign

STATE SENATOR, 28th Illinois Senatorial District

Robert W. McCarthy (D) Decatur

STATE REPRESENTATIVES (all elected at large in 1964)

Residents of Decatur John W. Alsup (D)
Marvin S. Lieberman (D)

MACON COUNTY OFFICIALS

Clerk William M. Tangney (D)
Treasurer Frank A. Meara (D)
Recorder John H. Bohn (D)
Auditor Richard D. Ferre (D)
Sheriff Charles D. Peters (D)
States Attorney Basil G. Greanias (D)
Coroner Dr. V. T. Turley (D)
Supt. of Schools Howard E. Brown (R)
Supt. of Highways William O. Kinsel
Supr. of Assessments . Clarence A. Sablotny

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Donald V. Lindsey, Decatur (R)
Decatur Township T. A. Brinkoetter (R)
Hickory Point Township Floyd W. Grise (R)
Long Creek Township John B. Pickett (D)
So. Wheatland Township Mrs. Sara Taylor (R)
Whitmore Township Robert W. Hupp (D)

The 17 townships in Macon County are represented on the 35 member Board of Supervisors. It meets 2nd Tuesday each month at 9:30 a.m. (except June, 4th Monday), 5th floor, Macon County Building, 253 E. Wood Street.

CITY OF DECATUR

Mayor: Ellis B. Arnold
Councilmen: Edward J. Arseneault Leland H. Hendersen
Henry H. Bolz Robert W. Kopetz
Frank J. Grossman Elmer W. Walton
City Manager: John E. Dever
Chief of Police: James H. May
Fire Chief: Byrd L. Davis

City Council meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m., City Council Chamber, 355 E. Wood Street.

DECATUR CITY & REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman: Graham Bradley
Mrs. Henry Bachrach, Henry Bolz, John Foreman,
Kenneth Harm, William Harner, Andrew Neureuther,
John Schiminski, Theodore Schroeder, Lee Sentman, Jr.

Commission meets 1st Thursday each month at 3:00 p.m., City Council Chamber, 355 E. Wood Street.

DECATUR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Chairman: Bernard Wright
Russell Amdal, Mrs. Robert Cole, Ralph Jobe,
James Rupp, Jerome Schlieper, Glenn Silver

Board meets 2nd Tuesday each month at 4:00 p.m., City Council Chamber, 355 E. Wood Street

DECATUR HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Chairman: Gershom Cohn
Mrs. E. H. Dansby, Rev. S. W. Hale, Norman Hendrian,
Stacey Hulvey, W. Ross Lloyd, Walter Morenz,
Ayrlic Morris, Lee Pigott, Rev. Jo Riley,
Robert Ripston, Robert Winters, Mrs. Warren Wollrab

Commission meets 1st Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m., City Council Chamber, 355 E. Wood Street.

DECATUR PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD

President: Dr. A. Willard Turner
Royce Huss, Donald Jones, John Palian, John Stengel
Superintendent: Russell J. Foval

Board meets 2nd Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m., Recreation Office, 610 E. Riverside Avenue.

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Board: W. A. Sappington, President
Robert Grohne, William Olsen, David Pilcher,
Mrs. Roger Pogue, Mrs. Joseph Russell,
Mrs. Erich Stern, William Tebussek, Robert West
Chief Librarian: Mrs. Mary T. Howe

Board meets last Friday each month (except August and December) at 4:00 p.m., Main Library, 457 N. Main Street

DECATUR SCHOOL DISTRICT (#61)

Board of Education: Richard Huff, President
Mrs. Mary Barnes, Franzy Eakin, Dr. George Flaxman,
Donald Jones, Joseph Katauski, Theodore Schroeder
Superintendent: Lester J. Grant

Board meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month at 7:30 p.m., Administration Building, 101 W. Cerro Gordo Street.

DECATUR PARK DISTRICT

Park Board: William Harner, President
Gary Grey, Royce Huss, Ralph Lorenz, Dr. R. Zink Sanders
Director of Parks & Airport: Lacy Chandler

Board meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at 7:00 p.m., Administration Building, Mueller Park, 750 Lake Shore Drive.

DECATUR SANITARY DISTRICT

Board: John Wells, President
Lyle DeWitt, John Schiminski
Superintendent: Charles E. Hughes, Jr.

Board meets 3rd Monday each month at 1:30 p.m., Decatur Sanitary District Office, 501 Dipper Lane.

MACON COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Board: Glen Cooper, President
Ray Carlson, Dr. Welland Hause, Elmore Morthland,
Harold Toben
Superintendent: John J. Allen

Board meets 4th Wednesday each month at 7:30 p.m., Macon County Mosquito Abatement District Office, 2767 N. Main Street.

SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Comprised of Macon, Champaign,
DeWitt, Moultrie, Piatt and Douglas Counties)
Chief Circuit Judge: Birch E. Morgan (Monticello)
Assistant Chief Circuit Judge: Rodney A. Scott (Decatur)
Circuit Judge: Frederick S. Green (Champaign)
Associate Circuit Judges Residing in Decatur:
Frank J. Gollings, Donald W. Morthland
Circuit Clerk of Macon County: John T. Curry

ELECTION DAYS

Primary - Second Tuesday in June
General - First Tuesday after the first Monday in
November in even-numbered years.
City Primary - Held 6 weeks before the city election
if more than two petition to run for each position.
City - Third Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years.
School Board - Second Saturday in April every year.
Park District - First Tuesday in April in odd-numbered
years.
Township - First Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years.
Sanitary District and Mosquito Abatement District -
Board members are appointed by the Chief Judge of
the Circuit Court.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

1. 21 years of age or older
2. A citizen of the United States
3. Resident of: Illinois - one year,
County - 90 days, Precinct - 30 days
4. Registered at time of election

WHERE AND WHEN TO REGISTER

Voters' Registration Office, Macon County Building,
253 E. Wood Street, any time except 28 days before
and 2 days after a primary or general election.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization
which has as its purpose promoting political responsibility
through informed and active participation of citizens in
government. The League never supports nor opposes candi-
dates nor political parties. The League does support
issues which have been thoroughly studied and on which the
membership has arrived at consensus. League membership is
open to anyone who subscribes to its purposes and principles.

Marilyn Tenney

DECATUR, ILL.

LOCAL LEAGUE PUBLIC RELATIONS (Continued)

STATE ILLINOIS

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. What aspects of the League are of greatest public relations value?

open membership? **4**

nonpartisanship? **5**

educational opportunities? **3**

Voters Service? **1**

Program: local **2** - state **6** - national

action?

other?

2. What aspect of the League is hardest to make clear to the public?

nonpartisanship?

consensus? **1**

difference between Voters Service and Program?

local Program?

State Program?

national Program?

action?

(Clippings illustrative of any of the above would be appreciated)

3. In the fall of 1964 the League spearheaded WOMEN VOTERS WEEK. In the spring of 1965 we focused on State Government. Do coordinated campaigns of this sort help

(1) in obtaining additional publicity? **yes, definitely**

(2) in building increased understanding of the League? **yes**

4. Did your League use radio? **yes** How? **spot announcements**

Did you produce your own programs? **no** What kind?

(Please include scripts and spot announcements if available)

(OVER)

5. Did your League use TV? **yes** How? **spot announcements**
Did you produce your own program? What kind?

6. What kind of national public relations activity is most useful in your community?
feature-type material; news stories have not been used much

7. Does your League have a Speakers Bureau? **no** How many speakers?
Subjects? **League members did appear on radio and TV in support of school referendum**
How many engagements did the Bureau fill?

Do you find speech ideas such as "You and Your State Government," "Your Vote Makes a Difference," "Women, the United Nations and ICY" useful?

8. We are always interested in League members who have gone into politics or who have been appointed to Boards and Commissions. Please list below. If clippings or other background information is available please include.

Name	Party	Position
Mrs. Robert Cole		XXXXX County zoning board
Mrs. Verne Roby		County Board of Health
Mrs. Henry Bachrach		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX City & Regional Planning Commission
Mrs. E.C. Barnes		City School Board
Mrs. C.B. Bishop and Mrs. Edw. Frost.....		Macon County Opport. Corp.

9. We know you like to read stories in magazines and newspapers telling of League achievements in other places. League members in other places like to read stories of your achievements. If any of your efforts would prove enlightening to a League public please describe. Stories with a beginning, middle and end are particularly appreciated. Use extra sheets, if necessary.

4. Did your League use radio? Yes
How? spot announcements
Did you produce your own programs? no
What kind?
(Please include scripts and spot announcements if available)

Item:
Child Welfare

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65-3/31/66

STATE PROGRAM

How useful were the state Board's materials, if any; state area conferences or workshops, if any; and state Board services on the state Current Agenda in general.

Describe briefly and evaluate your League's activity on state Current Agenda and state Continuing Responsibilities. Include amount of coverage in League and in community, including type and number of meetings of membership, community meeting, whether you have year-round resource committees for each item and if so, how they carry out their work; use of radio and/or TV, and if your state has positions on its state Current Agenda, indicate the type of legislative activity taken in support of these positions. Please identify the agenda items by subject matter, not number. Don't forget work you completed in spring of 1965.

The Welfare Committee has been inactive this past year. Our last report, the Child in need of Protective services and the child in relation to the Courts, was presented in October, 1964. The committee has just started work on the current Welfare Item concerning the Youth Commission and the Department of Children and Family Services. ✕

report April 1966

We responded to all "Time for Action" and wrote legislators

Ann Limerick - Welfare Chairman

Verbanee

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

STATE PROGRAM

How useful were the state Board's materials, if any; state area conferences or workshops, if any; and state Board services on the state Current Agenda in general.

Election Laws and Judicial Reform items:

Materials were distributed through Subscription Service

Describe briefly and evaluate your League's activity on state Current Agenda and state Continuing Responsibilities. Include amount of coverage in League and in community, including type and number of meetings of membership, community meetings, whether you have year-round resource committees for each item and if so, how they carry out their work; use of radio and/or television, and if your state has positions on its state Current Agenda, indicate the type of legislative activity taken in support of these positions. Please identify the agenda items by subject matter, not number. Don't forget work you completed in spring of 1965.

Letters supporting implementation of Judicial Reform were sent.

All calls for action were answered.

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

STATE PROGRAM

How useful were the state Board's materials, if any; state area conferences or workshops, if any; and state Board services on the state Current Agenda in general.

State Current Agenda - Constitutional Revision: Work for a constitutional convention for Illinois and for improvement of the structure of Illinois government by constitutional revision to include: A new Revenue Article giving the legislature broad power to levy taxes needed to provide an equitable and flexible tax structure.....

The state meeting in Chicago, Nov. 10th, 1965, was informative and gave local league chairmen ideas on the scope of the study. The recommendation that two months of unit meetings be devoted to Revenue, required rescheduling of the local league's calendar and program. (Cont. other side)

Describe briefly and evaluate your League's activity on state Current Agenda and state Continuing Responsibilities. Include amount of coverage in League and in community, including type and number of meetings of membership, community meetings, whether you have year-round resource committees for each item and if so, how they carry out their work; use of radio and/or television, and if your state has positions on its state Current Agenda, indicate the type of legislative activity taken in support of these positions. Please identify the agenda items by subject matter, not number. Don't forget work you completed in spring of 1965.

Three unit meetings will be held each month in March and April. The Revenue Committee plans discussion by the league membership on the philosophy of taxation, criteria of a good tax structure, and the Illinois Property Tax at the March units. Discussion at the April units will concern a "true" sales tax, the Retailer's Occupation Tax, and an income tax.

The committee meets bi-weekly. It prepares revenue information sheets on the areas studied; these are distributed to the league membership with the monthly bulletin of the Decatur league. The present resource committee on Con-Con has met since 1961.

The state publication "Revenue Review - The Illinois Property Tax" was sent to local league members on subscription service. Other members were urged to buy copies from the Publications Chairman. All members were notified of the state publications available on "Revenue Review - Introduction to State and Local Taxes" and "Revenue Review - Present Sources of Revenue for the State of Illinois".

Copies of the fact sheets prepared by the Decatur League's Revenue Committee and distributed to all members of the local league are attached. They are titled "About Taxation" and "Property Tax Facts". Additional fact sheets on "A Sales Tax and The Retailer's Occupation Tax" and "Income Tax Facts" are in preparation.

LOCAL LEAGUE

STATE

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

STATE PROGRAM

How useful were the state materials? How useful were the local materials? The new publications are excellent. However, to reach each and every member, more rapid distribution of study materials is necessary.

Describe briefly and evaluate your League's activity on state Current Agenda and state Continuing Responsibilities. Include amount of coverage in League and in community, including type and number of meetings of membership, community meetings, whether you have year-round resource committees for each item and if so, how they carry out their work; use of radio and/or television, and if your state has taken in support of these positions. Please identify the agenda items by subject matter, not number. Don't forget work you completed in spring of 1965.

The state meeting in Chicago, Nov. 10th, 1965, was informative and gave local league members ideas on the scope of the study. The recommendations that two months of unit meetings be devoted to Revenue, required rescheduling of the local league's calendar and program. (Conf. other side)

Three unit meetings will be held each month in March and April. The Revenue Committee plans discussion by the league membership on the Illinois Property Tax at the March unit. Discussion at the April unit will concern a "Three" sales tax, the Retailer's Occupation Tax, and an income tax. The committee meets bi-weekly. It prepares revenue information sheets on the items studied; these are distributed to the league membership with the monthly bulletin of the Decatur League. The present resource committee on Gov-Con has set since 1961.

The state publication "Revenue Review - The Illinois Property Tax" was sent to local league members on subscription service. Other members were urged to buy copies from the Publications Chairman. All members were notified of the state publications available on "Revenue Review - Introduction to State and Local Taxes" and "Revenue Review - Present Sources of Revenue for the State of Illinois".

Copy of the last sheets prepared by the Decatur League's Revenue Committee and distributed to all members of the local league are attached. They are titled "About Taxation" and "Property Tax Facts". Additional last sheets on "A Sales Tax and the Retailer's Occupation Tax" and "Income Tax Facts" are in preparation.

ABOUT TAXATIONTHE PHILOSOPHY OF TAXATION

The first duty of a government, whether local, state, or national, is to keep order and to provide the services which the citizens of that community have said they want or are willing to pay for. Taxation is the instrument a government uses to secure the money it needs to supply those services.

THREE TAX TERMS - All are dependent upon ratio of tax liability rate to net income (or net worth)

Progressive - At an increasing rate: as applied to the income tax, taking a percentage which increases as the income on which it is based increases (thus increasing according to the ability to pay). Opposite of "regressive" tax-wise.

Proportionate - The rate of tax relative to the ability to pay.

Regressive - Taking a larger percentage from those with the smaller income, demanding the greater amount of sacrifice from those least able to pay (as sales tax).

CRITERIA OF A GOOD TAX STRUCTURE

- I It must effectively and efficiently raise the money that is needed:
 - A. Yield: Obviously a tax, though perfect in principle is defective if it yields little revenue.
 - B. Administration: A tax should be easy to administer - not too expensive to collect nor too readily evaded. Widespread evasion of taxes will increase the cost of collection and be unfair to those who do pay them, and indeed, may fail to produce the full amount of money needed to run the government.
- II The taxes shall be equitably distributed:
 - A. Justice: A tax should be just. It should treat alike all those in similar circumstances.
 - B. Broad base: A tax which falls on a large proportion of the population results in "wide sharing" of the cost of government and brings home to citizens a realization that they pay the cost of government as they should and must.
 - C. Ability to pay: This principle has wide acceptance by tax experts in modern public finance. The distribution of taxes raises the question: What proportion of tax revenue should most equitably come from progressive taxes, what from proportionate taxes, and what from regressive taxes.
 - D. Benefits received: Taxes in this category include the gasoline taxes, and special assessments for the improvement of local real estate (sewers, sidewalks, etc.). It requires careful study to determine which government services should be supported this way and who the beneficiary is. In the case of roads, one might ask, is it the driver of the car on the road or the merchant who builds his store where he can benefit from the traffic? Should the beneficiary pay all or part of the service and, conversely, should the revenue derived be spent exclusively for the benefit of the group paying for it or in part for general government expenses (in the case of roads, such additional expenses as the police needed to patrol the roads)?

(over)

- E. Taxation used to achieve social or economic objectives: While all taxation is primarily for the purpose of getting revenue, a number of taxes have secondary objectives. An example of such a tax would be tariffs (to reduce competition of imports with domestic industry). Conversely, exemptions from taxes are sometimes made to encourage economic or social objectives. Examples are exemptions of charitable, religious, and educational contributions from income taxes and exemptions to industries by local and state governments (to encourage them to locate in a given area).
- F. The revenue system should take into account taxes levied by other levels of government which cover the same tax base. Local taxes may be effective and fair when standing alone, but when added to the federal taxes may place an unfair burden on certain taxpayers.

USE OF CRITERIA

Using the above criteria, consider the following taxes:

- I General Property Tax
 - A. Real Property (the land and improvements on it) - Real Estate Tax
 - B. Personal Property
 - 1. Tangible Personal Property (automobiles, farm implements, machinery, furniture) - Personal Property Tax
 - 2. Intangible Personal Property (bank accounts, stocks, bonds, mortgages, accounts receivable)
- II Occupations Tax - Cigarette Tax, Retailers Occupation Tax (Sales Tax)
- III Franchise and Privilege Tax - Gasoline Tax, Alcoholic Beverage Tax

Note: I, II, and III above are the only classifications (or kinds) of taxes permitted in the present Revenue Article of the state constitution. The present article also specifies that all general property must be taxed at the same rate. In 1962, it was estimated that 1/2 of the wealth of the state lies in intangible personal property. Therefore, it is not possible to tax this wealth because it would be confiscatory if taxed at the same rate as real and tangible personal property.

Having used these standards to measure the various taxes with which you are familiar, you have discovered that there is no perfect tax. No one tax passes all the tests. No tax should be adopted or rejected on its own score alone, because in our complex society, it takes a structure of taxes to support government and finance the demands we make of government. That is why a sound fiscal structure is made up of many separate taxes so that the total tax picture can be designed to score well when judged by these criteria. We must analyze these various criteria to decide which are justified and under what circumstances. Then we must measure present taxes and future taxes as proposed in the new Revenue Article to see if they come up to the accepted criteria.

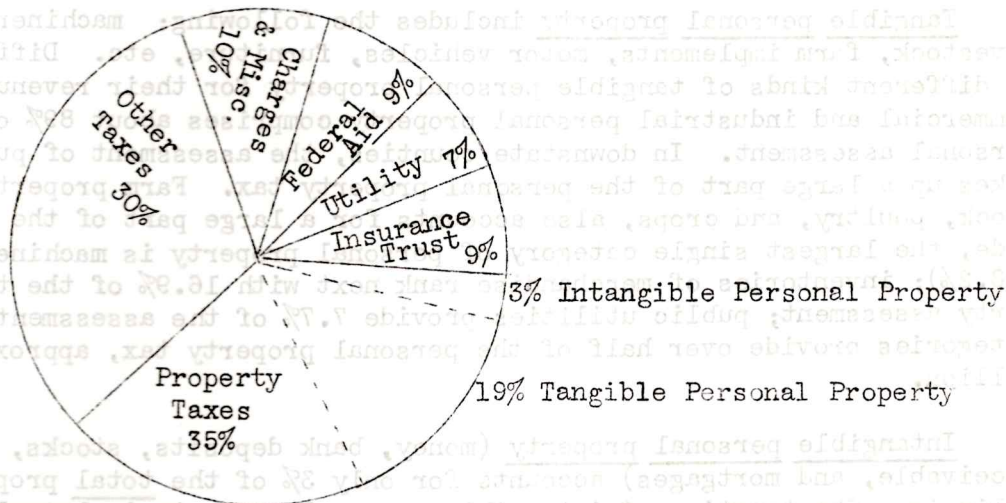
This is the first material from your Revenue workshop and was selected from reference materials. You will continue to receive information so that we may all discuss TAXES (old and new) at the March and April units. Please keep these information sheets. The next information will concern The Property Tax. If you wish to join the committee, the next meeting will be at 9:30 A.M., February 3rd, at 12 Dakota Dr.

D. Meyerson, L. Crow, F. Doubleday, P. Jurgens, L. Verbanac

PROPERTY TAX FACTS

The courts have interpreted our present revenue article to mean that all property in Illinois constitutes one class of property to be taxed by value and uniformly. The state legislature in 1927 defined value as the "full, fair, cash value" (100% of current market price). Since any classification is prohibited (i.e. all property must be treated alike), the same percentage (100%) legally should be applied to each piece of property of any kind.

The property tax produces a greater amount of revenue for the local governments in Illinois than any other single state or local tax. In 1962, the total property tax collections (1961 tax) amounted to over \$1,300,000,000., 53.4% of all taxes collected in the state.



Current estimates are that 33 to 50 percent of the total wealth in Illinois consists of tangible or intangible personal property. Classification, then, would provide a better tax picture and increased revenue.

Illinois has a general property tax. A general property tax attempts to treat all property the same. This is not the case in practice. Although the law requires that all property should be assessed at 100% of value (the state average was 48.10% in 1957), property is inequitably assessed, different kinds of property are treated differently, and most intangible personal property (stocks, bonds, mortgages, bank deposits, etc.) escapes taxation entirely. Assessments are dependent on the abilities and judgments of local assessors whose only legal requirements are those of age and length of residence (No educational or training requirements, etc.). The state department of revenue is supposed to supervise assessment procedures, but, in practice, can do little more than apply multipliers to equalize assessments from county to county.

Of the total assessed value for the year ending 1961, 77.6% was on real property. If we decide to classify property into sub-classes, what should be our consideration for setting up classes? Consider the following:

1. Should industrial and commercial property be taxed the same as residences?
2. Should the ability to pay be considered?
3. Should income-producing property be classed as real property or should it be taxed as income? Should home owners be taxed at a lower rate than income-producing properties?

4. Should a property tax be levied on total value of the property or on the net value? (No reduction in value is made for any mortgage)
5. What exemptions should be allowed? For example, how about non-profit organizations, institutions, aged people, people on welfare rolls, etc.?
6. Should exemptions be allowed for improvements to property to encourage rehabilitation of old buildings?

Tangible personal property includes the following: machinery, inventories, livestock, farm implements, motor vehicles, furniture, etc. Different counties rely on different kinds of tangible personal property for their revenue. In Chicago, commercial and industrial personal property comprises about 89% of the total personal assessment. In downstate counties, the assessment of public utilities makes up a large part of the personal property tax. Farm property, such as livestock, poultry, and crops, also accounts for a large part of the assessment. State-wide, the largest single category of personal property is machinery and equipment (28.2%); inventories of merchandise rank next with 16.9% of the total personal property assessment; public utilities provide 7.7% of the assessment. These three categories provide over half of the personal property tax, approximately \$150 million.

Intangible personal property (money, bank deposits, stocks, bonds, accounts receivable, and mortgages) accounts for only 3% of the total property assessment in Illinois. The taxation of intangible personal property is largely avoided. Assessment of bank deposits ranges from zero to 3% among the counties, but generally is less than 1% of actual deposits. Nineteen states exempt all (or nearly all) intangibles from property taxation and tax them by special or income taxes. Seventeen states tax intangibles under a classified property tax. Think about the following questions concerning a tax on intangibles:

1. Should intangible personal property be taxed?
2. How could such tax or taxes be assessed, administered, and collected?
3. How would different types of intangible personal property be taxed fairly - by classification, by income, or by a varying assessment rate?
4. How would taxpayers be induced to honestly report their intangible property?

For more facts read: The Illinois Property Tax, a new publication of the state league. Come and talk about taxes at the March 8th and 9th unit meetings.

Revenue Committee: D. Meyerson, L. Crow, F. Doubleday, P. Jurgens, M. Langenberg, L. Verbanac

Bonnie Livergood

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

Local Government Surveys: List those done by your League currently in print.

Observers Programs: List governmental meetings (Council, School Board, Planning Commission, etc.) regularly attended by your League.

LOCAL PROGRAM

(Report each subject fully on a separate page. Three forms, including this one, are attached. Use extra pages if necessary.)

Subject: Decatur Public Schools; 1/ Support of measures to provide adequate space and education programs. 2/ Study of ways to improve public education in Decatur.

1. League position (if any): Consensus was reached in September, 1962 and March 1963 that the League would support referendums to provide for two new junior high schools and additional elementary schools in specified areas of Decatur and an increase in the educational tax rate limit.

2. Publications issued (attach copy): Flyers for public distribution and fact sheets for League members. Attached

3. Activities during the year, including League meetings, action taken by League (testimony at hearings, ballot campaigns, letters, public meetings, important publicity, etc.):

1965

This period covers three referendums, dated May 8, February 19 and March 19, 1966. League members spoke before PTA's and at PTA coffees, during April. One member was on an open forum on WSOY. A specific article was prepared on a survey of auditoriums and all purpose rooms in elementary schools and was carried in newspaper articles. The cost of redesigning completed school plans to eliminate these was researched and also was quoted in the news media. Flyers were printed at League expense and distributed through the schools showing which schools were needed and where (22,000). Referendum did pass.

For the referendum on an increase in the education fund, the League worked through a newly formed Citizens for Better Education Committee, the League president serving as chairman of the committee and with three other League members, one who worked also on the Executive Comm. League members appeared three times on the radio, three times on TV, before service organizations and at PTA's. The flyer attached and sent home with the school children was printed at the Citizens' Comm. expense

but was prepared by League members. A fact sheet showing the need for a tax rate increase with detailed explanations on the state and local school funds to update League members was mailed to the membership. Various information sheets were compiled and sent to organizations listed with the local Association of Commerce and to all PTA presidents. We worked closely with other groups and did have a lot of news media coverage. Referendum did not pass.

Because the referendum failed by so few votes, 327 out of 9,325, and the need was urgent, the Board of Education asked for a smaller amount to be voted on March 19, 1966. We plan a canvass of votes and League members are volunteering to speak before PTA groups in areas where the previous one failed.

League members

Citizens for Better Education
remind you that

*prepared
these*

More Children
require

More Teachers
Vote

YES	X
------------	----------

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1966

Elementary School Buildings

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Why?

Teachers for six new schools

Teachers for handicapped children
(state required)

Teachers for increased enrollment

Teachers for reduction in class sizes

Last increase in Education Fund tax rate limit voted in 1956 Number of children increased from 14,000 to 21,000 since 1956

WHY IS YOUR "YES" VOTE NECESSARY?

- To provide 48 additional teachers, other personnel and operating expenses for the new schools.
- To provide 20 additional teachers and specialized personnel for mentally and physically handicapped and socially maladjusted children as required by new state law.
- To provide for the increase in enrollment. (500 next year) (Since 1956 enrollment has gone from 14,000 to 21,000.)
- To reduce the size of many classes.
- To provide a balanced budget to prevent deficit spending. (\$300,000 deficit in 1965-66)
- To provide salaries that will enable Decatur to keep and attract good teachers.
- To provide same quality of education next year as this.

WHAT IF THE REFERENDUM FAILS?

- Oversized classes would become even more crowded as the number of children increases each year.
- The quality of education would deteriorate in all grades.
- Regular classes and teachers would be eliminated in order to provide classes for handicapped children as required by new state law.
- Good teachers would be difficult to keep and attract because of oversized classes and shortage of funds for salaries.

WHAT INCREASE IN TAXES WOULD THERE BE?

- Not more than 40¢ per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation when the full amount is needed.
- Property which would sell for \$10,000 and is assessed at full 55% would have a maximum additional tax of \$22 a year or 42¢ a week.

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO HAVE A REFERENDUM?

More revenue is desperately needed in the Education Fund. All expected revenue will not be enough to continue the present quality of education much less take care of 500 additional children next year. New federal funds can be used only for **new** projects. Property taxes are the only source for additional money. In order to get more money an increase in the tax rate limit has to be voted.

WHAT IS TO BE VOTED ON IN THE REFERENDUM?

An increase in the Education Fund tax rate **limit** from the present \$1.80 to \$2.20. (Ten years ago, March 1956, it was increased from \$1.40 to \$1.80.)

HOW MUCH MORE MONEY IS NEEDED NEXT YEAR?

About \$900,000 to take care of this year's expected deficit of about \$300,000 plus \$600,000 for (1) teachers for the new schools, (2) teachers for handicapped as required by new state law, (3) 500 more children, (4) some reduction in class sizes.

WILL REVENUE FROM NEW RATE PROVIDE ENOUGH?

Yes, for several years at least. It is not expected that the full 40¢ would be used immediately. On the basis of the present \$316,000,000 assessed valuation the maximum 40¢ would produce \$1,191,000 more revenue after 6% deduction for uncollected taxes and cost of collection.

DOESN'T INCOME FOR SCHOOLS INCREASE AS NEW HOUSES AND POPULATION INCREASE?

Yes, but not in proportion to the cost of educating each additional child. The assessed valuation averages \$16,000 per pupil. The expected \$3,000,000 increase in assessed valuation next year will average only \$6,000 instead of \$16,000 for each of the additional 500 pupils expected next year. This will provide only about 1/3 of the money needed from property taxes for these 500 children.

Citizens for Better Education urge you to VOTE YES X FEB. 19

Decatur Needs More Teachers Now!

This local need can be met only with local funds

Should the Education Fund tax rate limit be increased from \$1.80 to \$2.20 per \$100 assessed valuation?	YES	X
	NO	

(at the time of printing)

These organizations recognize the critical need by their endorsement and urge your support. Vote YES February 19.

League of Women Voters
Decatur Council of PTA
Association of Commerce
Decatur Area Council of Churches
Mental Health Association of Decatur & Macon County
Decatur Education Association
Building Service Employees Local 344
Decatur Association of Educational Secretaries
N. A. A. C. P.
Citizens Consulting Committee for Board of Education
Council for Exceptional Children

prepared and paid for by
CITIZENS FOR BETTER EDUCATION

Decatur **NEEDS** **More Schools Now!**

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Decatur, Illinois

URGES YOU TO

Vote

YES	X
------------	----------

FOR THE
School Bond Referendum

When: Saturday, May 8, 1965 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Where: Elementary Buildings

Who: Every Registered Voter

Why: The League of Women Voters after a continuing study of the building needs of the Decatur Schools believes the proposed building program is a **realistic solution** to the **immediate** building needs of the schools and therefore urges approval of the bond issue referendum necessary to carry out the building program.

Decatur Needs More Schools Now!

WHY ARE MORE SCHOOLS NEEDED?

ENROLLMENT CONSTANTLY INCREASES!

- 5,645 **more** pupils this year than 10 years ago in the combined Decatur and former Lakeview Districts
- 525 **more** pupils this year than last year.
- 317 **more each year** (on the average) through 1969 according to City Planning Department study.

All classrooms in **all** elementary and junior high schools will be in use in fall of 1965.

Hundreds of kindergarten children and others are being transported to schools in other parts of town.

HOW CAN

MORE SCHOOLS BE PROVIDED?

From: Bond Issue to be voted May 8 \$3 million
Accumulated funds \$2 million

VOTE YES X FOR SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM

Saturday, May 8, 1965 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

WHAT WILL THE TAX INCREASE BE?

Seven cents (7c) for each \$100 of assessed valuation.

Example: **\$4.20 per year** on a \$10,000 house, assessed at about \$6,000 including multiplier.

What Schools Are Needed?

A BAKER WOODS JUNIOR HIGH TO:

- provide space for nearly 400 junior high pupils now crowded into **Lakeview**.
- relieve overcrowding at **Johns Hill** Junior High by providing space for **Muffley** area children.

A NEW OAK GROVE ELEMENTARY TO:

- provide space for children now being transported to **Oglesby**, **Garfield**, and **Pershing** Schools.
- release the all-purpose room at the present **Oak Grove** school, the gym at **Oglesby**, and the auditorium at **Garfield** for the purposes for which they were intended.

A NEW SOUTH SHORES ELEMENTARY TO:

- provide space for almost 200 children **now** being transported to **Southeast** and **Mary French** Schools.
- provide new space for children now crowded into present **South Shores** Elementary school.

A NEW MOUND ELEMENTARY WEST OF U. S. 51 AND A NEW MOUND ELEMENTARY EAST OF U. S. 51 TO:

- replace the present Mound building which will be converted to a junior high.
- replace rooms in "little" Mound building which will be demolished when U. S. 51 is widened.
- eliminate the necessity of transporting kindergarteners to **Harris** Elementary starting in 1965-66.
- eliminate need for elementary pupils to cross U. S. 51.

A MOUND JUNIOR HIGH (converted from Mound Elementary) TO:

- eliminate the necessity of transporting north area children to **Woodrow Wilson** and **Roosevelt Junior Highs**.
- relieve overcrowding in **Woodrow Wilson** and **Roosevelt**.

YES	X
-----	---

The League of Women Voters urges you to vote for these needed schools!

WHEN WILL BUILDINGS BE FINISHED?

September, 1966: Baker Woods Junior High

Oak Grove #2

South Shores #2

September, 1967: Mound West

Mound East

September, 1968: Mound Junior High

\$45,000 will be saved by constructing all four (4) elementary buildings alike and using the same architectural drawings and specifications.

REMEMBER — as you are standing in the voting booth — the issue to be decided is: "Shall I vote in favor of providing Decatur's children with needed classrooms?"

Shall bonds in the sum of \$3,000,000 be issued for the purpose of building and equipping four elementary school buildings and converting the present Mound Elementary School to a junior high?	YES	X
	NO	

DECATUR'S MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT: EDUCATED CHILDREN!

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization which has as its purpose promoting informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The League never supports nor opposes candidates nor political parties.

The League does support issues which have been thoroughly studied and on which the membership agrees.

League membership is open to everyone who subscribes to its purpose and principles.

NEED FOR SCHOOL TAX RATE INCREASE INDICATED

December, 1965

In January 1965 when the League urged the Board of Education to submit a building bond referendum separate from an increase in the Education Fund tax rate our statement read in part as follows:

"Although the League is on record as supporting an increase in the Education Fund tax rate, we recognize the difficulty of determining the exact amount needed at this time because the amount of additional funds from the state and federal governments is undetermined. However, funds for buildings must come from local sources alone and buildings are needed immediately in the Decatur district. Therefore, the League urges that the Board consider submitting a building bond referendum alone to the voters at this time. You would have our support." (For full statement see February 1965 bulletin.)

It is now known what additional fund will come from the state and federal governments and therefore it can be determined what additional amount is needed to keep the education program at the level of 1965-66 and provide for increased enrollment and new requirements.

It is estimated that for the next three years an average of \$1,068,000 per year more revenue will be needed for the Education Fund than can be expected to be available from all sources. Therefore since the only way to obtain these additional funds is from local property tax, a referendum to increase the Education Fund tax rate is needed. Thus there is a strong likelihood that the Board of Education will call for a referendum sometime after the first of the year.

As our statement last January indicated, the League would support an increase in the Education Fund Tax Rate in line with its consensus for an adequate education program. Following the League policy of keeping members informed on areas of League special interest we are providing this information.

The Board of Education has not set a date for a referendum nor has it decided on the amount of an increase to ask voters to approve. However it would appear that a 40¢ increase is needed. Forty cents per \$100 assessed valuation would provide \$1,188,000 at the present assessed valuation of the school district of \$316,000,000. (See details at end.)

The last tax rate increase in the Education Fund was voted in March 1956 raising it from \$1.40 to \$1.80 which it is at present. Since then the enrollment has increased from 14,000 to 21,000, the number of school buildings from 25 to 35, the number of teachers from 522 to 925 and the cost per pupil has increased from \$299 to \$516.

The 1965 state legislature voted additional state funds which will amount to about \$700,000 beginning in 1966-67. (See details at end.)

The new Federal Elementary and Secondary Act can bring more funds in the Decatur schools but they can be used only for completely new projects; they cannot be used for any program in existence at this time nor to pay for teachers or other expenses necessitated by an increased enrollment.

The increase in local funds is needed to provide the following:

1. The same level of education as is being provided in 1965-66 and for additional teachers needed because of increased enrollment.
2. One new junior high and four new elementary buildings will be ready for occupancy by the fall of 1966 (one of the elementary buildings replaces the present Mound elementary which will be converted into a junior high for occupancy in 1967). To staff these new buildings in 1966 and somewhat reduce Junior High Class size will require 48 more teachers, 4 principals, 1 assistant principal, 2 nurses and 5 secretaries.
3. The state legislature passed a law making it mandatory rather than permissive for local school districts to provide special education for the educable mentally handicapped, the trainable mentally handicapped, the physically handicapped children, and the children with speech defects. Two-thirds of the cost of these mandatory programs must come from local funds. Decatur's present² special education classes will have to be increased to at least 40 by 1969-70. Ten speech correctionists will be needed instead of the present staff of four, and three psychologists will be needed instead of one. The children who would qualify for these additional special classes are either in the regular classrooms now and taking a disproportionate share of teachers' time or are not able to be in school at all. The regular classroom program for the normal children will suffer unless additional funds are provided since the special education classes are mandatory.

The referendum would need to be held in early 1966 so that the Board of Education would know if sufficient funds would be available to employ the needed additional teachers. Interviewing of teachers for the next year has to be done early in order to obtain the better qualified.

DETAILS

The \$316,000,000 assessed valuation of all the property in the school district multiplied by 40¢ comes out to \$1,264,000. Six percent (or \$75,840) has to be subtracted because not all taxes will be paid, and the County Treasurer keeps a certain percentage for collection. Thus the school district can expect to receive only about \$1,188,000 from 40¢ tax rate.

Additional taxes voted in early 1966 would not be collected until 1967 but through the use of the working cash fund the additional money could be had without interest cost for 1966-67.

The increase in state funds for the Decatur District for 1965-66 will amount to about \$300,000 since it will apply to only 5 of the 12 months. In 1966-67 this increase in state funds will be about \$700,000 total since it will be for the full 12 months.

The state legislature increased the flat grant per pupil in average daily attendance to \$47 for all pupils grade 1-12 (previously for secondary it was \$32). The "foundation level" was increased from \$252 to \$330; however, the qualifying rate was also increased from 67¢ to 90¢ per \$100 assessed valuation thus making the increase proportionately less.

As you know, the state legislature says each child is entitled to a minimum amount of education, the "foundation level", formerly \$252 per year, now \$330. In order to provide this the state has an equalizing formula. To get state equalizing funds a school district must tax itself the amount of the qualifier, formerly 67¢, now 90¢. The amount of equalization paid by the state to any district is \$330 per pupil in average daily attendance minus the sum of the flat grant and the amount produced by the 90¢ qualifying rate applied to the assessed valuation of the school district. Additional funds for better than this minimum must be voted by local districts.

Summary of Information

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Pupils enrolled	14,000	21,000	21,500
Elementary school buildings	20	27	30
Junior High school buildings	4	4	5
High School buildings	1	4	4
Teachers	522	925	
Average cost per pupil	\$299	\$519	
Education Fund Tax Rate per \$100	\$1.40	\$1.80	
Assessed Valuation			

Mrs. Thomas L. Hurst, President

Mrs. Don R. Livergood, School Study
Chairman

APRIL 19, 1965

DEAR LEAGUE MEMBER,

WELL, HERE WE GO AGAIN! SURELY 1965 WILL BE KNOWN AS "THE YEAR OF THE BALLOT" IN DECATUR.

ON SATURDAY, MAY 8, RESIDENTS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT # 61 WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE ON A \$3 MILLION BOND ISSUE TO PROVIDE FOUR BUILDINGS - THREE NEW ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS AND THE CONVERSION OF THE PRESENT MOUND ELEMENTARY BUILDING TO A JUNIOR HIGH. DECATUR HAS NOT VOTED FOR NEW BUILDINGS SINCE 1956. IN SEPTEMBER, 1956, THE ENROLLMENT WAS 14,772; IN SEPTEMBER 1964, THE ENROLLMENT WAS 20,721 - AN INCREASE OF 5,949 PUPILS.

WE ARE ENCLOSING THE FIRST FOUR PAGES OF THE FACT SHEET OF MARCH, 1965. IT EXPLAINS THE LEAGUE POSITION AND GIVES THE FACTS ON WHICH THE POSITION IS BASED. ALSO, THIS COMMITTEE IS PREPARING A FLYER SIMILAR TO THE COUNCIL-MANAGER TO BE DISTRIBUTED SOON.

IN A STATEMENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON JANUARY 26, 1965, THE LEAGUE ASSURED THE BOARD OF OUR SUPPORT FOR A BUILDING BOND REFERENDUM.

"ALTHOUGH THE LEAGUE IS ON RECORD AS SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN THE EDUCATION FUND TAX RATE, WE RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULTY OF DETERMINING THE EXACT AMOUNT NEEDED AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS IS UNDETERMINED. HOWEVER, FUNDS FOR BUILDINGS MUST COME FROM LOCAL SOURCES ALONE AND BUILDINGS ARE NEEDED IMMEDIATELY IN THE DECATUR DISTRICT. THEREFORE, THE LEAGUE URGES THAT THE BOARD CONSIDER SUBMITTING A BUILDING BOND REFERENDUM ALONE TO THE VOTERS AT THIS TIME. YOU WOULD HAVE OUR SUPPORT."

(FOR THE FULL STATEMENT SEE THE FEB. BULLETIN)

MAY 8 IS NOT FAR AWAY. WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO. USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK OUT IN FAVOR OF THE REFERENDUM. THE FLYERS WILL BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION THIS WEEKEND. IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION AS TO PLACES TO SEND FLYERS, OR IF YOU CAN HELP WITH THE DISTRIBUTION, CALL JANET (877-5498), MYRA (428-2993) OR MARILYN MILLER (428-1748).

IN THE WORDS OF THE ANONYMOUS WRITER OF THE ANTI-COUNCIL-MANAGER LEAFLET, THE "NICE WOMEN" OF THE LEAGUE HAVE ANOTHER "BURDEN" TO CARRY!

MYRA BECKER, SCHOOL STUDY CH., 1965
JANET WESTENHAVER, CH., 1962-1965

This workshop has completed a two-year study of the financial problems and space needs of District # 61. This fourth report is concerned with space and staff needs from 1963-64 through 1968-69.

SPACE NEEDS

In an interview with Miss Charlotte Meyer, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools, this committee was given the following figures for projected enrollments at the elementary level. (K-6)

<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>
<u>12,102</u>	<u>12,244</u>	<u>12,362</u>	<u>12,378</u>	<u>12,355</u>

For 1963-64 there are around 12 thousand elementary pupils (11,933) so that by 1968-69 school officials are anticipating an increase in enrollment of 400 - 500, based on a static Decatur population.

Miss Meyer outlined for this committee on January 29 a building program which was essentially the same as Mr. Grant presented to the Board of Education on February 25 and which was published on February 26. Here is our summary of these reports:

TO BE READY BY:

September, 1966

	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
South Shores # 2 (est. 13 rooms)	210 (about 7 rooms) (10 $\frac{1}{2}$ rooms by '67)
Oak Grove # 2 (est. 10 rooms)	222 (about 8 rooms) (10 rooms in '67)
Baker Woods Junior High (600 optimum) (airport area)	536
* * * * *	* * * * *
	*TOTAL COST \$2,320,000

September 1967

	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
Mound East (est. 10 rooms)	}-----582 pupils or about 21 rooms in '67
Mound West (est. 15 rooms)	
Eldorado Addition	
* * * * *	* * * * *
	*TOTAL COST \$1,508,000

September, 1968

	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
Mound Junior High (600 optimum) (remodel and addition to present building)	295 (from Mound and Pershing Elementary School areas)
* * * * *	* * * * *
	*TOTAL COST \$ 754,000

<u>GRAND TOTAL</u> \$4,582,000

A South Shores # 2 school would:

1. eliminate the necessity to transport kindergarten pupils from South Shores # 1. (In 1963-64, 180 are transported to other buildings. In 1964-65 about 3 more rooms in addition to the kindergarten pupils will have to be transported to other buildings.) (180 Kindergarten pupils = $3\frac{1}{2}$ rooms or 7 classes in $\frac{1}{2}$ day sessions)
2. permit a more desirable class size at South Shores # 1. (This year the average class size for the whole school is 32.4. The third grade average is 38.3. If class sizes were reduced to 28 and if kindergarten pupils were accommodated at South Shores, $7\frac{1}{2}$ more rooms would be needed this year.)
3. provide for increased enrollment in the South Shores area due to new residential construction in that area.

An Oak Grove # 2 school would:

1. provide space for the Oak Grove pupils who are now transported to the Garfield School. (In 1963-64, 55 pupils were sent from Oak Grove to Garfield.)
2. provide space for the pupils from the Wilcox Addition who are now transported to Garfield School. In 1963-64, 39 pupils were sent to Garfield.)
3. permit a more desirable class size at Oak Grove # 1 where the average this year is 31.9.
4. permit a more desirable class size at Garfield where the average this year is 29.7.
5. eliminate the necessity for using auditorium space at Garfield for classrooms.

The Mound East and Mound West Schools would:

1. replace the present Mound Elementary School which is proposed to be remodeled into a junior high school.
2. provide neighborhood schools in that area.
3. eliminate the necessity for elementary students to cross highway 51.
4. permit a more desirable class size in Mound where average class size this year is 32.6.

The addition to the Eldorado School would:

1. provide more classroom space which will relieve crowding at both Eldorado and Excelsior.
2. provide improved toilet facilities for pupils.
3. provide better central facilities such as nurses's room, faculty lounge, storage for instructional materials, etc. which are all now in the principal's office.
4. provide an enclosed connection between the classrooms.

Junior High Enrollment 1968-69 (based on 1963-64 enrollments in grades 2 & 3)

School	Optimum Size	No New Buildings	With Baker Woods & Mound Jr. High
Centennial	575	580	580
Johns Hill	750	880	757
Roosevelt	700	848	830*
Woodrow Wilson	600	664	407*
Lakeview		413	
	2625 spaces	3405 pupils	
Baker Woods	600	.	536
Mound	600	.	295*
	3825 spaces		3405 pupils

* Some pupils from the Roosevelt area could be transported to the Mound Junior High and to Woodrow Wilson.

A junior high at the Baker Woods site (airport area) would:

1. take 413 seventh and eighth graders out of Lakeview Junior-Senior High where there are now 1100 pupils in a building with an optimum capacity of 800.
2. take 123 seventh and eighth graders from the Muffley Elementary School area who now go to Johns Hill Junior High.
3. relieve crowding at Johns Hill and Lakeview. (See chart)

A junior high in the Mound School area would:

1. take 257 seventh and eighth graders from the Mound and Pershing area out of Woodrow Wilson Junior High.
2. take 18 seventh and eighth graders from the Pershing area out of Roosevelt Junior High School.
3. relieve overcrowding at Woodrow Wilson and Roosevelt. (See chart)

Why is the combination of Baker Woods & Mound Junior Highs better than Baker Woods & South Shores Junior Highs?

The Baker Woods-South Shores combination would relieve crowding at only three buildings, Lakeview, Johns Hill, and Woodrow Wilson, but it would leave Roosevelt "stranded" with an enrollment considerably over the optimum - about 5 rooms.

The Baker Woods - Mound combination would relieve crowding at four schools, Lakeview, Johns Hill, Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson.

Senior High Space Needs

This committee finds no particular reason for concern about space at the senior high level within the next five years. In an interview with Mr. Norman Gore, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, we obtained the following figures for projected enrollments in grades 9 - 12.

It is evident from these figures that there will have to be some shifting of school boundaries or retaining of the ninth grade in some junior high building in order to take the pressure off S. Decatur High School.

<u>Building</u>	<u>Optimum</u>	<u>1963-64</u>	<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>
S. Decatur	1800	1597	1883	1998	2105	2196	2260
Eisenhower	1700	1500	1546	1477	1472	1443	1376
Lakeview	800	717	755	750	734	724	747
MacArthur	1600	1557	1540	1406	1428	1499	1530

5900 spaces

5913

STAFF NEEDS

In order to keep up with increased enrollments and maintain the status quo in pupil-teacher ratio and program, 75 more teachers will be needed by 1968-69.

	<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>	<u>Total</u>
Elementary	7	7	4	0	2	20
Junior High	7	0	6	6	7	26
Senior High	13	0	6	7	3	29
						75

SOME COMMENTS ABOUT SCHOOL AUDITORIUMS

League members have indicated an interest in the controversy concerning auditoriums in elementary schools. Hopefully these few comments will be helpful.

Most people accept the advisability of having multi-purpose or all-purpose rooms. These rooms, particularly in suburban areas, serve primarily as the lunchroom facilities and as the place to conduct indoor physical education classes. You may recall that in the League report on programs in the Decatur Public Schools, it was pointed out that the Illinois Legislature has made daily physical education mandatory. The interpretation of the statutes in the Decatur district has been to require 20 minutes per day for grades 1 through 3 and 30 minutes per day for grades 4 through 6.

It would appear obvious that all-purpose rooms are constantly being used, for the P.E. program alone. A survey from Muffley School (which has both an all-purpose room and an auditorium) showed that the all-purpose room is scheduled for P.E. classes from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1:05 to 3:15 p.m. each day, with one exception---The band meets for 45 minutes once each week, because the orchestra is using the auditorium at the same time. This scheduling allows each class only two P.E. periods each week, with the third period every other week for fifth and sixth graders. Other P.E. period must take place either in the classrooms or outside. The room is used as a lunchroom from 11 to 1:05, including time to set up and clear away tables and chairs. Muffley can be considered typical of the size of many elementary schools in Decatur.

The Muffley survey also showed the use of its auditorium. The day is broken into eight periods and teachers sign up for use of the auditorium a considerable amount of time in advance. The principal states that there never have been more than three free periods in any one week. Some of the scheduled activities include: 1) Group singing by grade levels. 2) 4th, 5th and 6th grades assemble for Student Council discussions. 3) Programs by local resource people to supplement learning. 4) Many dramatizations and creative programs by the children, such as operettas, plays, often tied in with a study unit. 5) Patriotic assemblies and programs in recognition of holidays. 6) Marionette shows and plays, performed by outside groups. 7) Team teaching efforts, such as large group instruction in science for the fourth graders. 8) Educational TV viewing and film strip showings.

All-purpose rooms are sometimes built with a stage at one end, which makes possible its use as an auditorium by setting up chairs. But it is obvious the use of the room as an auditorium cuts into the amount of time it can be scheduled for P.E. classes. In addition, it should be pointed out that if a stage is included in the all-purpose room and the auditorium eliminated from plans, then the only money saving realized is limited to the cost of the seating area in the auditorium.

The cost of auditoriums in the three elementary schools to be built from the bond issue would be \$32,000 each, a total of \$96,000, or 3.2% of the \$3 million bond issue.

Those who oppose auditoriums feel that monies spent for this facility should be used for other purposes and they question the need for these facilities on the elementary level.

Perhaps the most important point for us to consider is not a judgment of the merits of auditoriums and/or all-purpose rooms or their uses, but to remember that the need for new schools NOW is critical and to be alert to the danger that a controversy over auditoriums could scuttle the building bond referendum.

We urge League members to work for the passage of the bond referendum regardless of their personal attitudes concerning auditoriums and to urge their friends and neighbors to do likewise.

--Myra Becker, Janet Westenhaver

(Over for facts about financing of auditoriums)

Financing Auditoriums

Most of you are aware of the fact that a Board of Education member, Joseph Katauski, has asked for the defeat of the school bond referendum because plans for elementary schools include auditoriums. He said he would ask for a new design eliminating auditoriums and for another referendum if the May 8th one fails. Since his objections are based mostly on cost, the school study committee has obtained the following information:

Putting together all the information obtained it ends up that doing as Mr. Katauski proposes, redrawing plans eliminating auditoriums and calling another referendum, only \$50,200 to \$60,200 could be saved. Or put another way, by spending this \$50,200 to \$60,200 more than his plan would cost all three auditoriums could be built. That would make each auditorium cost only about \$17,000 to \$20,000 more than Mr. Katausk's proposal.

From John Sweetnam, architect for the schools, it was learned that the cost of the seating area of an auditorium is about \$32,000; the cost of the stage is not included since if there is no auditorium the stage is placed in the all-purpose room. The seating area of an auditorium is less expensive than classroom space of similar area because an auditorium has cement block walls, no chalk boards, no built in wardrobes, shelves, closets, etc. Therefore the cost of auditoriums in the three elementary buildings to be constructed from building bond issue totals about \$96,000 or 3.2% of the \$3,000,000.

From Mr. Sweetnam it was also ascertained that the cost of redrawing plans leaving out auditoriums would be \$20,000 to \$30,000. This is because in the plan auditoriums are not placed at the ends of the buildings and could not simply be cut off like a couple of classrooms. Taking auditoriums out of the plans would require relocating stages and kitchens.

The same plan is to be used for all four elementary schools resulting in a savings of \$43,000. According to the bids received, if contracts for the first two buildings are awarded at the same time, \$3,300 will be saved. Bids were \$27,000 below estimates but if time has to be taken to redraw plans, Mr. Sweetnam said, the construction costs would be higher since skilled construction workers would be signed up for other projects.

From Sam Bliss, school comptroller, it was learned that the cost of having a referendum is about \$1,500 for salaries and supplies. It would be 60 days before another could be held.

Cost of redrawing plans, loss of other savings, and another referendum:

Cost of redrawing plans	\$20,000	-	\$30,000
Loss of savings in awarding two contracts at one time	3,300	-	3,300
Pro-rated loss in having 3 bldgs. alike instead of 4	11,000	-	11,000
Another referendum	<u>1,500</u>	-	<u>1,500</u>
	\$35,800	-	\$45,800

Net Savings (No auditoriums):

Cost of 3 auditoriums	@\$32,000	\$96,000
Cost to "save"	<u>\$35,800</u>	<u>- 45,800</u>
	\$60,200	- \$50,200

The President Speaks . . .

The League was most pleased when the Board of Education decided to submit to the voters a school building bond referendum alone and not coupled with an increase in the tax rate for the Education Fund. It is an opportune time to do this since there is no question that buildings are needed and a considerable length of time elapses between approval of bonds and completion dates of the buildings. It will not be known how much, if any, additional money from local property tax will be needed for the Education Fund until it is known how much the General Assembly and Congress vote for schools. In the meantime the badly needed buildings can be under construction.

It might be well to explain here to our new members why the League did not support the school bond issue referendum in the fall of 1962, but supports the present one. In 1962 three junior highs were proposed -- Baker Woods, Mound and South Shores -- with elementary children to use parts of Mound and South Shores. The League, after careful study, felt it could not justify three junior highs at that time; recognized that one was needed in Baker Woods and that a second would be needed in a few years but at that time it was not possible to determine whether it should be in Mound or South Shores; and that more elementary space was needed. The membership agreed last March that the proposed \$5 million building program adopted by the school board is a realistic solution to the immediate space needs of the district.

We all need to work hard and speak out every time we have an opportunity and make opportunities to stress the need for these schools. We have to point out that every area benefits--not only the ones in which the new schools are to be constructed. For instance, families living in the Woodrow Wilson and Roosevelt Junior High areas would be benefited by a Mound Junior High because children from Mound are now being transported to those two schools, making classes very crowded. Since all rooms in all buildings will be occupied by this fall, many more classes will be held in all-purpose rooms, former library rooms, on stages, etc. If more schools are not built, it seems likely that more all-purpose rooms (such as those at Dennis, Muffley, Pershing, etc.) will have to be given over for classrooms, thus eliminating the physical education program at those schools.

Another thing to point out in getting as many "yes" votes as possible in areas with old buildings is that much of the Building Fund is scheduled to go for repairs, remodeling, up-dating, etc., but if the bond referendum should fail, then these improvements might have to wait in order to use more of the Building Fund for new construction.

The cost is small -- only seven cents per \$100 assessed valuation, which is only \$4.20 on a \$10,000 house (assessed at \$6,000).

Our job does not end with convincing people the schools are needed -- what is equally important is making sure those who are for the referendum vote Saturday. Take a little time to call your friends to remind them to vote. You might make a special effort to call parents of very young children. They may not get special reminders from other sources.

Wednesday, May 5, is the last day to vote absentee at the Keil Building. Residents who meet all requirements except registration can register at the County Clerk's office through Friday and still be able to vote Saturday.

. . . Elise Hurst

*Lucille Crow
Chairman*

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur, Illinois
Illinois
STATE _____

ANNUAL REPORT 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

LOCAL PROGRAM

(Report each subject fully on a separate page. Three forms, including this one, are attached. Use extra pages if necessary.)

Subject:

Operation and Needs of the Decatur Public Library

1. League position (if any):

Following a comprehensive study the Decatur LWV recommended constructive planning and promotion for a new main Library Building.

The Library Resources Committee was continued as a local item to continue its study and to follow the City Plan Dept's proposed survey on the cultural needs of the community and to also follow proposed state library law legislation.

2. Publications issued (attach copy):

3. Activities during the year, including League meetings, action taken by League (testimony at hearings, ballot campaigns, letters, public meetings, important publicity, etc.):

The Library Resources committee held six study sessions during Jan-Feb, 1966, interviewed members of the Decatur Library Board and met with the Executive Board of the Friends of the Library Organization. Interviews were held with Mrs. Mary Howe, Librarian of the Decatur Public Library and Mrs. Edith McNabb of the staff. On Feb. 22, an all member meeting of the LWV will hear a panel present by the committee reviewing its work during the past year and including information on the new Rolling Praries Library System, new state Library laws, staff and salary changes. Correspondence between the committee and the City Plan Director regarding the proposed study of the cultural needs of the community including the library revealed that the city plan dept would not complete its survey until the end of 1966.

LOCAL LEAGUE Decatur

STATE Illinois

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

LOCAL PROGRAM

(Report each subject fully on a separate page. Three forms, including this one, are attached. Use extra pages if necessary.)

Subject: **Study of need for County Nursing Home**

1. League position (if any): **A County Nursing Home should be established if private operators do not provide additional facilities. League members agreed that a one year 'waiting and watching' period is advisable to observe:**
 - 1) **The impact of Medicare on the volume of nursing home patients**
 - 2) **the expansion of private nursing homes**

2. Publications issued (attach copy): **None**

3. Activities during the year, including League meetings, action taken by League (testimony at hearings, ballot campaigns, letters, public meetings, important publicity, etc.): **Findings of the Resource Committee were reported at 3 Unit meetings. During the study the Resource Committee interviewed local and state people involved. In all 10 interviews were held. Since some interviews were with more than one person, actually 17 persons were interviewed.**

Copy of news story attached.

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Has your Board any suggestions for changes in basic League policies. If so, please describe, giving reasons.

Count membership as of January 1 not an estimated March 31 count because the Jan. 1 date is more accurate. Many Leagues, including ours until a year ago, give 15, 14, or 13 months of membership for one year's dues for those joining in Jan. Feb. and March. Those members thus end up being counted in two years and sorry to say some do not join the next year. Thus the membership total is inflated unrealistically.

Perhaps something mentioned on other side might fit under this heading.

Have a "President Elect" so as to provide better leadership rather than often getting a President as of necessity who has not been thinking in terms during the previous year of being President and therefore not being as effective as she might have been had she been thinking about procedures and improvements.

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the National Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons.

More careful framing of consensus questions. On Human Resources we felt No. 2 which was really an afterthought should have come first and we felt No. 1 assumed a position had already been taken and this is not league approach. On appointment the questions were confusing in that II, A & B did not both ask for reasons, just A asked for reasons with B asking only for what amendment should provide.

Better titles for publications and articles in National Voter so as to let anyone reading title know what it might be about. "Prospects for Education & Employment" and "Rights of Another Nation" (publications) and "Variations on an Old Theme" (Voter article) are several examples. At the beginning of articles in Voter the IV item wording should be given with indication as to whether it is now being studied or on which there is a position. Too much is assumed that even long-time informed members don't always know.

Annual Report forms could be improved. At least have question at end of each for chair- men to report anything they have done which was not included in specific question. Not limp all state program together in separate sheets for reporting. For local and state program (and really national too) ask first for wording of item as to have more meaning when future officers look over former reports. Ask for name of chairman or person writing report - also for future use of local leagues, especially. Ask for number of members on committee and percentage of members hearing report.

See suggestions under state above, which would improve national too.

ANNUAL REPORT, 4/1/65 - 3/31/66

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS - Continued

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the state Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons and membership

Materials for study committees should be available sufficiently far ahead of when consensus is due so as to benefit from them.

Make "Time for Action" requests more clear - state at first and separate from rest specifically what is to be done and then get into explanation. Make perhaps sample paragraph which could be put in bulletin so that all Leagues emphasize the same most important points. Reminders that all members should be involved in action, especially letter writing, should be included in each "Time for Action." Suggest special mailing if bulletin won't be going out in time.

Has your Board any suggestions for improvements in procedures and services of the national Board? If so, please describe the improvements, giving reasons.

More careful framing of consensus questions. On Human Resources we felt No. 5 which was really an afterthought should have come first and we felt No. 1 assumed a position had already been taken and this is not League approach. On Apportionment the questions were confusing in that II. A & B did not both ask for reasons, just A asked for reasons with B asking only for what amendment should provide.

Better titles for publications and articles in National Voter so as to let anyone seeing title know what it might be about. "Prospects for Education & Employment" and "Rights of Another Nation" (publications) and "Variations on an Old Theme" (Voter article) are several examples. At the beginning of articles in Voter the LWV item wording should be given with indication as to whether it is now being studied or on which there is a position. Too much is assumed that even long-time informed L. members don't always know.

Annual Report forms could be improved. At least have question at end of each for chairmen to report anything they have done which was not included in specific question. Not lump all state program together ^{in questions wording but provide} three separate sheets for reporting. For local and state program (and really national too) ask first for wording of item so as to have more meaning when future officers look over former reports. Ask for name of chairman or person writing report - also for future use of local Leagues, especially. Ask for number of members on committee and perhaps number and percentage of members hearing report. See suggestions under state above, which would improve national too.