

League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois

REVENUE STUDY - Consensus of March Unit Meetings

Q. 3 - Would you support provisions allowing property to be classified (so that different kinds of property could be taxed at different rates)?

Answer: Yes

Q. 4 - Should classification be extended to create sub-classes within any of the following groups?

A. Real Property?

Answer: Any new article of the constitution should permit the General Assembly to create sub-classes as they deem necessary and appropriate.

B. Tangible Personal Property?

Answer: Yes

C. Intangible Personal Property?

Answer: Yes, or eliminate entirely and tax in different ways.

D. Should any of these kinds of property be exempt from taxation? Why?

Answer: Most intangible personal property should be exempt as a property tax and taxed in other ways. ✓ Tangible personal property (household goods and personal effects) should be eliminated from taxation.

Q. 5 - Should there be any exemptions from the property tax for religious, educational, or charitable purposes? Comment.

Answer: Yes - with reservations about income-producing properties.

Q. 9 - What other conclusions have you reached? (For example, limitations on tax rates, limitations on bonding power, or any others).

Answer: Bonding power should be limited.

Tax rates should not be limited by the Constitution. We feel the rates presently set by the legislature are too limiting but feel there is a need for some limit - established by statute not by Constitution.

It is our general consensus that all of the above answers to consensus questions hinge upon improvement of present assessment procedures. Assessors should come under civil service and be required to be tested and certified. This would encourage them to become professionally trained. This would also tend to make more uniform all the property assessments in the state. (Would this be possible under Sect. I, paragraph 3 of the proposed amendment?)

Some types on the basis of price value & will others by not on or appreciation value.

PRO create - personal property might be most equitably taxed on the basis of

To all League members in Decatur - ~~If you feel that~~ the above answers are ~~not~~ the general consensus on the specific questions, ~~your Revenue Study Committee invites your comments and suggestions at the April units.~~ These questions and answers will not go in to State headquarters until after the April units when we will determine consensus on sales tax and income tax questions.

A special fact sheet on sales tax and income tax will be mailed to you before the April units. There are two state publications which will also assist you in these areas. They are:
Revenue Review:

* Present Sources of Revenue for the State of Illinois 25 cents / copy

Revenue Review:
State Income Taxes 20 cents/copy

* This publication will be sent to all members who are on the subscription list.

To Mary Langenberg

LV of Decatur Board Meeting, Wednesday, March 16, 1965, 12:45, Elsie Hurst's, 2095 W. Sunset Ave., will include dessert as a salute to the last official meeting of this board. I hope you can all come but if you cannot please call your co-ordinator (Tenney, Fuller, or Kessler). EH

Agenda

Action on minutes mailed-Langenberg

Treasurer's Report-Mann

Nominating Committee Report-Manuell (Lola Smith will be our President next year!) Name delegate or delegates (we can have 2) to Nat'l Conv. in Denver May 2-6.

By-Law Changes-dues increase-Marilyn Miller, Budget Com. Chr. (see below)

Annual Meeting Part I -State Department Officers from Wash. at luncheon meeting. Election of Officers and By-law changes, suggestions for program for local study next year. Smith

Community State Dept. Meeting, March 31, 8:00 p.m. Millikin University

PTA sponsored Board of Education Candidates Meeting, Tuesday, March 29

Town(ship) Meeting (Decatur), Tuesday, April 5, 1:00 p.m. County Bldg.

Up for vote will be increase of Supervisor's salary from \$6500 to \$9000 for being in charge of poor relief (general assistance) Last year's Township Com. is finding out who recommends the increase and why and if there will be qualifications required such as a trained social worker, if salary is increased. Also up for approval is increase in assessor's funds to cover the quadrennial assessment of real estate required by law- assessor is asking for enough to employ professional appraisers for business property.

Revenue determine first part of consensus from March units-Verbanac

plans for April units and recommend publications for subscription service

Child Welfare- report at All-member meeting April 27-Limerick

recommend publications for subscription service.

Annual Meeting, Part II, May 10 (day or night?-scheduled for night but since program will be adopted and only those who can be free during day can work on studies should program be determined without help of employed members or those who cannot attend daytime meetings?) At this meeting Nat'l Convention report will be given and budget adopted. Kessler

District of Columbia Home Rule Action March 29-Kessinger or Kessler

Publications-Ruedi

Membership-Fuller

New Members

Attendance-Ritter

Other Committees

Suggested National Program (bring Nat'l. Board Report)-second round due April 11

Next Board Meeting- where? (present board and newly elected officers)

Decatur Voter-Dorner

Why dues should be increased: Each member costs our League \$8.10 for contribution to state for state and national services, bulletins, yearbook, and fact sheets. This does not include meeting places, expenses to send delegates to conventions and other meetings. Last year for finance drive members received a letter pointing this out and suggestion that \$3 at least be contributed. However, although member contributions amounted to more than ever in past and more members contributed than in past only a little over one-third of the members made a contribution and the amount was less than \$300. Had dues been \$8 we would have received from members \$450 over present dues-or \$150 more than came from member contributions. Since many contributions were considerably over \$3 we would still receive member contributions, in addition to the \$8. Only a little over a fourth of the members participated in finance drive, therefore many neither made a contribution themselves nor got any contribution from the community. Both the state and national boards recommend that dues be at least \$7.50. It has been found that membership does not drop when dues are increased.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST HALF OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILL.

March 31, 1966

A noon luncheon preceded the business meeting at the Hotel Orlando and was attended by 40 persons. Guest speakers following the luncheon were three State Department officials, Mr. Finn, Mr. Walter Mueller, and Mr. John Roach. Their talks were followed by a question and answer period. The business meeting began at 2:00 p.m. with Mrs. Thomas Hurst presiding.

Mrs. Hurst announced that the Annual Meeting will be held in two parts again this year. The first part will take care of the election of new officers and change in the by-laws. The second part in May will be for the adoption of local program and budget for 1966-67. The National Convention report will be given at the second half of the meeting also.

Minutes: The secretary, Mrs. Kingsley Langenberg, read the first half of the Annual Meeting minutes of March 9, 1965. They were approved as read.

By-Law Changes: Mrs. Hurst read the following by-law changes recommended by the Board which provide for creating a third Vice President and setting dues at \$8.00.

ARTICLE V, Sec. 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois, shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Third Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office the 1st day of April. The President, the First Vice President and the Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Second Vice President, Third Vice President and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

ARTICLE V, Sec. 3. The Vice President. The three Vice Presidents in the order of their rank, shall, in the event of absence, disability or death of the President possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The Vice Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate.

Mrs. Neal Doubleday made a motion that ARTICLE V, Sections 1 and 3 be adopted, seconded by Mrs. G. R. Cohn. Carried.

ARTICLE VI, Sec. 2. Dues. Annual dues of Eight Dollars (\$8.00) shall be payable on the first day of the month in which a member originally joined. Any member who fails to pay dues within two months after they become payable forfeits membership.

(Mrs. J.R. Miller, Budget Committee Chairman, gave an explanation of the dues change. She said that each member costs our League \$8.10 for contribution for state and national League services, bulletins, yearbook and fact sheets, and there are many other items in our budget. Both state and national boards recommend that dues be at least \$7.50.)

Mrs. G. R. Cohn made a motion that ARTICLE VI, Sec. 2 be adopted, seconded by Mrs. George Limerick. Carried.

Nominating Committee Report: Mrs. James Manuell, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented the members of her committee, Mrs. Dwight Nelson, Mrs. George Limerick, Mrs. L. B. Ritter and Mrs. L. L. Colvis, and thanked them for their work. Mrs. Manuell then presented the following slate of officers: President, Mrs. Clifford Smith, 1 year; First Vice Pres., Mrs. Harold Tenney, 1 year; Second Vice Pres., Mrs. Gerald Redford, 2 years; Third Vice Pres., Mrs. Thomas Hurst, 2 years; Secretary, Mrs. Robert Bowers, 1 year; Treasurer, Mrs. David Mann, 2 years. Directors: Mrs. Wesley Tilley, 2 years; Mrs. Gordon Axon, 2 years; Mrs. Robert Schade, 2 years; Mrs. Robert Butler, 1 year;

March 31, 1966

Mrs. E. H. Jurgens, 1 year. (Mrs. George Limerick will be serving the second year of a two year term as director.)

The President will be elected for one year in order to comply with the schedule in the by-laws. The First Vice President and Secretary will be elected for one year in order to fill unexpired terms.

Three directors are to be elected each year for two year terms. This year two additional directors must be elected for one year terms to fill the vacancies created by resignations of two of the directors elected last year.

Nominating Committee: Mrs. Thomas Protzman, Chairman: Mrs. Glenn Fuller, Mrs. William Miller.

Mrs. Hurst asked for additional nominations from the floor, with the consent of the person being nominated, and asked the nominees present to stand for introduction. There were no further nominations. Mrs. Neal Doubleday moved that the secretary cast the vote of the assembled members for the nominees presented. Mrs. Hilmer Landholt seconded the motion and it carried.

The meeting was opened for the members to make suggestions for the local program.

Mrs. Walker Mills moved that the Annual Meeting be adjourned until May 11.

Mrs. Hilmer Landholt seconded the motion and it carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Langenberg, Secretary