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## The Maine Voter vol. XVII, no. 3 (Nov 1969)

Maine League of Women Voters Staff

*Maine League of Women Voters*

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# The MAINE VOTER

Published by The League of Women Voters of Maine  
P. O. Box 151, Orono, Maine 04473

VOL. XVII

NOVEMBER, 1969

Number 3

## LOOKING FOR CONSENSUS ON AIR

At the 1967 State Convention, air and land were added to the water resources item. Since local Leagues have had more than two years to include a study of air in their program, the time is at hand for members to determine the areas of agreement. It is hoped that by Council in May, 1970, a state League position on Air can be announced. Local Environmental Resources committees now have Part II AIR of The Guide. Soon they will be asking members for their opinions on Air Pollution as it pertains to Maine. Prepare yourselves by watching for items in your local newspapers and in national magazines. (*Time* magazine now has a weekly section on Environment.\* The November 4 issue of *Look* has a long and striking article which includes information on air pollution.) *Maine Times* is conscientious in calling attention to pollution. Bulletins from the Natural Resources Council, Environmental Improvement Commission and Clean Air Committee of the TB and Health Association, all in Augusta, are free for the asking. A good discussion of the Federal Law may be had by writing for CLEAN AIR AND THE LAW—WHAT THE AIR QUALITY ACT OF 1967 MEANS from the National TB Association, 1740 Broadway, New York 20201.

Investigations on your own, or in groups, can be made into methods used by your community for getting rid of solid waste, type of fuel used by city-operated plants (fossil type fuels are notorious air polluters), and methods used by industrial plants in your locality for controlling air pollution.

Also, efforts should be made to look at the other side of the coin. What help is being given to industry to meet the cost of air pollution control devices? Is industry making an honest effort to reduce pollution? A conversation with the person in charge of the scientific research of air polluting industries of your locale will give information for your answers to the above questions.

The state Board wants the consensus on Air to emerge from the local Leagues. Report of discussions, opinions, member agreement, divergent points of views—all of these will be needed to formulate the proper consensus questions. The following are some areas to which you should give consideration:

1. How stringent should a Maine air pollution law be? For example, should the discharge license be revoked if violated? Should the license be granted for a defined period, subject to renewal? Should the Environmental Improvement Commission be allowed to inspect equipment?

2. How should emergency situations be provided for if an industry violates its discharge license?

3. In the future how should damages caused by air pollution be met? Should the state and citizens be allowed to sue?

4. How should air pollution from open-burning dumps be controlled? incineration? sanitary landfill? both?

5. Should legislation on disposal of solid waste provide for regionalization?

6. What other questions concerning air pollution should members be asked?

\*Maine is highlighted in the October 31 and November 14 issues.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MAINE VOTERS

Through their support of the 50 million dollar bond issue for pollution abatement facilities, municipalities in Maine are now able to go ahead with their clean water schedule.

The citizens of Maine, as well as those of other states, realized that the situation is critical and have placed a priority on environmental improvements through pre-payment of parts of the authorized federal share.

This is certainly a giant step in the right direction, but municipal wastes are a small part of the total pollution picture. Let's not forget that this bond issue, which will aid only municipalities, will solve but a small part of Maine's pollution problem. Industry must also be encouraged to do its share in cleaning up our waters.

## MEMBERS - AT - LARGE

We proudly list the names of the Maine League's twenty-one members-at-large. These members receive League publications and take part in our programs and activities as much as possible.

Mrs. George Bowman, 49 Blake Street, Presque Isle  
Mrs. Francis P. Bowles, Box 245, Matinicus  
Mrs. M. F. Blouin, Old Joy Farm, South Berwick  
Mrs. Russell Bryant, Box 158, Cape Porpoise  
Mrs. Orrin Cilley, Box 96, Mason  
Mrs. H. King Cummings, Newport  
Mrs. Carroll P. Daiute, RFD, Waldoboro  
Mrs. A. U. Desjardins, South Bristol  
Mrs. Roland B. French, 16 Water Street, Eastport  
Mrs. Ray Gibbons, RD 2, Harrison  
Mrs. Theodore Hauschka, RFD 1, Box 80, Damariscotta  
Mrs. Elliott Hedge, Medomak  
Mrs. C. G. Russell Johnson, Box 289, RFD 1, Madawaska  
Mrs. E. Wade Koons, 5 Winter Street, Waterville  
Mrs. W. B. Miller, 3 Mount Merici Street, Waterville  
Mrs. George M. Rogers, Pasture Hill, Litchfield  
Mrs. Jack Russell, 49 Woodlawn Avenue, RFD 1, Kennebunk  
Mrs. Arthur W. Rand, Box 37, West Southport  
Mrs. Larry W. Seymour, 7 Bernet Avenue, Waterville  
Mrs. Harris H. Thomas, Box 242, Castine  
Mrs. Fred Townsend, Stratton

## WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

For those of you who missed it:

Depending on your temperament, you missed either an injection of League adrenalin or escaped the feeling of frustration that there is just too much! The discussion following the report on the Structure and Procedure Conference focused on the question of how much study before action. It was generally agreed that League effort is respected for its responsible action resulting from study. However, perhaps the time for study could be reduced without loss of depth. After attending many League conferences, some felt the flexibility of the present League structure allows for quite a lot of room for change without Bylaws changes.

The discussion on the Action Conference seemed to point up the love of Leaguers to talk League. We started from accepting without guilt the fact that we are a middle-class organization. We can reach out to others by **listening** to all, offering to cooperate with other groups. We should take a leap into the MacLuhan era and use ETV and public affairs programming on commercial TV for getting our message across, especially in the area of Voters Service (as Bangor League did last month).

Willabelle Zabel and Peggy Dunham shared with us their enthusiasm for the Wingspread Conference in Wisconsin. Their report can be read in this *Voter*.

### Capsules from Committee Meetings:

**Environmental Resources.** Plans for reaching consensus on Air were covered. Suggestions for using ETV seminars on air pollution pointed up the possible use of TV for later discussion.

**Local Program Planning:** Involvement was the word: more membership involvement in picking the item, reaching conclusions and, above all, planning for action was urged.

**Foreign Policy:** The mechanics of speakers' bureaus and public meetings involving other organizations were discussed. We should aim toward a greater understanding of our liberal trade policy among members here in Maine.

**Finance Workshop:** A discussion of housekeeping efforts to adequately prepare for the Spring finance drives and preparing League budgets brought forth many questions. The

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Editor: Mrs. James M. Clark

President: Mrs. Lowell W. Zabel, P. O. Box 151, Orono 04473

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state League hopes to follow this up with regional workshops.

In summary, League spirits were lively and we are well on the way toward our goal of effective League activity in all of these areas.

## STATE LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS

Each local League should have available several copies of the state League's publications list. These publications may be used as a springboard for news releases with local news media or for encouraging a friend to join the League. Some are designed for informing the public about the functions of state government and others are helpful door-openers as we prepare to launch our Spring finance drives in our local communities.

We hope that local chairmen of the Finance, Membership, Voters Service, and Public Relations committees will consider the value of state publications to make their jobs as effective as possible.

## DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

A unique opportunity to gain greater insight into the problems of developing countries was given League members at the Wingspread Conference in Wisconsin in October. This was sponsored by the LWV Education Fund in cooperation with the Johnson Foundation and the Overseas Development Council. League delegates with foreign policy background were invited from fifty states to hear such experts as Lester Pearson, Nobel Peace Prize winner and former prime minister of Canada, C. N. Narasimhan, Deputy Director, UN Development Program, and Leroy Wherle, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institute.

The Conference stressed a global approach to development and emphasized interdependence on our planet. In the words of Mr. Pearson, "It becomes more apparent with every passing day that the interests of each nation and each man are inseparable from those of all others. It is now almost without reason to ask where one nation will be 25 years from now without at the same time asking where the world will be." With the space age, "What was remote is now familiar," and there is a dawning "understanding of our village world."

The self-interest of all nations, both rich and poor, demands a cooperative world approach both in trade policies and in the management of development assistance. Aid for development must be greatly increased. Otherwise, widespread hunger, unrest, violence and revolution will undoubtedly result. The developing countries themselves have carried and will continue to carry the major responsibility for their own growth. But, as Mr. Narasimhan remarked, "One cannot jump three-quarters of the way across a ditch."

P.S. A new set of slides with script, "Development is . . ." has been purchased by the state League office. It may be borrowed without cost on a reservation basis.

## ANNIVERSARY PLEDGE REMINDER

You League members who pledged a 50th Anniversary gift for some future date may think that the national Campaign office has overlooked your pledge because you have not received a reminder notice from headquarters. Rest assured this is not the case. All reminders will come at the conclusion of the quarter in which you pledged. Campaign contributions to honor pledges should be sent to the LWV of the United States, 28 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.