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THE VOTER



VOL. 10, NO. 1

The League of Women Voters of Maine

OCTOBER 1992

'YES' ON RECYCLING BOND QUESTION, NOV. 3



In addition to marking the ballot for candidates for local, state, and national offices, Maine voters will be asked, on November 3, to decide on 6 bond issues and 3 constitutional questions.



Our State Board, at its September 10 meeting, analyzed each of the ballot issues in relation to previous consensus and resulting position statements, and recommended support for Bond Issue No. 1, which would raise funds for recycling facilities and closure of landfills. Although some other bond issues appeared consistent with League positions, the Board had questions on details of the proposals.

Listed below are the bond issues and constitutional questions in the order in which they will appear on the Nov. 3 ballot; however, the standard introductory phrases ("Do you favor..." or "Shall a bond issue be approved..." and amounts "not to exceed") have been omitted.

BOND ISSUES

1. \$10,000,000 for the purchase of recycling equipment and facilities and for the closure and remediation of solid waste landfills by municipal and regional organizations.

A "YES" vote is urged. Both national and state League positions support policies to reduce the generation and promote the reuse and recycling of solid wastes. Previous legislation mandated the closure of landfills.

If approved, \$5,000,000 would be expended by the Maine Waste Management Agency (MMA) on grants and loans to municipalities and regional associations for recycling equipment and facilities; and \$5,000,000 would be expended by the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) to assist in planning and make grants to municipalities and regional organizations for landfill closure and remediation.

2. \$6,000,000 to help municipalities pay for the repair and improvement of publicly owned port facilities, under the direction and supervision of the state Dept. of Transportation.

3. \$8,000,000 for capital repairs to state facilities.

If approved, the Bureau of General Services in the Dept. of Administrative and Financial Services would expend the funds on repairs to meet health and safety codes and to comply with federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

4. \$12,000,000 for the construction of water pollution control facilities.

If approved, DEP would administer \$5,500,000 for a state revolving water pollution control loan fund; \$4,500,000 for construction of water pollution control facilities; and \$2,000,000 for small community and overboard discharge programs. *Continued on Page 2*

5. \$9,985,000 to create job opportunities for unemployed Maine people. If approved, funds would be used for unemployed persons enrolled in training programs offered by Maine's technical colleges.

6. \$3,000,000 for the acquisition of rail lines in rural Piscataquis, Penobscot, and Waldo counties to ensure the continuation of rail services.

If approved, proceeds would be expended under the direction and supervision of the State Commissioner of Transportation to purchase the entire line of the Belfast-Moosehead Lake Railroad from Belfast to Burnham Junction and the abandoned railroad line owned by the Maine Central Railroad Co. that runs from Newport to Dover-Foxcroft.

(All approved bond issues would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.)

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

1. A YES vote approves amending the State Constitution to clarify succession for positions of Treasurer of State and Secretary of State. If a vacancy occurs in these offices, the deputy Treasurer of State or the first deputy Secretary of State shall act as Treasurer or Secretary of State, respectively, unless the Legislature is able to elect a successor.

Currently, the Constitution makes no provision for these offices to be filled on an interim basis.

2. A YES vote on this amendment would provide that the Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, or its successor, would retain for its use all funds received by it in the course of its operation.

These funds include: Proceeds from the sales of Dept. licenses and permits; proceeds of the sale, lease, or rental of Dept.-owned property; and fines and penalties imposed for the violation of Dept. statutes.

The proposed amendment also specifies that the Legislature may control how the Dept. uses these revenues, as well as any federal funds which the Dept. may receive, by establishing special funds for specific Departmental purposes.

3. A YES vote approves amending the state constitution to provide state funding of any mandate imposed on municipalities.

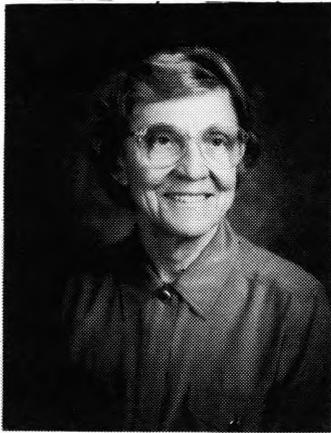
This amendment would prevent the legislature from imposing any new requirement on a municipality to expand or modify its activities if such action would cause the expenditure of local revenues, unless the legislature provides 90% of required funds on an annual basis or unless the legislature approves such action by a 2/3 vote of the legislators.

**Ruth Moss, Election Process and State Government
and
Pat Cyphers, Natural Resources**

The following policy on Letters to the Editor was approved at LWV-ME Board meeting of 3/11/92.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Letters sent to the VOTER Editor will be accepted from LWV members, based on space and appropriateness to current LWV program. Letters must be limited to no more than 100 words, in addition to the author's name, address, phone number and LWV affiliation.

From the President



It turned out to be a very busy summer and fall for the League, thanks mainly to the upcoming elections in November. We had numerous calls for information and requests for registration assistance, which we generously supplied. Our Voters Service Chair, **Pat Grunwald**, arranged for volunteers to work at 28 branches of Casco Northern bank registering Voters on Saturday morning, August 29. Other requests came from nursing homes, child care centers and various businesses.

Carol Fritz worked with the Portland newspaper to produce the **VOTERS GUIDE** on which she spent many hours preparing, mailing, contacting state candidates, proofreading, etc. She claims it was an intensive educational experience and interesting.

Jana Lapoint of the Portland Area League chaired the committee that organized the congressional debates for both districts that were aired on TV's CBS channel. Interest in the elections this year appears to be high for both national and state races which is a most encouraging sign that voters do want to Take Back the System!

Our two-day Board meeting/retreat in July focused on planning and discussion of the role of the State Board. That role should include working with local Leagues to make best use of our limited resources, to improve communication and to provide information reflecting member interest. Also suggested were workshops on issues for local Leagues. The Board spent time discussing how to increase our visibility in Augusta at committee hearings and with the state Legislature. This might include a paid or volunteer lobbyist. One thing was clear and that was an emphasis on action.

Planning has already begun for our **Keys to the Capitol** day in March and for our **State Convention** in May which will be announced in the January **VOTER**. In January we will also begin to reach consensus on the last stage of the Health Care Study.

Membership has to be a major focus. While we continue to attract new members, some of whom are transfers from other states, we also face the prospect of losing one or two Local Leagues. The York County League is experiencing difficulties and the Bangor League will be officially disbanded. However, every effort will be made to reorganize these Leagues and/or to establish new ones where we seem to have the most interest. We appear to be ready for the new League year, and we hope you are, too.

A new League Directory will be sent to all members this fall. The Directory may be substituted for local League directories. It should be noted that this Directory is for internal use only.

--MARION HOLSHOUSER

IS THE U.S. NUMBER ONE?

"We're Number One in percentage of population who say they take an active interest in politics."

"We're Last [15th] in Voter Turnout"

(From We're Number One, by Andrew L. Shapiro. Vintage Books, May 1992)

THE DELIVERY AND FINANCING OF HEALTH CARE IN MAINE

The LWV consensus following the first phase of our national study provided a definition of what health care should be - in Maine as throughout the country. Now that we have agreed on what a health care system should encompass, we are moving on to discuss alternative ways of financing and administering the system. We approach this on two parallel tracks: the national level and the state level.

Assumption 1. that the search for a better system for delivery and financing of health care on a state-wide basis, is necessary for as long as we do not have a nation-wide system for health care. Endorsing the former does not mean that we are not supporting the latter.

Assumption 2. There will be some specific state legislation proposals, and LWVME should have a consensus sufficiently clear and specific to shape our lobbying and educational efforts on this issue.

Throughout the nation, most state efforts to improve health care services have been incremental rather than comprehensive in nature. In part, this has reflected the political reality: despite the many deficiencies apparent in our health care system, there are vested interest groups that exert political and economic pressure to resist change. Although several states are moving along the path that leads to a state health care system, so far Hawaii is the only state that has achieved one. A major question that we must answer in our consensus, therefore, is whether to seek incremental changes which will lead to the evolution of the kind of health care system we want or to work for a comprehensive change and restructuring of the way in which health services are financed and delivered.

In this context, it may be helpful to consider the groups that are provided with insurance for basic health care needs. Alternative methods of providing health care coverage to those now uninsured might be achieved through the expansion of one, or more than one, of these programs: work-based insurance, Medicaid, Medicare or the State Bureau of Health. We will review the mechanisms for funding and distributing services for each of these programs and discuss ways in which each could be expanded to provide a comprehensive health care system for every Maine resident.

Alternatively, we will be studying the advantages and disadvantages of seeking comprehensive and sweeping change through one of the two programs that have been developed and advocated in various states: the "all-payer model" and the "the single payer model"

Our LWV Maine Health Care Committee has developed a guide for study and discussion of these issues, as preparation for the consensus questions we will be answering in January. We hope this study will have the active involvement of all of our members who are able to participate in a local league program.

<p>For our many members at large who are unable to attend the meetings of a local league, we will be happy to furnish a copy of the eleven-page "Study Guide". For your copy of the guide, please write to: Ruth Benedikt RR 8, Box 5559 Brunswick, Maine 04011.</p>
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STATE HEALTH CARE CONSENSUS COMING IN JANUARY

These are the questions we'll be asked to answer in January when we take our consensus on state health care. As noted in Ruth Benedikt's article on the preceding page, if you would like more background information from the state League's Health Care Committee, ask Ruth Benedikt (RR 8, Box 5559, Brunswick 04011, or Ph. 442-0445) to send you a packet.

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS

1. Our present health care system is treatment-oriented rather than prevention oriented. What would contribute to the goal of developing a strong and comprehensive preventive health program? (Check the level for each item according to the value you place on that choice.)

Very Important	Less Important	Not Important	
_____	_____	_____	A. Better teacher training in health education
_____	_____	_____	B. Strengthening school health curriculum
_____	_____	_____	C. More accessible birth control information
_____	_____	_____	D. Strengthening OSHA (Occupational Health and Safety Admin.) rules and enforcement.
_____	_____	_____	E. Strengthening DEP (Dept. of Environmental Protection) air and water quality rules and enforcement.
_____	_____	_____	F. Mandated state insurance coverage for more diagnostic testing
_____	_____	_____	G. Community clinics for free diagnostic testing
_____	_____	_____	H. Mobile diagnostic testing units in rural areas
_____	_____	_____	I. Community clinics for prenatal care
_____	_____	_____	J. Mobile units for prenatal care in rural areas
_____	_____	_____	K. More health programs in senior citizen centers
_____	_____	_____	L. More preventive care offered through hospitals
_____	_____	_____	M. Health education services offered through public libraries
_____	_____	_____	N. Preventive health services offered through schools
_____	_____	_____	O. Adopting the HMO model throughout Maine
_____	_____	_____	P. Other _____

2. Approximately 87% of Maine's residents have health insurance although coverage for many is below the standards of care recommended in the LWVUS consensus. Would you favor:

(These are mutually exclusive responses: select one.)

- _____ A. Expanding one or more of the existing programs to provide coverage for those now uninsured.
- _____ B. Creating a new and separate program to provide coverage for all Maine residents now uninsured
- _____ C. Creating a unified state health care program that provides coverage for all residents in the state, including those now insured. (This would require waivers from the federal government for federal programs now dedicated to specific groups and programs.)

Continued on Page 6

3. If you selected "A" in question 2, (provision of health care insurance to the uninsured through expansion of one of the existing programs), would you favor: *(More than one response may be selected)*
- A. Raising the Maine income level for Medicaid eligibility to a level that would cover more (or all) of those presently unable to pay for health insurance coverage
- B. Expanding the program and budget of the Bureau of Health to provide for more preventive and risk reduction programs
- C. Expanding the Maine Care program to cover all the working uninsured and their dependents
4. If you selected "B" in question 2, (a state health care program to provide coverage for those now uninsured, would you support: *(Select one.)*)
- A. A program primarily funded by the state government
- B. A program funded partially by the state government and partially by the private sector (employers and employees)
- C. A program funded by state government, local government and the private sector
5. If you selected "C" in question 2, (the creation of a unified state health care system), would you favor: *(Select one)*
- A. A multi-payer system, to allow competition among providers for the most cost-effective service
- B. A single-payer system, to minimize administrative costs
6. Health care regulation has shaped the choices and decisions of consumers and providers. Would you favor:
- (These are mutually exclusive responses: select one.)*
- A. Deregulation or decreased regulation of providers to promote competition, reduce costly documentation and reporting requirements and, theoretically, reduce costs
- B. Increased regulation, to place tighter controls on providers and, theoretically, reduce costs.
7. To ensure that hospitals can operate cost-effectively and maintain their infrastructure, would you support: *(More than one response may be selected.)*
- A. Stricter regulation of providers for services which compete with those offered by hospitals
- B. Allowing hospitals to charge according to their maintenance costs and seeking savings elsewhere
- C. Direct state subsidies to hospitals
- D. Encouraging hospitals to provide more community outreach programs for preventive health care
- E. Other _____
8. In order to control spiraling health care costs, which of these control methods would you support: *(More than one response may be selected.)*
- A. Pegging hospital cost increases to some standard economic indicator; e.g..consumer price index
- B. Establishing a state-wide health delivery system with a managed care system
- C.. Establishing a state-wide system of rationing for very expensive medical procedures.
- D. Create a state agency with authority for global budgeting of all health care services
- E. Seek economies primarily through emphasis on preventive medicine and primary care
- F. Other _____

DECIDING JUSTICE



Four Maine local Leagues will be participating in the "Deciding Justice" project described in the April 1992 VOTER, page 2. The sessions will be open to the public and will provide all participants with an intensive introduction to the way the U.S. Supreme Court works and the impact of the Court's decisions on the rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

League members are encouraged to attend the sessions in or near your locale. Locations will be:
WINTER session (Jan-Mar) South Portland and Brunswick
SPRING session (Apr-June) York, Ellsworth

There will be six bi-weekly seminars led by scholars and based on readings in community libraries. Local leagues are co-sponsors along with the New England Foundation for the Humanities (which is funding the projects) and the local library. Participants will read from four books, including an anthology produced for the project.

Discussions will focus on the history of significant Supreme Court decisions, taking into account the social and political context of each case, the role of precedents, and the judicial as well as political philosophies of individual justices.

The decision to focus on the Supreme Court and the role of individual justices was taken, in part, as a response to 1) popular interest in the judiciary generated by the Bork, Souter and Thomas nominations, and 2) a greater recognition by the public that the composition of the Court directly affects our exercise of constitutionally protected rights.

Additional information will be in the January 1993 VOTER and in local League Bulletins.

NOV. '92 VOTERS' GUIDE AVAILABLE

Look for it in your local library
(a copy was sent to every library in the state)

OR

Order a copy from the Portland Area League.

Send \$1.50 to:

Carol Fritz

9 Hunt Club Woods

Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

The Guide contains information on 368 legislative candidates and was an insert with the Maine Sunday Telegram in September (exact date unknown by editor.)
Carol Fritz did the substantial work of gathering information and preparing the Guide.

RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION

FOR VOTERS' SERVICE

Under the leadership of Pat Grunwald of the Portland Area League, nineteen Leaguers registered new voters on August 29th. Space was provided by 18 Casco Northern Banks across the state, on that Saturday morning from 9 to 12.

Pat sends her thanks and appreciation to the following Leaguers (and one AAUW member who offered to help in an outlying area):

Carolyn Blouin	Elizabeth Brewster	Hillie Cass
Alice Conkey	Nancy Freeman	
Bettina Garber	Carol George	Pat Grunwald
Judy Harrison	Mary Hildebrandt	
Marion Holshouser	Judy Kimball	Jana LaPoint
Catherine Lynn	Barbara Midram	
Ruth Moss	Beryl Schwartz	Martha Skoner
	Carmen Wilder	

(It should be noted that the August 29 event was not the only voter registration by Leaguers for the forthcoming election.)

FOR HEALTH CARE RESEARCH

Under the leadership of Ruth Benedikt of the Brunswick Area League, the State Health Care Committee has researched health care coverage and financing problems specific to Maine, and has prepared A Guide for the State Study with supplementary bibliography.

As indicated in Ruth's article on Page 4, a copy of the Guide can be obtained by League members by requesting it from Ruth Benedikt, RR 5, Box 5559, Brunswick, ME 04011. Members of local Leagues may wish to check first with their local Health Care Committee chair to see if copies in bulk will be available for their League.

The State Health Care Committee members to be thanked for their work are:

Ruth Benedikt, Chair	Sally Bryant	Emily Farley
Ruth Irwin	Trudy Schneider	
JoAnn Withington	Lucy Woodward	Ann Yondorf

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

LWV-Maine has continued its participation in the work of the Campaign for Sensible Transportation to help develop rules which will implement Maine's new transportation policy. Ruth Benedikt, who prepared this update and the following request, succeeded Jane Lester as League's representative in May of this year. We applaud Jane for leading LWVME's efforts in last year's successful Campaign

It is expected that when the rule-making phase is completed, a draft of the proposed rules will be presented to the public through a series of open hearings, probably late this fall. We urge all League members to look for announcements of these hearings and to attend the one nearest and/or most convenient for you. Lend your voice in support of a "sensible transportation policy."

ROE V WADE

You are invited to meet

Sarah Weddington

The attorney who won Roe v Wade

8 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, October 17, 1992

Holiday Inn-by-the-Bay, Spring St, Portland

\$25 per person

FOR TICKETS:

Portland: Books, Etc. & The Whole Grocer
Brunswick: MacBean's Music Store
Waterville: Iron Horse Bookstore
Hallowell: Fremont & Julian's Cafe & Book Store

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622-7524

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
SAFE, INC.
& THE MAINE CHOICE COALITION**

For general information, call FPA at 622-7524

*Tickets may also be obtained from League member:
Martha Mickles
15 Lindenwood Rd.
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107*

DIRECT ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

LWVUS PRESIDENT BECKY CAIN TESTIFIES



Excerpts from testimony by Becky Cain before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution

Since 1970, the League has supported an amendment to the Constitution that would abolish the electoral college and establish a direct, popular vote for the President and Vice President of the United States.....

Political developments since 1970 have only underscored the need for the elimination of the electoral college system. The downward trend in voter participation, coupled with increasing citizen anger about the inability of elected leaders to provide meaningful representation, are the warning signs of a potential electoral fiasco.

.....In 1888, Grover Cleveland outpolled Benjamin Harrison in the popular vote but lost the electoral college vote by 233 to 168. It caused a public furor then.....

In the 20th century, we have only narrowly avoided a series of constitutional crises in which the electoral college could have over-ruled the popular vote.

In the 1916 presidential election, a shift of only 2,000 votes in California would have given Charles Evans Hughes the necessary electoral votes to defeat Woodrow Wilson, despite Wilson's half-million vote nationwide plurality.

In 1948, a shift of only 30,000 votes in three states would have delivered the White House to Governor Dewey, in spite of the fact that he trailed President Truman by some 1.1 million popular votes.

In 1960, a shift of only 13,000 votes in five states (5,000 in Ill., 5,000 in Mo., 1,200 in N.M., 1,300 in NE., and 200 in Hawaii) would have made Richard Nixon president.

In 1968, a shift of only 9,300 votes (5,600 from OH and 3,700 from HI) would have elected Gerald Ford, even though he trailed Jimmy Carter in the popular vote by 1.6 million ballots.

.....The current system is unfair for two reasons.

First, a citizen's individual vote has far more weight if he or she lives in a state with a small population than if that citizen lives in a state with a large population.

The system is also unfair because a citizen's individual vote has more weight if the percentage of voter participation in the state is low. For example, if only half of all people in Alaska vote, then each electoral vote is equivalent to roughly 56,000 people.

.....If only a few voters go to the polls, all the electoral votes of the state are still cast.....

Finally, the electoral college system is flawed because the Constitution does not bind the presidential electors to vote for the candidates to whom they have been pledged. For example, in 1948, 1960 and 1976, individual electors pledged to the top two vote getters cast their votes for third place finishers and also-rans. Defecting electors in a close race could cause a crisis of confidence in our electoral system.

.....Direct election is the most representative system. It is the only system that guarantees the President will have received the most popular votes.....

Of course, a direct popular vote does not preclude the possibility of a close three-way race in which no candidate receives a majority, or even a plurality of the votes. The League believes that if no candidate receives more than 40 percent of the popular vote, then a national run-off election should be held.

Until there is a constitutional amendment to abolish the electoral college, the League supports the early establishment of clear rules and procedures for the House and Senate to handle their responsibilities in electing the President and Vice President if there is no majority vote in the electoral college.

Procedures should be established to avoid the last-minute partisan wrangling that would inevitably take place as to which procedures will most benefit which candidate. We believe any congressional vote for President must take place in full public view, with individual representative's votes entered into the Congressional Record.

The time has come to take the next step to ensure a broad-based, representative democracy. Fairness argues for it. Retain the fragile faith of American voters in our representative system demands it. We urge the Senate and House to pass a constitutional amendment abolishing the electoral college system and establishing the direct popular election of our President and Vice President.

**EMILY FARLEY ASKS
WHAT CAN YOU AND I DO?**

The League has received a letter from Elizabeth Patterson of Georgetown, ME relating her friend's fearful existence in Dubrovnik, Croatia. She quoted: "We are prisoners in our homes. The Yugoslav Army refuses to leave our Territory. They do not respect the cease-fire, regardless of the monitors. How long before the civilized world takes action? We plead for help."

Mrs. Patterson also asks, "As a nation which puts human rights so high on our agenda, can we allow this 'ethnic cleansing' and suffering to go on?" She suggests that perhaps American women can write their Congressmembers to stress the need for immediate action.

Can we not urge our officials to see to it that the United Nations enforces the cease-fire more strenuously? Can we not also stress the urgent need for our U.S. representatives to the United Nations to work for the expansion of diplomatic efforts on a routine, systematic basis, which might anticipate and avert some crisis situations in the future?

Sen. Wm. S. Cohen, 322 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Geo. J. Mitchell, 176 Russell Senate Off. Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. Thom. H. Andrews, 1724 Longworth House Off. Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515

Rep. Olympia Snowe, 2464 Rayburn Bldg, Washington, D.C. 20515

--EMILY FARLEY, Portland Area League

EVALUATION PROCESS FOR COALITION MEMBERSHIP

The LWVUS, and to some extent the LWVEF, belong to a number of coalitions. We are active participants in many, attend or monitor others, and are nominal members of still more. The Action Committee and then the full board traditionally review current membership in coalitions at the annual Action Committee agenda-setting meeting and the following board meeting. This usually takes place in January. In addition to the organizational coalition review process, board members and staff are asked to advise the full board of any involvements with outside groups, including coalitions. Requests for joining coalitions are acted on by the board throughout the year as they arise.

Following are "questions and answers" used as guidelines for deciding whether to join, keep membership or drop membership in coalitions. While these guidelines are more appropriate for formal or ongoing coalitions, they apply to ad hoc coalitions as well. Many times, an ad hoc group evolves into a long-term coalition or, regardless of longevity, may require as great an expenditure of organizational resources as a more formal grouping.

1) Do the aims of the coalition mesh with League priorities?
This should be yes, recognizing that some coalitions may deal with many issues, some of which are not part of the League's program. But the major thrust of the coalition should be part of the League's program.

2) Are the issues and goals of the coalition timely on the state or nation's agenda?

This should elicit at least a qualified yes, acknowledging that some "back burner" issues should be timely national issues.

3) Are other members or proposed members in harmony with League positions?

This can have a variety of answers. It's an important consideration because it helps us evaluate old alliances and forge new ones.

4) Will coalition activity be more effective than the League acting alone?

While coalition activity by no means precludes the League from acting alone, coalition membership should enhance the League's ability to achieve the ultimate goal.

5) Are we confident in the leadership of the coalition?

The answer should be affirmative.

6) Will the League be a visible member of the coalition? Do we have expertise to provide?

Preferably yes. But there are exceptions in cases where the League may deliberately enter a coalition as a low-key participant in order to gain information about an issue which is not presently a top LWV priority. In every case, of course, we should be firmly committed to the League's name being attached to the coalition.

Continued on Page 13

NON-PARTISAN POLICY

1. ELECTIVE OFFICE --- Board members shall not be candidates for State partisan office and must resign when petitions are filed. The State president shall not be a candidate for nor serve in any elective public office.

2. POLITICAL PARTY OFFICE --- The president and voter service chair shall not serve in any position in a political party. Board members shall not serve as officers of a political party at the state level and shall abide by the local League's non-partisan policy regarding holding local party positions.

3. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS --- All board members may attend fundraising events and make campaign contributions.

4. POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS --- The president and voter service chair shall not chair or administer fundraising or political campaigns, chair a campaign event or work in a significant way in the campaign of a candidate for federal or state office. Other board members may undertake such activities for candidates for state or local office after consultation with the presidents and board of the local leagues involved.

5. ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION --- Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the state board where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question.

September 10, 1992

EVALUATION PROCESS FOR COALITION MEMBERSHIP

Continued from Page 12

7) Will the demands on staff and volunteer time in the coalition be worth the effort?

This is critical. We have to recognize that staff/board involvement in coalition activities means less time devoted to something else.

8) Will any cash or non-personal in-kind donations to the coalition be worth the investment?

We have generally been more receptive to coalitions which are "free" than those which require money. But the importance and effectiveness of the coalition, rather than the monetary considerations, should be the decisive factor.

9) The League representative to a coalition, of which the League is a member, must have the prior approval of the state League president before making any formal or public statement of League position on a specific issue. If the League disagrees with the majority opinion of the coalition, a public statement of the League's dissension should be issued.

July 21, 1992

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - MAINE
DEBATE AND CANDIDATE NIGHTS POLICY

Debates must:

- be fair and nonpartisan, assuring that all candidates have equal opportunities to express their views.
- include at least two or more candidates (Federal Election Commission's rules prohibit single-candidate "empty chair" debates. To hold one would be considered a contribution to the candidate).
- be structured in such a way that it does not promote or give advantage to one candidate over the other.
- have candidates appearing concurrently, in face-to-face appearances and confrontations.
- include all legally qualified candidates, defined as follows:
 - Has qualified for the ballot.
 - Has made a public commitment to being a write-in candidate.
 - Has made a substantial showing that the candidate is bona-fide by:
 - o distributing literature
 - o issuing press releases
 - o maintaining a campaign committee
 - o or establishing a campaign headquarters
(not all of which are required)
- if broadcast, be broadcast unedited and in its entirety.

In a primary election, a debate may limit participation to only those candidates who are seeking the nomination of one party, while declining to hold debates involving candidates for nomination to other parties.

July 24, 1992

MORE FROM WE'RE NUMBER ONE, Andrew L. Shapiro:

"We're Number One in total health spending"

"We're Number 13 in public health spending" (among 15 industrialized countries)

"We're Number One in preschoolers NOT fully immunized against polio and other diseases."

"We're Number One in death of children younger than five." (among 21 industrialized countries)

WASTE — RECYCLING



(Natural Resources Chair Pat Cyphers submitted the following report in response to a request for an article on her work)

On July 12, 1989, when HP 1025 LD1431 was approved by the Governor and became law, the Maine Waste Management Agency was established and Maine had one of the strongest Solid Waste Laws in the U.S. Having worked on and testified in behalf of this law, I was asked by the Hancock town selectmen to report to them and let them know what their responsibilities as set forth in this law would be. Informing them of the State goals of 25% reduction of waste by 1992 and 50% by 1994, they asked me to form a committee to accomplish this! We started to meet in the summer of 1989.

Realizing we had a better chance of obtaining a state grant if we went regional, we visited the selectmen in seven surrounding towns to get them to join us. When they heard that we would organize and set things up at no initial expense to them, they joined us. We applied for a grant from the Maine Waste Management Agency and although we did not receive the amount that we asked for, we did get \$90,000.

A site was located for a central processing facility where a building was built; collection stations were set up in each member town. "Coastal Recycling" became a corporation and went into operation in mid-February 1990. Within four months 40 tons were removed from the waste stream. Coastal is serving a year-round population of 8,600 and an additional 2,000 seasonal population. The towns consider the public information and education component of their program as the most important element in their success.

In the first year of operation, of the seven towns, all but one had increased their percentage of recyclables recovered. This is the third year and so far this year they have collected 186 tons and 156 tons have been sold. This is another success story of how the League of Women Voters can work with communities to accomplish a goal and improve the environment.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO TOWNS

On August 18, 1986, the Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRRA) was formed to (a) promote the development of professional solid waste standards and practices, (b) to further the development of recycling and other resource recovery management techniques, and (c) to assist with the marketing of recyclable and reusable materials. Following a study on August 18, 1992, the MRRRA formed a marketing cooperative to allow municipal recycling programs to jointly sell and transport materials they collect. It is expected that the higher volumes and quality of material sold by the cooperative market will command better prices from buyers over those paid to individual programs. This program is expected to start within the next year.

-- PAT CYPHERS

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