

League Helps Community

By CECILIA McMASTER

A Tucson group which is continually educating its members so that they may better know how to vote and take part in the government is the League of Women Voters. This non-partisan organization has as its aim the promotion of needed legis-

lation and the encouragement of citizens to become informed and take an active part in government.

Open to women of voting age and of all races and beliefs, the group encourages members to be active in their own political parties. The League as a whole does not support or oppose candidates or political parties.

The Tucson League of Women Voters was founded in May 1941. The national group grew out of the Woman Suffrage Movement when Carrie Chapman Catt and other leaders noticed that although women had the right to vote, they did not know how to vote.

Each month, members of the Tucson League have a general meeting and luncheon, two unit meetings and a workshop. The unit meetings are small discussion sessions at which items on the League program are discussed in neighborhood or regional groups.

In the workshops, members do research on subjects of current interest to the League. This knowledge is later disseminated to the members through the

units or talks at the general meetings.

Among the groups meeting at the present time are the Water Conservation Workshop and Liberty and Security Workshop. The Water Conservation group will cover a multitude of facets such as watershed management, underground sources, and pollution control in Arizona as well as nationwide.

In the second year of study, emphasis will be placed primarily on the national picture. This will include the need for a definite U.S. water policy which might establish such things as priority of projects, better coordination of government agencies and avoidance of duplication, what part state and local agencies should play, and a consistent standard of repayment of beneficiaries of government projects. This would be for such things as irrigation dams (reimbursement by users) and flood control dams (no reimbursement).

The Liberty and Security group will read and discuss eight League pamphlets. Some leaflets give background material on individual liberties. The remainder contain documents on the supporting federal loyalty-security program and proposals for reform.

Items of special interest to the League nationally are United Nations, collective security,

economic development, treaty-making power, world trade, budgetary procedures, tax rate limit, inflation and deflation, and home rule for the District of Columbia.

On the state level, items for study include "You and the State Tax Commission," "You and the Corporation Commission," and "You and the Land Commission."

There are 126,000 members of the League of Women Voters in the United States and 1,000 leagues, including groups in Alaska and Hawaii.

League officers are Mmes. David K. Wolfe, president; Mrs. Robert Miller, first vice president; Mrs. Lawrence Peifer, second vice president; Mrs. Dale Lillibridge, secretary; and Mrs. T. M. Patten, treasurer.

Directors are Mmes. Leslie Forster, Philip Mangelsdorf, William P. Hazard, James E. McDonald, Russell Hastings, C. N. Ramsey, Thomas Brown, Elizabeth Retter and L. Chester Bryant and Miss Henrietta Murphy.

Any interested woman may contact an officer or director of the league for further information.

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