

Many Interesting Discussions Held Woman Voters League Convention

The second annual convention of the Illinois League of Women Voters was held at the Congress Hotel November 14, 15 and 16. The morning sessions were given over to reports of the officers of the League, standing and special committees and of the different Leagues of the state.

The President, Mrs. Henry W. Cheney, gave a fine inspirational address which will be printed in the December Bulletin of the Illinois League.

The Report of the Fourth Regional Director, Mrs. Wm. G. Hibbard, was a record of energetic, successful organization work in her district.

The eight Round Table Conferences held in different rooms on the afternoon of the first day were an afternoon's discussion of a proposed program of work for the year.

The program for the Efficiency in Government committee, Mrs. Florence Bennett Peterson, chairman, includes:

A Study of Political Machinery. A Study Program to consider the Political Action of the Voter. A Study Program to consider Political Administration by Elected and Appointed Officials.

A few of the sub topics suggested are: Development of Political Parties; Party Organizations; How Candidates are Chosen and Platforms Made; The Election.

The legislative program of this committee included recommendations that we stand absolutely for a genuine merit system in all departments of government, and urge the extension of Civil Service laws to the Sanitary District of Chicago and the Cook County offices not now under Civil Service.

The Committee on Living Costs, Miss Florence Nesbitt, chairman, took for its discussion The Price of Coal. Mr. Thomas Tippet, Business Manager of the Federated Press led the discussion.

The Committee on Women in Industry, Miss Agnes Nestor, chairman, took as its subject: "Why an Eight Hour Day for Women in Illinois." It recommended that we work toward having the Women's Eight Hour Bill passed at the next session of the General Assembly.

In the Child Welfare Committee, Mrs. William R. Fringer, Chairman, The Sheppard-Towner Act was discussed by Dr. Anna E. Rude, United States Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C., and Dr. W. A. Evans, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Illinois Department of Health. They suggested a study of the scientific work being done in the laboratories of the country for the saving of child life and that we work for the passage of a law making compulsory the tuberculin testing of cattle.

The Social Hygiene Committee, Dr. Rachelle Yarros, chairman, had as its speakers, Judge Daniel P. Trude of the Morals Court and Miss Edith Abbott of the University of Chicago.

It was recommended that suitable courses be given in Social Hygiene in all of our schools and that these courses be taught by trained educators, biologists and social hygiene workers.

The main subject considered in the Training in Citizenship Committee, Mrs. May Wood Simons, Chairman, was, How may our libraries and our nearby Universities and Normal schools and colleges help us in the training in Citizenship? The speakers were Miss Ida Wright, Librarian at the Evanston Library and President of State Library Association, Professor P. Orman Ray, Northwestern University, Professor Charles E. Merriam, University of Chicago and Professor Edward Hills, Chicago Normal College. Professor Ray announced that a Citizenship School will be established at Northwestern University probably in January. The courses will be without charge and will be given by the instructors of the Faculty of Northwestern. These classes will be held in Harris hall. Professor Merriam also announced a University of Chicago Citizenship class to be held in January. The place of meeting has not been fully decided.

The Committee on Education, Mrs. Wm. S. Hefferan, Chairman, had as its subjects: Education and the Nation; Education and the State; Education and the City. The speakers on these subjects were William B. Owen, President National Education Association, Mr. A. W. Shelton, Chairman of the Illinois Educational Commission and Mr. Glenn Edwards, Chicago Bureau of Public Efficiency. Among the many excellent recommendations of this committee are: Progressive raising of the standards for the qualifications of teachers for the elementary grades. A more secure tenure of teachers in their positions so that they may not be dropped for light or trivial reasons. A reasonable term of office for the Superintendent of Schools for city systems. Provision for making physical education compulsory in all schools and for the training of teachers for physical education. The National League

of Women Voters has secured within the two years of its existence, the enactment of more than 60 measures in 28 states materially improving the legal and civil status of women.

The Committee on Uniform Laws Concerning Women, Miss Esther Dunshie, chairman, in its discussion on "Eligibility of Women for Jury Service" emphasized the point of exemption for mothers of young children in addition to the usual exemptions allowed men.

Other topics taken up in the meeting were: Just Civil service laws, the abolition of common law marriages and the equal guardianship by both parents of the persons and property of the children.

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to a discussion of the proposed new Constitution. Mrs. Catharine Waugh McCulloch gave a short history of the former Constitutional Conventions held in Illinois, as a Foreword to the program. Hon. Morton D. Hull spoke on "What is offered by the New Constitution. Ex-Governor Edward H. Dunne on "Why I Oppose the New Constitution" and Mr. Walter F. Dodd, a General Analysis.

On Thursday morning, Dr. Kirchwey's address on the "Importance of Recent Jail Survey Made in Cook County" was a conclusive argument for the total elimination of the Cook County Jail as it stands today. He is convinced that our way of handling crime promotes crime. 60,000 were arrested last year on suspicion many of whom were kept in jail

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Laymen Conduct Services at Baptist Church Dec. 3

Members of the Wilmette Baptist church are to witness a unique service at the church Sunday morning, December 3, when the Tenth Anniversary committee will be in charge.

Four men of the parish will make a graphic presentation of what are termed the "ten goals for which the church is striving in this the tenth year of its history."

Special efforts are being put forth to have the entire resident membership of the church present at this meeting.

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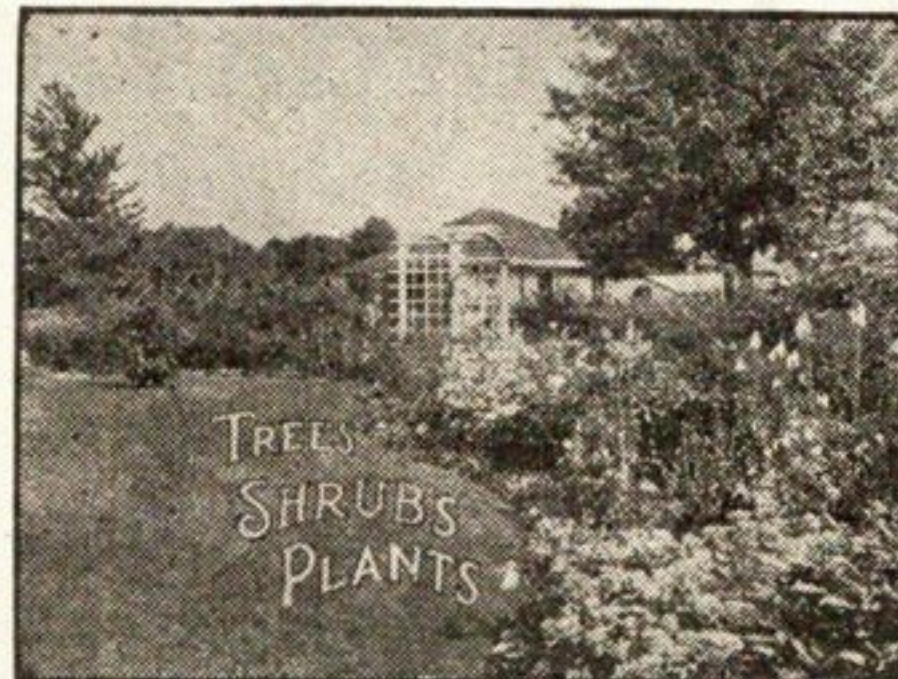
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