

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
DAYTON AREA CHAPTER

Wright State University
Archives and Special Collections

MS-123

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INTRODUCTION

The records of the Dayton Area Chapter of the League of Women Voters were accessioned into the Wright State University Archives and Special Collections Department in March of 1981. Ms. Sharon Harmer, a former League vice president, served as liaison between the University and the League in this transaction.

The papers in this collection date from 1920 to 1985 and fill 13 Hollinger boxes, 1 records center box, and 133 file folders. The collection is arranged into six series as follows:

- Series 1: Administrative Records
- Series 2: Newsletters
- Series 3: Local Issues and Programs
- Series 4: State Issues and Programs
- Series 5: National Issues and Programs
- Series 6: International Issues
- Series 7: Voters Guides (Microfilm)

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection

Brief Agency History

The League has since grown into a nationwide organization of some 160,000 members and works to promote political responsibility on the part of all citizens. It is non-partisan and does not support or oppose political parties or candidates, but seeks to help voters by supplying factual and background information, believing that "an informed citizenry is essential to good government." The League does take stands on public issues, however, after conducting extensive studies and reaching a consensus of the membership.

Members of the local Leagues work on the same national issues, the choice being made at a biennial convention, all local leagues within a state consider the same state issues, and each local league chooses its own program.

The Dayton Area League of Women Voters was organized in May of 1920 and has enjoyed an unbroken record of active participation in local, state, national and international issues and politics since that time.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records within the Dayton Area League of Women Voters Collection falls naturally into six series: (1) Administrative Records; (2) Newsletters; (3) Local Issues and Programs; (4) State Issues and Programs; (5) National Issues and Programs; and (6) International Issues.

Series 1 contains the Minute Record for the Dayton Area League since its inception in May of 1920 through 1970. Within the Minute Record are also various Committee reports, a monthly financial statement, and up until 1931, annual reports. Starting in 1932, Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Annual Reports are kept separately; and this record runs through 1971. Also contained in Series 1 are annual reports to the State and National League (1954-1965) and league Membership lists (1935-37 and 1945-57).

Series 2 has copies of the Leagues newsletters, The Dayton Women Citizen (1926-1956) and The Dayton Voter (1957-1970). These newsletters contain announcements of League events, discussions of current political issues, information on local candidates, and various items of interest to League members and area voters. This series provides a fairly complete, chronological records of League activities and highlights the major issues and programs studied by the Dayton Area League during the years 1926-1970.

Series 3 consist of various files covering local issues studied by League Members. Included are studies on local tax issues in Dayton and Kettering, county government revision, voting and local elections, studies of several local school districts, welfare, model cities, municipal courts, Dayton charter revision, zoning studies, children's issues and others. Also included in this series are Local Programs Books which outline a yearly plan of action, pin pointing issues that the Dayton Area League will concern itself with for a given year. The files in this series are limited to county, municipal, and school district issues and the span dates are 1927-1985.

State Issues and Programs, Series 4, contains information from studies on such subjects as Ohio Constitutional Revision, State Finances, State Courts, Education and Civil Service. State Program books are also included, and the span dates for this series are 1932-1979.

Series 5 and 6, National Issues and International Issues respectively, contain League studies on civil rights, atomic energy, water resources, taxation, Electoral College reform, Congressional reform, foreign policy, UNESCO, Chinese-America relations, mutual security, and international trade. Span dates for Series 5, National Issues, are 1923-1978, and Series 6, International Issues, are 1951-1971.

Series 7 contains the Voter Guides. These are annual newsprint publications which give detailed information about state and local political issues, candidates biographies and position statements and other voters information. They are typically published and distributed several weeks before elections, usually in October. The series goes from April 1945 to November 1981. It is on microfilm and is filed as MFM-29.

The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920, the year American women were granted the right to vote by the passage of the 19th Amendment. It was an outgrowth of the movement for woman suffrage, and was first organized to provide a forum for newly-enfranchised women to study the political issues of the day and become well-informed, active participants in government.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box 1

Series 1: Administrative Records

File 1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1920-May 1923
2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1923-May 1925
3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1925-May 1927
4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1927-May 1929
5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1929-May 1931
6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records and Annual Reports	May 1931-May 1934

Box 2

File 1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1934-May 1937
2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1937-May 1940
3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	June 1940-May 1943
4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1943-May 1947
5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	June 1947-May 1950
6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	June 1950-Apr. 1953
7	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1953-Apr. 1956
8	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1956-May 1958

Box 3

File 1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1958-May 1961
2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	June 1961-Apr. 1963
3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1963-Apr. 1964
4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1964-Apr. 1966
5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1966-Apr. 1968
6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	May 1968-Oct. 1969
7	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records	Nov. 1969-Dec. 1970

8	Annual Meeting Minutes and Reports	1932-1947
9	Annual Meeting Minutes and Reports	1948-1953

Box 4

File 1	Annual Meeting Minutes and Reports	1953-1959
2	Annual Meeting Minutes and Reports	1960-1966
3	Annual Meeting Minutes and Reports	1967-1971
4	Annual Reports to State and National League	1954-1965
5	League Membership Lists	1935-37/1945-55
6	League Membership Lists	1956-1967

Series 2: Newsletters

Box 5

File 1	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1926-Dec. 1926
2	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1927-Dec. 1929
3	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1930-Dec. 1935
4	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Mar. 1936-Dec. 1939
5	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1941-Dec. 1942
6	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1943-Dec. 1944
7	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1945-Nov. 1945
8	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Feb. 1948-Dec. 1950
9	<u>Dayton Women Citizen</u>	Jan. 1951-Dec. 1953
10	<u>Dayton Women Voter</u>	Jan. 1954-Dec. 1956

Box 6

File 1	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1957-Dec. 1958
2	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1959-Dec. 1959
3	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1960-Nov. 1961
4	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1962-Dec. 1964
5	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1965-Dec. 1968
6	<u>Dayton Voter</u>	Jan. 1969-Dec. 1970

Box 7

File 1	Centerville District File	1963-1970
2	Oakwood District File	1962-1971
3	Dayton District File	1963-1970
4	Kettering District File	1954-1962
5	Kettering District File	1963-1974
6	Kettering-Dayton District Merger	1954
7	County Government	1954-1961
8	County Government	1961-1973
9	Dayton Income Tax and Charter Revision	1958-1973
10	Voting and Local Elections	1968

Box 8

Series 3: Local Issues and Programs

File	1	Kettering Tax	1956-1958
	2	Kettering Historical File	1967-1969
	3	Dayton-Montgomery Co. District Library	1947-1949
	4	Dayton-Montgomery Co. District Library	1950-1958
	5	Local Schools-Centerville	1975-1976
	6	Local Schools-Dayton	1965-1972
	7	Local Schools-Kettering and Oakwood	1977
	8	Dayton Model Cities Program	1970

Box 8a

File	1	City of Dayton, Annexation	1965
	2	Misc. Annexation Packets	1966-1973
	3	Desegregation	1979-1980
	4	Education-National & General Concerns	c.1976-1981
	5	School Finance	1974-1978
	6	School Finance	1979-1984
	7	Information on the Year-Round School Concept	c.1970
	8	Interviewing and Meeting Information	c.1963-1970
	9	Mad River Twp. Annexation	c.1964-1975
	10	Mad River Twp. School District Appropriation Resolution	1981
	11	Mad River School District Budget	c.1971-1982
	12	Mad River Twp. School District Budget and Finance	c.1976-1981
	13	Mad River Twp. School District Financial Analysis	1970-1971
	14	Mad River Twp. Schools: subject area committee, organizational charts, recommendation for organizational transition	1979-1982
	15	Mad River Twp. School District: pamphlet entitled "Currents"	1977-1985
	16	Mad River Twp. School District Procedure and Policy	1977-1978
	17	Mad River Twp. School Quality School Circle	1981
	18	Reorganization of Mad River Twp. School	1981
	19	Mad River School District Annual Report	1985-1986
	20	Mad River Twp. School District Reports and International Packets	1969-1984
	21	State (Ohio) and River Twp. School Study	1980-1982
	22	Mad River Twp. School District Study	1970-1980

23	Mad River School District Survey	c.1971-1981
24	Montgomery County School District Study	1972-1982
25	Montgomery County School Study	c.1970-1980
26	Newsclippings Local School Concerns	1980-1984
27	Newsclippings National and Local Concerns	1981-1983
28	Scrapbook-Newsclippings National and Local Concerns	1978-1980
29	Ohio State Board of Education	1968-1983
30	Ohio Budgetory Process	1978-1983
31	Citizen's Council for Ohio Schools	1978-1982
32	Ohio Constitutional Revision Commission	1974
33	Ohio Public Expenditure Council	1977-1980
34	Area School Salary Studies	1980-1981
35	Township Government	c.1972-1974

Box 9

File 1	Municipal Courts Study	1947-1969
2	Local Political Parties Studies	1967
3	County Welfare Study	1953-1971
4	Children's Issues	1972-1973
5	Local Program Books	1929-1970

Series 4: State Issues and Programs

File 6	Education Study	1954-1970
7	Ohio Election Law Studies	1962-1968
8	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1951-1967

Box 10

File	1	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1968-1970
	2	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1971-1977
	3	Ohio Constitution/Local Government	1969-1972
	4	Ohio Finance Study	1963
	5	Ohio Finance Study	1964-1967
	6	State Government Study	1958-1973
	7	Ohio Court Study	1968-1979
	8	Civil Service Study	1951
	9	State Programs	

Series 5: National Issues and Programs

Box 11

File	1	Missouri Valley Authority Study	1945-1958
	2	Atomic Energy Study	1946-1947
	3	Fair Employment Study (FEPC)	1948-1949
	4	Taxation and Budget	1948-1953
	5	Bricker Amendment	1954
	6	Water Resources Study	1956-1966
	7	Civil Rights Study	1964-1966
	8	Electoral College Reform Study	1967-1972
	9	Congressional Reform Study	1971-1973

Box 12

File	1	Human Resources Development	1961-1970
	2	National Programs	1923-1978

Series 6: International Issues

File	3	Exchange Persons File	1951-1952
	4	Foreign Aid Assistance Study	1968-1969

	5	International Relations-China	1967-1971
	6	Foreign Policy	1967-1971
Box 13			
File	1	Mutual Security Program	1951
	2	UNESCO Study	1959
	3	International Trade	1940-1981
		<u>Series 7: Voters Guides</u>	
MFM-29		Voters Guides	1945-1981