

THE FEDERATION JOURNAL

"Lifting As We Climb"

Issued by

The N. C. Federation of Negro
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Editorials

SPENDING OUR VOTE

At this season politics is our business. Why should we be politically minded? None of us can deny that our tomorrows are being shaped by the political decisions that are being made today. We should be able to inform and express ourselves effectively on many of the vital issues facing us.

Our governmental system is designed to allow every citizen to participate, but it compels none to participate. These citizens who do choose to participate are the ones who actually determine what kind of government all of us shall have.

About 40 years have passed since the key was turned in the door of political opportunity for women. Today no group can enter the political area with brighter prospects; not only by constituting a majority of the electorate, but also by being in possession of these inherent qualities which combine idealism with practical application and ability.

When all is said and done, **your vote** is the important thing in taking part in politics.

A woman who had failed to vote, questioned the value of her one vote in relation to the general result. She did not realize to multiply her one vote by a million you have a million and if one is multiplied by zero you have zero.

Remember that your vote can be the deciding vote.

If we have such a poor opinion of politicians that we never bother to register or vote, we should not complain about how our home town government or our state government is run. As voters we can do something about holes in sidewalks, or new sidewalks—high taxes—overcrowded schools—collection of garbage—traffic problems etc. We must remember that politics does begin with your vote. Spend your vote as carefully as you do your dollars.

When we buy clothing or food or furniture, probably we all make a check before we spend our hard-

earned dollar. Why not make a check list of candidates on the ballot before spending your vote. "Women bring to politics the enthusiasm and the idealism which men often forget." —Pres. Eisenhower

"No one has more at stake in the keeping of our government truly representative of all the people than our nation's women, nor is anyone better able to keep it free and sound."—Charles R. Sligh, Jr.

A Link In the Chain

Thinking of a CHAIN one immediately pictures union, togetherness—connections. In the N.C.F.N.-W.C. we have just that; 108 active "links" (clubs) in the N. C. chain (Federation) as of the 1959 convention registrations.

Our Federation has two main financial projects:

1. Federation Scholarship Fund
2. Braille Magazine Fund

When we check the 1959 record we find a little better than 56 per cent of these clubs contributed to Braille and a little better than 53 per cent contributed to Scholarship. "No chain is stronger than its weakest link." That is to say our projects are not doing what we would like to have them do, for some "links" are too weak.

With our convention in Raleigh, June 3rd and 4th, 1960, "We Face a New Half Century." We believe a good start of the half century will mean a good ending also.

The appeal is to each club, that you make your reports and contributions complete and full. We have the strength and we should manifest it. May each club contribute to these major Federation Projects and to the many other worthy and charitable causes over North Carolina. Remember our State Youth Institutions when you represent by delegate or letter in the next convention. Be a Real Link in this great chain of women.

Religious Emphasis

Prayer For Freedom, Integration, and Peace

The nations of the world are constituents of the Human Race. Our oneness is inevitable. No nation is free as long as there is one in bondage. Freedom is rightful heritage. Unwittingly nations have deprived themselves of this Freedom through legislation, traditions, creeds, dogmas, and religion. Punitive legislation alone will not change the hearts of the people. I believe that our foremost solution would be to turn to God in fervent prayer, asking Him that we be transformed by the renewing of our minds, and thus be wholly regenerated.

An Appeal to All Club Women!
As chaplain of the N.A.C.W.C. Inc.,

National Organization

Any State Federation's affiliation with the N.A.C.W.C. is by individual membership. North Carolina has been delinquent in this respect. In 1958 we became re-instated with the national. We are not saying we were not a part. We were a fine contributing member from our state treasure.

This did not give us voting power as delegates or as members attending. In Detroit we had two votes on bases of paid individual memberships. We know you are not satisfied with that. Maybe we did not understand the set-up before.

Our North Carolina president has made an appeal for membership in the national First, to the North Carolina Executive Committee, and twenty-seven responded at once, others will we are sure. Second, she appeals to Club Presidents and then to all the women.

The membership is \$2 biennial or one dollar annually. The National Association meets biennially.

The meeting will be held this summer in New York City at Park-Sheraton Hotel on 7th Avenue and 56th Street from July 30 to August 5, 1960. It is our privilege to attend and learn. We are concerned with bringing North Carolina, as far as Per Capita is concerned, in line with other states of the National Association and increasing the voting power of our North Carolina Federation.

The president sent a picture of the North Carolina Federation's living past presidents and a copy of the 50th anniversary Souvenir Program to the national office last fall. They were pleased and wrote a very complimentary letter, and they gave North Carolina a lovely spot of three-fourths of a page in the "National Notes" under the heading "About State and Regional Organizations." As a result, the national secretaries began to check our files in their office and wrote our president of their findings. They were not good.

The National President, Mrs.

I am appealing to women of clubs, leagues, associations, churches and all other organizations all over the world to unite daily with us in this prayer:

Almighty God, Our Heavenly Father, I pray that Thou would "create in me a clean heart, O Lord, and renew a right spirit within me." This I ask also, for human beings everywhere.

And now, Father, I give thanks for this regeneration which is taking place within us now. Amen.

By: Rev. E. M. Smith
Los Angeles, Calif.
Chaplain, N.A.C.W.C.

Rosa L. Gragg of Detroit, Mich. in her goals for the Biennial-1958-60 hope to "move into areas of further service and significant endeavors." First on her list is to noblize the woman - power of the U. S. by her enlistment drive. We can help her by paying our \$2 membership fee.

Then Mrs. Gragg has set out:

1. To establish a National Health and Welfare Service Center. We have a report in this issue on it.

2. To organize a Young Adult Department.

3. To stimulate more interest in the National Girls' Department. Our Junior president is thinking of this in her Jr. Federation program.

4. To continue the Frederick Douglas Memorial Home at Ananastasia, D. C. as a permanent memorial to the noted abolitionist.

5. To promote a drive for Life Memberships.

6. To improve and maintain the present Headquarters Building in D. C. and other association properties.

7. To establish an Endowment Fund.

8. To increase the Hollie Quinn Brown Scholarship Loan Fund and thereby offer more grants.

The National Association publishes an official organ called "National Notes." Subscriptions: \$1.00 per year.

1601-R Street N.W.
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These facts have been given on request of the North Carolina Federation Executive Committee, for your information.—Editor.

P.S. Past National convention tours after N.Y.C. meeting being arranged include:

1. Europe Tour—air or steamer
 2. Bermuda via steamer
 3. Caribbean Air Tour
- Write N.A.C.W.C. Tours
P. O. Box 55
Plymouth, Mich.

Books Of Federation Interest

"Book love, my friend, is your pass to the greatest, the purest, and the most perfect pleasure that God has prepared for His creatures. It lasts when all other pleasures fade. It will support you when all other recreations are gone. It will last you until your death. It will make your hours pleasant to you as long as you live."

—Anthony Trallope

"Patterns of Leadership Among Negroes in North Carolina" by John R. Larkins—Consultant, N.C. State Dept. of Public Welfare.

Here is a book of important finding and inspiration. Mr. Larkins says, "It is hoped that the finding of this study will contribute to a better understanding of what Negroes have done and are doing." (Continued on Page 6)