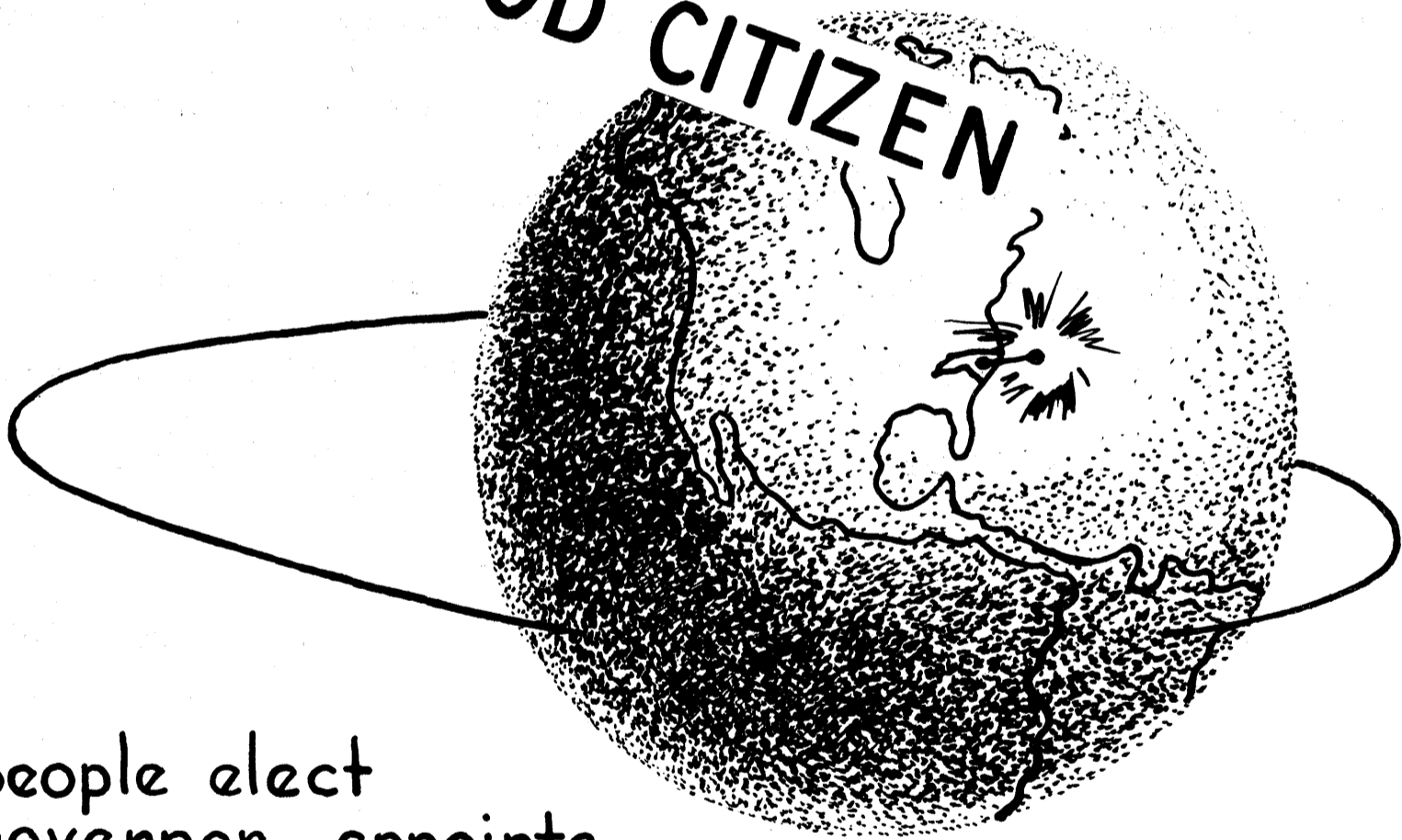


march, 1949

TAKE TIME
TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN



- people elect
- governor appoints
- cost of government
- government service

FOREWARD

Years ago we thought that our State Government was something way off, something more or less unimportant, so we let things drift along and let those, who wanted to, run the government. There is no one in our country today who can afford to adopt this attitude toward local, state and federal government. No one's business is so important that he cannot be bothered by government service. The great leaders of the past gave much time to the service of their government and country. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson are good examples of public servants - it was not beneath their talents and dignity.

It is the responsibility of every citizen to be an active, a living part of the times, to keep informed on public questions, and give his or her service when and where needed.

The peace and security of the world depend on how we think, what we say, how we act, and what we know.

TAKE TIME TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN

Your State Government and You

"This government with its institutions belongs to the people of the United States."
- Abraham Lincoln.

And so it is with our State Government, it belongs to the whole people of the state. Certain persons are nominated as candidates for certain offices and it is the responsibility of every adult to be as well informed as possible so that he or she will know who are the best qualified men and women to hold state offices and make our laws for a growing people. (Need for voting, party of choice. Handle as you see best. Do be careful.)

THE PEOPLE ELECT:

Every good citizen votes and knows the name of his or her township. In the 1948 election, approximately 800,000 votes were cast. There is a potential vote of approximately 2,000,000 so only about 40% of the voters in North Carolina participated in the last election.

You elect to office the following officials to operate your State Government:

I. Executive Department

- Governor - - - - -W. Kerr Scott, Alamance County
- Lt.-Governor - - - - -H. P. Taylor, Anson County
- *Secretary of State - - - - -Thad Eure, Hertford County
- *Auditor - - - - -Henry L. Bridges, Guilford County
- *Treasurer - - - - -Brandon Hodges, Buncombe County
- *Superintendent of Public Instruction - -Clyde A. Erwin, Rutherford County
- Attorney-General - - - - -Harry McMullan, Beaufort County
- *Commissioner of Agriculture - - - - -L. Y. Ballentine, Wake County
- *Commissioner of Insurance - - - - -William P. Hodges, Martin County

*Constitute the Council of State. (Attorney-General is the legal adviser of the Executive Department)

II. Judicial Department

A. Supreme Court

- Chief Justice - - - - -W. P. Stacy
- Associate Justice - - - - -W. A. Devin
- Associate Justice - - - - -M. V. Barnhill
- Associate Justice - - - - -J. Wallace Winborne
- Associate Justice - - - - -A. A. F. Seawell
- Associate Justice - - - - -E. B. Denny
- Associate Justice - - - - -S. J. Ervin, Jr.
- *Librarian - - - - -Dillard S. Gardner
- *Marshal - - - - -Dillard S. Gardner
- *Clerk - - - - -Adrian J. Newton
- *Reporter - - - - -John M. Strong

*Appointed.

III. Legislative Department

A. Senate

President - - - - - H. P. Taylor, Anson County

B. House of Representatives

Speaker - - - - - Kerr Craig Ramsay, Rowan County

The State is organized into State Districts (same for each party) and county Committees. According to the Constitution, the State is divided into 12 Congressional Districts, 9 Judicial Districts, 21 Solicitorial Districts, and 33 Senatorial Districts. If you are confused on this, I suggest that you contact your County Attorney or Clerk of the Court.

Here are the names of the State Officials you people elect. Perhaps you would like to have more background information about the men who now hold these positions. Can't you get your County Education or Citizenship Chairman to write to the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor, etc. of the town from which they come for a history about them, telling why they want this information and how it will be used? (Good training and experience for leaders.)

MULTITUDINOUS ARE THE GOVERNOR'S DUTIES:

Among the most important duties of the Governor are the appointments - men and women for the following offices. These officials must have as their motto "Service before Self." They must be men of high integrity with vision and courage to uphold the views and thinking of the people.

The Governor appoints the following:

- Adjutant General
- Assistant Director of the Budget
- Comissioner of Banks
- Commissioner of Revenue
- Director of Department of Tax Research
- Unemployment Compensation Commission
- Industrial Commission
- Director of Division of Purchase and Contract
- Board and Director, Department of Conservation and Development
- Rural Electrification Authority
- Highway Commission
- Utilities Commission
- Board of Health (in part)
- Board of Public Welfare
- Board of Education (in part)
- State Librarian
- Archives and History Commission
- Board of Alcoholic Control
- Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
- Wildlife Resources Commission
- Other Boards, Etc.

Note: For those who wish to continue government and citizenship study and want more information on the duties of the above State Officials, you may write to the Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C.

COST OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

One of the important duties of the representatives to the General Assembly (Legislature) is to decide on what and how the State's money should be spent. for example:

1. The public Schools
2. The State Colleges and Universities
3. State Hospitals
4. State Department of Health
5. Agricultural and Industrial Improvement
6. Highways and Public Works
7. People's Aid and Welfare
8. Library Commission
9. Department of Archives & History
10. Department of Conservation and Development
11. State Art Society
12. North Carolina Symphony Orchestra

Again you may wish to talk about the person who heads these boards and commissions, should time permit - at least one or two of them. For instance: Miss Majorie Beal, Secretary and Director of the State Library Commission, Dr. J. W. R. Norton, Secretary 2nd State Head of the State Board of Health, or Dr. Frank Graham, President of the Greater University of North Carolina.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE:

It has two main jobs; that of passing and enforcing the laws which are necessary for the good life and for carrying on services which the people of the State have helped established for themselves.

The objective of the State Government is:

1. To provide for peace and order and to cooperate with other units of government.
2. Guarding the health of the people.
3. Providing for the education of the people by operating the standard nine months school. Every child in public school is provided with rental textbooks at cost.
4. Improving transportation. (The state has taken over the 60,000 mile highway system.)
5. Caring for those in need of public aid.
6. Protecting the soil of the farms, the forests, and mineral deposits.
7. Protecting the lives and property of the people.
8. Regulating many kinds of business in the State.
9. Improving the living and working conditions of the people in many ways.

RESOURCE PEOPLE:

If at all possible, use your County Officials for Community Meetings first before inviting outside people.

For district meetings, Achievement Day Programs, or big County-wide meetings, you might invite someone from this list, giving consideration to travel and honorariums.

Honorable L. Y. Ballentine, Commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

Mrs. Charles Doak, Executive Secretary, N. C. Federation of Women's Clubs, Carolina Hotel, Raleigh, N. C.

Mr. B. Tarrt Bell, Area Secretary, American Friends Service Committee, Woman's College, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Mrs. Guion Johnson, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Mrs. Gordon Maddry, Ahsokie, N. C.

In this broad outline you have our suggestions for your March county-wide or community meetings - TAKE TIME TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN - YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT AND YOU. Please don't fail to build up confidence in the women regardless of how small or large the task might be - the same kind of confidence and belief we have in you.

This is to be the meeting that you are going to ask all agencies and organizations working with people to share in. The County Council might wish to appoint a Courtesy Committee to extend the invitations.

"Group experience is the most powerful tool for individual development, but the agency itself must be a group of which the worker is a member."

Through conscientious preparation, interest, and enthusiasm on your part for your ever growing county home demonstration organization, much good for all the people can be readily accomplished.