Men Dedicated to Service

By LARRY KOYE
Staff Writer

All of the major men's service clubs have chapters in Birmingham. The five clubs, Kiwanis, Exchange, Rotary, Lions and Optimist, have a combined membership of almost 350 men from the Birmingham area.

Oldest of the five organizations is the Exchange Club, founded on Feb. 16, 1904. Following closely behind is the largest of the groups, the Rotary Club.

Founded on the general theme of "Unit for Service," the Exchange Club was presented its charter on April 16, 1904.

OFFICERS of the club included C. A. Bingman, president; "Cy" Osborne, vice-president; Ralph A. Wilson, secretary, and James Hammermeister, treasurer.

Like many of the service clubs, the Exchange Club is an engaged in many youth activities. Each club group supports and sponsors such programs as Camp Oakdale, Wolverines Boys' State, YMCA, teen-age clinic and model airplanes, etc.

The club has grown from the original 25 charter members to 45. Each club member is pledged to "serve in unity with those seeking better conditions, better under standings and greater opportunities." For exemplifying these ideals, the club received the "John T. Brown" Award this year.

JOHN T. BROWN is the current president of the Exchange Club. Other officers include Richard Turner, first vice-president; Ernest Howard, second vice-president; Ralph A. Wilson, secretary, and James Hammermeister, treasurer.

Falling Hair, Too?

Celebrated liver pads, belts and bands were advertised for sale in 1976 for one dollar each. Today, they are claimed to prevent disease, relieve digestive disorders, prevent cancer and ease throat.

PLANNING FOR "SUFFRAGETTES '64"

Mrs. Garvin Bawden, Jr., and Mrs. Angus Mcgly.

By SHELLEY SPANN
Public Relations Chairman, Women Voters

The League of Women Voters of the United States grew out of the women's suffrage movement of the 1920s and is a non-partisan political group that promotes informed and active participation in government, and encourages women to become involved in the process.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, a leader in the 15-year struggle for women's rights called for a league of women voters in order to further the cause of women's suffrage. She wanted to increase the effectiveness of women's votes in furthering government legislation and the League of Women Voters of the United States was founded.

But this is the story of the League of Women Voters of Birmingham, a depression child, formed in 1937, to meet the needs of the financial crisis of 1932.

MRS. DOROTHY Roosevelt and Mrs. Angela McKey were instrumental in organizing the Birmingham League in 1938. Mrs. Frank H. Baerly, as its first president, and her leadership has enabled the league to continue strong.

Dedication, enthusiasm, and an abiding interest in people and their government brought them through the crisis to become one of the strongest Leagues in the United States, with 375 members in 1964.

One of the earliest concerns of the Birmingham LWV was the desperate financial plight of the schools. In 1938, members formed a casework of children—drawing in other local organizations—to go to the city and demand better for additional funds for schools. Soon after, this interest in schools led the League to recommend to the board of education that voters for school elections be registered.

IT IS HARD to believe that prior to 1939, trackasts of voters could legally be elected to vote on a ballot selected school issue. The board of education acted favorably on the League recommendations. As a result, a house canvass by LWV and PTA members was finally achieved.

In its early years the League put much of its effort into the study of county organization. In 1938 the ballot issue of county organization passed in Wayne and Oakland counties but failed to pass in the state.

Following the survey, the League received the ballot issue of constitutional revision. The result is history, the 15-year struggle for a new constitution grew out of the issues begun at that time and now, having won the first battle, the League has come full circle through its present effort to make county organization possible through home rule legislation.

Although study and action characterize the League of Women Voters, they are actually only a means to an end.

THE GOAL of the League is to provide informed and active citizen participation in government and this means all citizens, not just League citizens.

Toward this end, the years have seen continued effort put forth on voters' services activities. These have been candidates rallies, torchlight parades, and voting machine demonstrations.

The speakers bureau makes an effort to keep knowledge of the subject of politics available to local organizations and meetings. The League presents "SUFFRAGETTE '64," a talk with facts and figures on women's suffrage, as a challenge to utilize the hard-won right to vote. An autobiography and a biography and a talk with facts and figures on women's suffrage. An autobiography and a biography for the various meetings scheduled for the League.

The familiar sight of the smiling lady with the Voter's Guide has become a landmark of election years and the hallmark of the League of Women Voters.

A non-partisan political group that promotes informed and active participation in government, and encourages women to become involved in the process.

CONTRARY to popular misconception, the League of Women Voters is not a group of woman voters who do remarkable things remarkably.

It is an organization of women; housewives and mothers, who are concerned with schoolbooks, school buildings, and mental health and all the other problems of a community.

These women who want to prevent government's becoming an impersonal activity by understanding it. They are women who are convinced that they are being able to accomplish with a small budget and knowledge what the government is doing to the problems inherent in a government.

The League of Women Voters is proud of its members and their accomplishments. It is in the fact that its natural leadership traits were put into practice and many women on their way to leadership.

The League is also proud to be a part of the Birmingham community, which attracts this kind of women who have combined practical knowledge with the knowledge of Women Voters and made it strong.