

## REGISTRATION AND VOTING COMMITTEE

### TIPS FOR THE BLOCKWORKERS:

1. Be cheerful and friendly-The person who answers the door is doing you a favor, not vice versa.
2. Time your block work in the precinct for the same day or days. It's more fun to be out ringing doorbells if every blockworker knows that there are others out as well. An since news spreads fast, the people of your precinct will soon know that there is a drive on and talk it up.
3. Have a meeting of all block workers in the precinct just before they go out canvassing. Be sure every block is covered every one knows what to do. Meet again after the evening job is done to turn in reports on results, exchange experience and enjoy refreshments.
4. Go out in teams of two, preferably a husband and wife or at any rate a man and a woman. It's more fun that way. Also, if a woman, opens the door she would be more responsive to to see a couple. If a man opens the door, he'll be more responsive to talk to a man. Some people frown on single women going around ringing door bells after dark.
5. Don't take on more than you can handle. Each call takes from 5 to 15 minutes. Some may take as much as a half hour. Ten calls an evening is just about all you can hope to accomplish. If you take on or are given too large a list you might soon feel desperation or frustration creeping up on you.

### PLAN YOUR WORK

6. Plan your work-ahead of time. In other words make you mind you will "cover " your block or area by devoting so many nights a week for so many weeks on the job. Make a schedule for yourself which doesn't interfere with your household and family schedule. If you will let your family know about it in advance there won't be any friction about it.
7. Be dressed neatly. A man going out without a shave might scare the ladies. A lady will feel more confident if she looks her best. Go out when you are most likely to meet the whole family. The best time is from 7 to 9 p.m. or on Sunday afternoon. Don't call on people to late at night.

Some like to retire early and nothing is more annoying than to have someone wake up the baby with excessive doorbell ringing.

8. It's always the best and friendliest approach if you can say: I am John Smith of the registering and voting committee. I live on 1854 Union Circle and this is Mrs. Fannie A. Doe who is coming along to help me canvass in this precinct.

Be prepared to answer questions. If you are on a registration drive be prepared to tell people. when where and how then can register.

### LEAVE READING MATTER

9. Always leave literature so people have in writing what you try to tell them to look over later. On a registration drive leave a handbill with registration information.
10. Don't ever, ever argue with people. Your mission is to canvass people, to give them information about registration, voting or candidates. If they indicate that they don't agree with you, give them a nice big smile, leave them as quickly and gracefully as you can and note their attitude on their card or your list.

11. Don't get mad at anyone. When people are rude or non-committal be friendly and respectful anyway. Leave literature for them to look over later, In impossible situations simply leave quickly and politely.
12. Don't ask people right off about their political convictions. If you ask a stranger whether he is a Democrat or Republican He'll most likely tell you: "It's none of your business." And he'll be right, too.

HAVE THAT DRINK-LATER

13. Don't accept invitations to come into the house, "To talk things over" or for a cup of coffee. You may have a most pleasant evening but you won't get any work done. Try to conduct your business at the door, if at all possible.
14. Don't be discouraged because people refuse to talk to you. If in a precinct of 400 even as many as three-quarters refuse to talk, there are still a hundred with whom to work. Remember that as few as twenty voters can make a tremendous percentage difference.

## THE PRECINCT WORKER and REGISTRATION

The Precinct Leader and the Precinct Workers are the solid foundation on which the organization is built, and upon whom victory at the polls depends, for Elections Are Won in the Precincts

Most of us like to do things together. Something that may seem like a chore if done individually is fun if done in company. There is no work in a political organization that is more interesting, brings greater satisfaction, or is more important than that of the Precinct Worker.

Women are particularly well qualified to perform the duties of a Precinct Worker. Women are neighborly, like to meet new people, like to discuss with other women subjects of common interest, are thorough and conscientious about details. These are the very qualities required for a Precinct Worker, so it is no coincidence that women comprise the majority of Precinct Workers, the doorbell-ringers of democracy.

So you're a Precinct Worker, getting ready to take a poll of the portion of your Precinct which has been assigned to you. You will need certain equipment, including:

1. Printed or mimeographed cards, 3x5 inches or larger if necessary, giving, in brief and simple language, information on registration - dates, places, requirements as to residence, etc., and special rules about absentee voting. The information should cover both primary and general elections. Cards will bear, at the bottom, the words or title of whatever ward or precinct you represent. Underneath the name of the organization there will be a space for you to add your name, address and telephone number.

2. Notebook in which to record information on each person of voting age in the area which you are canvassing. A notebook about the size of a guidebook would be convenient; looseleaf so that it is adaptable to alterations which will be necessary as your listings grow. A duplicate of the Voter Card should be mimeographed at the top of the sheet you will use for each voter. This will make for uniformity, completeness and speed as you assemble your information.

3. Supply of Voter Cards.

4. Official literature on issues ---national and international, State, County, local. This literature will include The Democratic Digest, fliers, pamphlets, etc., and will be furnished to you by the respective Democratic Committees.

5. List of Democratic candidates, from local to national, in the general election, and literature about these candidates. List of opponents in the Democratic primary may be a part of your equipment, but your work is to promote registration and voting, not to promote any candidate except the Democratic candidate in the general election, so do not mix personal primary preferences with your duties as a Precinct Worker.

6. Briefcase or large, strong envelope to carry the above items.

HERE YOU ARE --- ABOUT TO RING A DOORBELL

This is your first try at it and you're not sure what's going to happen. You don't know whether you'll get a warm welcome or whether you'll get the door slammed in your face.

Chances are you'll be welcome.

You were selected as a Precinct Worker because you're neighborly, like to meet people, like to talk with other women. The door will probably be answered by a housewife, and chances are 10 to one she's a great deal like you. After your friendly greeting, hand her immediately the card mentioned under (1) on first page, saying something like "I want to remind you of dates and places for registration and voting." Then tell her you are making a poll of the Precinct and you would like to know how many members of the family are voting age. If the housewife hesitates -- for example if she is a Republican, independent, or just disinterested assure her that this is only a canvass, which it is. Most people will not hesitate, so open your notebook, ask your questions, and write your answers. Get name, address, telephone number, of each person in the household who is voting age. Use a separate page for each potential voter; if there are more efficient procedure for you to take notes and make the individual pages later. Then ask whether those of voting age have registered, if any of them will be registering and voting absentee, if they will need transportation or a baby sitter in order to register, and vote. Also ask if they will volunteer to help in the campaign and if so, at what days. Use the blank space of each sheet to note anything in particular, whether the person is a first voter, whether he or she is interested in some special issue or a special candidate, what kind of volunteer work is preferred, etc.

YOU WILL NOT COMPLETE THE POLL YOUR FIRST TRY:

Stick to getting information on your initial round, and on later rounds carry literature to leave with persons who on your first visit evidenced an interest organization. Keep all your visits short and to the point; do not argue politics, either as to party, candidates, or issues. Try your first few calls on persons you know and it will give you confidence to ring other doorbells. As you leave, ask each housewife for the name of the family next door, so that you can greet by name the one who answers the doorbell.

When you have completed the number of calls you have scheduled for yourself on each round, fill out the card, working from the information in your notebook, and turn the cards over promptly to your Precinct Leader.

The Precinct Supervisor will hold regular meeting at which your progress and that of other Precinct Workers will be recorded on a map, and on a tabulated list. At these meetings, or independently if preferable, you should turn in new cards to the Leader, or make any necessary changes on old cards. In this way, at all times you and the Precinct Leader will have duplicate information on voters in your Precinct. You, in your looseleaf notebook; she in the card file.

23.32  
26.50  
49.82

# Opening Minutes

Reports France Comm.

Recognition to workers  
in getting out the vote

\* Increased Registration

\* Letter to Ministers and  
its effect.

Question for Discussion

How more people be  
encourage to vote in  
the run off even  
with out compensation

Again  
Thanks to the Ministers