

# Compulsory Dog Immunization Ordinance Goes Into Effect

It was wise Plato who once said: "Seven years of silent inquiry are required for an animal to learn to speak, but it is easier to teach a dog to bark than to make it known to his master." Which merely means, "Understand it, and then proceed fast to develop a method of getting men to accept truths long known."

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## THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

### Lucky Dreams Lift Life

It seems to me that lucky dreams are like

The mist that rises 'neath the encroaching sun

To form the delicate film of milky clouds,

As they hurry high upon the race they run,

Some change of nature makes a

change of fortune to curse the self.

So do we dream work in our

lives, we sweat,

Then gather harvests for our barns

From seeds

Ave plants in this world through

We reap as we sow from

all our toil.

—G. R. A.

### Let's Not Complain Democracy; Let's Complain Poor Citizenship!

A friend of mine recently uttered this statement: "From the way things are going in the United States, I am beginning to believe we are not a democracy, but a demeritocracy will not work. It is filled with too many evils to endure."

My friend, you see, was reacting to the surface conditions of society in a free democracy; in reality, he was inflicting the actions of the people who live in a democracy, not the principles of democracy and the people who fail to measure up to them.

"Well, indeed, the laws of mathematics because people may fail to learn and apply these laws, is not the principle of democracy!"

For democracy is merely a synonym for freedom of human thought and action under a set of appropriate laws agreed upon by a few people. Democracy, in and of itself, is merely a sort of "open forum" established by human beings for their own convenience. The problems of society may be given utterance, enacted into legislation, tried by experience, refined or discarded by the will and action of such free people.

The alternative to democracy is some form of dictatorship, whether we call it benevolent despotism, autocratic or constitutional monarchy.

Aristotle, centuries ago, said:

"Democracy exists to make people sit; it endures to make people act."

—Who Sat in My Seat At the Inauguration?

A reader who sat in my chair on a special Capitol platform in Washington, D. C., Monday, when inauguration ceremonies were held

President Roosevelt's third term, told me he didn't "feel right" about attending the inauguration right next to the one reserved for members of Congress.

Well, as one of Congress, I was extended the invitation—and I also received an engraved invitation to attend the White House reception at which that afternoon.

Also to attend a dinner at Mayflower the previous evening, in honor of Vice-President A. W. Wallace. But somehow I seemed entirely unable to go—even though Mrs. Ewell kept telling me I ought to. Now don't some of you Democracy fans think I'm being a Republican? I think the sole reason are that I've already met the Presidents and Mrs. Roosevelt, and the idea of sitting for several hours in extreme damp cold that so often accounds upon the nation's Capital City.)

It was the poor boy who wisely and understandingly wrote: "A thousand years scarce serve to form a State; an hour may lay it low." That is why it is better to be inscribed in every schoolroom, on every altar, over every temple in the freedom-loving minds of America.

Birmingham's branch of the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. now has 2,500 telephones to serve from its exchange, an increase of 240 during 1940. While in improvement on the days when, 60 years ago, the founders of this town, Whittlehead & Mitchell, began to operate the exchange from their general drug store, as a sort of side line.

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Last Saturday, District No. 17 of the American Legion had its first district conference, arranged by District Commander HAROLD L. HAGADORN, left, and his chaplain, of Hazel Park; right, JOHN HAGADORN, Jr., local post district sergeant-at-arms. ABOVE, left to right, DONALD WALKER, American chairman, Redford; MASON GIBSON, Detroit, finance officer; and RICHARD WEYBURN, Birmingham, community service chairman. (Eclectic photo)

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