

Our Freedom Is Defended At The Ballot Box, Too!

In the unceasing fight to retain and improve the conditions of human beings in the self-governing practice of freedom, not all the engagements are carried out on the field of battle.
Indeed, the most important phases of this warfare against the tyranny of despotism are fought during election campaigns, culminating in the casting of your vote, in secret, at the ballot box.

way to govern. Their proposition No. 2, if passed, will restore the Secretary of State, beginning with 1953 and every 10 years thereafter, to re-apportion Michigan according to the then current population figures. The present Constitution places this responsibility upon the Legislature itself . . . and the Legislature, you know, has always failed to live up to the Constitution's requirements.

THE STATE SUPREME COURT has held that the Legislature cannot be mandated into court and made to live up to the Constitution. So No. 2 would give to an elected single official, who can be made to re-apportion. The entire emphasis of No. 2, then, is to use population statistics as the basis of apportioning Legislative seats in both State Houses.

No. 3 proposition agrees with No. 2 insofar as Representatives are concerned, except that it would increase the number from 100 to 110. No. 3 accepts the population statistics as the basis for apportioning House seats only.

IT DIFFERS, HOWEVER, in the case of membership in the State Senate. The proponents of No. 3, which include many urban as well as out-state citizens, reason that population, alone, is not the wisest device with which to balance a people's Legislative machinery. So they argue that not only people, but geographic areas and diversity of economic interests of its citizens should be considered in making up the Senate.

They point to the federal government as an example. The House of Representatives in Washington is apportioned on a population basis; the U.S. Senate is comprised of two Senators from each State, regardless of the size or population of the States.

(This formula for the U.S. Senate was created by the Constitutional Convention as a compromise measure, for unless it had been agreed upon historians doubt if the United States would have been born in 1787, or even for many years later.)

NO. 3 PROPOSITION would freeze the present 32 Senatorial districts, except Oakland County would become separated from Washtenaw, and would get its own Senator, and Macomb County would separate from St. Clair and Lapeer Counties, thus creating two Senators—so the addition of two Senators would bring that body's roster up to 34; instead of the present 32.

If you believe that population alone is sufficient to re-apportion both the Michigan House and Senate, you will vote for No. 2.

If you believe in following the course of the U.S. Constitution in selecting members of the House and Senate, you will vote for No. 3.

Personally, we believe the No. 3 proposition will best serve the needs and interests of the vast majority of Michigan citizens.



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Obscured From Old Files of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO October 31, 1902 Mr. and Mrs. William Erity of Southgate, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Tuesday and guests from all over the state are expected to be present for the auspicious event.

Tonight is Halloween and we advise all our friends to take their front steps and other movable objects into the house and sleep with one eye open.

Those who did not see the magician at Liberty hall last week missed a treat. Those who did see him are wondering how he did it. Mr. Laurant is a young man, but those who have seen Hermann A. Keller never saw anything better.

Miss Blanche H. started for Ole Alabama, her sunny southern home last week Tuesday, leaving many sad hearts behind. But while and perhaps she will return some day to again brighten us with her presence.

A new special delivery postage stamp of the ten-cent variety will stamp the ready for writers who want their missives delivered in a hurry. A miniature toy on a trot has been replaced by a picture of a boy on a wheel, still denoting extra speed for the letter but under the most modern circumstances.

20 YEARS AGO November 3, 1912 W. A. P. John of Tooting lane, has been appointed a member of the subcommittee on industry of the Michigan commission which will supervise the state's exhibit at the World's Fair.

City Commissioner Clarence Otter of Bloomfield Hills was appointed commissioner of the police and fire departments at a meeting of the body Tuesday night.

Trucks, directed by members of Charles Edwards post, American Legion, will cover Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills area Saturday to collect clothing and canned foods for needy persons.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE BY ALICE E. MORGAN

A telephone call Wednesday morning set us thinking about this Halloween program which has become so much a part of Birmingham. The lady who called said that, as a newcomer two years ago, she went through Halloween with some unhappy experiences.

IN FULL Halloween regalia they take to the streets, full of importance, full of fun and with their secret hope that before long they will have sacks full of treats. The following evening, the excitement mounts even higher, for this is THE night when the children are permitted to stay up late, to take part in such a big event and when each one is the center of attraction.

FROM THIS decision grew their idea of a community-wide party, with entertainment, prizes and refreshments. Each year it has been bigger than the year before. Each year more people have worked on the planning of it and each year more money has been spent. Today it is actually "big business."

Today Birmingham youngsters have a double-benefit which hands each year when Halloween rolls around. They want their party, of course, but they certainly can't afford to let their fun be all the "free lance" fun, too.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

"This is not a public hearing. This is a meeting called by the Birmingham Eccentric and not by the Birmingham Eccentric and not by the Birmingham Eccentric." This statement was made by a Bloomfield township official on October 13 at a regular meeting of the township board during which was discussed the proposed rezoning from residential to commercial of 30 acres of township at the northwest corner of Lincoln and Cranbrook roads.

forward a news style as it is possible to do. A cardinal principle The Eccentric never seeks to maintain its unbiased news stories in strict objectivity. If the story contains any suggestion of the writer's opinion—and it is impossible to delete it without seriously affecting the quality of the story—then that news item carries the name of the reporter at the top of the news story.

IF HE WAS inferring that he undoubtedly was correct. Because until The Eccentric printed that story of the proposed center, and that the township zoning board had recommended such rezoning, and that the township board might talk it over at that regular October meeting—only a comparatively few persons knew any such proposal had been made, had been recommended or might be acted upon.

ACME Window & House Cleaning Company Phone MI 4-6920 832 BOWERS BIRMINGHAM "Oakland County's Oldest Window Cleaning Service"

IT SHOULD BE mentioned that all township officials, when contacted by The Eccentric to obtain the story and put it together, were extremely cordial and cooperative in supplying us with the information we asked for.

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Do you worry about forgetting to turn off the tank? IF SO, YOU NEED AN Automatic Electric Water Heater

Gen. Marshall Won't Vote!

Along with millions of other Americans, we hold Gen. George C. Marshall in great regard as a military leader. As a statesman, we merely point to his record of ineptitude and numerous failures in this unfamiliar area of activity.

SUCH AN EXAMPLE of non-voting, if universally followed in our nation, would result in a dictatorship taking over. Such an example of poor citizenship, insofar as civic responsibility goes for the individual, removes plenty of lustre from the military genius whose hand helped guide us through World War II.

So General Marshall doesn't value his American heritage enough to defend it at the ballot box, eh?

In the perpetual defense of human freedom, is not the ballot box as important as the battlefield?

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

"A new day is dawning . . ." begins a speech by Adlai Stevenson. Now do you suppose these Democrats are really going to claim production for the wonders of daylight?

disciple of Pendergast politics: Harry S. Truman.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone MI 4-1100

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The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club. National Advertising Representatives: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 1618 Guardian Bldg., 920 Broadway, DETROIT 26, MICH. NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

● See where Jordan exported 1,321 camels last year, most of them going to Egypt. Humph!

● It is apparent from the manner in which Messrs. Truman, Stevenson, Sparkman, et al, are campaigning these days that they are much concerned about the chances of victory for Gen. Eisenhower, et al. A calm appraisal of what these Democratic New-Fair Dealers are saying suggests that they are bordering their talks on the lines of political hysteria—which is just a polite way of referring to half-truths and downright falsifications. This especially is true of that famous

Advertisement for Automatic Electric Water Heater featuring an illustration of a man holding a water heater and text: 'Do you worry about forgetting to turn off the tank? IF SO, YOU NEED AN Automatic Electric Water Heater'.

Advertisement for Fire Extinguisher Recharging: 'FIRE EXTINGUISHER RECHARGING FREE PICKUP AND DELIVERY Phone MI 4-2222 CRAIG APPLIANCES, INC. 112 S. WOODWARD'