

City Officials Should Serve, Not Dominate, Their Citizens

Citizens of nearby Lathrup Village will be very much interested to learn that their Village Council is drifting away from the fundamental principles of self-government.

It all happened when several newspaper reporters present sought more detailed information on some of the official action taken by the council that evening.

Such a pattern was followed September 6 by Mayor John G. Campbell and council members Kathryn Heyerich, Richard N. Cropper and Lantz L. Mackey.

Indeed, the situation has become so serious that Councilman William H. Harvie declared that "a 100 per cent dictatorship exists."

We would remind Lathrup Village's council that it, like all public bodies

elected to office, is the servant, not the master, of the people.

Elected officials in this nation are accountable to their electors for what they do in public office.

Governmental business is not the private property of elected or appointed public servants.

We also would remind the council that citizens and taxpayers have a perfect right to ask questions at public meetings; and reporters who are present represent their readers.

Mankind struggled for many centuries against the tyranny of any form of dictatorship, and mankind will not see it lost without another struggle.

WE DO NOT MEAN TO SUGGEST that these four members of Lathrup's council want to become "dictators." However, in their zeal to carry out the business of their community, they cannot afford to risk any criticism that suggests they are failing to enact the role of "servants."

The people of Lathrup Village incorporated so that they, acting as friends and neighbors, may set up and carry on a type of local home-rule best suited to their needs and wishes.

It is to be hoped, in the vital interests of every resident of Lathrup Village, that its council will adhere to the good old American governmental principle of conducting official business where it can be seen.

never in darkness or in secret.

Holiday Birds



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Uncle Abner had sent the boys on foolish missions here and there and, chucking deep in his throat, was preparing for a lunch.

"There," he muttered, "I guess they won't starve." The quartet set off, led by the old dog, Jack Waggon and tongue lolling.

The destination was a distant woodland where the wild nuts and berries grew, a place where many a pie had come from, and one which provided that extra something for Christmas cakes and candies.

THE SUN was setting when they came back, still led by the old dog whose tail tried hard to lurch jauntily but didn't quite make it.

Hands were grubby, faces dirty, clothes stained. Each boy carried a sack full of nuts, herbs in one and late berries in the third.

Eyes shining, the boys stormed into the house waving their treasures. Dog and man snuggled gratefully into their favorite spots of comfort and sighed contentedly.

"YEAH, MOM, Uncle Abner says just 'cause it's gettin' cold's no sign you can't have picnics."

They licked their lips as they remembered biting through the crusts of the hot sand, feeling the heat against tongue and teeth, tasting the deliciousness of meat, probed over an appraised fire, far on a hill top.

Happenings of Long Ago

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

50 YEARS AGO

The first experience of Miss Maude McDonald as a country school teacher will long be remembered by the young lady. She is teaching a district school near Ball Mountain Her hearing house being quite a distance from the school, she carries her dinner.

She has been named, women's champion sailor by virtue of the races won this year at the club.

Peggy Fry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Fry, of Vaughan road, will sail from New York City Wednesday with her uncle and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mayer, of Beaver, Pa., for a cruise to Havana and Mexico.

Last Saturday the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ira McDonald as well as the birthday of Mrs. McDonald, family friends and relatives gathered at their home on Big Beaver road to fete the couple.

30 YEARS AGO

William Mallender, here from Wales, England, will remain for the rest of the summer with his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mallender on Chesterfield road.



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GLENN WING POWER TOOLS

Not two hundred feet from the world's greatest highway, a bit of Piety Hill "passed on" Saturday, August 28, when the household effects of the late Isabel Curtis were sold at public auction.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Automotive stylist predicts next year's crop of exterior colors and combinations will be more subdued.

Cry we suffering conservatively-hued car owners: "Long overdue!"

Said the boy of his mother, who works for a company which cans small cucumbers: "I've got a pickle-packing Mama!"

Ford Motor Co. research engineers last study to make cars safer when accidents week announced current findings in their occur.

They say they are seeking to "package" occupants, like the seeds in an apple.

First time we've ever heard any manufacturer call the public seeds—and have it benefit the cash register.

Motoring once used to be the means of getting from here to there.

Today too many simpletons are making it their "Great Adventure"—and a most dangerous one they must realize.

These are the simple souls who seem to see how close a near-miss they can create by pulling out in front of you from a side road or street—with a half mile or more clear stretch behind you.

Michigan will turn up to be the missing link.

We may not solve the world's problems, but we are subject to censure if we don't at least try.

Charity should not merely consist of giving money or sustenance to another who is distressed. The type of distress is most important—self-approved distress amounts to begging, while unwelcome distress deserves charity.

Some conception of the size of the mind can be obtained by the size of the ideas it produces.

Doctors now are starting to predict that by 1999, adults would be living to the ripe age of 150.

To put up with the world's troubles 1 1/2 time more than we do now, we should live so long?

Farmers in the Leicestershire district of England complained that power failures annoy their cows. It seems the animals object to being milked by hand.

Having grown up with electricity, they are shocked by old fashioned methods.

With today's competitive business conditions, company sales managers are discovering they have many independent salesmen—the kind who are not accustomed to taking orders from anybody.

It once was considered sinful to be rich. But today, with government taxes as high as they are, it's a miracle.

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From The Eccentric's Point of View...

No sense in having an officially named city park area without having it suitably identified, say Birmingham's city commissioners. So they think-bronze tablets mounted on stone should be installed.

President Eisenhower's conduct of his office is bringing him more and more admiration and respect from his fellow-citizens. A study of his administration thus far proves that, unlike most politicians, "he thinks more about the next generation than he does about the next election."

No man ever gets so high and mighty that he can shut out the sun from shining on persons of true humble stature.

Many a lady's shopping excursion leaves her husband pretty well spent.

It may be argued, in some reason, that every help we can offer to Russia, in the realms of industry and agriculture, will bring greater abundance to the Russian masses.

We regret to learn that Detroit's Mayor Cobo now and then gets mad at reporters, and bars one or more of them from his

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PIONEER MEMORIALS: POWER LINE CAR IN DISCOVERY... U.S. CUSTOMS: PORT OF ENTRY... INTEREST MONEY: VISIT HERE, INTO STATES OREGON AND MICHIGAN... MISS BELLE CORSON: Miss Belle Corson left on Monday for Upland, Indiana... MISS ETHEL ROY: Miss Ethel Roy, on Monday commenced on a four-year course at the Detroit Conservatory of Music... WILLIAM MALLENDER: William Mallender, here from Wales, England, will remain for the rest of the summer... APTITUDE TESTS: enable YOU to learn the kind of work YOU can best succeed in... GLENN WING POWER TOOLS: Not two hundred feet from the world's greatest highway...