

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TOWNS.

Sidelights

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

PROVING that tests can be fun, but getting "just the facts, m'am," isn't so easy. Richard Welkenbach's journalism class was startled by a run-away chemistry student and a tearing pursuit which turned out to be a part of a test of accurate reporting. No report on how the test student did.

HABITUAL traffic offenders took the limelight at Southfield's justice court during the past week.

Last Thursday p.m. Southfield police court Judge Henry K. Evans, 39, of Berkley, on a drunk driving charge, Evans, whose record dates back to 1947, was suspended from driving in 1953, and again in 1955 for drunk driving. His license will be withheld until 1958.

Friday Justice Edward A. Elsarelli fined Evans \$100, \$50 costs and sentenced him to 60 days in jail.

Then Elsarelli asked to see Evans' wife to explain why the sentence had been so severe.

"She was taken to the hospital to have a baby," said one of the patrolmen. At 11:01 a.m. she gave birth to a six pound, six ounce son, and Evans' third child.

MONDAY Robert A. Smith, 47, of Clawson, who had drawn a one-year suspension of license in 1955, according to Southfield Police Chief Philip LaVigne, was arrested for drunk driving following a drunk accident at Telegraph and 10 Mile roads.

Justice Elsarelli fined Smith \$100, \$50 costs and sentenced him to 15 days in Oakland county jail, with a recommendation that Smith lose his license for life.

Smith's license, which was re-activated because of his previous drunk driving conviction, had been returned to him only eight hours before the collision.

SOUTHFIELD Optimists are the proud owners of their own private bus. They picked up the old bus from the school board and Optimist Emanuel Christensen will have it repainted blue and gold—the Optimist's colors. The Optimists have their own fight song, so all they need is a couple of cheerleaders.

BOYS UPPERTEENS club of Southfield cleared \$800 on the carnival that graced their premises during the last week of September. It is a start, anyway, towards the purchase of that lot they need by next June 1 when they have to vacate their present clubhouse at 23100 Northwestern.

Lathrup Vetoes Purchase of Tree Spray Equipment

LATHRUP—There will be no city-owned tree spraying equipment to fight Dutch elm disease next spring unless council reverses a decision made Monday night after bids on spraying equipment were opened.

Councilman Kathryn Feyerisen and Mayor John G. Campbell seemed to be in a quandary over the \$3,500 sprayer. It takes four favorable votes to make an appropriation to buy equipment and with a 3-2 vote council fell one short of the required number.

"I can't see buying more equipment to sit outside and rust," said Miss Feyerisen. Campbell said he would rather see the \$3,500 used to fertilize and spray trees.

THIS MEANS the end of the city's tree committee if Robert W. Gilmore, tree committee chairman, represents the feeling of the entire committee which has made several recommendations over the past two years—all of which pointed to the necessity of buying tree spraying equipment.

Gilmore told council one month ago that "this is the last report." He indicated that his committee had tired of turning in the same report every six months only to have council reject it.

So unless council has a change of heart, next year's spraying, if it is done, will be done by private contract between residents and sprayer.

Request New Bids

WEST BLM. TWP.—New bid will be asked on a garbage truck for the township. Last week township board called for bids but received only one and rejected the bid without opening it.



"Greetings, O long-suffering fellow taxpayer!"

Lathrup Will Review Water Rates



WEST BEVERLY Garden club members found it hard digging when they planted more than a bushel of Empress daffodil bulbs in Southfield Park. The bulbs were given to the club by Warren Reid of Reid's Flowers, Southfield road, who changed his mind about discarding them after their blooming last spring. Garden club members expect some of the bulbs (planted with plenty of bone meal) to bloom next spring, and all of them will bloom thereafter, multiply and add to the natural beauty of Southfield Park. Mrs. James Shank, 19100 Warwick, is the club's president.

Family Civil Defense Is A Necessity

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of six articles on civil defense presented by The Eccentric in cooperation with Mrs. Lynn D. Hershey, Southfield CD director. These articles apply not only to wartime disasters but also to natural disasters as well. Subjects to be discussed are: What to do when the signals sound; preparation of your shelter; home fire prevention and fire fighting; emergency action to save lives; what to do if someone is trapped; and provision of safe food and water in emergencies. Save these articles and someday they may save you.

It has been said that, after a disaster there are only two kinds of people left—those who need help and those who can give help.

Obviously, the best way to be in a position to help others is to first take care of yourself; that is why the need for civil defense at home is stressed.

If an emergency catches you unprepared, what you don't know about protecting your family may cost your lives.

Every person should know official civil defense instructions for taking action if an attack is threatened. Every person, whether he lives in a possible target or a nontarget area, should be trained to act instantly when a public action signal sounds. This applies especially to the family at home.

MEMBERS of your family may have only a limited time to take protective measures if an attack comes. That is why it is important to plan what to do ahead of time, and to practice doing it.

Public action signals are of two kinds—Alert and Take Cover. The ALERT SIGNAL, a steady blast of 3 to 5 minutes' duration, is a warning that an emergency is imminent. (It could mean that enemy planes are headed your way and that attack is probable.)

It is your signal to prepare to act according to the operations plans of your local civil defense organization. Turn your radio to the Conelrad frequency (640 or 1240 on the dial) and listen for official civil defense instructions and information. Follow instructions promptly. If your city or area is to be evacuated because of expected attack, Conelrad broadcasts will tell you what to do.

THE TAKE COVER signal, a wailing tone or a series of short blasts of 30 seconds' duration, means that attack is imminent and you must take the best available shelter immediately, regardless of whether you are in a target or nontarget area.

If your local civil defense plan calls for evacuation and you are told over Conelrad that this plan is being put into effect, do quickly and calmly what you have been instructed to do. If you have taken part in neighborhood or city-wide evacuation drills, you will be better prepared to carry out these instructions.

First, you, emergency evacuation kit. This should include food and water, a first-aid kit, blankets, extra clothing, flashlight, necessary medicines, money and a battery. If possible, you should have it packed ready to go, but if you haven't, collect these items as quickly as possible.

Go by car or on foot, according to civil defense instructions, along the evacuation route assigned to you. While en route, you should:

- (1) 1.714; (2) 756; (3) 1.799; (4) 1.314; (5) 1.314; (6) 1.340; (7) 1.047; (8) 1.969; (9) 1.464; (10) 1.741; (11) 1.296; (12) 1.464; (13) 1.200; and (14) 1.047.

Watchowski Showdown Meeting Set

LATHRUP—City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski's merits will be discussed at a meeting Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m., council decided Monday night.

Councilman Kathryn V. Feyerisen, who twice before has attempted to have Watchowski called out of office by the council, voted for his dismissal Monday.

The first time Miss Feyerisen mentioned Watchowski's dismissal on Aug. 5, Councilman Frederick O. Johnson walked out of the council meeting leaving Feyerisen and Mayor John G. Campbell without a quorum. Councilmen Lantz L. Mackey and Richard N. Cogger were vacationing.

THE SECOND time Miss Feyerisen attempted to establish a date to review Watchowski's position but a 2-2 vote deadlocked the council.

Miss Feyerisen stated she no longer wanted to be responsible for the city's administration and Watchowski's "typical reports to the council." The report has not been released.

Mackey said, "The man is innocent until he is found guilty." The meeting should be private, Mackey added, because unfounded charges and beliefs of a council member could hurt Watchowski's reputation.

Dismissal of Watchowski, if taken at the following regular council meeting, Nov. 5.

Of particular concern to Franklin residents is the 40 mile speed limit on Franklin road at the crest of the hill by the school. A petition has been sent to Oakland County road commission asking that the speed be reduced to 30 mph and that a traffic survey be made during morning hours 6 a.m. and evening from 5-8:30.

Village president Harold Rosenberg revealed Franklin's request for a traffic check was ninth on the county's list and of the 23 traffic violations in Franklin during the past three months, 12 were for speeding on Franklin road.

Not much hope of alleviating traffic jams in Northwestern was offered by Sgt. Sibbitt, who said traffic conditions will get much worse when the John C. Lodge highway is opened. Northwestern is now under the jurisdiction of Oakland county.

S'field Registers 18,868 Residents

SOUTHFIELD—A record registration has left a total of 18,868 residents in Southfield, according to the general election Nov. 6, according to Mrs. Fannie Adams.

Previous high was in 1952 when 13,176 persons registered, but this figure included persons who had since been incorporated and registered voters separately. In 1948 only one third—4,888—of the present number qualified for the presidential election.

By precinct the registered vote is:

- (1) 1.714; (2) 756; (3) 1.799; (4) 1.314; (5) 1.314; (6) 1.340; (7) 1.047; (8) 1.969; (9) 1.464; (10) 1.741; (11) 1.296; (12) 1.464; (13) 1.200; and (14) 1.047.

Council Divided Over Cut

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

LATHRUP—After proposing a water rate cut and lengthy discussion Monday night, council voted to go along with a two-week-old decision to have the water budget reviewed by the budget committee, council, city administrator and auditors.

By a 2-2 vote, council submitted to citizens' protests that a \$250-per-1,000-cubic-feet-of-water rate was excessive. Councilmen Lantz L. Mackey and Frederick O. Johnson voted "no" on the proposal because they wanted the budget to run its one-year course before rates were reduced.

THE TWO tented that Lathrup, in its first year of independence, might need the extra money to repair mains, rent or buy housing for equipment or for some other unexpected expense.

Until this June, Detroit owned the water department and paid a 1,000 cubic feet for water which was sold to residents for 94 cents a 1,000.

In June the South Oakland County Water Authority began supplying the city water at a rate of \$1.30 a 1,000 plus a ready-to-serve charge which amounts to \$5,000 this year.

COUNCILMAN Kathryn Feyerisen proposed that a \$150 per 1,000 rate be set, and this was tentatively approved pending the water budget review. However, council cautioned that this figure might need revising.

Miss Feyerisen claimed the water budget was "padded," pointing to a \$5,000 item for housing which is supplied free by the Charles D. Kelleys, subdividers.

She also claimed that a \$3,500 water main maintenance fund was excessive, and that these two figures gave a surplus rather than a \$5,000 deficit as indicated by the auditor's report.

CITY Auditor Everett F. Hayes was asked to prepare a new order, which would be replaced by Ord. 31. In the new ordinance a revised rate would be set and the water department and its accounts would be set up separate from the general fund.

Those who already have declared their intention of running for Township Supervisor Eugene Swen and Don L. Swanson, township trustee, for the office of mayor: Miss Clara Lane, township treasurer, for treasurer: Edward A. Elsarelli, township justice of the peace, and Allan M. Bulloch, recent candidate for Oakland county sheriff, for justice of the peace; Leslie Skowron, township constable, for constable.

Burdette Deitzel took out a number of positions but has not yet announced who will be candidates for a slate of officers to be presented by the Democratic party.

Mrs. Adams, township clerk for more than 25 years, said this week she probably will not seek election as city clerk.

WEST BLM. TWP.—Township board members issued 42 building permits, with cost of construction estimated at \$331,225 during September. Of these 17 were for construction of new homes.

RESIDENTS wanted to know why under the old rates Lathrup charged 11 cents per 1,000 cubic feet of water for service and under the new rates service costs 50 cents per 1,000.

High rates in Lathrup, where rates compare favorably with other communities in the water authority, may be due to the \$6 million debt and by the fact that the city may have to plan some other means to house equipment and government.

LAST YEAR Lathrup, along with the other communities in the water authority, was charged with the duty of paying the various communities it serves as well as construction of water storage tanks.

When considering the merits of the charter it must be remembered that the actual work of drafting the charter was not begun until the commission members had had an opportunity to hear from you, the people, just what you felt should be incorporated in the proposed charter.

Public hearings were held for this purpose at which time the salient points of the charter were discussed by various civic and individual organizations and individuals.

All proposals and ideas presented at those hearings were given careful consideration by the commission members; and became the groundwork for the finished charter.

IT WOULD be foolhardy to believe that the commission members are in complete agreement on all points being considered.

In areas in which there were differences of opinion it became the duty of the commission members through careful consideration of the issues to bring forward com-



ONLY MINOR changes were made in the Southfield city charter last week. Watching Charter Chairman J. Leo Walton sign the charter Friday are: (left to right) Patrick Flannery, Elizabeth Molnar, Russell Cullen, Will Oliver, Edward A. Elsarelli, Thomas Costello, and (seated) Mrs. Harold Haeger, stenographer. The charter was delivered to Gov. Williams Tuesday for his approval.

Petitions for City Posts Available

SOUTHFIELD—Residents who intend to seek election to a city office at the charter election Dec. 3 must file a nominating petition by Nov. 5, according to Mrs. Fannie Adams, township clerk.

Officers to be elected are: mayor; one councilman-at-large to be elected by a majority of all voters; one councilman from each of six wards; clerk; treasurer; justice of the peace; and two constables.

Those running for council in the various wards must file a petition with not less than 50 signatures of registered electors. All others must have 200 such signatures.

Deadline for filing is by Nov. 5, Adams said. The petitions must be filed before 4 p.m. Nov. 5. Petitions are now available at the township hall.

Those who already have declared their intention of running for Township Supervisor Eugene Swen and Don L. Swanson, township trustee, for the office of mayor: Miss Clara Lane, township treasurer, for treasurer: Edward A. Elsarelli, township justice of the peace, and Allan M. Bulloch, recent candidate for Oakland county sheriff, for justice of the peace; Leslie Skowron, township constable, for constable.

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Socony Unable To Negotiate For New Site

LATHRUP—Socony-Mobil Oil Co. can abandon its plans to build a gas station on the northeast corner of Sunnybrook and Southfield roads if the company can take its complaint to the courts.

Harry J. Pockheiser, 189 S. Glen-garry road, Bloomfield Village, Socony's regional director, was told this after he announced at Monday's council meeting that the Charles D. Kelleys, who sold him the land, would not trade for a lot at the corner of Southfield and 12 Mile roads.

SEVERAL weeks ago Pockheiser said he would attempt to work out a trade with the Kelleys when council told him the site was not a desirable one in the eyes of the city.

"I have no property to trade," Kelley said to Councilman Frederick Johnson.

Council announced it could not allow Socony to go ahead with plans because of pending action against another gas station in the Michigan Supreme Court.

JOHNSON voiced the opinion of several council members when he told Pockheiser, "We don't have a leg to stand on. We can't legally stop you from building the station would be more readily accepted if it relocated out of the city's center."

Answering a request that Socony hold up action until the Supreme Court case was cleared, Pockheiser said his company could not wait a year or more to build the station. "This file has already cost us over \$100,000," said Pockheiser.

Gordon H. Clayton Heads Wayne's Alumni Fund

W. BLOOMFIELD—Gordon H. Clayton of South Clunbury road, Bloomfield Farms, is the newly elected president of the Wayne State University Alumni Fund, succeeding Walter F. Carey of Middlebelt road.

Clayton, a 1942 graduate, was a Wayne varsity basketball captain. After serving three years with the Navy in the Aleutian Islands, he entered the field of electrical engineering in Detroit and now serves as coordinator of special projects for the Power Equipment Co.

He is a participating member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Detroit Engineering Society.

SOUTHFIELD—Budget meeting called for Oct. 16 because of lagging revenues and a tax reduction by the county, has been postponed until Oct. 31, by township board.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

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NORTH ADAMS COLUMN Section 3, Page 3

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promise solutions that would be acceptable to all.

In this manner the charter as now written is, in my opinion, a moderate and thoroughly realistic document.

Through this charter the people retain the right to elect their public officials. It also provides the means whereby the people may initiate such action as they deem proper and necessary should the occasion arise. Thus, the people are assured protection against unscrupulous or dictatorial government.

I MENTION the above provisions only to emphasize the manner in which the public welfare was at (See FLANNERY, Page 2, Sec. 5)