

List Lathrup Candidates' Qualifications

STEPHEN K. VALENTINE

Stephen K. Valentine, 49, of 19-109 San Jose, his wife and three children have lived in Lathrup five years.

Graduate of Riverside Military Academy, Gainesville, Ga., Valentine studied law at University of California and Wayne State University. He was a Wayne county circuit court clerk for Judge Arthur Webster from 1933-37 and from 1938-40 was a Wayne county probate court clerk.

Since 1943 Valentine has had his own furniture store, Valentine Furniture Co. in Detroit. He is a member of Detroit Yacht club, Grand River Business Men's association and Grand River Property Owners association.

VALENTINE presents a six-plank platform which he believes should be carried out:

- 1) Immediate action on drainage and sewers. This includes reorganization of downspout ordinance and without unnecessary delay submission to the voters for their approval a comprehensive plan to solve flooded basements.
- 2) Review and readjust water rates; provide itemized operating statement accounting for surpluses.
- 3) Comprehensive plan for city administration at greatest efficiency, least cost.
- 4) Convert most of State road tax fund to road and ditch improvement.
- 5) Promote teenage activities in cooperation with neighboring communities.
- 6) Enforcement of all restrictions and zoning ordinances.

ELIZABETH W. MITCHELL

Mrs. Arthur (Elizabeth W.) Mitchell, mother of three sons, has been a Lathrup resident for 20 years.

A graduate of Bliss Alger college, Saginaw, Mrs. Mitchell, 53, has been active in community affairs.

Subjects with which she has associated are: Southfield consolidated schools; member of South Oakland United Community Services for four years; served on advisory committee for United Foundation for Southfield; member of the Board of Survey of Southfield for Red Cross; all available housing that could be used in case of disaster by civilian defense.

MRS. MITCHELL is also a member of the City's Advisory Board; committee; St. James Episcopal church, Birmingham; charter member and past president of Lathrup Women's club; charter member and past president of Lathrup Women's Bowling league.

"I feel I have been oriented to governmental functions by living with my parents. My father, the late Hon. Duncan A. Wayne, set a record by holding one office for the longest period of time—43 consecutive years, 50 years in all as supervisor of Mt. Haley township and three terms in the House of Representatives for the Midland-Gladwin district.

"Lathrup is my home and, if elected to the city council, I will endeavor to serve intelligently and in a dignified manner to help provide my neighbors with sound, efficient government," Mrs. Mitchell said.

RICHARD N. COGGER

Richard N. Cogger, 45, married and the father of three children, is a graduate of manufacturing for Parke Davis and Co. where he directs activities of more than 1,000 employees.

A Lathrup resident since 1940, Cogger is a graduate of the University of Michigan where he majored in chemical engineering.

Cogger, an incumbent, has served on the council since April, 1950, and has been followed pro-tem and civil defense director. In recent months he has represented the city council in follow-up and promotion of the Evergreen Interceptor Sewer project.

The most vital problem which must be solved by Lathrup city government during 1957 is the hopeless inadequacy of our present system of sewers and drains. Emergency measures have been taken which should be of some help but an adequate solution requires immediate and vigorous implementation of a complicated, intelligently coordinated, economically planned program, fairly and equitably.

"This total solution will require expenditure of up to one million dollars for a small city and must be carefully carried through by an experienced and far-sighted council."

"Our city administration should be operated on good, sound business principles if we are to maintain our present very low tax rate. The personality of a city and its justified attacks in public on city employees which are a matter of recent record reflect on our Lathrup government and are demoralizing to administrative efficiency. Decisions of importance must be based on careful, factual deliberation and never on such emotional appeal.

FREDERICK O. JOHNSON

Frederick O. Johnson, 57, and his wife, Ethylee have lived at 2733 Goldensate drive since 1956. They have one married daughter, Mrs. Berge E. Becker. Chief electrical engineer and electrical department head of Argonaut Alloy Division, General Motors Corp. since the past 17 years, Johnson attended Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and is a registered professional engineer.

An incumbent, John has served on the city council for the past year. He is a member of Community Congregational church, National Society of Professional Engineers, Illuminating Engineering Society, and Detroit Consistory 32nd degree and Modern Shrine.

"MY MAIN purpose in seeking re-election is to assist in maintaining a supervisory attitude in solving our personnel problem at our city's offices, and in assisting in any possible means of attaining our pollution and basement flooding programs now top most on our agenda.

"Our Elm trees must be preserved and protected and well explained every possible means of continuing our spraying program, encourage the tree pruning and stabilizing by our city and private citizens.

"THERE ARE other important programs such as Road surface improvements; sewer cleaning; restriction of unwelcome commercial business establishments; continued enforcement of our zoning restrictions; and other problems which have attention that will require serious, earnest planning before finalization, which I hope to continue," Johnson said.

GEORGE H. RUSSELL

George H. Russell, of 18560 Sunnyside, is married and has two children. He has been a Lathrup resident eight years.

A teacher with the Detroit board of education for the past 14 years, Russell is a graduate of Wayne State University with B.S. and M.A. degrees in education.

He served three and one half years in naval aviation during World War II and holds a lieutenant's rank in the Naval reserves.

Vice president of the Lathrup Village Bowling league, Russell is also a member of Congregational Community church and active in Lathrup youth activities.

McALEER'S platform is:

- 1) Bring dignity and full cooperation within council and in dealings with surrounding communities.
- 2) Immediate action on drainage and sewers. This includes reorganization of the downspout ordinance and without unnecessary delay, submit comprehensive plans to solve roof water and flood conditions wherever needed.
- 3) Re-adjustment of city water rates and service charges.
- 4) Strive for a city operating at maximum efficiency and at a minimum tax rate.
- 5) Secure a complete financial audit of the city.
- 6) More money received from State road tax fund should be spent on streets and ditches.
- 7) Promote teenage activities and develop recreational facilities for all age groups.

CHARLES H. McALEER

Charles H. McAleer, 63, was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and has lived in the Detroit area since 1921. For the past three years he has lived at 10125 Rackham drive.

He is president of McAleer Manufacturing Corp., Detroit Chemical Specialties, Inc., and the McAleer Buff Co., all located on W. Lathrup street, Detroit.

His executive business experience over a long period of time will be useful, McAleer believes, in helping Lathrup control its business operations economically.

McALEER'S platform is:

- 1) Bring dignity and full cooperation within council and in dealings with surrounding communities.
- 2) Immediate action on drainage and sewers. This includes reorganization of the downspout ordinance and without unnecessary delay, submit comprehensive plans to solve roof water and flood conditions wherever needed.
- 3) Re-adjustment of city water rates and service charges.
- 4) Strive for a city operating at maximum efficiency and at a minimum tax rate.
- 5) Secure a complete financial audit of the city.
- 6) More money received from State road tax fund should be spent on streets and ditches.
- 7) Promote teenage activities and develop recreational facilities for all age groups.

Mrs. Ben Wilson Heads McKinley School PTA

SOUTHFIELD—At the March 12 meeting of the McKinley school PTA, Mrs. Ben Wilson was elected president for the 1957-1958 school year.

Also elected were Mrs. Nell Jenkins, mother vice president; Frank

Lennox father vice president; Lincoln Avery, teacher vice president; Mrs. John Bodnar, secretary; Mrs. Clifford Taylor, treasurer; Mrs. Bernard Pedell, council delegate; and Mrs. Stanley Masler, historian.

Installation of officers will take place at the April PTA meeting. Dale O'Brien spoke to PTA members of the need of the Cub Scouts in the area and it was voted that McKinley School PTA will sponsor a Cub Scout pack.

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Questions

(Continued from Page 1-E)

City of Southfield will do:

"Will my taxes be higher if Southfield incorporates as a home rule city?" This is another question many homeowners, both in the southern and northern portions of Southfield want answered before they jump blindly into city-form of government.

THE ANSWER is that city-form of government will cost more for Southfield, as it did for Livonia and Troy.

Troy township had a \$180,000 budget in its last year of operation. The personality of a city and its justified attacks in public on city employees which are a matter of recent record reflect on our Lathrup government and are demoralizing to administrative efficiency. Decisions of importance must be based on careful, factual deliberation and never on such emotional appeal.

time was 17,500.

Livonia's present population is estimated at 50,000, about 10,000 to 15,000 more than Southfield's.

Troy, for example, recently raised its assessed valuation from \$13,000,000 to \$14,000,000, or more than three times as much.

SOUTHFIELD'S northern areas, the first to be reassessed in recent years, pay a good share of the township tax fund. Southfield last year had a local valuation of \$80,969,530. Of this, \$14,180,540 was in the Oak Park school district (which is composed almost entirely of Northlands) and \$42,949,000 was in the Southfield school district, which contains almost all of the industrial and commercial tax base in Southfield.

Property owners in the Southfield township portion of the Birmingham school district owned land assessed at \$23,779,490, although there is almost no industrial or commercial property in that particular area.

TEN TO 12 square miles of almost entirely residential property in the north is valued at more than half of the Southfield school district's 22 or 23 square miles, even though this larger southern area has the concentration of usually higher taxed industrial and commercial interests.

This is one of the major reasons why northern property owners want to cut themselves loose from Southfield.

Value of Lathrup Set at \$7,450,000

LATHRUP—Assessed valuations will increase an estimated \$571,000, according to City Administrator Leonari A. Watchowski, bringing the value of city property to about \$7,450,000.

This increase is due to new home and commercial construction, plus a 25 per cent increase on vacant and improved business frontage along Southfield road, Watchowski said.

AND SOUTHFIELD does not have the advantage of tax returns from a race track or four large industrial plants. Only comparable tax base in Southfield is Northland, which has a valuation of about \$12,000,000, compared to \$50,000,000 for Livonia's four industrial plants.

If Southfield were to jump immediately to the budget of Livonia, the tax rate required to meet such a budget (using last year's figures from the two areas) would amount to between 14 and 16 mills per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

BACKERS OF incorporation say that with a five-mill tax rate as proposed in the last city charter, Southfield could get along nicely.

They point out that voters would have to approve any tax collections over the five mills, but they fail to show that Southfield, by raising as-

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