

City Manager Plan of Government Grows; Ideal Job If Politics Isn't Your Game

Chicago - (UPI) - Think you'd like to run a city, but politics isn't your game? You might try to become a city manager.

More than 1,600 cities and counties in the United States have the manager-council form of government, under which a non-political employee is hired to manage the community.

Dallas, Texas, Hartford, Conn., and Des Moines, Ia., are among the larger cities run in this fashion.

According to the International City Managers' Association, headquartered in Chicago, additional communities are adopting the plan at the rate of 75 a year. And only four per cent of those that have tried it have later voted it out, according to the Association.

The set-up of the council-manager form of government is like that of a corporation. The voters choose a city council, which acts as a board of directors and sets policy. The council then hires a city manager to serve as chief administrator.

Secondary Factor

Supporters of the manager-council system maintain that a mayor generally gets the job because of his vote-getting ability with the administrative talents a secondary factor, while the city manager is an expert hired strictly for his ability as administrator and his knowledge of government.

The idea of an appointed executive was originally developed by the National Short Ballot Organization, then headed by Woodrow Wilson, and was first adopted in 1912 by Sumner, S.C. Wilson's organization sought to make government more responsible by cutting the number of elective offices.

The program was approved in 1915 by the National Municipal League, the oldest civic reform organization in the United States, and the Short Ballot Organization later merged with the League to present a united front in support of the plan.

Plan Promoted

The council-manager plan often is promoted in cities by such groups as the local League of Women Voters and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the National Municipal League takes pride in what it calls "the hostility of old-line bosses" to the City Manager plan. The manager is expected to steer clear of local politics, and the League believes the City Council which appoints him also should be non-partisan.

"National party labels in a local election are silly since there is no parallel between municipal and national issues," the League says. "The question before the voters is not the fate of China but, say, the future of the sewer system."

City managers have no security but their own ability. Proposals to give them protection of contract appointments have been rejected overwhelmingly by the managers themselves when the question has been submitted to a vote at annual conferences of the City Managers' Association.

According to the men who make a living at it, a city manager needs the tact of a

diplomat, the thoroughness of an efficiency expert and the patience of Job.

Exceptions. Many have prepared themselves specifically for such posts, but there are exceptions, one of the most notable being Elgin Crull, city manager of Dallas, the largest city in the country operating under this form of government.

Crull covered City Hall for 10 years as a reporter for the old Dallas Dispatch-Journal. He grew so interested in municipal government that in 1939 he quit the newspaper business and became an assistant to the man who was city manager at that time. In 1952, he was promoted to the top spot, a job he still enjoys because "it is never boring."

Jack Joyce is chairman and Ron Gande adult advisor. Other committee members are Dean Nulton, Ron Gande Jr., Chuck Johnson, Gene Schmidt, Eddie McGrew and Jim Schmidt.

Contest winners from this district will go to the council aquacade Sept. 30 at Lake of the Woods.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hawkins of Butte Falls and paternal grandmother is Mrs. Eleanor J. LeNeve of Grass Valley, Calif.

A daughter, Debbie Ann, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Henshaw on July 7 at Sacred Heart hospital.

Several days following birth, Debbie Ann underwent major surgery and remained in the hospital several weeks. She is now at the home of her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Henshaw, Obenchain rd., Butte Falls. Maternal grandmother is Tom Rambo, Butte Falls.

Members of the Butte Falls and Derby Home Extension units and their children met at the Fish Hatchery recently for a potluck luncheon.

Mrs. Faye Fredrickson, a friend of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stratton, recently spent several days in their home. Mrs. Fredrickson lives in Cheyenne, Wyo., and both she and Mrs. Stratton are former principals at Elk Falls schools and will be the new grade school principal at Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bray and family have moved to Elmira, Ore. Bray is the former superintendent of Butte Falls schools and will be the new grade school principal at Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Reddell and family recently visited the Ben Kalabaugh family at Elk Creek, former residents of Butte Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Harper and girls of Klamath Falls, were recent guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stratton. Mrs. Harper and Stratton are cousins.

Miss Pamela Harris was guest of honor at a birthday party at the city park Monday, Aug. 17. She was 7 years old and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Harris.

Guests were Scott and Susan Stuart, June, Ray and Margie Fay Reddell, Barbara Price, Greg Jolliffe, Barbara Jo Finch Steve Lindley, Henry Englehardt, Nancy Smith, Karen and Elaine Smeltzer, Ray Finchum, Steve Barlow, Lana and Susan Perkins Vanessa Facey and Roger Harris.

Mothers attending were Mrs. Ted Reddell and Mrs. Henry Englehardt and Mrs. Harris, hostess. Mrs. Roger Harris, Pams' grandmother, also attended the party and took pictures.

The monthly Lions potluck supper will be a chicken fry at Willow Creek Dam Wednesday, Aug. 26, weather permitting. Each family is to bring fried chicken for his family, a hot dish, and salad or dessert.

Hostesses are Mrs. Duane Smeltzer and Mrs. William Harris.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Friday, Aug. 21, 1959

Ira, Vt. - (UPI) - Veterinarians say the incidence of twins in a herd of 40 high-producing Holsteins is about one set a year. But Clarence Fish's herd had four sets of twins in less than six months.

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Explorer Scouts Plan Aquacade

Medford Explorer Scouts will hold an aquacade at Gardner lake Sunday, Aug. 23, from 1:30 to 8:30 p.m. All explorers, Senior Scouts and their invited guests plan to attend.

The program will include swimming contests, novelty events, water skiing and a closing campfire. Those attending are to bring their own picnic dinner. Charcoal grills will be available.

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Lancerettes Hold Evening Practice

Montague - The evening practice of the Montague Lancerettes was held at the rodeo grounds early this week. Members practiced parade drill and held a meeting.

Nola Wheeler, captain, asked members to be at the rodeo grounds Saturday morning for transportation to the fair parade in Yreka.

It was decided to have Nola Wheeler and Carol Petersen represent the club at the horse show by riding in the grand entry with the club's colors.

Other business was the election of next year's officers and a potluck dinner held in honor of Nola Wheeler, who is going away to school. The election and dinner will be held Aug. 26 at the Montague club room at 7 p.m.

FIREWORKS

Watertown, N.Y. - (UPI) - Mr. and Mrs. James R. Filkins, of Watertown, have started a new Independence Day Tradition. On July 4, 1958, Mrs. Filkins gave birth to a daughter and on July 4, 1959 to another one.

Court Records

DISTRICT COURT
Jack E. Mitter, failure to make traffic stop, \$10.
Gerald E. Adamson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Donald G. Melvin, sifting and leaking load, \$10.
Pat M. William, no operator's license, \$10.
Rachel F. Standley, no operator's license, \$10.
Dunnell E. Koenig, no operator's license, \$10.
Douglas J. Smith, no operator's license, \$10.
Richard L. Atkins, overweight, \$15.
Elmer H. Bradford, no operator's license, \$10.
Marion E. Mecklen, 769 Liberty st., Ashland, driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, \$25.
Ellis A. Thorp, no operator's license, \$10.
Raymond B. Browns, overload, \$20.
Jerry B. Martin, overload, \$20.

CIRCUIT COURT
Doris June Ritzinger vs. Gary P. Ritzinger, divorce complaint.
MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Kenneth Dale Griess, 321 North Columbus ave., and Leona Rae McPherson, route 2, box 215, Harold L. Porcher, Elk Creek route, Trail, and Alma S. Engel Rutherford, Trail.
Larry Wayne Anderson, 623 Benson st., and Donna Lou Muriel Barker, 2371 Sunset court.

Eagle Point Grange To Participate in National Contest

Eagle Point - The 2,500 hours of community service contributed by members of the Eagle Point Grange this year have been summarized for the Grange's participation in a national contest.

C. C. Hoover, chairman of the group's community service committee, reported that Eagle Point Grange is entered in the 12th annual \$60,000 Grange community service contest.

Approximately 5,000 Granges are competing for the \$10,000 first prize offered by Sears-Roebuck Foundation, co-sponsor of the contest with the National Grange. Additional awards total over \$50,000.

Outstanding Project

Outstanding among the 10 projects Hoover listed is a program encouraging organizations and individuals throughout the state, and particularly in this area, to plant trees. Plantings are for "beautifying the landscape, reforestation and windbreak and shelter for livestock," he explained.

In recognition of Oregon's Centennial, each Grange and 4-H club in the county was offered 100 trees of various species. Grange members delivered approximately 2,000

trees to the groups, and one club, the Reese Creek Renegades, made tree-planting a club project. A plaque will be awarded to the member judged to have made the best use of his trees.

Letters were sent to each of the remaining 350 Granges in the state outlining the local program and urging each group to plant a minimum of 100 trees during the Centennial year.

Receive Offer

Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire girls and church groups who enthusiastically received the Grange's offer incorporated the tree-planting into their programs.

Campfire leaders gave their members the project as a Golden Jubilee conservation project requirement. The Grange conducted a tree-planting day for Campfire girls in April when 200 girls, working in teams, planted approximately 1,260 willow cuttings.

The willows, donated by a local nursery, were placed around several lakes and along a creek in the White City area. As a result Hoover said, youth groups became aware of suitable campsites at one of the lakes. As many as 700 trees were given by the Grange community service committee in a single day, and a truckload of 2,400 young trees and cuttings was distributed free at a local auction yard.

Establish Nursery Area

Trees from the Grange were used by the Veterans Domiciliary at Camp White to establish a nursery area in the VA cemetery, where an estimated 1,000 trees are in now various stages of growth.

Other projects undertaken by Eagle Point Grange this year include sponsorship of Rogue Valley Dairy Maids softball team; sponsorship of a local accordion band which won honors in statewide competition; a rattle-snake control program; banquet and breakfast for an Oregon State college farm crops group; and approximately 250 hours service to patients at the Camp White infirmary.

The Grange also offers a 4-H scholarship.

Commenting on the purpose of the contest, National Grange Master Herschel D. Newsom stated that "It is to encourage rural citizens in their attempt to solve community problems the self-help way—the American way."

Since the contest started 12 years ago, participants have voluntarily contributed over 50 million man-hours to local community service projects valued at over \$500 million in community improvements, Newsom said.

Finalists will be announced Sept. 23 and a judging committee of five nationally-known agricultural and educational leaders will visit the top 10 Granges to inspect results before final selection. Results will be announced Oct. 21.

Carleton F. Sharpe, city manager of Hartford, Conn., since 1947, does have a background of specific training for the job, including a masters degree in citizenship and public affairs and a succession of governmental jobs.

The most gratifying thing about his field, Sharpe said, is that "you can actually see the results of your work - if," he added thoughtfully, "you are lucky."

Eighty per cent of the managers appointed in recent years have been recruited from outside the cities they serve, usually moving from a smaller to a larger community, and the National Municipal League says that is a good idea.

Fresh Viewpoints

"An experienced outsider with a fresh viewpoint, directed by a council that knows local conditions, can do a better job than a local man hampered by local ties," the League said. "The administrative problems of all cities are similar. It's an advantage to have an outsider who has already proved his ability."

Elder Gunter had such a background. He moved from Newton, Kan., to Junction, Kan., and then University City, Mo., before accepting his present job as city manager of Des Moines about a year ago. Like most men in the field, he enjoys the work.

"You never know what will happen next," he said. "There's something different every day in meeting different problems and types of people."

Important Part

He agreed with other managers that the ability to get along with people, and to persuade them to work together, is an important part of the job.

A. E. Fuller, manager for Fulton County, Ga. (Atlanta), pointed out another notable qualification, the ability and willingness to "carry out policies of elected representatives whether he likes it or not."

Managers, according to the City Managers Association, are paid an average of \$6,340 a year in towns with populations under 5,000, up to an average of \$22,349 in cities of more than 250,000, and a top of \$35,000.

New Crash Helmet Saves Flier's Life

Stockton, Calif. - (UPI) - Pilot Allan Blewett bought a crash helmet Wednesday - although he had never worn one in his hazardous work as a crop duster.

Thursday, Blewett's head was through the dashboard of his plane when the craft smashed through two trees, sheared off a power pole and crashed on a road.

The pilot walked away from the crash without injuries. "It was the best investment I ever made," Blewett said, rapping his scarred helmet.

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