



## Loa's Write-in Mayor

By Jim Fitzpatrick

Utah's oldest mayor, Levi Taylor, ("his honor" to the citizens of Loa, in Wayne county) paid a hurried visit to Salt Lake City recently. He came to see his daughter, Mrs. Douglas A. S. Hunt, 418 Ninth ave., who is just one of the mayor's fourteen children.

Mr. Taylor is 80 years of age and he's out to give Loa the best mayor it ever had. He is a native of the community, his father having been sent down to Wayne county to establish a farming colony. The mayor has been a figure in farming and grazing circles most of his life. He also helped to carry freight in earlier times by horse and wagon, and he remembers very clearly the difficulties of shocking grain by hand. Mr. Taylor is pretty modest about his whole career, for he maintains he's led "a common life."

### Celebrated Anniversary

Recently he and Mrs. Taylor celebrated their 52th wedding anniversary and it was the occasion for them to recall their many interests in Loa. For one thing, Mr. Taylor made a mission for the LDS church when he was a young man, and when

his family grew up, he sent three of his boys on missions. The Taylors have always been leaders in Loa. They have 48 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

### Improvement Program

The people around Loa are loud in their praise of Mr. Taylor's administration. "The most active mayor we've had in 25 years," they say. Mr. Taylor's political victory was an almost unheard-of feat, for he won the election by a write-in vote. In other words, Mr. Taylor's name didn't even appear on the ballot, but his qualifications were so evident to the majority of voters, that they all took the trouble to write his name onto the ballot so they could vote for him. It's pretty much of a mandate from Loa's 600 citizens, and Mayor Taylor isn't going to shirk.

"Streets and sidewalks in Loa are in a terrible condition. I'm going to improve them," says His Honor. That is the main problem facing Loa's executive. He says he will fix up the town if he had to do it himself, and he certainly has the qualifications to do it. Among other improvements for Loa, the mayor



Levi Taylor . . . At 80 he's the mayor of Loa in Wayne county.

contemplates replacing the culverts, which, he says, are far too short, and removing traffic and accident hazards to make Loa a safe place to live in.

Yes, the mayor of Loa made a fast trip to Salt Lake City, but he's already back there, getting the town into shape.