

THOMAS L. BROWN... J. S. DOWD... B. O. GRUETT... C. A. McARDY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1949

CITY COUNCIL PAY QUESTION

Former Councilman J. A. Baker's suggestion that the salaries of the Mayor and City Councilmen be greatly increased has just enough merit to make it plausible. Hence, it is conceivable.

Undoubtedly the Councilmen, who now draw a meagre \$200 a year, and the Mayor, who is paid \$1,200 a year, should receive more compensation.

Mr. Baker would increase the Mayor's salary from \$1,200 to \$7,200 a year, a six-fold boost. He would jump Council salaries from \$200 to \$2,400 a year, a twelve-fold increase.

This would be overly generous. Charlotte is the City Manager form of government, and so far as we can tell, it is working beautifully.

The real work of running the City falls upon the City Manager and his department heads. They are well paid, and

rightfully so, for they are responsible for a multi-million dollar business.

At present, the positions of Mayor and City Councilmen are essentially honorary, public service jobs. Attract men who are mainly interested in serving the people. Certainly the financial compensation is no inducement.

Mr. Baker's financial salaries would not attract any more good candidates. They are not high enough for that. But they would be high enough to lure unqualified candidates who would get in them a change to augment their earnings.

The greatest danger is that such salary scales would inevitably jeopardize the City Manager form of government. The people would rightly expect Councilmen to earn their pay. They, in turn, would begin to bypass the City Manager. Sooner or later, we would be back to the Mayor-Aldermen form of government.

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GENERAL IKE IN '52?

General Dwight Eisenhower may not be an announced candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, but his activities in recent months have certainly indicated that he is open for the bid.

The popular military leader could probably have had either the Democratic or Republican nominations in 1948, had he been willing to jump into the pre-convention maneuvering. But he renounced any political aspirations in a famous statement which said in many words that military training does not make Presidential material.

At a meeting of the American Bar Association in early September, the General made one of the most notable addresses of the year. He set out to define a sensible middle-of-the-road policy which would avoid the extremes of the Right and the Left. It was a dignified talk, but he succeeded skillfully and eloquently.

He didn't hurt himself at the Unification hearings in Washington. After days of bitter charges and counter-charges, he General took the stand in the role of peace-maker, and carried it off very nicely. More recently, the Eisenhower speeches have been a masterpiece of statesmanship. At the New York Herald-Tribune Forum he attacked Stalin, warned against loss of individual freedom,

and suggested that a group of prominent and responsible Americans be formed to study the question of the government's mental responsibilities and those of the individual.

He spoke again this week, to a group of Scottish-Americans gathered in New York. Too much emphasis on the subject of personal security at the risk of individual liberty, he said, reminding the Scots that their forebears had never flinched at the principle that "man should carve his own future for himself and his family, economically and every other way." His nearest turn of political phrase was "The real work of running the City falls upon the City Manager and his department heads. They are well paid, and

changed with the definition of liberty as a man in Washington who wants to play the Almighty with our money."

The No. 1 organization candidate for the GOP nomination is still General Taft. He will be esteemed even more highly if he wins a district seat in Ohio next year. And he has tremendous support from among the party faithful.

SUCCESS OF THE SHRINE BOWL DREAM

When the whistle blew for the thirtieth annual Shrine Bowl football game at Memorial Stadium this afternoon, over 30,000 spectators saw 23 strong young boys take to the field to do their duty on an inflated pigskin.

Though few took their eyes from the excellent athletic display before them, very few saw a few more boys, a number of other youngsters 100 miles to the southwest. There, in Greenville, S. C.'s Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, were the beneficiaries of this Shrine bowl game. The proceeds from the game this year were sold out and cash for many others had to be returned.

Once again Charlotte wishes to pay tribute to the noble spirit of the Shrine Bowl. Myrtle Shrine temples in the Carolinas have made it so successful.

FROM THE Christian Science Monitor

TO LAY A 'GHOST'

A DISINTERESTED and liberal Virginia editor, Virginia Dabney, writing in a weekly of mass circulation, Collier's, writes the American public that "Prohibition's Ghost Walks Alike." It is an article that calls for an answer.

We need to question the sincerity of Mr. Dabney's position. To disinterestedness of Collier's would need less defending had it not carried in the same issue seven and one-half pages of alcoholic beverage advertisements.

For the moment we shall not argue either the ethics or the wisdom of the numerous prohibitions of the organized "dry" cited in the article. But shall we not question Mr. Dabney's evident major motive—that prohibition often hardly the moral solution to the liquor problem.

To be sure, the evils of the prohibition movement have been exaggerated and those of legal liquor grossly played down—by far too many writers. To be sure, Mr. Dabney's picture of the farve of a "dry" Oklahoma is simply that of a "dry" Oklahoma. Nevertheless, prohibition in present prospect does far reaching that support from the overwhelming majority of citizens which is indispensable to such a remedy.

of concessions to the sincerity of some drys) they open the door to liquor traffic and its inseparable evils come chiefly from bootleggers, bigoted fanatics, and professional reformers. It does not.

To sum it up in brief, of, and to a larger extent, the prohibition movement is a monstrous tide of troubled Americans—a great many of them still not abstainers. Mr. Dabney, himself, between the lines is telling the purposes and consequences of a highly profitable industry so that unless the liquor industry reform itself and its patrons show more self-restraint that tide could turn into a torrent and sweep prohibition to sea.

We believe the lasting solution lies in another direction. Local option has proved workable, on the whole. It will probably be necessary to curb by law the promotional activities of a highly profitable industry so that it cannot continue to stimulate artificially the demand for its product and thus remain self-perpetuating. But the real solution lies in the hands of the individual. It need be, through the positive forces of education and religion operating to refine the social customs and to elevate the moral values of a whole people.

Ever notice how a small cloud will scare you away from church, and how much rain you can stand in a football grandstand?—Moby-Dick, Tom. Gettys.



Does In The Capital It's Bob Reynolds' Last Chance

By TOM SCHLESINGER, Charlotte News Special Writer

ALGORE tried to get Robert B. Reynolds, in town this week, to ask that the Democratic vote for Senator Reynolds' seat stand Jan. 1. This was not done, but the contest was held the last chance that 65-year-old Reynolds would have of retaining here. Next time, he would be in his own hands, and also too far removed from his political friends. The informant also specifically added that Reynolds had unlimited financial support for any sort of race.

This remark may be a hint of what to expect. If Reynolds fails to get his seat, he is a doubtful how far it would get him this time.

First, he has to run on a pretty shabby record. After all, he has been in the Senate for three years, and he has shown his legislative feelings by voting against repeal of the arms embargo on the Japanese, and by voting against both less-land act; he voted against repeal of the neutrality act, against extension of the draft, and against merchant ships. He voted this despite his affection for seniority on May 15, 1947, in opposition to the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

This is merely his record on international affairs. His record on domestic affairs is equally unimpressive. He has not been able to get any of his bills passed. He has been a vocal supporter of such acknowledged friends as Gerald L. Borchgrevink.

Then, too, he will be backing the best voter in the state. There is hardly a church, school, or business in the South that does not have a sign for the Shrine Bowl. It is a shame that Washington, and instead of election it is a shame that he would be entering into the fray with much vigor and ability, much to the credit of the Shrine Bowl.

The feeling in Washington is that this speculation materializes Reynolds will be soundly beaten.

GEORGE DIXON, first-term Washington Congressman, this week circulated a cute story about Olin D. Johnston from South Carolina. Senator Olin D. Johnston is a statesman of impressive and gracious utterances. He could play a puppet-queen on the stage or in the Senate.

Olin, the clown, keeps his seat in the Senate game, a below-street-level affair reached by the back door of the Capitol. He is a man of many faces, and he is a man of many faces.

The other day he got trotted somehow, in the name of Union station and Capitol Plaza, and drove his car into the rear of the Capitol building. He was a member of the House of Representatives, and he was a member of the House of Representatives.

THE Chicago district which sends him to Congress used to be Republican. And during the Herbert Hoover administration, it was a Republican district. It was a Republican district, and it was a Republican district.



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Marquis Childs Fifty Big Years

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Quote, Unquote

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