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JAMES P. McMillan—MAN OF THE YEAR

IF FROM ALL of James P. McMillan's many fine characteristics you had to select the two that best delineate him, they would be enthusiasm and energy. An enthusiasm that knows no bounds and an energy that is directed toward the numerous civic and business projects he is interested in, an enthusiasm that infects others around him. And a kind of pile-driving energy that violates all the rules for a man who will be 60 in April, and who has to carry a good chunk of weight around with him wherever he goes. But to sketch Jim McMillan in a few strokes would not adequately portray him. Blended with his enthusiasm and energy is a rich mixture of good humor, persistence, managerial judgment, showmanship, common sense, patience and, perhaps most important of all, a deep affection for boys. But more about that in a moment. To be named Charlotte's Man of the Year by a group of former Men of the Year, most have done something rather unusual in the 12-month period. Jim McMillan's biggest assignment in 1953 was to save the huge auditorium project. He led a spirited public campaign for an additional one million dollars in bonds—for a total of four million dollars. But this was just one role in the project.

Back in 1946, he was a leader in an unsuccessful bond campaign for a municipal auditorium. He was a member of the original study committee which recommended a site, an architectural design and a three million dollar bond issue for an auditorium and college, approved by the voters in 1950. He has since served as chairman of the building committee and is a member of the authority that will manage the great recreation center in the future. Meanwhile, he found time to be president of the Rotary Club, to direct his large business, and to serve his church and other worthy community enterprises. But Jim McMillan's greatest accomplishment, in our opinion, is the opportunity which the Boys Choir has given to hundreds of Charlotte youngsters to learn music, to travel, to grow in total personality and to develop self-confidence. When the choir is in rehearsal, in concert or on the road, Jim McMillan has all the problems of a father, but he never worries or yells him—perhaps because he has developed just the right touch in dealing with boys. To them he is "Mr. Mac," and no performance is a success in their opinion until "Mr. Mac" has said "I love you." The Charlotte News, which sponsors the Man of the Year award, welcomes James P. McMillan as a deserving member of the select company.

YEAR END REPORT TO OUR READERS

YEAR'S END is a good time for a newspaper to look back over what it has said during the past 12 months. The process of thumbing through the files encourages in editors the trait that Arthur Godfrey made newsworthy in 1953—humor. In retrospect, you can see where we were wrong, why we went off half-cocked, or labored in vain. We also are reminded anew of the gremlins that slip onto the editorial page. Perhaps, by reviewing "The News" editorials of 1953, we can correct some errors, better acquaint our readers with News policy, and profit ourselves for the future. Some of our errors were lulu. There was the time when we advocated "disbursement" of defense industries instead of "dispersal." Once, meaning to define a pessimist as a fellow who wears both belt and suspenders we unthinkingly said "both belt and suspenders—and an optimist wears neither."

Regarding the case of Air Force Lieutenant Radulovich, whose loyalty was questioned because of charges against him in a 1952 editorial deploring the appointment of Clare Booth Luce as ambassador to Italy, we think some of our fears were unjustified, even though the replacement of an able and experienced career diplomat by the crucial Italian election still seems to have been ill-advised.

PERUSAL of the files unhappily discloses that our ardent championship of various issues was not always successful. There was particularly true during the General Assembly. We fought, unsuccessfully, for urban redevelopment, redistricting, home rule, and perimeter zoning, and against the Assembly's secrecy law. Equally unsuccessful was our advocacy of a state minimum wage law, a preferential primary, voting privileges for citizens who move just before an election, a better rehabilitation program for prisoners, simplification of the complex certification requirements. Here at home we continued to plug, unsuccessfully, for city-county consolidation and purchase of voting machines. On the other hand, substantial progress was made on some issues. We were right, we like to think, this newspaper had some share in. The Charlotte firemen's retirement program, which we had labeled "a compromise with bankruptcy," is in the process of being put on a financially sound basis. State Senator Robert Stevens' proposal to abolish the county police department and turn over its functions to the sheriff's office was slapped down. The percentage system of personal property taxation has been adopted by Mecklenburg County. Pleading to us was the passage of the Public Bond Act.

ON the segregation issue, The News believes the Supreme Court will show "shock" in its decision. We believe and uphold the right of the states to have dual systems of schools. The heart of the "Negro problem," we believe, is "provision of equal economic opportunity for Negroes." Frequently, through the year, we pointed out the relationship between job discrimination and poverty, crime, disease, and migration of talented Negroes. Nationally we continued to like Ike—Adlai. We thought to count on what has become known broadly as "McCarthyism," whether it took the form of book-banning, trial by accusation, hit-and-run sensations, or vicious, low-level demagoguery. Here again we may have erred, as in years past, by concentrating too much on the man who symbolizes these things instead of on the dangers inherent in the tactics he has used. We plugged for UNR, fought the Bricker Amendment, and advocated the McCarran Immigration Act. We sympathized with, and simultaneously prodded, Secretary of Agriculture Benson. We berated the abuse of veteran privilege. Internationally, we continued to fight in support of the U.N. and the free world alliance of free trade and of positive philosophy that will strengthen the bond between free men everywhere. It was a controversial, thought-provoking, and at times a heated year. The activities of the free American who thinks for himself. And one of the more encouraging things about 1953 was that toward its close there were many indications that an ever larger number of Americans are beginning to think for themselves.

THE PEOPLE in the liquor business wonder why their business is often suspect, they might ponder a statement attributed to the president of the National Liquor Beverage Association at its recent convention. "It's about time the responsibility for purchases by minors is placed where it belongs—on the parents." The responsibility for the sale of liquor to minors is where it belongs and where it is going to stay—on the people who sell the liquor. Tavern keepers and liquor store opera-

tor who are unwilling to accept that obligation would be wise to remind themselves that their "right" to sell alcoholic beverages is a temporary one. The vast majority of liquor dealers and tavern keepers, who do not sell to minors and who do not desire to, we hope that the term of this particular "spokesman" is a short one. Some of the leading annoyances of the More Abundant Life are higher taxes and traffic casualties.—LAUREL (Miss.) LEARNER-CALL.



"First member of the U. N."

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

News Racial Policy Praised

THE Star of Zion, official organ of the African M. E. Zion Church, which observed its 77th anniversary on Dec. 31 in behalf of the largest Negro Methodist constituency in Charlotte and vicinity wishes to express its deep appreciation of the very remarkable contribution the Charlotte News has made to interracial goodwill and understanding during the past year. As editor of The Star of Zion for nearly 15 years, it has my delightful experience of witness tremendous progress and development by the Charlotte News in its attitude toward and treatment of our common problems, and in this does not lack in the field of race relations of any citizen Charlotte during the past year. Mr. McKnight, the editor, has not only made an outstanding contribution in this area, but has shown exceptional ability as one of the great editors of the nation. Admittedly, race relations in Charlotte and community leave much to be desired, for in the area of Christian interracial affairs, in which The Star of Zion has a vital interest, it is behind other major cities of North Carolina. But The News has shown the way to better understanding of our common problems, and in this deserves the unqualified commendation and support of the Christian community. —WALTER R. LOVELL, Editor, The Star of Zion.

Wrong Kind Of Tolerance

I WOULD add this to the minority, regarding letter from Charlotte Parent who Scores School Smoking. The other day, schools and parents may be standing against this most subtle evil preying upon our youth of today? It should not be allowed in the homes of our children. This positive declaration sounds intelligent and presumptuous to many who don't understand fully the insidious harm done our boys and girls during the last several decades, for what is it if not too much tolerance? Had it been broadmindedness and tolerance, it is one of the most popular subjects on which a man is able to deliver a series of very engaging personal aspects of these just a short time ago, in his advocacy of Christian good will and brotherhood between people to consider and recognize the attitudes toward life, banish prejudices, and be kind and friendly to all. He pictured the savior during his ministry, going about advocating such tolerance for tolerant brotherhood is a realistic or basic

On Poll Tax Systems

I READ with some interest your editorial which appeared in the Richmond Times-Dispatch concerning the poll tax systems of some of our southern states prior to voting. Many of us in Virginia would be glad to see the poll tax abolished, but a few old time machine Democrats want it to continue. We tried to get rid of it in 1949, I believe was the year the amendment to the constitution called "Campbell amendment." This amendment undertook to eliminate what was called a "poll tax" for a school tax. In other words, get rid of the poll tax of \$1.50 for school tax of \$3.00 which had to be paid prior to registration and voting. This was not all the story, but a little study of the amendment clearly left the impression that license to fish, hunt or operate a motor car could be used by the applicant until he paid the school tax of \$3. When I found out the real scheme, I did everything I could to defeat this vicious amendment, but I was overruled. Had it passed, the people in this state would have been in political bondage. If you advise me whether I would be glad to have you advise me if North Carolina collects any tax for the right to vote. Of course, where the people are poor, this tax would be collected along with property tax. But how about the shuffling element who own no property? Will he glad to have you advise me with respect to this? (Note: North Carolina does not make the payment by voters, but it is a prerequisite to voting. However, if you cheat on your income tax, you might wind up in the pokey and not be able to get to the polls. Eds. The News.)

Draw Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

CONSIDERABLY more and much more determined Dwight Eisenhower faces the year 1954. He knows the his place in history as a President, he make it do this year. If he does not put across his program this year it will be too late. He knows 1954 must be the year of achievement. The other day Eisenhower had a conversation with a close friend which gives significant insight into his current thinking. "If I had remained a military man," was the burden of his thought, "my record would have stood alongside that of any of our great military figures." He went on to cite Lee, Grant, and even George Washington and had allowed it with whom his own military record might compare. Then he said that, since he had become President he had allowed it to be history would not be based on his record as a military man but on his record as a President. There was a slight note of address in the President's tone as he said this, as if he were slightly upset and had allowed himself to be drafted for the Presidency. But there was also a note of determination and a sense of determination that he would not let his record as a President be less than that of any of our great military figures.

THE PUBLIC BE DAMNED

THE PEOPLE in the liquor business wonder why their business is often suspect, they might ponder a statement attributed to the president of the National Liquor Beverage Association at its recent convention. "It's about time the responsibility for purchases by minors is placed where it belongs—on the parents." The responsibility for the sale of liquor to minors is where it belongs and where it is going to stay—on the people who sell the liquor. Tavern keepers and liquor store opera-

It's Been A Big Year For Homburg; Toothpaste People

THIS WAS the year of industrial revolution, not only in the automobile field, but in the toothpaste field. It was not only a big year for Homburg, but it was a big year for the toothpaste people. The developments ranged from hats to toothpaste to apple jelly to bed sheets and maybe we'd better start with that trick phone; it consists of a standard-looking phone booth lined with talking-stuff. So you walk in, sit down, close the door, and talk. The microphone into which you talk and the loudspeaker through which you hear are built flush into the wall. PHONELESS BOOTHS The phone company now has one of these phone booths installed in Boston to see how the people like it. The advantages are for me to discuss from now on, but I would think the engineers might be pondering softer planks for their station phone booths. The hat deal started earlier in 1953 when President Eisenhower decided he was not wearing a hat to his own inauguration. He chose a Homburg and so did everybody else. The developments ranged from a large stock on hand and a feeling of bitterness against the likes of the man who had the new For New Year's celebrations the Homburgers all are advertising Homburg. The developments ranged from a large stock on hand and a feeling of bitterness against the likes of the man who had the new For New Year's celebrations the Homburgers all are advertising Homburg. The developments ranged from a large stock on hand and a feeling of bitterness against the likes of the man who had the new For New Year's celebrations the Homburgers all are advertising Homburg.

Outlook For '54 Major Fights Instead Of Major Legislation

By STEWART ALSOP
WASHINGTON (Continued from page 1) — The coming session of Congress ought to be full of excitement and light. Actually, it rather generally agreed on Capitol Hill that it will be a shambles, and a rather bloody shambles at that. President Eisenhower did a first rate job of persuasion during his recent conferees with the public and congressional leaders. Moreover, the program he presented to them was a modest, but conservative program, notably unambitious and uncontroversial, and squarely based on the Republican platform. One might therefore expect, if politics were a logical business, that the Congress would quickly endorse the President's uncontroversial program, and retire thankfully to farm-houses in the States. Nothing of the sort seems to be in prospect. Instead, a series of pretty sure to be a series of major rows even before the Congress gets around to considering the presidential program. At least four issues will confront the Senate as soon as it convenes. The first is the amendment, the St. Lawrence Seaway, statehood for Hawaii, and the admission of Alaska. It is likely to be a considerable row about each. The second is the program of Dwight D. Eisenhower, which has let it be known that he is ready to fight against raising the ceiling on the income tax. The government is to function unless the limit is raised. But Byrd carries a lot of weight on both sides of the aisle. No politician likes to be an record as seemingly favoring an astronomical growth of the federal government. This issue may give rise to a major White House Congress battle. THE BRICKER BOW The Bricker Amendment, limiting the President's power to conduct foreign policy, may lead to an even bigger row. This issue may well demonstrate at the outset that Byrd is on his own party. It is likely to go along with the President. For most of the support for the amendment comes from the Republicans, and Eisenhower is strongly on record against the amendment. These issues could well occupy the angry attention of the Senate for weeks, indefinitely. The administration of the full Eisenhower program. When they are finally out of the way, Moreover

add the sudden, unexplained resignation of a top group leader and disaffection of the Democrats. It then becomes clear that the Eisenhower program is not so mild and reasonable, as had been expected to be in for rough handling on Capitol Hill. The President is testing the water for the President is now at hand. He cannot expect the Congress to do every bit and cross every t in this program. But if he is to be a strong President, the administration must take the situation by mid-summer, when the Congress goes home. And this will be very far from easy.