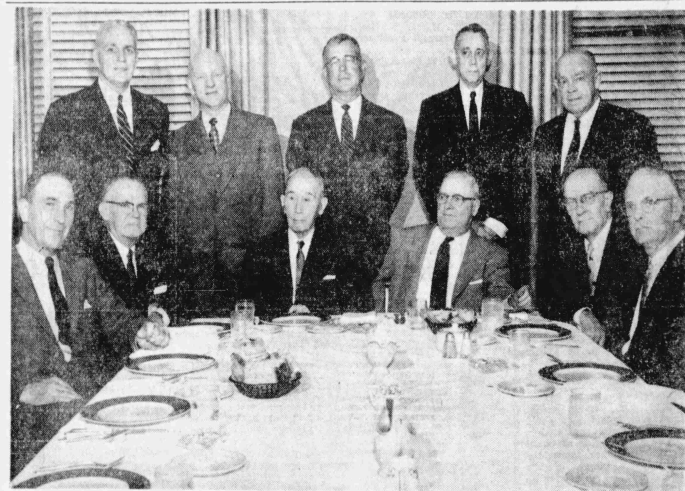




# SMOKE CHOKES CITY MAN



**CHARLOTTE'S MAN OF THE YEAR** will be announced Monday in The News. The selection has been made by former Charlotte News men of the year. Shown here is the selection committee which annually honors a leading citizen. Seated left to right: C. W. Gilchrist (1945), Coleman W. Roberts (1944), David Owens (1950), J. Norman Pease (1948), Henry C. Dockery (1949)

(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin-Franklin) and George M. Ivey (1947), standing left to right, John Watlington (1951), J. Spencer Bell (1955), H. H. Everett (1952), John C. Erwin (1954) and James P. McMillan (1953). One former man of the year has died. He was J. B. Marshall who was honored in 1946. The Man of the Year selection started in 1944.

## Outstanding Citizen To Be Honored

### Man Of Year To Be Revealed Monday

Charlotte's Man of the Year for 1956 will be announced Monday in all editions of The Charlotte News.

The News established the award in 1944 to honor the citizen who had rendered outstanding service to the community during the year.

As is customary, the Man of the Year for 1956 was chosen by previous Men of the Year. Representatives of The Charlotte News do not participate in the selection except in case of a persistent deadlock when they may cast the deciding vote.

Rules under which the award selection is made provide that persons holding salaried elective political positions are not considered eligible. Residency in Charlotte is not a requirement — although all Men of the Year have been local citizens — provided a person's activities have been in and for the city.

Coleman W. Roberts (1944), C. W. Gilchrist (1945), George M. Ivey (1947), Col. J. Norman Pease (1948), Henry C. Dockery (1949), David Owens (1950), John Watlington (1951), H. H. Everett (1952), J. P. McMillan (1953), John C. Erwin (1954), and J. Spencer Bell (1955). Marshall, Man of the Year in 1946, died several years ago.

Thomas L. Robinson, president and publisher of The News, and B. S. Griffith, vice president and general manager, represented The News at the meeting. Traditionally, announcement of the Man of the Year is made by The News on the last publishing day of the year.

## Strictly Political

### Hodges Glowing In Lull Before The Big Storm

By JULIAN SCHEER  
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Friends of Gov. Hodges can't understand it. The man, who works on a timetable that would kill most men his age, is feeling good, looking good and is highly optimistic.

Hodges acts like a prize fighter who loves combat, who can't wait for the bell to ring so he can get into the middle of the ring and do battle.

The optimism comes on the eve of a February General Assembly which is loaded with explosive questions.

Despite the "war clouds" Mr. Hodges must realize exist, he seems to be looking forward to the whole show with zeal and, perhaps, excitement. And he thinks everything is going his way.

Since his "program" consists of several "popularity" themes, he stands a good chance of coming out fairly well. But an all-out victory? There are many who think the shooting is going to be hotter than even the Governor would dare to expect.

Issues: The issues will be these — (1) Reapportionment, (2) the separation of highway and prisons and the reorganization of the highway commission and (3) tax changes.

Reapportionment: This issue may not kick up as much fuss as many suspect. Reapportionment simply doesn't excite many members of the legislature and, while some support it from pangs of conscience, there is a strong likelihood that this thing will be bounced around until dead.

But, like a liquor referendum, the Governor will have made his pitch.

Tax: This will be an interesting issue. The Governor wants all or nothing — passage of the See HODGES on page 5-A

## President To Tour Parched Areas Of U. S. In January

AGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — President Eisenhower's inspection tour of drought-hit areas of the Midwest and Southwest will take him into six states Jan. 13-15, his headquarters announced today.

Eisenhower plans to make stops in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Kansas for an on-the-spot survey of the worst parching of that region in many years.

The White House announced earlier this month that the president would make such a survey in mid-January. Some of the details and the specific dates were made known here today as Eisenhower was enjoying a weekend of golf in advance of the reconvening of congress next week.

The drought area tour schedule calls for the president to leave Washington by plane the afternoon of Sunday, Jan. 13. He will fly to San Angelo, Tex., and stay overnight at Goodfellow Air Force Base there.

The actual inspection of drought regions will start the next day, Jan. 14, in the San Angelo area. Then he will fly on to West Woodward, Okla., and to Clovis, N. M.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Montgomery's segregated city buses which have been targeted for night gunners twice in a week were running normally Saturday as visitors flooded the city for the annual Blue-Gray football game.

There was little evidence of tension between the races despite the shooting incidents. Last night a Negro woman was shot in both legs while riding a city bus at the first capital of the Confederacy.

Football fans from the North and South were in Montgomery for the 19th revival of the College All-Star game arranged as a gesture of friendship between the two sections which once met in a bloody war at least partially inspired by racial differences.

Meanwhile, a high school band

that evening he will arrive at Tucson, Ariz., and spend the night there at David-Monthan AFB.

On Tuesday, Jan. 15, he will fly from Tucson to Pueblo, Colo., then on to Garden City, Kan. Late in the afternoon he will arrive in Wichita, Kan., where he is scheduled to meet with representatives of farmers, ranchers, industry, banking, government and agriculture schools from all the states hit by the drought.

Eisenhower will fly back to Washington a f. e. r. the Wichita meeting. He will be accompanied on the tour by Secretary of Agriculture Benson, Secretary of the Interior, Scout, members of the White House and agriculture department staffs, and a representative of the Army concerned with the conservation aspects of the drought problem.

In addition to ground inspection tours in the six states, the president plans to fly low over the entire drought region, Assistant White House Press Secretary Murray Snyder said.

Eisenhower first announced in October he would visit the drought regions. The White House said then he would make the tour with a view of determining what additional federal aid is needed.

Winds of 15 to 25 miles an hour kept the president from getting as early start on the golf course today, but Snyder said the chief executive hoped to get in a round later in the day.

He also was looking forward to the arrival from Washington of a favorite bridge-playing pal—Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, who recently retired as supreme commander of allied forces in Europe. Just before leaving the White House yesterday Eisenhower awarded a distinguished service medal oak leaf cluster to Gruenther, who he honored as the president of the American Red Cross Jan.

director was beaten by hooded men near Camden, S. C., in new outbreaks of racial violence in the deep south.

Mrs. Rosa Jordan, 22, Montgomery, was the first victim of gunfire in the spreading Southern controversy over segregation on city buses. She was reported in fair condition in a Montgomery hospital.

Investigators said Mrs. Jordan was riding toward the rear of a bus last night when a bullet, apparently from a pistol, slammed into the vehicle near the floor, passed through her left leg and lodged in her right leg.

## Meadows Dies In Bedroom

A Charlotte man suffocated in his bed this morning when a small fire broke out in his home.

Washington Julian Meadows, 50, was already dead when firemen found him in the bedroom of his home at 2028 Kentucky Ave., in The Plaza section.

The fire itself was confined to the living room but heavy smoke had filled the house by the time firemen arrived. They were forced to use gas masks in order to enter the burning house.

Firemen said the blaze started in a living room sofa, apparently from a cigarette, about 6:30 a.m. They said the fire had apparently burned for some time before it broke through the living room wall and was seen by neighbors who were just arising.

Meadows was alone in the house at the time the fire broke out. His wife, Adele, had stayed with friends last night, neighbors told firemen.

### WIFE LOCATED

Mrs. Meadows was located by police at Mercy Hospital, where she works as a dietitian.

Neighbors said the couple had lived in the small white house on Kentucky Ave. only a few months. They had lived just a block away before moving there, they said.

Firemen said they believed Meadows was a retired army officer.

The fire itself burned through the side of the house and through the living room floor. It took some time for firemen to dig into the house timbers to root out the stubborn blaze.

Smoke damage to the inside of the five room house was considered "very intense" by Deputy Chief Walter J. Black. The walls of the house were still cracking with heat 30 minutes after the blaze was extinguished.

Remnants of the sofa where the fire broke out. Several windows in the house were cracked by the intense heat.

### FAIR, COLD WEEKEND IN STORE

Winter swirled a cloak of cold, clear air over Charlotte and it will remain there over the weekend.

The weather bureau forecasts fair and continued cold right up to Monday.

Temperatures should be around 40 degrees and low tonight about 25.

Monday should be around 44 degrees and the low Sunday night should be 25.

### Automation Next For Transportation

BALTIMORE (AP) — Automation has come to the rescue of the bus and streetcar rider — perhaps.

Baltimore Transit Co. announced that work has been under way for a year on an electronic brain which will draw up schedules. Traffic-load and other information is fed into the UNIVAC computer. The machine applies formula and comes up with the schedules.

Baltimore Transit has submitted to the Public Service Commission 30 new schedules for 14 lines of further vehicle changes. They will go into effect Jan. 13.

When the bus resumed its operation it was fired on again, but on a second day it was fired on again. As a safety precaution, Police Commissioner Clyde Sellers ordered city bus runs halted for the night.

The shooting was the most serious incident in the Alabama capital since city buses were interrupted under federal court order eight days ago. On Wednesday night they were struck by two shots but there were no injuries.

Guy Hutchins, 32, Camden High School band director, told from his hospital bed how a band of hooded men tied him to a tree



Burned Wall of Charlotte Home Where Man Suffocated Early Today.

## New Year Holiday Traffic Deaths Show Slow Increase

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
New Year holiday traffic deaths climbed today, but at a much slower pace than during the early phases of the record-setting Christmas weekend.

At the same time during the Christmas weekend motor vehicle deaths totaled 63.

This, the trend was hopeful, but subject to change.

### CRACK DOWN

During the New Year celebration period that began at 6 p.m. (local time) Friday police in many states and cities were under order to crack down hard on violators. They wanted to make sure that there was no repetition of the all-time high toll of 700 deaths recorded during the Christmas observance.

California police, in a safety drive, stopped 14,421 cars and issued 1,197 citations.

Chicago police arrested 15 drunk drivers and the chief there, Timothy O'Connor, told his top officers:

"Enforcement is the No. 1 tool to bring an immediate reduction in traffic deaths."

The Monday schedule appealed to all motorists to make it the safest New Year weekend on record.

Police in Columbus, Ohio, are burning parking lights on all police cars during the holiday period as a constant "stop" signal against reckless driving.

### WEATHER DRY

Snow and rain were scattered in the northeastern quarter of the country. Elsewhere, the weather was dry.

### 25TH YEAR MARKED

NEW YORK—The 25th anniversary of the opening of the George Washington Bridge, which links the northern tip of New York City with New Jersey, was marked recently. In its first year of operation it carried 5,500,000 vehicles. Now it carries about 36,000,000.

The biggest of them all, a 28,500-acre burn at Zuma Beach, north of here, where even beach-front mansions were destroyed by flames which leapt across the four-lane coast highway.

### Evening Prayer

O Thou Giver of every good and perfect gift, we thank Thee for the gift of Thy Way of Life. Help us to share this gift with people everywhere. Bless those to whom we give Thy gifts, and may we worship Thee as we give. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The worst accident in the early phase of the weekend was in Baldwin Borough, near Pittsburgh. Five Pittsburgh residents, including four teenagers, were killed in a collision of two cars on a snow-covered highway. Four of the victims were in one car, and the other was a breeze-driven car.

The National Safety Council has predicted the traffic toll may reach 400 at the end of the 102-hour holiday period at midnight Tuesday. That would be a record for a New Year period. The present mark is 407, set during a record period at the end of 1952 and the start of 1953.

In the three-day New Year period in 1955-56, traffic deaths totaled 384. During the first 10 months of 1956 they have averaged 107 a day. An Associated Press survey of accident deaths during a four-day nonholiday weekend from Dec. 14 to Dec. 18, traffic fatalities numbered 500.

The Christmas traffic toll was 706, the highest for any holiday period. In addition, 34 persons were killed in fires and 124 others lost their lives in falls and other accidents for a total of 884. That over-all total also was a record.

The record traffic toll for the combined Christmas - New Year holidays is 973 set last year.

Encouraged by the change, Deputy State Forester James K. Mace said, "Gov. Goodwin Knight yesterday said last year's fire could be controlled by early tomorrow and the Malibu blaze snubbed under sometime today."

The Zuma fire was brought under control during the night.

Gov. Goodwin Knight yesterday in Sacramento certified to President Eisenhower that an emergency existed in the Malibu area of Los Angeles County. He requested federal assistance.

State officials and firemen of two counties — Los Angeles and Ventura—made this tally of fire's damage in the brush-covered mountains:

Destroyed—65 homes.  
Burned brush and timber—27,000 acres.

### ROUNDUP

The three fires in brief:  
One whipped through Lake Sherwood yesterday, burning a half dozen homes in a matter of minutes, sending wildling swimming for their lives in the lake, and wrecking the area's fire station.

Another sudden blaze flared up near Malibu Thursday night, burning homes a few hundred yards from the Pacific Coast highway, and twice forcing deputies to start evacuating the sheriff's substitution.

The biggest of them all, a 28,500-acre burn at Zuma Beach, north of here, where even beach-front mansions were destroyed by flames which leapt across the four-lane coast highway.

More Weather Data on Page 5-A

Exciting things... are happening for you in your big Charlotte News. Beginning Monday, do not miss... To Your Good Health... a readable, informative column of medical advice, and A Lovelier You... which is full of hints to the ladies on how to be charming and beautiful.

Finger's Flowers. Call all hours. ED 3-8818; nite ED 2-1291. (adv)