

**CAPITAL CLIPBOARD**

**Three Lieut. Governor Seekers Favor Raised Minimum Wage**

By EULA N. GREENWOOD

**CLUE . . .** A clue as to when members of the Legislature think the current session will be terminated is shown by the fact that they are not accepting out-of-Raleigh speaking engagements requiring over-night stays during the week beginning Monday, June 10.

This would indicate that, while there is much talk of June 1 and June 8 adjournment, the members privately feel they will still be tolling to June 15.

**CONSERVATIVES . . .** Two avowed candidates for Lt. Governor, House Speaker Clifton Blue of Moore County and State Senator John R. Jordan, Jr. of Wake County, have at least one viewpoint in common.

Each, when interviewed earlier in this session of the Legislature, was quoted as saying that he favored an increase in the State minimum wage. But both Blue and Jordan made it plain that they lean to 85 cents an hour—a ten-cent increase—over the \$1 minimum asked for by the Governor.

With the House and Senate in disagreement as to whether the increase should be five cents, ten cents, or 25 cents . . . and with Speaker Blue and Senator Jordan in key positions on the argument . . . their statements of a few weeks back take on new importance.

Incidentally, the Federal wage minimum went into effect in 1938 at 25 cents per hour. This rate was not increased until 1945—eleven years later—when it went to 40 cents, an increase of 15 cents.

**IS HE RIGHT? . . .** Ray Walton, one of the two senators for the Tenth District (Bladen, Brunswick, Cumberland and Columbus counties) said the other day that "I don't think it makes sense for the General Assembly to tell a restaurant operator he must pay his help more than the State pays some of its employees."

Sen. Walton stated that the State is paying some of its own workers 60 and 70 cents per hour. The State minimum is 75 cents an hour.

This statement was made by Sen. Walton several weeks ago. If so—and it has not been denied by anyone to this good hour—it is shocking.

A twin brother to this one is the fact that if you owe the State a debt—taxes, for example—it can, and does, garnish your wages to collect. But this same State does not permit private business to do this.

**REALLY? . . .** Put this under the You-Can-Hear-Anything Dept.:

A rumor was making the rounds last week in Raleigh that gubernatorial Candidate Bert Bennett of Winston-Salem has already selected his campaign manager for next year.

His name? Robert Scott, State Grange Master, close kin of Dr. Henry Jordan, and mentioned as a candidate for Governor himself.

**DEBT CEILING? . . .** These two Republican legislators were sitting in the lobby of the Carolina Hotel here the other night talking about the Cooper flight and the prospects for a moon shot.

Remarked one of them: "Well, we have one thing—even if we are not the first to reach the moon, we'll be the first to send it foreign aid."

**MAY QUIT . . .** Hard-bitten, firm-visaged Ed Scheidt of the N. C. Dept. of Motor Vehicles may be heading for the last roundup. The Legislature can crown him, but can't fire him.

He is getting his biennial kicking from the Legislature . . . and the word we get is that he has about had it. Recall Tony Tolar? Now deceased, he was Kerr Scott's Highway Patrol head. He stayed in the news constantly . . . one instance being when he interrupted a funeral with full-blast siren. We have come a long way—

Scheidt is a champ checker-player . . . the quiet type . . . and a hard man to trap. But Sen. Tom White and one or two other legislators have several kings on the board. Scheidt should be more politician . . . and less policeman . . . when the Legislature's here.

**FOR GOP . . .** Most of the legislators write a column for their back-home papers. Sometimes this for-the-home-folks column takes the form of an interview with a local reporter. Now and then it is a radio

broadcast. A few of the solos do their own writing.

Rep. William Leonard of Transylvania is one of the latter. He wrote recently in one of the Anderson papers, the Transylvania Times, about the annual party put on for the legislators by the lobbyists (cost each one around \$25).

Columnist Leonard, knowing spice when he spies it, said some of the boys at the shindig . . . held at Raleigh's exclusive Carolina Country Club . . . actually got "high". No kidding! Leonard also wrote out of the corner of his eye about the "opposite sex." Tush, tush. Incidentally, he is a Republican.

He did little harm with his column. But the person or persons who went to the trouble to copy the column and to spread it all among the 119 other House members and over into the 50-member State Senate took a little camp flame and made a forest fire of it. It was no doubt intended to embarrass Leonard, which it has, but the Democratic Party got the worst of it . . . and the Republican Party the best of it. But the best-laid plans of mice and men sometimes go astray—

It's like some wag said this past weekend: "The circulation of that column went from 3,000

**Proffitt Gets Scholarship**

Berea, Ky., May 20—Ronald C. Proffitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Proffitt, Rt. 1, Reuse, won a coveted Austin Scholarship award at the annual Scholarship Day at Berea College, Berea, Ky.

Proffitt is a graduate of the Berea (Ky.) Foundation High School. A sophomore at Berea College, he recently won first place in the Danforth Creative Effort Contest with a special broom assembly entry made for Broom-Craft Student Industry at Berea. Proffitt is also a high-ranking member of the Committee for Democracy in Student Government and the Bereans for Democratic Action.

to three million in a matter of three days."

**OUT OF IT . . .** This reminds us of the story Rocky Mount Publisher Josh Horne used to tell at press meetings.

The small-town editor had a pressman who couldn't stay away from the bottle. He had to stay after him all the time. Months went by, with the pressman getting drunk at more or less regular intervals.

Finally, the editor could stand no more of it. "You get drunk just one more time, John, and I'm going to run a story about it, with big headlines, right on the front page of the paper. That will fix you for good."

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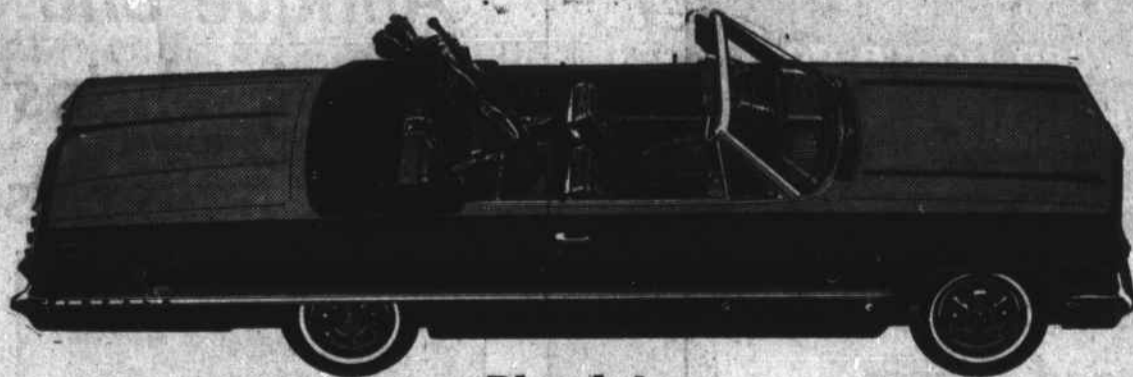
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