

Thru Capital Keyholes

By Bess Hinton Silver

EXPANDING—Raleigh politicians see in Congressman R. L. Doughton's decision to go afield outside his own district to make campaign speeches this fall further indication of his desire to occupy the red leather chair in the southwest office of the State Capitol after Governor Ehringhaus vacates it. Mr. Doughton has not made a habit of campaigning outside his own playing field in the past. Some of the dopers-out think he wants to become personally acquainted with more of the natives in preparation for his primary campaign in 1935.

JUICY PLUM—The grapevine reports here that Barber Towler, of Raleigh, has notified Chas. H. Robertson that he will resign his post with the International Revenue Department, of which Mr. Robertson is head man in North Carolina. Towler was one of the many employes of the office who were forced to move from Raleigh to Greensboro when the Fourth District's new Congressman Harold D. Cooley was unable to prevent removal of the office to national committeeman C. L. Shuping's home town. Mr. Towler's resignation will leave a \$3,600 a year job open for some promising Democrat.

TIT-FOR-TAT—The General Assembly has been annexing \$1,000,000 each year from taxes paid by people who use automobile and trucks for general State expenditures. Now along comes Uncle Sam and says if you divert your highway funds we will penalize you thirty percent of your federal aid road money. North Carolina is to get about \$3,000,000 per year in federal aid money during the next biennium and if the diversion is continued the State will lose a million bucks through penalties each year. Which means a loss of \$2,000,000 in highway construction that can be obtained if the one

million iron men taken from motorists are used on roads and your Uncle Sammy comes across with the full allocation for this State.

BIG LOSS—The estimated value of exhibits lost when the east wing of the main building at the State Fairgrounds burned is not a drop in the bucket to what they were really worth. The display of mounted game and birds loaned for the fair by C. N. Mease, Mount Mitchell forest warden, was the result of fourteen year's hard work and it will take that long to collect others to replace those lost in the fire. Rare specimens of insects and other life in North Carolina cannot be easily replaced although they bore no great monetary value.

GOOD STORY—Former Governor O. Max Gardner tells this one about Death Row at State's Prison in Raleigh. He said he received a note from a doomed Negro reading: "Dear Governor:—I understand I am to be electrocuted Friday and here it is Tuesday—yours very truly." He did not disclose the man's name but said he granted the prisoner a thirty day reprieve after receiving the pathetic note. Governor Gardner was just that way.

PROUD—George G. Scott, director of the accounts division of the State Revenue Department, is as proud as a puppy with two tails these days and you will excuse him. His son, Randolph Scott, now a big-shot motion picture star in the Hollywood heavens, has been visiting "his old man" in Raleigh. Young Scott attended the University of North Carolina and became a public accountant and entered business with his father who happens to hold C.P.A. license number one in North Carolina. That was before the lad's name made the bright lights, of course.

ABSENTEE VOTING—The State Board of Elections got an eye-ful in recent investigations of irregular absentee voting in the June primaries and now plans to launch a campaign to cleanse the system. The next session of the Legislature is sure to witness strenuous efforts to repeal the absentee ballot law and it is not at all certain that the movement will fail, especially as the law applies to primaries. The 1933 session raised a lot of dust in its war on absentee voting but failed to get a State-wide repealer approved although many counties were exempted upon insistence of their Senators and Representatives.

LIVELY SCRAP—Senators Paul Grady, of Johnson, and Carl L. Bailey, of Washington Counties, are staging intensive campaigns for the post of President Pro Tem of the 1935 Senate with few persons drifting into the Capital City willing to make predictions on the winner. Both men were popular in the 1933 session and Capitol Knoll considers either one of them excellent material for assistant to Lieutenant Governor A. H. (Sandy) Graham in presiding over the Upper House. Senator Grady, as you remember, has announced his intention of running for Lieutenant Governor two years hence.

HONORABLE MENTION—Thad Eure, of Hertford County, principal clerk of the last session and an announced candidate for the post next January, has been mentioned for more high State positions than any other man since the Albenmarle gave the State John C. B. Ehringhaus as Governor—but mention is about all. Mr. Eure has an inconspicuous post with the escheats department of the University at Chapel Hill but almost every time a prominent and lucrative State position is to be filled, up pops the name of Thad Eure. Mr. Eure finds it all slightly embarrassing to say the least.

BUZZING—State Democratic headquarters at Raleigh has become a veritable bee-hive of activity during the past few days. Precinct and county bosses from the four corners of the State are dropping in for an infection of enthusiasm and last minute instructions for the remaining weeks of the biennial political classic. Chairman Wallace Winborne and Mrs. Charles W. Tillett, Jr., are away much of the time bombarding the Republicans first here and next there and Cutler Moore, newly elected secretary is holding out the glad hand. In the words of former Governor O. Max Gardner, Mr. Moore is "giving them the razzle-dazzle." Democrats are confident of great victories in most of the counties next month but the Republicans "ain't conceding nothing" and working early and late in the close counties.

JOB WAITING—An attache of the Federal Reemployment Office at Raleigh reports that he has a \$1.10 an hour job for a skilled carpenter that is almost always begging for a man to fill it. Plenty of carpenters are available but they can't produce the kind of "trim" work needed on

the job or are too old and too slow for the contractors close bid. The reemployment department finds it difficult to secure fast "trim" carpenters for contractors on PWA projects.

SPEAKER—While most ear-to-the-ground politicians deny they can find any trace of partiality on the part of Governor Ehringhaus in the race for Speaker of the next House session now being run by Robert Grady Johnson, of Pender, Laurie McEachern, of Hoke, and W. L. Lumpkin, of Franklin, other finger-in-the-pie boys testify they can sense a nod of approval in the direction of Johnson. If the Governor is pulling any strings for the next Speaker-ship they are invisible ones.

Cycle News

Members of the Mountain View church have redecorated their church inside, preparatory to the arrival of their new pastor. At a meeting recently held there, Rev. W. V. Brown, who has served the church as pastor for the past 27 years, asked a leave of absence which was granted. Rev. F. W. Fry, the

trumpet evangelist of Kannapolis, was called to supply during his absence. Rev. Mr. Brown will teach a singing class, beginning the third Sunday night in October and continuing ten nights, to build the church choir and then he will be absent for some time.

People of the community join together in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Crater on their Golden wedding which was celebrated Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Sparks, of Winston-Salem, were the Sunday guests of Mr. Sparks' sister, Mrs. M. C. Dobbins.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Brown are the proud parents of a son, Clyde, Jr. Mrs. Brown was before her marriage Miss Gladys Proctor.

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News - Adm. 10c-25c



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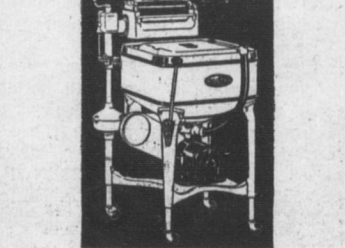
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