

CAPITAL CLIPBOARD

Some Say Broughton Wants To Run Against Bob Scott

BY EULA N. GREENWOOD

UNCERTAIN . . . As of Thursday, November 30, J. Melville Broughton of Raleigh was not sure what he would do about running for Governor.

He gave as his excuse for delaying his decision the fact that the Hotel Sir Walter here was in the midst of what has become known in Raleigh as "Culture Week" (art and literary meetings). Strange . . .

Although funds were indeed scarce and outright promises of money were rare, Broughton was encouraged by the mixed-up situation developing. But still undecided as November swung into the last month of the year. He felt that Terry Sanford just might take on Sen. Sam Ervin; and this would snarl up the Scott picture so thoroughly.

HEAD-NODDERS ONLY . . . What made most old-timers around Raleigh feel that Broughton wanted to run—wanted to run real bad—was that he was no longer in contact with those who were advising him against it.

Here is a lesson almost as true as Gospel:

If a person wants to become a candidate for the Legislature, for Congress, for Governor, or Town Council, he begins by talking to his friends, asking their advice. This is the way all campaigns begin . . . and makes good sense. But if the would-be candidate gets the Fever—and this happens often—he begins talking only to those who think he should run.

Thus he begins feeding himself only what he wants to hear. He confers only with the head-noddors . . . and thus he is led, leads himself really, down the road to bitter, bitter political disappointment and disillusionment. See this over and over again as Legislative races develop.

HOW MUCH? . . . How much encouragement did J. M. Broughton receive in his October and November surveys—and one or two kites sent flying prior to this fall?

How does Terry Sanford's personal survey on his chances of defeating Sen. Ervin go? Only these men, deep in their own hearts, know the real answers to these queries.

PLEASE DON'T . . . Within the past few days, Sen. Everett Jordan and retiring Congressman Horace Kornegay of Greensboro have voiced hope that Terry Sanford would not oppose Sen. Sam Ervin. They plead Democratic solidarity . . . Sen. Sam has said on two or three occasions that he "trusts" he will have no opposition. This is probably too much to hope for, but will it be Terry Sanford?

The Scott people are praying that Sanford will not oppose Sen. Ervin. Here's why: They are afraid—and with good reason—that the general public will tie together in their minds, and in their votes probably, Scott and Sanford.

Robert Scott would prefer not to be tied to anybody.

Sen. Everett Jordan is a close relative of Lt. Gov. Scott; and more than one person hereabouts thought last week he was putting in an oar for kinfolk when he gave his opinion that Sanford should not run for the U. S. Senate next year.

Another thing: A lot of old Sanford friends, men and women who have stuck with him through thick and thin, have been committed to Bob Scott for many months. They would vote for Sanford, of course, but see his candidacy pulling down to defeat both himself and Scott.

Thus they show real fear of incumbent Sen. Ervin. But, of course, they could be wrong. Meantime, Sanford grows restless. This thing of bench-warming is not to his liking . . . a-tail.

ALL MIXED UP . . . And so the Democrats, like the Republicans, find themselves—here within 11 months of Election Day and only six months from the Primary—all mixed up.

It looks now as if they will have at least four whites, and one Negro, running for Governor. If so, who will hold the balance of power in the second Primary next June?

Where will the big money go? How about all those personal vote-promises Bob Scott is supposed to have checked and double-checked in all areas of the State. Where will Wachovia, N. C. National, First Citizens, and First Union go?

Assuming he runs—as is now expected—where will Bob Lassiter of Charlotte stand in the vote count? First? Second? Third?

Why did Irwin Belk of Charlotte decide not to run for Lieutenant-Governor? Is Belk assisting behind-the-scenes with the Scott campaign? Then, after all—but-announcing, why did Hargrave (Skipper) Bowles of Greensboro back out of the Lt. Gov.'s race? Was this because he wanted to leave himself free to help Terry Sanford go to Washington? Or does

Mr. Bowles plan to run for Kornegay's seat in Congress? All these questions gnaw at the innards of old-line Democrats. They are saying: We are playing right into the hands of the Republicans.

AT EACH OTHER . . . Meantime, the Republican house is far from orderly. John Stickley, running for Governor—and sometimes a long way from Charlotte, his home base,—is trying to move in on youthful Jim Gardner's territory. But Gardner is far from unpopular with certain Republicans in Stickley's Piedmont. The belief here is that Gardner will definitely not run—for Congress—but for Governor.

Bulletin



BROUGHTON

HAT IN RING—J. Melville Broughton, Jr., son of a late Governor, Tuesday announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor in the May primary. Lieutenant Governor Robert Scott, also the son of a former Governor is expected to announce after the first of the year.

ON NATO MEETING Brussels, Belgium—Representatives of the 15th North Atlantic Treaty Organization members met recently at NATO's new Brussels headquarters to discuss closer non-military cooperation, with special effort towards improved relations with the Soviet Union and Communist bloc countries.

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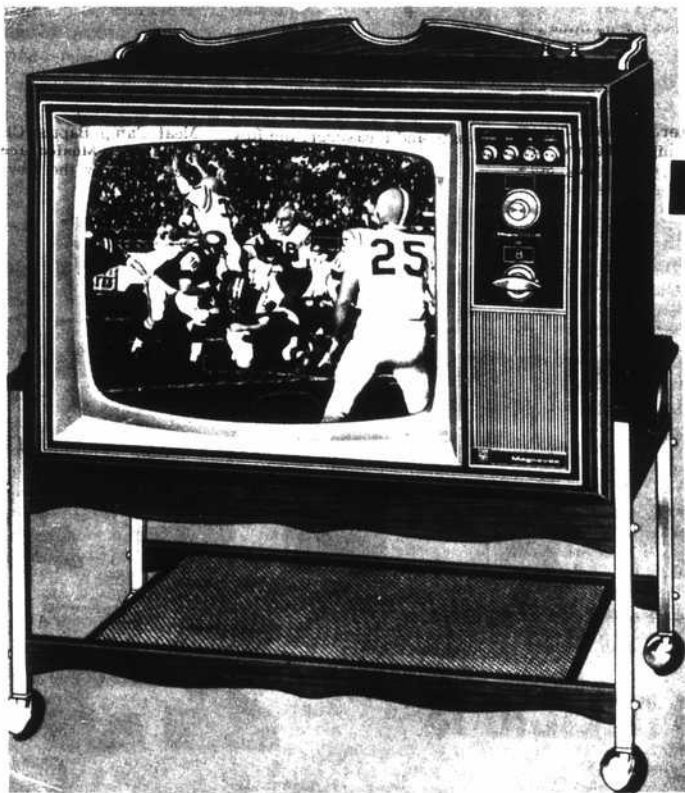
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