

Gubernatorial hopefuls, bond issue odds predicted by columnist; 50/50 chance seen

By CLIFF BLUE
NEWSPAPER STRIKE . . . We feel that people all over the USA have been pretty well fed up with the printers strike in New York City which brought to a halt the publication of the daily newspapers in the nation's largest city. This week, Mrs. Dorothy Schiff, publisher of the New York Post, one of five newspapers which voluntarily shut down when printers struck four others, resumed publication.

We have sometimes thought that in strikes where both sides should give a little, that agreement might be reached if the negotiators followed the policy of the Catholic leaders in electing their Popes — remain in session until a decision is arrived at.

UTILITIES . . . In the coming battle in the General Assembly between the private and public utility groups, there should be, and there ought to be, some common ground on which the two groups could stand and serve to the penalty of neither and to the best interest of the public in general.

SPEAKERSHIP . . . A hot race for Speaker of the 1965 House got underway a few days after the General Assembly convened Feb. 6. Candidates are, to name them alphabetically, Gordon Greenwood of Buncombe, Dwight Quinn of Cabarrus, and Pat Taylor, Jr., of Anson. Used to be in many instances, the Speakership was, back in the "kingmakers" days, somewhat of a crown prince position. But not so now, and it's well that it is not.

FORMER SPEAKERS . . . On Monday night, Feb. 25, eleven of the former Speakers

of the House were honored. Only J. K. Doughton, speaker of the 1957 House was absent. Mr. Doughton, who had visited the new Statehouse the week before, was ailing and unable to make it.

Former Speakers participating on the program were: John G. Dawson of Kinston, A. H. Graham of Hillsboro, D. L. (Libby) Ward of New Bern, John H. Kerr, Jr. of Warrenton, Oscar Richardson of Monroe, Tom Pearsall of Rocky Mount, W. Frank Taylor of Goldsboro, E. T. Bost, Jr., of Concord, Larry I. Moore, Jr., Addison Hewlett, Jr., Joe M. Hunt, Jr.

In the Senate four of the five former Lieutenant Governors were in attendance and honored, they being A. H. Graham, who is also a former Speaker of the House; L. Y. Ballentine, now Commissioner of Agriculture; H. P. Taylor, father of Rep. H. P. Taylor, Jr., and Luther H. Barnhardt. Only Luther H. Hodges who served for two years as Lieut. Governor under the Umstead Administration was unable to attend due to a previous engagement.

BILLY GRAHAM . . . Billy Graham's terrific Crusades for Christ seem to be taking physical toll from the State's greatest citizen. Last week we report was that Graham was hospitalized in Honolulu with "an acute undetermined infection." Campaigns such as Billy has conducted during the past 15 years take a lot out of a man. But Graham has done so much more in his short lifetime than others did who live to be twice his age.

Graham, like a number of other young men who rose to positions of leadership and influence while young, has packed a

whale of a lot of living and service into a few years.

DR. POE . . . We understand Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, is writing a book which he may call, "My First 80 Years."

Dr. Poe is another one of our great Tar Heel leaders. We can think of no one who has toiled harder for better living conditions on the farm and in rural communities than has Dr. Clarence Poe.

TRIO . . . Three men stand out as likely contenders for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1964: Bert Bennett, Dr. Henry Jordan, and Dr. J. Beverly Lake. Our guess is that all three will run.

NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners, Orange County, will meet on Monday, March 18, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Courthouse, Hillsboro, as a Board of Equalization and Review to hear complaints regarding 1963 tax assessments.

S. M. GATTIS
 Tax Supervisor

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