THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ FINAL

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Inside Politics: It Was A Freak Campaign

By JULIAN SCHEER
News Staff Writer

Charlotte has a "question mark" City Council starting Monday.

The voters turned out in only fair numbers yesterday to send newcomers to five of seven seats in City Hall.

And the strange campaign left a lot of interesting political questions up in the air.

For instance:

Two acknowledged opposing forces in labor made the council. Veteran councilman **Claude Albea**, a long time labor leader, won reelection. Winning in his first try was **Randolph Babcock**, a manufacturer who is not always disposed to talk kindly about labor. And both candidates received the support of Charlotte's daily newspapers.

★ ★ ★

THE FALL of Mayor Pro Tem **Herman A. Brown** could have been predicted, but not with such a resounding crash. He led the ticket in 1957 and failed to make the top seven two years later.

Why? Most observers feel that Brown's opposition to controversial Police Chief **Frank N. Littlejohn** hurt him. He spearheaded the get-rid-of-Littlejohn move on the council. Littlejohn is a popular figure in some quarters.

★ ★ ★

THE DEMOCRATIC organization in the city was expected to launch some partisan opposition in the non-partisan race, particularly against one Republican member of the Better Government ticket. No such opposition developed.

Wallace Gibbs, who helped the Democratic campaign of **David Clark** against Republican Rep. **Charles R. Jonas** in November, worked hard for the Better Government group, causing some unhappiness in Democratic circles.

There was some money spent in the boxes, but opposing forces tried to get together on how much money to spend — or to call off the spending altogether.

However, money was already committed. It did little good in the so-called "money boxes". The vote did not turn out. One estimate is that votes "cost" from three to four dollars each in the primary in one box where money was used to hire drivers to carry voters to the polls.

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THE DEFEAT of ex-Mayor **Herbert Baxter** raised some eyebrows. He received newspaper support and is an acknowledged authority in local government.

Councilman Baxter, however, tried to run a campaign of his own in addition to the Experience ticket on which he teamed with the other four present councilmen), which caused some resentment among his colligues. The campaign failed.

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WOULD Councilwoman **Martha Evans** have won if she had run for the Council instead of trying to be mayor?

Her strong showing in the mayorally race indicates that she may have been able to make it in the City Council race, may have even edged one of the top five.

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JIM WHITTINGTON ran the most interesting campaign. He has been urged to run before and tried to make the Council in 1947 and withdrew after making the ticket.

He has gained great support from parents of Little League and Babe Ruth League youth work and his efforts on behalf of a number of civic enterprises. He has worked in the county's Democratic circles and a number of friends lined up with him. He received small

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Granny's One Gal Who Loves Work

By BOB SLOUGH
News Staff Writer

Marcelle Mae Brown gets up at 3:45 a.m. six days a week.

"It's stimulating."

She's the mother of two, grandmother of 11, and great-grandmother of 14. drives her own car to work, spends eight full hours on a job that begins at 5 a.m.

"I like to work."

★ ★ ★

FOLKS AROUND Jim Elliott's Greenland Restaurant on South Blvd. know her best as "Granny Brown." That's where 75-year-old Marcelle works as a waitress.

"And a good waitress, too," says Elliott.

Born in 1884 in Johnstown, Pa., Granny Brown was married at 18, the mother of two children at 22, a widow at 23.

"I never gave up working because it's good for one to keep one's body and mind occupied," she said. "I work hard, eat and sleep good and love everybody."

Ever have days when you don't feel good?

"Haven't been sick in 25 years," she said. "Oh, I used to be sick when I was younger. But not lately."

★ ★ ★

MARCELLE SAYS she's never lonely, never feels depressed.

"I just can't understand why so many people say they get lonely," she said. "There are too many good books to read, so many things to do, not enough time to do them."

She gets off work at 2 p.m. on the six days she works.

In the afternoons, she crochets, reads and relaxes.

"I'm in bed about 10:30 or 11 p.m.," she said. "It all depends on when the ball game is over."

The ball game?

"My favorite pastime," she said. "I only missed four (Charlotte Hornets) home games last year."

Some of the players eat at the Greenland, and they all know Granny.

★ ★ ★

"THE OTHER NIGHT Sam Mauney (Hornets catcher) hit a home run and when he came in here the next morning old Granny gave him a big kiss," she said.

Granny takes her baseball to heart.

Monday night, she watched the Hornets fall victim to Macon, 10-6.

"I don't know what's wrong with that Gene Verble (Hornets manager)," she said. "He left John Isaac (pitcher) in too long. We had a chance to win that game."

Does she ever think about marriage?

"An old man my age wouldn't be a bit of good for me," she said, "I don't associate with people my own age. They're too old. And a young one wouldn't have me.

"I'll just keep on working as a waitress. That's what I like to do best."

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin-Hunter
MARCELLE BROWN . . . On The Job

'Better Government' Ticket Leads Voting

Only Two Holdovers On Council

Election News on 4A, 5A, 1B

By JULIAN SCHEER
News Staff Writer

Charlotte's City Council batted .400 yesterday.

It wasn't enough.

Only two out of five members of the present City Council won reelection in a race which saw four greenhorns and a dark horse dominate the voting.

Four Charlotte businessmen who hardly dreamed of politics 30 days ago swept into office on a "Better Government" ticket. Herbert Hitch, Randolph Babcock, Gibson Smith and Brevard Myers were joined at the top of the 14-man list of candidates by "former" Jim Whittington and present councilmen Claude Albea and Steve W. Dellinger.

The vote:

Herbert Hitch	9,487
Randolph Babcock	9,126
Gibson L. Smith	8,988
Brevard Myers	8,670
James Whittington	8,343
Claude Albea	6,473
Steve W. Dellinger	6,166
H. H. Baxter	5,267
Ernest Foard	4,718
Herman Brown	4,441
George Houston	3,789
John H. Hicks	2,638
Joseph C. Scott	2,284
Murlan C. King	2,128

Knocked out of the council were ex-Mayor and Councilman H. H. Baxter, Councilman Ernest Foard, who served only one term, and Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Herman A. Brown. Brown had been prominently mentioned as a mayoralty candidate until Mayor Jim Smith, who won yesterday, announced for reelection. Smith barely defeated Councilwoman Martha Evans in last Monday's primary.

NEW ORGANIZATION

The "Better Government" group, hastily organized a week before the filing deadline, led the local voting — which fell short of expectations yesterday — in both the primary and the election. Hitch is an engraving company president; Babcock heads a surgical-dental supply firm; Smith is with Belk's organization; and Myers is a construction company executive.

Whittington, who finished

See BETTER On Page 2-A

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin-Hunter
City Council members, left to right, Gibson Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Herbert Hitch, Brevard Myers, Steve W. Dellinger, James Whittington, Claude L. Albea and Randolph Babcock (foreground) in front of City Hall.

Guilty Pleas Are Planned

YORK, S.C. (AP)—The attorney for two accused bank robbers said today he has written federal authorities that "We will be glad to cooperate and enter guilty pleas."

W. G. Finley, the lawyer, added that he wrote U.S. Dist. Atty. Joseph F. Hines at Spartanburg asking a waiver of a bill of indictment by the grand jury.

Edward Campbell Walker, 44, and his nephew, James Hiram Fields, 31, both of Clover, are accused of robbing the First National Bank of Sharon of $6,576 April 28. They were arrested in Charlotte a few hours after the robbery.

On April 30 Walker took FBI and local officers to woods where $6,271 of the loot was recovered. The two men are being held in county jail here in lieu of $25,000 bond.

Federal court is now in session at Spartanburg and it was understood that Finley would like the case tried at the current meeting.

The Smiles Were Wide And Bright

By JULIAN SCHEER
News Staff Writer

Well, the new City Council got together this morning on the City Hall's front stoop.

Smiles? Lawdy, they were a mile wide — and there wasn't a voter in sight.

"My hand hurts," said Mayor Pro Tem Herbert Hitch.

"Wait till you go through five campaigns," said Steve Dellinger. "Your hand will get bigger and your head smaller."

"Damn, I'm tired," someone said.

NOT FOR CLAUDE

"Watch your language," said Dellinger. "Claude (Albea) won't like it. He's the religious one."

"I'm tired, too," said Albea. "I've never worked so hard since the first time I ran (1951). I was just 'jumping' when I got in bed last night."

"I'd rather work than politic," added Hitch.

Brevard Myers, Gibson Smith Randolph Babcock came up.

"It was a hard day," said Dellinger again. "But I got plenty of sandwiches and drinks from you guys.

"I'd go up and someone would say, 'Are you a worker?' and I'd say, 'Heck, yeah, I'm working.'"

Refreshments were courtesy of the Better Government ticket.

Enter Jim Whittington.

"Let me hide my cigar before the picture is taken," he said.

"You don't have to worry now. You're elected," said Dellinger.

Then a photographer lined the seven Councilmen up for a picture. They were linked arm-in-arm. It just so happened that because of their height, present Councilmen Albea and Dellinger were on the ends of the line.

"Well, I see that we've at least got experience on both ends of this horse," said Dellinger.

Police Find Kidnaped Tot

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)— An 18-months-old baby boy, kidnaped Monday at Albuquerque, N. M., has been found abandoned in Dallas.

The child is Mitchell Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson of Placitas, a mountain village 20 miles northeast of Albuquerque.

The child was found abandoned in a Dallas drug store.

A short time later the FBI arrested a girl in another part of Dallas. The FBI said the girl admitted kidnaping the baby.

The finding of the child climaxed a widespread search for a baby sitter, Betty Smithey, who disappeared with the child.

Police said the baby was in good condition.

The FBI said the girl admitted she was the hunted baby sitter and admitted taking the child.

New Mexico police said the 17-year-old baby sitter and the Johnson baby were last seen Monday in New Mexico getting into a black truck loaded with cartons near Edgewood, 30 miles east of Albuquerque.

Sen. Johnson Shifts Quietly Into Role Of '60 Nominee

WASHINGTON (AP)— The belief is growing among Democrats that Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas is quietly making himself available for the 1960 party presidential nomination.

Party members who have rallied around former President Truman on his current visit to Washington have been talking in terms of four principal candidates—Sen Johnson, John F. Kennedy (D-Mass), Stuart Symington (D-Mo) and Adlai E. Stevenson, twice the presidential nominee.

Truman, whose influence on the outcome of the nomination scramble may not be great, has kept the situation cloudy so far as he is concerned.

He has suggested that as the likely favorite son of Missouri, Symington will be his initial candidate. But the former President has indicated he would be prepared to ride another horse if he felt he was picking a winner.

NO GUESSING

Truman's position is not clear to Symington. The Missouri senator has told friends he learned long ago not to try to gauge another man's thinking. For that reason, he is sitting tight, awaiting developments.

By every criterion, Kennedy is running hard. Stevenson apparently is not running at all but remains the sentimental favorite of many Democrats. Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn) is interested but seems to be having some difficulty getting under way—at least among the Democratic leaders in Washington.

For a man who says he isn't a candidate, Johnson is making a lot of moves that politicians find familiar. He is looked upon as a middle-of-the-road Democrat who might have an appeal for all party factions—especially if he succeeds in getting the Senate to pass a moderate civil rights bill.

Johnson turned out for a luncheon honoring Truman Tuesday and praised the former President warmly.

After a quick check on the Senate to see that everything was in order, Johnson took off for Harrisburg, Pa., to speak at a Democratic victory dinner.

Possibly to offset the contention that he isn't partisan enough often enough, Johnson aimed some haymakers at the Republicans.

PHARE HUNTLEY

Eddie, Liz Plan Tuesday Wedding

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Eddie Fisher says he and Elizabeth Taylor will marry in Las Vegas, Nev., next Tuesday with Michael Todd Jr. serving as best man.

Fisher said the two had planned to marry the 14th.

"I don't finish here at the Tropicana until the 12th," the singer said in a phone call from the desert resort. "And of course we would never be married on the 13th. So we had planned to get married the 14th. But Michael cabled us that he has to be back in Spain by the 14th."

Todd Jr., son of the actress' late husband, is shooting a movie in Spain.

Mrs. Howard Taylor, who is married to Liz's brother, will stand up for her sister-in-law. The brother and his wife live in La Jolla, Calif.

Fisher said there would be two ceremonies—a civil and a Jewish rite. The latter will be performed by Rabbi Max Nussbaum, who recently converted Miss Taylor to Judaism, the same faith as Fisher.

The actress said that both rites would be private, with only the families and a few close friends present. She added that there would be no press or photo coverage.

Fisher's six-week legal residence in Nevada will be up May 11. That is the day he is to get a quickie Nevada decree from actress Debbie Reynolds, who divorced him several months ago in Los Angeles.

Miss Reynolds' California decree does not become final until next February. That means that Fisher and Miss Taylor will not be able to live as man and wife in this state until then.

—WHO STUCK IN MARIGOLDS?—
U. S. Flower In Briar Patch

By ED CREAGH

WASHINGTON (AP)—A rose is a rose is a carnation is a corn tassel, or why does this grass smell so sweet, and how did those marigolds get in here?

Something like this aroma of confusion arose from the Senate Office Building today in the wake —and there were enough floral displays for a dozen wakes—of a mock hearing on a question which stirs many a gardener. What should be the U. S. national flower?

Three senators and a House member took part in the debate. You never saw such furious lobbying. Carnations were pinned on you when you entered, whether you liked it or not. Popcorn—a symbol of the corn tassel, see?—flowed like taxpayers' money.

Carnations are the most practical for corsages, contended Rep. William H. Ayres (R-Ohio), and besides the rose is often tied in with trouble. Tis frequent in a flower store, he said, that "a man comes in and says 'give me a dozen roses quick. Mama's mad again.'"

Then rose Sen. Paul Douglas (D-Ill), a diehard supporter of the corn tassel as the American flower.

"Distinctively American in origin," said the senator, senatorially.

GOOD SPONGE

As for the marigold, another contender in the floralderby: It's a good - looking bath sponge, Douglas conceded.

Sen. Thruston Morton (R-Ky), who is committed to just plain grass, preferably Kentucky grass, ploughed under the corn tassel, "a purely male plant. What are we going to do—lose the women's vote?"

Sen. Hugh Scott (R-Pa), who wouldn't hear a word against rose stomped in turn on Morton's reveries of bluegrass.

"I don't think he should be so cud-happy," Scott complained.

And he fired back at corn-pusher Douglas, who showered Capitol Hill with a virtual snowstorm of popcorn all day.

"I suggest that the amount of corn on Capitol Hill is already sufficient," Scott said.

This all came about because a garden club in suburban Falls Church, Va., heard about the national flower debate and got into the act. It borrowed the Senate caucus room and invited the legislators to hold forth on the merits of their choices.

Sometime the Congress will get around to declaring a national flower.

Maybe.

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Our Weather

Partly cloudy this afternoon becoming fair tonight. Thursday partly cloudy.

Low this morning	53
Low tomorrow morning	55
High today	83
High yesterday	83
High tomorrow	88

Sunrise today 5:27 a.m.; sunset today 7:12 p.m.

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