

Weather

Fair, cold tonight. Sunny, mild tomorrow. Lows low, mid 30s. Highs upper 60s. Chance of rain near zero tonight, tomorrow. Sunset 5:18. Sunrise 7:03. Details 2-A.

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Who Runs Columbia?

By JIM HANEY
Special Assignments Writer

The group of financial and business barons who admit they used to run the city say they've stepped into the background, but they are concerned that no group of younger men seems ready and willing to take their place.

"Twenty years ago there was a group in Columbia that did everything, but times have changed. I can't put my finger on any one group anymore," says Mayor John Campbell, who is in as good a position as anyone to know who runs the town whose government he heads.

John Lumpkin Sr., chairman of the board of The South Carolina National

Bank, the state's largest, is an acknowledged heavyweight of the old guard.

He calls himself and his contemporaries the old goats, and says it's time they let go.

But he adds, "I don't sense the strong leadership coming along. You need an issue to bring the young leadership out, and the old guard needs to let them know we're out of it unless we're needed."

The two most recent issues that could have spawned a new generation of leaders were the Main Street Mall and city-county consolidation, but members of the old guard say neither issue caught fire among the younger set.

"I assume that was because those issues just weren't something the younger leaders were interested in," Campbell said.

Kirkman Finlay, the 37-year-old Columbia City councilman, headed the unsuccessful consolidation drive, but he says, "there was never much muscle behind it."

Among the younger men, Finlay is most often mentioned as a successor to the old guard. He comes from an old Columbia family with social prominence.

But he, too, decries the lack of young leaders. "In the last four or five years we haven't had a group of leaders who were willing to get together for the good of the city," he said as he sat in his law office atop the SCN Building.

As for the old guard, they are just plain tired, Lumpkin says. There was a time when he was so active and attending so many meetings that he would

show up at an appointed hour wondering what this one was all about.

But if there is a void of younger leaders, and while the old guard may be tired there is general agreement that those who held sway in the past still could team up to block what they don't want.

Most of the old guard The Columbia Record talked with asked not to be directly quoted since they were talking about their fellow "old guardsmen," men they see regularly at the country club, sip martinis with and engage in mutually profitable business exchanges.

Following is what they said about each other. The list is not meant to be a complete "Who's Who." Somebody undoubtedly was overlooked.

Spotlight

— WILLIAM G. LYLES head of the giant architectural firm of Lyles, Bisset, Carlisle & Wolff with offices on top of the prestigious Bankers Trust Tower. "You won't find him deeply engrossed in civic work anymore, but LBC&W is a helluva powerful organization," one man said. Another said of Lyles: "He doesn't pursue efforts on the local level, but the power is still there. If he wanted to be influential, he could."

Another, younger man, said the old guard's power is not what it was. "He (Lyles) could walk in here and tell us what to do, but he wouldn't be as influential as he was five years ago. We'd ask why," he said.

— JOHN LUMPKIN SR.: Usually mentioned near the top of anybody's list of powerful men. "People still go to him for endorsements and support," one said. Lumpkin's son, John Jr., is a possible up and comer, observers say, and he is one of Finlay's law partners.

— DAVID BAKER, a financial giant.
(See COLUMBIA, 23-A)

USC ASKS PERMISSION FOR TALK WITH HOLTZ

Related Story On 15-A

RALEIGH (AP) — The president of the University of South Carolina, William H. Patterson, has formally asked North Carolina State University at Raleigh for permission for the committee looking for a new football coach at the school to talk to Lou Holtz.

The announcement came today from N. C. State Chancellor John T. Caldwell.

South Carolina is seeking a replacement for Paul Dietzel, who will step down as coach after Saturday's traditional game with Clemson. Dietzel is expected to remain as athletic director.

A spokesman for USC said in Columbia the committee has asked for permission of several other schools to interview candidates for the job. He did not name the schools or individuals.



Price Rise Outdistances '70-'71 Pace

(Continued From 1-A)

real estate developer and the largest single property taxpayer in Richland County. Opinions vary on Baker's influence and willingness to use it. One man put him in the top two along with Lyles, but another said, "I don't think he finds the need to use much influence."

— **DAVID W. ROBINSON** a lawyer, included on most lists of the top 10 most powerful.

"Dave Robinson is one of those powerful people who can hold sway on a local level, while remaining virtually unknown to the average person," a friend said.

— **LESTER BATES**, a former mayor. Bates lost some of his prestige when his insurance firm, New South Life, had embarrassing financial and legal problems. But, one Columbian said of Bates, "He still has influence because people listen to him. He still has clout."

— **ROBERT S. DAVIS** president and chairman of the board of R. L. Bryan. Davis "purposely divorced himself from a leadership role, but he's still one of the decision-makers of Columbia," one of his associates said.

— **WILLIS CANTEY** recently retired chairman of the board of C&S Bank. Cantey is one of the Big Three of Columbia's banking community and he "could still cut your guts out" if he wanted to throw his weight around, one of the men tabbed a young leader said.

W. W. "HOOTIE" JOHNSON head of Bankers Trust. Johnson is one of the men mentioned both as one of the old guard and as a young leader. Johnson is 43 and is a former member of the State House of Representatives.

Along with these eight men just listed were several others whose names cropped up in conversations with some of Columbia's recognized leaders, but who were omitted by others.

One man called **B.A. Jordan**, head of Cherokee Construction Company, one of the most powerful men in this area and in the state. "He can get any road contract he wants, if he wants it," he said.

Ben R. Morris, president of the State-Record Company and leader of the state's successful minibottle drive, was

called "a very potent force in the community."

— **David G. Ellison Sr.** and his son **David Jr.**, insurance executives with the Ellison Agency, were mentioned prominently by some.

Arthur Williams, president of South Carolina Electric and Gas, also was mentioned by many persons.

Frank Taylor Sr., a lawyer, was called a "past master of politics" who limits his influence to that area. **Gayle O. Averyt**, chairman of the board of Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Co., often was listed as a possible rising young leader. He is a behind-the-scenes Republican leader.

State Sen. Hyman Rubin, a former Columbia mayor pro tem, was listed as a political force and a "brilliant strategist."

City Councilman Jesse Reese was tabbed the most influential of the city councilmen. "He is the only one other than Finlay with a strong social background," one knowledgeable city council watcher said. He also listed **Reese's** brother, **Jim**, a member of the Columbia Housing Authority and chairman of the board of

Palmetto Hardware, as a powerful force. "He outworks Jesse 16 to one," he said.

Among the leaders of the black community, the law partners **Lincoln Jenkins**, **Matthew Perry** and **Hemphill Pride** were listed, as were two younger lawyers, **Tom Broadwater** and **John Harper**.

Modjeska Simkins "still has influence but has been using it lately by staying away, using it in a reverse way," one person said.

Ben Williams, a successful young black real estate developer, was another leader who was mentioned by several men who tried to list black community leaders.

But all the men **The Record** talked with, both old guard and rising stars, maintained that there is no new generation to replace the **Lumpkins**, the **Lylesses**, and the **Bateses**.

Jean Toal, lawyer and successful House candidate who has been active in the Shandon community, and **W. Croft Jennings Jr.**, also a lawyer, were mentioned as possible up and comers.

City Councilman Finlay doesn't buy the theory that Columbia is too big for a small group of leaders to control.

"I think there probably are 12 men in Charlotte who could make three phone calls each and settle things," he said.

Finlay says one reason there is no new group ready to step in and take over is that there is no clearly identifiable group of wealthy people who are interested in city government.

And, as another person put it, "anybody with money who is willing to use it is a force to be reckoned with."

William S. Durham, a former city councilman who comes from an old Columbia family, takes an opposite view from **Finlay's**.

He feels that the city is spread out and that social groups are so spread out there

is no sense of community pride anymore.

He also says he thinks the Depression helped produce the strong-willed groups that ran Columbia in years past. "The Depression produced drivers," he said, "and in the years after people were concerned with 'who's who' and with determining who had influence."

He added that most of the old guard had their businesses in downtown Columbia so what happened in Columbia really mattered to them.

All in all, old guard and rising stars agree that the time when one man could halt expansion of the city limits or shoot down the idea of a civic center, (both of which supposedly happened) is past.

But, they say, if the old guard really got stirred up and joined forces, they could make or break whatever they chose.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The government is moving to break up the Bell System and its centerpiece, American Telephone & Telegraph, for allegedly monopolizing the telecommunications business.

The Justice Department filed civil suit Wednesday in federal district court here against AT&T, the world's largest privately held corporation, and two key subsidiaries — Western Electric Co. Inc. and Bell Laboratories Inc.

It was the largest antitrust action ever.

THE GOVERNMENT is trying to force AT&T to give up Western Electric, its exclusive manufacturing arm, plus some of its interstate telephone network, in order to promote competition and possibly reduce rates.

The corporation promptly served notice it would vigorously fight the case.

"We are confident we are not in violation of the anti-trust laws and we are astonished that the Justice Department

would take its present action with apparent disregard for its impact on the public," AT&T chairman **John D. deButts** said in a statement from New York.

Secession

(Continued From 1-A)

is seeking relief from a tremendous jump in his property taxes after Richland County reassessed property in the area recently. His taxes which were \$385 last year and \$2,617 this year, **Sites** said.

The **Lake Murray** resident also said that merger of the area with Lexington County would stabilize Lexington County School District Five which is shared by the two counties. In the past, Lexington politicians have threatened to sever the district along the county line.

Leventis said that although he has formed no opinion on whether the precincts should leave Richland County, he is "prone to think they should not leave . . . prone to think the problem can be resolved by equalizing the taxes between the two parts of District Five."

Taxpayers in Lexington pay taxes on a 4 per cent assessed valuation, while Richland taxpayers pay on an 8.3 per cent assessed value.

"Reassessment isn't the real issue," **Leventis** said. "The percentage they pay taxes on is the real issue in my mind."

WHO FOR THE FUTURE?



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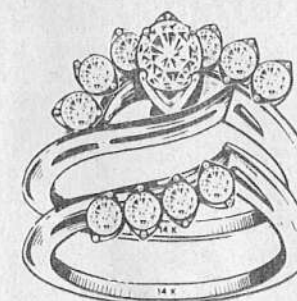
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Gas, Oil Tax Amendment Could Hamper Trade Bill

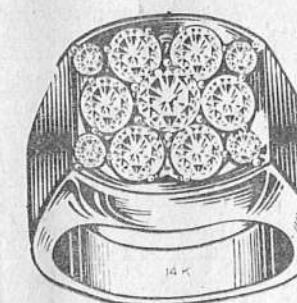
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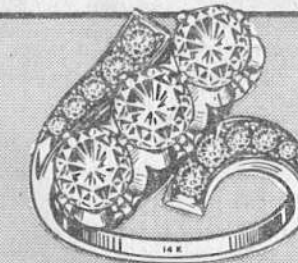
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