

U.S. pinball jabs may tilt some candidates' prospects

BATON ROUGE — Repercussions from the pinball arrests in New Orleans by the federal government may well be felt in the upcoming state elections, particularly if more are to follow as has been indicated by U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse.

Antagonism toward the federal government, notwithstanding, politicians caught up in the web of charges are not apt to escape unhurt.

Guidry makes no pretext

One of those who may be hurt the worst on a statewide basis is Rep. Richard Guidry of Galliano, who makes no pretext of his position favoring continuation of the current policy on operation of pinball machines.

Guidry is a candidate for lieutenant governor as well as for re-election to the House seat he now holds from Lafourche Parish.

In contrast, state Sen. Jamar Adcock of Monroe was one of the leading sponsors of legislation to outlaw the pinball machines, introducing it at the behest of the Governor's Commission on the Administration of Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement.

Aycock, president pro tem of the Senate, pushed the legislation on behalf of the administration.

O'Keefe opposed bill

There isn't any doubt that the anti-pinball legislation was a product of the administration, even though a number of administration legislative leaders, such as Sen. Michael O'Keefe of New Orleans, fought hard to defeat the bill.

Gov. McKeithen made some very strong bids to swing opposition votes behind the pinball legislation.

AYCOCK WITHOUT FITZ?

The political situation in New Orleans over gubernatorial support in the coming primary is still so fluid as to be virtually unpredictable.

Louisiana Politics

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Lt. Gov. C.C. Aycock is no longer certain that he and James E. Fitzmorris, former councilman and mayoral candidate, will be in the same camp when post time comes.

This could have an adverse effect on Aycock's ability to raise funds for the campaign at a time when purse strings are drawing tighter.

The lack of ticket forming is forcing many contributors to spread their pledges thinner. In the end the problem of raising funds may force some combinations to develop.

DAVIS-RAYBURN?

There was a report earlier this week that former Gov. Jimmie Davis was leaning toward a tieup with Sen. B.B. Rayburn of Bogalusa as a running mate. The word was going around fairly strong in Shreveport at a testimonial dinner for Davis.

However, Rayburn shrugged off the report this week, commenting that he had talked with a number of gubernatorial candidates about the race.

'COLDWATER' TO MEET

The New Orleans "Coldwater" Committee, which has indicated it will donate some string-free money to the candidate it likes best, is scheduled to meet this month for a final decision on what to do. Sen. J. Bennett Johnston Jr. of Shreveport, considered a dark horse in the race for governor, is still hoping he will be the group's selection.

Julius Long still has a strong base of support among members of the committee and will be making a major challenge for their help.