

1ST Anniversary For Mayor Grady...

Calling The Roll Of Accomplishments

By JERRY ADLER
Sunday American Staff Writer

MAYOR J. HAROLD GRADY, who took the oath of office one year ago next Thursday, gives the following as his first-year accomplishments:

- A city payroll cut of 393 jobs at a saving of more than \$1 million. (For different figures, based on payroll records, see Joyce Lewis' story on Mayor Grady.)

- The end of political boss Jack Pollack's influence at City Hall.

- Hiring a team of three engineering consultants to study the city's interstate highway system, particularly the proposed \$200 million East-West Expressway planned along the inner harbor.

- Speeded up work on the \$85 million Jones Falls Expressway for which the U. S. government contributed \$23 million. Only \$4

- His order for a speedup in construction of the \$130 million Charles Center, and \$12

- Speeding of the \$450 million central business district plan by ordering immediate planting of trees around City Hall, Municipal Building and Courthouse.

- Elimination of the free Public Bath Commission.

- End of hiring trucks on a political patronage basis.

- Consolidation of several bureaus within city departments.

- Appointment of traffic safety, alcoholic and employe relations committees.

- Naming of a conservation committee for a pilot study of the Park Royal area near Druid Hill Park.

- Testifying before the Civil Aeronautics Administration to get better carrier service for Friendship Airport.

AMONG Grady's hopes for the future:

- Agreement within the city-state tax committee so that a special session of the Legislature can be called this year to help solve the city's tax woes.

- Further economies in the city government.

- Greater metropolitan area cooperation in transit and water problems.

'Trivia' One Of Big Time Wasters On Job

By JOYCE LEWIS
Sunday American Staff Writer

JHAROLD GRADY, marking his first year as Baltimore's mayor, is still easing himself into the shoes of the chief executive of the nation's sixth largest city.

One shoelace is frayed, if not broken—harmony among the 3-Gs: City Council President Philip H. Goodman, Comptroller R. Walter Graham and Grady.

The other lace is badly knotted. That shoelace is the tax-revenue dilemma. Mayor Grady keeps yanking and tugging for a payroll tax and hasn't got very much for his efforts so far except knots.

A year ago Grady smoked one and a half packs of cigarets a day. Today he's up to two and a half packs.

A year ago, he said:

"A payroll tax is essentially a regressive form of taxation, falling hardest on those least able to pay. I would like to explore other means of accomplishing the same ends before recommending a payroll tax. It is obviously unfair and economically unsound to burden real estate with excessive taxes and any new tax program must be designed to broaden the base." **BALTO. AMERICAN**

MAYOR GRADY, who doesn't change his mind quickly, now says he has explored other possibilities and a payroll tax is "the fairest and most equitable."

A year ago, the mayor and his two running mates, elected in the spring of 1958, were the harmonious 3-G triplets.

Today, they sometimes squabble like children.

Grady says:

"Anytime you get three people together with different opinions, you have a certain lack of harmony. But we are working together on broad programs."

Looking back over his first year, Grady, 43, soft-spoken and seemingly relaxed, says:

"It's been a time of considerable strain . . . fairly austere budget . . . settling into the job . . . learning many facets of city government. The task of becoming acquainted with all the activities of city government is formidable."

He says one of his most difficult problems is the demand on his time.

"Demands for things of only passing importance, relatively trivial matters.

"I don't have enough time to devote to far-reaching programs. The day to day details are so heavy, and everything seems to be on an emergency basis.

"I feel as though I'm on standard time and the rest of the people on daylight time—that I'm losing an hour a day."

GRADY is usually in City Hall before 9 A. M. and rarely gets home before 10 P. M. Sometimes he doesn't make it home until 1 A. M.

His three hobbies are reading (particularly historical novels), photography and golf.

"I must break down and confess," he said,

"I'm reading condensed books—Reader's Digest.

"As for photography, I haven't used a roll of film since I've been in office.

"I like golf. I'm presidential timber," he laughed. "But I haven't played since last September.

"I set aside an afternoon a week last summer to play golf, but I was criticized for doing it."

Grady can be waspish, tossing off a stinging comment.

Shortly after he became mayor, he and Police Commissioner James Hepbron were on the same platform.

Hepbron committed the faux pas of introducing Grady as Mayor D'Alesandro.

Instead of laughing it off, Grady walked to the speakers' stand, turned to Hepbron, and said: "Thank you, Col. Ober."

HEPBRON smiled and said: "At least I named you after someone living!" (Col. Ober, former Baltimore police commissioner, died in 1950.)

The mayor says rigid economy is still being practiced despite the fact there are more city employes now than a year ago.

The latest available figures from the city's payroll department show 25,629 employes compared with 25,382 a year ago, an increase of 247.

Grady explains the increase is because of the need for more teachers, policemen, firemen and workers at City Hospitals.

The mayor, his wife, two sons and two daughters, along with the family cat, still live in a row house in Northwood. But they'll be moving this summer.

"Mrs. Grady and I've been looking for a home since the summer of 1948. We haven't made a final decision, but we expect to move by late summer."

One thing is certain, says the mayor: The Gradys will continue living on their political home ground—the Third Legislative District, which includes Northwood, Guilford and Homeland.

GRADY, a tall, good-looking man with a disarming smile, is well-liked by many.

But some of his strongest supporters are disappointed at his first year in office. Comments from those who voted for him:

"He's going 'round in circles . . .

"He's more political than I thought he would be. (The mayor tried to remove Marvin Mandel as head of the Baltimore City delegation to Annapolis, but even the mayor's Third District supporters refused to go along.

"He hasn't shown the leadership I thought he would. Maybe he's feeling his way . . ."

But in many conversations and random telephone calls, the same theme kept recurring:

"He's a nice guy . . . a pleasant guy."

On top of that, it's his first year in office. While many shrug their shoulders and say: "He hasn't shown much yet," they're willing to wait until he gets his shoes on.

After that, the way the mayor walks will determine his future path in politics.