

Mayor's Time Has Come To Speak Of Many Things

Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin has begun sittings for a portrait that is expected to set a new style in mayoralty portraiture.

In accordance with tradition that calls for painting a picture of the retiring mayor at the end of each administration, the Board of Estimates has allotted \$2,000 for the new portrait and has left choice of an artist to the Mayor.

Hangs In Board Room

The picture is to become the property of the city and will be given a place on the wall at the rear of the board room, supplanting the portrait of former Mayor Howard W. Jackson which will be hung in another part of the chamber.

Most of the portraits that adorn the walls of the room are in drab colors, darkening with age, with only the gleaming shirt fronts to relieve the somber tones. The Mayor describes his portrait as having both "color and action."

On Receiving End

It is to show the Mayor standing at the end of his desk in the attitude of one receiving visitors and in the background, on one side, will be an American flag and on the other, a picture of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. McKeldin chose Alfred Jonniaux, a Belgian artist, now naturalized, who recently gave a one-man show at the Municipal Museum.

Mr. Jonniaux has recently painted portraits of prominent men.

Packing Souvenirs

While the Mayor must leave the portrait at the City Hall, he has begun to pack up hundreds of souvenirs of his four years there for the embellishment of the home he has just bought at 203 Paddington road in Homeland.

He is a collector of pictures, photographs and historical documents, and the walls of his present home at 322 St. Dunstons road, are crowded with choice items of his collection.

During his regime as mayor he has accumulated certificates of honorary citizenship in a number of cities. He also has hundreds of photographs of distinguished persons, in many of which he is shown extending official greetings. A large number of etchings and pictures that have been the gifts of friends from time to time add to the collection.

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More Space For Family

He said he was moving to the larger house on Paddington road not only to provide more space for his family, particularly his two children, but also to provide more room for his growing collection of memorabilia.

It is understood that he is to pay \$36,000 for his new home, but intends to sell his present home for enough to leave only about \$10,000 difference.

He intends not only to return to the practice of law after inauguration day, May 20, but also is to consider a number of offers which the Mayor described as very attractive. One is a retaining fee of \$15,000, he said. He also is to continue his public speaking, which has proved lucrative, the Mayor admitted.

\$250 A Speech

He receives now up to \$250 for a speech and seldom speaks publicly for less than \$100.

During his career at the City Hall he has had to turn down many offers, but said that now he will be in a position to accept all proposals that are put forward.

As described by the Mayor, the arrangements for speaking for a fee, are made with a certain delicacy. The organization or individual inviting him to make an address suggests that the budget for the occasion includes \$250 or some other figure for a speech as well as money for the traveling expenses of the orator of the occasion.

Some Free Ones

This does not mean, the Mayor explained, that he does not speak often without remuneration. If the occasion is one in which he is honored or in which the purpose is some cause considered worthy no charge is made for the address.

After having spoken once, he frequently becomes the regular orator for periodic occasions. He has spoken annually for seventeen years at a gathering in Harrisburg and has been the orator of the day for nineteen consecutive years at the annual homecoming celebration of Linwood, Carroll county.

The Mayor has a repertoire of eighteen speeches suitable to most occasions. Through the years he has eliminated some and substituted others. One favorite address is "The Five Nations" speech. It has to do with combination, determination, resignation, imagination, and coronation, in an individual's progress toward success.

"Six Word" Speech

Another favorite he calls the "six-word" speech. It is based on two-word admonitions from Socrates, Cicero and Christ, in this order:

"Know thyself, control thyself, give thyself."

The Mayor said that public speaking had brought him as much as \$700 a week and made no secret of his expectation that paid talks in the future would help to complete the payment due on his new home.

To Start Right In

He plans to begin his new activities as soon as he leaves the City Hall and expects by that time to have moved into the new home on Paddington road. He had retained his old law office in the O'Sullivan Building and will move over the mahogany desk behind which he has worked for four years as mayor.

The Estimates Board is to make him a present of the desk and supply a more modern desk for the new mayor.