

Clout: Mayor Daley and His City



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Despite efforts to capture him in biographies and magazine articles, Chicago's Mayor Daley has hitherto defied encapsulation. No more. Len O'Connor, the leading Chicago political analyst, has written what will likely be hailed as the finest, and most controversial, political biography of the year.

From a political point of view, Daley and Chicago are virtually synonymous. Yet it was not always so, of course, and O Connor explains, in detail, how Daley came to power, how he eliminated or otherwise brought his opponents under control, how the way was paved for him by allies he later turned out. In short, O Connor provides the definitive treatment of Daley's early years.

No less important, and every bit as interesting, is O Connor's treatment of the twenty years during which Daley has been mayor. Here are laid out, for the first time, the workings of the Daley machine, the successes and the abject failures of one of the twentieth century's most astute and puzzling political animals.

O Connor, with his unequalled political connections, takes the reader into secret meetings, behind the scenes in council meetings, into the wards and precincts. Here the often obscure but influential names of Chicago's and the nation's political

present and past take on flesh, become real: National Committeeman Jacob Arvey; President Kennedy, his father Joe Kennedy, and the rest of the clan; President of the County Board Dan Ryan; Alderman Paddy Bauler; Federal Judges Kerner and Lynch-and on and on. What makes

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