

WHEELS OF THE LEGISLATIVE MILL AGAIN IN MOTION

"Honest" John Merrifield Re-elected Speaker of the House Without Opposition In His Party--His Election Made Unanimous.

G. HERBERT PAPE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE

Joe W. Sault and L. B. Johnson Official Reporters-- Speaker Merrifield Makes Brief Remarks On His Tak-Chair of Speaker.

Montpelier, Oct. 5.--With a grinding, rasping, lacking-oil sort of sound, the legislative wheels of the biennial session of the Vermont general assembly were set in motion at 10:15 o'clock this forenoon, in the House of Representatives by Secretary of State Frederick G. Fleetwood and in the Senate by Lieutenant Governor Zed S. Stanton. There was a noticeable slackness as if the cogs did not just fit but there is a general expectation that this legislature will settle down to work soon and do its work well. There are but few familiar faces in either branch. In the House fifteen men who have had experience are prepared at the start for serious work, while in the Senate the men who have been through the mill can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Prominent among the latter is one of the Washington county Senators, William A. Lord, who is bound to be one of the leading members of that body. Senator Lord was mentioned for president pro tem, but he frowned upon the movement. In the House there are a few men of exceptional ability, notably Fr. O'Sullivan of St. Albans, G. H. Pape of Barre City, Fletcher D. Proctor of Proctor, Justus Dart of Springfield, F. W. Agan of Ludlow, Josiah Groat of Derby, V. A. Bullard of Burlington, Clark C. Fitts of Brattleboro and H. K. Darling of Chelsea. There are doubtless many others who will prove equally valuable.

With the convening of the legislature, Montpelier may be considered in the grasp of the legislature--or it may be, as some assert, that the legislators are in the tight and lightning grip of the Capital City. Which ever way the legislature is in Montpelier now. The outgoing chief executive--Gov. John G. McCullough of Bennington--and the incoming one--Charles J. Bell of Walden--arrived last evening, the former arising from a bed of sickness and coming in a private car, and the latter stepping off the train as if he had casually drifted into town. Both were cordially greeted by their hosts of friends. It was especially gratifying to see Gov. McCullough after a siege of illness lasting several months. Gov. Bell was accompanied by his secretary, Charles T. Walter of St. Johnsbury, who is rapidly working into the duties of his position. Other officials have been drifting into town at odd times. The list of officials of two years ago is kept almost intact, with T. C. Cheney back in the important position of clerk, assisted by F. L. Hamilton of Salisbury and Charles A. Plumley of Northfield. Joseph A. Sault is again a House reporter and L. B. Johnson the other.

Then, too, there was "Honest John" Merrifield of Newfane back in the speaker's chair. The opposition to Speaker Merrifield was merely formal, the lot of Democratic candidate falling upon George H. Pape, representative from Barre city. It was generally conceded that, party aside, Mr. Pape would have made a good run for the position. He was nominated by V. A. Bullard of Burlington, in a brief speech and seconded by Mr. Porter of Whitingham. Said Mr. Bullard: "He should be elected regardless of party affiliation, for his qualifications, mentally and otherwise. He is a Vermont and Vermont bred and believes in Vermont. His name is his own recommendation, George Herbert Pape of Barre."

Clark C. Fitts of Brattleboro presented John H. Merrifield in a concise speech, and there were seconds by F. D. Proctor, Justus Dart of Springfield, John Lewis of No. Troy and Mr. Newton of Reading.

The vote stood Merrifield 211, Pape 29, and after the announcement Mr. Pape moved that the election be made unanimous, and it was done by a rising vote. Then Mr. Pape and Mr. Fitts introduced Speaker Merrifield who was then sworn in. The popular official was greeted with hearty applause. He heartily thanked the members for the honor and urged the House to get down to work as soon as possible.

Speaker Merrifield said: Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: I sincerely thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me in making me your presiding officer. I accept the trust in belief that during these coming weeks you will grant me the assistance and forbearance that

I so much need. I pledge you my best endeavor to perform the duties of the office impartially. The people of our state have placed large interests in the keeping of the body of which we are a part. They bid us do with these as we will without restrictions except such as are imposed by the constitution. Surely it is a great responsibility that comes to us with this great trust. Let us try to meet it, my fellow members by entering at once upon the work of formulating and introducing our measures, thus making possible their consideration at a time in the session when they may be carefully and intelligently acted upon. In all that we do let us bear in mind that the interests of our state are higher than the interests of individual or party, and that only by diligent, painstaking and conscientious effort, looking to the Higher Power for guidance in all our labors, can we hope to merit the approval of the people whom we serve.

The Rev. C. C. St. Claire of Morris-town looked after the spiritual needs of the House this forenoon, while the Rev. Mr. Lamson of Montpelier will be the permanent medium.

When the roll call was taken it was found that every man, except the representative from Holland, was present--a remarkable record.

Auditor's Vouchers to be Examined. The first ripple of the session came just before noon when the representative from Barton introduced a resolution calling for an early inspection of the state auditor's vouchers by the committee on claims. The early part of this afternoon's session was given up to the work of drawing seats.

In the Senate. There was little done in the Senate this forenoon, an early adjournment being taken, after George H. Prouty had been elected president pro tem and Walter K. Farnsworth secretary. The latter appointed Homer L. Skeels as his assistant.

Both bodies then went through a series of red tape moves in notifying each other and Gov-elect Bell that they were in session and both presented resolutions providing for the canvassing of votes of the last election.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES. The new legislative post office is a big advantage.

"Hod" Bailey of Newbury was a welcomed visitor. He sat as near his former seat as possible.

They do say that the Montpelier hotel keepers have got a "bone to pick" with Montpelier's "Committee of Safety."

And a Montpelier man, Rev. Guy C. Lamson, will be the spiritual advisor of the lower body, while the blind chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Farman of Westfield is the Senate man.

Miss Ainsworth, who has been head operator of the Montpelier telephone office, has charge of the session telephone, and promises to be a particularly capable operator here.

We are authorized to state that there is nothing whatever to the report that one member-elect alighted from the train and ordered his trunk carried at once to the State House.

The "third house" was largely occupied by members of two years ago, who looked fondly at their old seats. Among these was C. H. A. Stafford of Morris-town, one of the House leaders in 1902. There was also ex-Senator Brownell of Burlington, a good friend to Barre city in the last session.

Cher "Tom" Cheney's popularity is rarely equalled. When Fletcher Proctor was seconding the nomination for his re-election he paid Mr. Cheney a high compliment by declaring that there is no one in the state better fitted for the position and when he predicted that as soon as Morris-town sees fit to elect him a representative he will be unanimously elected Speaker. The minority party supported Cheney to a man.

Adjutant and Inspector-General Gilmore has received word that Governor Batchelder of New Hampshire, who comes to Montpelier this week to attend Governor Bell's inauguration, will arrive Thursday noon over the Montpelier and Wells-River railroad accompanied by his staff. Governor Batchelder and staff will attend the inauguration ceremonies, the governor's reception and the inaugural ball that follows the reception.

BELL RESIGNS AN OFFICE. George Aitken Is Now Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

Montpelier, Oct. 5.--Gov.-elect Charles J. Bell today resigned as secretary of the state board of agriculture and George Aitken, already a member of the board, was chosen as his successor.

Sideights on the Show. A few of the old-timers were on hand at the Pavilion, but otherwise the place did not much suggest the evening before the assemblage of the legislature.

Ex-Gov. W. W. Stickney of Ludlow was there, but more than one failed to recognize him, and old-time acquaintances had to be introduced to him to the evident delight of the ex-governor. He has shaken off his beard.

TRYING TO TURN FLANK

General Kuroki Now Working Round Russian Left

THE JAPANESE MAIN ARMY

Marching Forward Against the Russian Centre--All Quiet at Port Arthur Vladivostok Garrison Reduced to 4,000.

Harbin, Oct. 5.--General Kuroki appears to be trying to turn the Russian left. The Japanese army is marching forward against the Russian centre and Japanese transports are bringing material to the mouth of the Yalu river, whence it is carried by junks to Shahatsi and thence by coolies to Feng Wang Cheng. The construction of a road between Shahatsi and Feng Wang Cheng is proceeding.

THE VLADIVOSTOK GARRISON. New Reduced to 4,000 Men--Ice in the Harbor.

Rome, Oct. 5.--Advisers from St. Petersburg state that the Czar has telegraphed the commander of the Russian Baltic fleet wishing him a good voyage and good luck. The same despatch says word has been received that of the original Vladivostok garrison only four thousand troops remain.

RUSSIAN GENERALS RECALLED. Gen. Orloff Court Martialled Because He Allowed Gen. Kuroki to Flank Him

London, Oct. 5.--A St. Petersburg despatch says it is officially announced that Major General Orloff and Romanoff have been recalled. Gen. Orloff has been tried by court martial and recalled because he permitted Gen. Kuroki to turn the Russian flank at Lia Yang.

Quiet at Port Arthur. St. Petersburg, Oct. 5.--General Stoessel reports under date of Sept. 30 that a severe attack was made on Sept. 23, but all has been quiet at Port Arthur since.

Third Army Confirmed. Paris, Oct. 5.--A St. Petersburg telegram confirms the report that a third Russian army is about to be formed.

EPISCOPALIANS GATHER. Triennial General Convention Opens in Boston.

Boston, Oct. 5.--What is considered by the leading bishops and lay deputies as the most important convocation of Episcopalians ever held in this country was formally opened in this city today when the triennial convention assembled in Emmanuel Church.

Before the opening a service was held in Trinity Church, at which the archbishop of Canterbury and prelates from four continents were present. Nearly 100 bishops were in the solemn procession which preceded the services. The preacher was the Rt. Rev. William Crosswell Dime of Albany.

Last night Amory Lawrence of this city tendered a banquet to the English primates at the Tuilleries. Plates were laid for 40 persons. Bishop Lawrence and other leading churchmen of this diocese were present.

CORTELYOU THE SUCCESSOR. Will Become Postmaster-General as Soon as Campaign Is Over.

Washington, Oct. 5.--In succession to Mr. Payne, George Bruce Cortelyou, former secretary of the department of commerce and labor and now chairman of the Republican national committee, will become postmaster-general.

Mr. Cortelyou's appointment as head of the postoffice department was determined upon several months ago by President Roosevelt when Mr. Payne indicated to the President his desire to retire from the department on account of the precarious state of his health. Mr. Payne would have resigned the portfolio long ago had it not been for the then pending investigation of the affairs of the department. He felt, however, that he could not relinquish the duties of the office while the investigation was pending.

the belief that Mr. Merrifield would be the only Republican candidate. Nearly all the Democratic members met in the Supreme Court room, with Representative Pape of Barre as chairman. It was unanimously decided to present the name of Representative Pape as the candidate of the minority party for the speakership and Representative Bullard of Burlington was selected to nominate him.

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WILKINS IS IN CUSTODY

Hunger Driven, He Gave Himself Up

AFTER 4 DAYS IN WOODS

Since Night of Crime Had Lived on Berries--Admitted That He Killed His Wife But Claims in Self Defense.

Warren, N. H., Oct. 4.--After wandering about the fields and woods not far from the scene of the terrible death of his wife, Henry Wilkins, charged with the woman's death, gave himself up to the authorities at Wentworth village tonight.

On Thursday last Mrs. Wilkins was found dead in bed, her head having been crushed with an ax. Henry Wilkins, the husband, and the father of two interesting little children, disappeared.

This evening, Wilkins went to the house of a cousin, a Mr. Dow, and gave himself up, saying that he was tired of wandering around and that he might as well face the music now as at any time.

Wilkins appeared very worn and haggard, and said that he had had nothing to eat save berries and what he could find in the fields. His beard had partly grown and his clothing was neglected.

Wilkins talked the matter over with his cousin, and Mr. Dow said that the wisest thing he (Wilkins) could do would be to surrender to the authorities.

Wilkins, without much argument, acquiesced and Mr. Dow hitched up his horse and took the suspected man to Wentworth village and placed him in the care of Sheriff Arthur Davis.

Regarding the murder, Wilkins said he had been within a few miles of his house all of the time since the murder. He admitted killing his wife, but would give no specific reason for the terrible crime. He repeated several times that the murder was justifiable.

STRANGE ACTING MAN THOUGHT TO BE WILKINS

His Peculiar Actions Led Local Police and Business Men to Think They Were on Trail of Wilkins.

Considerable of a commotion was caused in local police circles last night by the report that Wilkins, the wife murderer of Wentworth, N. H., was seen in the city yesterday. A queer looking character, answering very much to the description of Wilkins which had been sent out by the New Hampshire police was in the Armenian store on Depot square about two hours yesterday forenoon and again a few minutes before six last evening. He purchased a suit of clothes, two pairs of shoes and some other articles of clothing. He acted in such a queer manner and bothered Tony Corey, who waited on him, so much in making his purchase, that after he had gone Corey became suspicious and notified Chief of Police Brown of it, but no trace of the man could be found last night. This morning it was learned that the man went to Peter Gono's on West street and got lodgings for the night, but he left Gono's some time during the night and went to the Northern hotel. He hired a room at the hotel and paid for it and that was the last that the hotel people saw of him or anybody else. The police have been looking for him all the forenoon but no trace of him has been found.

The man left a pair of badly worn-out shoes, a pair of brown overalls and a pair of trousers at Corey's store. The trousers showed traces of what looked like blood on them and that was what led the police to think quite strongly that the man might be Wilkins.

Washington, Oct. 5.--The flags on the government buildings are at half mast today out of respect for the memory of the late Postmaster General Payne. The president will order all executive departments closed on Friday, the day of the public funeral and the postoffice department will order all the post offices in the country to close during the hours of the funeral. The remains will be shipped to Wisconsin Friday afternoon and funeral services will be held in Milwaukee Sunday.

Washington County Court. Burlington, Oct. 5.--The jury in the case of White vs. Lumiere North American Company returned a verdict for the plaintiff to recover \$12,920. The suit was for \$50,000 for breach of contract.

Washington County Court. Montpelier, Oct. 4.--The time of Washington county court has been taken up today in the trial of the case of State vs. James O'Neill, grand larceny. The respondent was an employe of the Forepaugh & Sells Brothers circus that exhibited in Montpelier August 4 last, and is charged with attempting to steal a watch from Samuel Farnsworth of Dushbury in the bar room of the Montpelier house. He was arrested August 5 at White River Junction and brought back to Montpelier. After a hearing in city court he was bound over for the grand jury, which indicted him. The defense is an alibi. State's Attorney Senter and C. H. Senter appear for the state, B. E. Bailey and H. C. Shurtliff for the respondent.

The assault case against Frank Hunt of Montpelier was not prossed and Hunt was discharged from custody by order of the court. He was taken to the city farm.

Singing Class. I shall start a class in voice culture, Monday evening, Nov. 1, in the basement of the Presbyterian church and continue throughout the winter. Terms made known on application. Miss Emma J. Phillips, 2 Cable St.

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YOUNG MEN'S CLUB. Directors Elected and Speech Made by James L. Dudley.

The Young Men's Club met last evening in the Boys' club rooms and elected their board of directors as follows: D. M. Miles, C. S. Wallaw, Lewis F. Jones, and Gilbert Phillips, to serve for one year. Dr. L. D. Martin, U. S. Andrews, and Percy M. Cary for two years. Frank McWhorter, E. M. Taylor, and Frank A. Cragg for three years. By-laws were also adopted.

James L. Dudley, superintendent of the National Boys' Club association, with which the Young Men's club is affiliated, was present and spoke very encouragingly of the future prospects of the club. He said that such a movement would do a great deal for the good citizenship of Barre, in that it would give the young men who are now frequenting demoralizing resorts wholesome and elevating surroundings. He said that the Boys' club work, here and in other places, had been defective in that it did not provide for the older boys and young men and consequently they had lost control of their boys when they reached the age of from 14 to 16. By graduating the boys of 16 from the Boys to the Young Men's club they would not only help to hold the boys, but would also carry them from childhood to manhood under elevating influences.

FIFTEEN YEARS MARRIED. Mr. and Mrs. George R. Robertson Re-membered on Wedding Anniversary.

A very pleasant party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Robertson on Thomas street last evening, it being the occasion of their fifteenth anniversary of their marriage and also the baptism of the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McKeanie. There were about forty friends and relatives present, and the time pleasantly passed in listening to the music of a gramophone and selection on the piano. The guests departed after having left many pretty tokens of their esteem.

STATE STATISTICS. Number of Polls in Vermont Increased Nearly 3000 in Year.

Montpelier, Oct. 5.--The tabulation of the polls and grand list in Vermont for 1904 has been completed by the secretary of state. The number of polls in 1903 was 175,286 and in 1904, 178,238, an increase of 2,952, and the grand list for 1903 was \$1,660,616.49 and for 1904, \$1,680,117.76, an increase of \$19,501.27.

The list for state taxes in 1903 was \$1,835,902.49 and 1904 was \$1,855,353.76. The number of acres in 1903 appraised was 5,278,880, and in 1904, 5,306,108, and the appraisal in 1903 was \$125,950,298, and in 1904, \$126,473,245. The personal last year was \$40,724,412, and this year \$41,528,531.

There were 21,212 polls in Washington county last year and 21,494 this year, an increase of 282. The grand list is \$182,091.81, this year, against \$178,396.40 last year, an increase of \$3,695.41.

ON SERIOUS CHARGES. John Whalen in Montpelier City Court Yesterday.

Montpelier, Oct. 4.--John Whalen, charged with indecent exposure and with assault with intent to kill, was before city court this morning. The complaining witnesses against him were William Bushey and wife. Whalen was acquitted of the charge of indecent exposure. Frank Goss, a small boy who was with Whalen, made a flat denial of Bushey's testimony. The other case will be taken up tomorrow. Whalen was put under \$1,000 bail in the case after being arrested yesterday, Milo Nelson, by whom he is employed, going on his bail. Bushey got a pair of black eyes in the bargain. He claims Whalen assaulted him with a hoe. It is understood that Whalen's story is that Bushey had the hoe and in the scrimage he had to take it from him.

BIG VERDICT IN LUMIERE CASE. Sued for \$80,000.00 And Was Awarded \$12,920.00

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SESSIONS OPEN TOMORROW

Washington County Sunday Schools

WILL GATHER IN BARRE

In Annual Convention--Topics for Consideration and Speakers Who Will Take Part in Proceedings.

The Washington County Sunday School Association will meet in annual convention in this city beginning tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The programme for the convention will be as follows:

Thursday Afternoon. 2:00--Opening. 2:15--Welcome, R. F. Lowe, Barre; response, Rev. Guy C. Lamson, Montpelier, president.

2:30--Reports of officers. One minute reports from Sunday schools-- 3:30--Address, Teacher Training, Hon. W. E. Ranger, Montpelier.

4:15--Round Table, conducted by Rev. E. M. Fuller, field secretary. 4:45--Business. 5:00--Adjournment.

Thursday Evening. 7:30--Praise Service. 7:45--Address, Rev. E. M. Fuller, field secretary. 7:45--Address, Rev. E. M. Fuller Dew 8:15--Address, The Fruit of Bible Teaching, Rev. F. Dee Penney, Burlington.

Friday Morning. 9:00--Opening Devotions. 9:15--Address, The Best Methods of Maintaining Attendance, Rev. J. W. Goffin, Berlin. 9:35--Discussion. 9:50--Address, The Work of the Home Department, Mr. H. A. Babbitt, Montpelier.

10:10--Discussion. 10:25--Address, Some Things Our Association Might Do, Mr. C. S. Andrews, Barre. 10:45--Discussion. 11:00--Conference on Organized Sunday School Work, conducted by Rev. E. M. Fuller.

11:30--Business and adjournment. Indications are that more than the usual number of delegates will be in attendance at this convention.

DESERTED THEIR HORSE. When it Fell Into a Sewer Ditch on Main Street.

Two men were driving a horse along No. Main street last evening at about 10:45 when an electric car came along and caused the horse to shie. In doing so the horse fell into a ten-foot sewer ditch nearly in front of the Scampini block. The two men jumped from the wagon and ran, it is claimed, leaving the poor animal to look out for itself. Dr. A. H. Lewis was summoned and with the aid of Jack Manning and others succeeded in extricating the animal and taking it to Dr. Lewis' stable.

Who the parties were that deserted the horse is not known, and Dr. Lewis, on inquiry of him this morning, said he did not know who the owner of the horse was. He said he put the horse in his stable, and while away this forenoon it was taken away.

There seems to be a good deal of mystery about the affair, and when anyone who could possibly know anything about the case was approached this forenoon they could only say that it was two prominent citizens, but who they did not know, and then they would smile.

But that the horse did not suffer any damage is no credit to its drivers who deserted it in trouble.

A CREDITABLE PERFORMANCE. Large Audience Was Greatly Pleased With "David Harum."

That quaint epic of the "boss" trade, "David Harum," the reading of which has delighted so many people, was presented at the Barre opera house last evening, and that the audience was greatly pleased with the production was much in evidence. After the opening lines the people "thawed" from their wonted frigidity and from then on it was a continuous ripple of applause and laughter, interspersed with those serious periods which make the book and the play so attractive. The nov celebrated "boss trade" in which "Dave" got ahead of the "Dacon" was the sequel for the heartiest burst of applause. But throughout it was all good as presented by Julius Cain, and Manager Patch is to be congratulated in securing so creditable a performance. The local theatre-going public appreciate it.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION Holds First Meeting of the Season Tomorrow Evening.

The opening meeting of the Presbyterian Young People's association occurs tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock. The president, Mr. Odgers, will give his inaugural address and the editors of the magazine will read the first number of their fortnightly paper. After the formal programme a social hour will be enjoyed. It is hoped that the members attending the series of meetings will be doubled this year. A cordial invitation is extended to all young people.