JURORS PETITION FOR A NEW TRIAL

Ten Out of 12 Ask for Stay of Execution for Condemned Gunmen.

TO AWAIT BECKER VERDICT

Want Every Chance of Error Eliminated—Suggest Second Trial May Benefit the Four.

New York, March 29.—Ten of the 12 jurors who found the four gunmen guilty of the murder of the gambler Herman Rosenthal have signed a petition asking Governor Glynn to stay the execution of death, set for next month, until after the second trial of Charles Becker, the former police lieutenant whose conviction was reversible last month by the Court of Appeals.

Counsel for the gunmen claimed today that this petition and other documents they claim would be presented to the Governor tomorrow. The jurors' petition is not signed by two of their number; one of the two was out of town when his signature was sought, another declined to make known his attitude. The others stated that their request was submitted "without any particular desire to influence or impugn the verdict," they insisted.

In view of the new trial that has been granted to Becker the petition sets forth, "the interests of justice may require that the execution of judgment of death pronounced upon these defendants upon our verdict be stayed until there be final determination of the guilt or innocence of the said Charles Becker, or other disposition of the case."

WOULD AVOID MISTAKE.

Every possibility of error should be eliminated, the ten jurors pointed out; hence their request for a reprieve or a stay "to the end that if anything hereafter may occur or any information be procured, or during the trial of Charles Becker be brought to light which may redound to the benefit of the defendants, they may have an opportunity at the proper time, to avail themselves of such development or revelation."

H. Lionel Kringel, of counsel for the gunmen, will present the petition, together with a 26-page typewritten statement making references to the opinions of the court of appeals in the Becker case, and various petitions, among them one by the gunmen, "Dago Frank," Cirofici, "Lefty Louie" Rosenberg, Harry Horowitz ("Gyp the Blood") and Jacob Seidenshner ("Whitey Lewis").

SEEK COMMUTATION

The four requests: First, that the judgment of death be commuted "to such terms of imprisonment as to the Governor may seem just and proper," and, second, that the execution of judgment be stayed and reprieves be granted "until after the final determination of the indictment" against Becker.

Affidavits by various attorneys "new witnesses," relatives of the gunmen and other documents intended to show that the four are innocent, are added. It was announced that the wives of those of the gunmen who are married will seek an audience with the Governor on Tuesday. The statement in the gunmen's behalf concludes:

"It is believed that justice will be satisfied, if the punishment were commuted; but surely every rule of public decency and every desire for fair play, it is respectfully submitted, would dictate that these four men be given the opportunity of having whatever benefit may come from the developments and determination of the trial of Becker."

CLUBBING LIST.

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The Weekly FREE PRESS can be obtained in combination with other leading periodicals at low rates. To prevent unnecessary correspondence we will state that after the subscription has begun notice of a change of address, or anything concerning the receipt of the other periodicals, should be sent directly to the office of that periodical.

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Ladies' World	1.50
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Methodist Recorder	2.40
McClure's Magazine	2.35
Metropolitan Magazine	2.10
Mirror and Farmer	1.40
Modern Priscilla	1.75
Munsey's Magazine	2.40
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New York World (3 times a week)	1.75
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MRS. WILLIAMS' LONG SICKNESS

Yields To Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Elkhart, Ind.:—"I suffered for fourteen years from organic inflammation, female weakness, pain and irregularities. The pains in my sides were increased by walking or standing on my feet and I had such awful bearing down feelings, was depressed in spirits and became thin and pale with dull, heavy eyes. I had six doctors from whom I received only temporary relief. I decided to give Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a fair trial and also the Sanative Wash. I have now used the remedies for four months and cannot express my thanks for what they have done for me.

"If these lines will be of any benefit you have my permission to publish them."—Mrs. SADIE WILLIAMS, 455 James Street, Elkhart, Indiana.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotic or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record of being the most successful remedy for female ills we know of, and thousands of voluntary testimonials on file in the Pinkham laboratory at Lynn, Mass., seem to prove this fact.

If you have the slightest doubt that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will help you, write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass., for advice. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman, and held in strict confidence.

TRIAL OF $20,000 LIBEL SUIT BEGINS

Rutland, March 26.—The trial of the libel suit brought by John G. Stearns of this city, a furniture dealer, to recover $20,000 from John Metcalf, publisher of the Fair Haven Era, a weekly newspaper, and Charles Turner, Rutland correspondent for the paper, because of a paragraph published September 4, 1913, was begun to-day in Rutland county court. The plaintiff conducted a direct testimony and good progress was made for the defense. The defendant pleads justification of the wife-beating phase of the article in the Era. The alternity charge contained in the objectionable article does not figure in the present trial because it has been taken to the Vermont Supreme Court for a decision of the word affinity.

The attorneys in the case are Ernest H. O'Brien, Thomas W. Mahoney and Joseph C. Jones of this city for the plaintiff, and Marvelle C. Webber of Rutland, Joseph Sargent of Ludlow and E. D. Raymond of Fair Haven for the defendants.

Mr. Stearns testified that he is the only furniture dealer in this city having a wife and four children and that he was the only furniture man having a family at Lake Bomoseen last summer so that there is no question at whom the slur is aimed.

Mr. Stearns said that since the article appeared in print his friends had failed to recognize him on the street and that he had suffered from great humiliation, mental anguish, loss of sleep, loss of appetite and nervousness. He has been unable to give proper attention to his large undertaking and furniture business and to the duties of his office as a member of the Vermont State board of embalmers.

Mrs. Stearns corroborated her husband's story. She said that he often had paced the floor at night because of inability to sleep or had read for hours in the night. She was the only other witness for the plaintiff, except that Mr. Metcalf was called to establish his ownership of the Era. He said that Mr. Turner had no financial interest in the newspaper.

The chief witnesses for the defense this afternoon were George H. Wheeler, formerly of West Rutland, a teacher at Verona, N. J., and Harold Jacobus of Verona. They were camping at Lake Bomoseen last August. Neither knew Mr. and Mrs. Stearns. They testified regarding cries which they said they overheard while passing a cottage occupied by the Stearnses the night before the family left the lake.

DAMAGES OF $500 AWARDED IN FAIR HAVEN LIBEL CASE

Rutland, March 26.—John G. Stearns of this city was awarded damages of $500 and John D. Metcalf, editor of the Fair Haven Era, and Charles Turner of Rutland, a correspondent of the weekly newspaper, were adjudged guilty of libel by a jury which returned a verdict in Rutland county court yesterday afternoon in a suit for $20,000 brought by Mr. Stearns on account of a paragraph published in the Era September 4, 1913. The jury in a special verdict found him not guilty of wife beating which was alleged in the article, which contained no names but was so worded as to indicate that Mr. Stearns and Cora K. Porter, a nurse in his home, were referred to.

The counsel in the case were Ernest H. O'Brien, Thomas W. Mahoney and Joseph C. Jones of Rutland for the plaintiff and Marvelle C. Webber of this city, John G. Sargent of Ludlow and E. D. Raymond of Poultney for the defendants.

This trial merely disposes of the wife beating phase of the case. It is expected that the Vermont supreme court at its next term in May will pass on the affinity charge. Until this is decided the libel suit brought by Miss Cora K. Porter, a nurse, against Messrs. Metcalf and Turner will stand and if the supreme court finds there is ground for charging libel in reference to the word affinity, Miss Porter's case will be tried at the next term of county court. Mr. Stearns states that if this comes about he will bring suit for libel against Turner and Metcalf on the affinity matter as he intends to take every possible step to clear himself.

WILSON WINS THE OPENING SKIRMISH

Special Rule for Consideration of Tolls Exemption Repeal Bill Is Carried.

OPPOSITION IS BITTER

Underwood Pleads in Vain for Votes—Result Shows President's Command of His Party.

Washington, March 27.—President Wilson to-day won the opening skirmish of the greatest legislative battle of his administration when the House, over bitter protests from the recognized democratic leaders and almost solid minority opposition, adopted a special rule for the consideration of the bill repealing the free tolls provision of the Panama canal act.

Speaker Clark, Democratic Leader Underwood, Republican Leader Mann and Progressive Leader Murdock were at the head of those lined up against the administration, but the House responded to the President's personal appeal for prompt consideration of the repeal bill as a means of supporting his administration's foreign policy.

Two votes demonstrated the President's commanding influence with his party in Congress. On the first test, a motion to end debate and preclude amendment on the rule, carried by a vote of 207 to 176; the rule itself was adopted, 200 to 172.

Nothing to compare with the scene to-day had occurred in the House since the famous Cannon rules fight four years ago. In vain Representative Underwood took the floor of the House and urged his colleagues to vote against the rule.

The rank and file democrats, after listening to three hours of passionate argument, swung into the President's column, 195 of them voting to prevent the amendment of the special rule, while but 35 followed the leaders in joining with the minority in opposition.

PREDICT EASY REPEAL.

To-night administration supporters considered the crucial point passed, and jubilantly predicted the passage of the repeal bill itself Tuesday or Wednesday by a majority of more than one hundred.

The roll call was taken in silence, the crowded floor and galleries tense with excitement, after an hour of debate.

With Representative Underwood, the floor leader, Speaker Clark and Representative Fitzgerald, on the minority side, the democratic majority for the time being recognized as leaders Representative Henry, chairman on rules; Adamson, chairman of the interstate and foreign commerce committee; Palmer of Pennsylvania, Hardwick of Georgia, Sherley of Kentucky, and other prominent figures supporting the President's position.

Only eight republicans joined with the majority in support of the administration's program, but it was conceded tonight by leaders on both sides that many republicans who voted against the preliminary administration plans would vote eventually for the repeal. The solid progressive delegation of the House, led by Representative Murdock of Kansas, was aligned against the majority.

President Wilson's triumph was considered most notable by the rank and file of all parties because of the unusual alignment of forces within the democratic ranks.

Speaker Clark, though he did not take the floor to-day, had issued his eleventh hour attack upon the plans of the President's friends to limit debate, and announced that he would speak against the repeal bill Tuesday.

ATTACKS PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

Representative Underwood, who has been in the open against the President on the issue, pleaded urgently against the rule, and later delivered an attack on President Wilson's policy, denouncing the repeal of the toll exemption as an economic mistake, and declaring the President to be wrong in his conclusion that exemption is in violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. Yet in the face of this opposition the President won within the party membership by nearly four to one.

While the House was engaged in the final struggle of the conflict, the controversy was the medium of enlivening discussion in the Senate.

Senator Owen in a speech voicing the President's position declared that tolls exemption never had been supported by a majority of the democrats in Congress, and pleaded dramatically for his colleagues to uphold the honor of the nation.

Senator James and Senator O'Gorman, the latter leading the revolt against the President in the upper house, engaged in a stirring colloquy.

Representative Sims of Tennessee, the author of the repeal bill, made the first speech in support of his measure. He argued at length against the economic policy of the free passage of American ships through the canal.

U. S. FREE TO EXEMPT SHIPS.

Debate against the repeal was opened by Representative Underwood, who delivered detailed argument, to show that under the various treaties the United States had the right to prescribe such tolls as it deems necessary for vessels using the canal.

"Great Britain" he said, "could not properly contend that the United States under the treaties is not free to exempt its ships from tolls if it sees fit."

Representative Palmer of Pennsylvania told the democrats that opposition within the ranks of the party to the President in this matter amounted virtually to "impeachment of either the veracity or the injustice of the President."

When the cloture rule went in force the House immediately began the twenty hours of general debate on the repeal bill.

Secretary Bryan let it be known during the day that he was with the President on the issue and was heartily in favor of the Sims bill.

President Wilson was at luncheon with his family and Secretary Tumulty when the House was voting. Employes from the executive offices rushed in from time to time with bulletins on the progress of the fight but the President remained at the table.

TWO TELEPHONE COMPANIES FILE BILLS OF EXCEPTIONS

Brattleboro, March 29.—Bills of exceptions to the recent order of the Public Service commission have been filed by John G. Sargent of Ludlow, of counsel for the Champlain Valley Telephone company, and the Franklin County Telephone company. The bills are identical in their wording except so far as the proposed telephone rates of the respective companies are concerned.

Exception is taken by the Franklin County Telephone company to the following rates: St. Albans exchange, six-party business, from $24 to $21 per year; six-party residence, $18 to $15 per year; 15-party business, from $19.80 to $18 per year; 15-party residence, from $16.80 to $15 per year. East Fairfield exchange, six-party business, from $21 to $18 per year; six-party residence, from $18 to $15 per year; 15-party farmers' line business, $21 to $18 per year.

Exception is taken by the Champlain Valley company to the rates ordered by the commission as follows: Six-party business from $21 to $18 per year; 15-party farmers' line business from $21 to $18 per year.

Further exceptions to the order and findings of the Public Service commission are taken to the number of 37.

TANNENBAUM IS CONVICTED—GETS ONE YEAR

New York, March 27.—Frank Tannenbaum, the youthful leader of the Industrial Workers of the World who recently led a crowd of between two and three hundred homeless men into New York churches where he demanded food and shelter for his followers, was to-night found guilty of participating in an unlawful assemblage.

The jury that has been hearing the case against him deliberated about an hour. Immediately after the verdict was found Judge Wadhams in the court of general sessions sentenced Tannenbaum to one year in the penitentiary and in addition imposed a fine of $50 or one day for each dollar not paid.

Before the case was given to the jury Tannenbaum, at times highly excited, told his story on the stand. He admitted he had led his "army of unemployed" into the churches, and that on the evening he and the "army" invaded St. Alphonsus' Catholic Church he had addressed a large crowd in Rutgers square.

He denied that he had threatened that "blood would be shed" as the police had claimed.

On cross-examination Tannenbaum said his occupation was that of a bus boy, or waiter's helper; that he was twenty-one years old, had been in this country nine years and was not a citizen of the United States.

The former leader of unemployed said he wanted to be sentenced publicly and without delay, and then availed himself of the customary privilege to make a statement.

In passing sentence Judge Wadhams said that true liberty existed only among those who had love and respect for the law.

MRS. JOHN M. THOMAS IS OPERATED UPON FOR APPENDICITIS

Middlebury, March 29.—Mrs. John M. Thomas, wife of President Thomas of Middlebury College, suffered a severe attack of appendicitis and was taken yesterday afternoon on the mail train to Burlington, where an operation was immediately performed at the Mary Fletcher hospital. She was accompanied by her husband and Dr. F. S. Eddy.

It was said last evening at the Mary Fletcher hospital that Mrs. John M. Thomas, operated upon late Saturday afternoon, for appendicitis, was progressing favorably. The operation was entirely successful and she was said to be out of danger.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE FILES ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Montpelier, March 29.—Articles of association have been filed with the secretary of state at the State House by the Vermont Anti-Saloon League of Burlington and the Windham Lumber company of Windham. The incorporators of the lumber company are Arthur G. Burbee and Frank W. Burpee of Windham and O. E. Hughes of Brattleboro.

VERMONT NOTES.

Montpelier to Employ Engineer at $1,500 Salary.

Montpelier's city council has voted to engage a city engineer at a salary not to exceed $1,500 a year and also a stenographer for the city officers. There was little opposition to the engineer project but the engagement of a stenographer had to be voted upon by wards.

WILL ORDER OVERPASS

It is expected that the public service commission will within a short time issue an order requiring the building of the overpass on Bridge street at Brattleboro, as plans are now under consideration. It is against the Central Vermont railroad that an order for the construction of an overpass will be issued, for it is the tracks of that road which cross Bridge street at grade and not those of the Boston & Maine railroad.

SUES ON ASSAULT CHARGE.

The suit of E. Rossi against Edward Cetrini and others is being heard in Washington county court, the plaintiff seeking $3,000 damages for an alleged assault committed last November 9. Rossi claims he was attacked in a house in Montpelier, that he was shoved into a kitchen, struck on the forehead, torn about the ear and couldn't work for three months afterward.

FAMOUS FESTIVAL SINGER.

Montpelier is to hear the famous contralto, Mme. Gerville Reache, at the musical festival in that city May 27 and 28. Through the generosity of Fred A. Howland, Joseph A. DeBoer, Dr. A. B. Bisbee, L. D. Taft and Mayor James M. Boutwell, who guarantee her fee, her income has been assured.

BOY CHARGED WITH MURDERING GIRL

Warrant Served in Little Falls Case—Alleged Admissions Incriminating.

OFFICERS HAVE WEAPONS

Are Wrench and Knife Used, Is Claim—Affidavit Declares Youth Asked for Aid in Crime.

Little Falls, N. Y., March 29.—Jean Gianini, who had been held as a suspect for the murder of Lydia Beecher, the young Poland, New York, school teacher whose body was found in a clump of woods near that town, was arrested today on a warrant charging him with the crime. The inquest has not been concluded and no autopsy has been held, but Coroner Huyck said that in his opinion the evidence already adduced justified the issuance of the warrant.

Alleged admissions made by Gianini, who is 18 years old and a former pupil of Miss Beecher, are held by the authorities as tantamount to a confession. In support of the youth's reputed statements an affidavit was made to-day by Brainard Will, a companion of Gianini and a year his senior, to the effect that the accused boy several days ago asked Will to assist in murdering Miss Beecher and robbing the safe in the second largest business house in Poland village. Will said that he did not think Gianini was in earnest.

RED SPOTS ON COAT.

The weapons which are alleged to have been used to commit the crime are in the possession of the authorities. There is a wrench belonging to a cartman to whose barn Gianini had access, and a knife similar to those used by hunters. The wrench was found near the scene of the tragedy and the knife taken from a pantry at the Gianini home. The coat which the boy wore contained red spots which he said were paint stains, and the garment has been sent to a chemist for examination.

Charles Gianini, maintaining his son is innocent, has engaged counsel. Charles B. Hanen, to defend the boy. The lawyer and Dr. Suitor, a brain specialist of Herkimer, went to Poland to-day.

Miss Beecher's mother, affected by the strain, has gone to Syracuse to be with relatives. A brother, W. D. Beecher, a stenographer to Rear Admiral Frank F. Fletcher, is with his father arranging for the removal of the girl's body to the Beecher home in Sennett.

AUTOPSY PERFORMED.

Utica, N. Y., March 29.—An autopsy was performed late this afternoon and the body given to the father of the murdered girl. The relatives will leave Poland to-morrow morning for Sennett and the funeral will be held immediately after arrival there at 1:00.

MISS JULIA E. KOCH DIES SUDDENLY

Rutland, March 29.—Miss Julia E. Koch, sister of William E. Koch, who was acquitted of the charge of murder of Charles Gordon at the last term of county court, dropped dead at her home in West Haven this afternoon shortly after five o'clock. Although she had not been in the best of health, her death was unexpected. Her father, William Koch, is visiting at his former home in Germany and her brother is spending the winter in Florida.

Miss Koch was born in Jersey City, N. J., 30 years ago, but had lived on the large farm in West Haven for many years. Miss Koch was particularly interested in raising Shetland ponies and she had at the time of her death some very well bred horses.

Miss Koch at the time of the trial of her brother for the killing of Charles Gordon, while the latter was poaching on the Koch game preserve, was very active in assisting in preparing the defense and during the trial sat beside her brother every day.

Although not in excellent health Miss Koch felt as well as usual to-day and after lying down on a couch in the afternoon she arose about 4:30 o'clock and started for the barn to feed her horses. She had just reached the barn when she fell and called out for assistance.

The telephone was out of order but an employe hurried to Whitehall, N. Y., and brought back a physician by boat, but before he arrived Miss Koch was dead. She was in Rutland Friday of last week.

Besides her father and brother, Miss Koch is survived by a sister, Mrs. Marie Letts of New York city.

RUTLAND VETERAN DIES.

Rutland, March 27.—Elijah P. Needham, a veteran of Company C, Fourth Vermont Volunteer regiment, died at his home in South Wallingford to-day, age 78 years. He lived with his son, A. W. Needham, and he leaves two other sons, George of Rutland and Myron of Albany, N. Y. The funeral will be held at the house Monday morning at 9:45 o'clock, burial being in Chittingsville. Roberts Post, G. A. R., of which the deceased was a member, will be represented.

Mr. Needham was born in Shrewsbury. He was a farmer.

CONFIRMING THE BOOK.

Mr. Brown had been helping little eight-year-old May with her school work, and she had learned to believe implicitly in his knowledge.

One day at dinner she asked Mr. Brown what the United States paid for Alaska.

"A little over $7,000,000," said he.

"All right," said May, as she consulted a slip of paper. "I looked it up in the encyclopedia."

"Why did you ask me then?" said her father.

"I wanted to see if the encyclopedia was right."

RUTLAND COUNTY'S OLDEST RESIDENT DEAD AT AGE OF 101

Rutland, March 27.—At 5:45 o'clock this morning Mrs. Eliza Littlefield Brown, probably Rutland county's oldest resident, died at her home, 28 West street, at the age of 101 years, six months and 15 days, in the house where more than a half century ago she was led a bride by the late Oscar Brown. Since her last birthday, September 12, 1913, which she celebrated by entertaining many callers, Mrs. Brown had failed rapidly, the wearing out of life being gradual until the final spark was extinguished.

On September 12, 1814, Eliza L. Brown was born at Andover, this State, and she passed 97 years in Rutland, which she saw grow from a mere hamlet to a thriving city of 15,000 inhabitants. One of 11 children, she was the daughter of Levi and Jemima B. Brown, who came of Massachusetts stock of revolutionary activity. Her grandfather, Alexander Bragg, fought in one of the first battles of the revolution, and an uncle, Simon Littlefield, enlisted when a boy and served eight years in the continental army. He was later a physician at Arlington, this State.

When Mrs. Brown came to Rutland with her parents in 1817 they located on what is now the prize dairy farm of ex-Gov. John A. Mead. Mrs. Brown was a talented musician in her early life and was for years prominent in the choir of the Congregational Church, of which she was a member for 85 years. Her only near surviving relative is a step-daughter, Miss Helen E. Brown, with whom she lived.

The funeral will be held at the Congregational Church Monday.

PIG'S EYE TO GIVE SIGHT

Remarkable Operation on Baby Is Expected to Prove Success.

Baltimore, Md., March 26.—Sight has been given to the left eye of David Kane, nine months old child of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kane of Gettysburg, Pa., through the grafting of the cornea of a pig's eye to the child's eyeball, according to a statement of physicians at a hospital here.

A test which brings out the fact clearly is that the child now winks his eyelid if anything is waved close to the left eye. The movement of the eyelid is the natural one.

The disease from which little David has been suffering since he was three weeks old is known as staphyloma of the cornea. Both eyes became affected and the child was virtually blind. Sight was partly restored to the right eye, however, after treatment. The left seemed to be in a hopeless condition.

The operation was performed last Monday and the cornea of the pig's eye was used because it is said to more closely resemble the human cornea than that of any other animal.

Child and pig were placed under an anaesthetic and the outer covering of the animal's eye was removed. It was quickly placed on the eyeball of the child.

The child's eye to-day is said to be perfectly clear and free from inflammation.

TOWN CLOCK IS THROWN DOWN

London Suffragettes Hurl Odoriferous Bombs and Bags of Flour.

London, March 26.—An extraordinary suffragette disturbance occurred to-day at a meeting of the popular borough council, which had voted adversely to letting out council halls for suffragette meetings.

With shouts of "cowards" and other offensive epithets a large number of women invaded that section of the hall reserved for the councillors. Bombs containing evil-smelling chemicals were exploded by the scores; bags of flour and stones were flung at the members. The councillors were soon struggling with the infuriated women, many of whom were armed with bludgeons and bottles.

The police were sent for, but for some reason refrained from interference.

The mayor retained the chair in a vain endeavor to resume the council proceedings, but finally the council beat a retreat, leaving the woman in possession of the hall, with a few socialist members of the council, who remained to hear speeches delivered by Miss Zelie Emerson, of Jackson, Mich., and others.

While Miss Emerson was speaking, the council ventured to return to the chamber and carried a resolution excluding the public from the chamber for three months.

George Lansbury, a member of the council and a strong supporter of the militant movement, fiercely protested against this proceeding as irregular, and threw the town clock, books and papers to the floor, amid cheers from the suffragettes. The council meeting then adjourned.

INADEQUATE.

First charity visitor—How did you find poor Mrs. Holcomb?

Second charity visitor—Nearly frozen.

First charity visitor—Nearly frozen? I thought St. Andrew's Helping Hand society sent her a lot of clothes?

Second charity visitor—It did and she had them all on—seven peekaboo waists and four slit skirts.—Life.

Trinity Church of Montpelier is planning an efficiency campaign.

WOODSTOCK HAS STORMY SESSION ON TAX QUESTION

Attorney-General Gives Opinions as to Legality of Proceedings—Issue May Go to Supreme Court.

Woodstock, March 29.—A largely attended special town meeting to-day voted to rescind the vote passed at the annual meeting March 9 to raise a tax of $2 on grand list. There has been much feeling over the tax question and the town has been freely circularized by opponents and supporters of the $2 tax. The gathering was somewhat belligerent and vociferous. There was some question as to the legality of the vote in the March meeting, as a number of women voted on the general appropriation for current expenses, which included school expenses, but this was disposed of by Attorney-General Brown, who said it was legal inasmuch as the number of votes cast by women would not have affected the result. After much speechmaking the meeting to-day rescinded the former vote and reduced the tax to $1.50. This was done notwithstanding a statement from the attorney-general, which was read by Moderator J. S. Eaton, that such action was illegal. A motion to instruct the selectmen to submit the question to supreme court was also howled down. There is a quite general opinion that to-day's vote was ill-considered and likely to involve the town in legal difficulties if any taxpayer protests and the attorney-general's opinion is supported by the supreme court.

BALSAM FIR NOW IN DEMAND FOR PULP.

Washington, March 29.—That balsam fir, a tree which a few years ago was considered of little value, is now in demand for pulp wood, is the statement made by the department of agriculture in a bulletin just issued on the subject. This demand has been brought about, says the department, by the enormous expansion of the pulp industry during the past two decades, with its present consumption of three and a quarter million cords of coniferous wood and the consequent rise in the price of spruce, the wood most in demand for paper making. In addition, the department goes on to say, balsam has begun to take the place of spruce for rough lumber, laths, and the like, as the price of the latter wood has risen.

The chief objection to the use of large amounts of balsam fir in the ground-pulp process of paper making is said to be due to the so-called pitch in the wood, which injures the felts and cylinder faces upon which the pulp is rolled out. Balsam fir does not have a resinous wood, and the material which gums up the cylinder probably comes from grinding balsam under conditions adapted to spruce wood. Yet from 10 to 25 per cent. and possibly more of balsam can be used in ground pulp without lowering the grade of the paper produced. It is known that with balsam logs left lying in water over a season this drawback practically disappears.

In chemical pulp, produced through the action of acids, these acids are known to dissolve the pitch, and any amount of balsam can be used, though some claim that too much balsam in the pulp gives a paper that lacks strength, snap and character.

At the present time, balsam fir furnishes about six or seven per cent. of the domestic coniferous wood used by the country's pulp industry. The tree itself constitutes, numerically, about 20 per cent. of the coniferous forest in northern New York and Maine, and is abundant in many parts of New Hampshire, Vermont, and in the swamps of northern Michigan, northern Wisconsin, and Minnesota. It readily reforests cut-over areas and attains a size suitable for pulp wood in a short time.

Under present methods of cutting, balsam fir is said to be increasing in our second-growth forests at the expense of red spruce, and with the gradual decline in the supply of the latter wood the fir will become more and more important commercially.

THE TOILET.

Caroline Lockhart, the novelist, said on a recent visit:

"What amazing toilets the rich woman makes to-day! Her bath and massage require an hour; the coiffeur demands an hour more; then here's the manicure; then there's the application, before a Louis Quinze dressing table, of a dozen unguents and cosmetics from bottles mounted in old silver. And her actual dressing, the actual putting on of her clothes, hasn't, mark you, yet begun!

"It all makes me think of a shack I once put up at overnight in the prairie. I rose at daybreak, and washed my face and hands in a creek behind the house. A piece of burlap bag hung on a branch, and I used this for a towel. Then I took a comb from my pocket.

"A boy of 12 had been watching me with a cynical smile. When he saw my comb appear he could restrain himself no longer. He gave a laugh of scorn and yelled:

"'Hey, lady, ain't you a good deal o' trouble to yerself?'"