

The Mount Airy News.

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MR. WILSON TAKES DIGNIFIED LEAVE

Retiring President Rides With Successor to Capitol, Completes Duties, and is Driven to His New Washington Home.

Washington, D. C.—Woodrow Wilson's prestige was enhanced by the courage and dignity with which he transferred the reins of government to his successor, Warren G. Harding, and with which he met the demands of the last hours of his administration. It may be putting it too strongly to say that there was a revulsion of feeling, but it is the simple truth to state that the thought of all, except perhaps the most hidebound partisans turned toward him in greater sympathy and kindness than in many a day.

When the man who was to be President within an hour or two rolled swiftly in his automobile to the accompaniment of the clanking hoofs of the military escort and the plaudits of the spectators along the sidewalks, from his hotel to the White House, President Wilson was awaiting him. There was a little delay. Presently he came to the door, leaning on his cane but walking alone, slowly but with firm determination. After he had entered the automobile, Mr. Harding, Philander C. Knox (R.), Senator from Pennsylvania, and Joseph G. Cannon (R.) Representative from Illinois, members of the Inaugural Committee, took their places in the car with him.

What proportion of the applause which followed the open touring car was for the triumphant candidate and what for the man who had passed through the difficult experiences of the last few years, and was still eager to work for his ideals, none could say. Mr. Harding left the car at the main entrance to the Senate wing of the Capitol. Mr. Wilson left at a small door used by justices of the Supreme Court and walked alone slowly along the corridor to the elevator. As he entered the President's room, where several bills awaited him, there were present Mrs. Wilson, members of the Cabinet, Mr. Harding, and Gen. John J. Pershing, and a few senators and representatives. There was clapping of hands, in which the President-elect participated, as Woodrow Wilson arrived. Rudolph Forster, for many years clerk at the White House, presented the bills. As his official family and several of the Democratic senators who have remained loyal in their support pressed about their chief he had a cordial word for each.

Mr. Harding impressed upon the President that he would understand if he were not to attend the inauguration ceremonies. Mr. Wilson wanted to go very much, indeed, and was only dissuaded by the united efforts of his family and near friends. The two men seemed to vie each with the other in courtesy and consideration.

The only time when the expression of kindly intent was dimmed was when Henry Cabot Lodge (R.) Senator from Massachusetts, who, as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, had so persistently, and successfully, obstructed the policies to which the President was so heartily committed, appeared with other members of a committee from Congress.

"The committee begs to inform you that the two houses have completed their work and are prepared to receive any further communications from you," said Mr. Lodge.

The two men faced each other and every one present thought of the struggle over the ratification of the treaty.

"I have no further communication," said Mr. Wilson. "I would be glad if you would inform both houses and thank them for their courtesy. Good morning, sir."

He was through. Out from the Capitol he went, his work as President of the United States at an end. An automobile took him to his new home on S street, where a sympathetic throng filled the street and cheered for Woodrow Wilson.

The front of the house was guarded and the way kept clear for those who had arranged to call—members of an organization that supports the League of Nations; members of his Cabinet; a few diplomatists, senators, representatives, and other officials and personal friends.

An Ideal Remedy for Constipation

It would be hard to find a better remedy for constipation than Chamberlain's Tablets. For the best effect they should be taken immediately after supper. They are easy to take and mild and gentle in effect.

IMPORTANT MEASURES ACTED UPON BY SOLONS

Fifty Million Dollar Road Bond Bill and Abolition of Property Tax Features.

Raleigh, March 9.—Working feverishly toward the adjournment hour set, beforehand, at one o'clock this morning, members of the General Assembly could nevertheless look back on the work of the past sixty days and find in it the satisfaction of having written up the laws of the State their space of new legislation.

Fifteen hundred and sixty-seven bills passed across the reading clerk's desk during the sixty-four days of session, not quite covering up records that have been established in former years, but coming very much close, than the general expectation of the opening days of the session. Nearly 1,000 new laws had passed thru the office of the enrolling clerk before the assembly was gone, and there are that many new statutes now on the books.

History in generous measure was made in the thousand bills that won the final signature of the presiding officers. Altogether is embraced the most sweeping enactments that have been encompassed by a session in many years, including a large part of Governor Morrison's legislative program. In the words of the Old Tiger from Alleghany, "The most notable record of a General Assembly during the years of my service here." And Mr. Doughton has served longer than any member of the adjourning set.

Governor Morrison last night expressed keen gratification with the success of his own program during the first session of his administration and asserted that all measures which he was most interested in writing into the law of the State were enacted.

Outstanding from the mass of legislation is the Doughton-Connor-Bowie road bill, providing for the construction of 5,500 miles of hard-surfaced and other dependable types of roads, maintaining them, and carrying with it a bond issue of fifty million dollars for construction. Added to this major road bill there are more than one hundred local road and street improvement bills, with an aggregate appropriation of upwards of twenty-five million dollars and authorizations at the session is \$75,000,000.

Had not the road bill been sufficient to give lasting distinction to the 1921 session of the General Assembly there is the completion of the tax reform inaugurated under Governor Rickett three years ago.

An equitable segregation of taxes divorcing the State from any participation in incomes derived from property tax and leaving all such revenues for local use was the purpose of the evolution culminated in the session adjourning. This goal was attained in the Act to raise Revenue and made possible through the ratification of the income tax amendment to the constitution at the last election, and a further extending and perfecting of the inheritance tax law.

For the first time since North Carolina assembled a legislature in 1789, no tax was levied on property for state uses. The Revenue act provides for taxes on incomes of individuals, and corporations, inheritance, privilege, etc., for its revenue. And in furtherance of the tax reforms a separate revenue commission with a revenue commissioner was found to have general supervision of the state and local tax work in the state.

Two months ago when the General Assembly came into session, paramount in the minds of many of the members was the dissatisfaction of their people at the workings of the revaluation act. Insistent demands were made through a dozen or more bills, for a horizontal reduction in values. Two months steady work brought forth a bill that provided for a local adjustment of this vexation, and a horizontal reduction by counties, is found just. No act of the General Assembly found more general approval.

More generous was the hand of the General Assembly toward its institutions this session than it has ever been before. Approximately seven million dollars was apportioned among the various educational and custodial institutions for the education of the youth and the care of the afflicted in body, spirit and mind. Included in this measure is the \$350,000 more money for confederate pensioners than has ever been voted before a total of a million dollars.

For the furtherance of primary and secondary education in the public grammar and high schools there was

enacted a general law solidifying the work that has been in the department of education during the past 20 years, and giving a more effective instrument to the department with which to pursue its destinies. And added to this was the Matthews bill providing for a five million dollar fund for the assistance of needy communities in the erection of school houses.

Public health was further strengthened, and given increased appropriations for the continuation of its work. Most important of the bills emanating from that department is the Bellamy bill requiring the physical examination as a preliminary to matrimony. Measures for the safeguarding of the medical, dental and pharmaceutical professions was enacted. These latter were the subject of sweeping attack at the hands of other branches of the healing cults, but went through finally without material changes.

The General Assembly removed sore a generation old when it passed the state-wide stock law in mid-session, and until yesterday afternoon steadfastly refused to alter its edict against the free range. Representative Crisp, by personal appeal, got through a measure that exempted water-bound county of Dare from its provisions. Further strength was added to the agricultural department, which fathered the stock law, in appropriations and the fortification of the warehouse act, and the water-bound county, Dare, from active marketing laws.

For the first time in 20 years there was a general shake-up in the senatorial districts when the Assembly finally passed the Neal bill subdividing the districts in accordance with the population of the 1920 census. Shifts recorded in the representation in the house take a member from Iredell and Union and give one additional member to Forsyth and to New Hanover. Minor changes were made in the election laws, among them the making of an attack upon an election officer a felony.

Though doing many things that are epochal, the Assembly was not neglectful of its "don'ts." Not less than eight major proposals were heard with a deaf ear and despite the vehement uproar that was made in their behalf. The major fights that raged in the General Assembly were over the following eight things that were turned down:

State-wide eradication of the cattle tick. Passed in the senate and killed in the house.

Censorship of moving pictures by a state board of censors. Passed in the senate and killed in the house by a margin of seven votes.

Legislation to enforce alleged contracts made between hydro-electric power companies and their consumers. Passed in the senate and killed in the house by two votes.

Contract interest rate, allowing eight per cent on contract loans. Killed in both houses by substantial majorities.

Calling constitutional convention to submit a re-draft of the basic law of the state to the voters in 1923. Passed in the senate and killed in the house.

Co-ordination of the state prohibition laws with the national law, known as the Volstead act. Tabled in both houses.

Resolutions to allow members of the General Assembly bonus of \$250 in lieu of their expenses in attending the session. Died in the house without a vote.

Mole a Nuisance on Farm But His Coat is Valuable

"The little gentleman in black velvet" who caused the death of King William III by digging the burrow that tripped the English king's horse is finding his black velvet jacket a coveted possession. Reports from the leading fur dealers in this country indicate that the number of American moleskins marketed during the last fiscal year was 20 per cent greater than for the preceding 12 months. The Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, is largely responsible for this increase. In conducting demonstrations in cooperation with the public schools, State extension services, and other organizations, the bureau has encouraged the eradication of the mole from territories where the little animal has become a pest. Boys' and girls' clubs have been given an opportunity to study the trapping methods most effective and also the best way to care for the tiny pelt. The year's catch of moles yielded a peltry value in the State of Washington of \$60,000, and, due to the efforts of the specialists, as costly nuisance has been reduced.

OATH TAKEN ON WASHINGTON BIBLE

Book Used in Harding Ceremony Same as That Upon Which First President Swore Fealty—A Relic Prized by Masons.

New York, New York—The Bible upon which Warren G. Harding's hand rested when he took the oath of office as President of the United States was used for a similar purpose when George Washington was inaugurated, and is one of the most priceless relics treasured by the Masonic fraternity in the United States. So highly is it valued that St. John's Lodge, No. 1 A. F. and A. M., of this city, its owner, is considering the advisability of stopping the practice of using it while conferring the degree of master mason and of bringing it out of its strong box only on most special occasions.

The Bible was printed by Mark Baskett, "printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty," in London, in 1747. But it is in a fine state of preservation. It was already in use on the altar of St. John's Lodge at the Old Coffee House, corner of Water and Wall streets in this city, when George Washington was about to swear allegiance to the Constitution of the United States.

When the time came for this important part of the inauguration ceremony, some one suddenly discovered that the provision of a Bible had been forgotten. It was the master of St. John's, Jacob Morton, who, as marshal of the parade, noted the dilemma and offered to get the lodge Bible. He was begged to do so, and the ceremony went on without hindrance. Adolph Geering, historian of the lodge, has written thus of the ceremony:

"When the stately Washington had finished repeating the oath, with his right hand resting on the open book and his head bowed in reverential manner, he said in a clear and distinct voice:

"I swear, so help me God."

"Then bowing over this magnificent Bible he reverently kissed it. Whereupon Chancellor Livingston, in a ringing voice exclaimed:

"Long live George Washington, President of the United States."

Washington was one of the founders of St. John's Lodge, and the home of that lodge was not far from the steps of the Federal Building, now called the Sub-Treasury, where he took the oath on April 30, 1789. In December 10 years later, the Bible was again closely linked with Washington, when a communication was received from the Grand Lodge expressive of their wish to pay reverence to "our illustrious chief and departed brother, George Washington." The historian proceeds:

"A committee was appointed which made arrangements for attending the funeral obsequies, when the Bible of the lodge, the same on which he took his inaugural oath, was carried in the funeral procession as a last tribute of respect to departed worth."

Yesterday a special committee, with Frederick A. Onderdonk, worshipful master of St. John's, as chairman, was in charge of the Bible. They and several other members of the lodge came to Washington on Thursday in a special car, carefully guarding the relic. Only three times before had the Bible been taken from its repository in the Masonic Temple here; in 1892 it was exhibited in Pennsylvania later it was taken to White Plains, and still later it was shown side by side with the Bible on which Washington took his Masonic obligations as a member of the Fredericksburg Lodge in Virginia.

Black-Walnut Trees as Memorials

Planting of black-walnut trees as memorials to soldiers is recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture. It is pointed out that the black walnut played a valiant part in the World War. The wood was used for gunstocks and airplane propellers, and the nutshells contributed carbon for gas masks, while the kernels were used in many delicacies for the boys in the trenches. Demand for the wood for war purposes depleted the number of fine old trees, and this method is suggested for filling their places.

One good method of retaining your youth is to fall in love, however we would suggest to the married folks that the safest plan is to fall in love often with your own husband or wife.

NEW MARRIAGE LICENSE STATUTE AS CONSTRUED

Attorney General Advises Physicians to Apply Rule of Reason.

Raleigh, March 10.—A conscientious physician applying the rule of reason will have little difficulty in dealing with applicants for health certificates under the Bellamy marriage license act, which became a law in the closing days of the General Assembly, according to attorney General, James S. Manning, who was called upon from all parts of the state yesterday to construe the statute.

Particular objection on the part of registers of deeds and physicians lies in the penalties attached. The law requires male applicants for marriage license to present a physician's certificate to the effect that he has no venereal disease, no tuberculosis in its infectious stages and has not been adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction an idiot, imbecile or of unsound mind. Female applicants are excused from venereal disease certificate. For the register of deeds who issues a license without the accompanying certificates a penalty of \$200 or imprisonment for thirty days is prescribed, while the physician who "knowingly and willfully" makes a false statement in a certificate shall be fined not less than \$200 or imprisoned not more than six months.

The physicians argue the difficulty of determining venereal diseases and even tuberculosis in certain stages without a prolonged observation of the subject, and insist that it is absolutely impossible for a physician, without exhaustive research of records, in many cases not available, to determine whether or not a man or woman has been adjudged non compos mentis by "a court of competent jurisdiction."

Attorney General Manning, however, points to the words "knowingly and willfully" as the key to the problem and lets the case rest on the grounds of reasonable effort to get the truth.

"The certifying physicians," he says, "is not an insurer of the truth of statements in the certificates. All the law requires of him is that he should satisfy his judgment in each particular case, with the individual features incident to it, by the ordinary means accessible to him."

No one anticipated the storm of inquiries and the flood of doubt that the passage of the bill caused when copies were put in the hands of registers of deeds of the state. In many counties, it is understood, officers have flatly refused to issue licenses until they are reassured as to their responsibility by a ruling from the attorney general.

The biggest burden is placed on the county health officers in counties which have whole time health departments. These health officers, under the law, are required to make examinations and furnish certificates when asked for, free of charge.

"Lay Eggs While the Light Shines"

West Raleigh, Feb. 6.—"Lay eggs while the light shines," is the slogan apparently adopted by a pen of 30 Rhode Island hens at the State college poultry plant, according to Dr. B. F. Kaupp. A recently completed experiment extending over a period of one year offers some striking results.

Two flocks of 30 hens each were given the same amount of feedstuffs and identical care and attention. One pen was lighted with a 120 Watt electric light from sundown until about 9:30 p. m., or long enough to give the hens 15 hours of light in which to work. The other pen was not lighted the hens being kept under natural conditions.

The flock given 15 hours of light, day and artificial laid 147 eggs per hen. The other flock averaged 104 eggs. The greatest gain occurred during November, December, January, and February, the season when eggs are scarce and high. During this period, 60 per cent of the flock under light laid regularly, while only 10 per cent of the flock under natural conditions produced.

The ancient Babylonian women painted their cheeks and penciled their eyebrows, according to scientists who investigated the ruins of the ancient dwellings of that period and found vases showing women in the act of painting.

Births in England and Wales in 1920 were the highest ever recorded, and the death rate the lowest, according to official reports.

NOT A HUN HAS RAISED HIS HAND AGAINST THE FOE

Village After Village in the Designated Territory is Being Taken Over.

Allied Military Headquarters, Neuss March 10.—Allied forces have virtually completed the occupation of the Rhine ports of the Ruhr region, all that remains to be done being the seizure of a few villages and important cross roads. As yet commanding officers have not arranged for a division of the occupied zone between the British, Belgian and French units gathered along the eastern side of the Rhine.

The soldiers engaged in the operation were delighted with their "military promenade," which was favored by unusually fine weather. They draw comparisons between the reception given them here and in Frankfurt last year, and there seems to be a sort of friendly atmosphere in the occupied district. A Duesseldorf newspaper said yesterday that if the allied authorities followed out the lines laid down in the proclamation by General DeGiutte the occupation of the city "would be supportable."

General Gaucher, in direct command of French units here, has issued a new proclamation, saying in substance that the German delegates at the London conference showed unwillingness to observe the Versailles treaty and that the allies were forced to coerce the German government to fulfill its obligations. He has laid emphasis on the fact that the occupation is in no sense a hostile act toward the population, and that not only was the freedom to work guaranteed, but the allied authorities would do their best to improve the condition of the people and assure an ample food supply. He has stated, however, that the people must obey any regulations that may be laid down.

While the presence of allied troops has been accepted in good grace by most of the people, business men in the occupied districts are worried over the consequences of the new customs system. Reports are current that certain factories have cancelled orders amounting to sixty million marks, but these rumors have not been confirmed.

People of the middle and working classes fear there will be an increase in the cost of living. They are laying in stocks of provisions and are besieging stores. In some cases fear is expressed that stocks of food will be rapidly exhausted.

Mudturkles

"Mudturkles live in a shell, which the get very much attached to," writes Henry W. Shaw ("Josh Billings").

"They are not fond of company, and seldom receive visitors in their houses. Their food consists principally of what the eat, which the find wherever the kan git it. Their style is half land, and haf water, and tha are at home on the banks or at the bottom of a kanal. Tha belong tew the class known as 'close korporashuns,' and are a hard animil tew whip, because tha alwus fit under cover. The mudturkule kant climb very well, therefore seldum iz found up a tree. Tha are very tuff ov life, and will outlive an injun rubber shoe, and don't seem tew gro old enny faster than a pavin stone doz. Tha kanbe domestikated without enny trouble; awl yew have tew dew iz tew put them into a barrel, and tha aint ap tew stray off far. I take a deep interest in moste awl the animils andparticularly in mudturkles, and I dew hope that the Legislature in their wisdom won't pass a law 'prohibiting enny more mudturkles.' I regret tew hear that in sum parts of the kuntry, the people are in the habit of using mudturkles tew pitch quoits with, but I think this wants an affidavy with a revenew stamp onto it.

Suspend Your Battery; And Save Electricity.

Trinity College, Feb. 11.—"What is the use of buying a new dry-cell battery for your electric bell every three months when by a simple arrangement the ordinary cell will last three years?" asks Dr. C. W. Edwards, head of the department of physics at Trinity. Suspend the battery in the air by means of a wire says the professor. Thus suspended instead of being placed on a shelf or in a box, the cell does not "leak" so rapidly. Dr. Edwards has a bell he has been operating from suspended batteries for three years, and the bell rings just as healthily as when the batteries were first purchased.