

# ALLEGANY COUNTY NEWS

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NUMBER 48

## ALLEGANY COUNTY NEWS SOLD TO GLENN J. ROBBINS

Herbert M. Peet, Editor for Over Four Years, to Take up City Daily Newspaper Work.--Now Editor a Thoroughly Competent Man.



GLENN J. ROBBINS

On March 1, Mr. Robbins becomes owner, editor and manager of The News, of which he was editor over four years ago.

Last week Glenn J. Robbins of Whitesville, though for the past four and a half years engaged in the newspaper profession in other places, purchased of Herbert M. Peet the Allegany County News, and the printing plant of the Albee Printing Company.

Beginning with the next issue, Mr. Robbins will assume charge of the business, including both the managerial and editorial responsibilities.

To the residents of Whitesville and vicinity it is not necessary for the writer to speak biographically of Mr. Robbins, as he was born in Spring Mills, in this township, about 25 years ago, the son of John B. Robbins who was one of the foremost citizens in former days in this end of the county.

Up until about four and a half years ago, Glenn J. Robbins had been a resident of Spring Mills and Whitesville all his life. He learned the rudiments of the printing business in this office under the direction of Will D. Fish. When the writer assumed editorship of The News in 1911, Mr. Robbins associated himself with the Canisteo Times. Later he became city editor of the Hornell Tribune-Times. Since then he has been connected with the Perry Herald and the Canisto Chronicle, and he comes from the latter office to assume his work here.

Mr. Robbins is a young man who can in every sense of the word be called honest. His newspaper training has made him broad-minded, quick to perceive the right side of public questions, sensitive to news values, and a true defender of all that goes to make a community a live one. His experience in larger offices will not only be of technical value to the patrons of this office in the future but will be of financial value to the community through which this newspaper circulates.

To be a successful country editor and publisher, a man must not only possess a knowledge of all the multitudinous duties connected with the successful operation of his printing plant and business transactions, but he must also be possessed of the "sixth" sense which can only be defined as the ability to understand the business and the affairs of every man and woman in the community, to be able to understand their viewpoint on all matters, to be able to gather news accurately without having been an eye-witness, to be able to stand sarcastic criticism and unjust abuse without flinching, to pleasantly refer to a man as a "public spirited citizen" when the editor knows that the man is so stingy that he won't subscribe for the paper but borrows it instead. An editor must be as wise as Solomon, as patient as Job, as prolific as the Apostle Paul, and as all-forgiving and humble as the Master Himself. It is rather difficult for a human being to live up to all these qualities, but by constant association with the business one gradually comes into possession of them.

The writer knows that Mr. Robbins is capable of conducting the business, that he is a man who will be in sympathetic relation with all his neighbors in the community, that he will be successful in gathering and publishing all the news of interest to his readers, and that he will overlook and ignore the calumny so freely spouted by the knockers.

I can see nothing but success in store for Mr. Robbins. I cannot help but feel that there is not a person in this section who will not cooperate to make his success noteworthy.

There are times in every person's life when words seem inadequate to express the tense and deep feeling of that person. I now find myself floundering for right words.

To live for nearly five years in a community like Whitesville, which is one of the best towns on the map; to be privileged to associate with all the people in this community in all their interests—social, fraternal, religious, civic; to come to know and understand the good qualities in every man, woman and child; to be a friend, brother, neighbor and counsellor—it has been Utopia! and to make my editorial farewell is the hardest task I ever tried to perform.

I have been a country editor. It has not been my business to make my life! Instead of trying to make money or even wanting to make it, I have been satisfied to get along with what came my way. The satisfaction of having won the approval of a neighbor; of winning the regard of my fellow-citizens; of having made and held friends—all this has been my compensation; what difference did the possession of a pile of gold or the lack of it, make!

A man must seek to better himself. The blissful peace one enjoys when surrounded by friends, should not blind oneself to what the future has in store. Friends die, conditions change,—and a man who is notable to meet the new conditions so caused, is lost.

So in "laying down the editorial pen" of the Allegany County News, I am performing an act of self-preservation and self-improvement. The confidence which friends have placed in me would be betrayed if I were to maintain that I did not care for my future welfare. It is not retrogression, but progression that prompts this step. I am going where I can fully develop whatever talents I possess,—by association and discipline in a city daily editorial rooms. I shall specialize in my profession as an editor, instead of generalizing as a publisher.

I surrender my position in this community as an editor, but I sincerely hope not as a citizen, friend and neighbor, for Whitesville will continue to be my voting residence and home, and I expect to be here frequently.

In leaving the newspaper fraternity of Allegany and Potter counties, I realize that I shall miss the interesting exchanges, which have been a source of enlightenment to me in matters of newspaper style and literary effort. My brother editors, each and all, are men of high purpose and they "hew to the line". May they continue to prosper!

Good-bye, dear old Allegany County News; good-bye, readers! May The News continue to work for the interest of its readers, and may the readers continue to give it their moral and financial support. One is indispensable to the other. An editor is but an agent who comes, works a while, and then goes on; a newspaper and its clientele are permanent fixtures in a community.

HERBERT M. PEET.



HERBERT M. PEET

With this issue of The News, Mr. Peet closes his four years and a half association as an editor and publisher in Whitesville.

## TWO MEN MEET MYSTERIOUS

### DEATH IN WELLSVILLE HOTEL

Coroner Ayars Has Sent the Stomachs of Frank and Guili to Buffalo for Analysis. --- Were Found Dead Sunday

Charles Frank, aged 53 years and Henry Guili, aged 32 years, were found dead about noon Sunday, in a room at the Erie Hotel, at Wellsville, which is conducted by Rocco Baresi. The deaths and cause are a mystery.

Mr. Frank, who is well known in Wellsville where he has spent his life, roomed and boarded at the Erie Hotel. He was in his room Saturday evening together with a party, including August Putzman, Carley Grove, Frank Carnes and himself. They were playing cards and during the evening indulged, it is said, in several drinks.

Between ten and eleven o'clock, Henry Guili called at the Erie Hotel and asked to see Mr. Frank and was directed to his room.

Just what time the other visitors of Frank left the place is not known. The first intimation of anything wrong was known about noon Sunday when Mrs. Baresi went to Frank's room to call him. Getting no response to her knocking on the door she entered and discovered both Frank and Guili lying across and on the outside of the bed with their clothes on. She went to Frank and shook him and then to her horror discovered that both men were dead.

Dr. Gish was called and Mr. Frank's brother William was summoned. Dr. Gish pronounced the men dead.

Later, Health Officer J. W. Collier and Officer Elsworth were called. The Health Officer called Undertaker Embser and had him remove the bodies to his undertaking rooms at No. 15 North Main. Coroner Dr. E. W. Ayars, Alfred, was notified by phone of the mysterious deaths and arrived in town Sunday evening on the Erie train 501 about 7 o'clock and took charge of the case.

There would have been nothing strange in finding Charles Frank dead as he was afflicted with alcoholism, but two men dying about the same hour with no apparent struggle, and no calls for help being heard in the night, looks suspiciously like a tragic death, whether premeditated or knowingly or unknowingly handed to the unfortunate victims.

The first doctor called intimated that it might be wood alcohol poisoning and only an analysis of the contents of the stomachs will reveal the true cause of death.

Coroner Ayars can do but little until the result of the chemical analysis until the result of the chemical analysis of the stomachs can be obtained. The coroner took both stomachs to the County Bacterial Laboratory at Belmont on Monday but unable to get the desired analysis and he will be compelled to take the stomachs to Chemist Hill in Buffalo and the result of the analysis will then give the authorities something to work upon.

Officer Elsworth who was called to the Erie Hotel on Sunday afternoon within an hour of the finding of the bodies, took possession of the various articles in the room and with Health Officer Collier, a careful search and examination was made of everything in the room. When the

officers arrived there was a considerable crowd present and they were hurried out of the room and the door locked, so that nothing was apparently disturbed until the arrival of Coroner Ayars on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock, when again the room and its contents were thoroughly gone over by the officials. No bottle containing a known poison was found in the room and the mystery still remains as to where the men obtained the stuff which so quickly snuffed out their lives.—Reporter.

## LEAP YEAR BALL ENJOYABLE EVENT

High School Girls Give a Party That Surpasses All Other Parties in Whitesville For Some Time.—Twenty-six Couples Were Present.

One of the most enjoyable dancing parties ever held in this village, was given by the Whitesville High School girls last Monday evening as a Washington Leap Year Ball.

Chapin Opera house, the scene of the event, was very tastily and appropriately decorated with flags and bunting. The Seaver-Chapman orchestra, at about 9:15 struck up an overture, and at 9:30 the twenty-six couples present, started the grand march led by Miss Lailah Burrows and Herbert M. Peet, and Miss Josephine de la Lys and Guy F. Bassett. Following the grand march, the ladies busied themselves for a few minutes in asking the gentlemen for dances, which were noted on very pretty red white and blue programs. Twelve regular numbers and two extras were enjoyed before luncheon, which was served in the basement. As a favor at luncheon each guest was presented with a red or white carnation. Twelve more numbers were enjoyed following luncheon, the party coming to a close at 1:30.

The patronesses of the evening were: Mrs. Fred Cornell, Mrs. Fred Wildman, and Mrs. Wallace G. Collier. The following patronesses assisted the committee in the dining-room: Mrs. Lester Baker, Mrs. Polly Edwards and Mrs. Walter Ainsworth.

Among the out-of-town people in attendance were: John Wallace of West Union, Mr. Frank of Hallsport, Jesse Cornell of Spring Mills, Misses Reta Potter and Jennie Coulson and Messrs. William H. Dally and Don Gilliland of Genesee.

As a social success, no event in the younger set has been its equal. It was a party that will be remembered for a long time by them and should inspire them to more such wholesome amusements in the future.

## LIVE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

### HELD IN WELLSVILLE

Teachers of This District were Privileged to Listen to Many Timely Discussions Which Equip Them for Better Service

(Written for The News by Frank G. Rigby, teacher of Shelton Public School.)

One of the best teachers' conferences held in western New York in some years, convened at Wellsville three days last week—Wednesday, Thursday and Friday—under the direction of the district superintendents of second, third and fifth supervisory districts: J. D. Jones of Cuba, W. L. Ward of Wellsville, and E. D. Walters of Bolivar, assisted by Supt. H. G. Burdge of the Wellsville Public Schools. All the public schools of the three districts had to be closed.

One feature of this conference, not common with most conferences of the like in this section of the state, many persons participated in its programs from the State Department of Education, Cornell University at Ithaca, Brockport Normal School and The Russell Sage Foundation of New York City.

During the forenoon Wednesday, about 300 teachers arrived in Wellsville from the rural and high schools of the districts mentioned. At two o'clock in the afternoon, Wednesday, registration took place at the high school auditorium.

Prof. O. L. Warren of Elmira, had charge of the music throughout the entire conference. To say he was an artist in his chosen profession is expressing the truth mildly. He earnestly believes that no profession is a success unless accompanied. He says that no man is a success unless he can sing.

At three o'clock, Dr. A. C. Thompson, President of the New York State Normal school at Brockport, delivered an address in the interest of the Association whose interests are those of the teachers at large. He pointed out definitely why it was for the best interest of the teachers of the State to belong to the Association.

At 8:15 p. m. there was a general assemblage at the Auditorium. The High School Orchestra furnished music. This was followed by a folk dance by the third and fourth grades of Martin street school of Wellsville.

At 8:45 there was to have been an address by Dr. Thomas E. Finegan, Third Assistant Commissioner of Education of Albany, on "The Proposed Township System for Schools." On account of urgent business at home, Dr. Finegan was not able to be present, therefore, he sent a capable substitute in the person of Dr. B. E. Dean, State Director of Vocational Education.

Dr. Dean gave a vivid idea of what the proposed law aims to do. Under the proposed law the entire school expenses for the whole township would be assessed to the taxpayers as a whole. Exclusive of any board or boards of education existing in the township, five other directors would be elected for the township at the annual school meeting in May and it would be their duty in part to hire the teachers for the entire township. Should they deem it advantageous,

any rural school having seemingly too few scholars to make it worth while to maintain that school, they may close such school for the time being. Again should that school later have sufficient scholars the school could be reopened. This does not mean, as some have the impression, that scholars in a remote part of the township must be carried to the central school but just to a school which could be established as a central one.

The conference opened Thursday morning with singing by the teachers led by Prof. Warren. At 9:45 a. m. Dr. William A. Howe, M. D., State Medical Inspector of Schools, delivered an address on "Medical Inspection of Children." He pointed out definitely the importance of medical inspection of school children and how much depends on the good health of the children.

At 11:00 o'clock there was a general meeting in the high school study hall of all grade and rural teachers. A general discussion of school problems was led by Dr. Elmer S. Redman, City Supt. of Schools for the city of Hornell.

At 1:30 p. m. Thursday afternoon several Round Table discussions were given with the principals of the various high schools as leaders of the discussions. The afternoon was given up entirely to discussions of interest of the teachers of the county in general. At 8:15, Prof. Warren gave an entertainment in the auditorium for the benefit of all. Those who did not attend do not know what they missed. He is certainly a story teller and a lecturer as well as a musician. At the close of the entertainment; a free-will offering was taken to which all contributed freely.

The session opened Friday morning with a general assembly in the auditorium. Miss Helen Coyle of Wellsville held a class in third grade reading. Every teacher present was pleased with this number on the program. The little people were certainly fine readers. The class in reading was followed by a class in physical culture led by Miss Edith P. Dally of Genesee, Pa., Director of Physical Culture in Wellsville Schools. Though physical culture is one of the new courses in many of our schools in this section of the state, yet it shows that this work is worth while, even in the grades.

The rest of the forenoon was taken up by Prof. Burdge in a general discussion.

At 1:30, Friday afternoon there was a general assembly at the auditorium. Report was given of the Committee on organization. At 2:30, Clarence A. Perry, of New York, Association Director of the Dept. of Recreation, Russell Sage Foundation, gave an address on "The Wider Use of the School Plant." The trend of his address was that all school buildings and equipments should be open not only for the betterment of the children mentally, but physically and socially.

(Continued on page 5)