# WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

NEW YORK.—When James D. Ross was appointed by the President as chief of Bonneville, the biggest dam in the world, in October, 1937, it was believed in some quarters that his selection would sharpen the disagreement between the administration and the power companies. Today it appears that Mr. Ross has allayed, rather than provoked hostilities. The utilities rate him as "reasonable." Bonneville has been the bete noir of western power development. This writer hears there is now a better chance for two-way appeasement than at any time in the past.

***Bonneville Chief Soothes Hostile Power People***

**Mr. Ross, for 20 years head of the municipal power development of Seattle, has human traits which perhaps account for his expedient rather than doctrinal trend. No mere doctrinaire would amuse himself by keeping a copper ball in the air with no visible means of support—just because he loves kilowatts and likes to see them work.**

He was a consulting engineer for the New York power authority and the St. Lawrence seaway, a consultant for PWA power development and later a member of the SEC before the President made him the Bonneville boss. As a boy, he rode his bike from Chatham, Ont., to New York city, to learn pharmacy. He got a job as an apprentice chemist, but pestling seemed piffling, so he hit the long grind back to Chatham—but he kept on pedaling. He headed up through Edmonton to the Alaska gold-fields, and, when dry land failed him, he made his own boat and pushed on. In Seattle, years later, he helped design the first municipal power plant.

YOUNG America is naturally envious of Capt. Harold E. Gray, who will be at the controls when the Yankee Clipper, huge Pan-American Airways flying boat, takes off for its flight across the Atlantic. It is now trying a few preliminary crow-hops around New York harbor.

***Gray Skipped No Step to Fly Air Leviathan***

**Captain Gray, it seems, had a system, in qualifying for this stellar role in aviation. First he became a licensed airplane mechanic; then he qualified as an aeronautical engineer, a master mariner and a radio technician; after all, he took diplomas in metereology, seamanship, international law, admiralty law and business administration.**

That seems to be about par for the lad who would be a skipper on one of these new leviathans of the air. All this, and many years of hazardous flying over the mountain wilderness of Mexico and Central America bring Captain Gray to the ripe old age of 33. He left college in his second year at the University of Iowa and was aloft for the first time at the age of 19. His home town is Guttenberg, Iowa.

WARREN LEE PIERSON, head of the Export-Import bank, appears to rate an assist in the Nazi put-out in Brazil. The big credit deal, to clear the trade ways between the two countries, is widely accepted as a goose-egg for the Reich.

***Pierson Assists In Nazi Put-Out In Brazil Game***

The young and energetic Mr. Pierson, who became head of the bank in 1936, toured the Latin-American countries last summer and fall and returned with a lot of sizzling new ideas about hopping up South American trade, and resisting the totalitarian drive, by deploying credit judiciously where it is needed most to grease the trade run-around.

**When it came to Brazil, he got eager attention from both the state department and the administration, as Brazil is an important consideration of naval geography as well as trade. Shouldering far out into the Atlantic, with the new fascist threat to the Canary Islands, it would, if hostile, pinch us in a narrowing seaway, with Argentina, on the whole not so clubby with the U. S. A., away down under. For both strategic and commercial reasons, Brazil is our entrepot to South America, if we keep on being neighborly.**

In Harvard law school Mr. Pierson was obsessed with foreign trade and directed his studies to practice in this field. Practicing law in Los Angeles, his opportunity came in 1934, when he was appointed general counsel for the Export-Import bank. In 1936, there was, for him, a timely New Deal row, which resulted in the resignation of George N. Peek as head of the bank and the upping of Mr. Pierson.

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### Suicide for Revenge

The faith of the Chinese in the existence and power of the dead, and the firm belief of the avenging power of his own spirit when disembodied, has, in the past, led many Chinese to commit suicide and thus have his ghost come back and avenge itself on some enemy.

### First Turnpike Law

The first turnpike act, permitting a private company to construct a road and charge the public for its use, was passed in England in 1663.

# Patriotism, Strife, Achievement Marked Our First U. S. Congress

## Meeting Just 150 Years Ago It Enacted Measures Which Gave Force to Constitution; Assured Bill of Rights; Established Federal Judiciary, Executive Departments, Tariff System and Financial Stability, and Set New Nation on Road to Liberty and Progress

©—(WNU Service).

By RAYMOND PITCAIRN

BY HORSEBACK, by stage-coach, or aboard the tossing coast-wise sailing vessels of the period, there journeyed, just a century and a half ago this year, some four-score men, representing every state then in our federal Union.

They were the newly-elected members of the first congress of the United States, on their way to the opening session whose sesqui-centennial America now observes.

Among those travelers were many whose names were illustrious, then as now. There were James Madison and James Monroe, destined to become Presidents of the United States. Richard Henry Lee, Robert Morris and Charles Carroll, signers of the Declaration of Independence, were included in their numbers; as were also Rufus King, Roger Sherman and Pierce Butler, who had helped write the federal Constitution.

Later they were to be joined by such noted patriots as George Washington, our first President, and Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton, members of the first cabinet of the republic then in the making.

But great or small, famous or obscure, all were headed for the one objective—the freshly-refurbished federal building in the flourishing city of New York. There they would represent the people and the states in the new national legislature meeting under a unique and, as yet, untried Constitution.

Two years earlier a convention in Philadelphia had written that epoch-making charter to replace the Articles of Confederation which had proved but "a rope of sand." Recognized today as one of the greatest state documents of all time, our federal Constitution was then regarded more as "an outline of government; a skeleton to be clothed with flesh and blood, and to receive the breath of life."

To make this Constitution function; to establish under it a secure and enduring republic; to prove that government of, by, and for the people would work, was the responsibility confronting those first members of congress as they journeyed to the opening session back in the early months of 1789.

### A Discouraging Picture.

And while they jogged over rutted roads or through rough wilderness trails, undoubtedly they reflected, those early legislators, on the discouraging conditions under which they would meet. For to any thoughtful man there was then grave cause for pessimism. At home, freedom, it is true, had been won; but the spectres of state and national bankruptcy, civic disorganization and growing lawlessness cast their gloom over the land. The national territory of 865,000 square miles had a population of less than 4,000,000, and much of the country through which their horses plodded was still uninhabited. To the north glowered the threat of England, to the south the menace of Spain. In the west lurked a fierce Indian foe, and on the east sailed the navies of great powers whose friendship was never quite certain.

Thus spread the picture as members of the first United States congress met in the spring of 1789—cheered and sustained only by a faith in the new Constitution that had thrust upon them such towering responsibilities. How well they met that mandate; how faithfully they performed their duties; how conclusively they demonstrated that the people could and should rule is attested by their achievements.

Here is a partial record of what that first congress accomplished:

Adopted and submitted to the nation the Bill of Rights. Now an integral part of our Constitution, those first ten amendments constituted not only an eloquent expression of the American spirit, but the most significant national statement of personal liberty, of tolerance and of the safeguards and privileges of the common man the world had ever seen.

Established the first three executive departments — State, Treasury and War; then confirmed and supported probably the most illustrious cabinet our nation has ever known—Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton and General Henry Knox.

Set up our federal judiciary, headed by a Supreme court—a then unique tribunal of justice. Designed to protect every citizen against usurpation of his constitutional rights, it constituted, in the words of the historian, "the representative of the wisdom and justice and conscience of the whole people . . . the peaceful arbitrator in all questions touching the extent and sway of constitutional power . . . the great moral substitute for force in controversies between the people, the states and the Union."

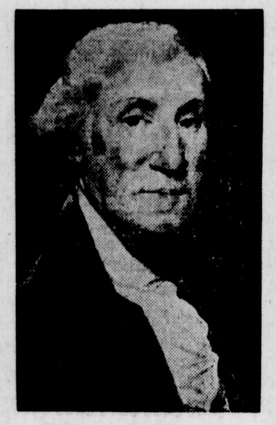
1789
April 6th

| | George Washington Esq | John Adams Esq | Samuel Huntington Esq | John Jay Esq | John Hancock Esq | Robert H. Harrison Esq | George Clinton Esq | John Rutledge Esq | John Milton Esq | James Armstrong Esq | Edward Rutledge Esq | Benjamin Lincoln Esq |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Hampshire | 5 | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Massachusetts | 10 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Connecticut | 7 | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| New Jersey | 6 | 1 | - | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Pennsylvania | 10 | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Delaware | 3 | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Maryland | 6 | - | - | - | - | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Virginia | 10 | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| North Carolina | 7 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 6 | - | - | - | - |
| Georgia | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | 69 | 34 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Whereby it appears, that
George Washington, Esq.
Was unanimously elected, President,—And
John Adams Esq.
Was duly elected Vice-President,
of the United States of America.

**Page in the Journal of the First Congress of the United States for April 6, 1789, giving the electoral vote and certifying the election of President George Washington and Vice President John Adams.**

Enacted financial measures, conceived by Alexander Hamilton, which lifted both the nation and the states out of a morass of debt and bankruptcy caused by war and unstable government, and set the country firmly on the road to prosperity. "He smote," said Daniel Webster of Hamilton and his measures, "the rock of national resources, and copious streams of wealth poured forth. He touched the dead corpse of public credit, and it stood forth erect with life."



**GEORGE WASHINGTON**

Imposed, "for the payment of the debts of the United States and the encouragement and protection of manufactures," a tariff on imports—thus introducing not only a productive and enduring source of revenue, but a perennial political-economic issue which has persisted to this day.

Provided for and fixed the site of our present national capital—then an undeveloped tract along the Potomac, now the impressively beautiful city of Washington.

They also enacted:

Measures providing for patents and copyrights, for the naturalization of aliens, for a decennial census, the admission of new states, a national banking system, a mint, and our decimal system of coinage.

Legislation encouraging and protecting American shipping so effectively that within a few years the Stars and Stripes floated in every commercial port and on every navigable sea.

Acts and appropriations providing for the salaries of federal officials, (including congressmen themselves) as well as for other "operating expenses" necessary to the young republic.

But above all, they established a sense of security; a confidence, at home and abroad, in the new nation and the new ideal in government it represented. When they ended their sessions, the fog of doubt and despair that had shrouded the great American experiment was largely dispelled. The sun of hope and cheer shone more brightly over the new land.

These wonders had been worked neither quickly or easily. Actually the first congress of the United States got off to a late start. It had been called for March 4, 1789, and, technically, began on that date; but delays, due largely to rough roads, made the necessary quorum in both houses impossible until early April.

Once convened, the congress sat through three sessions, and in two cities—the first session in New York, from April until September 29, 1789; the second, also in New York, from January 4 until August 12, 1790, and the third in Philadelphia, from December 6, 1790, until adjournment on March 3, 1791.

### Conflicting Policies.

Nor were its works accomplished in that perfect harmony which their ultimate success might suggest. Bitter were many of the discussions, and caustic some of the personal attacks that marked the debates. During its sessions were fought issues that introduced many of the great party controversies which were to rise and fall throughout the whole future political history of the nation. The conflict between adherents of a strong central government and those who would have power reside in the states—Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist; Hamilton vs. Jefferson—actually created and consistently influenced our two-party political system.

But the inspiring pageant that dramatized the beginning of our federal government thrust into the background for a while all those lurking difficulties. This was the inauguration of George Washington as President of the United States.

Under the Constitutional provisions of that period, the counting of the electoral vote for President had been the first important duty of congress.

Washington's selection was a foregone conclusion, and the count confirmed popular approval. He received 69 votes, representing the whole number of electors casting ballots. Votes for the second candidate, who was to be vice president, were more scattered, but John Adams had been chosen.

It is interesting to observe on the list of those for whom electoral votes were cast the now famous name, Lincoln! This, however, was Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, a hero of the Revolution. More than 70 years were to pass before Abraham Lincoln was nominated and elected under conditions vastly different but scarcely less serious to the future of our federal union.

On March 3, 1791, the first congress of the United States came to a close in historic Independence square, Philadelphia, where the third and final session had been held. Effectively it had fulfilled its mission; devotedly it had supported and made of the Constitution a living force; dramatically it had launched on the seas of progress, a new and noble Ship of State.

How that ship bore, through later storm and calm, the growing nation to a glory of prestige, of expansion and of liberty and well-being for its people unrivaled elsewhere on earth, remains today one of the grandest epics in all history.

Probably never since has America witnessed so colorful and significant an inauguration as that which made George Washington President.

His journey northward from Mt. Vernon had been a continuous ovation. His route was virtually strewn with flowers; his short passage through every community was made the occasion for songs and speeches of affectionate tribute. In New York he was welcomed with pageantry and acclaim.

Such was his enthusiastic welcome. Soon he learned, as has each of his successors, that the criticisms and the headaches were to come.

So, too, did congress. Few, if any, of its important measures passed without the strife which we have grown accustomed to expect on Capitol Hill today.

Even over the title with which the President should be addressed congressmen wrangled. Some, with the forms of royalty still in mind, wanted to refer to him as "His Highness"; others as, "His Mightiness." Senator Ellsworth, of Connecticut, protested, for example, that the plain title "President" was too common. There were, he explained, "presidents of fire companies and of cricket clubs." Something more impressive was desirable.

But the majority denounced titles as dangerous, arrogant and even "idolatrous," and finally the simple constitutional form, "The President of the United States," was adopted.

### Dispute Over Tariff.

Probably the first and most lasting legislative antagonisms in congress were roused by the early tariff measures. In offering them, James Madison proposed specific rates on certain articles such as tea, coffee, sugar, molasses, wines, and spirits; an ad valorem tax upon other imports, and various tonnage duties.

But few liked the measures as a whole. The manufacturing districts wanted protection against rival products made with cheaper labor abroad. The South and other agricultural areas objected to high rates, protesting that they would bear the burden. Proposals to tax the importation of slaves aroused bitter debate between North and South.

Heated discussion occurred on the proposal to tax rum—some of it not dissimilar to arguments heard during our recent prohibition period. One member insisted that, in effect, it asked citizens to "drink down the public debt." When an advocate urged the tax as a method of promoting temperance, an opponent pointed out that they were legislating on "revenue, not morals."

But finally the measure passed, including levies on rum. Soon it was yielding some $200,000 a month—a welcome and encouraging income.

Equally bitter was much of the debate over the financial measures proposed by Hamilton to raise funds and to meet the total indebtedness incurred during the war. The debts, both state and national, amounted in all to about $80,000,000—then an imposing figure, however meager it may seem when compared to the billions of public indebtedness created during recent years. The problem, moreover, was complicated by the fact that many of the certificates, bonds and promises-to-pay issued by the earlier government had been sold by their original holders at discount to speculators.

Briefly, Hamilton proposed: first, to fund the national debt by giving the holders of such paper new Federal bonds in exchange; and, second, to have the federal government assume the debts of the states. Violently were such suggestions opposed by members who felt the plan benefited the speculator at the expense of the patriot, and by representatives of those states which had small debts and, therefore, feared discrimination against their constituents.

### Sound Finances.

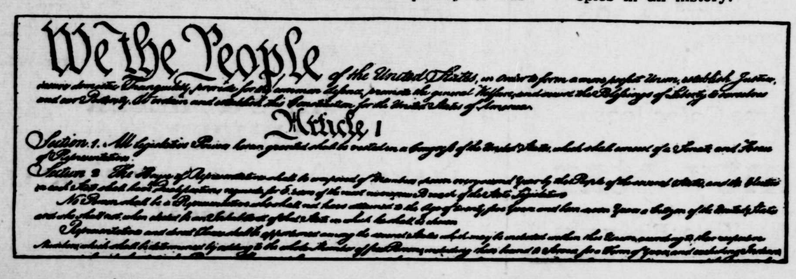
But the proposals carried, firmly establishing confidence in the credit and fiscal soundness of the new nation—then, as now, the true foundation of happiness and prosperity for the people.

Passage of the National Bank, the Mint and Currency Acts further increased the availability of credit and money, thus quickening the young republic's march toward prosperity.

Over salary and appropriation measures there also raged spirited discussion. Economical as those expenditures sound in these days of reckless spending, they then evoked frequent storms of criticism.

To the President was accorded an annual salary of $25,000, which he accepted reluctantly; to senators and representatives a compensation of $6 for every day of attendance, with mileage. The secretaries of state and treasury received $3,500 each; the postmaster-general and the attorney-general, $1,500; the chief justice—John Jay—$4,000, and the other Supreme court justices, $3,500.

Appropriations for the departments, civil list, etc., were similarly modest. To this determination that the people's money should not be wasted, that sound economy should rule; historians attribute much of the fiscal success of the new government.



We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article 1

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and be a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons.

# *Adirondacks Give N. Y. State An 'Air Conditioned' Ceiling*

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

Iroquois Indians, seeking beaver pelts in the mountains of what is now northern New York state, sometimes found a dead campfire and traces of moccasined feet leading off to the north. A hunting party from one of the hated Algonquin tribes of Canada had passed this way.

The lips of the Iroquois curled in mocking scorn.

"Hatirontak," they muttered, deep in their throats. "Hatirontak" ("Tree-eaters," or "They eat trees").

This was an insult, a fighting word. For thus the proud Iroquois contemptuously implied that these northern woods rovers lived by grubbing about for roots and bark like famished animals—as indeed they may have done in famine times when game eluded their arrows.

The name stuck—but not to a mere Algonquin tribe. White men liked its tripping, rhythmic sound, and they came to apply it, in time, to this whole wide wilderness where wandering bands of "Hatirontaks," or Adirondacks, once fought the Iroquois. The Adirondack mountains had acquired a name.

### Is 'Air Conditioned' Roof.

Today, paleface tribes from the cities pour into this land of evergreen and birch, of avalanche-scarred peaks and densely wooded slopes, of bubbling trout streams and clear, cold lakes—the air-conditioned roof of New York state.

Their heads have stood much higher than they are today. Time, with ice and water, lowered the summits. Glaciers, grinding down the valleys and dumping debris, formed lakes and ponds—some 1,500 of them. Evergreens and hardwoods blanket the slopes, for trees thrive in this light, thin soil where little else will grow.

In the deep woods the hermit thrush sounds his flute. Deer often wander across the roads at night and from the dim distant shore of a lake rings the maniacal laugh of a loon.

Heading into the mountains from the southwest, through Rome, you cross the fertile Mohawk valley, today a peaceful pastoral in silver and green, but once—during the Revolution—the scene of savage attacks by scalp-crazy Indians led by greenclad Tory rangers.

As the road climbs higher the air grows cooler. And now (wonder of wonders) if it be late August or September when the ragweed hay-fever sneeze is loud in the land, a miraculous change often makes itself felt: the sneezing, snuffling, and weeping subside, for ragweed in most parts of the Adirondacks is practically unknown.

### Famous For Fish.

Many fishermen come to the Adirondacks, for the state is continually restocking these waters with native brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, lake trout, whitefish, landlocked salmon, small-mouth and large-mouth bass, pike, pike-perch and muskellunge.

On 50 peaks scattered over the mountains, state forest fire observers are stationed, with map and telephone, to watch for telltale smoke.

Above, like a huge restless hawk, soars a state patrol plane, radio equipped. When word of a forest fire is flashed, the rangers, under New York state law, can draft anybody they need for 25 cents an hour. This is an emergency, a kind of war.

Only one who has seen a bad forest fire can know the full horror of it—red fury racing through the brush and leaping from tree to tree, 250-year-old pines blazing up like candles and consuming themselves in a trice; fierce, searing flame licking up all life, killing the fish in the streams, putting every wild creature to panic flight and burning alive the slow of foot; threatening towns, leaving black desolation behind, sometimes robbing the very soil of fertility for years to come.

### Nature Versus the Automobile.

Wild animals are still fairly abundant in the Adirondacks, but the gasoline age has brought them new troubles.

Each autumn some 6,000 bucks are shot, yet still the deer thrive. As soon as the leaves begin to redden and fall all the graceful white-tails grow suddenly scarce; something tells them that the time has come to play the annual hide-and-seek with death.

Beaver, easily trapped, had been almost wiped out in the Adirondacks by the turn of the century. Then several, brought from Canada and Yellowstone National park, were liberated here under protection, and in these miles of poplar and birch-bordered streams the little fur-coated workers multiplied rapidly.

Driving on up the Fulton chain from Eagle bay, you enter the big county of Hamilton—population only 2.3 persons per square mile. The Belgian Congo in the heart of Africa is nearly five times as densely populated as this cityless county.

***Outdoor camping amid the pines and birches of high Adirondack mountain lakes is a popular summer custom, especially since the advent of trailer travel.***

Above Inlet the road penetrates a part of the state's 2,170,000-acre Adirondack forest preserve. It took a constitutional amendment to build this road. Before a tree could be cut or a boulder blasted, an amendment to the state constitution had to be approved by the people in a referendum, for their fundamental law provides that these lands shall be kept forever wild.

A busy little metropolis of the woods is the village of Saranac Lake today. But imagination conjures out of the past the picture of a rude, raw mountain hamlet—a collection of guides' houses and a store—past which an "old plush horse" is plodding, shaggy Kitty, Doctor Trudeau's mare.

It all began in 1873 when a guide carried young Edward L. Trudeau's frail form up two flights of steps in Paul Smith's hunting lodge a few miles to the north and laid him down on a bed, exclaiming:

"Why, doctor, you don't weigh no more than a dried lambskin."

The 24-year-old physician, just beginning a promising medical career in New York, had been stricken with tuberculosis—regarded as a death sentence then. He came to the Adirondacks purely by chance, and the climate helped him live a long and monumental life as one of the world's leading disease-fighters.

### Monuments to Trudeau.

Lasting monuments to the beloved physician are the Trudeau sanatorium, the Trudeau research laboratories, and the Trudeau school of tuberculosis, which exports its learning to the world.

On the outskirts of the village stands a little white cottage where a tall and inexpressibly gaunt young man spent the winter of 1887-88, smoking innumerable cigarettes, huddling near the stove to keep warm, spending much of his time feebly but indomitably in bed, and littering counterpane and floor with scribbled sheets of paper.

***Lake Placid, N. Y., is traditionally America's most popular winter sports resort. Here is a typical January scene showing two skiers, the escort breaking trail for his girl companion.***

Today, a steady procession of people comes here in quiet pilgrimage—children and grownups who have known the spell of Treasure Island and Kidnapped, the whimsical music of A Child's Garden of Verses, the clear-eyed courage of that self-written epitaph beginning "Under the wide and starry sky." For the young man in the velveteen jacket was the deathless "R. L. S."

To hundreds of people all over the world the Adirondacks still mean Paul Smiths.

In an ideal setting on Lower St. Regis Lake this bearded, regal guide conducted the country's most famous hunting lodge. Its principal asset was his personality, for Paul (originally Apollos) had an endless fund of stories, a ready wit, and an utter freedom from awe of plutocrats or royalty.

"When Paul Smith first came to the Adirondacks," the saying goes, "the woods were full of Indians. When he died they were full of millionaires; among both old Paul was equally at home."

Shrewd old Paul died in 1912 a millionaire himself, for he bought not only land but waterfalls, and sold electric power over a wide area as the north country developed.

Today much of the Paul Smith empire remains, but its most conspicuous center and symbol is gone—the big hotel on lower St. Regis Lake. It burned in 1930.