

BIEHL OUSTED BY EDGE FROM COUNTY OFFICE

Hudson Dispatch
North Hudson Newspaperman,
Assistant to Ferguson, Feels
Axe for Opposing Senator

By Staff Correspondent. 1929

TRENTON, March 19. — United States Senator Walter E. Edge has caused the dismissal of George Biehl, North Hudson newspaperman, from the employ of the Hudson County Bureau of Elections, it was learned today.

Immediately upon hearing that Senator Edge had demanded his discharge, Biehl went to John Ferguson, superintendent of the bureau, and asked if it were true that Senator Edge had directed that he be fired.

When Ferguson admitted it was, Biehl at once resigned. Then the facts began to leak out.

Biehl had been working in the bureau in a more or less advisory and assisting capacity to Ferguson for the past several weeks. Ferguson took him on when August Ziegner resigned as deputy superintendent to accept a district court judgeship in Jersey City.

Temporary Position

Pending the appointment of a new deputy, Ferguson engaged Biehl to help him out. His salary was \$25 a week.

Biehl is a free lance newspaperman, and while he was working at the bureau, he continued writing in a North Hudson weekly.

Biehl is affiliated with the Hudson County Republican group opposed to the Edge-Seglie-McDonald-Rotherham faction, and from time to time his anti-Edge articles have appeared in print.

Apparently Biehl's published attacks came to the attention of Senator Edge, for a week ago last night, Senator Edge got Superintendent Ferguson into a room with United States Senator Hamilton F. Kean, at the State House, and bluntly told Ferguson that he would have to dismiss Biehl because of his unfriendliness to him.

Ferguson protested, saying that Biehl was getting only \$25 a week, and was doing valuable work for him. Senator Kean, it is said, joined Senator Edge in his demand for Biehl's scalp, and with both opposing him, Ferguson agreed, although reluctantly, to discharge him.

"You should do this for me," Edge is quoted as having said, "because I am a United States Senator."

In tendering his resignation to Ferguson, Biehl said he did not want to be the cause of a United States Senator losing his sleep, and he launched into another attack upon Senator Edge, pointing out that the very night he ordered Ferguson to fire him, the senator made a statement to newspapermen to the effect that he no longer cared to meddle in Republican county and state affairs, as he had turned over the leadership of the party to Gov. Larson.

Bodine Due for Promotion

(From the Newark News)

For nine years Judge Joseph L. Bodine has served with distinction on the Federal District Court bench.

His record as a jurist has commended itself to Governor Larson, whose decision to transfer him to the Supreme Court is commendable.

A District Court judge has practically life tenure, while the term of a Supreme Court justice is seven years. But the rule in this State has been, with few exceptions, that one good term deserves another, and it may be predicted that this rule will apply to Justice Bodine, now in the prime of life. His appointment would be in a real sense a promotion on merit.

The fact that he comes from Mercer, as did the late Justice Katzenbach, whom he will succeed when nominated and confirmed by the Senate, will be an added satisfaction to that section of the State of which he is a native and where he has lived continuously and served with distinction.

Trenton Times
Mar. 23, 1929