

JAMES FRANCIS WALSH

WALSH, JAMES FRANCIS, lawyer, politician, and public official of Greenwich, Fairfield County, Connecticut, at present judge of the Criminal Court of Common Pleas of Fairfield County, was born in Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, March 15th, 1864. He is the son of James F. Walsh, a blacksmith by trade, and Annie E. Walsh. Soon after his birth the family moved to Ridgefield, Connecticut, where his boyhood was spent and where he received a common school education.

At eighteen James F. Walsh left Ridgefield and went to Greenwich to study law with his brother, the Hon. R. Jay Walsh. In January, 1888, he was admitted to the Fairfield County Bar and immediately opened an office of his own for the practice of law and he has maintained it ever since and has built up in the meantime a successful and extensive practice. In 1888 he was appointed prosecuting agent for the county commissioners and in 1899 prosecuting attorney of the borough court of Greenwich, both of which offices he held until 1905. In 1900 he was chosen by the Republican party, of which he has been an active and loyal member since his majority, as State representative, and during his term of office he was chairman of the committee on railroads. In 1903 he was elected State senator and was leader of the Senate during his term of office. In 1905 and 1906 he was treasurer of State and in 1905 he was appointed to his present office of judge of the Criminal Court of Common Pleas for Fairfield County. His term of office will expire in July, 1909.

He entered upon his public life at a time when the history of Greenwich was undergoing a crisis and in the transition from old time conservatism to its present modern and progressive state he was one of the chief powers at work. Then, as now, he was intensely interested in the highest welfare of his town and untiring in his efforts to bring about every possible betterment of public conditions.

In addition to his professional and political interests Judge Walsh



John D. French.

has been extensively interested in real estate. He is a director in and treasurer of the Byram Land Improvement Company, a director in and secretary of the Greenwich Gas and Electric Lighting Company, a director in and treasurer of The Riverside Water Company, and a director in and attorney for the National Investment Company.

He is a member of Christ Church (Episcopal), of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club, the Riverside Yacht Club, the Hartford Club, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On April 11th, 1893, Judge Walsh was united in marriage to Emily Gene Tweedale of Portchester, New York. No children have been born to them.