Mayor Frederick William Donnelly
1866-1935

Frederick William Donnelly lived not in the shadow of his father, yet did have many parallels throughout his career in Trenton, NJ. His father Quartermaster General of New Jersey Richard Grant Augustus Donnelly briefly served as Mayor of Trenton, as well as was a long-time retailer in downtown Trenton. Unlike his father’s active military engagement, Donnelly turned his attention and passion to advocating for deeper waterways and developed deep relationships in government from D.C. to N.Y.C. that would be the foundation for his path to politics.

ADVOCATE FOR DEEPER WATERWAYS

In the years prior to being Mayor of Trenton, Donnelly was very involved with the NY-Trenton and Philadelphia Deeper Waterways Association, President of the Harbor Board of Trenton, served on the Special River Improvement Committee, and worked with helping get funding for the Rivers and Harbors Committee of Congress.

Dredging was essential to make the port at Trenton deep enough for larger ships to enter the port. This process has always been expensive, however with the advocacy of Donnelly and many others along the East Coast, Trenton from 1900 to 1935 had found the necessary means in the budget to dredge the Delaware River and other canals.

COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

The city of Trenton in 1911 became a commission form of government, which was a merging of the legislative and executive branches of government. Frederick W. Donnelly was named President of the...
Commission, which came with an honorary title of Mayor. The other four men elected in 1911 were William F. Burke (Rep.) Department of Parks and Public Property, J. Ridgeway Fell (Dem.) Department of Streets and Public Improvements, George B. La Barre (Dem.) Department of Public Safety and Edward W. Lee (Rep.) Department of Revenue and Finance. The Walsh Commission Government Act made this new form of government official in Trenton and existed from August 22, 1911 and lasted until 1935.

When Frederick William Donnelly was elected as mayor by his constituents, it was built on a foundation of a long-time campaign of deeper waterways of the Delaware River to allow for larger ships to come to the port at Trenton. During his twenty-one-year tenure as Mayor, there were 11 governors, with Woodrow Wilson starting his governorship at the same time as Donnelly.

In addition to the advocacy of deeper waterways, canals and channels that could allow for greater commerce between New York and Philadelphia. In analyzing the statistics in the mayoral records of Trenton, as the city population expanded, the need for the municipal services also needed to grow with these shifts.

In 1911, there were 14 wards, 78 firefighters, 114 Police (including chief and two captains) and a clear need for an improvement and expansion of municipal services in the areas of water, police, and sewage to name a few.

HABERDASHERY AND CUSTOM SUITS

Learning from his father, R. A. Donnelly, Frederick William Donnelly worked at his father’s store and then expanded into his own business next door, helping to increase business considerably.
Working for his father’s business, located at 12 S. Broad Street, he decided to start his own business, Fred’k Donnelly. There was a major fire in the store in ____ where he lost $35,000 of merchandise. After the fire, he rebranded and created a new business, F. W. Donnelly and Son.
Every Donnelly, Benjamin Suit and Top Coat a ‘Home Run’ in Fit & Style
$20 to $30

RIGHT off the bat tomorrow, drop in at F.W. Donnelly’s and let’s show you what genuine big league suits and top coats are like. For despite the croakings of the rien concerning the scarcity of dyes and woolens, never have fabrics been finer in quality or colors more beautiful than in the splendid Fall and Winter lines of Donnelly’s Benjamin suits and top coats.

Another Three Base Hit—Donnelly’s Best Value Suits and Top Coats
At $15

Clothes that are willing to “buck” to the limit—fully new styles in belts and plain sashes, styles with plenty of pop for the young fellow, more conservative styles for older men. Show them to you in a big variety of models and fabrics, fancy mixtures, browns, navy, serges, tweeds, etc.

Fredk W. Donnelly Co.  
Taylor Opera House, Streets
Special Suits for the Specially Hard to Fit!

$30.00 to $65.00

Nearly everybody in the clothing business talks about standardized sizes. F. W. Donnelly doesn’t. Their great success has been achieved by introducing—

Specialized Sizes!

Standardized Sizes are fixed.

Specialized sizes are flexible.

Where Standardized sizes make provision for only one set of measurements in each size, F. W. Donnelly specialized sizes provide for half a dozen anatomical variations within a single size. If you don’t believe you can be fitted with a ready-to-wear suit, try F. W. Donnelly’s.

Specialized Sizes are also to be had in

SHIRTS
UNDERSHIRT
COLLARS
SWEATERS
RAINCOATS
WORKMEN’S CLOTHING

Fred W. Donnelly & Son
14-16-18 South Broad Street

R. A. Donnelly’s Haberdashery

Suggestions as to Gifts
Which are Sure to Prove Acceptable

EARRINGS—In floral designs and peacock ornaments.

PENDANTS—In large and elaborate designs, with or without chains.

CIGARETTE HOLDERS—In gold and silver with or without designs.

CHILDREN’S, BOYS’ and MALE TIES, TROUSERS, SHORTS, POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS, TIES, and head kerchiefs.

SHOES—In all styles, ranging from high boots to low shoes.

CHAIR SADDLES, MEN’S TOBACCO POUCHES, or purse pockets.

MEN’S COLD JACKETS—Rough or smooth leather.

WAIST HUNTERS—Throat and chest protectors for men, women and children.

SILK HUDDERS—Self-fringed scarfs.

SHOOTING JACKETS—Waxed canvas, felt linings.

HUNTING JACKETS—In all styles, ranging from waterproof made to order.

MILITARY BRIGADE—High-grade, unlined, and lined, for use in the field.

MILITARY JACKETS—In all styles, ranging from waterproof made to order.

EVENING COATS—Double-breasted, with mohair.

SUIT JACKETS—Polyester, waxed canvas, suitings for all.

TOORS for the children. Window box, winter’s and summer’s.

You will find our stock most satisfactory in every respect and we hereby invite you to take advantage of the special reductions that are now in progress for the Christmas season.

For full particulars please write.

R. A. Donnelly’s Haberdashery
12 S. Broad St.

OPEN EVENINGS

Haberdashery
Makes Best Gifts

It’s with you long after the happy Christmas day is over, giving appearance and comfort to your body, and always retaining the spirit of good cheer.

Among such things as—

EARTH ROSES
HEALTH UNDERWEAR
WOOL HOSE
SWEATERS
SHIRTS
CARUGIAN JACKETS

— you will find the most appreciative gifts; and as the day creeps along, you’ll better not delay purchasing.

We’ll be pleased to at least show you the best and most reasonable stock in town, and we can show and quote with any metropolitan store.

For Children, Our $1 Fancy Sweater is an ideal gift. See them.

R. A. Donnelly’s HABERDASHERY
12 S. Broad Street

CONNECTING WITH F. W. DONELLY’S