

A Question and Answer Page for Foreign-Born

Questions on Americanization, Naturalization, Citizenship, Civil Rights and all matters of importance in regard to the necessary adjustments for foreign-born who have come here for the purpose of remaining permanently, will be answered promptly and as fully as possible, By Judge J. A. Buchanan, President Astoria Americanization Council in Astoria, and by H. J. Langoe, Editor The United American. Anyone asking a question may request that it be published under such pseudonym as he desires but the questioner must in all instances sign his correct name and address to the letter that accompanies the question. Anonymous questions will not be published or answered in this forum. People who are living in Astoria and vicinity may address their questions directly to Judge Buchanan.

Q.—Who wrote "The American's Creed?"
—Sophia G.

A.—The American's Creed was written by William Tyler Page, Chief Clerk of the National House of Representatives, in 1918. It was selected from among the thousands which were submitted as the best brief statement of American political beliefs and principles. Mr. Page was awarded the prize offered by the City of Baltimore, and his statement was publicly accepted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as the National Creed. Mr. Page received the sum of \$1,000.00, the price offered by the City of Baltimore, for the following less than 100 words, which he called "The American's Creed."

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice

and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies."
—J.A.B.

Q.—Jack says that the vice-president is a member of the president's cabinet and is the head of one of the departments of the government and Thorwald says that the vice-president has no office at all unless the president dies, in which case he becomes president. Which is right?
—T.R.

A.—Neither is right. The vice-president is not a member of the president's cabinet and is not the head of any department of the government. An exception to this rule was made by the late president Harding who asked the vice-president, Calvin Coolidge, who is now president to be present at the meetings of the Harding cabinet (supposedly in an advisory capacity and in order to become familiar with the departmental policies of the administration). The vice-president of the United States is by constitutional provision the presiding officer of the Senate or the upper branch of Congress. In the case of a president's death during the four year term of office, the vice-president automatically becomes president, the country is without a vice-president until the next regular election.
—H.J.L.

Q.—I live in a country section where there are no schools for grown people, like there are in Portland and Astoria. I have now lived more than the required five years in America and could qualify for naturalization, but there are no schools anywhere around here for an alien to get help and learn what he must know about the country in order to pass the examination. I have learned a good deal through the United American during the last year, in the lessons and articles I read there but I guess I need some school-room help to be sure of myself. What can I do to get help? I am so anxious to become a good American.—B.

A.—Many foreign-born people who live out in the country where there are no schools for adults have had to struggle with their lessons without help. If you try to learn the lessons and give more time to the meaning of the questions rather than the exact words in the answer I believe you can do it. A state department of adult education in Oregon will begin functioning when the schools open this fall and it is to be hoped that

this department, if properly handled, will be able to arouse a community interest in every school district sufficient to make possible the organization of adult classes in accordance with some workable plan.
—H.J.L.

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