

Canadian Memorial Recalls Career of A Judge and Humorist Who Contributed To the Evolution of Our "Uncle Sam"



First known cartoon of a symbolic figure representing the United States. It appeared in Punch in 1844.

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

YOU may never have heard of Thomas Chandler Haliburton, Canadian barrister and judge, who died in England 75 years ago this month. But you, as an American, should have good reason to remember Thomas Chandler Haliburton, author. For he was the creator of "Sam Slick, the Connecticut Clockmaker" and Sam Slick provided one of the elements out of which gradually evolved our symbolic figure of Uncle Sam. More than that, he had an influence on and contributed largely to a type of humor which we have come to regard as typically American.

So, even though few Americans know that such a man as Thomas Chandler Haliburton ever existed or have forgotten it if they did know, we have more than a passing interest in a project now under way in Canada. The Haliburton estate at Windsor, Nova Scotia, is being rehabilitated and a noted painter, Sir Wylie Grier, has been commissioned by the government of Nova Scotia to do a full-length, life-size painting of the man who created Sam Slick and whose writings, a hundred years ago, were delighting readers not only in Canada but in the United States and England as well.

Haliburton, the scion of an ancient Scottish family, was born in Windsor in 1796. Educated at King's college in Nova Scotia he was admitted to the bar in 1820, later was elected to the house of assembly of the colony, was raised to the bench of common pleas in 1829 and in 1840 became a judge of the supreme court. In the midst of his judicial duties, he found time to write a series of sketches for the local newspapers. In one of these he satirized the character of the New England Yankee in the person of "Sam Slick of Slickville, Onion County, Connecticut," a clockmaker and peddler whose knowledge of human nature, unsophisticated wit, droll speech and cleverness in using what he called "soft sawder" immediately made him a favorite with Canadian newspaper readers. First published anonymously in a paper called the Nova Scotian, a collection of these sketches was brought out in book form by Joseph Howe, the editor of the Nova Scotian. A copy of this book fell into the hands of Thomas Bentley, the English publisher, who immediately issued an English edition.

A 'Best Seller.'

"The Clockmaker, or the Doings of Sam Slick of Slickville" was first published in 1835 and was an instantaneous success. It ran through 50 editions, a "best seller" record which, considering the time and the size of the book-buying public, has never been equaled.

The success of the first book of sketches encouraged Bentley to issue a second in 1838, a third in 1840, and a fourth in 1844. In all, there were five volumes in which "Sam Slick" was the principal character. Three of them were devoted to "The Clockmaker." The fourth was called "Wise Saws and Modern Instances" and the fifth "The Attache, or, Sam Slick in England." In the latter Sam appears as an attaché to the American legation in London and his shrewd and humorous observations on the upper classes of England and their pampered ser-

"Sam Slick," after a drawing made by Leech, artist for Punch, who made the drawings for the English editions of Haliburton's books.

vants were as mirth-provoking as his satires on life among the Yankees. As for the influence of Haliburton and "Sam Slick" on American humor and American literature in general, a writer in the Dearborn Independent several years ago declared that "Bill Nye, Artemus Ward, Mrs. Partington, O. Henry, all have lighted their brands at one time or another at the torch of Judge Haliburton. Certainly no other book produced on this continent has had so widespread and unmistakable an influence."

This writer then goes on to point out that "Mark Twain's 'A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court' is an emanation from 'Sam Slick, the Connecticut Clockmaker.' 'Innocents Abroad' is inspired by the same model."

Not only did later writers get ideas for characters and situations from Haliburton but they also used some of his words and expressions verbatim or almost verbatim. For, as this same commentator points out, "The Haliburton estate at Windsor, Nova Scotia, is being rehabilitated and a noted painter, Sir Wylie Grier, has been commissioned by the government of Nova Scotia to do a full-length, life-size painting of the man who created Sam Slick and whose writings, a hundred years ago, were delighting readers not only in Canada but in the United States and England as well."

Haliburton the Historian.

Haliburton was not a writer of humorous works only. Some of his more serious works included "Rule and Misrule of the English in America" and the first authoritative history of Nova Scotia. Incidentally, Longfellow is said to have drawn part of his inspiration for writing "Evangeline" from this history. But Judge Haliburton could not be very serious even about his serious work. Concerning this history he once said that "Next to Mr. Slick's History of Cattyhunk in Five Volumes, it (this history) is the most authoritative account of unimportant things I have ever seen." However, the government authorities of Nova Scotia thought enough of it to recognize it with a ceremonial speech of appreciation in the house of assembly.

In 1850 Haliburton retired from the supreme court and went to England to live. In 1859 he was elected as a conservative in the house of commons and held his seat there until its dissolution in 1865. Because of ill health, he declined a re-election. The University of Oxford conferred the degree of D. C. L. upon him a short time before his death at Isleworth, England, on August 27, 1865.

A glance at the illustrations at the top of this article will demonstrate the credibility of that theory. In the center is the figure of "Sam Slick," as delineated by

First American cartoon of Uncle Sam, drawn by F. Bellow and published in 1852.

Leech, the artist for Punch. At the left is reproduced a picture which is generally accepted as the first known cartoon of a symbolic figure representing the United States. It appeared in Punch in 1844 and although the name of the artist is unknown it may have been Leech.

At any rate, the resemblance between this figure and the figure of "Sam Slick," especially in the matter of costume and "long-leggedness" is striking. It represents a young man, of decidedly flippant tendencies, thumbing his nose at the spectators and was intended to depict the rowdy young nation of the United States. The symbol of this nation was "Brother Jonathan" as "John Bull" was the symbol of England.

The First Uncle Sam.

The picture on the right is usually regarded as the first American cartoon of Uncle Sam. It was drawn by F. Bellow and was published in the New York Lantern, a comic weekly, on March 13, 1852. In it is pictured an amused young man, wearing the high beaver hat, tight trousers, low-cut waistcoat, high collar and bow tie in which he is still portrayed. The costume is the same as "Sam Slick's" and even the face resembles Sam's. The only difference is that Uncle Sam's trousers are striped.

It will be noted that Uncle Sam was then a beardless young man. English and American cartoonists continued to portray him thus down to the days of the Civil war. Then Thomas Nast, one of the greatest cartoonists this country ever produced, began making some changes in Uncle Sam's appearance. It was Nast who put chin whiskers on him and made him the kindly old gentleman that we know. It is said that Nast had in mind Abraham Lincoln when he began depicting Uncle Sam. He also added the familiar starred vest and striped coat and put stars on his hat. Since that time, cartoonists generally have followed Nast's lead in portraying Uncle Sam.

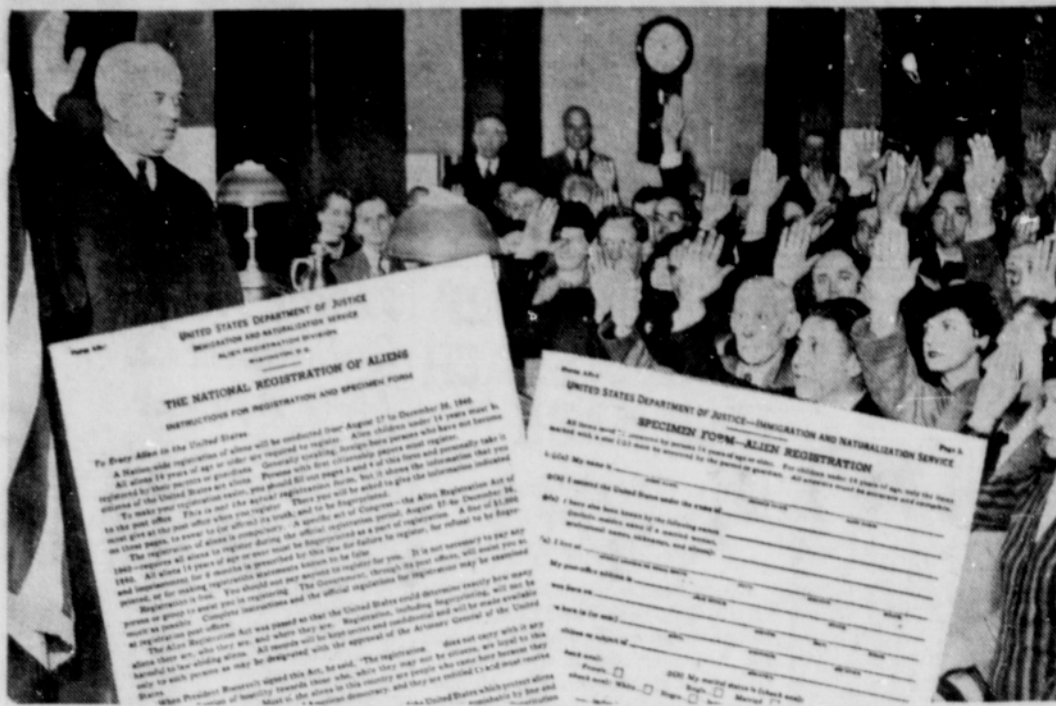
But the essential fact is that he is the tall gangling man in tight trousers, swallow-tailed coat, high collar, bow tie and tall hat and represents the spirit of America. Typifying America in both costume and spirit, he traces directly back to the typical American character created by a Canadian judge more than a hundred years ago—"Sam Slick, the Connecticut Yankee."

Haliburton the Historian.

Haliburton was not a writer of humorous works only. Some of his more serious works included "Rule and Misrule of the English in America" and the first authoritative history of Nova Scotia. Incidentally, Longfellow is said to have drawn part of his inspiration for writing "Evangeline" from this history. But Judge Haliburton could not be very serious even about his serious work. Concerning this history he once said that "Next to Mr. Slick's History of Cattyhunk in Five Volumes, it (this history) is the most authoritative account of unimportant things I have ever seen." However, the government authorities of Nova Scotia thought enough of it to recognize it with a ceremonial speech of appreciation in the house of assembly.

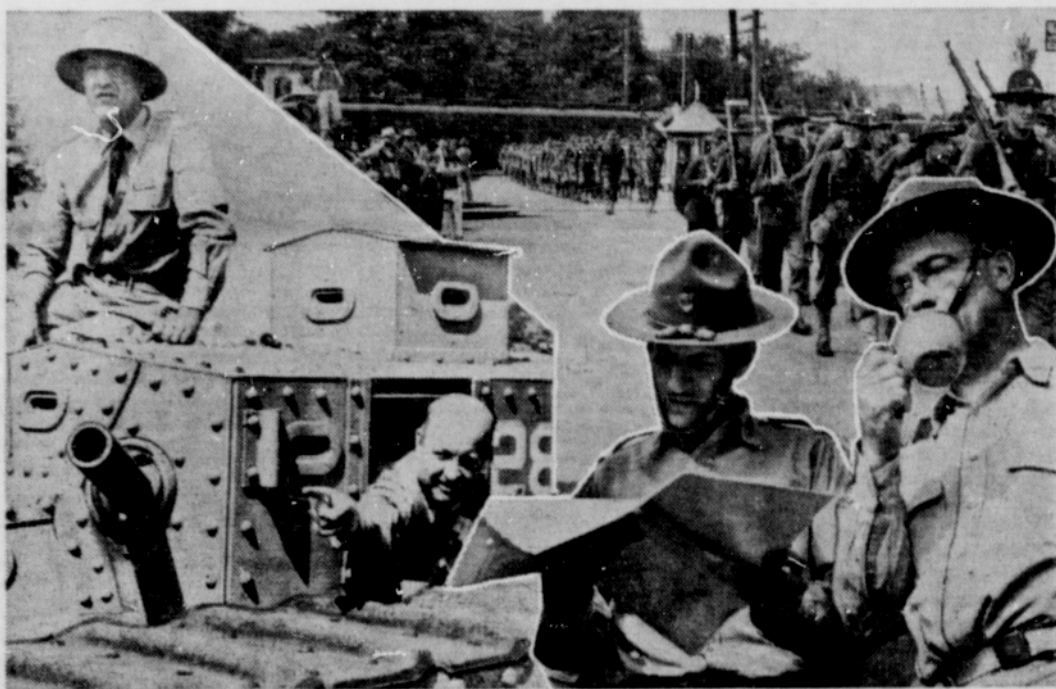
In 1850 Haliburton retired from the supreme court and went to England to live. In 1859 he was elected as a conservative in the house of commons and held his seat there until its dissolution in 1865. Because of ill health, he declined a re-election. The University of Oxford conferred the degree of D. C. L. upon him a short time before his death at Isleworth, England, on August 27, 1865.

U. S. Government Registers 3,500,000 Aliens



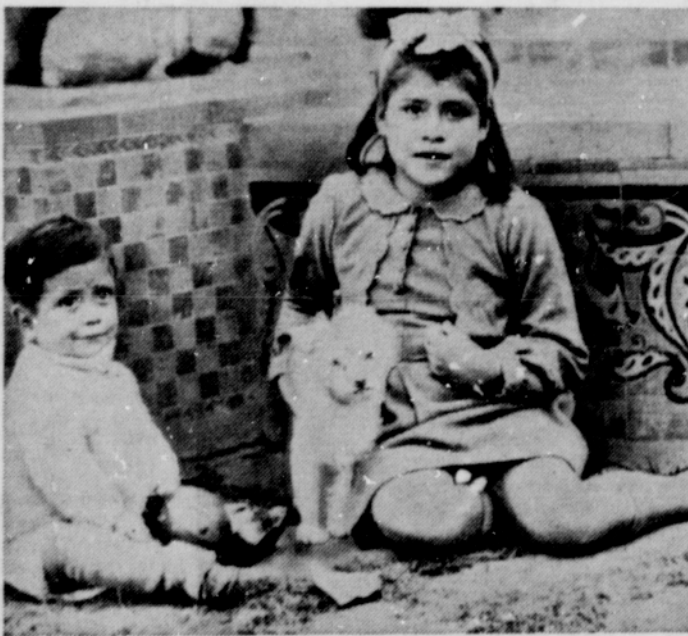
More than 3,500,000 aliens residing in the United States will begin registering with federal authorities throughout the country beginning August 27. The registration period will require four months to complete. Every alien will be fingerprinted and required to answer a questionnaire to test his attitude toward American institutions. Above is shown a registration form and a scene in a federal court room in which aliens are swearing allegiance to the United States.

Army Engages in Nationwide 'Blitzkrieg' Games



Greatest nationwide peacetime maneuvers in history are mobilizing 310,000 members of the regular army, the National Guard and the reserve in the East, South, Middle West and West. Uncle Sam's fighting forces are being trained in the latest technique of blitzkrieg warfare. Above are shown typical scenes in the war games which bring into play mechanized "panzer" brigades, airplanes, motorized divisions, tanks, anti-aircraft corps, mobile infantry and other arms of service.

World's Youngest Mother to Visit U. S.



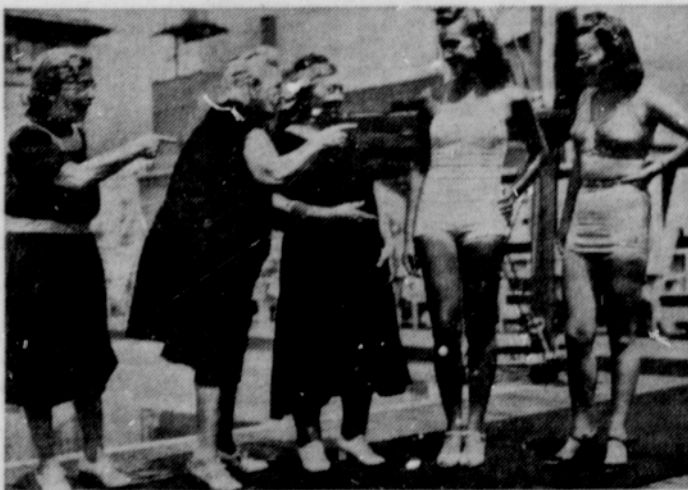
Lina Medina, aged five, the world's youngest mother, with her 15-month-old son Jerry, who, it is reported, will journey from Lima, Peru, to Chicago to undergo an investigation of her strange case by scientists and medical authorities. The young Peruvian mother will celebrate her sixth birthday on September 23. She has attracted world-wide attention among scientists and laymen.

Japanese Agent



Tiaki Matuda, naval attaché at the Japanese embassy in Berlin, who is visiting in Washington before he leaves for Tokyo to report to his government.

Grandmas Deride New Beach Styles



Three grandmothers, entrants in the Grandma Bathing Beauty contest at Coney Island, N. Y., tell what they think about the modern swim suits worn by Lee Standard (left) and Rose McLaughlin. The grandmothers are, left to right, Mrs. Ernestine Kiern, 68, Mrs. Helen Heddassus, 81, and Mrs. Elizabeth Kaiser, who won the contest.

Modern Weapon



Because of an equipment shortage, soldiers participating in the St. Lawrence county, N. Y., war games have to use "war weapons" that are weapons in name only. Sgt. Edward Reville swings into action with a beer can barrage.

Efficient Linen Closet That's a Step-Saver

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

EVERY Homemaker knows how many steps could be saved if table linens could have a special closet in the kitchen or pantry. In one home that we know of space for such a closet was going to waste all because cupboard doors or drawers would conflict with the door shown here in the small sketch. At the right you see how that space became an efficient linen closet after all—complete even



to a smart laundry bag for soiled napkins and table covers.

The high compartment has a door of plywood. Below this are shelves with a curtain on a shade roller. The curtain runs up and down between the shelves and the scalloped board that frames the closet, as shown at the left. This board is 1/2 inch thick and four inches wide. The scallops were marked by drawing around a tea-cup and were cut out with a jig saw.

NOTE: As a service to our readers Mrs. Spears has prepared a series of homemaking booklets. No. 5, just published, contains 32 pages of clever ideas fully illustrated and a description of the other numbers. To get your copy send order to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Drawer 10
Bedford Hills New York
Enclose 10 cents for Book 5.
Name
Address

Electoral College

The United States Constitution provides that congress "may determine the time of choosing the presidential electors and the day on which they shall give their votes." By the act of congress the date the electors now meet to canvass the popular vote for President and vice president is the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December.

The President and vice president are not officially declared elected, however, until a joint session of congress is held on January 6, three days after congress convenes, at which the electoral vote is canvassed.—Pathfinder

DIARRHEA

DUE to dietary indiscretions, change of drinking water or sudden changes in weather can be quickly relieved by Wakefield's Blackberry Balsam. For 94 years a household remedy. Sold at all drug stores. Be sure to ask for genuine

Wakefield's
BLACKBERRY BALSAM
Compound

Gentle Joy

Joy descends gently on us like the falling dew, and does not patter down like a hail storm.—Rich-ter.

Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery. Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination. There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

WNU-13

34-40

TEACHING A CHILD VALUE OF PENNIES

A child of a wise mother will be taught from early childhood to become a regular reader of the advertisements. In that way better perhaps than in any other can the child be taught the great value of pennies and the permanent benefit which comes from making every penny count.