

# TAFT, THE BIGGEST PRESIDENT. HOW BIG WERE THE OTHERS?

Whether William H. Taft will be the greatest of the Presidents remains to be seen; but one thing is certain, he will be the biggest. The chair of the chief executive of the nation has sustained many men of many weights, but none of such tremendous bulk as Taft, says a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. This fact suggests a physical comparison with the presidents who have gone before. The biggest men of the presidential line—big in



"HOW BIG WAS ALEXANDER, PA?"

height as well as in breadth—were Washington, Monroe, Buchanan, Garfield and Arthur. All of these men were six feet and upward and large of frame. The heavyweights of middle height were John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Fillmore, Johnson, Grant and Roosevelt. In the "dumpy" class, short and stout, might be placed Zach Taylor, Cleveland and McKinley. The list of tall and slender Presidents includes

## THE FIRST FOUR PRESIDENTS OUT FOR A STROLL.



WASHINGTON, ADAMS, JEFFERSON, MADISON.

Jefferson, Jackson, Polk, Pierce, Tyler, William Henry Harrison and Lincoln. The featherweights of the line were Madison, Van Buren and Benjamin Harrison, all three being below the average height and slender. Harrison, however, broadened out after he became President, and Van Buren after he retired. Hayes was of middle height and thin.

Washington was tremendously boned and muscled, but there was not an ounce of superfluous flesh on his body. His weight was 200 pounds. He wore



TALLEST AND BIGGEST PRESIDENT.

No. 13 boots, and his hands were so large he was obliged to have his gloves made to order, while his finger joints were so prominent that they were considered "genuine curiosities." He had a large, thick nose that always turned scarlet upon exposure to the wind. His hair, in middle life, was a chestnut-brown and his eyes a light blue, sometimes approaching gray.

John Adams' figure was "large and round." Jefferson was half an inch taller than Washington, but of long frame, thin and spare. His head was

set rather forward on his shoulders, and, his neck being long, it habitually protruded when he was walking or talking.

Madison, the father of the constitution, was physically unlike any of his predecessors. Below the average height, he was small of frame. Throughout his long and eminently useful life he was a semi-invalid, and it is a singular fact that the two Presidents who lived to the greatest age were in early life convinced that death was constantly waiting just around the corner for them. John Adams was for many years morbidly anxious about his health, but during the last half of his ninety years of life he was exceptionally hale and hearty. Not so with Madison. From extreme youth to his death at 85 he was feeble and sickly.

James Monroe was "rather more than six feet high, broad and square-shouldered and raw-boned." He was a man of great physical strength, but awkward in his movements.

John Quincy Adams bore a strong personal resemblance to his father, John Adams, although perhaps a little taller and a little more bald. His successor, Andrew Jackson, had the physical characteristics, but not the mental, of Thomas Jefferson. He stood six feet one in his stocking feet, and was very slender. Jackson's successor, Martin Van Buren, was the second of the little men to occupy the presidential chair. "Little Van" was the nickname his political enemies applied to him. He was below the middle height and slender, but erect. He was fond of the elegancies of life, and was always immaculately attired, a trait which magnified to the point of dandyism in his son, "Prince John." William Henry Harrison was a large man and his frame was well knit and inured to physical hardships by many campaigns against the Indians. Tyler is described as a "tall, thin,

be properly classed as big men by reason of their weight. The little man, the man who is both short and thin, has a mighty slim chance of getting into the White House.

## ALBERT B. CUMMINS,

Iowa's Governor, Who Succeeds William B. Allison in the Senate.

Albert B. Cummins, Governor of Iowa, has been elected to fill the place of the veteran Allison in the United States Senate. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that Senator Cummins will fill part of the place left vacant by Mr. Allison. No man with out many years' experience in national legislation could hope completely to occupy the shoes of such a man as Allison, whose brilliant mind and vast experience made him a power in Washington. His experience was almost unparalleled and his judgment was accurate. Moreover, Mr. Allison had only friends in the Senate. Mr. Cummins will be



ALBERT B. CUMMINS.

handicapped in a measure because some of Allison's friends will not readily forgive him for trying to secure Allison's seat while that veteran was still alive. They reason that the veteran's services to his country were so great that he should have been permitted to retain his place without fighting for it.

Mr. Cummins is a man somewhat of the La Follette stamp and is expected to join forces with the Wisconsin reformer. On the matter of tariff he says: "The time has come to quit talking tariff reform and take action. Revision must come quickly and we must get the best we can."—Utica Globe.

## NEW LAW OF HEREDITY.

Certain Qualities Appear Incapable of Destruction in Stock.

Some time ago an English scientist, W. Beach Thomas, contributed to the English press an article on Mendel's great discovery concerning heredity in plant and animal life. "The scientific world," he said, "is on the point of giving full recognition to a new, strange and deep-rooted law, and it is a satisfaction to know that in a few months some of the most striking of its practical results will be published by a body of English scientists."

Briefly, the law, which seems to touch the ultimate mysteries of heredity, is this: When pure stock or strains are crossed, it is found that a certain list of qualities remain, so to speak, indestructible, and appear unmitigated in a definite proportion of the offspring of all generations after the first.

Some concrete examples will best show the practical effect of the law, says the Technical World Magazine. When the tall variety of sweet pea and the short variety of sweet pea are crossed, the first generation are all tall. Tallness is the dominant quality over shortness, which is called recessive. But in the second generation it is found that just one-quarter are dwarf, and not only are they dwarf, but they will remain pure dwarf, without any reversion, and when crossed with dwarf will never again show signs of tallness. The other three-quarters will be tall, and of these tall again just one-quarter will be pure tall, and never again show signs of dwarfness. The remaining two-quarters will be impure, but again when crossed with their like will give both pure tall, pure dwarf and mongrels in due proportion. So that we find in all grandchildren, so to speak, of pure strains, the proportion 1:2:1 has a mystic application—that is, one-quarter of these grandchildren will be exact or pure reproductions in one quality of their grandmothers, one-quarter will be pure reproductions of their grandfathers, and two-quarters, though resembling one grandparent, will have latent in them the qualities of both.

## Cure for Dipomania.

Flesh food is the chief cause of dipomania. When men are properly nourished upon non-inflammatory diet that is rich in protoid and nerve and tissue-building substance—such as nuts of all kinds and their products, cereal foods (wheat meal, oatmeal, macaroni, rice, etc.), legumes (harrowts, lentils and peas), fruits of every sort and dairy produce (cheese, milk and eggs)—they do not crave for strong drink. Alcohol are they in danger of taking alcohol to excess.—London Health Record.

## In the Dime Museum.

"What did you do with my thermometer?" demanded the doctor who had been called in to attend one of the freaks.

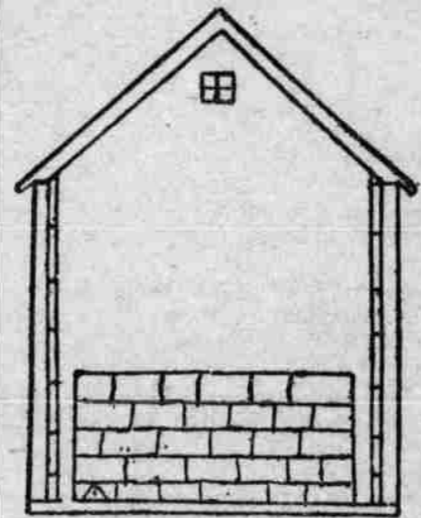
"I swallowed it, doc," answered the glass eater. "Thought it was my medicine."—Pittsburg Press.

A shabby coat may cover a fat purse, but the combination isn't always a safe one to bet on.

# FARM AND GARDEN

## Cheap and Simple Ice House.

An icehouse is one of the simplest of farm buildings; in fact, many farmers make a mistake in putting up too elaborate a building, which fails to endure and to afford sufficient ventilation for keeping the ice. The simple building shown in the drawing, which is reproduced from Farm and Home, was put up with about one day's labor. The framework was made of refuse hard wood, some 2x4's and some 2x6's.



SECTIONAL VIEW OF ICEHOUSE.

Second-rate pine boards were used for siding, which was nailed on the inside of the frame. The roofing was made of similar material as the sides, but of a little better quality.

In filling, a space is left between the wall and the ice, to be packed with sawdust. The crevices between the cakes are filled with fine ice shavings, but sawdust is used between or on top of the layers of ice until the filling is done, when about one foot of sawdust is placed on top.

Openings must be left near the peak of the roof to secure ventilation, and the sawdust filling at the sides must be kept firm and solid while the ice is being removed in summer. It is important to locate the icehouse where there will be good drainage. Poor drainage at the bottom of the ice or allowing air to circulate at the top will quickly spoil the contents of the house.

## Light for the Barn.

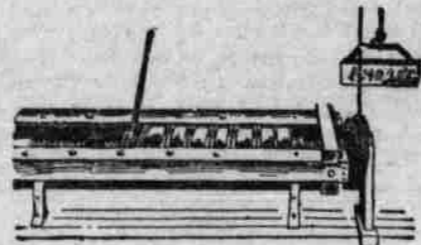
Light is one of the great sanitary conditions which promote vigorous health. If the germs of tuberculosis are exposed to the sun a short time their vitality is destroyed, but their infecting power can be preserved for several months if kept in a dark receptacle.

The State veterinarians who inspect dairy accommodations now recommend plenty of light, and the new dairy barns are featured with an increased number of windows. If possible the windows of a dairy barn should be so placed as to cause the sun at some portion of the day to shine on all parts of the floor, as the rays will search for disease microbes and destroy them. Sunlight acts as a powerful disinfectant, and nothing is cheaper nor more effective in preventing disease than sunlight.

Dark, underground stables are now condemned as insanitary and disease breeding. Dark stables are often also damp, and present especially favorable conditions for the evolution and propagation of tuberculosis. Cattle on the plains, which live only under the shelter of the firmament, are immune to tuberculosis and many other diseases, and barns for housing live stock should be constructed with plenty of windows to promote the sanitary condition of their occupants.—Goodall's Farmer.

## Automatic Cheese Press.

This form of cheese press maintains a constant pressure for any desired length of time by means of a rope



wrapped around a pulley at the end and over a small pulley on a beam overhead. The 140-pound weight is sufficient to keep the screw pressed up to the cheese. A close cheese is obtained, free from any mechanical openings.

## Better Results with Corn.

According to the estimate made by the government a few weeks ago, the average per acre of corn produced in Texas this year is only about five bushels below that of Iowa, one of the greatest of the corn-producing States. In the amount produced it was estimated that Texas would be fifth in the States of the Union. This is a splendid showing compared with what it was only a few years ago, and is accounted for by the fact that the Texas farmer is beginning to realize the great advantage there is in raising his own meat and bread, and in the further fact that the Texas Corn Growers' Association has done some splendid work in not only pointing out the blessings to the farmer in growing corn, but also in promoting the study of seed selection and cultivation.—Galveston News.

## Horse Value of Country.

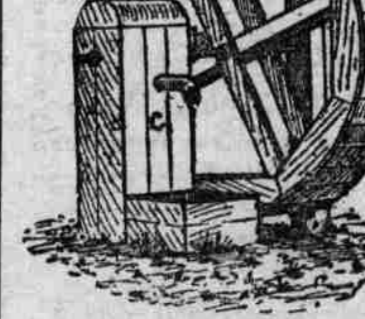
Almost \$2,000,000,000 worth of horses are owned in the United States, according to the Year Book of the Department of Agriculture. It is probable that if the horses were taken at their real value, instead of their assessed value, this figure would be greatly increased. According to this report, there are 19,992,000 horses in this country, with a value of \$1,867,530,000, and the average value per head is \$93.40. Anybody knows that has tried to buy horses of late that the average per head is too small, for even an ordinary work horse is worth more than that. However, the showing is very encouraging. In the last ten or twelve years the number of horses in this country has almost doubled, and, instead of there being too many horses, there are not enough to do all the business that is required, and if it were not for the use of automobile trucks in the large cities the merchants of this country would be hard pressed for methods of transportation for their goods. With business increasing, as every sign indicates, there will be a greater demand than ever for horses during the coming year. In view of this, breeders can go on increasing their business, with every confidence that all the horses they can produce will find a ready sale at a good figure. As for good trotters, horses capable of going out and winning in their class, the demand is greatly in excess of the supply. Auction sale managers complain that there are not enough of the good ones to supply the gentlemen who are in the market for likely prospects. The coming year will be a banner one in the horse business, especially in the breeding business.

## Making Use of the Dog.

This sketch shows an arrangement for making use of the dog for carrying water. It simply consists of a wheel, a 8 ft. in diameter and 18 in. wide, with room enough inside for the dog to walk around, where he acts as a tread

## DOG POWER FOR PUMPING WATER.

power, which causes the pump, etc. to revolve. In southern California there are



DOG POWER FOR PUMPING WATER.

a number of these dog-power pumps, which cost less than \$15. A good-sized dog can easily earn his living in an arrangement of this kind.—Farm and Home.

## Twins Lambs.

An experienced breeder says that in the case of twins it is well to place them with the mother in a small, separate pen for a day or two, in order that they may become acquainted, and to avoid the danger of one of the lambs straying away, which may cause trouble. When lambs are born weakly more care is required, and unless the shepherd is with them to see that they are suckled soon after birth they are liable to become chilled and die. If the lamb is too weak to stand up and suck, it should be held up and some milk milked into its mouth, when it will soon take the teat and help itself, or the ewe may be gently laid upon her side and the lamb brought to the teat on its knees or side, and held, as above indicated.

## When Buying "Porkers."

If you hear that your neighbor's hogs have the cholera, do not rush over to see them. Keep away from them and do not let anybody from the infected lot come near your own hogs. If you buy pigs from a point distant from your own neighborhood, keep them by themselves for at least two weeks, as during that time the disease will show if they have it.

## Sorghum for the Silo.

Under Florida conditions sorghum makes the best and cheapest crop for the silo. Analysis shows sorghum silage to be a little richer in total digestible nutrients than corn silage. It makes a heavier field of green forage per acre than corn. The station favors sorghum for silage.

## Winter Poultry Notes.

When your hens sing know then that they are feeling good and will lay.

Hens will not lay well or thrive unless they have plenty of sunlight. Keep the windows clean.

Don't fuss around your hens too much. Like some people, they want to be let alone at times.

Take the chill off the water. Hens will not lay many eggs if they are compelled to drink ice water and eat corn mixed with snow.

Get rid of the useless cockerels and old hens. Stuff them and they will grow fat and tender—not too tender—but enough to grace a boarding house table.

Throw some rusty nails in the drinking trough. The hens need the iron as a tonic. But do not let anything else besides clean water go in with the nails.

Dressed fowls, wrapped in clean, white paper and packed in new boxes will bring enough more to pay well for the trouble. It is not hard to get top prices by a little thought and work.

# THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1672—A monthly post was established between New York and Boston.

1775—British under Lord Dunmore defeated by the Americans at Norfolk, W. Va.

1777—Washington's army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge.

1787—Pennsylvania (the second State) ratified the federal constitution.

1789—The first circulating library was established in Salem, Mass.

1804—New York Historical Society instituted.... Spain declared war against Great Britain.... Two scores of houses on Wall street, New York, destroyed by fire.

1807—An unusually large and brilliant meteor was seen in Connecticut.

1811—Americans under Gen. Harrison left the battleground at Tippecanoe on their return to the United States.

1816—Indiana admitted into the Union as the nineteenth State.

1817—Mississippi admitted to statehood.

1820—National Republican party, at Baltimore, nominated Henry Clay for President.... The first locomotive built in the United States was finished and tested at the West Point (N. Y.) foundry.

1833—The House of Assembly in Jamaica passed a bill abolishing slavery.

1835—Patent office and postoffice in Washington burned.

1846—The first regiment to fight against Mexico was organized in Pittsburgh.

1854—United States and Great Britain concluded a treaty of commercial reciprocity.

1856—Christ church, Montreal, destroyed by fire.

1864—Gen. Dix issued an order for reprisals on Canadians because of the St. Alban's raid; order annulled later by President Lincoln.

1866—French occupation of Rome terminated.

1868—All disputes between Mexico and the United States settled by treaty.

1870—J. R. Rainey of South Carolina, the first negro ever elected to the House of Representatives, sworn in.

1872—Eleven servant girls perished in a fire in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York.

1873—New England celebrated the centennial of the "Boston Tea Party."

1891—Sir Oliver Mowat, Liberal prime minister of Ontario, issued an address declaring vigorously against American assimilation.

1893—A provincial plebiscite in Prince Edward Island prohibited prohibition of the liquor traffic by an overwhelming majority.

1894—E. V. Debs sentenced to six months' imprisonment for contempt of court during the great railroad strike in Chicago.

1898—Gen. Galixta Garcia, noted Cuban leader, died in Washington.

1899—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood appointed military governor of Cuba.

1900—Mgr. Montagnini, secretary of the Papal Nunciature, expelled from France by the French government.

1902—Germany and England joined in a naval demonstration against Venezuela.

1903—William I. Buchanan appointed United States minister to Panama.

1906—The new law separating church and state went into force in France.

1907—Norwegian Parliament conferred the Nobel prize upon President Roosevelt in recognition of his services in ending the Russo-Japanese war.

# SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Justice C. B. Elliott of State Supreme Court opened the second annual convention of the Minnesota Academy of Social Sciences at the University of Minnesota. Other addresses were delivered by Judge C. L. Brown, Attorney General E. T. Young and Prof. H. J. Fletcher of the law school. The discussions all related to conditions in Minnesota.

The overwhelming defeat of Nebraska by Carlisle, together with Carlisle's decisive victory over St. Louis, goes to add to Minnesota's glory. Carlisle beaten by Minnesota defeats two western teams supposed to be of strength approximating Minnesota's. This lifts Minnesota's victory into its true proportions and shows how well the Gophers played in defeating the husky Indians. Carlisle won from Nebraska by a score of 37 to 6. Minnesota beat Carlisle 11 to 6.

Many agricultural colleges sent exhibits to the live stock show in Chicago this week, among them Minnesota and Nebraska. Students from most of the leading agricultural colleges participated in the judging contests.

In the judging contests at the Chicago live stock show, a farmer's son—J. G. Troutman of Manhattan, Kan.—pitted his practical knowledge against the theoretical experience of the college students for the J. Ogden Armour agricultural scholarship, amounting to \$5,000, which were to be distributed for the most efficient work in the event.