

Ever Hear of These "Presidents"?



DAVID B. ATCHISON

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

YOU may be one of those Americans so well-versed in the history of your country that you can name all of the Presidents of the United States in the order of their administrations and can tell something about each one of them. But if some one said to you, "What do you know about the following Presidents of the United States: John Hanson, Elias Boudinot, John Hancock, Nathaniel Gorham and David B. Atchison?" you'd probably exclaim, "Why, they never were Presidents of the United States!" And therein you might be wrong, for there are those who say that those five men should be included in the list of our Presidents, even though such a statement would have to be made with certain qualifications.

In the case of the first four, their right to be known as President is based upon the following facts which have to do with the evolution of the office of President of the United States:

The First Continental congress met in Philadelphia September 5, 1774, and the delegates to it elected Peyton Randolph of Virginia, president. But he was only president of the congress, not President of the United States, for there was then no United States.

The Second Continental congress met in Philadelphia May 10, 1775, and John Hancock of Massachusetts was elected president. But he, too, was president only of the congress. Then on August 2, 1776, the delegates to this congress signed the Declaration of Independence which brought into being the United States of America. But they were United States more in name than in actual fact of a strong, well-organized government.

In 1777 a plan for the union of the states was proposed and within 15 months, twelve of the states had agreed to form the new nation in accordance with a proposed plan, drawn up under the name of the Articles of Confederation. The only state which opposed it at that time was Maryland.

Under the original Articles of Confederation each of the states made claims to extensive western lands. John Hanson and Daniel Carroll, of the Maryland delegation, refused to enter the new country under the above existing conditions and Hanson suggested the alternate plan. Maryland offered to give up forever its claim to western lands and to sign over its territories to the federal government if the other states would follow suit. One by one they fell into line and finally, on March 1, 1781, there was adopted a constitution called the "Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union Between the States."

However, the confederation thus formed had no executive officer, no judiciary and the sole governmental body was a single house of congress, made up of delegates elected by the legislature of the states.

On November 5, 1781 John Hanson was elected president of the congress, his formal title being "President of the United States in Congress Assembled." Thus the title "President of the United States" came into being and Hanson's right to be included in the list of our Presidents rests upon that fact that he not only presided over congress but was in fact as well as in name the country's Chief Executive. It is also asserted by Hanson proponents, chief of whom is Seymour Wemyss Smith, editor of the Financial Digest of New York city, who has striven for three years to win national recognition for Hanson and who is planning to carry his fight to the floor of the United States senate, that Hanson, rather than George Washing-



ton, was the first President of the United States.

In proof of his assertion, Mr. Smith offers the following facts:

On November 21, 1781, the congressional committee on "Arrangement of the President's House," consisting of Joseph Montgomery, Samuel Osgood and Edmund Randolph, introduced the following resolution in congress:

"Resolved, That the attendants of the President's house consist of one steward and such others as may be found necessary, not exceeding eight." A residence had been leased a few days previously as President Hanson's home. The steward was required to deliver an accounting of expenses to the President's secretary each month and the President was authorized by a resolution to draw on the public treasury for the proper amount.

On November 23, 1781, Gen. George Washington was summoned before congress and officially thanked by President Hanson for his victory at Yorktown.

"Mr. President," Washington replied to President Hanson, "I feel very sensibly the favorable declaration of congress expressed by your excellency. This fresh proof of their approbation cannot fail of making a deep impression upon me, and my study shall be to deserve a continuance of it."

In the meantime, before Washington became the "first President under the Constitution," the United States had three other "Presidents" under the Articles of Confederation. In November, 1782, Hanson retired from the Presidency and died the following year. On November 4, 1782 Elias Boudinot of New Jersey, who had served as a delegate to congress from 1773 to 1779 and had again been chosen in 1781, was chosen "President of the United States in Congress Assembled" and became the Chief Executive of the nation. As such he issued the proclamation announcing the end of the Revolution on April 19, 1783, and another announcing the signing of the treaty of peace on September 3.

Elias Boudinot has also been called the "first President of the United States," his right to that title being based upon the fact that it was not until England had signed the treaty of peace and thus acknowledged the independence of her former colonies that the free and independent United States of America actually existed.

In 1785 the seat of government was changed to New York city and John Hancock of Massachusetts was elected "President." Owing to ill health, however, he did not actively serve in that position and on May 29, 1786, he resigned. So another "President" was chosen—Nathaniel Gorham of Massachusetts.

On May 14, 1787, a convention of delegates from all states except Rhode Island met in Philadelphia "to form a more perfect union" and after a stormy session of four months adopted a new Constitution. It provided for a new method of choosing a President and under its provisions an election was held in which George Washington of Virginia was unanimously elected President. From contemporary documents, it is evident that the Chief Executive of the nation was referred to then as the "President of the United States Under the New Constitution" whereas before that official had been called the "President of the United States in Congress Assembled." Later that portion of the title, "Under the New Constitution," was omitted as being too cumbersome and there-

after he was referred to as the "President of the United States."

In view of these facts it seems that John Hanson, Elias Boudinot, John Hancock, and Nathaniel Gorham are as much entitled to being called "President of the United States" as are any of the men from George Washington to Herbert Hoover who have borne that title, and that in listing our Presidents, we should divide them into two classes, those who held office under the Articles of Confederation and those who have held office under the Constitution.

The right of David B. Atchison of Missouri to be included in our list of Presidents is a fertile subject for dispute. He is called "President for a Day," and the whole question of whether or not he actually was President depends upon whether or not a man can be President without taking the oath of office or actively administering the affairs of the nation.

Atchison's "Presidency" came about in this way: March 4, 1849, came on Sunday. Technically, President James K. Polk's term of office expired March 3, 1849, and his successor, Zachary Taylor, should have been inaugurated on March 4. But March 4, 1849, came on Sunday and Taylor did not take the oath of office until Monday, March 5, 1849. On March 3, George M. Dallas, vice president under Polk, announced in the senate, over which he was presiding, "The close of my official term being near at hand, I conform to an established and convenient practice by withdrawing from the deliberations of this body." On the motion of Senator Benton of Missouri, his colleague, Senator David B. Atchison, was appointed president of the senate pro tem.

Since the terms of President Polk and Vice President Dallas expired on March 3 and the term of President-Elect Taylor did not begin until March 5, when he was inaugurated, it is contended that David B. Atchison was President of the United States for one day, Sunday, March 4, 1849, even though he never took the oath of office. The biographical congressional directory, 1774-1911, an official senate document, backs up that claim, although some historians contend that Taylor was President de facto on Sunday, even though he was not sworn in, and that Atchison was not sworn in as President and never pretended to exercise any duty or prerogative of the office.

But the state of Missouri honors him as the only Missourian who has so far served as President of the United States and on October 27 of last year it paid tribute to its "President for a Day" when a \$15,000 memorial statue of Atchison was dedicated at Plattsburg, Mo., with impressive ceremonies at which the governor of Missouri was the principal speaker. He is further remembered in his home state by a county which is named for him and Missouri's sister state, Kansas, has a city which bears his name, although it is more famous because it is the home town of a famous country editor, Ed Howe of the Atchison Globe, than it is because it was named for a "President for a Day."

Timid Chap

She—If you really loved me all the time, why didn't you let me know?
He—I couldn't find a postcard with the right words on it.

Old-Fashioned Woman

An old-fashioned woman is one who cares more about what is served for breakfast than about where breakfast is served.—Albany Knickerbocker Press.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

The tabulated value of the agricultural products of Malheur county shipped in car lots during 1928 was \$7,600,000, according to Ray G. Larson, county agent.

Deep snow in the hills in Union county is causing deer to descend into the foothills. At the G. H. Peters ranch near Ponderosa 125 deer were counted recently.

Travelers arriving in Baker from points in Idaho report the eastern Oregon highways in excellent condition, despite the recent heavy snow and wind storms.

The death of Jeremiah M. Patterson at The Dalles leaves the J. W. Nesmith post of the G. A. R. with only one survivor, Andrew Nish, who declares he will "carry on" alone.

A huge body of water, estimated at 5,184,000 gallons, has been drained from the upper workings of the Baisley-Elkhorn mine through a three-inch hole since January 27.

Roseburg will have an egg packing station within the present year if the poultry producers sign up enough hens with the Pacific Cooperative Poultry Producers' association.

E. C. Solinsky, the new superintendent of Crater Lake park, has arrived in Klamath Falls to take up the duties of Colonel Thompson, recently transferred to Yosemite park.

The survey of lumber production in Lane county for the year 1928, made by the West Coast Lumbermen's association, shows 94 mills with a total production of 425,690,000 feet.

Nine feet of snow at the rim of Crater Lake, eight feet at Anna Springs and a temperature of 8 degrees below zero were reported recently by the caretaker of Crater Lake Lodge.

Four deer that have been feeding recently in the fields close to town were seen Saturday on the streets of Haines, cold weather and snow having driven them from their mountain resorts.

The Westwood Lumber company has paid into Tillamook county in the past few days the sum of \$140,000 delinquent taxes for five years on its timber holdings on the Salmonberry.

Three carloads of Deschutes county fat lambs moved out of Bend recently over the Great Northern lines bound for the San Francisco markets, the first shipment from Bend over the new line.

The steel bridge being erected at Maupin over the Deschutes river will be the first modern bridge between the mouth of the river and central Oregon. Laying of steel is now in progress.

Only 43 cases were handled during the year 1928 by the Ashland municipal court and fines collected amounted to \$250, according to Fire Chief Baughman, who also serves as municipal judge.

Reforestation work of the Crown-Willamette company in the Seaside area ended last week with the replanting of 2000 acres, making 6000 acres the company has replanted in the last three winters.

Explosion of a can of kerosene used to start a fire resulted in the death of Fred Brown, Jefferson county road contractor, in a cabin near Ashwood recently, according to information reaching Bend.

With an employment roll of 75, the Smith-Woods Products company of Coquille, a new industrial concern, finds it will have to add to the factory in order to handle orders and future business promised.

Nearly 400 men have found steady employment by the operation of the Westwood Lumber company mill at Wheeler, which resumed work a few days ago after having lain idle for several months.

The Lucky Boy mine in Lane county, a heavy gold producer in former years, will resume operations this spring, and a wagon road is under construction between the village of Blue River and the mines.

Mrs. Virginia Bacon of Portland was elected state librarian at a meeting of the state library board held in the executive department in Salem recently. She will assume her new duties March 15. Mrs. Bacon succeeds Mrs. Walter Pierce, nee Miss Cornelia Marvin, who resigned January 1.

Taxes for the ensuing year at Klamath Falls will be figured on a basis of 63.4 mills as against 58 mills for 1927.

Curry county's total assessed valuation for 1928 is \$5,916,635, as against \$5,622,030 for 1927. The tax rate is 24.4 mills, compared with 23.1 mills a year ago.

A quantity of clothes was destroyed by a fire which started in the laundry at the state hospital at Salem. The blaze was extinguished by the hospital fire department.

Formation of a Western Oregon Traffic association, in which 14 cities are to be represented through their chambers of commerce, resulted last week from a conference held at the Umpqua hotel in Roseburg.

An unidentified driver of an automobile fatally injured Tilman D. Loop, Garibaldi groceryman last week and has not been apprehended. Loop was walking along the Roosevelt highway near Sheldon's garage when he was struck by the automobile.

The scene of the farmers' week programs of Jackson county which were held at Ashland the first three days shifted to Medford for the last three days. The fine weather cut down the attendance, as the farmers and orchardists are all busy in the fields and catching up with their work after a two-month cessation.

At last, good signs of spring have made their appearance at Sweet Home. The rain is beginning to fall, the owl's welcome hoot can be heard around barnyards; daffodils and flags are beginning to shoot out of the earth, and the evenings are warm enough to leave small lambs out where they are protected from wild beasts.

Although snow covered the ground at Oregon City for three weeks, this did not prevent the primroses from blooming in the garden of Mrs. R. A. Schofield of that city. The yellow primroses are in bloom while the white ones are budding. Violet plants in the yard of Mrs. Isabelle Newman of New Era, also are in bloom.

M. W. Shearer, Maupin garage man, suffered severe burns about the face and body when an oil barrel which he was thawing with a blow-torch exploded, throwing blazing oil over the floor. Shearer slipped and fell into the blazing oil while attempting to escape from the building, and most of his clothing was burned from his body.

Among the 21 cars of northwestern pears sold recently on the New York auction market was one of Rogue river valley d'Anjous from the S. A. Nye orchard which set the highest auction price received for valley fruit from the 1928 season. The New York car topped the season's sales and brought \$4.52 per box for the extras, and \$4.35 for the fancy.

Drilling of a well started in Gresham recently as the first step in erection of a fruit storage and refrigerating plant there adjacent to the warehouse of the berry growers' association. The plant will be built by the Terminal Ice & Cold Storage company. The first unit will have a storage capacity of 2500 barrels, about a third of the association crop.

Claude C. Perkins of Yamhill, who has raised sheep there for many years, says he has established for himself a new lambing record this year. He reports: One ewe, four lambs; ten ewes, twins, 20 lambs; 11 ewes, single, 11 lambs; total of 22 ewes, 35 lambs, or a lambing percentage for the flock of 159 per cent, which is the highest crop he has ever obtained.

Severe winter weather has made lambing at some of the farms in the Walla Walla community a tedious and troublesome task. While a considerable number of flock owners report very good percentage of the young lambs, some are not so fortunate. Vick Searies of near Lostine, who has been lambing recently, is said to have lost a large number of lambs.

Authorization for the immediate sale of Roseburg's \$25,000 airport bond issue was given by the city council recently. The bonds were voted at a special election in June, 1928, but, due to a question regarding the authority of the city to issue bonds for airport construction, causing long delay while the matter was tested in the supreme court, the bonds remain unsold.

Following the total destruction of the grange building at Eagle Point Sunday morning by fire of unknown origin and the destruction by fire caused by a defective flue of the home of Ed Brown, near Medford, Sunday forenoon, the first grass fire of this year in Medford started Sunday afternoon on the east side and spread over three acres before it was extinguished by the firemen aided by a number of Boy Scouts.

When a cougar crossed the trail of two sled dogs, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Caldwell and R. J. McKinney, Deschutes county water master, were forced to alter their plans for a ski trip over deep snow to Elk lake, according to information reaching Bend. The dogs, hauling a sled loaded with food for the party, spotted a cougar and bolted into the Deschutes river on the trail of the mountain cat. The dogs and sled were taken from the chilly river, but the food was lost.

Bruce Wade, brother of Albert Wade of Cloverdale, was killed when his automobile collided with a train at a grade crossing.

Marion Eversaul, 25, was killed at the Clark-Wilson camp at Wilark when a log around which he had placed a cable swung and crushed him against another log.

A. B. Combs, Baker county clerk, reports that income from fees in January was only \$502, less than in any month during the four years he has been in office.

HOW TO LIVE LONGER

By JOHN CLARENCE FUNK

"ATTENTION!"

AFTER enlistment one of the first things a rookie learns is correct posture. When the command, "Attention!" is given, the young soldier places his feet at an angle of forty-five degrees, throws his shoulders back, his head up, draws in his chin and keeps his abdomen on as straight a line as possible.

Of course discipline is one of the main factors in this attention attitude. But there is more to it than that. Army and navy surgeons well know that faulty posture causes fatigue and interferes with the functions of the vital organs. Moreover, they realize that personal morale and brain power are more likely to be at not-peak in a person who walks and thinks straight than otherwise. And what is true in the service is equally true in civilian life. The body functions best when carried as nature intended it to be carried.

It is quite true that men are more likely to be offenders in this regard than are women. An innate pride sustains the latter which unfortunately is usually lacking in the former. One has only to observe the passers-by to realize how careless people have become regarding the proper carriage of their bodies. And the main reason is sometimes much deeper than it appears to be on the surface. It is a state of mind, based on physical unfitness.

The person who is bubbling over with vim, vigor and vitality just naturally carries himself properly. And the converse is equally true. To be a slouch indicates either an inexcusable state of mind or a decided lack of physical resiliency commonly known as "pep."

If you are walking with drooping shoulders, if you are hollow chested, if you shuffle along with head down, take a square look at yourself. You will know immediately if your careless attitude is merely a mental fog or if it is deeper-seated. If the former, start to remedy it at once through your own efforts. Use your will power to do it. You will be positively surprised how soon you will be stepping out with the best of them, looking and acting the man that you really are.

On the other hand, if you are tired and lack the "get-up" that you so much envy in others then walk as fast as you can to your doctor, tell him your troubles, let him prescribe the remedy and then take it conscientiously. Perhaps it will be a habit or so, but it will have to go by the board. Again, it may mean more fresh air or exercise, more or less work or food.

In any event, whatever it is that you need to bring you out of the slouch class take your medicine like a man. The world loves the physically fit and frowns upon others. Therefore, "Attention! Forward march!"

"SLOWER, PLEASE!"

A CERTAIN gentleman of mature age, fortunate in the possession of two boys just returned from college for their mid-year vacation, accepted their invitation to join with them in a hockey game. He was fair, fat and fifty; and his exercise for the last two years up to that time had largely been taken in his high-powered car, with an occasional stroll over the golf course.

"I'll show these kids that Dad's still got the old stuff in him," he whispered to a friend as he boldly struck out on the smooth ice. And he did show them, too. He played a fine game and kept the admiring boys very much on their toes. He hadn't been an athlete for nothing. Me? Certainly not!

"But that evening Dad breathed a heavy sigh and two days later his earthly journey found its inevitable destination in a newly dug grave. Dad had merely permitted his enthusiasm to get the better of his body—and his body got the better of him! A sad story, but a true one.

No, it cannot be done safely, this dropping back into violent exercise after a lapse of years of comparative inactivity. Neither men nor women have any right to assume that their bodies, and especially their hearts, can thus suddenly be thrown into high gear and run at a speed which nature intended only for younger people.

It is all right to have a youthful spirit but the average heart at fifty and even at forty is no longer young, and care must accordingly be exercised in exercising. Everyone of middle age or over should politely respect this fact and decline sudden and sustained exertion of any kind.

Exercise! Most certainly keep in good physical condition by long brisk walks, golf, setting up exercises or any other form of mild exertion that strikes your fancy. But don't get stuck up about your prowess and assume a "just-as-young-as-I-used-to-be" attitude. In that case your head is playing a serious joke on the rest of you. And believe it or not, the rest of you matters very much in this business of living and long life.

(© 1929 Western Newspaper Union.)

"Freshness" of Eggs

According to the international congress of chefs, an egg is "new laid" for 10 or 12 days; it is "fresh" until it is 21 days old; then it becomes a "cooking egg."

Neal's Mother Has Right Idea



Within a few months there will be no more feverish, bilious, headachy, constipated, pale and puny children. That prophecy would surely come true if every mother could see for herself how quickly, easily, and harmlessly the bowels of babies and children are cleansed, regulated, given tone and strength by a product which has proved its merit and reliability to do what is claimed for it to millions of mothers in over fifty years of steadily increasing use.

As mothers find out from using it how children respond to the gentle influence of California Fig Syrup by growing stronger, sturdier and more active daily they simply have to tell other mothers about it. That's one of the reasons for its overwhelming sales of over four million bottles a year.

A Western mother, Mrs. Neal M. Todd, 1701 West 27th St., Oklahoma City, Okla., says: "When my son, Neal, was three years old he began having constipation. I decided to give him California Fig Syrup and in a few days he was all right and looked fine again. This pleased me so much that I have used Fig Syrup ever since for all his colds or little upset spells. It always stops his trouble quick, strengthens him, makes him eat."

Always ask for California Fig Syrup by the full name and see that the carton bears the word "California." Then you'll get the genuine.

Colds/AR

At first sign of a cold, take **AR**—NATURE'S REMEDY—the laxative that thoroughly cleans your intestines. It is the only quick way to get relief and guard your health. Mild, safe, purely vegetable, pleasant—55c.

For Sale at All Druggists

Worse Than Triplets

"Hello, Jack, I hear you have an addition to your family."
"Yes; two."
"Oh, twins, eh?"
"No, a baby boy and my wife's mother."

To Put On

needed flesh—to enrich the blood—take Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. By restoring the normal action of the stomach and other deranged organs and functions, it builds the flesh up to a safe and healthy standard—promptly, pleasantly and naturally. The weak, emaciated, thin, pale and puny, are made strong, plump, round, rosy and robust, also pimples and blotches are driven away. All druggists, liquid and tablets.

Read this comment: "I have never taken any medicine that has proven so good as Dr. Pierce's. I took the 'Golden Medical Discovery' to enrich the blood, as a spring tonic, and for stomach trouble and it was excellent and the 'Favorite Prescription' when I had become weak, nervous and rundown."—Mrs. Minnie Gullickson, 136 E. Riverside Ave., Spokane.

Send 10c for trial pkg. to Dr. Pierce's Invalids Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y.

Seems to Be Mismatched

Why is a man called noble? His natural inclination is to break the laws of nature and nation, says the Atchison Globe.

Millions now use Russ Ball Blue. Makes clothes snowy white. Get the genuine—Adv.

Both Stars

"My uncle was a gridiron star."
"That so? Mine was a well-known cook, too."



SAME PRESCRIPTION HE WROTE IN 1892

When Dr. Caldwell started to practice medicine, back in 1875, the needs for a laxative were not as great as today. People lived normal lives, ate plain, wholesome food, and got plenty of fresh air. But even that early there were drastic physics and purges for the relief of constipation which Dr. Caldwell did not believe were good for human beings. The prescription for constipation that he used early in his practice, and which he put in drug stores in 1892 under the name of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, is a liquid vegetable remedy, intended for women, children and elderly people, and they need just such a mild, safe bowel stimulant.

This prescription has proven its worth and is now the largest selling liquid laxative. It has won the confidence of people who needed it to get relief from headaches, biliousness, flatulence, indigestion, loss of appetite and sleep, bad breath, dyspepsia, colds, fevers. At your druggist, or write "Syrup Pepsin," Dept. BB, Monticello, Illinois, for free trial bottle.

Girl Keeps Lover's Gifts

When a man and a maid fall out the maid may keep her lover's gifts, according to a decree of Judge Cohen of the District court at Sydney, Australia. After the tilt Henry Morris sued Dolly Reynolds for the return of a phonograph, a silk shawl and a steel guitar, together with \$100 which he said he loaned Miss Reynolds. Dolly said Morris had not loaned her money, but had placed bets for her on horse

and dog races, deducting his investment if the animals won. The judge told Dolly to keep the gifts and forget about the money.

Natives Frightened by Doll

A letter from Kenya tells of the curious effect of a doll with moving eyes. When it was shown to a native chief he thought it supernatural. On being convinced, after some time, that it was mechanics and not magic that moved the eyes, he asked the loan of it to get back one of his wives

who had fled to her native village. He explained that if he took it then all the men would flee and thus he could secure his wife. He proved as successful in his prophecy as in his quest.

Old-Fashioned Woman

An old-fashioned woman is one who cares more about what is served for breakfast than about where breakfast is served.—Albany Knickerbocker Press.