

## John Tyler, Born 150 Years Ago, Is One of Least-Known Presidents But Had a Career That Is Unique

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

JOHN TYLER, who was born just 150 years ago, is one of the least-known Presidents of the United States, yet few of our Chief Executives have had a more interesting or more unusual career. Here are some of the facts which make his unique:

He was the first vice president to become President upon the death of the Chief Executive.

He was the first vice president to be defeated for that office in one election and then stage a come-back and win in the next one.

He was the first President to surround himself with a "Brain Trust" of college professors and experts (even though that name had not yet been coined for it) and in doing so he antedated Franklin D. Roosevelt by nearly a hundred years.

He was the only President who was "purged" by members of his party . . . and they were more successful in doing that than President Roosevelt was in his attempted "purge" of his party!

He was the only President who ever renounced his allegiance to the United States. After leaving the White House, he accepted the lowest office ever filled by an ex-President—that of road overseer.

His wife was the first President's wife to die in the White House.

In fact, the dark thread of death was woven all through the pattern of John Tyler's life. The death of a Virginia congressman, John Clopton, in 1816 resulted in Tyler's being chosen to fill the vacancy in the house of representatives and thus brought him on the stage of national affairs. The death of John Taylor in 1824 resulted in the nomination of Tyler to fill the vacancy thus created in the United States senate but his friend, Littleton Tazewell, was elected to the post. The death of William Henry Harrison made Tyler President of the United States in 1841 and a little more than a year after he moved into the White House, it was draped in black in mourning for his wife, Letitia Christian Tyler, who died September 10, 1842. And finally his own death prevented his holding the last office to which he was ever elected—membership in the congress of the Confederate States of America.

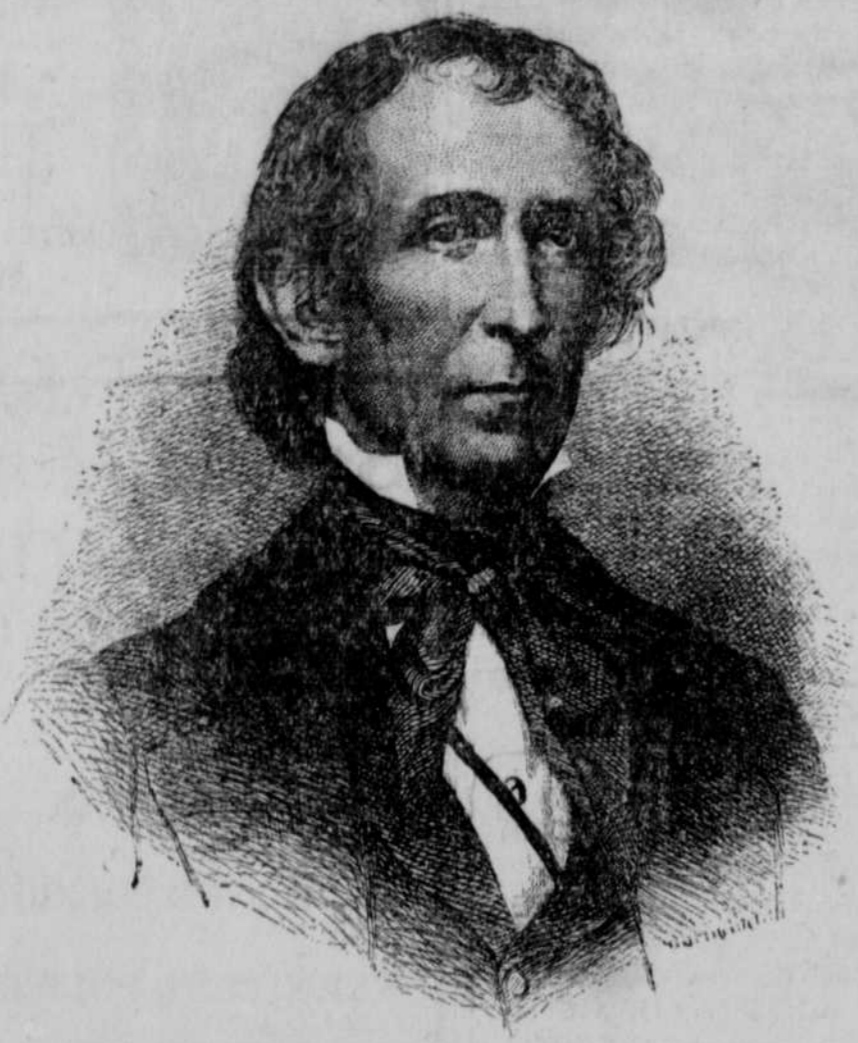
Tyler was born at Greenway in Charles City county, Virginia, March 29, 1790, the son of John Tyler who had served as governor of the Old Dominion from 1808 to 1811. Fourteen years later another John Tyler (the junior) was chief executive of Virginia but after serving one term was elected to the United States senate. When the doctrine of nullification was proposed by the South Carolinians, Tyler broke with his party and resigned from the senate.

By 1835 there was a serious schism in the Democratic party. Not only had the "nullifiers," under the leadership of John C. Calhoun, broken away, but a much larger party, which was formed in the South under the name of State-Rights Whigs, were opposed to the policies of Jackson and the administration "regulars."

**Lost His First Race.**  
In the campaign of 1836 these State-Rights Whigs nominated Hugh L. White of Tennessee for President and Tyler for vice president. The National Republicans nominated Gen. William Henry Harrison for President and Francis Granger for vice president. But the influence of "Old Hickory," who had forced the nomination of Martin Van Buren by the Democrats, was potent enough to bring about his election and with it the election of Richard M. Johnson for vice president. So John Tyler lost out in his first race for vice president.

But it was a different story four years later. As the campaign of 1840 approached, Henry Clay prepared to make his third bid for the Presidency. Leaders in the Whig party, though certain that Van Buren, would go down to defeat in his race for re-election, did not believe that Henry Clay was the man who could carry the Whig banner to victory.

Taking a tip from the Democrats' success in electing a military hero—"Old Hickory" Jackson, they decided upon William Henry Harrison, a noted Indian fighter and general in the War of



JOHN TYLER—Tenth President of the United States.

1812. As a running mate for "Old Tippecanoe" they selected the ex-Democrat, John Tyler. They believed that this cultured Southern gentleman would attract Southern votes and his friendship for Henry Clay would hold the support of the Clay faction in the party. In the tumultuous campaign which followed, Harrison and Tyler won an easy victory but within a month after taking the oath of office as President, the aged Indian-fighter, worn out by the demands of Whig office-seekers, died on April 4, 1841.

Upon succeeding to the presidency, Tyler announced that he would retain the cabinet chosen by Harrison and would carry out the latter's policies. What they were, no one knew for the Whig convention had not adopted any platform and in the campaign there was no discussion of issues between the two parties. As a matter of fact, the Whigs had nominated Harrison because they believed he could be "managed" and Henry Clay intended to do the managing.

**Early-Day 'Brain Trust.'**  
Although retaining Harrison's cabinet, Tyler immediately assembled about him a group of unofficial advisers (the first "Brain Trust") which included Prof. Nathaniel Beverly Tucker, professor of law at William and Mary college, who first suggested an Exchequer Bank plan which Tyler later proposed and whose recommendations about a public lands policy were incorporated in the Homestead Law of 1862; Caleb Cushing of Massachusetts, one of the greatest authorities on constitutional law, who was later nominated for chief justice of the Supreme court; Littleton W. Tazewell of Virginia, called by Thomas Jefferson "one of the most brilliant minds I have ever known"; and Robert J. Walker of Mississippi, later President Polk's secretary of the treasury and author of the tariff of 1846, who became Tyler's spokesman in the senate.

As soon as Henry Clay and the other Whig leaders began trying to dictate to Tyler, they discovered that the man in the White House had a mind of his own. They first pushed through a bill to establish a United States bank. Tyler vetoed it, and their effort to pass it over his veto failed. When the Whig leaders reproached Tyler for his action, he reminded them that he had subscribed to no platform and that they should have known his opinions before they nominated him.

Somewhat crestfallen, they asked him for an outline of a bank bill he would sign. The result was Tucker's Exchequer Bank plan, which they changed and pushed through both houses. Thereupon Tyler vetoed it and again an attempt to pass it over his disapproval failed. Then congress passed a protective tariff bill which Tyler vetoed. A program for internal improvements to be financed by the federal government met with the same fate, because Tyler believed that the states should make their own internal improvements.

Swiftly the breach between the President and his party widened. The cabinet, with one exception, resigned. Daniel Webster remained long enough to complete negotiations for the Webster-Ashburton treaty. Then he resigned. The party was beginning its "purge" of its President. Next the Whig newspapers went into action and filled their columns with denunciations of the President. There were even threats of assassination. But Tyler stood firm in his determination to be

true to his oath of office. Then 10 members of congress, headed by ex-President John Quincy Adams, now a member of the house of representatives, brought in a report charging Tyler with violating a promise he had made before his nomination and threatening to impeach him. Tyler replied that he had never pledged anything to the Whigs.

Despite this denial, the Whig congressmen issued a series of "Addresses to the People" in which they charged that the President had gone into office fully committed to a program which he now repudiated, thus "selling out the party." They listed the reforms which they desired and which they declared, the President was "impeding." Finally, when Tyler filled his cabinet with Southern Democrats, headed by John C. Calhoun as secretary of state, it was the last straw. The Whigs issued a proclamation that "all political connection between them and John Tyler was at an end from that day henceforth." The party had completely purged its President.

The remainder of Tyler's term of office was marked by the dispute over the slavery question and the annexation of Texas, favored by the Democrats and opposed by the Whigs. Having been "read out of the party," Tyler now had nothing to lose and supported the move for annexation, but without success at first. As the 1844 campaign approached, this question became the principal issue. James K. Polk, the Democratic nominee, endorsed annexation. Tyler had tried to build up a party of his own and seek re-election. Although he was nominated by a small faction, he was persuaded to withdraw from the race and Polk won. Just before leaving office Tyler had the satisfaction of seeing his plan for the annexation of Texas accepted by the Lone Star republic and the next year it came into the Union.

**'Robin Hood of Virginia.'**

Tyler's political career was now ended. He retired to his home, Sherwood Forest, where, in a facetious mood, he often referred to himself as the "Robin Hood of Virginia." It was during this period of retirement that he accepted the lowly office of road overseer.

Although a Virginian and a slaveholder, Tyler was opposed to the institution of slavery and became president of the African Colonization society, formed with the view of recolonizing the slaves in Africa. Early in his career he looked forward to the time when slavery would disappear from the South as it already had from some of the Northern states but being a strict constructionist he wanted to bring that about by Constitutional means.

As the clouds of the threatened civil war lowered, the ex-President used his influence to help avert it. His last great effort to preserve the Union was as president of the Washington Peace Convention of 1860, assembled in a last-minute effort to seek some compromise between the North and the South. He looked upon the convention as an attempt to preserve the Constitution and the laws of the nation, which he considered the North had sought to ignore, not change.

When his native state seceded, Tyler, like Robert E. Lee, believed that his first duty was to Virginia and he renounced his loyalty to the United States. He was elected to the Confederate congress but died January 17, 1862, before the congress assembled.

## Softly Styled Suits Go Gay With Eye-Catching Accessories

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



ALL the way from suits to accessories the new fashions are flattering and prettifying. "Never saw you look so well, you are getting younger looking and prettier every day," that's the sweet music you will be hearing when you go stepping in the new spring outfit. Frilly lace blouses, frothy white lingerie touches that give the feminine touch never fail to call forth compliments for the wearer, likewise the flowery toques and the ribbon-tied bonnets (so new this season) and the bags and the gloves and the jewelry that are so high-color bright this season, not forgetting to mention the gadget frivolities that will adorn your jacket lapel. They all spell youth and flattery for the fashion-arranged during the coming spring and summer.

The new suits especially are designed with an eye for costume allure. Soft styling with beguiling dressmaker touches keynote the entire current suit program. Having acquired a suit that "does something for you" (the new suits do just that) the next move is to plunge into a wild orgy of accessory shopping. Stop at nothing in the way of high color and daring motif for fashion bids you to glamorize the picture with a heart-smashing witchery of eye-catching furbelows and gadgets.

Note the spring costumes pictured. They were selected for illustration from among hundreds of stunning fashions shown by the Style Creators of Chicago at a recent preview which dramatized the new modes up to the 'nth degree of allure. The jacketed suit-costume shown to the right verifies the style message that tucks have become a hobby with designers. Even the new fabric or felt hats have subscribed to the present vogue for tucks. Very new and smart is the allover-tucked dress and many frocks have fine tucked yokes and sleeves. You will see handbags that

are tucked with gloves to match. It's tucks that impart unmistakable chic to the jacketed costume to the left in the picture. This charming ensemble is made of tissue wool in an entrancing lime green shade, with horizontal tucking down the front of the jacket. The dress, with fitted waist, has a 16-gored skirt. The Roman striped sailor worn with it and the handbag to match are

Polka dots are staging a big revival. See the coat ensemble centered in the group. Here you have the new navy and white craze interpreted at its most charming. Also this costume is typical of the new print-with-plain vogue that is of tremendous importance. In this instance as is true of the majority of the print-plus-plain fashions, the coat is lined with the print matched to the dress.

The suit on the seated figure emphasizes the use of checked wool, for checks are as important as they ever were and more so. A sentimental touch is the heart-shaped bag, which goes to show that unusual handbags are exceedingly chic this season, and when in gay stripes as is this one style is multiplied. Observe that mademoiselle is wearing a sailor hat with her striped tulle, for there is nothing smarter for this spring than a pert sailor. Note the feather. Whimsical feather novelties are very much in evidence this season.

Speaking of hats, see the pretty flower-trimmed toque above to the right. The millinery picture is gay with flowers this spring. You'll adore the new flower hats. Most of them are flirtatiously veiled which but adds to their piquancy and charm. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

## Gypsy Influence



The gypsy influence is going strong this season throughout fashion design. It reflects attractively in this stunning spectator sports hat. The Breton sailor of rough white straw is tied on with a scarf of hand printed linen in yellow, black and white, with the same print making the crown and facing the brim. Wide brimmed Bretons, either black or navy straw or fabric, are listed among the most fashionable for immediate wear.

## Evening Ensembles In Spring Wardrobe

Unlined full-length wool evening coats worn with pastel chiffon evening dresses are ensembles that will find a place in many spring wardrobes. You'll wear a coat of one color and a dress of another, the coat the stronger in tone.

## Trousered Fashion Reaches New High

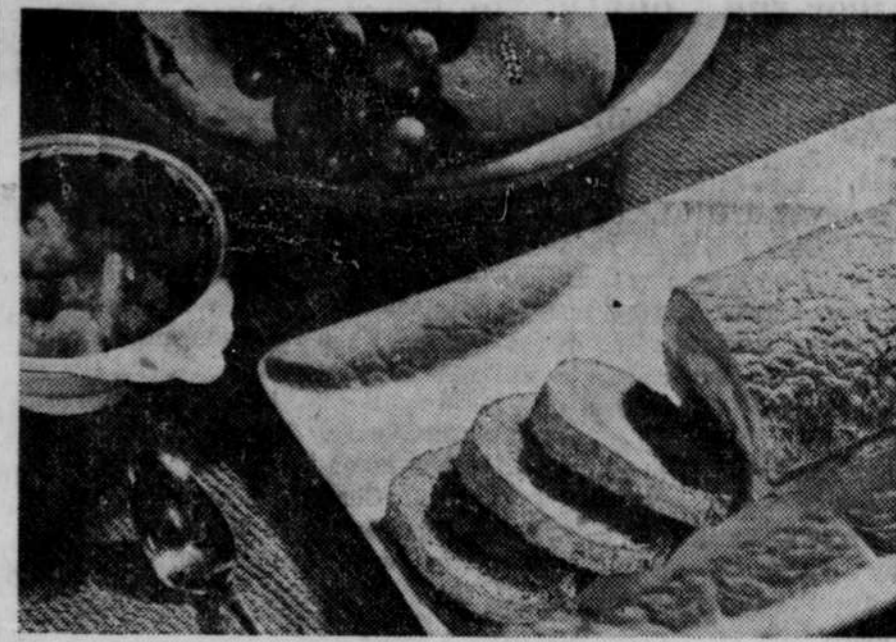
Smart women all over the country are going places in slack suits and in pajama costumes. The idea that slacks are strictly a sports fashion no longer exists. According to the present order of things it's trouser fashions when you work, when you play, when you go dining, go marketing, do your housework, entertain at bridge, in fact slack and pajama costumes have become a round-the-clock theme. Stunning new slack suits done in handsome monotone pastel washable weaves are making special appeal. These are tailored to perfection. The spun rayon types are also great favorites.

A trend toward longer jackets is noticed in the later slack costumes. These are styled with pleats, pockets and other effective details. Watch the slack movement. The developing of their widespread vogue marks an epoch-making event.

## Jeweled Fantasies Deck Spring Togs

Spring fashions call for jeweled fantasies to adorn your lapel. Try a pair of knitting needles with a diamond set in the end of each to flash when you do your knit-two-purl-two (for sunstruck resorts where everyone knits in the garden, and big dinner parties where everyone knits after a demitasse).

A flowered clip is always nice—a spray of white and yellow roses set in gold coils so they quiver, to go with a tailored suit you like so well.



TEMPTING AND TOOTHsome  
(See Recipes Below)



## What Every Good Cook Should Know

There are certain principles of food preparation which every good cook follows, whether or not she's conscious of doing so, or understands the reasons on which they are based.

To be sure, every so often we find a recipe which seemingly contradicts every principle of cookery that has ever been formulated, and in spite of it, produces an excellent product. I suppose that's the proverbial exception that proves the rule! But in general, following definite rules of cookery produces the best results consistently.

There is, for example, a standard method for mixing cakes. Then there are revolutionary methods such as that which is used in the jiffy cake recipe below. But it's well to remember that the unusual method which, in one recipe, gives entirely satisfactory results, for another recipe may not work at all. These are general rules (with an exception to prove every one, I do believe!) which the good cook follows as a matter of habit:

1. When mixing butter cakes or muffins, by the standard method, cream shortening, add sugar gradually, then egg yolks. Add sifted dry ingredients and liquid, alternately, beginning and ending with the dry ingredients.

2. Unless a recipe specifies otherwise, mix only until the ingredients are blended.

3. Cheesecake and milk mixtures require a low temperature for cooking. Too high a temperature is likely to cause curdling.

4. When making pie crust, have the ingredients as cold as possible.

5. When egg white is added to a batter, it should be beaten until it is stiff but not dry, and folded lightly into the batter.

The recipes below will give you excellent results, in spite of the fact that they seem somewhat contradictory. But remember that the methods have been developed for these particular recipes, and they may not work if applied to any other.

**Grandmother's Ginger Bread.**

½ cup sugar  
½ cup shortening  
1 cup molasses  
2½ cups flour  
2 eggs (beaten)  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
½ teaspoon cloves  
½ teaspoon ginger  
2 teaspoons soda  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 cup hot water

Sift together all dry ingredients including sugar. Combine eggs, molasses and hot water in which shortening has been melted and add to sifted mixture. Beat for 3 minutes. Bake in 350-degree oven for 45 minutes. Requires 9 by 9-inch pan.

**Hot Water Pastry.**  
(Makes 1 pastry shell)  
½ cup shortening  
¼ cup boiling water  
1½ cups flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon baking powder

Place shortening in a warm bowl, pour boiling water over it, and cream thoroughly with a fork. Place flour (measured after sifting once), salt, and baking powder in flour sieve and sift gradually into the creamed shortening and water mixture. Mix thoroughly. Make up into a dough ball and chill thoroughly. Roll out and arrange in pie tin. Prick well. Bake in a hot oven (450 degrees) for approximately 12 minutes.

**Old Fashioned Jelly Roll.**  
5 eggs  
1 cup sifted granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
¼ teaspoon salt

Beat the eggs until thick and lemon-colored. Gradually beat in the

How true it is that the sauce can make or mar a dish, whether that dish is a cheese souffle or a cottage pudding!

In this column next week Eleanor Howe will give you some of her own favorite recipes for sauces of many kinds—sharp tangy sauces for meat or fish, a smooth, mellow sauce to serve with souffles and sauces for ice cream and pudding, too.

sifted sugar, and continue beating until the mixture is very fluffy. Add vanilla. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt, and fold into the first mixture. Line a shallow baking pan (about 10 by 16 by 1 inches) with greased waxed paper. Spread batter evenly in the pan and bake in a moderately hot oven (400 degrees) for 12 to 15 minutes. As soon as the cake is removed from the oven, turn it out on a towel which has been wrung out of warm water. Remove the paper, and trim off the crisp edges of the cake. Roll up in the towel. Let stand several minutes, then unroll and spread with filling. Roll again.

**Custard Pie**  
2 cups milk  
3 eggs  
½ teaspoon salt  
5 tablespoons sugar

Scald milk. Beat the eggs light, add sugar and salt, and mix carefully. Add scalded milk. Strain into a well-greased pie pan and bake in a slow oven (300 degrees Fahrenheit) for about 40 minutes, or until custard is firm. Bake a one-crust pastry shell in a second pie tin exactly the same size as that used for the custard pie. When the custard and baked pie shell are both thoroughly cooled, gently slip the custard pie into the pie shell just before serving. Note: This eliminates the soggy pie crust so often found in custard pies.

**Jiffy Cake With Self Icing.**  
(Makes one 8-inch cake)

¼ cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
½ cup milk  
1 teaspoon flavoring extract  
1½ cups flour (cake flour preferred)  
1½ teaspoons baking powder  
¼ teaspoon salt

Soften the butter by creaming. Then add sugar, unbeaten eggs, milk, flavoring extract, and the dry ingredients which have been sifted together. With a rotary beater or electric mixer, beat for 2 to 3 minutes, or until the batter is light and very smooth. Pour into greased pan 8 by 8 by 2 inches square, and cover evenly with the following mixture:

½ cup sweet chocolate (grated)  
½ cup nut meats (cut fine)

Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahrenheit) for 35 to 40 minutes.

**Maple Syrup Muffins.**  
(Makes 12 muffins)

1 egg  
½ cup milk  
½ cup maple syrup  
¼ cup butter (melted)  
2 cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
½ teaspoon salt

Beat egg until very light and blend with milk, syrup and melted butter. Sift dry ingredients and add to first mixture. Blend until the batter is smooth. Pour into greased muffin pans and bake in a moderately hot oven (400 degrees) for about 20 minutes.

**Send for Your Copy of 'Better Baking.'**

Every good cook needs a copy of Eleanor Howe's book, "Better Baking"! This decidedly practical book offers you a wealth of reliable, tested recipes—recipes for cookies and cakes, for bread and pastry; recipes for every day and recipes for special occasions, too.

Send 10 cents in coin, now, to get your copy of "Better Baking." Address your letter to "Better Baking," care Eleanor Howe, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)