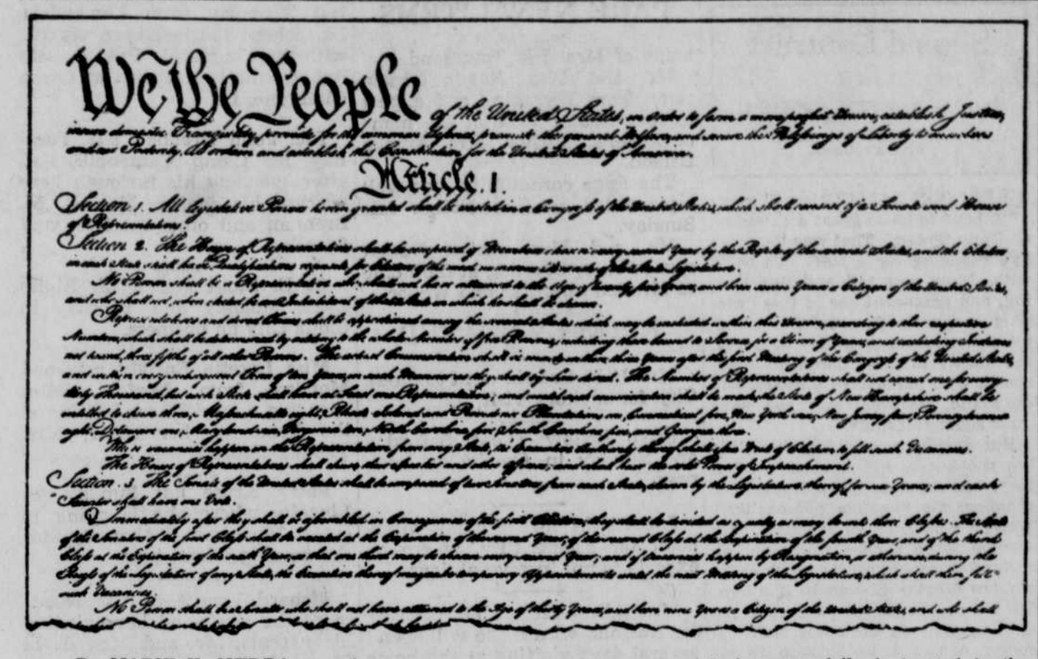

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article. 1.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section. 3 The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

By MARIE H. MUDRA

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

THE six-year-old boy pulled himself up on the marble stool to look into the glass case. As with us, it was his first visit to Washington and he had to see everything. He let out a squeal of surprise, "Mother!" he said, looking up to see where she was. "It's all gold. Is it a treasure?"

We all laughed, but the policeman stationed there on the west gallery of the main floor of the Congressional library bent down to the small boy.

" 'Deed it is, Sonny. It's so priceless that there is a special guard like me here every hour of the day. Do you know what they are, Sonny?"

"Nope," said the boy, his eyes growing larger.

"They're the birth certificates of this nation. That one up in the cabinet on the wall is the Declaration of Independence and this one in the case below is the Constitution of the United States."

The guard pronounced the words with so much pride that they sent a thrill through us listeners and we edged closer to see the golden documents.

Under Protective Glass.

"See, they're specially lighted and kept under a protective glass coated with a yellow chemically treated film so the parchments won't fade. Here," speaking to all of us. "Look at John Hancock's signature. Written big and bold so the king of England might read it without his spectacles."

"Have these documents always been here?" asked a man in the group.

"No, they've always been at the seat of government. At first that was New York. When Philadelphia became the capital, they were taken there. After congress fixed upon Washington as a permanent capital, they were moved to this city."

"And been here ever since?" someone asked.

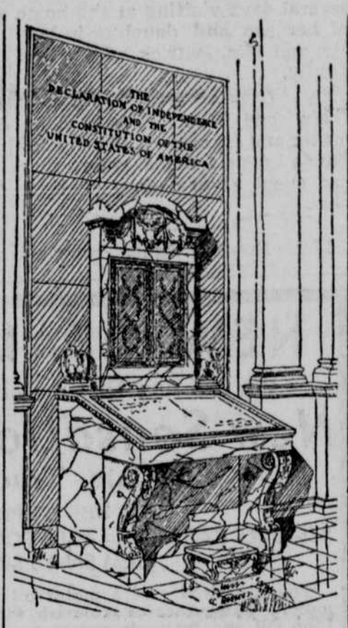
"No," the guard explained. "For a short time when the British captured Washington during the War of 1812 they were removed to Virginia far enough away to be safe. They were preserved in a vault but in 1921 President Harding ordered them placed here."

"Why are some of the names rubbed off?" asked the six-year-old boy. We looked closer and saw a few signatures somewhat obliterated.

"They tell a story about that but no one can prove it. When the British attacked the city of Wasnington in 1814, these parchments were forgotten in the confusion that followed. Then a clerk of the state department, in whose custody they were, rolled them up in a hurry, shoved them into linen bags, and fled to Georgetown and then to Leesburg. It is said that on his journey the ink on the surface flaked off from this rough handling. Now will you remember," he asked the little boy, "all those things on September 17, Constitution day? That's the date on which the Constitution was finished way back in 1787."

Philadelphia Celebrates.

Not having such an introduction to the origin of our Constitution, most people do not even know when Constitution day is. But the Philadelphians have observed it with greater regularity than any other place in America. Perhaps this city is conscious of the distinction it holds in having Independence Hall, the building in which both these documents were drafted. In 1887 Philadelphia held a national centennial celebration on September 15, 16 and 17, arranged by a Constitutional Centennial commission. This commission included representatives from each state and territory appointed by the governors; the President and his cabinet; governors and other officers from each state and territory, and members of the diplomatic corps. The celebration began with an industrial parade in which 12,000 people demonstrated the progress made by the United States in the century of its existence. In the evening Governor Beaver of Philadelphia held a reception in honor of the official guests.



In this shrine in the Congressional library in Washington are preserved the "birth certificates of this nation" —the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

On the second day, 30,000 members of state and federal military organizations paraded in review before President Grover Cleveland. At night the President held a public reception in the Academy of Music attended by thousands.

Cleveland Is Speaker.

On the third day, the real anniversary of the Constitution, exercises were held in Independence square before the building where the Constitution was drafted. President Cleveland made an address in which he concluded:

As we look down the past century to the origin of our Constitution, as we contemplate its trials and triumphs, as we realize how completely the principles upon which it is based have met every national peril and every national need, how devoutly should we confess with Franklin, "God governs in the affairs of men"; and how solemn should be the reflection that to our hands is committed this ark of the people's covenant, and that ours is the duty to shield it from impious hands

In the 20th century the anniversary has attracted general attention throughout the country. Various radical groups, small but noisy, began to agitate for the overthrow of American institutions. Public-spirited men decided that citizens ought to be more fully instructed in the nature of the Constitution and its guarantees of their freedom. So in 1914 the National Security league was organized to promote this instruction. The league prepared a catechism of the Constitution, circulating hundreds of copies. It urged schools to devote more time to the teaching of the Constitution and observance of the celebration of September 17.

By 1919 there were active committees working in 41 states with chairmen from: presidents of state bar associations; presidents of colleges; chairmen of school boards; presidents of historical societies; state branches of Sons of the American Revolution and other distinguished citizens. Under the guidance of the league, Constitution day was observed by 22 states and a hundred cities in that year.

The National Security league tried to counteract the effect of attacks upon the Constitution by radicals out of office. In 1934 these radicals charged the Democratic President and congress with setting up a government disregarding the Constitution, a kind which the radicals of previous years had advocated. At that time measures were adopted to overcome the effects of financial panic in the fall of 1929 and the consequent business depression.

To Save Our Liberties.

Prominent Republicans and Democrats organized the American Liberty league to use all means in its power to prevent the destruction of those liberties guaranteed by the Constitution. The Constitution day anniversary in 1934 was observed by distinguished orators of both parties calling legislation for the relief of business as subversive of the Constitution. Meetings were held under the auspices of the SAR, DAR, YMCA, American Legion and other organizations. Some speakers defended the recovery legislation as constitutional and said they had as profound respect for the Constitution as the critics of such legislation. This difference of opinion on fundamental issues made the 1934 celebration more notable than any before. It demonstrated, too, the rights Americans were privileged to exercise under this same Constitution.

In more recent years there is a growing tendency to have "I Am an American Day" on September 17 as an especially appropriate way to celebrate the Constitution day. Those who become of age before that day and any aliens who have been naturalized are welcomed as new citizens of these United States by their local community officers. The pledge and national anthem given by these new citizens has such fervor that it makes one conscious anew of what it means to be an American.

Few Changes.

Perhaps this year's celebration of Constitution day, just two months before a national election, would be a good time to look up the Constitution in any encyclopedia and study its articles. Drafted by 55 delegates from 13 states, who, working four months in secret session, often violently disagreed, the Constitution now in its 157th year, has had few changes in its text. Among all the constitutions in the world it is the oldest and yet is well adapted to the expanding needs of the resourceful American people even in their complex civilization. Men like Washington, Franklin, Hamilton and Madison had a hand in shaping it and because of their divergent views compromised to make a "more perfect Union" possible. You will learn that it confers powers upon the federal government and again exerts limitations upon both state and central governments.

Today with accusations hurled by presidential candidates ringing so loudly in our ears, a quiet contemplation of the original Constitution is almost a must for every citizen. It is a good way to celebrate Constitution day this year.

THE AUTHOR

Editor's Note: This article won first prize in a contest, sponsored by Western Newspaper Union at the Fifth Annual Writers' Conference at Northwestern university in July, 1944, for the "best feature article appropriate to the observance of Constitution day." It was written by Mrs. Marie H. Mudra, a teacher in a Chicago high school. Mrs. Mudra is the daughter of an immigrant Bohemian shoemaker and, although born in this country, she did not learn to speak English until she was six years old. She has achieved distinction as a writer, having won several contests in short story and feature writing in the Middle West. She is the mother of a son who recently was accepted for CAA training and who hopes to become an army aviator.

Marie H. Mudra

'Five Gospels of Americanism' Which All of Us Should Know

Albert J. Beveridge, statesman and historian, once wrote:

"People ask me, 'What is Americanism?' I say, 'Read its five gospels — the briefest gospels ever penned.'"

"These are the five gospels: The Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the farewell address of George Washington and Lincoln's second inaugural.

"You can read them all, every one of them, in less than half an hour, and any man, or woman, or any boy or girl, who will read them understandingly, will have the foundation, the climax, the beginning and the end, the heart, the limbs and the brain of true Americanism.

"And I like to feel that all these people who are living here—for our country is the only thing, after all—that every time they think of anything public, every time they think of this nation, for which all of them are glad to go out and die, if need be—that in that thought there sound the strains of the fife and drum of Bunker Hill; that in their victory, glorious and beautiful, never shall fail the heroism of Valley Forge and all that is sacred, all that is dear to our hearts, through our traditions of the great men and noble women, who have lived and sacrificed and died for this republic and its flag, shall still continue in our hearts and in our brains."

Last Game Takes All

◆ ◆ ◆

By E. M. PARKINSON

McClure Syndicate—WNU Features.

AS Clara Rivers parked her car before the Northville Farmers' Bank, William Hudson thrust his long face inside the window. "Car's gettin' kinda run-down, ain't it, Clara?"

Clara laughed, a plump, middle-aged spinster's pleasant laugh. "I'm not squanderin' money on new ones. I learned a lesson, William, when my father died and I got that mean note from one of the bank directors, threatenin' to foreclose on my farm. Lucky I found Pa's money in time. Only that letter rankles. I keep wonderin' who done it."

"When I find out, they'll answer to me!" William's voice dropped. "Ye know how I feel about ye, Clara. Any time ye say the word—"

"Sh! Someone's comin' "

William nodded contemptuously. "Dumbest businessman in the state."

Big, good-natured Bruce Bigelow ambled over, grinning. "Mornin', Clary. Mornin', William. Well, William, you sure outsmarted me last week. Heard you sold my hog for twice what you paid me."

"Well, ye begged me to buy."

"Dumb," Bruce chuckled. "That's me!" he turned to Clara. "Clary, I picked up a nice box of chocolates. Could I bring it over tonight?"

Clara flushed. "Well, Will and me—"

"Sure!" William broke in. "I'd enjoy eatin' chocolates while I beat ye at smear, Bruce. Or this here old ladies' game, annygrams. Hear ye've taken it up lately."

He went off and Bruce looked at Clara ruefully. "Clary, you ain't gonna marry William?"

Clara snapped, "If so, I wouldn't starve. I admire a smart man, Bruce."

"I know, Clary, but maybe I got reasons for appearin' so dumb!"

"Then you better prove it, Bruce. You got just tonight."

All the way home Clara fumed. She was so angry at Bruce that she'd almost have taken William Hudson, if it weren't for her awful uneasiness about the note. She took it from its hiding place back of the old Seth Thomas clock and read it for the thousandth time. It was typed in capitals on the bank's stationery, and signed only DIRECTORS. Every director had declared indignantly, "Clara, if we find out who did this, we'll oust him!" Well, after a year, maybe she ought to forget. But. . .

At ten that evening Clara could have cried. Bruce had lost every game. "You boys play this final one without me," she said, looking straight into Bruce's eyes. "Last game takes all."

The first plays went badly for Bruce. He held one word; BEAR. He drew A and made MA. "Take your A to make MASS," William said.

Bruce drew and passed. "This is embarrassin'!"

William's eyes narrowed. "Take your BEAR to put with MASS and make EMBARASS!"

Clara gasped. "But—"

"Hush!" Bruce said, "No kibitzin'!" He acquired two words. RITE and STRING.

"Take that RITE to make ENTIRE," William said.

Bruce drew and passed. "Nice game, eh, Clary? Interestin'!"

William leered. "Take your STRING to put with ENTIRE and make INTERRESTING."

Clara was furious. "Bruce, that ain't —"

"No help!" Bruce said. Then, "Take your EAR to make FEAR."

Losing a word upset William. "Come on," Bruce teased. "Don't take from now to February."

"Thanks," William sneered. "I'll take your FEAR to put with BUY and make FEBUARY."

Clara burst out, "That ain't the way to spell —"

"'Never mind," Bruce said sternly. William had nineteen words. "Twenty words out," Bruce sighed. "Last game takes all. I'd sure like to win. It's — urgent!"

"Urgent, eh? I'll jest take your CUR to put with my HINT and make URCHINT! Hate to win so easy, Bruce."

Bruce leaned across the table, admiringly. "You got a lot of big words, Will. Pushin' 'em around, addin' a little here and there, you could make a little sentence."

Suddenly, before Clara's eyes lay a familiar message: VERY URCHINT YOU PAY UP WITH INTERREST BY FEBUARY OR SOMETHING EMBARASSING WILL HAPPEN.

"Remind you of anything, Clary?" Bruce asked.

Clara went to the clock and returned to spread a worn paper on the table. "What's that, Clara?" William asked hoarsely.

"Just the note you sent me, Will, when Pa died."

William's face purpled. "Look here! This ain't proof—"

"'Tis," Bruce said quietly. "I tried out every other bank director, before witnesses. None of 'em's got just this way of spelling these words. Maybe you'd like to resign, Will, without lettin' the town know why." He turned to Clara. "Sorry about losin', Clary."

Clara smiled meltingly. "You won the last game, Bruce. Last game takes all—including me!"

FARMS OR RANCHES

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—•—

Dip the ends of rag rugs in starch after washing and they will lay flat on the floor instead of curling on the edges.

—•—

Save the core wax paper comes on to wrap your doilies on to prevent wrinkling after laundering.

—•—

A few drops of vinegar or lemon juice added to the water used in poaching eggs will help hold them together.

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Sailor Boy Has Gal in Every Port

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That Old Chair Can Be Reclaimed With New Seat and Coat of Enamel

By Ruth Wyeth Spears

NEW cane seats are expensive because the work is done by hand. Endless time is required also for scraping off layers of paint to get down to the grain of the wood in doing over many pieces of furniture. The chair shown here did not seem to be worth this labor. It was reclaimed with a seat from a scrap of plywood, blue paint and seat cover of blue and white ticking edged with white material raveled to make a fringe.

The chipped white enamel that was on the chair was rubbed with coarse and then with fine sandpaper until smooth. The new seat came next; then flat paint which was allowed to dry 24 hours before applying enamel. Next, the seat cover was made with a straight band around the front and across the back terminating in ties at the back corners.

• • •

NOTE—This chair remodeling idea is from BOOK 10 which also contains directions for making an adorable padded boudoir chair from an old kitchen chair; a high-back chair from an old rocker and an attractive upholstered chair from odds and ends of wood, a little padding and some chintz. Send name and address with 15 cents and receive a copy of BOOK 10.

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
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Enclose 15 cents for Book No. 10.

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Including President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 20 direct descendants of Nicholas Roosevelt (1658-1742) have been listed in the 22 editions of Who's Who in America published since 1899; they constitute the largest number of entries to be descended from one man.

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THEY CLEAN BETTER!

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