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## PRESIDENTIAL LIGHTS THAT HAVE FLARED AND FAILED

(Continued from Page 4)

voted but once, and then for James Buchanan. Tyler, Buchanan and Lincoln saw some slight military service, but not enough to have any weight in politics. The Spanish War made Theodore Roosevelt President, though he had been in public life nearly all his manhood days.

### But not from Battleship

In fact, no one can read the history of our country carefully without concluding that one direct road to the White House leads straight from the battlefield. That it should lead from the battlefield and not from the battleship is one of the oddest facts in history. For, while we make popular heroes of our great naval commanders, we have never elected one of them to the Presidency; not one has ever been even seriously considered in that high and honorable connection.

Why is this? Probably for the reason that the commander of a battleship or the Admiral of a fleet is necessarily autocratic, ruling and living in a world by itself, a world of which the average citizen has at best a very hazy conception. Life afloat, furthermore, does not afford opportunities for free and unlimited communication with a fellow-citizenry, as does life ashore.

This opportunity of mixing with the rank and file, coupled with the forensic training, the studies, and the habits of thought engendered by the legal profession, accounts largely for the fact that twenty of our twenty-six Presidents have been lawyers, thereby demonstrating that the most certain road to the White House runs from the Bar. No lawyer, however, has ever risen high enough in his profession to be elected to the Presidency without having had more or less experience in public life. Indeed, the circumstances seem to show that they are not elected because they are lawyers, but by reason of their public careers, made possible by their profession.

President Taft incidentally is the only prominent member of the judiciary ever elevated to the Chief Magistracy of the Republic.

Most of the twenty lawyer Presidents were never very busy with their profession, as Sam Jones once remarked of certain church members whom he knew; but while no President, with the possible exceptions of John Adams, Franklin Pierce, Benjamin Harrison and Judge Taft, was, when elected, rated as a great lawyer, it is safe to say that some of them would have been so considered had they devoted their time and energies exclusively to the law. Jefferson, Madison, Van Buren, Lincoln and Garfield would most likely have been pre-eminent at the Bar, had they eschewed politics.

We have never had what might be called a strictly business man for President, and the reason probably is that the bigger the man in business, the more engrossed is he in his own affairs and in

promoting the material interests of himself and of his friends, to the practical exclusion of public affairs.

### A Slippery Stepping Stone

A question that is more or less puzzling to many people concerns the comparative unimportance of the Vice-Presidency. It seems to have been assumed originally that the Vice-Presidency was a stepping stone to the higher office. John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Martin Van Buren all traveled by that route; but since Van Buren, no Vice-President has reached the Presidency except through the death of his chief.

Being Vice-President was of direct assistance to Jefferson in becoming President; but he reached the highest place chiefly because he was the head, virtually the creator, of a great political party, as well as the author of the Declaration of Independence. Without going into details, it was the mistrust in which Jefferson held Aaron Burr that prompted the greatest of all our Presidents to change the order of succession from Vice-President to Secretary of State—an order that was consistently followed for several administrations, beginning with Madison and Monroe, both of whom were Secretaries of State before reaching the White House, and both of whom turned instinctively to the Sage of Monticello for suggestion and advice. The chances are that never again will three neighbors, close personal and political friends, hold the Presidency for six consecutive terms.

An extremely old gentleman of Charlottesville, Virginia, told me some years ago that he remembered seeing as a child the three ex-Presidents standing together on a street corner, on county court day, discussing crop prospects with the farmers of Albemarle—a sight worth a journey across the continent to behold and one that in all probability will never be duplicated in this world.

That men henceforth may attain, or fail of attaining, the Presidency by the same ways and means that have hitherto obtained is a serious and interesting question of the hour. There are growing and clamorous indications that party candidates will never again be nominated as at Baltimore and Chicago; but that four years hence our Presidential nominees will be chosen directly by the people, and that the great party Conventions will simply resolve their functions into a ratification of the voice and choices of the people.

*Champs Clark*

(Speaker Clark's second article will appear in an early issue.)

## NEW WRINKLES

It is usually a difficult task satisfactorily to clean delicate embroidery work. The following plan is excellent: For pieces that are too fragile to be washed in soap and water, make a thick paste of French chalk. The chalk should be quite hot, and be sprinkled thickly over the embroidery. Then, roll the latter carefully, so that the chalk is inside. Leave it in a dark place for a week or ten days. Then, shake it out and the embroidery will be found to be quite fresh again. If the embroidery is wanted in a hurry, rub the hot chalk through it and repeat the process several times. If any dirt remains, use a little more chalk and leave it over 'night if possible.—Miss L. M. H., Gloucester, Mass.

Here is a "New Wrinkle" that will appeal to all lovers of home-made fudge. Every one who makes fudge knows the vexation of having it turn into a hard, grainy mass, or of its "sugaring," when beaten, instead of "fudging" smoothly.

This will never happen if a small spoonful of cornstarch is added to the other ingredients, before cooking. I have tried it time and time again, and it never fails to fudge deliciously smooth, firm and creamy; and the cornstarch does not affect the taste in any way.—Mrs. T. T., Clinton, Ia.

For those who do not store their furs, it is a good plan to pack them in tobacco, instead of moth balls and the like, as the tobacco keeps away moths and leaves no permanent odor. I buy a five-cent package of fine cut, and sprinkle over the furs, then wrap in newspapers.—Mrs. O. B., Somerville, Mass.

Pillows, much more acceptable for summer use than are the ordinary feather pillows, may be made by filling a ticking bag with silk, clipped very fine. These pillows are both cool and soft. It's an excellent way to utilize worn-out petticoats, bodices and bits of ribbon.—M. H., Lexington, Ky.

If Advertisers can't come back good reading will be prohibitive.



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Soft Boiled Eggs, with a lump of butter.  
Toast, buttered.  
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Millions of men begin their day's work on such a meal—**Butter with every course.** If the butter is not first class, the meal is spoiled, because the butter is everything. All the other good things depend upon it to make them appetizing.

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