Volume 81, Number 3

Fall 1981

AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS COLLECTORS

# THE KEYNOTER

## 1840 • TIPPECANOE TWICE • 1888

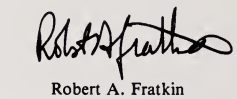
## Wm. Henry & Benjamin Harrison

# President's Message

Thank you for making the 1981 APIC National Convention an overwhelming success. The recent APIC Newsletter gave only a hint of the excitement and enjoyment felt by all participants. Although not finalized yet, it appears that the 1983 National Convention will be in the Chicago area. We hope to see you all there!

We note with sadness the passing of Lowell Thomas. An American legend, Thomas was a world explorer and journalist who attended his first political convention in 1912, the Progressive "Bull Moose" convention that nominated Teddy Roosevelt and Hiram Johnson. For those of us who remember Lowell Thomas narrating Fox's Movietone News or doing his nightly news broadcast, it is a loss of part of our personal history. But for all of us, it is the loss of another eye-witness to the early part of the 20th century, its politics and life experiences.

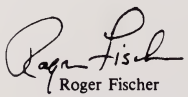
In order to minimize the loss of these invaluable first-person resources, APIC will cooperate in George Mason University's Oral History Program. This is in addition to the formation of the GMU/APIC Archival Collection discussed on Page 26 of this issue. Further details on how *you* can be a part of the oral history project will be forthcoming.



Robert A. Fratkin

# Editor's Message

I am especially proud of this issue, focusing as it does upon the most important of all American presidential campaigns in pioneering the political use of the items we prize. I am again indebted to many individuals, among them Joe Wasserman, Bob Fratkin, Joe and Vi Hayes, and my friend John Pfeifer—who has left the classroom (to finance an addiction to expensive ribbons, he says) but has taken his fascination for American political history with him. I am also enormously appreciative of the help provided by Associate Editor Herb Collins, whose wholehearted co-operation has been a major factor in giving the *Keynoter* a pictorial dimension unmatched by other political item publications. Thanks also to the many APIC members who thoughtfully expressed appreciation for our efforts during our pleasant stay in Carlisle.



Roger Fischer
1930 Hartley Road
Duluth, MN 55803

**Note:** The license plate project scheduled for this issue will begin appearing in the Spring 1982 issue.

APIC seeks to encourage and support the study and preservation of original materials issuing from and relating to political campaigns of the United States of America and to bring its members fuller appreciation and deeper understanding of the candidates and issues that form our political heritage.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# THE APIC KEYNOTER

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**FEATURES**



**DEPARTMENTS**



**Illustrations:** The Editor would like to thank Al Anderson, Lynn Bettmann, Herbert R. Collins, Robert Fratkin, David Frent, Ted Hake, Martin Hauser, Ken Hosner, Jim Kirk, H. Joseph Levine, The Library of Congress, Trudy Mason, Charles McSorley, John Pfeifer, The Smithsonian Institution, Rex Stark, John Steigerwald, Bob Warren and Joe Wasserman.

**Covers:** Front-Small wooden log cabin used on pole as parade standard in 1840; Back Cover-1888 paper lantern over metal ribbing, illuminated by candle in base.


## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The Winter *Keynoter* will feature the two presidential campaigns of Thomas Woodrow Wilson and Wilson-related, Liberty Loan and other patriotic items from World War I, showing many previously unpictured items. Regular features will include Part 8 of APIC's Project 1980, multigate posters, the APIC Postcard Project, and a spectacular newly-discovered Roosevelt-Fairbanks jugate.

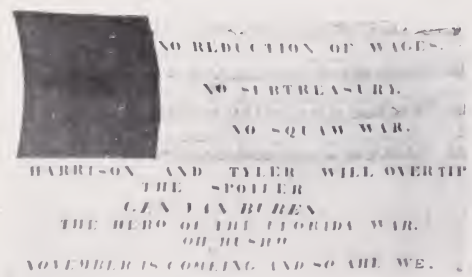
# The Log Cabin Campaign

## By Roger Fischer

Dying only a month after he took the oath of office, William Henry Harrison probably left less of a mark upon the presidency than any occupant of the White House before or since. The campaign that put him there, however, was one of extraordinary importance to the American political process and to the role of material culture in American elections. Dead before the burdens of office could earn him enemies or reveal weaknesses in character or judgment, Harrison acquired the unique attribute of becoming the only American president remembered by the public exclusively in terms of rhetoric and symbolism of campaign propaganda. This legacy was so powerful that when his colorless grandson Benjamin sought to follow in his footsteps a half century later, 1840 nostalgia became the dominant characteristic of his 1888 campaign.

In 1840 the politics of popular amusement really came of age, as the Whigs abandoned their aloof elitism to "go down to the people" (in the candid words of editor Richard S. Elliott) to elect Harrison with a campaign that resembled a carnival more than it did a traditional presidential canvass. Its victim Martin Van Buren denounced it as "a political Saturnalia" and Andrew Jackson (its unwitting role model in many respects) as "Logg cabin hard cider and coon humbugery" and Whig elder statesman John Quincy Adams saw it as a sign of "a revolution in the habits and manners of the people," but the Harrison campaign was probably described best in one of its own chants as "the great commotion." Instead of a platform (which only encouraged lying, party leaders solemnly explained) or other discussion of the major public concerns of the day, the Whigs gave the voters a candidate so silent on the issues he acquired the nickname "General Mum," speeches on the nobility of log cabins, such slogans as "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," lurid propaganda contrasting their humble "Ohio Ploughman" with that "groveling demagogue" Van Buren and his "eastern officeholder's pimps," and new forms of political theatre that made participants of hundreds of thousands of Americans for the first time. Banal and colorful, enthusiastic and profoundly irrelevant, the 1840 Harrison campaign was an effort worthy of the talents of a P.T. Barnum.

In popular involvement alone, the "great commotion" transformed the art of campaigning for public office in the United States. Rallies had been held before, but the celebrations two and three days long which drew estimated crowds of 100,000 to Baltimore in May, Nashville in August, and Dayton in September (the same weekend that 60,000 gathered at Bunker Hill) and "fifteen acres of men" to the Tippecanoe battlefield in Indiana in May were unlike anything yet experienced in American politics. The "stump" speech had been standard campaign fare for years, but not two-day talkathons by platoons of speakers (including for the first time an actual nominee) to crowds as huge as the 40,000 estimated in Nashville. Campaign songs were not unknown before 1840, but Harrison became the first man literally "sung into the Presidency," as Philip Hone put it, with such tunes as "The Log Cabin or Tippecanoe Waltz" and "The Hard Cider Quick Step" created to enliven Whig rallies. Men had marched for candidates before, but the political parade that developed into an American tradition—with its bands, floats,




Campaign Flag

All Tokens Shown Actual Size.
Above: Campaign Letterhead.

marching clubs, and banners—came of age in 1840. Some of them were truly awesome spectacles. 25,000 men were said to have formed the procession in Baltimore and 30,000 were estimated in Nashville, while a parade in Cincinnati featured a line of march three miles long. Even small villages held scaled-down versions of such extravaganzas.

Another impressive spectacle not destined for such immortality was the rolling of enormous buckskin-covered balls decorated with partisan slogans in parades or from town to town, often over remarkable distances. Inspired by Missouri Democratic Senator Thomas Hart Benton's boast that he had "got the ball rolling" on the Senate's 1837 decision to expunge its earlier censure of Andrew Jackson, these huge balls (as large as twelve feet in diameter in some instances) were apparently so common in 1840 that the anti-Harrison Washington *Globe* dismissed the whole 1840 campaign as a "barrels and balls" affair. This custom was continued on a smaller scale during the Henry Clay campaign in 1844 and then apparently died out until 1888, when it was revived briefly for the first presidential campaign of Harrison's grandson Benjamin.

**Pewter-Rimmed Etching**

All of this participatory activity created an extraordinary environment for physical objects. The rallies and parades inspired posters, floats, and cloth banners of every sort—large cotton ones for streets and platforms and smaller marching banners for parades, including some outstanding examples of American folk art handpainted in oil onto silk, satin, or cotton. Along with the buckskin balls, these were our first political visuals, the remote ancestors of our modern billboards, bumperstickers, lawn signs, and the like. The "great commotion" transformed the unlikely Harrison into something of an instant folk hero worthy of adorning an amazing variety of personal souvenir items that domestic and foreign manufacturers were quick to market and Whig enthusiasts equally quick to buy. Before it ran its course, the "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" campaign inspired a harvest of campaign objects seldom if ever surpassed in variety and creativity in the almost two centuries of American presidential electioneering.

Included were examples of virtually every type of object used politically in the United States before 1840—a thread box, cotton chintzes, portrait flasks, several papier-mache snuff boxes, sixteen different varieties of glass cup plates, at least twenty silk kerchiefs or bandannas, sixty-three documented varieties of clothing buttons, an equal number of metal tokens, an estimated 150 types of silk ribbons, and an array of ceramic tableware ranging from exquisite and expensive copper lusterware pitchers to John Ridgway's more mundane "Columbian Star" Staffordshire pottery priced at seven cents per plate. Marketed in several colors in two basic patterns, Ridgway's china services and tea sets represented a significant breakthrough in American political ceramics, the first such items bought mainly for everyday use instead of for primarily decorative purposes. In addition to the visuals produced for parades and rallies, other 1840 innovations in political material culture included ceramic caneheads, hairbrushes, brass belt buckles, song sheets, pewter spoons, sulphide brooches, stationery and matching envelopes, lithograph prints, even such toiletry items as "Tippecanoe Shaving Soap or Log-Cabin Emollient" and such consumables as "Log Cabin Bitters" and "Tippecanoe Tobacco."

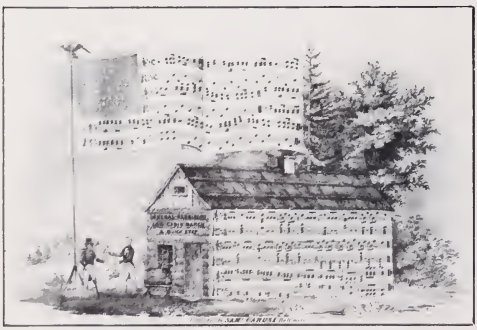
Most of these items faithfully mirrored the Whig strategy of presenting Harrison to the public in the dual roles of military hero and symbol of the rustic virtues of log-cabin America, the precise formula used so successfully by the Democrats in their marketing of Andrew Jackson in 1828 and 1832. Harrison was portrayed in military attire, in most instances also identified by military title, on a large number of 1840 campaign objects, including most of the tokens, several silk ribbons, at least five bandannas, some clothing buttons and flag banners, two very handsome sulphide brooches, ceramic and glass cup plates, a lithograph print, some song sheets, a thread box, and two snuff boxes. He was presented astride his trusty steed with sabre drawn on a token, a clothing button, a strikingly attractive bandanna, and at least two ribbons. Several ribbons, eighteen tokens, and eight flag banners proclaimed him "HERO OF TIPPECANOE," a plate bore the legend "HERO OF THE THAMES," many ribbons identified him as "HERO OF TIPPECANOE, THAMES, AND FORT MEIGS," and a log cabin cup plate read "FORT MEIGS." A token, a snuff box, and lithograph prints bore stylized scenes of Harrison in combat at Tippecanoe or Thames, vanquishing "redcoats" and "redskins" alike with abandon. Three bandannas reminded recipients that he had commanded the Northwestern Army in the War of 1812, cotton yard goods featured cannon motifs, and tokens read "THE HERO & STATESMAN" and "HONOR WHERE HONOR'S DUE." Ribbons pictured Harrison with Washington and Lafayette over the legend "FIRST IN WAR—FIRST IN PEACE—FIRST IN


**"THIS CABIN TO LET."**
**"Possession Given in 1841."**

THE HEARTS OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN." Other ribbons read "WASHINGTON the FATHER of his COUNTRY/ HARRISON a CHIP of [*sic*] the OLD BLOCK."

Even more common on 1840 Whig items were representations of what Jackson had so aptly described as "Logg cabin hard cider and coon humbugery." Unlike the military hero theme—for Harrison had indeed fought with distinction at Tippecanoe, Thames, and elsewhere—efforts to depict Harrison as a primitive backwoodsman were fundamentally, flambouyantly dishonest. Born the son of a signer of the Declaration of Independence on a large Virginia plantation, he attended Hampden-Sidney College, served with "Mad Anthony" Wayne on the northwestern frontier, became territorial governor of Indiana, and then commanded the Northwestern Army during the War of 1812. In 1814 he retired to a large farm north of Cincinnati (which did have a log cabin, although he soon replaced it with a great, sprawling mansion), leaving North Bend for stints in the House, the Senate, and the diplomatic service. In the presidential election of 1836 the Whigs put Daniel Webster on the ballot in the Northeast, Hugh Lawson White in the South, and Harrison in the Midwest. Harrison ran very well, won 73 electoral votes, and established himself as a leading 1840 contender. This austere, reserved son of the Tidewater aristocracy (reportedly fond of fine imported wine) was a simple cabin-dwelling, cider-guzzling tiller of the backwoods soil only in the Whig campaign literature and material culture in 1840.

The origin of the log cabin and cider barrel as Harrison political symbols apparently began in December, 1839, when a Clay supporter asked John de Ziska, correspondent for the Van Burenite Baltimore *Republican* for suggestions on moving



**Sheet Music**



**New England Harrison Convention**
**September 10, 1840**



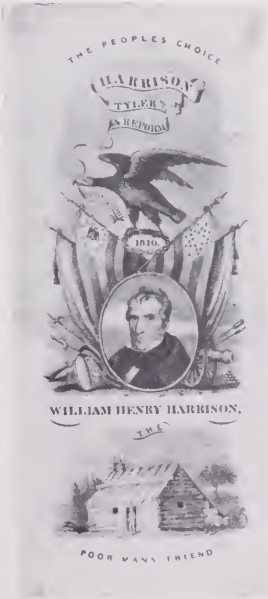

**Sulphide Brooches**

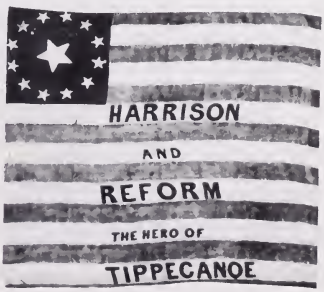
Harrison from the presidential picture and de Ziska scoffed, "Give him a barrel of hard cider and settle a pension of two thousand a year on him, and my word for it, he will sit the remainder of his days in his log cabin by the side of a 'sea coal' fire, and study moral philosophy." When other Democratic papers reprinted the taunt, Whig editors turned it into a slur against the great American yeomanry by "Eastern officeholder's pimps" and began promoting Harrison as the "Log-Cabin Candidate." Within a month two enterprising Pennsylvania Whigs, banker Thomas Elder and editor Richard S. Elliott, were busy designing illuminated transparencies featuring log cabins with coonskins and cider barrels. Within weeks log cabin Harrison headquarters were springing up throughout the land, hard cider was being ladled from barrels at all but the most

**Painted and Pressed Metal Brooches**

genteel of Whig gatherings, and party dignitaries as aristocratic as Daniel Webster and Philip Hone were crying in public over the nobility of the log cabin and the humble lifestyle it represented.

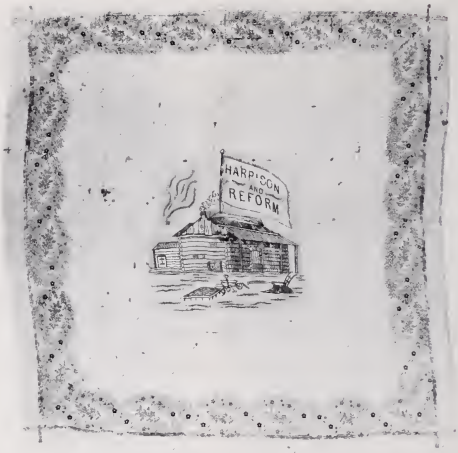
Cabins were not only used as headquarters, they were put on wheels to use as parade floats. A large one held eighty of Abraham Lincoln's Sangamon County cohorts in a Springfield, Illinois, celebration. Smaller log cabin floats were often built to convert into post-parade dispensaries of cider to marchers thirsty from carrying log cabin banners and transparencies. Cabins were

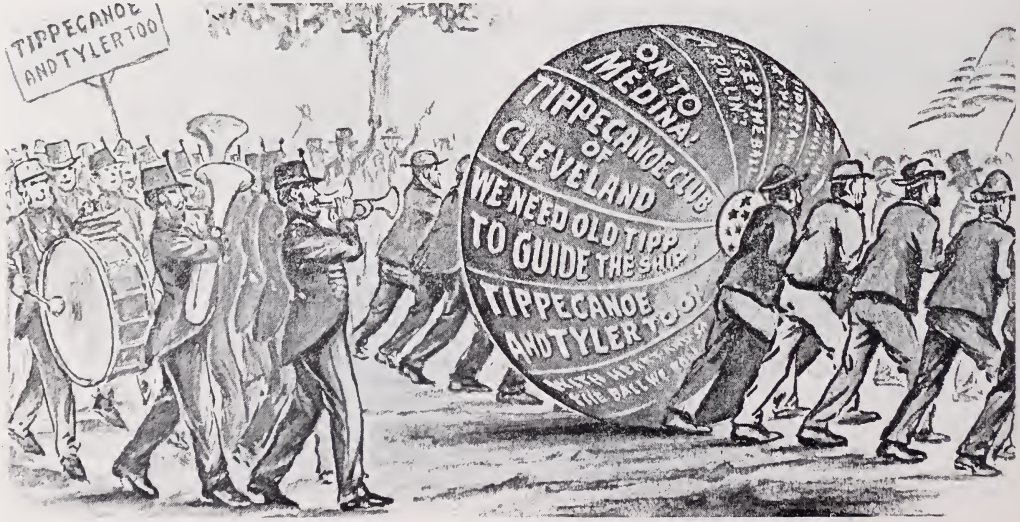

**Campaign Flag**


**Paper Print—Design Also Used on Ribbons.**

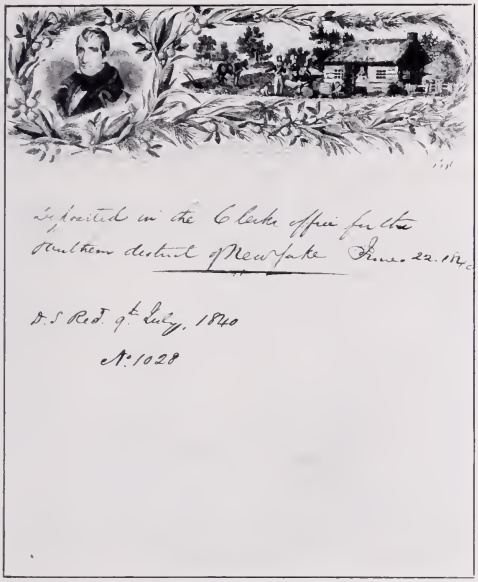



**Bandanna**

featured on most silk ribbons and brass clothing buttons, sixteen of nineteen known varieties of brooches, nearly half of all Harrison tokens, all four patterns of yard goods in *Threads of History*, fourteen of sixteen glass cup plates, several bandannas, a pewter spoon, a brass belt buckle, a glass tumbler, and stationery. They adorned most ceramic plates and pitchers, although in some instances transfers created by British artists unfamiliar with American folk architecture portrayed two-story English log cottages instead. Scenes of log cabins graced most 1840 Whig songsheets, many with cabin-related titles. Tokens saluted "THE LOG CABIN OF NORTH BEND" and its occupant "THE LOG CABIN CANDIDATE." Two silk bandannas, the only known Harrison log cabin items to admit that "Old Tip" did not actually live in such a humble dwelling, turned this into a virtue by showing a stately manor behind a cabin and explaining, "The background is a representation of the Farm House which the old General has been able of late years to construct by many hard knocks and industry."




**"Rolling The Ball" From Cleveland, Ohio, to Lexington, Kentucky.**

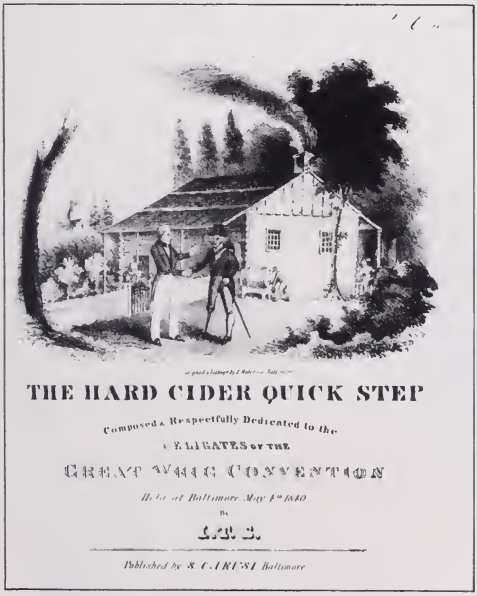


Deposited in the Clerks office for the Northern district of New York June 22. 1840

D. S Rect. 9th July, 1840

No 1028

**This is the original piece of "Hard Cider" stationery entered with the District Court to secure copyright protection for the letterhead design. It is a fancier version of the letterhead shown on page 4 (Note earlier court entry under Harrison's picture).**




**Sheet Music**

A standard feature on these cabins was the latch-string, invariably let out as a symbol of rustic hospitality. A ribbon in the Smithsonian collection reads, "If you ever come to Vincennes, you will always find a plate and a knife and fork at my table, and I assure you that you will never find my door shut and the string of the latch pulled in," apparently a part of his farewell remarks to his soldiers in 1814. Designers of even the tiniest brass clothing button included the dangling latch-string. Silk ribbons depicted Harrison welcoming a visitor to his cabin above the legend "The string will not be pulled in."

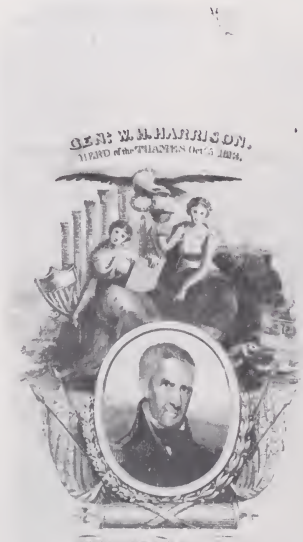
Cider barrels were nearly as common on Harrison items as the log cabins were. Wooden barrels inscribed "HARRISON CIDER/ BOSTON O. K." were attached to poles and borne as parade standards and barrel-shaped ceramic caneheads were made with one end reading "HARD CIDER" and the other "TIPPE-CANOE." "HARD CIDER" barrels formed border motifs on silk bandannas. A banner proclaimed "Van Buren is running/ Hard Cider is coming" and a ribbon taunted "HARD CIDER— Not so hard as Van Burenism." A popular campaign tune was "The Hard Cider Quick Step." Cider barrels were used as accent pieces in cabin scenes on clothing buttons, cup plates, tumblers, ribbons, brooches, yard goods, and nearly every log cabin token. An understandable exception was a Harrison cabin token handmade by a man whose opinion of strong drink may be deduced from the legend "DRINK NO SPIRIT/SAY THY PRAYERS/READ THE BIBLE/AVOID BAD COMPANY."

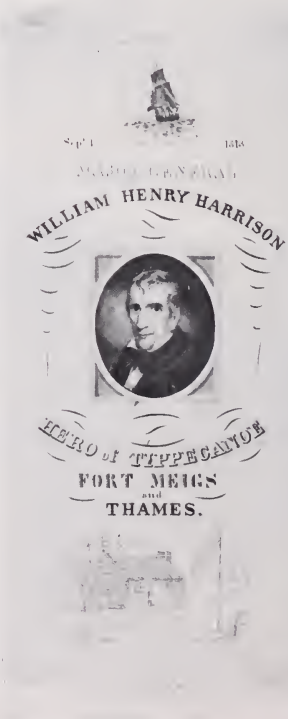
**Copper Lustreware Pitcher**

Perhaps the most imaginative of all 1840 Harrison objects were those portraying him as a simple back-country farmer, in striking contrast to the Whig presentation of Van Buren as a sleek, corrupt eastern aristocrat. Several items, including bandannas that picture "Old Tip" welcoming a disabled veteran to his cabin, ribbons, banners, and pitchers, identified Harrison variously as "THE OHIO FARMER," "THE FARMER OF NORTH BEND," and "THE OHIO PLOUGHMAN." He was portrayed with team and plow on several banners, including a silk one proclaiming New Hampshire "THE SOIL WHERE LOCOFOCOISM CAN'T FLOURISH" and a cotton specimen used in southern Ohio to promote the nominee as "The People's Friend." Tokens identified him as "THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE" and "CANDIDATE OF THE PEOPLE" and a ribbon dubbed him "THE POOR MAN'S FRIEND." A North Carolina log cabin banner read "REPUBLICAN SIMPLICITY/LOCOFOCO ARROGANCE." The attempt to portray Harrison as a modern Cincinnatus inspired several items. A flag banner featuring "THE HERO OF TIPPECANOE" with shovel in hand in front of a log cabin declared, "As long as the leaders of Rome were taken from the plough, to the plough were they willing to return." A token read "HE LEAVES THE PLOUGH TO SAVE HIS COUNTRY" and a ribbon proclaimed "A frequent change of Rulers is the Soul of Republicanism"—perhaps the most piously expressed version of "throw the rascals out" ever used in American politics!

Whig efforts to portray themselves as the champions of a persecuted peasantry occasionally reached truly comical proportions. In eastern Pennsylvania a Whig convention on record in support of such "proletarian" causes as the protective tariff and the restoration of the Bank of the United States issued ribbons urging "Arise! ye hard handed inmates of our country's Log Cabins, and put to rout a corrupt and venal administration."

Despite the Van Buren legacy of three years of depression following the "Panic of '37," 1840 Whig Campaign objects were remarkably silent on national economic priorities and other important public questions. Many items declared "HARRISON AND REFORM" without providing a clue as to the specific meaning of the slogan. Two ribbons echoed the traditional Whig self-image as guardian of the legacy of the founding fathers with such legends as "The Union of the Whigs, for the sake of the Union" and "HARRISON, TYLER, AND CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY." The latter ribbon also insisted "THE CURRENCY OF WASHINGTON IS ALL WE WANT." A different ribbon read "A PROTECTIVE TARIFF! Encouragement of Domestic Industry. NO REDUCTION OF WAGES!!!" Several handmade banners were issue-related. Some of these read "TIP, TYLER, AND THE TARIFF," "HARRISON & TYLER And no reduction in the prices of labour," and "HARRISON THE POOR MAN'S FRIEND." An especially graphic commentary on labor economics was a banner made for the huge Cincinnati October parade with this text: "Matty's policy, 12½ cts. a day

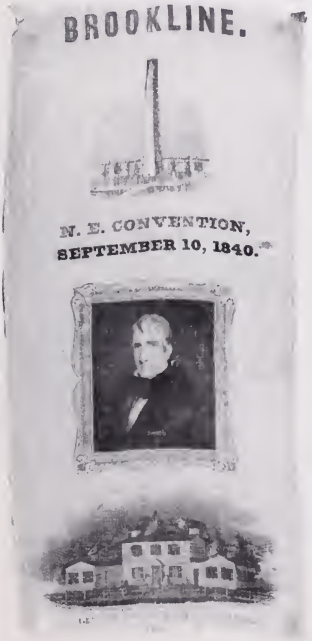



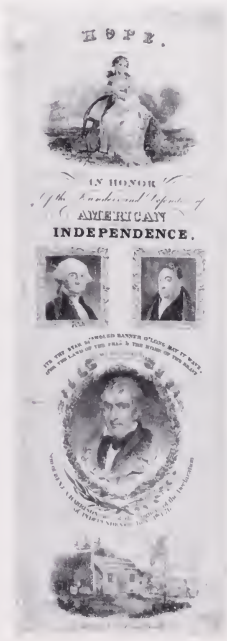
and French soup/OUR policy, 2 Dolls. a day and Roast Beef." With these few exceptions, however, issues were ignored and Indian-killing, log cabins, and cider barrels exalted.

Despite self-righteous Democratic denunciations of "barrels and balls" Whig carnival politics, they probably may have been tempted to follow suit if so many Americans did not seem to agree with the Whig chant that "Van, Van is a used-up man." As it was, Van Buren rallies were generally rather poorly attended and such festivities as parades, ball-rollings, and the like were not even attempted. The Democrats generated very little in the way of political material culture in 1840. Four brooches, two plaques, one or two snuff boxes, two clothing buttons, a few silk ribbons, a dozen tokens at most, and one or two ceramic items seem to be the sum total of 1840 Van Buren campaign relics in reference works and major public collections. The absence of Van Buren banners and other types of public items used in parades and rallies would indicate that the Whigs enjoyed a virtual monopoly over such activities in 1840.

The log-cabin campaign and the decisive Harrison victory that followed were significant in many respects, especially in the evolution of the politics of popular entertainment and the role played by campaign items in the new style of seeking public approval. Because of the Harrison "great commotion," banners, ribbons, garment buttons, tableware, tokens, snuff boxes, bandannas, and other items became accepted vehicles for conveying partisan slogans and symbols to the electorate. It was a legacy of some significance, as the Whigs who found a new home in the Republican party would demonstrate again in 1860, when they used material culture brilliantly to send Abraham Lincoln to the White House as the "Prince of Rails." ★






# Tippecanoe and Corwin Too

## *The Ohio Whig Rallies of 1840*

**By John Pfeifer**

On the morning of June 6, 1840, in an unscheduled performance from the steps of the National Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, William Henry Harrison made what was probably the first campaign speech ever delivered by an American presidential candidate. For the first time a candidate took his cause to the people in what many considered a blatant disregard for tradition. Early in the campaign Harrison had accepted the conventional attitude and declined "all invitations to partake of the hospitality of his Whig friends." Normally presidential aspirants discreetly avoided open campaigning but by 1840 sixteen of the twenty-six states had eliminated all property and taxpayer restrictions as voter requirements and this called for revised political methods.

When Hoosier Whigs invited Harrison to their Tippecanoe battlefield celebration late in May, he steadfastly refused on the grounds, "It might be improper, considering his position before the people." Scarcely a week after the Tippecanoe carnival, however, 'Old Tip' was on his way to Fort Meigs to open a rousing personal campaign, the first in the history of the republic. This historic change in presidential politics resulted in part from charges that Harrison was too feeble and senile to conduct his own campaign. Faced with such accusation he was persuaded to break tradition and take his cause directly to the people. Once in the contest, General Harrison conducted a vigorous campaign which included twenty-three speeches ranging from one to three hours in length.

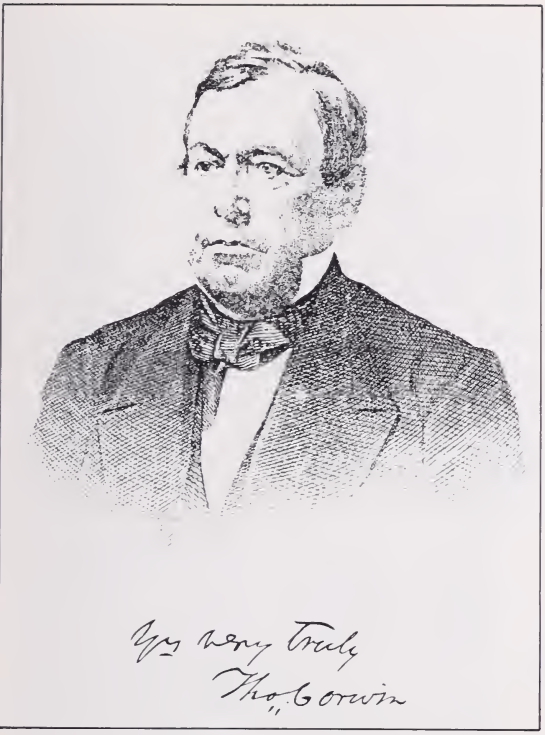
In staging the Old Hero's platform appearances, Whig managers displayed a keen understanding of crowd psychology. Meetings opened with a prayer, speeches were interrupted with singing, and the friendly farmer from North Bend circulated freely among the crowds. Carefully capitalizing on his crowd gathering ability, Whig managers often scheduled local speakers to share the platform with him. To dramatize the recently acquired Whig concern for democracy, speakers of humble origin with the vocabulary of the working man were needed.

Tom Corwin, Whig candidate for Governor of Ohio, was no doubt the most distinguished of all the "stump-speakers" who entertained and delighted Buckeye audiences across the Western Reserve. Corwin's service as a teamster for General Harrison during the War of 1812 identified him with log cabin dwellers and provided him with a significant political asset in 1840 as well as the name "Wagon Boy".

Corwin had been elected to Congress in 1830 and had gained recognition as one of the finest speakers in the House. The most famous of his speeches of the period was his reply to General Crary on February 15, 1840. Isaac Crary was a Congressman who had taken the occasion during a lull in discussion on the proposed Cumberland Road to attack the military record of General Harrison. The defense of the hero of Tippecanoe and an Ohio native son fell upon Corwin. The opportunity was one that seldom comes in the life of a politician and was to gain him the Whig nomination for Governor. The following day he took the floor combining sarcasm and humor in an eloquent defense of Harrison's war record.

Without bitterness or unkind allusion Corwin effectively overwhelmed the pompous "Parade-Day" General who had gained his knowledge of the art of war from services as a peace-time militia officer. The reply to General Crary gave Thomas Corwin a national reputation as a wit. John Bell, of Tennessee, speaking in the same debate, said he had not in twelve years service in the House heard a more effective speech. John Quincy Adams referred to the vanquished militia General as the "..late Mr. Crary of Michigan."


Ribbon Shown Actual Size.



Yrs very Truly
Thos. Corwin

In May, Corwin left his post in Congress to get an early start in the canvass which gave him a reputation worthy of the title "King of the Stump." He made over one hundred scheduled speeches in the period between May 20 and September 24. In twenty-two of his appearances he spoke to an average audience of more than 8,000. Traveling nearly a thousand miles in August alone, he covered nearly every section of Ohio, amusing young and old with an ample stock of stories and anecdotes which he drew from the Bible, the Whig press, and the rough frontier life of the time. His formula for persuasion was simple—ridicule for Van Buren and impassioned praise for Harrison.

Francis Granger, stumping the West at the height of the campaign, described the Buckeye Tippecanoe gatherings as more spectacular than those of New York. "They do these things in a style far beyond us, I have never seen matters so well arranged nor anything as imposing as the masses of people who travel many miles to hear these orators." While visiting Ohio in September, Senator James Buchanan found that the whole population of the state had "abandoned their ordinary business for the purpose of electioneering." Tom Corwin had contributed more than his share to the political excitement. "The Whigs of Ohio," said one grateful partisan, "owe more to Mr. Corwin than to any other man."

The campaign of 1840 was one of the most remarkable in the history of our country, and nowhere was it more evident than in the state in which Harrison and Corwin lived. The rising of the people on behalf of the Whig candidates seemed to be spontaneous, and the whole state teemed with mass-meetings and processions resounding with the noise of drums and fifes. Grey-haired soldiers of the Revolution marched in the processions, and farmers with their families in wagons left their homes at midnight to hear Corwin and the other speakers the next day. The larger meetings were measured in acres filled, with the largest meeting of the campaign in the United States at Dayton, where it was reported that the multitude covered ten acres!

At Fort Meigs on the Maumee River, Whig delegations from fourteen states appeared with thousands of tents and wagons. It was like ten or twenty camp meetings thrown into one. Crowds varying in size up to 5,000 people cheered stump speakers and sang Tippecanoe songs. On the midnight before Harrison arrived the camp was aroused by an "Indian attack" to remind the gathering of the valiant defense of the Fort by the General in 1813. The drums beat the quarters, the roar of muskets and cannon echoed from the woods and troops emerged from the Fort in a gallant sortie. After an hour of "hard fighting" the Indians were driven back, the sentinels resumed their positions, and the Whig partisans their restless sleep.

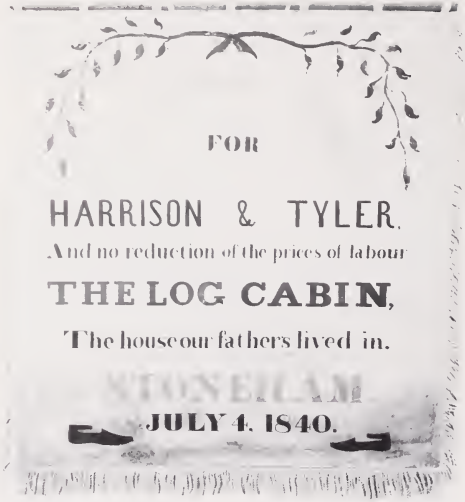
Arriving on June 11, Harrison stood under a burning sun for an hour and spoke in "trumpet-like tones," refuting the slurs on his military record. (It had been said that Harrison's successful defense of Fort Meigs was more a product of the British General Proctor's inability to supply his troops than Harrison's brilliant tactics.) His speech was mainly devoted to reminiscences of things connected with Fort Meigs. In the course of his remarks the General paused and asked for a glass of water. "Give him a glass of hard cider," cried someone in the audience, and hard cider it was, or something that looked like it.

The correspondent of the *Buffalo Journal* said he feared that age and fatigue might have impaired the General's intellectual and physical vigor. "But whatever misgivings we had on that score were dissipated after listening to the first few sentences of his speech...we have never heard a more effective or appropriate address." Following the speeches and singing by the Glee Clubs, the steamers departed, bearing most of the speakers to the next rally. The following morning 15,000 people were still on the ground. That night the vicinity was lit by more campfires than had ever blazed there in the days of the war. From a careful reading of the contemporary accounts of this Fort Meigs celebration, it would seem that it was a more trying experience physically than was the actual seige of the Fort!

(continued on page 27)


**Contemporary Advertisement**

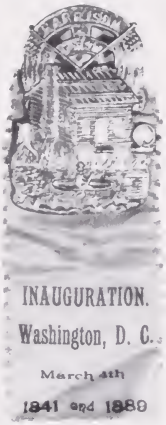
# 1840





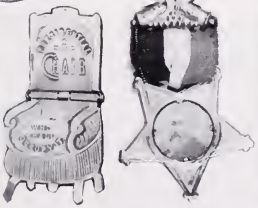

**John Tyler as President.**

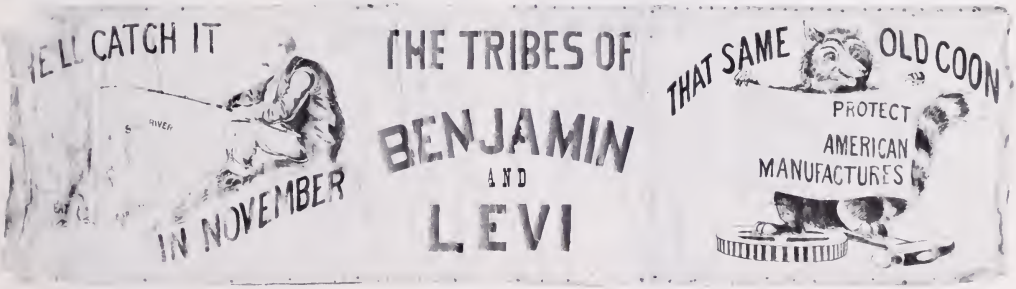
# 1888








**Storefront Banner**

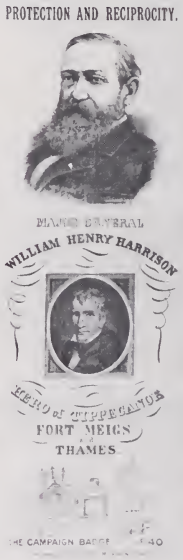
# Tippecanoe and Tariff Too

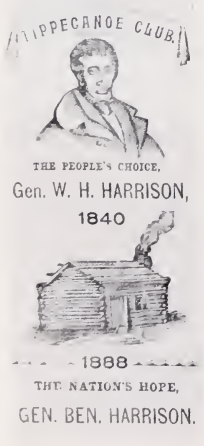
## *1840 Nostalgia in the 1888 Benjamin Harrison Campaign*

**By Roger Fischer**

The Republicans made Benjamin Harrison their presidential nominee in 1888 for many reasons. He was competent, had few enemies, represented orthodox Republican thinking on the tariff and other major issues, could keep his home state of Indiana from falling into the Democratic column, had never been tainted by scandals public or private, and was acceptable to both James G. Blaine's "Halfbreeds" and Roscoe Conkling's "Stalwarts," GOP factions that loathed one another much more than they despised Democrats. All things considered, Harrison's nomination was a very sensible step to take for a majority party that would probably win if it could prevent suicidal mistakes. Charisma, however, was not a factor in Harrison's selection, for he had none. It was not that he possessed an ugly, nasty, or repulsive personality; the problem was that he appeared to lack a personality altogether. An austere, reserved, intensely private man known as "the human iceberg," it was said that Harrison "could charm a crowd of twenty thousand—but he could make them all enemies with a personal handshake." Historian H. Wayne Morgan wrote of him, "He dealt in ice when better politicians used fog."

Since the 1888 race was more than anything else a referendum on the tariff question, with Democrats advocating lower duties and Republicans championing protection as a blueprint for domestic industrial growth and job opportunities, promotion of a protective tariff would have been a central theme of the 1888 Republican campaign no matter whom they had nominated. A substantial number of objects reflect this preoccupation. Bandannas, tokens, lapel devices, and ribbons bore such slogans





**Cloth Bandanna**

as "HARRISON AND PROTECTION," "PROTECTION TO AMERICAN INDUSTRY," and "PROTECTION FOR AMERICAN LABOR." Posters and ribbons contrasted scenes of protectionist prosperity with scenes of "FREE TRADE" desolation and tokens with wedges removed were inscribed "YOUR WAGES UNDER FREE TRADE." But while issues inform they rarely enthuse, and the tariff was not one of those causes that caused hearts to thump or pulses to accelerate. In 1888 Republicans were forced to look beyond their platform for a magic ingredient to add color and enthusiasm to their campaign.

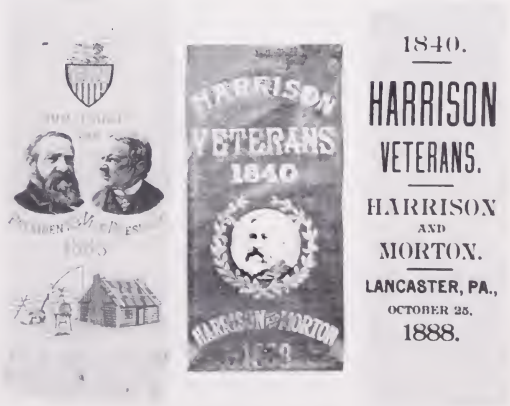
Their task might have been hopeless if their "human iceberg" had not been the grandson of "Old Tippecanoe," William Henry Harrison. As a result, the 1888 Republican campaign inspired an orgy of nostalgia unrivaled in American politics before or since. Log cabins were erected to serve as Harrison headquarters in many communities, many of them equipped with barrels of hard cider. "Tippecanoe clubs" sprouted up throughout the land, often made up of men who had participated in the 1840 "great commotion." One such group in Harrison's Marion County, Indiana, composed of men from 75 to 101 years of age, marched through a driving rainstorm before "Old Tip's" grandson on July 4 to commemorate his official Notification Day. The practice of rolling large parade balls enjoyed a modest vogue once again. In one instance, a steel-ribbed ball forty-two feet around and fourteen feet in diameter—decorated with such slogans as "TIPPECANOE AND MORTON TOO—made the journey from Cumberland, Maryland, to Harrison's Indianapolis and was then rolled another five thousand miles through the Midwest.

This log-cabin revival inevitably found expression in a host of 1888 Republican campaign items. Ribbons, bandannas, and enameled brass lapel studs urged "TIPPECANOE AND MORTON TOO!" Studs, charms, brass shell lapel pins, bandannas, ribbons, and tokens featured log cabin motifs. One of these tokens bore a reverse struck from the die of an 1840 token (DeWitt WHH 1840-21) and an obverse calling attention to the fact. A brass log cabin Benedict & Burnham clothing button was identical to one created by the same firm in 1840 except for the legend "1840/1888." Perhaps the most outstanding example of 1840 nostalgia on 1888 material culture was an "OUR COUNTRY'S HOPE" ribbon duplicating an 1840 design, only with Benjamin's face instead of "Old Tip's." Other ribbons proclaimed Harrison "A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK." Porcelain cider barrel studs were marketed. Some "TIPPECANOE AND MORTON TOO" ribbons were equipped with metal hangers featuring cabins, cider barrels, and coonskins.

The Democrats protested furiously that their opponent in 1888 was not a long dead folk legend but his grandson. One expression of this was their campaign song "His Grandfather's Hat," taunting that it was too big for Benjamin to fill. Republican songsmiths quickly answered with "The Same Old Hat," insisting on a perfect fit, and producers of campaign trinkets and curios responded with a variety of "Same Old Hat" objects that added a new dimension to 1888 Republican nostalgia politics. Several varieties of hat-shaped toothpick holders made of clear, amber, and milk glass made their appearance, as did ornamental hats made of brass, terra cotta, papier mache, porcelain, and macerated currency. Several lapel pins and studs shaped like hats were created. Others utilized hat designs, as did glass paperweights. Among the many types of lighting devices used to illuminate Harrison-Morton torchlight parades were distinctive figural hat torches and candle-lit paper balloons.

Such items added a measure of personality to a campaign that may have been a rather drab affair if Harrison had been someone else's grandson. Since he won narrowly in electoral votes (while actually losing the popular vote to Grover Cleveland), it could be argued that in reality William Henry Harrison and his log cabins and cider barrels won two presidential elections nearly a half century apart! ★

**Glass Toothpick Holder**



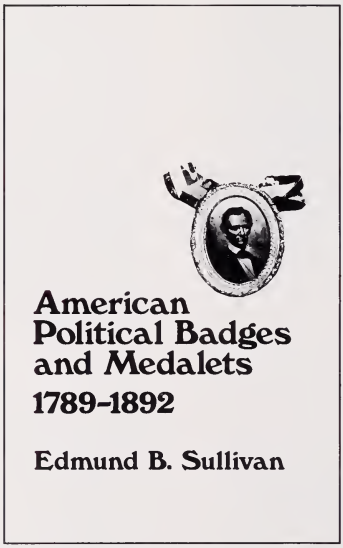

**Ribbons shown at 60% of actual size.**

# Books In The Hobby

**By Roger Fischer**

Edmund B. Sullivan, *American Political Badges and Medalets, 1789-1892* (Quarterman Publications, Box 156, Lincoln MA 01773, 1981), 646 pages, $60.

In the years since J. Doyle DeWitt's *A Century of Campaign Buttons, 1789-1889* went out of print, collectors have eagerly awaited reissue of this classic 1959 survey of nineteenth-century American political tokens, garment buttons, ferrotypes, shell badges, and other varieties of lapel devices, both for the intrinsic merits of the volume and because DeWitt's item numbers had developed into the standard reference system for early badges and tokens. Edmund B. Sullivan's *American Political Badges and Medalets, 1789-1892* fulfills this need—and more. This volume is unquestionably destined to join its predecessor among the very small number of works that can legitimately be considered classics in the literature of political Americana.




Through its publication a new generation of collectors, scholars, curators, and other students of American political history will derive the benefit of the work that constituted much of DeWitt's enormous legacy to this field. It is somewhat unfortunate that his name does not appear on the cover or title page (although I am at a loss to suggest precisely how this could have been done), for the majority of the volume consists of his first edition and subsequent research done by him after 1959. Judiciously, Sullivan has preserved both DeWitt's numbering system and the vast majority of the item entries.

Yet Sullivan's contributions to the volume should not be underestimated, for *American Political Badges and Medalets* bears his mark as clearly as *A Century of Campaign Buttons* did DeWitt's. More thoroughly versed in the broad sweep of American political history and its scholarship than was DeWitt, Sullivan has made textual corrections wherever necessary and has added some welcomed explanatory notes. His sensible choice of a new title that accurately descibes the volume's contents and his decision to extend the work to its logical terminus, the dawn of the celluloid button, should be applauded. The latter innovation cannot help but please those who share an interest in late Victorian campaigns, for it removes 1892 from the odd limbo to which it had been rather arbitrarily assigned. Sullivan's thoughtful addition of a name index has ended one of the real difficulties in using the original volume. More than a thousand new entries (nearly four hundred of them illustrated) have been added.

Additions sure to provoke debate among specialists in political exonumia are many Grant and McClellan badges issued during the Civil War, on the grounds that these items "helped to publicize indirectly soon-to-be presidential aspirations." I agree wholeheartedly with Sullivan's decision to include such pieces, not because of the justification he provides but because overwhelming historical evidence suggests that vast quantities of such items (as well as many struck before 1864 honoring Lincoln) were later recycled as campaign mementos, a very common occurrence in the political campaigns of national heroes and second races of many other candidates.

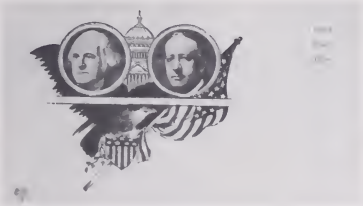
Praise should also be given to publisher Al Hoch of Quarterman Publications for producing a volume of unusual quality, from its crisp illustrations and acid-free stock to an attractive and very durable binding. A work of enduring value should be printed and bound accordingly, but Hoch's unwillingness to compromise in this regard is very unusual in this age of skyrocketing publishing costs. Although the hefty list price of $60 is certain to produce complaints, it should be argued that such an investment is hardly excessive for a volume designed to last a lifetime, in contents and construction alike.

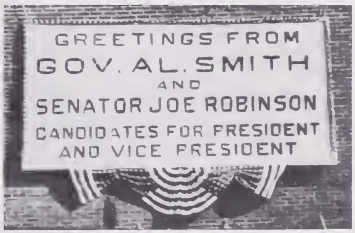
My only real criticism of the work is a sense of disappointment that Sullivan chose not to improve upon DeWitt's skimpy and wholly inadequate chapter introductions. The impressive command of political developments so apparent throughout his *Collecting Political Americana* could have been put to excellent use in this volume to establish the historical context for each section of items. Although the prime mission of the book is clearly to provide a detailed annotated survey of items (a mission it fulfills admirably), the extraordinary importance of 1840 cannot be conveyed in nine lines or 1860 in half a page.

On the whole, however, *American Political Badges and Medalets* constitutes an extraordinary milestone in the literature of political Americana that belongs on the bookshelf of every serious collector. ★

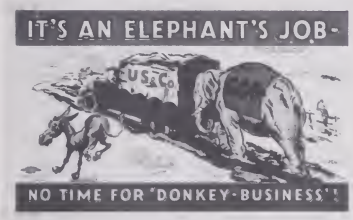
## APIC Postcard Project

# Beyond Normalcy: 1928-1940



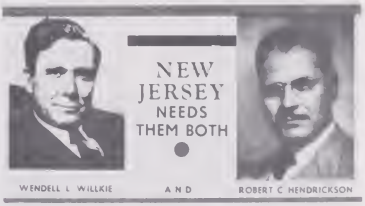




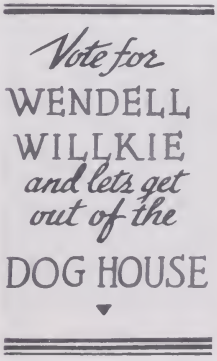




"This Nation Asks For Action, And Action Now"

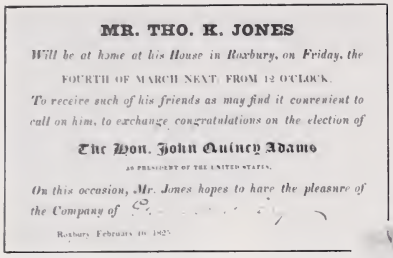





WENDELL L. WILLKIE at Rochester, N. Y., October 15th, 1940

# Items of Interest:

## Some Interesting Items Seen at the 1981 APIC National Convention


MR. THO. K. JONES

*Will be at home at his House in Roxbury, on Friday, the*

FOURTH OF MARCH NEXT, FROM 12 O'CLOCK.

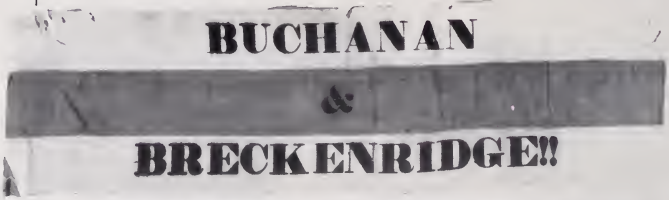
*To receive such of his friends as may find it convenient to call on him, to exchange congratulations on the election of*

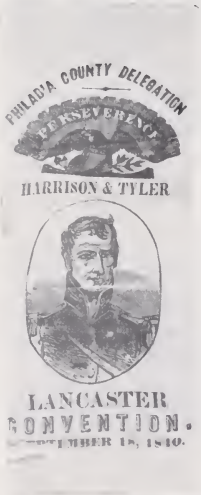
The Hon. John Quincy Adams

AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*On this occasion, Mr. Jones hopes to have the pleasure of the Company of*

Roxbury, February 19, 1825



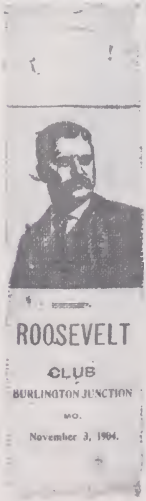



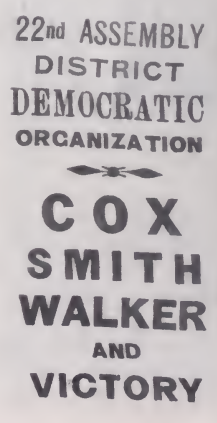

Buchannan Arm Band is 40% of actual size.

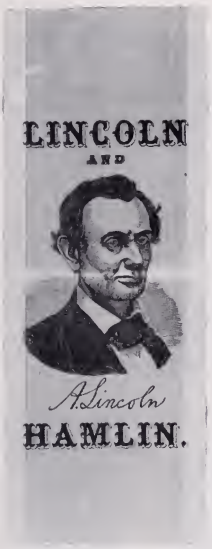
Ribbons are reduced to 60% actual size.

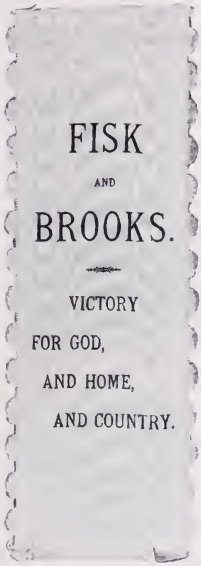
Button shown actual size.





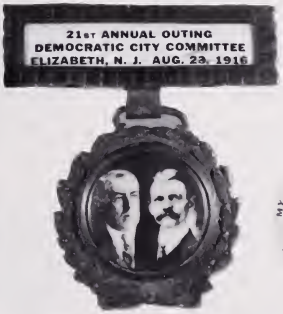





Bryan and Francis
1908 Missouri
(Button 2¼″)

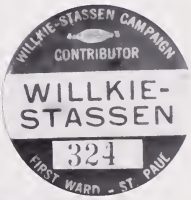



(1¼″)



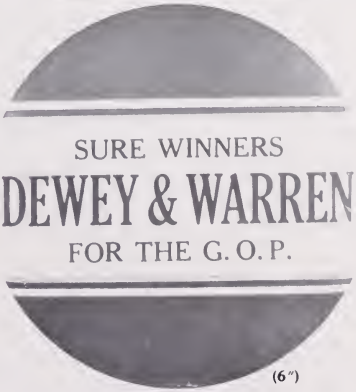






(3½″)


(6″)

All Buttons Shown Actual Size Except as Noted; Ribbons Shown 40% of Actual Size.

# APIC Project 1980

## by Joe Wasserman

### DESCRIPTIONS

**80/357.** Multicolor laminated badge worn by the Reagan Youth Delegation to the Republican National Convention in Detroit.

**80/358.** 4″ multicolor celluloid worn by California delegates to the Republican National Convention; probably the most prized 1980 Reagan button.

**80/359.** 3½″ × 1¾″ red, white and blue luggage tag given to Republican delegates as a souvenir from Manpower Temporary Services.

**80/360.** One of the more attractive Reagan items, this 3″ full color celluloid was made by the California Reagan committee for the general election.

**80/361.** This blue and white rectangle was worn by friends and guests of the Wisconsin delegation to the Republican National Convention. A button with the name of each delegate under Reagan's picture was also available.

**80/362.** This multicolor rectangle was made by a top Kansas Reagan campaign worker, Patrick Hill, also a delegate to the Republican National Convention. It was sold and traded by Hill, who later joined APIC. Originally, the item was manufactured with a black and white photograph, was rejected by Hill (although he did retain a few), and most were sold to several APIC dealers, who represent the source of almost all of this version in circulation.

**80/363.** This 3″ blue, white, yellow and black item was manufactured by Morgan Williams. According to Patrick Hill, whose name appears on the disclaimer, he did not authorize the item or the use of his name. (See 80/362.)

**80/364.** "Tia Maria" girls passed out this 2¼″ brown on yellow celluloid at the Detroit Airport to convention-bound passengers arriving in the motor city. "California Son" was named in honor of Ronald Reagan.

**80/365.** This 3″ black on white celluloid was worn by employees of Carl Byoir & Associates, a large public relations firm in Washington, D.C. This firm had its own office in the press area of the Joe Louis arena at the Republican National Convention.

**80/366.** 2¼″ white on green Badge-A-Minit made by Coop's in Oklahoma City for the Oklahoma delegation to the Republican National Convention.

**80/367 and 80/368.** These white on blue plastic badges were worn by Iowa delegates and friends at the Republican National Convention.

**80/369 thru 80/371.** These three celluloids were distributed in the Indiana hospitality suite at the Republican National Convention. 80/369 is 1¾″ blue on yellow; 80/370 (3″) and 80/371 (2¼″) are blue, yellow and white.

**80/372.** 3″ red, white and blue celluloid given to guests as they checked into the Michigan Inn during the Republican National Convention.

**80/373.** This 3″ × 1⅛″ red, white and blue plastic badge was made for national Reagan staffers at the Republican Convention in Detroit.


80/357


80/358


80/359


80/360


80/361


80/362


80/363


80/364


80/365


80/366


80/367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80/389

80/390

80/391

**80/374.** 3″ full color beauty. This celluloid was made by the California Reagan Committee for use by staff and volunteers during the transition between election day and the inauguration.

**80/375.** Buttons and Badges in Alexandria made this 2¼″ white on blue celluloid for Americans for Change, another one of the many independent PACs supporting Ronald Reagan.

**80/376.** This 2¼′ multicolor celluloid was made by a lady from Wisconsin who presented Ronald Reagan with a dog named Victory. 2,000 of this button were reportedly made and sold at the Republican National Convention.

**80/377.** Ordered by Columbia Advertising Co. from Hand Tip and Novelty Co. (union bug #4) this 2¼″ black on orange celluloid was used for the New York Conservative Party.

**80/378.** Manufactured by Columbia Advertising, this 2¼″ white on blue celluloid was made for the national Reagan committee. Many of these were distributed by the Teamsters and Maritime Union workers.

**80/379.** 3″ red and white celluloid made in very small quantity for Nebraska delegates to the Republican National Convention.

**80/380.** 2¼″ blue and white celluloid made by Glenn Wire Weber and used in his successful effort to become an Illinois delegate to the Republican National Convention.

**80/381.** This 2½″ black on yellow celluloid was distributed by the California Reagan campaign during the general election.

**80/382.** Reportedly made in small quantity, this 2¼″ blue on white celluloid was used in western Massachusetts during the general election.

**80/383.** 2¼″ blue on white celluloid made by an independent Reagan committee in small quantity and used at the Republican National Convention.

**80/384.** A Kansas Reagan committee ordered a small quantity of this 2¼″ yellow and brown celluloid and used it during their first primary. Although several other Kansas Reagan buttons appeared, this is the only one actually issued by a campaign office.

**80/385.** 2¼″ red, white and blue celluloid ordered by the Orlando, Florida, Ronald Reagan headquarters for the Presidential Preference Convention, October 1979. About 1500 were made and given to the more than 1300 delegates, alternates and VIPs. Many came with ribbons attached designating the delegate, alternate or VIP status.

**80/386.** This 1¾″ x 2¾″ red on white oval was sold by the Ohio delegation office at the Republican National Convention for $10. It later was used for fundraising during the general election campaign in Ohio.

**80/387.** This 1¾″ blue on yellow celluloid was distributed by California Young Americans for Freedom about a year before Reagan "officially" threw his hat into the ring in November, 1979.

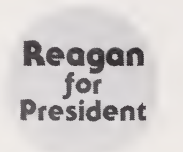
**80/388 and 80/389.** Both of these items are 1¾″ red, white and blue celluloids and were worn by farm states Reagan supporters at the Republican convention. They were reportedly made for use during the primary season.

**80/390 and 80/391.** These 2¼″ red, white and blue celluloids were made by N. G. Slater for use at Reagan's announcement speech in N.Y.C., November, 1979.

**80/392 and 80/393.** These items are 3″ red, white and blue electronic blinkers made by Mr. Buttons in Indianapolis and sold at campaign rallies in the mid-west during primary season.

**80/394.** This 1¾″ blue/white celluloid was made in small quantity and available for only a short time from Kennedy's national headquarters in Washington, D.C. This is the only button isued by the Kennedy campaign with the sail design that refers to the "sail against the wind" theme made famous by Senator Kennedy in his speech to the Democratic delegates at the 1978 mini-convention. A number of vendor items appeared at the Democratic Convention with this slogan.

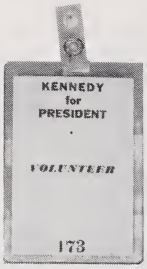
**80/395.** This 1¾″ red, white and blue celluloid was manufactured for Kennedy headquarters in Puerto Rico for the primary.




80/392


80/393


80/397




80/398


80/394

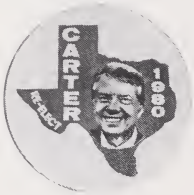

80/395


80/396


80/399


80/400


80/401




80/402


80/403


80/404


80/405

80/406


80/407


80/408


80/409


80/410

**80/396.** 1¼" black on white celluloid used in western Pennsylvania by the Kennedy forces during the crucial days of the primary campaign.

**80/397.** Red, white and blue emery board distributed by Phil Goldrick in his unsuccessful attempt to become a Kennedy delegate from Montgomery County, Maryland to the Democratic National Convention.

**80/398.** Laminated press badge worn by Kennedy volunteers in the national headquarters, Washington, D.C. The item appeared early and was soon replaced by a numbered I.D. card.

**80/399.** 2¼" red, white and black celluloid made by the Cuyahoga County Democrats, led by Chairman Tim Hagen, in 1979. This was one of the first "official" party committees to express support for an alternative to President Carter.

**80/400.** White on blue tab distributed nationally by the United Auto Workers during the general election.

**80/401.** This 2¼" green on white celluloid covers a ribbon-type material. It was worn by members of the New Mexico delegation to the 1978 Democratic mini-convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

**80/402.** A Texas Carter delegate made this 3½" green, white and black celluloid and sold and traded it at the Democratic National Convention.

**80/403 and 80/404.** These 2¼" buttons were made by Hispanic American Democrats and were distributed at the Democratic National Convention. 80/403 is red, white and blue; 80/404 is brown and beige.

**80/405.** Originally used during the Iowa caucuses, this 2¼" white on green celluloid was made by a Carter staffer. The slogan refers to a remark made by President Carter at a meeting with Congressional Democrats on what he would do to Ted Kennedy if Kennedy ran for the Democratic nomination for President.

**80/406.** This top quality, button machine-made item was made in very small quantity by the national Carter Committee and uses the design on the membership card of the Carter Mondale 80 Club. 2¼" buff/black Badge-A-Minit.

**80/407.** 2¼" green and white celluloid made by N. G. Slater for a Carter election night party where Jimmy and Rosalynn appeared.

**80/408.** 2¼" blue and white celluloid jobbed by Dalo, NYC for the N.Y. delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

**80/409.** Manufactured by N. G. Slater, this 2¼" white, black and gold celluloid was made for the New Democratic Coalition and sold at the Democratic National Convention.

**80/410.** This 2¼" red, white and blue celluloid was ordered by APIC member Kirby Smith for the Pulaski County Democratic Committee and was sold at the 1980 Arkansas State Convention in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where VP Mondale was the guest speaker. The design is the symbol of the Arkansas Democratic State Committee. Reportedly, one thousand were made.

**80/411.** Manufactured by N. G. Slater, this 3½" red, white and blue celluloid was worn by CBS personnel at the Democratic Convention.

**80/412 and 80/413.** These items were worn by NBC personnel at both national conventions. 80/412 is 2¼" red, white, blue and black; 80/413 is 2" × 3" red, white and blue.

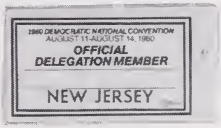
**80/414.** 4" × 2¼" red, white and blue luggage tag given to Democratic delegates as a souvenir from American Airlines. Reportedly, one was made for each state and territory. American Airlines appears on the reverse.

**80/415.** This item was jobbed through Millenium Group for an independent dealer in Michigan who ordered them for the Cook County Republican Club's party after the St. Patrick's Day parade. 3" green and white celluloid with green ribbon.


80/411


80/412


80/413




80/414


80/415


80/416


80/417


80/418


80/419


80/420


80/421


80/422


80/423


80/424

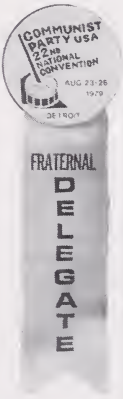

80/425


80/426


80/427


80/428

80/429




80/430

80/431

**All items shown 40% of actual size.**

**80/416.** This 2¼″ white and green celluloid was made by N. G. Slater for the Libertarian Party's national ticket.

**80/417 and 80/418.** These 2¼″ blue on yellow celluloids were used during the New Hampshire primary. 80/418 was manufactured by McDonalds.

**80/419.** This 2¼″ red, white and blue celluloid was ordered in small quantity by the Bush National Headquarters in Houston, Texas. A tacky 3″ version was sold in novelty shops in Washington, D.C.

**80/420.** This 1¾″ red, white and blue celluloid was made by Universal (union bug 36) Badge Company in Boston for the razor thin victory of George Bush in Massachusetts.

**80/421.** This 1½″ red, white and blue celluloid uses the standard design of the lithograph for George Bush's successful effort in the Michigan primary.

**80/422.** Manufactured by Wendell's, this 2¼″ green on white celluloid was made for top Bush staffers who were there from the start of the campaign.

**80/423.** This 3″ blue on yellow celluloid was ordered by the Citizens Party from N. G. Slater. It was made overnight and refers to Maryland Kennedy delegate and President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers William Winpisinger's statement "If Carter is nominated, I'm walking." The button was distributed by Citizens Party workers in front of Madison Square Garden on the Wednesday before the delegate vote was tabulated.

**80/424.** Used in various parts of the country, this 1¾″ blue on white celluloid was manufactured by N. G. Slater for the Citizens Party.

**80/425.** 2¼″ red and white celluloid made by independent Jackson group and distributed at the Democratic National Convention.

**80/426.** This 1¾″ red, white and blue celluloid was used by the Baker committee during the Massachusetts primary.

**80/427.** This unusual third party coattail button, a 1¾″ red and brown on white celluloid, was distributed by the Socialist Workers' Party in Indiana.

**80/428.** Wendell's (Minnesota) manufactured this 1¾″ red, white and blue celluloid for the A.I.P. campaign of John Rarick.

**80/429.** "Souvenir" press badge made by Bastian Brothers and given to working members of the press at the Republican National Convention.

**80/430.** 2¼″ blue on white celluloid with gold on white ribbon; manufactured by N. G. Slater for the delegates to the 1979 Communist Party USA National Convention (where Gus Hall and Angela Davis were selected to lead the party in the 1980 elections).

**80/431.** This red, white and blue enamel on metal item is attached to a gold on blue delegate ribbon. It was the "official" badge given to the delegates of the Democratic National Convention; Alternate and Honored Guest badges were also available. ★

# NEWS

**American Political Items Collectors**
INCORPORATED 1974

**APIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT**
July 31, 1981

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| January 1, 1981 Cash Balance (Includes $8,526.60 in 1981 dues Received in 1980) | | $ 5,355.64 |
| **Income** | | |
| 1981 Dues Received in 1981 | $23,873.82 | |
| Mailing Supply Service | 411.75 | |
| Miscellaneous Income | 575.01 | |
| Interest Income | 665.47 | $25,526.05 |
| | | $30,881.69 |
| **Expenditures** | | |
| Keynoter Editor Expense | 126.70 | |
| Mailing Supply Service | 96.70 | |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 1,746.89 | |
| Office Expense | 176.43 | |
| Photographic Expense | 903.76 | |
| Postage Expense | 2,921.26 | |
| Printing | 15,307.13 | |
| Secretary's Stipend | 3,003.25 | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 24,282.12 | |
| Reserve Fund Balance | 6,165.47 | |
| Cash Balance, American National Bank | 434.10 | |
| | | $30,881.69 |

Joseph D. Hayes
Secretary-Treasurer

## APIC FORMS ARCHIVAL COLLECTION WITH GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

The APIC Executive Board, in Carlisle, approved a letter of agreement with George Mason University calling for GMU to provide space and curatorial services for an APIC Archival Collection. The collection will be held at Mason's Main Campus in Fairfax, Virginia, fifteen miles from Washington, D.C., and will form the nucleus of a major study center on national campaign politics. According to President Bob Fratkin, this will give our members a worthwhile recipient for contributions of all types of campaign materials—books, pamphlets, posters, buttons, 3D items—on a tax-deductible basis. Most of us have items that don't fit into our collections or are duplicates. The APIC Archival Collection is a natural depository for campaign materials, will provide lasting recognition for the donors, and further the scholarly study of the artifacts of American campaign history. ★

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

## STUDENT RATES AND STAGGERED ELECTIONS PROPOSED

The General Business Meeting at Carlisle on August 7, 1981, passed motions to direct the Executive Board to study two proposals, one of which would require revision of the APIC By-Laws.

After a spirited discussion, the Board was directed to study the possibility of offering student memberships as a means of attracting more members under 18. A dues figure of $5 was originally proposed, but other dues figures were also discussed ranging up to $10. The study will lead to a report to the membership early in 1982. Since the setting of dues is a function of the Executive Board, no revision in the By-Laws would be necessary if this course of action is approved.

In another move, the membership voted to direct the Board to study whether it would be advisable to stagger the terms of the members of the Board of Directors so that five members would be elected each year for three year terms instead of the current procedure of all fifteen members being elected every two years.

If the Board decides to take this action, a membership vote would be required to revise the by-laws and a suitable amendment would be forwarded to the membership for a vote. The appointment of study committees for both of these proposals will be announced shortly by President Bob Fratkin. ★

## APIC RENAMES CONSTITUTION AS BY-LAWS

The officers and Executive Board of APIC approved two procedural motions unanimously at their Thursday evening meeting in Carlisle. Both motions were subsequently ratified overwhelmingly at the General Business Meeting Friday morning, August 17, 1981. In the first action, the designation "APIC Constitution" was changed to "APIC By-Laws," to conform with our corporate status. The Constitution predated incorporation in 1974, and should have been changed at that time. Second, an irrevocable resolution was passed and ratified to provide for the orderly transference of assets to another non-profit organization in the event of dissolution of the APIC. This is a standard by-law for non-profit corporations, and is required by the Internal Revenue Service. Upon the eventuality of dissolution of APIC, any remaining assets would be transferred to the University of Hartford to be used for the preservation and display of the DeWitt Collection. This action is not a revision of the By-laws since Article III mandates to the Executive Board the decision-making authority to dispose of all assets. This decision will now be incorporated into the appropriate section of the By-Laws. ★


Window Sticker—Pennsylvania

# Q&A

by David J. Frent

**Q: What is a "mule" token?**

**A:** The term "mule" was taken from the biological definition of the word meaning a hybrid; in political token jargon it refers to a medal which was struck from two dies that are not normally combined. A "mule" can usually be recognized by the incongruity of its obverse and reverse, e.g.: DeWitt WS 1852-6A obverse of a Winfield Scott political combined with a die commemorating the "Atlantic Telegraph Successfully Laid 5th of August, 1858." In the view of most knowledgeable token specialists, these items were created as collector "rarities" during the 1860's.

My favorite is DeWitt #WS 1852-9 with a Scott obverse and the MVB 1836-3 reverse showing a high relief portrait of Van Buren. ★

(Tippecanoe and Corwin-Cont. from Page 13)

Before General Harrison had time to rest from the exertions of the Fort Meigs trip, he addressed large gatherings in Hamilton, Eaton, and at Greenville he spoke on the anniversary of the treaty made there at the conclusion of the War of 1812. At Greenville there were more bands and Tippecanoe clubs, each proudly wearing their special Harrison badges. Tom Corwin spoke to the audience of farmers saying, "Wheat will be a dollar a bushel if Harrison is elected and forty cents if Van Buren is elected, take your choice!"

The excitement aroused by the great conventions spread to every community, with each trying to outdo its neighbor. Virtually every Whig gathering was publicized as the "largest ever held" in the particular district. Democratic state leader Sam Medary grimly concluded that he had never seen such a state of things in Ohio, "It seems as though every man, woman and child preferred politics to anything else."

Whig merchants capitalized on the Tippecanoe mania through the sale of souvenirs. "Upon rising in the morning, a loyal Whig could shave with Tippecanoe Shaving Soap, don a Harrison and Tyler necktie, stuff a 'beautiful pongee handkerchief with the American flag and a likeness of General Harrison' into his pocket, and pin a huge Harrison badge on a suit with 'handsome log cabin buttons'." Thus attired for the day, the hard ciderite might plant his garden on the advice of the *Harrison Almanac*, regale his friends with stories from the book of *Log Cabin Anecdotes*, write his Democratic Congressman an indignant letter on 'beautiful Harrison letter paper' with facts from the *Tippecanoe Textbook*. When tired of these strenuous partisan activities, he could sit on his Buckeye-log steps and smoke 'Tippecanoe Tobacco'. "If his parlor needed decoration, he might choose between lithographs of the battle of the Thames or Tippecanoe or he might frame his "handsomely embossed Tippecanoe Membership Certificate." For entertainment that evening, the club member had a choice of attending a Harrison song rally at the local cabin or of pocketing his flask of 'Old Cabin Whiskey' and attending a 'Harrison Hoe-down' to dance the 'Tippecanoe Quick Step'. Exhausted by his labors he might then take his Harrison cane and hobble home for the night!

Stimulated as much by hard times as by hard cider, the western voter was easily seduced by the dramatic displays and flamboyant oratory. The singing and stump-speaking provided entertainment as well as emotional release for people who otherwise enjoyed little amusement. "Evangelistic religion had accustomed Americans to public emotionalism and Whigs found that the moral fervor of the religious crusade was easily directed into the secular realm of politics." Though Whig managers carefully staged the great gatherings, the enthusiasm came from the heart. These frontier people rebelled against the hard times of depression by conducting a crusade against the party in office. Eager for entertainment as well as political redress, they stopped work to march in parades, listen to endless oratory and sing campaign songs about "Tippecanoe and Tyler too."

With the election of Harrison, Corwin and many of the Whig candidates in the fall, a new day had dawned on the frontier and had forever changed the face of the American political campaign. ★


PROTECTION.
"We will Support the Interests of America."
1840.
1888.
Tippecanoe and
MORTON TOO.