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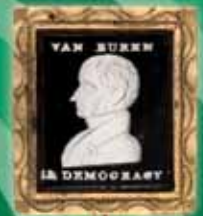
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FROM THE APIC PRESIDENT

Political banks have to be some of the most entertaining items in our field. From simple piggy banks to elaborate mechanical devices that shoot, roll or flip coins into the storage area, these often handsome objects add a bit of fun to campaigns. The earliest known banks come from the 1840 campaign of William Henry Harrison, usually in the shape of his famed log cabin, often with a raccoon on the roof. They are excellent examples of how the Whig Party changed the nature of American campaigns. Where campaigning once consisted mainly of letters written between gentlemen, the Whigs brought it out onto the streets with parades, songs and a wide range of badges, tokens and broadsides.



Of course, there are many such banks unrelated to politics. Many simply reflect themes from the popular culture of the time. But banks are yet another example of how our hobby intersects so many other collecting areas. Just as these objects attracted attention when they were produced, so the discovery and preservation of such material supports the understanding of our nation's past.

Recently, commentators have noted the decline of the study of history in colleges and universities, in favor of supposedly more practical fields. The old adage that “those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it” may be tested in coming years. Fortunately, *The Keynote* is doing its part to keep historical knowledge alive.

Ron Puechner

Ron Puechner, President



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Follow the money. That's an old saying in criminal investigation but applies to politics every bit as much. Whether straight forward campaign donations, anonymous funding of Political Action Committees (PACs)



or secret deliveries of bags of cash, money is very, very important in almost every form of politics and government. Most political battles revolve around where tax money is allocated and time after time candidates who run promising to slash spending and reduce government debt wind up voting for huge increases in their preferred programs. One side wants to spend here and the other side wants to spend there but compromise is always possible, which usually means spending money on both.

In 2016, traceable spending on federal presidential and congressional campaigns topped six billion dollars -- that's billion, not million -- and that doesn't count money spent on state and local campaigns. As Bob Dylan once wrote, "money doesn't talk, it swears."

But one can't point the finger of blame at those hundreds of little banks that added a bit of color and whimsy to political fundraising. We have gathered some of the best known examples of these fun items. We hope you enjoy them. After all, a penny saved is a penny earned.

Michael Kelly
Editor

Features

- 6 Political Banks: Grassroots at Work
- 7 The #1 Harrison Log Cabin Bank
- 29 The 1860 Buttre Campaign Ribbons
- 31 My Favorite Items
- 33 Book Report
- 34 Coattails
- 35 Peter Briggs' Corner

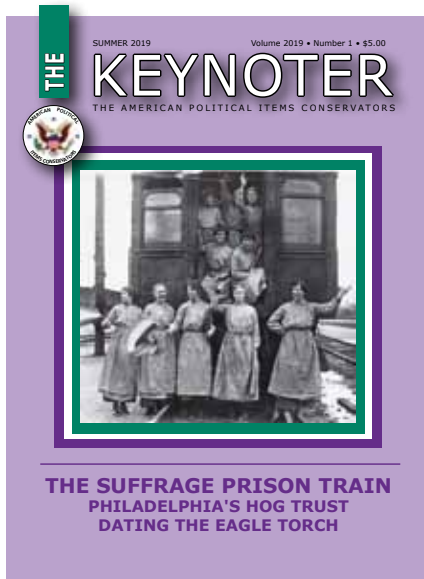


FRONT COVER-- 1840 Wm. Henry Harrison large stoneware log cabin.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Thank you for helping to create one of my favorite Keynoter issues ever! As a cause collector I found this issue particularly interesting. Thank you for all you do for the APIC!

Robert Lifson
(APIC #8372)

I don't know of any other hobby organization that can hold a candle to what APIC offers it's members and at such an affordable membership. Thank you to all the volunteers that make the Keynoter such a quality publication. I look forward to every issue.

Charlie Hertlein
(APIC #5135)

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American Political Items Conservators is the educational division of the American Political Items Collectors Inc., a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. 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.

Political Banks: Grassroots at work

“Politics has become so expensive that it takes a lot of money even to be defeated.”

- Will Rogers

By Michael Kelly

A very practical politician, California’s Jesse Unruh, once noted that “money is the mother’s milk of politics” while Ohio’s Mark Hannah stated, “There are two things that are important in politics. The first is money and I can’t remember what the second one is.” The power of wealthy donors and corporations has been criticized, feared and sought after from the early days of political campaigns.

But new trends in recent years have created online donation opportunities for people who can’t afford to give millions. In recent years numerous candidates have raised small amounts from millions of people, providing them with substantial campaign funds. Yet small donations were sought long before the internet. One of the earliest methods for campaigns to tap small donors was political savings banks.

The earliest known political bank appeared in the 1840 Whig campaign for William Henry Harrison and there are examples as recent as 2016. Such banks take several forms. The best known are mechanical banks defined as a toy bank wherein a coin is deposited by a mechanical process (such as the bank where President Theodore Roosevelt shoots coins into the mouth of a bear). Other banks are termed “still”, serving as receptacles for coins and bills. The most famous type of still bank is the piggy bank, many examples of which are illustrated in this issue. Of the still banks, there are those designed for repeated use and those designed for one-time use. The latter were most often used to collect money and then be mailed to the campaign headquarters where they would be opened.

Mechanical banks were first manufactured in the late 1800s as the Industrial Revolution inspired a generation of inventors who enjoyed tinkering with mechanical technology, including spring-driven and windup devices. The era also saw a change in how these toy banks were made. Originally crafted out of wood and cloth, more and more banks were fabricated out of cast-iron and mass-produced in factories, giving their creators a chance to express their commentaries on daily life. According to bank collectors, the time between 1869 and 1930 is known as the golden age of cast-iron mechanical banks. In America, most of them were manufactured by three companies: J. & E. Stevens Co. of Cromwell, Connecticut; Shepard Hardware Co. of Buffalo, New York; and Kyser & Rex Co. of Frankford, Pennsylvania.

This issue features a rich variety of these interesting mementos of political campaigns.



The #1 Harrison log cabin bank

This bank is considered to be the single most collectable political bank in political collecting. It is made of stoneware, and has many slogans around the outside.

The size is large for a bank, length 5-3/4", width 4-1/4", height 6-3/4". The maker of this piece put in a tremendous effort. The roof has individual boards delineated with incised lines, and the maker had to make sure none of the lettering fell on the lines.

The sides of the cabin show individual logs overlapping at the ends.

One side of the roof reads William Henry Harrison President in 1841. With Tip and Tyler we'll burst Vans boiler. Log Cabin.

The other side reads Harrison the Hero of Tippecanoe Fort Meigs and the Thames against Van Buren the demagogue of Kinderhook. Hurrah for Old Tip the Farmer of North Bend.

The barrel also has impressed lettering. One side reads Hard Cider Boys. The other side reads Log Cabin Tippecanoe Hard Cider



Editor's Note: This issue of *The Keynoter* features Part One of our examination of the fascinating world of political and cause still and mechanical banks, from 1840 through 1976. The next issue will continue with Part Two, 1980 to the present. We recognize that this is far from an exhaustive listing, but it reflects the quality-required images we have accumulated. If you do not see a bank you have that should have been included, please contact our Illustrations Editor Germaine Broussard by email: watwitch@erols.com



3. The Mechanical Freedman's Bank. One of the most ingenious, amusing, and useful toys of the season. Represents a colored gentleman seated at a counter. Upon buying a cent or other coin within reach of his hand, and touching a spring, he first sweeps it into a hole in the counter which opens to receive it, then raises his outspread hand to his nose and waves his fingers satisfactorily, and concludes with a derisive shake of the head, expressive of a determination to hold on to the deposit. Any one will willingly sacrifice a cent for the sake of seeing it "raked in." Price, \$4.50. (By express only.)



Rare early American mechanical bank. 5 known.



Boss Tweed Tammany bank comes in two metals.

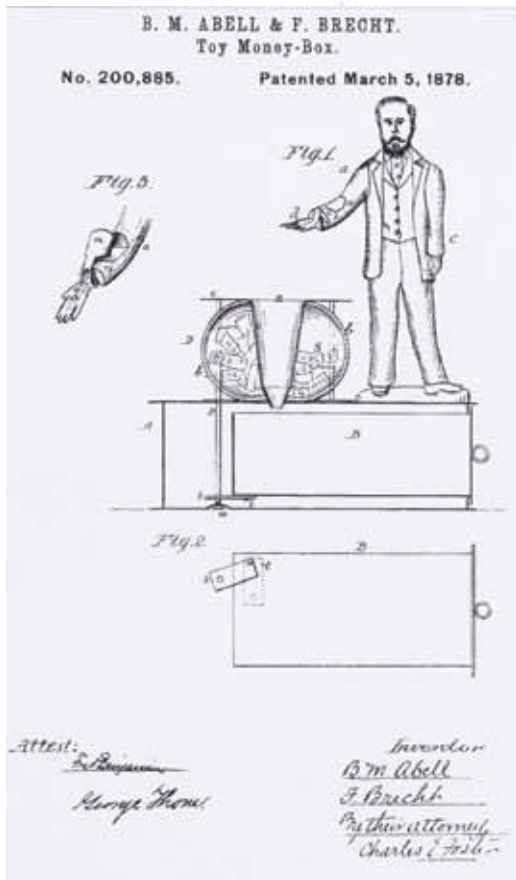
Anti-Hayes Bank, showing Hayes stuffing the ballot box.



Benjamin Butler.



1893 Columbian Exposition showing Grover Cleveland.



Detroit Mayor Hazen Pingree, during the 1893 recession, encouraged Detroiters to use public land for neighborhood garden plots to alleviate hunger.









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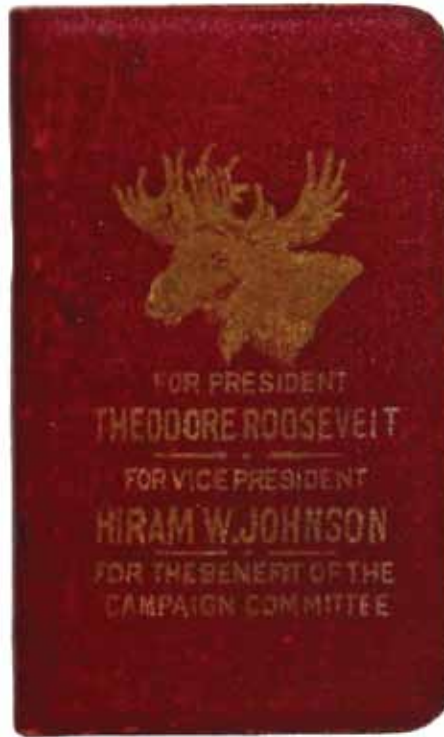
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"Racetrack" banks shown reduced.

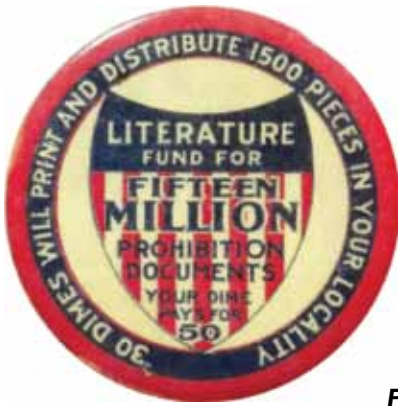




Front
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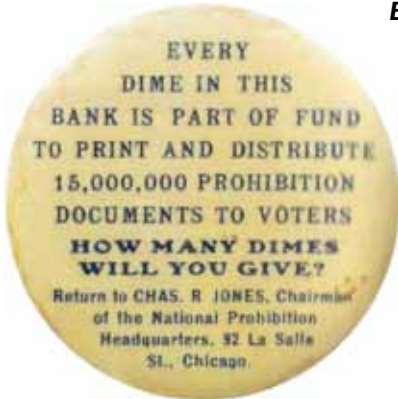
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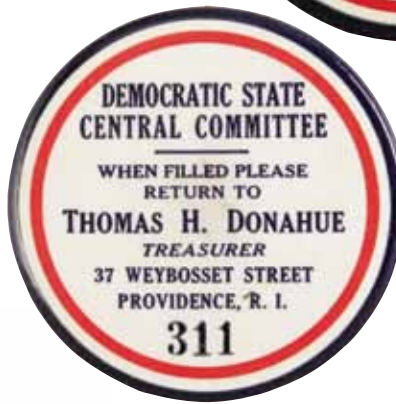


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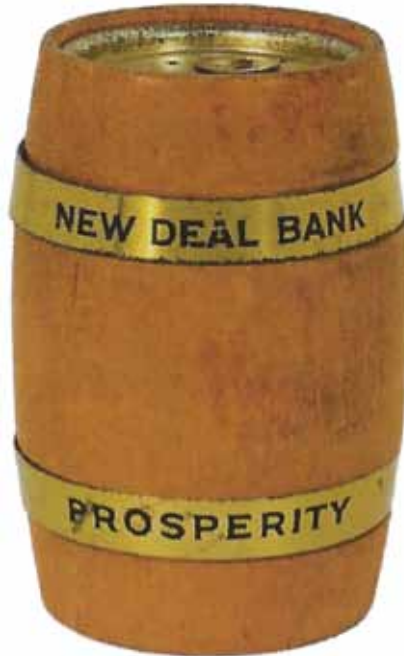




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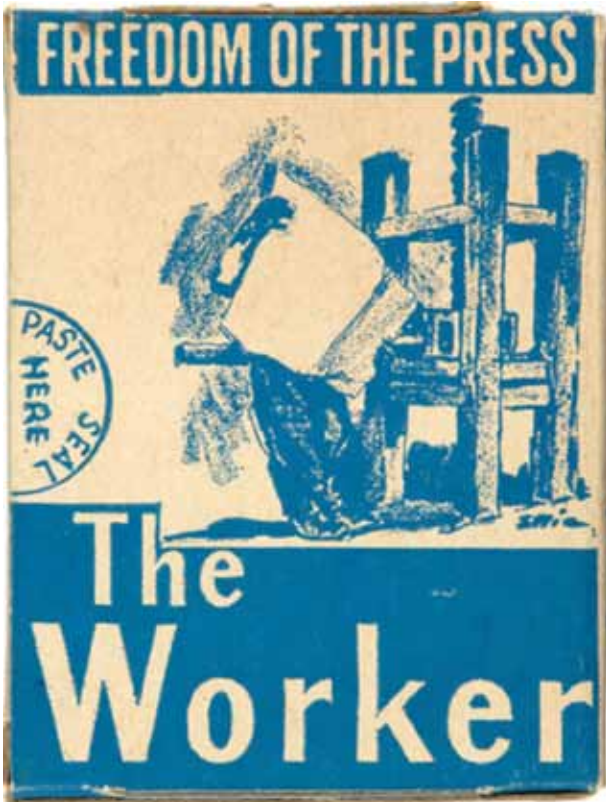
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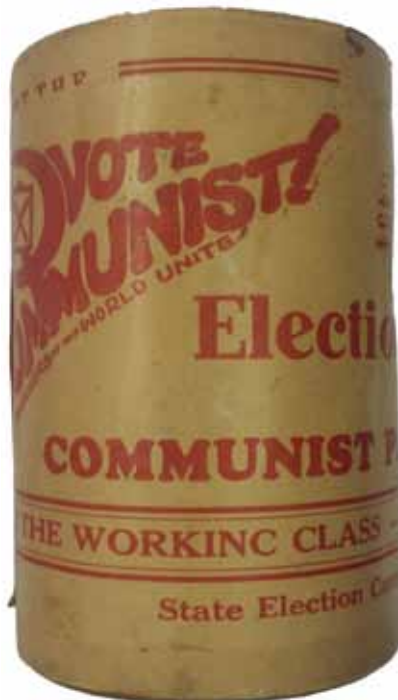
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Wednesday, August 12, 1942



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Save for Victory bank also came with pictures of Jesus or Uncle Sam.

Back of the above banks.



← Underside of ship.



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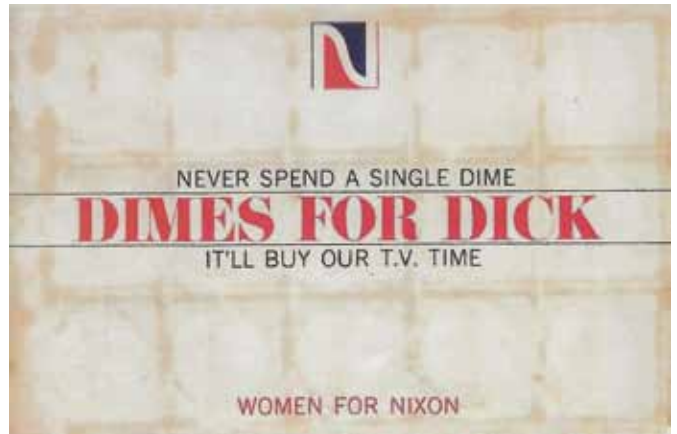
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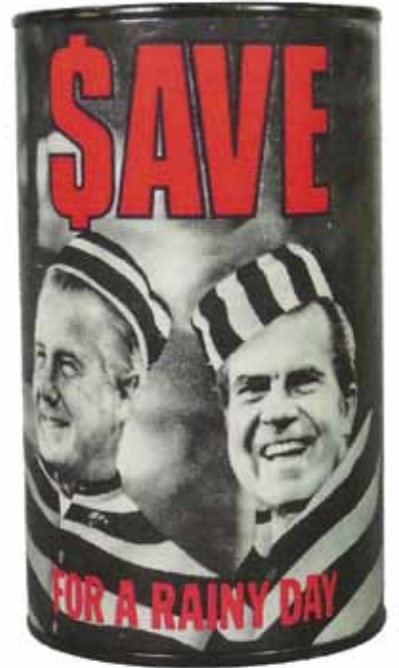


Shown reduced.



Shown reduced.







The 1860 Buttre campaign ribbons

By Andrew Nickle

During the 1860 election, New York City-based engraver John Chester Buttre was responsible for publishing The American Portrait Gallery, used the Brady portrait of Lincoln and others to create ribbons for the various presidential candidates. Surviving examples of these in good condition are considered rare.

In 1902, 42 years after the 1860 campaign ribbons had been produced and distributed, George Probst was President of J.C. Buttre Co. which identified itself as "Publishers, Engravers, and Plate Printers". Customer James W. Bullock, Esq. of Cincinnati, Ohio, sent Buttre a \$100 check for an order. Bullock and his order prompted Probst to go back through the Buttre company archives where he found examples of four of the campaign ribbons Buttre produced in 1860. He wrote to Bullock that he found two examples of each of the four "scarce and valuable" ribbons and enclosed for Bullock one of the two remaining sets of the four ribbons. So in 1902, the J.C. Buttre Co gave four of the final eight 1860 Brady campaign ribbons it found in its possession to valued customer Bullock.

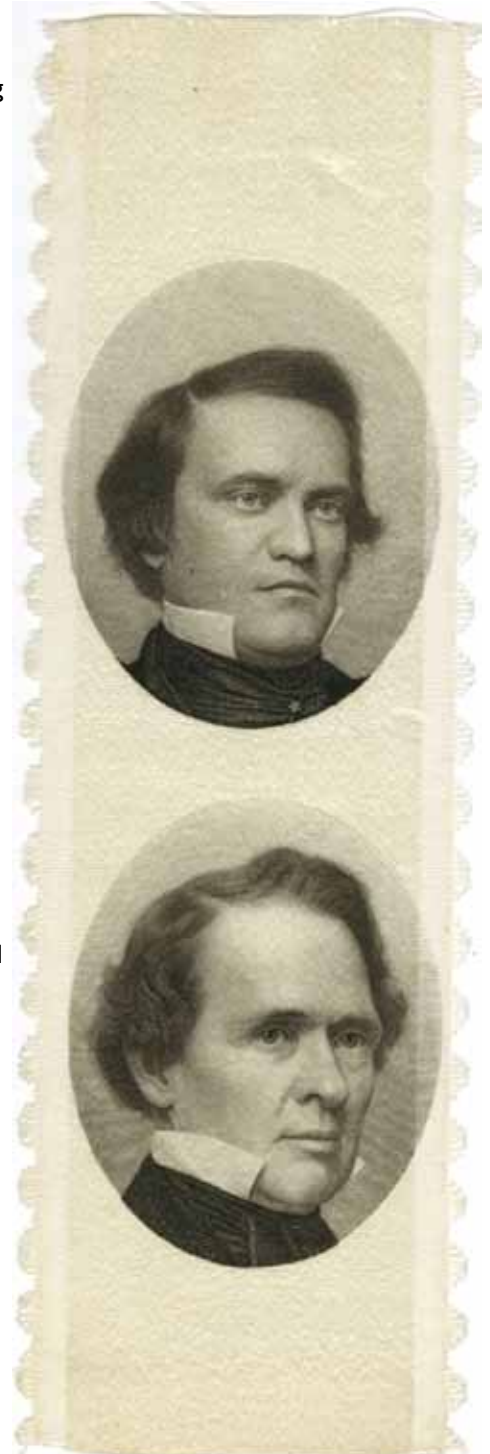
The November 28, 1902 transmittal letter from George Probst to Bullock, on J.C. Buttre Company letterhead, read. "I thank you most sincerely for your check of \$100 on account received this morning. It is such a pleasure to deal with you, that it gives me great joy to inform you, that I made up my mind to make you a present of something very scarce and valuable, therefore I started to search in boxes and packages containing mostly old letters and happy it made me when I found at last 2 each of 2 different Lincoln's, 2 Bell, 2 Breckenridge and Lane. Please find enclosed one set with best wishes...."

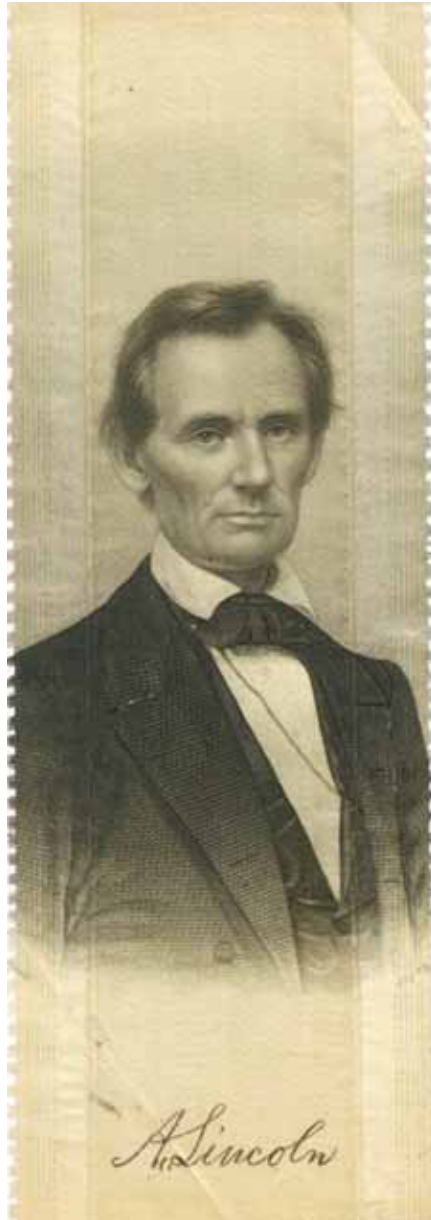
Probst enclosed one ribbon of Breckenridge and Lane; one ribbon of John Bell; and two ribbons of Abraham Lincoln, all using Matthew Brady images of the candidates. Both of the two Lincoln portrait ribbons featured images based on the Brady Cooper Union portrait. Of the four ribbons, only the smaller image Lincoln ribbon had printed on it "Published by J.C. Buttre". However, the assembly and mailing by Probst would appear to confirm that the four ribbons sent to Bullock were published by J.C. Buttre and would clearly suggest all the 1860 Brady image campaign ribbons, including those not bearing the Buttre name, were made by J.C. Buttre.

Those four ribbons had all been kept together since 1902 with the transmittal letter and its mailing envelope when a family descendant of Bullock made them available in 2019.

The set of ribbons includes:

- Breckenridge & Lane: Jugate "Brady" ribbon. 2.5" x 7.25" white silk ribbon with scalloped edges. Part of a set of eight jugate & single-portrait ribbons for the four 1860 candidates, all with Brady images.
- 1860 John Bell Silk Ribbon 2.5" x 7.75"
- Classic 1860 Lincoln Campaign "Brady Ribbon" Measures 2.25" x 7.25" on silvery-white colored silk ribbon, with a bold portrait print of Abraham Lincoln.
- 1860 Single Portrait Brady Ribbon. 2.25" x 6" silk ribbon with half-length portrait of "A. Lincoln" after the Cooper Union portrait by Mathew Brady.





My Favorite items

By Mark Scroggins

In life, I've always enjoyed a good story and this is also what makes some of my political items my favorites. I have always had a natural curiosity to know the history behind where my political treasures have come from. I recently acquired one of my favorite political items which was a 2.25 inch "Me and Roosevelt for Johnson" campaign button from Lyndon Johnson's 1941 run for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate. I noted on the curl that it stated "Supplied by J. Hugh Campbell Dallas, Texas".

I was born and raised in Dallas and believe me it is rare to find anything that is derived locally much less a near iconic button in the hobby. What surprised me more is when I found out that the J. Hugh Campbell company still exists here! J. Hugh Campbell was born in 1886 in Kansas City, Missouri and came to Dallas in 1909 where he worked with the American Optical company until 1917. His children graduated from a high school that was very close to mine. During the depression in 1932, he became indebted and decided to start a novelty company. He opened a small office in the Allen Building in downtown Dallas and began to sell calendars, pencils, yardsticks, flags, and supplied at least this one political button to the Dallas community. Mr. Campbell retired in 1960 and his offices moved to their present day location near downtown in 1962.

I recently contacted the company and they were impressed with the "treasure" I had acquired. The company remains family owned and operated after almost 90 years! The firm now specializes in the production of all types of flags. Unfortunately no

current family member had a recollection of the button and there were no company records that went back that far. The curl of the button reads "supplied by" which brings up the mystery of who actually made the pin? On the back of my button is a partial ink imprint of the Chicago Trade union label. I have confirmed through auction archives that this imprint is typically present. Therefore, it makes sense that Mr. Campbell probably had the Green Duck Company of Chicago manufacture this litho for him before distributing it to the Johnson headquarters.

I believe this button is unique in that it is the only coattail item in the hobby that features a current and future U.S. President. In 1941, Congressman Johnson lost a very close race for the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate. Who would have conceived that 23 years later he would win one of the biggest U.S. Presidential victories in the history of our nation?

I was fortunate to be able to acquire what is to my knowledge the only known example of the "Hughes Man of the Hour" pin when it became available last year. Like the "FDR and Me for Roosevelt" button, this too came with a fascinating story. The research that has been done on this is well documented in the excellent article by Michael Kelly which last appeared in the Hughes Keynoter edition (Volume 2018, Number 3). APIC member Chris Olmstead extensively researched this piece which led him to believe that this was a Chicago piece for the 1916 Republican nomination for President. The union bug states "Allied Printing Trade Council" in Chicago underneath the 7 in the clock face on the front of the button. The photograph of Hughes is attributed to Moffet Studio in Chicago on the face of the button as well. Moffet was the official photographer of the previously held Republican Convention in Chicago. Hughes did not take sides in the 1912 TR/Taft split in the Republican Party since he was a Supreme Court Justice at the time. As a consequence, he was able to ascend to being the true "Man of the Hour" for the Republican Party in 1916. Few people have served our nation in so many capacities as Charles Evan Hughes. As successor to Teddy Roosevelt as Governor of New York, as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court with Oliver Wendell Holmes, as United States Secretary of State, and finally as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Charles Evan Hughes stands as a now seldom remembered titan in American history.



In September 2006, I attended the nineteenth annual Carter Political Item Collectors' meeting in Plains, Georgia. For those who have not attended this incredible event, I can recommend it without reservation. While in Plains, I was able to visit the Plains High School where Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter attended high school, the Plains train depot which served as the Presidential Campaign headquarters in the 1976 election, and the boyhood home where President Carter grew up from 1928 until he left for college in 1941. I had recently read "An hour Before Daylight : Memories of a Rural Boyhood." It was fascinating to see the exact place that President Carter wrote so vividly and passionately about. The highlight of the convention was the banquet with President Carter. As the President mingled among us and met us individually, he related that he had gone through the storage area of his home that day and found a few of his 1962 campaign cards for State Senate in Georgia. I was fortunate enough to receive one of these which was personally handed to me by the great man. When I joined the A.P.I.C. in 1996, I had no idea that I would be honored to meet a U.S. President and Nobel Prize winner who would give me my favorite political item of all. It is the one item that I will never sell!



A New Book on Political Banks

Book review by Michael Kelly

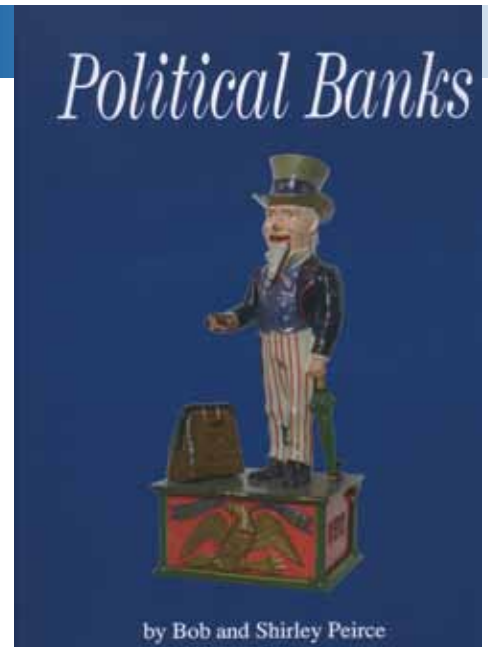
As this issue shows, there is a wonderful array of political savings banks to be discovered by those who have an interest in learning more. An excellent place to start would be the lavishly illustrated book, *Political Banks* by Bob and Shirley Peirce.

The authors' enthusiasm for their subject is evident in the 213 pages and hundreds of color photographs. Banks are arranged by the personalities featured on the object and, as much as possible, the authors provide a descriptive name, the material used in its production, measurements, manufacturer, estimates of rarity and value as well as a description of how each bank functions.

The arrangement of banks by personality means that early figures, such as George Washington, are shown on items produced long after they had passed from the scene. For example, a section on Benjamin Franklin (a figure long associated with savings as shown in his famed advice that "a penny saved is two pence clear", most often rendered as "a penny saved is a penny earned") pictures 15 banks, all of which appear to have been produced well after Franklin's death. Nonetheless, each section provides biographical information about each individual and a brief timeline of what was going on during his era along with the examples of banks.

Some American presidents -- such as the two Roosevelts -- inspired a wide range of banks while others are represented by only one or two, many part of later sets that featured various presidents. Some of the briefer presidencies (Garfield and Arthur, for example) wound up without any at all. The Peirces also go beyond presidents to include state officials like Michigan Governor Hazen Pingree and even foreign politicians such as Otto von Bismark and David Lloyd George. There are also sections on several cause movements, including prohibition and women's suffrage.

This book is well worth adding to your research library if political banks call to you.



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Coattails

By Michael Kelly



Peter Briggs' Corner

Landon & Knox

Alf Landon was a two-term governor of Kansas, elected in 1932 and 1934. It is probable that the Landon for Governor was used in 1932 and the Landon Governor in 1934.

Frank Knox, the GOP's 1936 vice presidential nominee, was a newspaper editor and publisher of the Manchester Union-Leader, which circulated the red button. These buttons were used in his 1924 Republican primary campaign for governor of New Hampshire. He was defeated in the primary by John C. Winant, who went on to prevail in the general election.

In 1936, Landon challenged Franklin D. Roosevelt for the presidency. The GOP ticket of Landon & Knox was roundly trounced by the Democratic duo of Roosevelt & Garner, losing the electoral college vote 523-8, and carrying only two states, Maine and Vermont. Knox subsequently served as FDR's Secretary of the Navy during most of World War II.



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Pictured here is a selection of the great prices realized from our August 25, 2018 auction. Whether you have one quality item or a whole collection, please consider our unparalleled track record of success in the political field, as well as our attractive special commission rates for APIC members - as low as ZERO PERCENT! When premier collectors such as Merrill Berman & David and Janice Frent decide to sell, they choose Heritage, and we hope you will too. Let's talk!



Henry Ford 1924 presidential hopeful button
SOLD for \$7,500



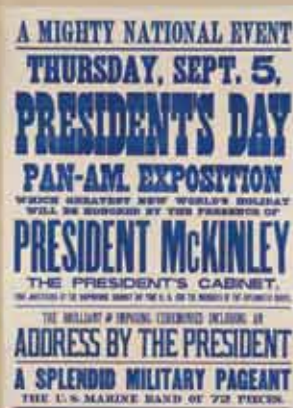
1844 James K. Polk portrait campaign flag
SOLD for \$81,250



1844 Henry Clay hand-painted campaign banner
SOLD for \$35,000



1912 Teddy Roosevelt Bull Moose pinback
SOLD for \$4,250



1901 William McKinley Pan-Am Exposition poster
SOLD for 10,000



1864 George McClellan paper campaign lantern
SOLD for \$6,875



Dwight D. Eisenhower's World War II 4-star collar insignia
SOLD for \$13,750



Official Presidential Flag, dating from the era of Eisenhower or JFK
SOLD for \$27,500



Lyndon Johnson official White House dinner plate
SOLD for \$7,500



Rare Missouri Woman's Suffrage badge
SOLD for \$7,500

To discuss your Heritage options, please call **877-HERITAGE (437-4824)**. Contact Tom Slater (TomS@HA.com, ext. 1441) or Don Ackerman (DonA@HA.com, ext. 1736), who have more than a century of combined experience in the political hobby. Preliminary photos of your items are always appreciated.

View all prices realized at HA.com/6183.

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