

Instant History

By Chuck Ross

This is the latest in our series on Presidential elections, concerning the election of 1852. Zachary Taylor became the second President to die in office. He served but a year and a half, and upon his death, was succeeded by Vice-President Millard Fillmore in 1850.

The Seventeenth Election (1852)

1850 was a momentous year in our history. Slavery was the overwhelming issue, threatening to divide the country in two.

(1) As the year began, Henry Clay made a series of proposals known as the Compromise of 1850. What were some of the main provisions?

(2) The Compromise touched off a series of debates by some of the most distinguished statesmen of all time. Who were these protagonists and what were their positions?

(3) What was the outcome of all this?

(4) With the problem of slavery at least temporarily shelved, attention turned to the political process. The Presidential nomination was hard sought in both parties. Who were the principles, and who emerged as the nominees of their parties?

(5) What were the results of the election of 1852?

Answers

(1) There were some eight proposals. The main provisions were admission of California as a free state, but no restrictions on slavery in the remainder of the Mexican territory; more stringent fugitive slave laws, but prohibition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia; and settlement of the boundary dispute between Texas and New Mexico.

(2) In addition to Clay, who appealed for "concessions and reason", John C. Calhoun represented the viewpoint of the South, while Daniel Webster

20 Years Ago

The 50th anniversary of the Landrum Civic League was celebrated in the home of one of the charter members, Mrs. W. M. Lambright. Three other charter members present were Mrs. McDuff Turner, Mrs. B. F. Thomson and Miss May Landrum. According to Rudolph Earle the charter members were Mrs. Sidney Carpenter, Mrs. T. D. Earle, Mrs. C. W. Kittrell (the first president), Misses May and Fannie Landrum, Mrs. W. M. Lambright, Mrs. R. L. Lee, Mrs. Clarence Morgan, Mrs. J. M. Richardson, Mrs. B. F. Thomson, and Mrs. McDuffie Turner. Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone reports that J. Coke Foster, Jr. of Tryon and Miss Marian Jo Ritchey of Columbus made the honor roll at the college for the winter term. Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Crater have moved from the Tharpe house on Trade St. to a Lawrence house in the Valley. Little League Officers are: Pres., Webster Williams; vice pres., Ed Weeks; sec., Mrs. Arthur Johnson; treas., Frank McFarland, Jr. Board of directors, Charlie Foster, John Wilson, W. H. McDonald, Phillip Walker,

Arthur Johnson. Player agent, John Christopher; ground chairman, Nelson Leonard; equipment chairman, Ed Weeks; publicity chairman, Mrs. John Christopher; umpire in chief, Harold Warrington. A lighted cross on top of Tryon peak attracted hundreds of people Sunday night. It was put up by the Polk County Jaycees. The Gay Blades officers are: Mrs. J. T. Mize, pres.; Mrs. Edward Sayre, vice pres.; Mrs. Nelson Jackson II, sec.; Mrs. Nelson Leonard, treas. The Junior Hunter Trials and Horse Show was held at the Old River House course. J. Arthur Reynolds was chairman and Mrs. Helen Hedekin was the judge. One of the winners was Gerald Pack. The members of the Silver Creek Baptist Church welcomed their new pastor and family, the Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Thompson and daughters, Lois, Dorothy and June, into the community with an "old-fashioned pounding." The Thompsons have a son living in Charlotte.

The most expensive seasoning these days is saffron. It sells for about \$700 a pound wholesale, according to the American Spice Trade Association.

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MAHOGANY — Music stands, marble-top chest, library table, in-laid chest, mirrors, in-laid fern stand, center table, Martha Washington sewing chest, love seat, Queen Ann low boy, chest of drawers, 2 Queen Ann chairs with cane bottoms.

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