

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA  
OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
70 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

November 29, 1924.

Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
15 Nassau Street,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

A biography of you is to be prepared for the National Cyclopedia of American Biography, and, as certain facts of your life and work are attainable only at your hands, we are writing for the information indicated on the enclosed questionnaire.

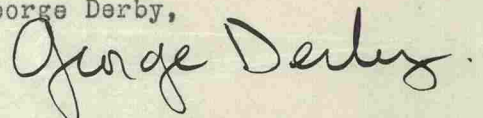
We are including your biography in a carefully selected group of prominent American Bankers. By describing the work of these men, we aim to present an account of the banking industry in this country, in terms of biography.

For this purpose it is necessary for us to have complete details of your work, of what you have accomplished in your special line. A description of the present capacity of your bank and its special features gives value to an article of this kind.

We shall greatly appreciate your assistance in helping us to compile an accurate and complete biography.

Yours very truly,

George Derby,



Managing Editor.

WM.

*Wesleyan Hospital*

December 9, 1924.

Mr. George Derby,  
Managing Editor,  
The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography,  
70 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

My dear Sir:

On November 29, 1924 you wrote asking for information concerning Mr. Benjamin Strong to enable you to compile an accurate and complete biography of him for inclusion in The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography, with those of other prominent American Bankers.

The following outline will, I believe, give you such information as will be required for this purpose:

Benjamin Strong was born in Fishkill-on-Hudson, (now Beacon) Dutchess County, New York, on December 22, 1872.

His father, Benjamin Strong, (Born Nov. 1834, died Nov. 8, 1915: was graduated from Columbia in 1854. He was a railroad officer, interested in banking, and retired about 65 years of age. Was an associate of Morris K. Jesup.

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His mother, Adeline Torrey Schenck, was the daughter of Rev. Dr. William Edward Schenck of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Strong attended the Montclair (N. J.) High School, but did not graduate. He attended no college, but in June 1918 was awarded the honorary degree of L.L.D. by Princeton University.

At the age of 18, before graduating from high school, he started as a clerk in the old banking firm of John Paton and Company, which had succeeded the firm of Jesup, Paton and Company, originally Morris K. Jesup and Company, - in the 70s and 80s one of the leading firms of bankers in New York, which has now disappeared with the death and retirement of partners. His father was associated with Morris K. Jesup, the old head of the firm, in various railroad matters in which he was interested, Benjamin Strong Sr. looking after most of his business and becoming one of his executors upon his death.

*much*

After about nine years with that firm and its successor, Cuyler Morgan and Company, he accepted a junior office (assistant secretary) with the Atlantic

Trust Company, one of the older and more conservative trust companies with a small business. Subsequently became secretary.

When that company consolidated with the Metropolitan Trust Company in 1902, Benjamin Strong became secretary of the latter through the consolidation.

\* After a year he became secretary of the Bankers Trust Company, which had then just been organized. In the course of the ten or eleven years following, he was a director and member of the executive committee of that company, becoming later vice president, and, finally, president, upon the retirement of E. C. Converse, at the end of 1913.

At that time Benjamin Strong was a director in various railroads and corporations, including Rock Island, Seaboard Air Line, General Electric Company, International Paper Company, American Light and Traction Company, Commonwealth Power Company, Astor Trust Company, Commercial Trust Company of Philadelphia, International Agricultural Corporation, International Motor Company, Foundation Company, Electric Bond and Share Company, Utah Power and Light Company, etc.

He accepted the position of Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York prior to its organization in October 1914.

Prior to that time he had engaged in various activities growing out of the outbreak of the war, especially in handling shipments of gold to Europe by the U.S.S. Tennessee, which was arranged by a committee of which Benjamin Strong was chairman; and later in handling a fund of \$100,000,000 of gold for the purpose of meeting foreign obligations of various kinds in dealing with the foreign exchange market.

The years 1914 to 1917 were spent in building up the organization of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, except during a period of about a year of illness spent in the West.

In 1917, upon declaration of war, Benjamin Strong became chairman of the Liberty Loan Committee of the Second Federal Reserve District, consisting of the following: Benj. Strong, James S. Alexander, George F. Baker, Allen B. Forbes, Walter E. Frew, Gates W. McGarrah, J. P. Morgan, Seward Prosser, Charles H. Sabin, Jacob H. Schiff, Frank a Vanderlip, Martin Vogel, Albert H. Wiggin, George W. Davidson, William Woodward; and vice chairman of the Capital Issues Committee of the Second Federal Reserve District; as well as various other organizations connected with war finance.

Accepting this office necessitated his retirement from all other business activities of any character.

He was ineligible for military service and his war record consists entirely of that associated with Government finance.

In 1918 Benjamin Strong received the cross of

unit B.  
Review  
1907

B

Chevalier of the Legion of Honor from the French Government.

Benjamin Strong is a member of the following clubs:

Century

Down Town Association

Metropolitan, New York

Metropolitan, Washington

National Golf Links of America

Links

Links Golf Club

Piping Rock Club

Congressional Country Club, Washington

He is also a member of the following associations:

Chamber of Commerce, State of New York,

International Chamber of Commerce,

Merchants Association of New York,

Chamber of Commerce of the U. S.,

American Chamber of Commerce, Paris,

French-American Chamber of Commerce, N.Y.,

Honest Ballot Association,

American Academy of Political and

Social Science,

American Statistical Association,

American Museum of Natural History,

American Society of the French

Legion of Honor,

Economic Club of N. Y.,

France America Society,

Japan Society,

N.Y. Botanical Society,

N.Y. Zoological Society,

Pan American Society of U.S.

American Geographical Soc.

League of Foreign Born Citizens

Dutchess County Society

Bankers Forum

Bond Club

American Institute of Banking

Very truly yours,

Secretary to  
Mr. Benj. Strong.

\* In the fall of 1907 Benjamin Strong was appointed chairman of a committee which made examinations of the trust companies which encountered difficulties during the panic, and, growing out of that work he was brought into contact with a group of bankers acting in an unofficial capacity to advise Senator Aldrich during the preparation of the so-called Aldrich Plan.

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American Society of the French

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BS.MSE

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THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA  
OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
70 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

*Ack.  
MKB  
8/5/25*

Aug. 1, 1925

Mr. W. Randolph Burgess  
33 Liberty Street  
New York City

Dear Sir:

You wrote us under date of February 5th that you were assembling biographical data to enable us to prepare for this Cyclopedea an account of the life and career of your friend, Benjamin Strong, Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank. In reorganizing this department we have come across your letter and, on searching our files, find that the information has to date never been received.

I am calling this matter to your attention because we are anxious to include an account of Governor Strong's life in the forthcoming volume of this Cyclopedea and should, accordingly, appreciate it if you would send me the information requested on the enclosed questionnaire at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly

*George Derby*  
GEORGE DERBY, Managing Editor

MC

August 5, 1925.

Mr. George Derby,  
Managing Editor, National Cyclopedic,  
70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Dear Mr. Derby:

I have just received your letter of August 1. I had supposed that Governor Strong's biography had gone forward to you before this, since I prepared some material a number of months ago and turned it over to him to verify. Governor Strong is now in Europe and I am afraid that the final transmission of the information to you will have to await his return this autumn. I shall bring it to his attention as soon as he is again in this country.

Very truly yours,

W. Randolph Burgess

WRB:R

Biography

September 19, 1925.

Mr. George Derby,  
Managing Editor, The National Cyclopaedia  
of American Biography,  
70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Dear Sir:

Dr. Burgess has handed your letter of August 1 to Governor Strong, who asks me to send you the enclosed biographical data for which you asked some time ago. It is, chiefly, just a rearrangement of what was earlier furnished you, and the delay has been caused by several long absences and the pressure of other matters on Mr. Strong's time.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Mr. Benj. Strong.

Enc.



The name Benjamin Strong has for many years been known in financial New York. Benjamin Strong's great grandfather, Benjamin Strong, began business life as a clerk of Alexander Hamilton when the United States Treasury was opened, and later was an organizer, vice president and president of the Seamen's Institution for Savings. His father, Benjamin Strong, (born November, 1834 - died November 6, 1915) was graduated from Columbia College in 1854, and was a railroad officer interested in banking, who retired at about sixty-five. With Morris K. Jesup, he was interested in various railroad matters, Benjamin Strong, Sr. looking after much of Mr. Jesup's business and becoming one of his executors upon his death. Adeline Torrey Schenck, the mother of Benj. Strong, is the daughter of the late Reverend Dr. William Edward Schenck of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia.

Their son, Benj. Strong, was born in Fishkill-on-Hudson (now Beacon) Dutchess County, N. Y., on December 22, 1872. He attended the Montclair (N.J.) High School, but did not graduate. He attended no college, though, in June, 1918, Princeton University awarded to him the honorary degree of L.L.D. in recognition of his work in war finance.

When Benj. Strong was 18 years of age, he started work as a clerk in the old banking firm of John Paton & Co., which had succeeded the firm of Jesup, Paton & Co., originally Morris K. Jesup & Co., - in the 70's and 80's one of the leading firms of bankers in New York, which has now disappeared with the death and retirement of partners. Following about 9 years of service with that firm and its successor, Cuyler Morgan & Co., he became a junior officer (assistant secretary) of the Atlantic Trust Company, one of the older and more conservative trust companies with a small business. Subsequently, he became secretary of that company, and, in 1902, when the Atlantic and the Metropolitan Trust Companies were consolidated, Benj. Strong became secretary of the latter. In 1903 the Bankers Trust Company was formed as one of the forward looking New York banking institutions, and Benj. Strong was made secretary.

When the 1907 panic burst on New York, Benj. Strong was made chairman of an informal examining committee organized by the larger financial interests to make examinations of the trust companies affected in connection with efforts to extend financial aid. The work of the committee played an important part in dealing with a serious crisis, which might have become disastrous, and in bringing stability in the financial situation.

Benj. Strong's activity in 1907 brought him into close contact with a group of bankers who were acting in an unofficial capacity to advise Senator Aldrich in the preparation of his plan which looked toward banking reform.

In the course of about 11 years, Benj. Strong held successive executive offices in the Bankers Trust Company until he became vice president, and, finally, in 1913, on the retirement of E. C. Converse, president. During that time he had enlarged his activities and connections in various directions, so that he was then a director in a number of railroads and corporations, including Rock Island, Seaboard Air Line, General Electric Company, International Paper Company, American Light and Traction Company, Commonwealth Power Company, Astor Trust Company, Commercial Trust Company of Philadelphia, International Agricultural Corporation, International Motor Company, Foundation Company, Electric Bond and Share Company, Utah Power and Light Company, etc. In addition to these, the outbreak of the World War in 1914 found Mr. Strong engaged in various important activities arising out of the financial disturbance of that period. He was the chairman of a committee which arranged the shipment of gold to Europe by the U. S. S. Tennessee. He also had much to do with handling a fund of \$100,000,000 of gold for the purpose of meeting foreign obligations of various kinds and in dealing with the foreign exchange market.

War conditions led to the decision to put into operation earlier than had been planned the new Federal Reserve System, which eventuated from plans originally undertaken by Senator Aldrich for banking stability and reform. The governorship

The New York Federal Reserve Bank was accepted by Benj. Strong in October 1914, as a patriotic service. It entailed the surrender of all of his other business activities, but presented the opportunity to effectively aid in the program of banking reform in which he had long been interested, and in the difficult tasks of finance under war conditions.

Entrance into the war by the United States put upon the new Federal Reserve System an herculean task, and many unexpected problems not contemplated by the framers of the Act, which it met most successfully. The performance of the New York bank under the guidance of Benj. Strong is well known, but it is yet too soon to say just how much of the success of the Treasury's war program and, indeed, the more severe strain of the post-war demands on the country's banking system, can be accredited to Benj. Strong's guidance of the New York Federal Reserve Bank and to his influence in the larger policies of the Federal Reserve System. His efforts have now been turned to the less conspicuous but more permanent activities of the System in which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York plays so large a part.

While ineligible for active military service, his war record associated with government finance is conspicuous. In addition to the recognition Princeton University accorded him, the French Government made him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor in 1918, and the Montenegrin Government also decorated him.

Benj. Strong is still actively engaged in matters of finance as the seventh generation in the Strong family is beginning to enter that field. Both of his sons, Benj. Strong, Jr. and Philip G. Strong, have now entered the banking world in New York.

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1926

*Biography*

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

The Foremost Biographical Authority in the United States

Cable Address: Joint, N. Y.  
Telephones: { Chelsea 8135  
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70 Fifth Avenue, New York

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
Publishers

April 26, 1926.

WHEN REPLYING, PLEASE REFER TO NO.

Miss M. S. Bisecker,  
Secretary to Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
33 Liberty Street,  
New York City.

*B.S. Personal File*

Dear Madam:-

Mr. W. H. Malia, of our Editorial Staff, has turned over to us your letter of the 24th with the corrected biography of Mr. Benjamin Strong for THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY, and we appreciate very much the correction and revision of the article.

We regret to learn that Mr. Strong is not interested in the portrait feature of the Cyclopedic and feel that this must be because he does not fully appreciate the importance of the publication and of the portrait feature. We are taking the liberty of enclosing a pamphlet on the value of the portrait feature of the Cyclopedic and feel confident that if he will take occasion to read it he will appreciate that his portrait should appear in this work, now so generally conceded to be this Nation's Portrait Gallery, containing some 25,000 authentic portraits of America's distinguished men in all lines of activity and including most of the leading financiers of the country.

We can quite readily understand that Mr. Strong has no desire to exploit himself through the publication of his portrait but this is far from the undesirable publicity to which he quite properly objects. He will also appreciate that a work of this character must have financial cooperation other than that accorded through its subscription list.

We are hoping therefore for Mr. Strong's further consideration and know that Mr. Malia would appreciate an opportunity to explain this feature of the work to him in person.

Very truly yours,

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.

*per B. Stein*

FBK.LM

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National Cyclopaedia

American Biography

1924-1925

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OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
70 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

*Answered but  
further reply required  
W.R.B.*

Attended to

Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
33 Liberty Street,  
New York City.

FEB 5 - 1925

December 13, 1924.

W. R. B.

DEC 15 1924

Dear Sir:

The information regarding your life and work for a biography of you, to be published in this Cyclopeda, is here and I wish to thank you for your courteous attention in this matter.

In preparing this biography with the facts which you so kindly sent to me, I find that further details in connection with your work are necessary for an article of this kind.

I have your statement that the years from 1914 to 1917 were spent in building up the organization of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Could you expand this statement somewhat by giving a few of your important activities and their results in this connection? I should also like, if possible, further details of the work undertaken by a group of bankers who advised Senator Aldrich during the preparation of the so-called "Aldrich Plan". By including these details, this article attains historical significance from an educational point of view.

The Cyclopeda is not a "Who's Who" in that its biographies range from 500 to 1,000 words in length, always stressing the details of the individual's life work and of what he has accomplished in his special line. I hope that you will be able to send me as complete data as possible so that your biography may receive the careful representation which it deserves.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA  
OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
70 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

Mr. Benjamin Strong - 2 - December 13, 1924.

Thank you for the attention you have already shown in  
this matter and for the courtesy of these additional  
details.

Yours very truly,

W. H. Mackay  
Editor.

WHM:MCH

February 5, 1925.

Mr. W. H. Mackay,  
Editor, National Cyclopaedia of American Biography,  
70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Dear Sir:

In further reply to your letter of December 13 to Governor Strong, let me say that Governor Strong has asked me to work over the material necessary to supplement somewhat the biographical data sent you some time ago. This work is in preparation and I hope to send it to you within the course of the next week or so.

Very truly yours,

25. Dominating personal characteristics.

26. Name of earliest paternal American ancestor; his residence previous to coming to America; the date of his landing, and where he settled.

27. Give direct line of descent from that ancestor arranged by generations:

[NOTE:—While these ancestral records are not an indispensable part of the biography they are always included when obtainable. A list of founders of American families with their notable descendants to be found in this Cyclopaedia is included in the Index and Conspectus Volume pages 657-716.]

1st .....and his wife.....

2nd .....and his wife.....

3rd .....and his wife.....

4th .....and his wife.....

5th .....and his wife.....

6th .....and his wife.....

7th .....and his wife.....

8th .....and his wife.....

9th .....and his wife.....

28. State important facts regarding any of them, such as offices held, public or military services performed, work accomplished, inventions, etc.

Data furnished by.....

Date ..... Address .....

From the President, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York.—"Mr. McAllister has kindly brought me the Prospectus volume of your magnificent work, and I feel like expressing my deep appreciation of your great and monumental publication. The table of First American Ancestors and Their Descendants appeals to me strongly. In my work of preparing obituaries of members of the New York Genealogical Society for publication in *The Record*, I find The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography invaluable."

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1. Name in full, spelling out the middle one.
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3. Place and exact date of birth.
4. Father's name in full; dates of his birth and death; his occupation and any notable facts of his career.
5. Mother's maiden name in full, and name of her father.
6. Where educated—schools and colleges attended.
7. If a college graduate, give name of college, date of graduation, and degrees received in course.
8. Where, when and with whom was business or professional career begun?
9. Give positions since occupied in regular calling, with dates of changes.
10. If connected with other business enterprises give particulars.

From the "New York Times."—"The completeness of The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography is shown by the pains that have been taken to make a representative selection from every phase of the nation's life and to give sketches of those careers which have added in any department and in any locality something to the development of the Republic. The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography should rank well with the great national biographies of Europe."

11. Details of vocation, profession or business.

[NOTE:—As the most essential part of a biography is the account of the subject's life work full details under this paragraph are desired by the Editors. The Cyclopedia is not a Who's Who, but a collection of real biographies, constituting a history of American institutions, American industry and American achievement in terms of biography.]

- (a) If in a manufacturing or mercantile business, give the history of its development during the subject's connection with it, including figures showing its characteristic features, growth and standing in that period.
(b) If an author, give full title of books, dates of publication and extracts from suitable critiques.
(c) If an inventor, describe inventions and give dates of patents.
(d) If a musician, artist or sculptor, give catalogue of important works, dates of production and some notices of the press.
(e) If a scientist, give particular lines of researches and investigations, with results achieved.
(f) If a physician or dentist, give account of practice and details of specialties.
(g) If a lawyer or a judge, give titles of notable cases conducted or tried, involving new or unique questions of law.
(h) If an architect or engineer, give list of important commissions or contracts with description of special features.

12. Mention noteworthy incidents in business or professional career.

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13. If a military or a naval man, give particulars of company, regiment, etc.; engagements participated in; whether wounded, taken prisoner, etc.; rank when discharged and other outstanding incidents.

14. World War record other than military (full details of personal service).

15. Political and civil positions held, with term of offices.

16. Public positions of honor and responsibility, with dates.

17. Membership in clubs with offices held in any of them and dates.

18. Membership in learned and other societies with offices held in any of them and dates.

19. Honorary degrees, decorations, medals and awards, with year conferred.

20. Religious affiliations and activities.

21. Favorite recreations or hobbies.

22. When and where married. Wife's maiden name. Name, residence and vocation of her father. (If married more than once, give same facts of each case, with date of wife's death.)

23. Full names of all children with vocations and addresses of those who grew to maturity. Names of married daughters' husbands.

24. If deceased, exact date and place of death.

From the "Wilmington News."—"The published volumes of the National Cyclopedia of American Biography make it evident that for the first time this country is to have a reference book which will not confine itself to a repetition of names that are to be found in all cyclopedias, but one which will be adequate, and which will place within reach authentic information in regard to the important and active men in all parts of the United States. This country has long needed a biographical dictionary of precisely the comprehensive quality which this work possesses, and we are very much mistaken if the publishers in preparing this work have not surpassed any existing work of this kind."

1) Niles, Wm H

National Cyclopedea

8

American  
Biography

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IN REPLYING REFER TO NO.

January 6, 1926

Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
33 Liberty St.,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

May we ask your attention again to our letter of last Dec. 11th in which we requested an appointment to review preliminary proof of sketch of your career, prepared for the NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY. Since we are to publish this permanent record and distribute it in public libraries and in journalistic and educational institutions throughout the country, it is in our mutual interest that it be cyclopedically correct and as effective as the facts warrant. Kindly advise just as soon as convenient and oblige,

Yours very truly,

*Wm. H. Malia,*

Associate Editor

WHM:JR

# NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICA

## CURRENT VOLUME A

The form of this new volume inaugurates a needed change in the development of the Cyclopaedia as a continuing series, and has been adopted as a solution to the recurrent problem of keeping up to date the records of living persons in a permanent work of reference. The biographies in this volume are restricted to those of living people, and by means of a specially devised detachable form of binder they can be revised and enlarged as necessary.

In accordance with the established editorial policy, the contemporary biographies in this new Volume contain a wide range of miscellaneous information, constituting a guide to current history to the extent to which the official or professional work of the subjects is identified with events of the time. The book begins with the biography of President Coolidge, followed by those of his cabinet officers and of the members of the Harding and Wilson administrations. Ranging in length from two to four pages, the cabinet biographies present a resume of the career and achievements of each official, and, having been examined and verified in every detail, may be accepted as authentic records of the events to which the subjects' careers are related. Those of Herbert C. Hoover (p. 16), Bainbridge Colby (p. 33) and Col. House (p. 55) are the first authoritative accounts of their careers.

A conspicuous feature of the Volume is the large number of biographies of leading American participants in the World War. With the details of a great variety of war-time activities radiating from the individual at his point of contact with them, such a compilation, cross-indexed for easy reference, constitutes a comprehensive and unique chronicle of America's share in the world conflict from the personal standpoint that will be of the utmost value to the future student and historian. The four-page biography of General Pershing (p. 434) outlines the accomplishments of the American expeditionary forces as a whole, while their more sectional exploits, such as those of army corps, divisions and brigades, appear in the biographies of the leading commanders who served under him. The military biographies include those of the army corps commanders, Generals Hunter Liggett (p. 498), Charles P. Summerall (p. 150), Robert L. Bullard (p. 294), William M. Wright (p. 440), George W. Read (p. 537), and Omar Bundy (p. 558); the two chiefs of staff of the war period, Generals Tasker H. Bliss (p. 274); and Peyton C. March (p. 543); General William M. Black, chief of engineers (p. 489); Surgeon General Merritte W. Ireland (p. 220); Colonel William N. Haskell, chief of the American Relief Commission in Russia (p. 372); General George O. Squier, chief of the Signal Corps (p. 383); General Enoch H. Crowder, Judge Advocate General in charge of the draft, (p. 455); Gen. Samuel McRoberts, chief of the Ordnance Procurement Division (p. 290); Gen. William L. Kenly, Director of Military Aeronautics (p. 233); Gen. Edward M. Lewis (p. 568); Gen. John F. O'Ryan (p. 61); Gen. Joseph T. Dickman (p. 79); Admiral William S. Sims, commander of naval operations in Europe (p. 192); Admiral Joseph Strauss, in charge of the mine barrage of North Sea (p. 225); Admiral Mark M. Bristol, U. S. Commissioner to Turkey (p. 63), and Gen. James G. Harbord (p. 281), chief of the Services of Supply.

The Biography of Bernard M. Baruch, (p. 57), contains a survey of the War Industries Board, its purpose, organization, and operations, while its ramifications are treated in the biography of leading divisional officials, such as Alexander Legge, Vice-Chairman of the Board (p. 379); Robert S. Brookings, Price Fixing Committee (p. 179); Charles H. McDowell, Chemicals Division (p. 121); Richard L. Humphrey, Building Materials Division (p. 539); Leland L. Summers, Explosives and Chemicals Division (p. 128); Edward P. Parker, Priorities Commission (p. 538); Hugh Frayne, Labor Division (p. 276); George N. Peek, Finished Products Division (p. 518); J. Leonard Replogle, Steel Supply Division (p. 433), etc.

Other civilians with war service records are E. N. Hurley, U. S. Shipping Board (p. 60); Harry A. Garfield, Fuel Administrator (p. 102); Livingston Farrand (p. 117) and Ernest P. Bicknell (p. 130), American Red Cross; Charles M. Schwab, Emergency Fleet Corporation (p. 238); Elbert J. Hall (p. 110) and Jesse G. Vincent (p. 111); Liberty Motor; John L. Mott, Y.M.C.A. War Work (p. 235); Van H. Manning, War Gas Production (p. 316); Walter S. Gifford (p. 535) and Grosvenor B. Clarkson, directors of the U. S. Council of National Defense (p. 580); John M. Browning, inventor of the Browning Machine Gun (p. 306); Charles L. Pack, National War Garden Commission (p. 408); Newcomb K. Chaney, Improved Gas Masks (p. 95); Robert N. Yerkes, Originator of the Army Intelligence Tests (p. 109); Harry Milo Adams, Inland Traffic Service (p. 23) and Charles G. Abbott, Improvements in Searchlights (p. 366).

The list of government and state officials and legislators include the leading candidates for office in the presidential election of 1924 in addition to Pres. Coolidge (p. 1), namely, John W. Davis (p. 25); Robert M. LaFollette (p. 354); Charles G. Dawes (p. 508); Gov. Charles W. Bryan of Nebraska (p. 520) and Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (p. 542); U. S. Senators Henry Cabot Lodge (p. 262); Medill McCormick (p. 181); Jas. E. Watson (p. 409); Duncan U. Fletcher (p. 330); Oscar W. Underwood (p. 550); George W. Pepper (p. 469); James Couzens (p. 216); Edwin F. Ladd (p. 65); Augustus O. Stanley (p. 422), Governors Alfred E. Smith of New York (p. 405); Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland (p. 74); ex-Gov. Walter R. Stubbs of Kansas (p. 431), and Ex-Gov. Oliver

H. Shoup of Colorado; William P. G. Harding, former governor of the Federal Reserve Board (p. 368) and Frank L. Polk (p. 417) and Norman H. Davis (p. 314), former under secretaries of state.

In the group of diplomatic biographies are those of Brand Whitlock, minister to Belgium (p. 545); Hugh Gibson, first minister to Poland (p. 419) and his successor, Alfred J. Pearson (p. 188); Joseph C. Grew, minister to Switzerland (p. 412), and James W. Gerard, ambassador to Germany (p. 169).

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December 11, 1925

Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
33 Liberty St.,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

The sketch of your career, from data which was sent some time ago at our request, is now prepared for the NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY. We wish to review the preliminary proof with you and to discuss the matter of a portrait to accompany and complete the biography. We do not like to send these biographies by mail, as an interview invariably enables us to improve the context.

Will you kindly make an appointment at your early convenience and oblige,

Yours very truly,

*J. H. Malia*

WHM:JR

Associate Editor

*M.S.P.  
You arrange*

INTERNATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY  
CURRENT VOLUME A

The form of this new volume inaugurates a needed change in the development of the Cyclopaedia as a continuing series, and has been adopted as a solution to the recurrent problem of keeping up to date the records of living persons in a permanent work of reference. The biographies in this volume are restricted to those of living people, and by means of a specially devised detachable form of binder they can be revised and enlarged as necessary.

In accordance with the established editorial policy, the contemporary biographies in this new Volume contain a wide range of miscellaneous information, constituting a guide to current history to the extent to which the official or professional work of the subjects is identified with events of the time. The book begins with the biography of President Coolidge, followed by those of his cabinet officers and of the members of the Harding and Wilson administrations. Ranging in length from two to four pages, the cabinet biographies present a resume of the career and achievements of each official, and, having been examined and verified in every detail, may be accepted as authentic records of the events to which the subjects' careers are related. Those of Herbert C. Hoover (p. 16), Bainbridge Colby (p. 33) and Col. House (p. 55) are the first authoritative accounts of their careers.

A conspicuous feature of the Volume is the large number of biographies of leading American participants in the World War. With the details of a great variety of war-time activities radiating from the individual at his point of contact with them, such a compilation, cross-indexed for easy reference, constitutes a comprehensive and unique chronicle of America's share in the world conflict from the personal standpoint that will be of the utmost value to the future student and historian. The four-page biography of General Pershing (p. 434) outlines the accomplishments of the American expeditionary forces as a whole, while their more sectional exploits, such as those of army corps, divisions and brigades, appear in the biographies of the leading commanders who served under him. The military biographies include those of the army corps commanders, Generals Hunter Liggett (p. 498), Charles P. Summerall (p. 150), Robert L. Bullard (p. 294), William M. Wright (p. 440), George W. Read (p. 537), and Omar Bundy (p. 558); the two chiefs of staff of the war period, Generals Tasker H. Bliss (p. 274); and Peyton C. March (p. 543); General William M. Black, chief of engineers (p. 489); Surgeon General Merritte W. Ireland (p. 220); Colonel William N. Haskell, chief of the American Relief Commission in Russia (p. 372); General George O. Squier, chief of the Signal Corps (p. 383); General Enoch H. Crowder, Judge Advocate General in charge of the draft, (p. 455); Gen. Samuel McRoberts, chief of the Ordnance Procurement Division (p. 290); Gen. William L. Kenly, Director of Military Aeronautics (p. 233); Gen. Edward M. Lewis (p. 568); Gen. John F. O'Ryan (p. 61); Gen. Joseph T. Dickman (p. 79); Admiral William S. Sims, commander of naval operations in Europe (p. 192); Admiral Joseph Strauss, in charge of the mine barrage of North Sea (p. 225); Admiral Mark M. Bristol, U. S. Commissioner to Turkey (p. 63), and Gen. James G. Harbord (p. 281), chief of the Services of Supply.

The Biography of Bernard M. Baruch, (p. 57), contains a survey of the War Industries Board, its purpose, organization, and operations, while its ramifications are treated in the biography of leading divisional officials, such as Alexander Legge, Vice-Chairman of the Board (p. 379); Robert S. Brookings, Price Fixing Committee (p. 179); Charles H. McDowell, Chemicals Division (p. 121); Richard L. Humphrey, Building Materials Division (p. 539); Leland L. Summers, Explosives and Chemicals Division (p. 128); Edward P. Parker, Priorities Commission (p. 538); Hugh Frayne, Labor Division (p. 276); George N. Peek, Finished Products Division (p. 518); J. Leonard Replegle, Steel Supply Division (p. 433), etc.

Other civilians with war service records are E. N. Hurley, U. S. Shipping Board (p. 60); Harry A. Garfield, Fuel Administrator (p. 102); Livingston Farrand (p. 117) and Ernest P. Bicknell (p. 130), American Red Cross; Charles M. Schwab, Emergency Fleet Corporation (p. 238); Elbert J. Hall (p. 110) and Jesse G. Vincent (p. 111); Liberty Motor; John L. Mott, Y.M.C.A. War Work (p. 235); Van H. Manning, War Gas Production (p. 316); Walter S. Gifford (p. 535) and Grosvenor B. Clarkson, directors of the U. S. Council of National Defense (p. 580); John M. Browning, inventor of the Browning Machine Gun (p. 306); Charles L. Pack, National War Garden Commission (p. 408); Newcomb K. Chaney, Improved Gas Masks (p. 95); Robert N. Yerkes, Originator of the Army Intelligence Tests (p. 109); Harry Milo Adams, Inland Traffic Service (p. 23) and Charles G. Abbott, Improvements in Searchlights (p. 366).

The list of government and state officials and legislators include the leading candidates for office in the presidential election of 1924 in addition to Pres. Coolidge (p. 1), namely, John W. Davis (p. 25); Robert M. LaFollette (p. 354); Charles G. Dawes (p. 508); Gov. Charles W. Bryan of Nebraska (p. 520) and Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (p. 542); U. S. Senators Henry Cabot Lodge (p. 262); Medill McCormick (p. 181); Jas. E. Watson (p. 409); Duncan U. Fletcher (p. 330); Oscar W. Underwood (p. 550); George W. Pepper (p. 469); James Couzens (p. 216); Edwin F. Ladd (p. 65); Augustus O. Stanley (p. 422), Governors Alfred E. Smith of New York (p. 405); Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland (p. 74); ex-Gov. Walter R. Stubbs of Kansas (p. 431), and Ex-Gov. Oliver

H. Shoup of Colorado; William P. G. Harding, former governor of the Federal Reserve Board (p. 368) and Frank L. Polk (p. 417) and Norman H. Davis (p. 314), former under secretaries of state.

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70 FIFTH AVENUE

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

*Biography*

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA  
OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.  
70 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

April 15, 1926

Miss M. S. Bleeker,  
Secy to Mr. Benjamin Strong,  
33 Liberty St.,  
New York City.

*ack 4/24-26*

Dear Madam:-

May we ask again that you urge on Governor Strong's attention the sketch of his career which we prepared for THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY. I left the manuscript with you the middle of last January, but it is more than a year since we first exchanged correspondence on this subject.

Since then we issued one volume and we would like to get the biography in form for a forthcoming volume, now pretty well compiled, and which will be one of the most important of our series of twenty-one volumes.

Kindly advise and oblige,

Yours very truly,

*Wm. H. Malia,*

Associate Editor

WHM:JR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAMES T. O'NEILL

NEW YORK OFFICE

April 15, 1936

Miss M. S. Blocker,  
Room 10, Benjamin Street,  
New York City.

APR 24 1936

Your letter of the 11th inst. regarding the  
photography in connection with the  
case of the late James T. O'Neill, was  
received and the Bureau is pleased to  
advise you that the Bureau has been  
able to locate the photographs which  
were taken at the time of the  
investigation of the late James T. O'Neill.

Since then we issued one volume and we would like to get the  
photography in form for a forthcoming volume, not greatly well  
compiled, and which will be one of the most important of our  
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Kindly advise and oblige.

Yours very truly,

*J. Edgar Hoover*

Associate Editor

MAIL ROOM

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

*Biography*

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA  
OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

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September 30, 1925.

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33 Liberty St.,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

The information regarding your life and work for this Cyclopedea has been received and we wish to thank you for your courteous attention in this matter.

These data, with what we have in our files, will enable us to prepare an outline biography, the proof of which will be submitted to you for correction or for any addition that may be necessary before publication.

This Cyclopedea is the standard biographical authority of this country and contains a full list of prominent representatives of your state. It is enjoying an extensive sale among those who need it, chiefly the libraries, newspaper offices, schools and colleges.

Please be assured that there is no obligation or expense on your part for the furnishing of this material and neither are you expected to purchase the books. There is a charge, however, to cover the expense of a portrait illustration, if wanted, but this is in no sense obligatory.

Yours very truly,

*George Derby*  
GEORGE DERBY, Managing Editor.

MC:AS