

resulted in the constitutional convention. This resolution called for a meeting at Annapolis in September, 1786, of commissioners from all the states to obtain a uniform commercial system. This convention was a notable gathering. It consisted of fifty-four men, representing twelve states. Of these, twenty-three, or 42.5 per cent., were college graduates, and exactly one-half of the entire number was made up of college-bred men.

I shall now trace further the influence of the college graduate upon our national life by showing the proportion of college graduates among our Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Cabinet officers and Justices of the Supreme Court from the beginning of our history.

There have been twenty Presidents who were chosen by the people, and four who reached the presidency through the death of the President. Of the twenty elected, eleven, or exactly 55 per cent., were college graduates. Of the twenty-four men who have sat in the President's chair, thirteen, more than 54 per cent., were college graduates. There have been twenty-four Vice-Presidents. Of these, thirteen, or 54.16 per cent., were college graduates.

There have been thirty-five Secretaries of State since the beginning of our national history. Twenty-two, or 63.85 per cent., were college graduates, and they form a distinguished body of men. Call over the names of those men who, in this office, have performed the most distinguished service. Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Adams, Clay, Webster, Calhoun, Buchanan, Seward, Fish, Blaine, Olney. This is not my list, but that of a man whose business is history, a distinguished university professor. In the list of twelve names there are but two of non-graduates—Monroe and Clay. Of the forty men who have held the office of Secretary of the Treasury, twenty, or 50 per cent., were college graduates.

I asked an able student of finance to name the great financiers among the Secretaries of the Treasury. He placed Hamilton and Gallatin at the head of the list, and in the second class he included Chase, Dallas and Fessenden. All of these were college-bred men, and four of the five were graduates.

Twenty five, or 50 per cent. of the men who have held the office of Secretary of War, and eighteen, or 50 per cent., of the Secretaries of the Navy, were college graduates.

The office of Secretary of the Interior was not established until 1849, hence the number of men who have held it is comparatively small. There have been in all twenty one, of which number, eleven, or 52.3 per cent., were college graduates.

The Postmaster General was not made a cabinet officer until 1839, but in the following estimate all the men who have ever held the office are included. There have been thirty-eight of these, of which number twenty, or 52.6 per cent., were college graduates. It is singular, unless a college training fits a man for business, that so many college graduates have been called to fill this position, which requires high business ability.

Of the forty-five Attorneys General, thirty, or 66.66 per cent., were college graduates, and 80 per cent. college-bred men. Probably no one will deny that of all the Cabinet positions those of Secretary of State and Attorney General are the most difficult to fill. It is, therefore, a very strong evidence of the superiority of the graduates over the non-graduates to find that the former so far outnumber the latter in these important positions.

The superiority of the college graduate comes out most clearly in the appointments of Justices of the Supreme Court. There have been fifty-eight of these, and of that number, forty, or nearly 69 per cent. of the