

**EX-PRESIDENTS OF THE  
NATIONAL  
AMATEUR PRESS  
ASSOCIATION: SKETCHES**

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Ex-Presidents of the National Amateur Press Association: Sketches by Wm. C. Ahlhauser

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**WM. C. AHLHAUSER**

**EX-PRESIDENTS OF THE  
NATIONAL  
AMATEUR PRESS  
ASSOCIATION: SKETCHES**



**EX-PRESIDENTS**  
*OF THE*  
**NATIONAL AMATEUR  
PRESS ASSOCIATION**

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*SKETCHES*

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*BY*

**WM. C. AHLHAUSER**



W. PAUL COOK, PUBLISHER  
ATHOL, MASS.  
1919  
MRS

**RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED**

**TO THE**

**OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

**OF THE**

**NATIONAL AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**41 2587**

## PREFACE

In presenting this volume of biographical sketches of Ex-Presidents of the National Amateur Press Association, the author fully realizes that the sketches are not as complete as may be desired but he wishes to state that the facts gathered were the best obtainable and many were procured with a great deal of difficulty. Innumerable letters were written to the living Ex-Presidents and to the relatives of our deceased officials, and in many cases no replies nor data were furnished. The sketches written were compiled from actual facts, procured from various sources.

The credit of origin of this work must be given to Fredk. F. Heath, who suggested the department at the time when the author was Official Editor of the National Amateur, in 1907. To Walter F. Zahn, the author is also indebted for his co-operation, at all times. John T. Nixon, just prior to his death, suggested the page size to be the same as the bound volume of Nixon's History of the National Amateur Press Association, making this a companion volume. The final publication of this work is solely and primarily due to the generous spirit of W. Paul Cook, now President of our beloved organization, an executive of untiring efforts bound to make the coming year the most successful in the history of the National Amateur Press Association.

In dedicating this volume to the officers and members of the National Amateur Press Association, the author wishes to voice his gratitude for the untold benefits and pleasures derived and the many warm friendships gained through that most wonderful institution, Amateur Journalism.

WM. C. AHLHAUSER.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 6, 1919.

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**JOHN WINSLOW SNYDER**

**1st President**

John Winslow Snyder, the first president of the National Amateur Press Association, entered amateurdom when a resident of Richmond, Va., back in 1872. The 'Dom as we know it today was then in its infancy, but talent was quickly recognized and "Winslow" with his large output of articles contributed to the various papers soon grew to be one of the lights of the movement. It is said of him that he was the most popular amateur of his day, and when the national meeting was held at Philadelphia, Centennial year, and the National Amateur Press Association launched, his selection as president seemed to come as a matter of course. Two years before he had been elected president of the Southern Amateur Press Association, then a flourishing body in a section that was very active. He served the National Amateur Press Association as first vice-president during its second year, and it was a notable fact that he was presiding officer at the first three of the National's conventions—at Phil-

adelphia, in 1876, as president, at Long Branch, 1877, as vice-president, in the absence of the elected president, Alexander W. Dingwall, and at Chicago in 1878, until the newly elected president, Wm. T. Hall, assumed the gavel. "Winslow" once said that his amateur career began in one sense when he was a boy of twelve years attending the boarding school at Highland Falls, N. Y., and was shown by a Brooklyn boy a copy of an amateur paper published by a friend of his.

He took up the study of law in 1877 and in 1880 removed to Kansas City, where he opened a law office. "All of my experiences," he said, "have been of untold service to me in my profession and in my writing of articles for the law journals as well in the preparation of lectures which I delivered in the Kansas City School of Law. I shall never forget the "brain storm" I experienced when I saw the first amateur paper. From that attack I have never recovered, and I expect to die in the

faith. Professional duties cannot rob me of the pleasure of studying over the many amateur papers that good friends in the cause constantly send me. But naturally and properly I am most interested in two particular supporters of

our cause: the organ of the Association and the *Fossil*, that serves so well to keep the 'old boys' all in touch and knowledge of one another."

John Winslow Snyder died at Kansas City, April 4, 1910.

