

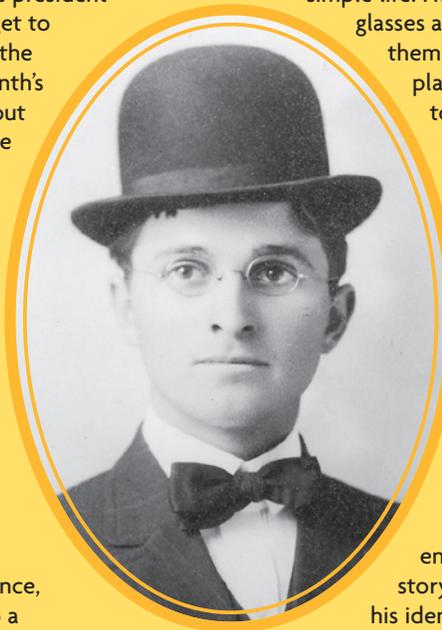
Save the White House!

by Dennis Denenberg

One of the advantages of being the president of the United States is that you get to live in the most famous home in the world, the White House. Well, this month's mystery hero was our 33rd president, but instead of living in the White House, he lived across the street in Blair House for four years.

You see, a home inspection of the White House uncovered major structural problems. Our hero was informed that parts of it were in danger of collapsing. So, he and his family moved out while the White House underwent a major renovation. You might think such a situation would be upsetting to a president. But our hero was such a humble and honest man that he didn't mind.

As a child growing up in Independence, Missouri, our hero was accustomed to a



simple life. He had extremely poor eyesight. He wore glasses at an early age and was teased about them, so he found enjoyment in reading and playing the piano. His mother taught him to read the Bible at age 5. By age 15, he may have read all 3,000 books (including encyclopedias) in his town's public library! His favorite topic was history.

Discipline and honesty were guiding principles in his upbringing. These habits later served him well as president. He made some of the most important decisions in the 20th century. Yet he was the only president from that century who never went to college. His eagerness to read and learn made him knowledgeable and capable of making good decisions.

By the way, our hero's life was threatened while living in Blair House—there's a story you should read once you figure out his identity. Answer on page 48.



"Dr. D"—also known as **Dr. Dennis Denenberg**—loves history and real heroes. For almost 20 years, he's been writing, teaching, and speaking about heroes all over America. Visit www.heroes4us.com to learn all about his award-winning book and his Hero-Virtue trading cards.

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