

Name: James Knox Polk

11

Terms: March 4th, 1845 to March 4th, 1849

Election Results:

Year	Candidate	Popular Votes	Electoral Votes
1844	James K. Polk	1,338,464	170
1844	Henry Clay	1,300,097	105

Four ideas or acts:

-Treaty of 1848 with Mexico. It gave the U.S. control over California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and parts of Colorado and Wyoming.

-Walker Tariff Act of 1846. It reduced tariffs, or taxes, on goods imported from other countries so foreign products could compete in cost with those made in the United States.

-Independent Treasury Act of 1846. This act created a bank to handle federal funds that was separate from private businesses and state banks. The Treasury Act became the foundation of the present U.S. banking system.

-In 1846, Polk signed a treaty with Britain, gaining control of the entire Oregon territory. The new treaty created a boundary between Canada and the United States at the 49th parallel of latitude.

Administration:

Vice President: George M. Dallas (1845-1849)

Cabinet:

Secretary of State

James Buchanan (1845-1849)

Secretary of the Treasury

Robert J. Walker (1845-1849)

Secretary of War

William L. Marcy (1845-1849)

Attorney General

John Y. Mason (1845-46)

Nathan Clifford (1846-48)

Isaac Toucey (1848-49)

Postmaster General

Cave Johnson (1845-1849)

Secretary of the Navy

George Bancroft (1845-46)

John Y. Mason (1846-49)

Problems encountered:

-On May 13, 1846, the United States went to war against Mexico over Texas.

-He walked into troubles with foreign affairs. Problems with not only Mexico but also Britain over boundary lines in North America dealing.

Trivia facts:

-He had the shortest post-term life. He died of diarrhea three months after leaving office.

-Gold was discovered in the West during his presidency.

Name: Benjamin Harrison

23

Terms: 1889-1893

Election Results:

Year	Candidates	Popular Votes	Electoral Votes
1888	*Benjamin Harrison	5,447,129	233
	Grover Cleveland	5,537,857	168
1892	Benjamin Harrison	5,182,690	145
	*Grover Cleveland	5,555,426	277
	James B. Weaver	1,029,846	22

***winner**

Four ideas or acts:

- The landmark Sherman Antitrust Act, the first bill ever to attempt to limit the power of America's giant corporations
- Harrison lobbied successfully for the passage of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890, which required that silver be used in federal coinage, a concession to the western silver interests. However, this plan was badly conceived and nearly depleted the U.S. Treasury of its gold reserves.
- The Dependent Pension Act, which benefited all Civil War veterans who could not perform manual labor, was passed despite the fact that the resulting cost of pensions would rise from \$88 million in 1889 to \$159 million in 1893.
- The McKinley Tariff Act, setting tariffs at record highs, was designed mainly to protect American manufacturers during a period of rapid industrialization.

Administration:

Vice President: Levi P. Morton

Cabinet:

Secretary of State
James G. Blaine (1889-92)
John W. Foster (1892-93)
Secretary of the Treasury

William Windom (1889-91)
Charles Foster (1891-93)
Secretary of War
Redfield Proctor (1889-91)
Stephen B. Elkins (1891-93)
Attorney General
William H. H. Miller (1889-93)
Postmaster General
John Wanamaker (1889-93)
Secretary of the Navy
Benjamin F. Tracy (1889-93)
Secretary of the Interior
John W. Noble (1889-93)
Secretary of Agriculture
Jeremiah M. Rusk (1889-93)

Problems encountered:

-Harrison faced domestic problems during his time in office. The administration attempted to solve pressing economic and social problems by passing four important laws in 1890. (see above)

-Southern problems rooted in Reconstruction

Trivia facts:

-Only president to be the grandson of a president.

-May be first president whose voice was recorded.