

KING AND COMMONER GRIEVE OVER HARDING'S DEATH

HARDING'S CAREER WAS FROM A POOR BOY TO PRESIDENT

Ohioan, Who Rose to Highest Office, Worked Way Through College, Bought Newspaper at Marion, and Became Husband of Town's Richest Girl.

Harding Life in Brief

1865—Born Nov. 2 on farm near Blooming Grove, Ohio. 1882—Was graduated from Ohio Central College, Iberia, Ohio. 1884—Becomes owner and editor of Marion (Ohio) Daily Star. 1891—Marries Miss Florence Kling. 1900—Takes seat in Ohio State Senate. 1902—Starts second term in Ohio Senate. 1904—Becomes Lieutenant Governor of Ohio. 1910—Loses in race for Ohio governorship. 1914—Elected United States Senator from Ohio. 1920—Nominated as Republican candidate for President, elected. 1921—March 4, becomes 29th President of the United States. 1923—Died Aug. 2 at San Francisco.

Warren Gamaliel Harding, twenty-ninth President of the United States, furnishes American history with still another example of a country boy who worked his way unaided from a log cabin birthplace to the highest office in the land.

Born of poor parents, Harding made his own way through school and college, fought an uphill battle to become a successful newspaper publisher, gained leadership in Ohio State politics, became a United States Senator and finally was elected chief executive of the Nation.

Harding was born in a two-room house on his grandfather's farm near Blooming Grove, Morrow county, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1865.

His father, George Tyron Harding, was a country physician whose income from his restricted practice was so small that he was forced to work in the fields to support his family.

His mother, Phoebe Elizabeth Dickerson Harding, now dead, was a home-loving, hard-working woman of deep religious convictions. She was of the Adventist faith.

Both parents came of a long line of American born ancestors, all hardy pioneers. The elder Harding was of Scotch descent while his wife came of Dutch ancestors.

Eldest of Eight

Harding was the eldest of eight children. When he was 5 the family moved to Caledonia, Ohio, a neighboring village.

As a boy Harding began to show traces of the qualities that later characterized him. He learned to read at 4. He was expert at memorizing long prose and poetic passages. He loved to speak and recite on every possible occasion.

But the boy Harding was far from being of the usual genius type. From childhood he was obliged to work with his elders on the farm.

His studies at the village school frequently were interrupted by long periods of absence during which he helped in clearing land, planting and harvesting.

He grew into a boy of powerful physique and became naturally a leader among his schoolmates. He reveled in outdoor sports.

Thus Harding's childhood passed.

At 14 he was more than six feet tall—a lanky, ungainly youth.

At this age Harding entered Ohio Central College at Iberia, Ohio. This was little more than an academy.

It has since passed out of existence.

Harding had no funds to pay for his education. But he made this up by hard work during vacations and in spare hours.

He drove teams, worked on a railroad right-of-way, cleared land, split rails and—most important—traveled about the country painting barns.

When the White House was being painted in 1921, Harding took a brush from the hands of one of the painters and demonstrated his skill.

Starts Newspaper Work

It was at college that Harding got his first newspaper experience in editing a college paper. He also worked in the village print shop.

Harding finished his college course in 1882 when he was 17. In 1884 his family moved to Marion, Ohio, and Harding went, too.

At Marion, Harding was established, bringing under one head the scattered activities connected with the welfare of former service men.

The stand of the United States Government on mandates conferred by the Versailles treaty was clarified.

A Federal highway act appropriated \$75,000,000 for Federal cooperation with States in building better roads.

Saving of \$86,000,000 was effected in the naval appropriation bill and \$15,000,000 in Army expenditures.

A commission was created for handling the refunding of allied debts to the United States.

Packers' bill was passed for regulation of traffic in livestock, eggs and dairy products, while another bill was passed prohibiting grain gambling.

But President Harding's one great outstanding achievement in his first year was the calling of the world disarmament conference at Washington in November, 1921.

Fired as Reporter

Encouraged, he went to work at

the conference, most unheeded.

The Harding Home



Picture shows the home of the Hardings in Marion, Ohio. The

final services for the dead President will be held from this old family home. Burial will be in Marion.

observers believe, removed the threat of war in the Far East and definitely did away with the Anglo-Japanese treaty, by some regarded as a menace to the United States. The conference drafted treaties providing for:

COOPERATION between the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan in maintaining peace in the Far East. (Four-Power Pacific Treaty.)

RECOGNITION of the open door in China by all nations interested in the Far East.

RETENTION by the United States of cable and radio rights on Yap, a Pacific island important as a communication center.

Harding was a man of more than usual height—he was well over six feet tall. His head was large, set on a pair of massive shoulders. His hair was iron gray and thin on top. His eyes were light blue, his face iron-like. His frame was sinewy.

Friends called him "his own greatest taskmaster." He worked hard and long throughout his life. At the White House he started the day at 8 a. m., and rarely finished work before midnight.

Golfing His Sport

His favorite sports were fishing and golfing—chiefly the latter. As President he was known as the best-

dressed man in Washington.

Harding, from boyhood to presidency, was famed as a conciliator and had great abilities in drawing together warring factions. He sought to eliminate McKinley in this respect.

His three great heroes were Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln and Napoleon. He devoured every book he could find about Napoleon and in Europe visited all the places connected with Napoleon's life.

From his mother he inherited a deep religious nature. He was a trustee of the Trinity Baptist Church at Marion.

He was called the greatest hand shaker who ever emanated the White House. Almost any visitor in Washington could get to clasp the President's hand, despite the huge volume of work under which the executive labored.

Mrs. Harding is a quiet woman who has taken little interest in Washington social life. Her influence was a giant factor in bringing her husband to success.

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