

CALVIN COOLIDGE

As Governor of Massachusetts He Carried Out Pledge to Cut Expenses—Boston Police Strike Brought Nation-Wide Publicity.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF A PRESIDENT

CHAPTER IV
CALVIN COOLIDGE became Governor of Massachusetts in 1919. Term of office was one year. The following year he was re-elected, sweeping the State with 125,000 plurality.

Coolidge has told visitors at the White House that handling the police strike didn't take nearly as much courage as the reorganization of the State's administrative system did.

When he went into office as Governor he pledged himself to the people to cut down expenses.

Loss Of Heads

Prodded by the Governor, the Legislature passed an act reducing the number of State commissions, wards, boards, divisions and bureaus from 118 to about twenty. Politicians didn't like this. But Coolidge didn't flinch. At one fell swoop he lopped off official heads and the surprising thing about it is that he left little or no rancor behind.

It was a custom for Governors of his State to announce appointments before induction into office. By the time a Governor is ready to publish the list, "all the boys" have been taken care of, and there is no better

ness whatsoever. But Coolidge knowing he was going to disappoint many by cutting the number of jobs so heavily, refused to publish the list until he had become Governor. It was a smart political stroke.

In most States the inauguration of a Governor calls for little ceremony. But not so in Massachusetts. A sergeant-at-arms bearing a gold mace announces the approach of the incoming Governor. The incumbent turns over the office to him, and there is no end of ceremony. Imagine with what pride the father of Calvin Coolidge viewed this from the gallery.

Coolidge rented a house in Northampton for \$30 a month. Later this was raised to \$32.

Coolidge's desire to reduce expenses for his State was only a natural result of his early personal training. He never had had much money to spend. For years he had gotten along with a small salary, living in his little hotel room, home but twice a week.

Coolidge's two years as Governor had two high-lights. One the police strike; the other his financial reforms.

But there are one or two other little incidents that will bear repetition because they commence to let in a little light on the character of the nationally prominent man who was still to come.

A stone bridge had been built be-

hind the Governor, the

Legislature passed an act reducing

the number of State commissions,

wards, boards, divisions and bu-

reaus from 118 to about twenty.

Politicians didn't like this. But

Coolidge didn't flinch. At one fell

swoop he lopped off official heads

and the surprising thing about it is

that he left little or no rancor be-

hind.

It was a custom for Governors of

his State to announce appointments

before induction into office. By

the time a Governor is ready to publish

the list, "all the boys" have been

taken care of, and there is no better

ness whatsoever. But Coolidge

knowing he was going to disappoint

many by cutting the number of jobs

so heavily, refused to publish the

list until he had become Governor.

It was a smart political stroke.

In most States the inauguration of

a Governor calls for little ceremony.

But not so in Massachusetts.

A sergeant-at-arms bearing a gold

mace announces the approach of the

incoming Governor. The incumbent

turns over the office to him, and

there is no end of ceremony. Imagine

with what pride the father of

Calvin Coolidge viewed this from the

gallery.

Coolidge rented a house in North-

ampton for \$30 a month. Later this

was raised to \$32.

Coolidge's desire to reduce

expenses for his State was only a

natural result of his early personal

training. He never had had much

money to spend. For years he had

gotten along with a small salary, living

in his little hotel room, home but twice a week.

Coolidge's two years as Governor

had two high-lights. One the

police strike; the other his financial

reforms.

But there are one or two other

little incidents that will bear

repetition because they commence

to let in a little light on the character

of the nationally prominent man who

was still to come.

A stone bridge had been built be-

hind the Governor, the

Legislature passed an act reducing

the number of State commissions,

wards, boards, divisions and bu-

reaus from 118 to about twenty.

Politicians didn't like this. But

Coolidge didn't flinch. At one fell

swoop he lopped off official heads

and the surprising thing about it is

that he left little or no rancor be-

hind.

It was a custom for Governors of

his State to announce appointments

before induction into office. By

the time a Governor is ready to publish

the list, "all the boys" have been

taken care of, and there is no better

ness whatsoever. But Coolidge

knowing he was going to disappoint

many by cutting the number of jobs

so heavily, refused to publish the

list until he had become Governor.

It was a smart political stroke.

In most States the inauguration of

a Governor calls for little ceremony.

But not so in Massachusetts.

A sergeant-at-arms bearing a gold

mace announces the approach of the

incoming Governor. The incumbent

turns over the office to him, and

there is no end of ceremony. Imagine

with what pride the father of

Calvin Coolidge viewed this from the

gallery.

Coolidge rented a house in North-

ampton for \$30 a month. Later this

was raised to \$32.

Coolidge's desire to reduce

expenses for his State was only a

natural result of his early personal

training. He never had had much

money to spend. For years he had

gotten along with a small salary, living

in his little hotel room, home but twice a week.

Coolidge's two years as Governor

had two high-lights. One the

police strike; the other his financial

reforms.

But there are one or two other

little incidents that will bear

repetition because they commence

to let in a little light on the character

of the nationally prominent man who

was still to come.

A stone bridge had been built be-

hind the Governor, the

Legislature passed an act reducing

the number of State commissions,

wards, boards, divisions and bu-

reaus from 118 to about twenty.

Politicians didn't like this. But

Coolidge didn't flinch. At one fell

swoop he lopped off official heads

and the surprising thing about it is

that he left little or no rancor be-

hind.

It was a custom for Governors of

his State to announce appointments

before induction into office. By

the time a Governor is ready to publish

the list, "all the boys" have been

taken care of, and there is no better

ness whatsoever. But Coolidge

knowing he was going to disappoint

many by cutting the number of jobs

so heavily, refused to publish the

list until he had become Governor.

It was a smart political stroke.

In most States the inauguration of

a Governor calls for little ceremony.

But not so in Massachusetts.

A sergeant-at-arms bearing a gold

mace announces the approach of the

incoming Governor. The incumbent

turns over the office to him, and

there is no end of ceremony. Imagine

with what pride the father of

Calvin Coolidge viewed this from the

gallery.

Coolidge rented a house in North-

ampton for \$30 a month. Later this

was raised to \$32.

Coolidge's desire to reduce

expenses for his State was only a

natural result of his early personal

training. He never had had much

money to spend. For years he had

gotten along with a small salary, living

in his little hotel room, home but twice a week.

Coolidge's two years as Governor

had two high-lights. One the

police strike; the other his financial

reforms.

But there are one or two other