

PRESIDENT HARDING IS DEAD

Underwood Candidacy Formidable

Strategy Is on Side of Senator and Ablest Leaders of Party Will Espouse His Cause.

McAdoo and Ford Strong

By MARK SULLIVAN. Washington, Aug. 2.—Senator Underwood's candidacy for the democratic nomination is formidable now and certain to grow in potentiality. Every politician familiar with that union of strategy and circumstances which determines nominations can see that Underwood, by a curious combination of coincidences, is going to be the beneficiary of something like the same conditions that nominated Cox in the democratic convention in 1920, as well as Harding in the republican convention. Like both Harding and Cox, Underwood's friends will not make a vigorous fight for delegates in hotly contested primary states, and will avoid the handicaps of political antagonisms which arise out of such fights. Underwood, like both Harding and Cox, will probably enter the nominating convention with fewer delegates than his opponents, but with the backing of a group of leaders, who include probably the ablest political strategists in the party.

Two Men Wounded in Duel With Knives

Edward Bell, 5443 South Twenty-fourth street, is in St. Joseph hospital suffering from knife wounds dangerously near the jugular vein and cuts on the left side of his face as the result of a quarrel with William M. Brown, 5434 South Twenty-fourth street. Bell is alleged to have called on Brown shortly after 8 last night and accused him of improper conduct toward Mrs. Bell. Brown resented the charge and a duel with knives followed. Brown is confined at home with severe cuts in his neck, shoulder and right hand. Both were charged at the South Omaha police station with cutting with intent to wound.

Buy Wheat Campaign to Be Pushed

Committee Will Insist on Cut in Freight Rates for Export; Broadening of Movement Considered.

Farmers Not Bankrupt

The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce approved the campaign being made by the special committee of the executive committee of the chamber to promote the buying of wheat and flour and to stabilize the wheat market. The special committee, of which John L. Kennedy is chairman, was directed to use its best judgment in calling a conference in Omaha, to further consider the plan of advancing the price of wheat and of obtaining reduced all rail export wheat and flour rates. A resolution on this phase of the situation, offered by Randall K. Brown, was adopted.

Reply to Railroads

Chairman Kennedy read to the board of directors a reply he prepared for J. E. Gorman, acting chairman of the western presidents' conference committee, representing 17 grain-carrying railroads, which met in Chicago last Monday and decided to deny the Omaha request for an export wheat and flour rate reduction. This letter will be made public today, the committee announced.

Will Continue Fight

On this subject, W. M. Burgess offered the following resolution which the board of directors adopted: "Whereas, a duly authorized request was made to the Association of Railroad Executives for a 25 per cent reduction in freight rates on wheat and flour for export, and

Former Klan Organizer Resents 'Hot Air' Charge

Houston, Tex., Aug. 2.—George B. Kimbro, Jr., former grand goblin and organizer of the Ku Klux Klan in Texas and in Mississippi, today filed suit in federal court against Dr. H. W. Evans of Atlanta, grand wizard of the clan, for \$100,000, alleging defamation of character. Kimbro alleges that statements were published in a Houston newspaper, credited to Evans, in which Kimbro was referred to as a "hot air merchant" and "a man who is not a klansman, but a man who profited through the organization of the clan, both personally and financially, and now won't pay his debts."

Turkish Treaty Signing Is Expected This Week

Washington, Aug. 2.—Despite reports from Lausanne that further complications had arisen to delay the signing of the Turkish-American treaty of amity, it would cause no surprise in Washington if the signatures of the Turkish and American negotiators were attached to the document before the end of the present week.

Farmer Not So Bad Off as Pictured, Says Meyer

Chicago, Aug. 2.—The farmers of the nation are not nearly so bad off as it has been pictured to the public, Eugene Meyer, Jr., managing editor of the War Finance corporation, said here today. He is here for one of a series of conferences between agricultural loan agencies and finance corporation representatives. Many farmers, Meyer said, resent the exaggerated reports of their financial status. "Reports based on conferences in 10 central states indicate, Meyer added, that there is steady improvement in agricultural and banking conditions, with the exception of those areas devoted almost exclusively to wheat cultivation."

HARDING CARRIED GREAT STORE OF PATIENCE AND WISDOM TO WHITE HOUSE

No Peace-Time President Ever Faced Greater Problems—Lent Moral Assistance of Government in Effort to Bind Up Wounds of War-Torn World—Settled Many Questions.

CALLING OF ARMS CONFERENCE OUTSANDING FEAT OF HIS TERM

By Associated Press. Warren G. Harding brought to the presidency an infinite patience and kindness in dealing with public questions and men which enabled him to handle the problems of government without the stress and worry which had handicapped many of his predecessors. Whatever else historians may say of him, there probably will be little dispute that few chief executives came to office in peace time facing problems more complex in their nature or greater in number. All internal affairs were unbalanced as never before, with many principal settlements of the great war still to be effected. Atoning the work of reconstruction had only just begun, with business depressed, agriculture prostrate and unemployment general. Type of Man Needed. How Mr. Harding measured up to the task before him must be left to the historians, but his friends said that coming to the presidency as he did, with an open mind, a desire for counsel and an intimate knowledge of the processes of government acquired in his services in the senate, he was the type of man needed for the job at such a time. Preaching upon every occasion the doctrine of Americanism, he set his face resolutely against "entangling alliances." While thus adhering to what he was pleased to term the principles of the founding fathers, he nevertheless lent the moral assistance of the government in the efforts to bind up the wounds of the world. That influence was once declared by him to be not inconsiderable, and America, under his guidance, had a part, silent though it was in the main, in effecting the settlements of many of the world's problems. His chief contribution was the Washington arms conference, at which the principal powers covenanted to limit the size of the navies, and thus lift from tax-weary peoples the burden of maintaining the race for naval supremacy.

Insisted on Rights

Along with the proffer of counsel in effecting world settlement went an insistence that American rights be recognized. In polished phrase, but with a directness of expression that was not to be misconstrued, the world was given to understand from the very first of the Harding administration that the United States, freely respecting the rights of the other nations, asked for itself only that to which it was entitled in simple justice and that it could accept nothing else. While in his dealings with congress Mr. Harding preferred the role of counsellor rather than dictator, he speedily removed any doubt that his gift of patience denoted any lack of purpose, once he had charted a course. Thus he told congress that soldiers' bonus legislation either should carry the means of financing or be postponed, and when the legislators put aside his advice, he promptly vetoed the bill they sent him.

Fought for Economy

His tenacity of purpose was further exemplified in his continual pounding for economy in public expenditures and again in his insistence that congress pass the merchant marine bill with a view of curtailing the continual drain which the operation of the war-built commercial fleet had become upon the treasury. His greatest single effort in the field of domestic legislation was in behalf of this measure.

Man, at 44, Sails for Paris to Find Out if He's Painter

New York, Aug. 2.—At the age of 44, Gray A. Ruthrauff of Oakland, Cal., sailed today on the Suffren for Paris to prove whether he is designed by fate to be a painter or a freight agent. With him sailed his wife, conducting a similar experiment, whether she would not have been cast for interior decorator instead of housewife. When he was in his 20s, Ruthrauff daubed canvases, but his work did not sell fast, so he laid aside his brushes to work for the Southern Pacific railroad. Now, years later, his superiors have become interested in his paintings and have granted him a year's leave of absence to see whether he can acquire the technique to make him famous.

U. S. Sailors Fight Chinese.

Pekin, Aug. 2.—In a fracas aboard the American steamer Alice Dollar, caused when a crowd of Chinese soldiers boarded it at Ichang and demanded free transportation, the captain of the ship and three women, including the wife and daughter of the Dollar line agent, were injured, according to a report reaching customs officials here today. A party of American bluejackets for a gunboat, responding to a call for help, overpowered the rioters and arrested 15 of them. Shots were fired before the trouble was ended. The Chinese soldiers had become threatening when their demand for a free ride was refused.

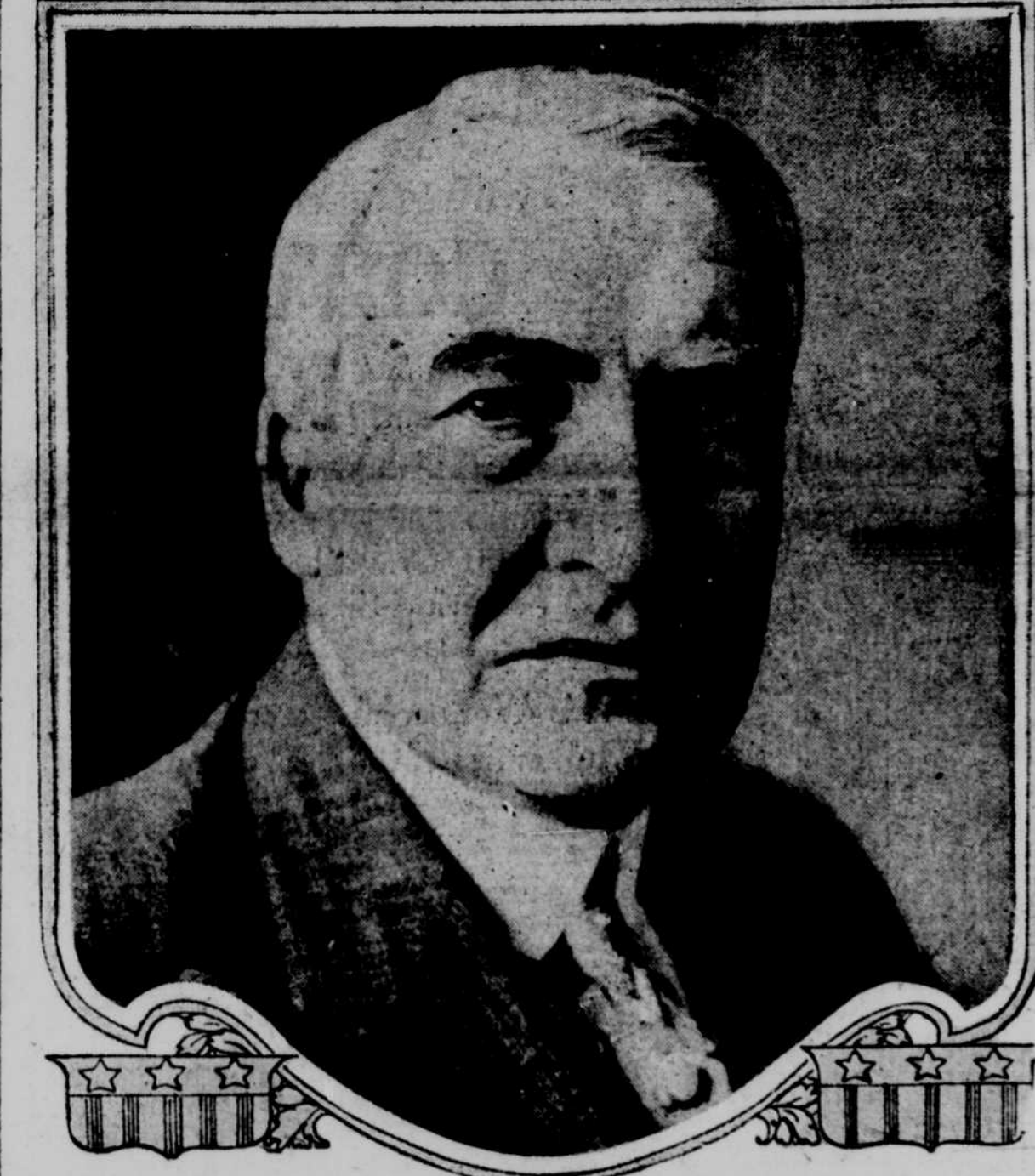
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF UNITED STATES SUCCEUMS AT 7:30 WITHOUT WARNING WHILE VISITING WITH MRS. HARDING—APOPLEXY BELIEVED RESPONSIBLE

Presidential Headquarters, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Aug. 2.—President Harding died instantly and without warning tonight at 7:30. Death came to the chief executive while he was conversing with members of his family and, according to an official statement issued by physicians, was apparently due to some brain involvement, probably apoplexy.

The first indication that a change had occurred in the condition of Mr. Harding came shortly after 7 o'clock when Mrs. Harding personally opened the door of the sickroom and called to those in the corridors to "find Dr. Boone and the others quick." At that time Mrs. Harding was understood to have been reading to the president, sitting at his bedside with the evening papers and messages of sympathy which had been received during the day.

The end came so suddenly that the members of the official party could not be called. It came after a day which had been described by Brigadier General Sawyer, the president's personal physician, as the most satisfactory day the president had had since his illness began. The physicians, in their formal announcement of the end said, that "during the day he had been free from discomfort and there was every justification for anticipating a prompt recovery."

Warren G. Harding



The story of the president's tragic end was told officially in this way: "The president died at 7:30 p. m. Mrs. Harding and the two nurses, Miss Ruth Powderly and Miss Sus Dausser, were in the room at the time. Mrs. Harding was reading to the president, when suddenly without warning a slight shudder passed through his frame, he collapsed, and all recognized that the end had come. A stroke of apoplexy was the cause of his death. "Within a few moments all of the president's official party had been summoned. Secretary Hoover was the first of the four members of the president's cabinet who are in San Francisco to learn the sad news. He went into the room at once and in a few minutes came out, obviously deeply distressed and in a low voice said to newspaper men, most of whom did not know of the hurried call almost half an hour previously: "Boys, I can't tell you a thing." "The president had a most splendid afternoon," said Lieut. Com. Joel T. Boone, assistant to the president's personal physician. "When I left the room I commented, 'What! he look splendid!'" "Then, all at once, he just went like that—" The commander snapped his fingers. "Just like that," he repeated. "Something just snapped; that's all."

By Associated Press. Presidential Headquarters, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Aug. 2.—A hurried call for physicians was sent out by Mrs. Harding shortly after 7 o'clock. Messengers ran in search for Dr. Work and Boone, two of the physicians attending President Harding, while Brigadier General Sawyer, the president's personal physician, was in the sick chamber, the only medical officer at that time on duty. There was an obvious and sudden change in the quietness which had prevailed throughout the afternoon and early evening hours and reports that the chief executive had suffered a sinking spell could not be verified. It being impossible in the confusion to reach those in position to know what had occurred within the sick room. The first call was given personally by Mrs. Harding, who opened the door to the room occupied by the president and called to those in the corridors to "find Dr. Boone quick." Others in position to know what had taken place soon came from their rooms. She wrung her hands in a highly nervous manner and appealed to those about her to "find the doctor."

Dr. Boone was found by one of the messengers who had been sent into the city streets, and entered the presidential quarters at 7:31, wearing a grave expression on his face and walking rapidly, passed through the door into the president's chamber. By Associated Press. Presidential Headquarters, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 2.—President Harding today had what his chief physician, Brig. Gen. Charles E. Sawyer, described as "a very good day." General Sawyer made this announcement after a day during which there had been every indication that the chief executive was making further progress in what the physicians have described as "the long and tedious task" of recovery. Replying to inquiries, Doctor Sawyer said it was safe to say that the president was convalescent. Summarizing Mr. Harding's condition as ascertained at 5 this afternoon, Dr. Sawyer said the temperature had been normal most of the day, the pulse getting nearer to the president's normal of about 80, and the respiration had decreased to 34. The president's rapid breathing, the doctor explained, could be ascribed to exhaustion and undoubtedly would diminish as the effects of fatigue were more and more dissipated. The president was kept on a milk diet during the day, the physicians evidently playing safe since the slight indigestion of Wednesday caused by the eating of two eggs. General Sawyer gave every indication of satisfaction with the day's progress and late in the day went out for an automobile ride. One cause of gratification was that none of the "downs" which the physicians have warned might be intermitted with the "ups" had put in their appearance during the day.

Mother Granted Custody of Boy

Col. Roger Williams, Former Omaha, Father of Lad, Estranged From Wife.

District Judge Leslie Thursday granted custody of Roger Williams, Jr., 6, son of Col. and Mrs. Roger Williams, to Mrs. Williams on a writ of habeas corpus. Extrangement of Colonel Williams, former Omaha boy and a member of General Pershing's staff during part of the war, from his wife, Rose, former society belle of New York, was brought to light during the hearing on the writ. The writ was obtained by Mrs. Rosella Bellow, sister of Mrs. Williams, who arrived in Omaha with power of attorney, after she testified that the boy's grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, 123 South Thirty-fifth street, with whom he has been living for the last month, refused to give up the child on demand. The judge denied a supersedeas bond, declaring it would defeat the purpose of the writ of habeas corpus. Mrs. Williams has two daughters, Gilberta, a Central High school teacher, and Isabelle, a former Omaha teacher, who is now studying music in New York. The Williams family has lived in Omaha 57 years.

Railway Board Claims Control of Rights of Way

Rental Charges for Industry Sites Will Be Fixed by State if Contention Is Upheld.

Lincoln, Aug. 2.—The state railway commission, in an opinion handed down today, held it has jurisdiction over industry sites on railway lines and has a right to fix rental charges commensurate with a reasonable return on reasonable value of land leased and occupied. Complaint was filed by the Nebraska Farmers' Co-operative Grain and Livestock association and the Nebraska Farm federation against the Northwestern, Union Pacific and St. Joseph and Grand Island roads. It was claimed that unreasonable and increasing charges for leaseholds for elevator sites located on rights-of-way were being assessed by railroads. Railroads asserted that nominal rentals produce discriminatory conditions; that federal government alone has control; that relationship between railroads and leaseholders is purely private and not subject to state control; that railroads own the ground and do not have to lease it unless they desire.

"Y" Man Swims Across Lake Erie

Covers 32 Miles in 20 Hours—Legs Temporarily Paralyzed.

Cleveland, O., Aug. 2.—Carbis A. Walker, Central Y. M. C. A. swimmer, landed at Lorain at 5:30 a. m. today, just 20 hours and 15 minutes after he started his 32-mile swim across Lake Erie from Pelee passage lighthouse, Ontario, according to a telephone message to the News here. The feat had never before been accomplished. Lorain, O., Aug. 2.—Carbis Walker, Cleveland long distance swimmer and formerly of Honolulu, after completing a swim across Lake Erie, arriving here at 5:30 this morning from Point Pelee, where he left at 9:15 a. m. yesterday, roused himself today to 83. "Never again."

The Weather

Table with weather forecast data including temperature, humidity, and precipitation.

Switzerland Notes Sold

New York, Aug. 2.—J. P. Morgan & Co. today announced that the subscription books to the \$20,000,000 three year, 5 per cent government of Switzerland notes had been closed.

Cologne Printers Strike: Money Shortage Follows

Cologne, Aug. 2.—The printers of the city went on strike demanding 2,500,000 marks weekly instead of the present scale of 110,000, which is hardly enough to buy a week's supply of potatoes for a single family.