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PRAYER IN THE MORNING.—My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.—Psalms 5:3.

A Nation in Sorrow

Today United States faces a sorrow that is much more than the loss of a citizen—her president is cold in death.

Today this nation, sorrowful and humble, bows its head to an Allwise Creator and in the language of the lamented McKinley, "Thy Will Be Done."

It has pleased Providence to take from us the nation's head which leaves one hundred and ten millions of people stunned and shocked, for their leader is no more.

Before the nation looms problems of great weight, and the man who was giving every ounce of his energy to those problems has been called to his long home. America is thus left, for the time being at least, without the firm hand of leadership, without the guiding words so essential at all times.

We have faced death of a president before, but never at a time when national and international questions were so complex and so needful of leadership and the sound counsel and advice that was ever given by President Harding.

In this hour of deep gloom; in this hour when all minds have but a single, sorrowful thought, as a people we should turn to the spiritual hand that has ever kept America intact and repeat together, "Our Country 'Tis of Thee, Great God Our King."

Editorials From Over the Nation

MOTOR-CAR MURDERS.

Chicago News: Speeding joy riders hurrying away from the scene of one collision early last Saturday morning crashed into a truck and caused the instant death of one man and the desperate injury of a second. Probably the joy riders' responsibility for the fatal smashup would not have been fastened upon them had not one of their own number been seriously hurt and the others so cut and bruised as to require medical attention.

Deaths resulting from automobile accidents in Chicago thus far this year number close to 400, or an average of about two a day. For some of those accidents, of course, the drivers of the automobiles were not responsible, but very many of them resulted from just such criminal disregard of law and decency and the rights of safety of others as caused the death of that inoffensive citizen Saturday morning.

To the slain man and those dependent upon him it makes no difference whether the murder was committed with an automobile or with a gun. In either case the slayer and his accomplices should be duly punished. Thre automobile roisterers guilty of the killing are known. Their responsibility can easily be established in court. Their punishment should be made sufficiently severe to fit their heinous crime.

The only way to prevent automobile murders is to punish the murderers adequately for the crime of murder.

POETRY ON PLACARDS.

Waterbury Republican: Miss Violet McDougal, poet laureate of Oklahoma, is not unnatu ally convinced that poetry is a cure for social ills. "I'd have verses framed in waiting rooms, hung in school rooms, even spread upon bill boards," says Miss McDougal. "It would be good for the people."

Her idea seems a trifle odd, but is it? We are all agreed that it is a good thing to have beautiful pictures, beautiful sculpture, and beautiful music so generally disseminated that he who runs may have the chance to enjoy them. No one would think it odd if Miss McDougal advocated more sculpture for our parks and street intersections, more picture galleries and more concert halls or outdoor concerts. Why, then, should not beautiful poetry be displayed where the public, in its leisure moments, may have a chance to read it?

The libraries supply it, it may be answered. True, but effort is required to go after it. Miss McDougal's idea is that the subway rider, gazing with vacant mind at the billboard placards, might be benefited if he found established among them Wordsworth's sonnet, "The World Is Too Much With Us." He might profit more than that that from the jingles exalting the virtues of scouring soap and breakfast food.

The idea seems a good one, and we would like to see it adopted.

TODAY'S OVERWORKED WORDS

Spokane Spokesman-Review: The sterling qualities of the new individual nowadays was shine through his conversation. His speech, his thoughts, and thus to be believed, must be elevated in the hearer's mind by words which cannot be forgotten. Unfortunately many of those engaged in great purposes have lamentably failed to augment their vocabularies by reference to a book of synonyms. Thus, we are suffering from the overwork of a few words.

The idea now is to "sell" something, an idea, a state, a climate. There must be a "selling appeal," a "sales plan," and then it is sure to succeed. It "absolutely" can not fail. You must agree "absolutely" that the weather is good, bad or indifferent or the "efficiency" hound will put "kick" and "pep" into his arguments until you shout "shoot," listen and become convinced.

But having been "sold" is not enough for the builder of the "atmosphere" in which you were trapped. He will want to know, must know, in fact, your "reaction." Ah, the reaction. There is a word both subtle and enthralling. You can have reactions to a book, a piece of cheese, a miserable blowout or a bonfire. That is where the "poptu efficiency" person must check the flow of his "sales talk" long enough to listen.

So you ask him to please pass the butter and wonder why they spent time and money printing dictionaries.

IF ONLY ONCE TO EVERY MAN

Milwaukee Journal: Most of us just theorize about life. We think we know life when we do not. But once in a while, to some fortunate mortal comes an experience which brings with it a flash of understanding and the thing that comes to him in that moment never again leaves him. From that time on he knows that he has a soul.

James Oliver Curwood, who has trailed the wilderneses of the North for many a day, tells of one such occurrence. He had been a killer, a hunter of big game for the sake of the sport. That there was such a thing as the brotherhood of all living things never occurred to him—not until that day when he came upon Thor, the king of the grizzlies. He had been tracking the great bear for many hours. Once he got a chance shot, the bullet plowing a furrow through the beast's shoulder, but the great bear went on his way, climbing higher into the Rockies.

But the hunter did not give up the trail. He would have the life of this king of beasts. Two or three days later in making a perilous ascent he lost his balance and in falling broke his rifle. He threw the useless thing away and sat on a ledge. Above him the mountain wall, below him a thousand feet of cliff. As he sat there, thinking himself the lord of creation, he heard the click of sharp nails on the stone and looked up to see Thor approaching. The great bear had him at his mercy. How little and weak man seemed beside the strength of the things of the mountains. But Toor, the hunted, wagged his head and, limping from the wound in his shoulder, passed on his way.

There was a lesson that went home to the hunted. The flash had come to him. Never again would he kill needlessly. Never again would he hunt God's creatures for the sport of the hunting.

When we see and realize the little souls of us all, the shallowness, will may we wish that some flash of understanding would come to us, to transfigure us into the beings we wish to be.

You will search the book of citations in vain for advice concerning the easiest way to scratch a mosquito bite.

The stars are not the only ones frozen. There are oil wells.

COOLIDGE IS THIRTIETH PRESIDENT

Took Oath of Office at 2:37 This Morning; Will Carry Out Harding Policies.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

Calvin Coolidge, vice president of the United States, who assumes the office of the nation's chief executive.

(By Associated Press)

PLYMOUTH, Vt., Aug. 3.—Calvin C. Coolidge, thirtieth president of the United States, took the oath of office at 2:37 o'clock this morning in his father's farm house across the street from the house where he was born.

His father, aged 78, is a notary public and administered the oath by the light of an oil lamp.

The text of the oath had been received earlier from the White House by telephone.

Coolidge made this statement:

"The world has lost a great and good man. I mourn his loss. He was my chief and my friend. It will be my purpose to carry out his policies which he has begun for the service of the American people and for meeting their responsibilities wherever they may arise. For this purpose I shall seek co-operation of all those who have been associated with President Harding during his term of office. Those who have given their offers to assist him I wish to remain in office that they may assist me. I have faith that God will direct the destinies of the nation."

He left for Washington at 7:30 this morning and is due in Washington at 10:53 tonight.

HIGH TYPE OF AMERICAN — SAFE LEADER

(Continued From Page One.)

of approval to increase or decrease. Upon signing the bill the president declared it constituted the greatest tariff reform in American history.

Of Pioneer Stock.

Mr. Harding came of hardy pioneer stock. He was born at Blooming Grove, Morrow county, Ohio, November 2, 1865, the son of a country doctor, George T. Harding. Like most country boys, he went to country school between morning and night chores and later attended college at Iberia, O. He tried school teaching for a year, but having had a smell of printer's ink while stoking type for his college paper, the lure drew him into the newspaper field.

His family, meantime, had moved to Marion, an adjoining county, where he obtained his first newspaper job and where his life interests were centered thereafter. Mr. Harding's ambition was to become a publisher, and it was realized at the age of 19, when he bid in the Marion Star at a sheriff's sale. The paper was purchased under a heavy mortgage and his friends have often said that the struggles and hardships which were his in making this paper a success had much to do in fashioning his character and developing a broad patience and tolerance which were his chief characteristics.

Whatever his other attainments, Mr. Harding's greatest pride was in his professional accomplishments and training as printer, editor and publisher. Nor did the interests and exacting duties of his high office serve to dull his delight in puttering about a composing room. On his first trip back home after his inauguration, he went to the Star office, pulled off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, borrowed a chew of tobacco and helped "make up" the paper. His luck charm was a printer's rule, always carried in a vest pocket.

As his ambition has carried him into the ranks of publishers, so his vocation took him into the realm of politics. From the first he was an ardent partisan and his insistence upon wearing a "stove pipe" hat, the badge of support of James G. Blaine while a reporter at a Democratic newspaper brought him a sharp reprimand from his chief, who held it to be inconsistent for a worker on a Democratic paper to display so prominently the symbol of his Republicanism.

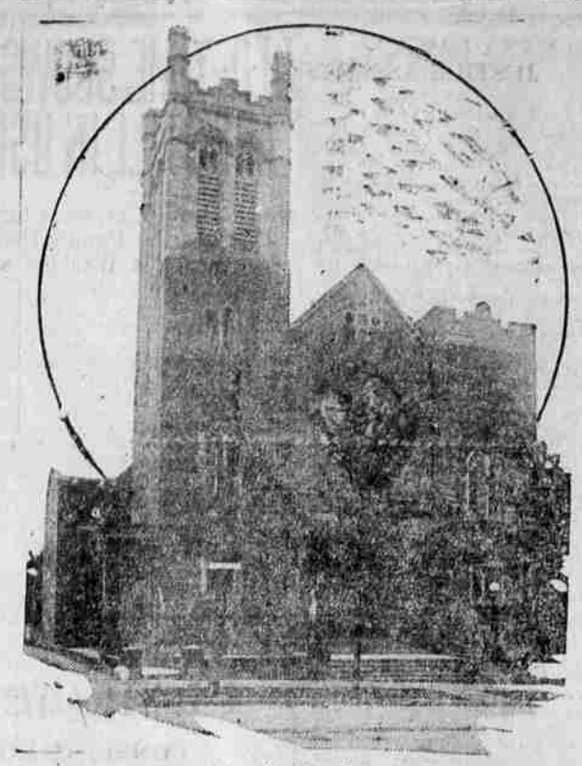
The future president's ability as a stump speaker won him early recognition from his local party leaders. Star on county ticket was in the Democratic column, and he undertook to switch it to the Republican party but his first effort at office on his party ticket resulted in a defeat, although he commanded an unexpected vote. Mr. Harding's first political office was that of Ohio state senator, to which he was elected at the age of 34. He served two terms and later was elected lieutenant governor of his state. In 1910 he sought the governorship, but was defeated.

Later he was elected to the United States senate, where he served six years, much of the time as a member of the important foreign relations committee. From this place he was elevated to the presidency, the first senator to be elected chief executiv.

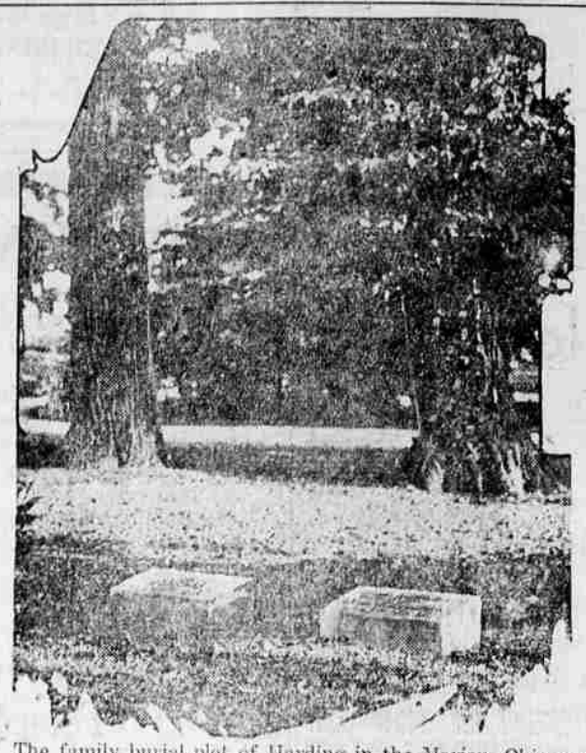
Early in his years of political service he met William McKinley, to whom his close friends have most often likened him and with whom he had in common a predominent passion for obliteration of class and sectional lines. A friendship sprang up between the two men. Mr. Harding also was close in later days to Theodore Roosevelt, Senator Penrose and others high in his party counsels.

The president was a life long Baptist and was a trustee of his home church in Marion. He also had been a member of the Elks and Moose fraternities for years and after his election as president he became a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner.

Golf was his favorite recreation, but he also liked to fish, although his opportunities for that sport were limited after he came to the White House. He played hard and possessed the faculty of putting all his worries behind during his recreation hours.



Church attended by the Hardings in Marion, Ohio.



The family burial plot of Harding in the Marion, Ohio, cemetery, where the president will be buried.

Kiwanis Picnic Guests

OREGON CITY, Or., Aug. 3.—Mayor George L. Baker of Portland, former Commissioner S. C. Pier, and a number of Portland Kiwanians will be guests of the local Kiwanis club at the picnic to be held Thursday night at the farm home of Dr. C. H. Meroney near Maple Lane. About 150 people are expected at the affair, according to the committee.

A long store has been constructed for the children. The affair will be open all day for the Kiwanians' wives and children. The members of the club will gather at the farm at 5:30 in the evening. All are urged by the committee to bring basket lunches and silverware.

LA GRANDE WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED

News of President's Death Caused Blanket of Sorrow Over the City.

La Grande people were jerked from their ordinary evening pleasures and work t. a serious and sorrowful state of mind last evening when the Associated Prose dispatches to the Evening Observer flashed the unexpected news that President Harding had died at 7:30 o'clock.

Everyone who came in contact with the flash of news became bewildered and depressed.

Words were spoken by one citizen to another in hushed, soft voice. No one was natural so great was the shock.

The Observer continued to get the Associated Press detail reports of the death throughout the night and early this morning the extra which was printed was immediately absorbed by eager buyers who sought more and more of the detailed information pertaining to the untimely end of the nation's chief.

At 8 o'clock last evening Observer bulletins were posted in the hotels of the city and in the picture shows, while telephones were kept busy informing Union and Wallowa country people of the tragic death.

About nine o'clock the fire bell of the city tolled for several minutes to further advice the public of the sad news.

Receptions and parties that were being held experienced the blanket of sorrow which was everywhere noticeable in the business section of La Grande.

The reception at the Methodist church last evening where members of the church and friends of the congregation were receiving the new pastor, was one of the first groups to hear of the President's death, from the Observer's Associated Press reports.

Immediately after the announcement the guests arose and stood in silent meditation and Rev. Gressy of the Episcopal church then led the prayers that went up for divine guidance for the new president.

Woman's Assailant Arrested.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Aug. 3.—Perry

MARSHFIELD, Or., Aug. 3.—Perry assault upon Mrs. Bowman Monday night, and who escaped with a broken arm and several broken ribs, was captured this morning at Bandon. Jackson came through Reedsport and officers this way were asked to arrest him. Jackson told friends he was going to Ketzer hospital in North Bend, but instead, continued on to Bandon, where he sought medical attention and was arrested.

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