

PRES. HARDING DIES

Bowman-Hicks Co. Buy Wallowa Mill

While Mrs. Harding Was Reading to President a Shudder Passed Over Him and He Was No More

26,000 Acres of Fine Timber and Modern Mill Included in Deal New Owners in Charge

HIGH TYPE OF AMERICAN—A SAFE LEADER

(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.

What 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 international affairs were unbalanced as never before, with many principal settlements of the great war still to be effected. At home the work of reconstruction had only just begun, with business depressed, agriculture prostrate and unemployment general.

How Mr. Harding managed up to the hour of his death must be left to the historian, 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 government in the founding fathers, he nevertheless lent the moral assistance of the government in the efforts to bind up the wounds of the world.

What influence was once declared by him to be not inconsiderable, and to America, under his guidance, had a part silent though it was in the main, in effecting the settlements of many world questions. His chief contribution was the Washington armistice conference, at which the principal powers concurred to limit the ships of their navies and thus lift from tax weary peoples the burden of maintaining the race for naval supremacy.

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SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3. (By Associated Press).—Yesterday flags gaily decorated San Francisco streets. This morning sombre crepe hung in place of the banners and bunting.

Yesterday San Francisco and the nation felt encouraged over prospects of recovery of President Harding. Today the body of the departed chief executive lay on the eighth floor of the Palace Hotel where he fought a losing battle for his life.

Downcast but not broken his brave wife was reading to the president when the end came suddenly at 7:30 last night by a stroke of apoplexy. Today she is receiving condolence of a mourning nation.

In the ball room of the Palace Hotel last night music and dancing entertained gay throngs but when the announcement was made saying, "Ladies and gentlemen, the president has just passed away," music stopped, dancers took their wraps and quietly departed.

The body will leave for Washington tonight. Interment will be made in Marion, Ohio, the president's home.

President Harding is the sixth president to die in office.

PRESIDENTIAL HEADQUARTERS, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Aug. 2.—(By the Associated Press).—The story of the president's tragic death was officially told in this way:

The president died at 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. Harding and the two nurses, Miss Ruth Powderly and Miss Sue Dausser were in the room at the time.

Mrs. Harding was reading to the president when utterly 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 minutes all of the presidential party had been summoned.

The suddenness with which the end came was shown by the fact that only Mrs. Harding and the two nurses were in the room at the time.

Mrs. Harding, with her characteristic faithfulness and constant tenderness, was reading to the president at the time. Without warning a slight shudder passed through the frame of the chief executive, he collapsed and the end had come.

Immediately the indications of distress showed themselves. Mrs. Harding ran to the door and called for Lieutenant Commander Boone and for the other doctors to come quickly.

It was announced in a fourth official statement issued at 8:32 that Mrs. Harding had withstood the shock of her husband's death and continued to be "the bravest member of the group."

Her first words, when she realized the president had died, were "I am not going to break down."

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 sick room and called to those in the corridor, "Find Dr. Boone and others quick."

Dr. Sawyer, alone of all the doctors was in the president's apartments when the climax came. He first was called by Mrs. Harding who then rushed to the door leading into the hotel corridor and commanded an immediate search for the physicians.

The death of the president was announced in these words: "The president died instantaneously and without warning and while conversing with members of his family at 7:30 p. m. Death was apparently due to some brain involvement, probably apoplexy."

During the day he had been free from discomfort and there was every justification for anticipation of a prompt recovery.

The official statement was signed by C. E. Sawyer, M. D.; Ray Lyman Wilbur, M. D.; C. M. Cooper, M. D.; J. T. Boone, M. D.; Hubert Work, M. D., and was dated August 2, 1923, 7:30 p. m.

Visits His Mother's Grave.
RUTLAND, Aug. 2.—President Coolidge stopped to visit his mother's grave this morning near Plymouth while en route to Washington.

Ladies Orders No Game.
CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—No big league games today. Ladies suggested all no games on day of funeral of President.

Harding Had Will.
MARION, Aug. 2.—The President's brother today revealed that the President before leaving for his western trip made a will and his estate was distributed to his heirs to return alive.

Abolition of Death Penalty Brings Increase in Crime.
BUENOS AIRES, July 3. (By Mail)—Argentina abolished the death penalty from the penal code about a year ago, and since then there has been a noticeable increase in crimes of violence in this city. The question of restoring the death penalty has arisen, and a bill to this end has been introduced in Congress.

Large numbers of emigrants from Europe, many of them belonging to the criminal classes, have come to Argentina recently, and the present crime wave is attributed to this undesirable element.

LINEMEN WATCH PRESS WIRES

Every available lineman in and around La Grande was called into service last night. The long distance wires and the Western Union wires were patrolled and other men kept under orders to stand by for immediate action should there be any troubles with lines over which press dispatches were streaming all night long. The Blue Mountain section escaped storms that might have harassed the wires, and there was no interruption of service in this part of the state. The transmission of press dispatches was probably heavier last night than it has been for many years.

BULLETINS

Body Under Heavy Guard.
SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3.—Guarded constantly by two soldiers and two sailors in the car which will be lighted every night of the journey, President Harding's body is to start from here this evening for Washington. Arrangements there await Mrs. Harding's word, but it is expected the body will lie in state in the capitol rotunda where the bodies of Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley lay.

Wall Street Closed.
NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—Silence reigned today in the financial district. Cabarets and roof gardens in the city were closed.

All Washington Closed.
WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Secretary Hughes, ranking official here, ordered all government departments closed.

Today the lumber manufacturing plant of the Nibley-Minnaugh Co., at Wallowa, recognized by manufacturers to be one of the most modern and best appointed mills of its size in the pine belt, passed into ownership of the Bowman-Hicks Company and will in the future be operated by H. N. Ashby who is the Bowman-Hicks manager for all western operations.

This deal represents a large investment for it includes besides the mill, planer, and box factory, 26,000 acres of standing timber.

Some of this timber is property of the Grande Ronde Lumber company of La Grande and that company included in the Bowman-Hicks purchase all of the Wallowa county lumber owned by the Grande Ronde Lumber company.

The deal has been pending for a few weeks. Cruisers have been at work and when their final reports were turned into Mr. Ashby, the arrival of G. R. Hicks of Kansas City and Jesse Andrews, attorney for the Bowman-Hicks company, also from Kansas City, caused final decision to close the purchase.

Today the Nibley-Minnaugh company ceased at Wallowa and at noon the Bowman-Hicks company began operating the property.

Minnaugh Boys Built Well.
Change of ownership in the Wallowa plant brings to mind the work accomplished by Charles H. and James Minnaugh, two of the most successful lumbermen of the Inland Empire. They blocked up the timber to insure a long time run for their mill and then erected a modern plant.

The late James Minnaugh was known to be an exceptional mill operator, a fact which was evidenced during the depression in lumber for his mill continued operation when many other plants were idle.

Since the death of James Minnaugh and the removal of G. H. Minnaugh to the coast David I. Stoddard, formerly of the Grande Ronde Lumber company, has operated the Wallowa institution.

King Sends Condolence.
LONDON, Aug. 3.—The King today sent condolence and ordered the court of St. James in mourning for one week.

No Ball Games.
SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3.—No coast league games today on account of the President's death.

Latest Picture of the President



OUR PRESIDENT IS DEAD

Warren G. Harding, president of the United States is dead. The end came last evening in San Francisco at 7:30 o'clock where for several days he had been in the Palace Hotel fighting valiantly a case of ptomaine poisoning which became complicated and drifted into pneumonia.

The great big hearted American citizen who met the people of Eastern Oregon with outstretched hand on July 3rd at Meacham is no more. The kind heart that beat for every American citizen no longer beats, the voice that carried the loving kindness to all humanity, that rang with sincerity and honesty of purpose is stilled, and the American people today bow their heads in unanimous

sorrow for the man whose work was unfinished, whose life would have been productive of great deeds for America and for the world.

It is with the deepest sorrow that the Evening Observer gives this news to its readers. It seems almost as though a near neighbor and a close friend to every man, woman and child in the great Eastern Oregon had been called by death, for President Harding in the day's stay among us made himself a citizen of the great Inland Empire.

No public man ever came to this section of country a stranger and went away a close personal friend to all as did President Harding. No public man

ever uttered more sincere words than he did in his Meacham speech; and no man ever enjoyed the social part of his stay with us more than did the president. When he visited with the ladies who prepared the big pioneer dinner he did so with that ease and comfort which bespoke his heart. He had lived in just such communities—American communities—and he fitted into the big celebration perfectly.

That death so soon claimed him is a shock to all and the heart of every person in Eastern Oregon today is torn with the bitterest sorrow at the loss of this great citizen, this many man, this true American—Our Beloved President.