

HARDING IS REALLY LEADER OF PARTY

Senate Knows Firm Hand Will Hold Reins.

COUNCILORS BOW TO CHIEF

Influence of President-Elect Already Felt by Friends.

OLIGARCHY TALK STOPS

Next Executive of Nation Said to Be Ready to Confer, but Not to Be Dominated.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
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MARION, O., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—At the time of Harding's nomination it was generally said that a group of his fellow-senators had been the chief instrument in bringing it about. To a degree that was true. Harding's initial entry into the race was probably half due to the persuasions of some of the republican senators.

At several times during the pre-convention months, when Harding rather wished he were out of the race, these same senators were influential in prevailing on him to stay in. But the precise extent to which the senatorial group was potent in finally bringing about Harding's nomination does not matter for the purposes of this article. Those days of the republican convention are too old for news and not old enough for history.

I allude to the senatorial group merely for its bearing on the thing we are trying to get at now, the question of what kind of a man Harding is. It is undoubtedly true that the public conception of Harding's personality, the picture that the public has of him, has been largely and erroneously determined by that early association of a group of senators with his nomination.

Unflattering Opinion Forward.
That early and widespread association in the newspapers gave rise to the phrase "the senatorial oligarchy," and the phrase in turn became a constantly reiterated campaign slogan of the opposition. The result of all this, with some other factors, has been that to a degree the public has thought of Harding not as a leader in his own right, but as the representative of a group, a mouthpiece for the republican senators.

The public has thought and to a large extent still thinks of Harding as the amiable, easy-going, rather pliant sort of man who would be content and happy in that kind of role.

People have thought of him as having a neutral personality, even a negative personality, destined as president to be the reflection in the White House of a group of stronger and more positive personalities in the senate. They have pictured the republican senators running the country, with the White House registering their decisions.

Picture Declared Wrong.
The picture of Harding is as far from the facts as black is from white. Harding is the leader, knows he is the leader, and will live up to that role. He will do it in a way different from the way Wilson did it, and different from the way Roosevelt did it, but he will be the leader no less surely than these two were. Right now, for example, Senator Harding is believed by all the republican senators to be in the process of making up his mind on a decidedly important matter.

Fully five-sixths of the republican

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

NEW AMERICAN MARK SET IN PLANE FLIGHT

702-MILE TRIP MADE IN 9 HOURS 15 MINUTES.

Naval Flier Travels Longest Distance in History Without Making Stop

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 1.—Establishing a new American non-stop duration record for pilot and five passengers for seaplanes, the United States naval seaplane NC-5 flew from San Diego to Magdalena Bay in the remarkable time of nine hours and 15 minutes. The big triple-motored plane covered the 702 miles between Point Loma and Magdalena Bay at a speed of 77 miles an hour.

Efforts Largely Futile

Veto of War Finance Resolution Now Expected.

Patience Wearing Out

Signs of Disposition to Fight Obdurate President Noted—Ashurst Incident Significant.

Princeton Orators Win

University of Oregon Team Is Defeated in Debate.

Life-Saver Gets Medal

Chicago Guard Captain Honored by Treasury Department.

Peace Fully Restored

Diplomatic Relations Between Rumania and Bulgaria Resumed.

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Congress, Balked by Wilson, Plugs

Lawmakers, Hobbled, Are Doing Their Best.

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Etheridge to Arrive in City Tomorrow

Ex-President of Bond House Due at 8 A. M.

Harding Still Mute on Cabinet Line-Up

Important Posts Assigned But Not Indicated.

Olcott Hands Out 14 New Year Jobs

Three Child Welfare Board Members Portlanders.

Few Offices Pay Well

Governor and Conferees Unable to Agree on Third Man on State Highway Commission.

Shake-Up in Railway Mail Service is Due

Changes in 13th Division After March 4 Forecast.

California Wins Gridiron Classic

Ohio State Is Defeated by Westerners, 28-0.

"Brick" Muller is Star

Easterners Outplayed at Own Style of Football.

Attendance is 42,000

Spectators at Pasadena Game See Golden Bears Baffle Big Ten Champions.

Britain May Help Labor

Short Time and Jobs for Every Body Cabinet Proposal.

Birthday Spent in Bed

Chamberlain Suffers Most on His 67th Anniversary, but is Better.

Steamship in Distress

Engines of American Craft Walk Off Disabled Off Irish Coast.

King Greets President

British Ruler Sends New Year's Message to Wilson.

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