

## GROWING UP WITH WARREN HARDING

A Boyhood Dream Comes True

By Jack Warwick

Boyhood Playmate, School Chum and First Newspaper Associate of the Republican Presidential Nominee

VI.

Grover Cleveland's election in 1894 was a severe blow to young Warren G. Harding's Republican pride. The Jim Blaine that he had flaunted in the face of his uncompromising Democratic editor lost its austerity in one short day and passed into sad memory. Democrats everywhere were wild with joy. In Marion county they were both wild and woolly. The fall of the rooster had been drooping for nearly a quarter of a century, and many of the faithful had gone about with flowing locks, ashamed to look at a barber, but firm in their determination to go unshorn until a day like this should come along and fill their souls with explosive joy.

Brass bands are nothing if not nonpartisan, and the organization to which Warren G. belonged was hired to make music for the wild celebrations. He could not desert. He must play quicksteps for the unshorn to prance by while his heart beat funeral marches.

On the afternoon of this day which ended in the Democratic orgy at the county seat, I was in the country near Caledonia, pitching straw in a heroic endeavor to satisfy the maw of the hay press. We were about

ready to go to press on the home edition when Johnnie Sichel tore into the field behind a pair of yellow ponies and spent all of 30 seconds in the task of inveigling me to leave the old press flat on its back to accompany him to Marion for the big blow. Sichel was a hereditary Democrat and I went with him as an innocent bystander.

"Let's buy the Star," The snelly torchlight procession came to an end and the exuberant marchers were crowding into the saloons to yell at the bartenders when Warren G. came along with his cornet under his arm. The country might be lost, but he still had his appetite. The three of us went into William Melley's restaurant on Main street and consumed oysters. It was here that Harding proposed to me that we buy the Marion Daily Star. Sichel suggested that we make it go three ways. I had some hesitancy about taking the plunge. Remember, I had left the hay press standing back there in the field.

Well, our dream came true and we began the uphill climb a few days later. A month or two satisfied Sichel and he dropped out of the triangular affair. He was an out-of-

doors youngster and didn't like the smell of ink. The dream mentioned is the one Harding and I dreamed back there in the little village of Caledonia. However, the copy we had prepared then could not be used now. It was stale.

Before going further with this tale I must say that in looking over the years spent in this adventure—and it was an adventure—I have never had a moment of regret. I would voluntarily go over it again under the same circumstances and enjoy it.

Only a day or two were required in taking over the Star. It was a sick kitten in an alley, with watery eyes and scrawny from lack of nourishment. To bring it back into the big wide world and persuade it to mew and purr, scratch and bite was a task from which stouter hearts than ours might have shrunk.

Operated by Elbow Power. The office was poorly equipped. There was an old Fairhaven press, operated by elbow power, enough body type to set all the news the town could produce from day to day, and a few fonts of job and advertising type. We added a small job press, bought on faith and sold on a bet. I took mechanical charge, purchased a pair of scissors for 60 cents (I have 'em yet) and waded in. The water was cold and goose-pimpling, but still we waded in deeper and deeper. We began with our own good health, one hired journeyman and a "devil." Sichel started in to learn to set type but gave up in a week or two, not in despair but for fresh air.

All that Harding had to do was to cover the town for local news,

scillet advertising and job work, look after the carrier boys, keep books, help now and then with the typesetting, help to put the paper on the press and devote his spare time to building up the good will of the precarious state of the institution. And it was in a precarious state. The history of the paper up to this time could be written in four letters—J-O-K-E. It had been kicked at and kicked. At the time we took hold it amused everybody and inspired faith in nobody. The people of the town laughed at us, but there wasn't a day, right from the start, that we didn't have more fun getting out the sheet than the subscribers had reading it.

Our first object was to make the paper function six days a week. Though a daily, it had fallen into the habit of going to press now and then. At this time the roller skating craze was sweeping the country. Marion had a big rink, and it was crowded with skaters every night except Sunday. For getting our paper out on time we generously awarded ourselves the privilege of faithful attendance at the rink. Of course, we had passes. As a matter of fact, we had all kinds of tickets except meal tickets.

That Old Roller Rink. Harding was still playing the cornet, and the old band furnished the waltzes for the merry-go-round. The town remained on rollers all winter when its feet were not in the air. The rink was a splendid source of small local news, with now and then a sensational elopement. After a young man had carried a girl around the rink a million times he began to feel that it would be a bright idea to carry her off to the matrimonial altar.

Whatever startled mothers and irate fathers may have said against the roller rink, it lightened the work of running the Star during the long winter of 1894-5. And we were making some headway. Harding's spirit never lagged. He gathered in new business and improved the general character of the little paper, which had achieved its aim in getting out regularly. The people were beginning to feel that the thing might survive indefinitely. This feeling was also beginning to eat into the vitals of our semi-weekly contemporary.

At this time there were two other papers in the town—the old Democratic Mirror, a fat and sleek weekly, and the semi-weekly Independent, a Republican paper that lived on the cracklines after the Mirror had fried all the fat out of the county printing. The Mirror was too fat and lazy to worry much about the Star. It could smile at us because it had no forebodings of evil days to come. The Independent was at first sarcastic and exuberantly funny at the expense of the Star, but when the little daily began to move forward and make a place for itself in the local field, the older paper growled like a dog with a dry bone.

This was the sort of thing we had to go up against in trying to build up the Star. As newspaper history the simple narration of these things is of no great interest to the public, but in revealing the character and perseverance of Warren G. Harding, candidate for president, in the face of disheartening difficulties, it is a story of downright pluck that I fancy the American people, irrespective of political affiliations, will like. At no time in the fight did he ever talk about giving up.

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Tomorrow Jack Warwick will tell of Harding as a reporter.

## OREGON BRAVE LIST PUBLISHED

"Heroes All" Title of New Volume Received at State Library

Twenty-one Oregon soldiers and sailors outside of Portland and 15 in Portland were cited or decorated for distinguished service by the government during the war, according to "Heroes All," a new volume that has been added to the Oregon state library.

The book contains the names of all soldiers in the war who received citations or who were decorated.

Oregon men mentioned from outside Portland are: Corporal Charles Auer, Bandon; Major K. J. Swenson, Beaverton; Private Clyde Brandon, Bend; Captain L. C. Beebe, Cottage Grove; Pharmacist's Mate Second Class B. F. Rogers, Creston; Private K. H. A. Koehler, Hillsdale; Captain D. L. Spaulding, Hood River; Private G. W. Wilcox, Linton; Sergeant First Class P. T. Collinge, McMinnville; Captain James P. Crowden, McMinnville; Corporal H. C. Van Amburgh, Milwaukie; First Lieutenant A. T. Lee, Newberg; Cap. Ward M. Ackley, North Portland; First Lieutenant R. M. Wilcox, North Portland; Corporal H. A. Dakin, Freewater; Sergeant Helmut DeWitz, Salem; Sergeant A. C. Presley, Salem; First Lieutenant E. J. Price, Salem; Major Alexander Rasmussen, Sherwood; Private J. H. Womack, Walla; Private Chester Haven, Woodburn.

The Portland list follows: Sergeant H. M. Bird, First Lieutenant Hugh D. Broomfield, Major S. E. Brett, Colonel A. L. Bump, First Lieutenant J. C. Burgard, Sergeant E. E. Ely, Corporal William Hansen, Corporal D. B. Hunt, Private E. C. Kyle, Private Eugene McEntee, First Lieutenant H. L. McLeod, Private H. L. Pearson, Private R. E. Read, First Lieutenant T. W. Saul, Corporal D. W. Stearns.

TRADE BALANCE FAVORABLE

OTTAWA, Ont., July 28.—A report issued today by the department of trade and commerce shows Canada's imports from the United States during June totaled \$88,221,931, while exports from the dominion to the United States were \$45,980,676.

## Clean Sweep Sale

### All Spring and Summer Apparel Must Go Regardless of Cost or Former Selling Price

This remarkable sale is bringing ever-increasing crowds to Salem's greatest Women's Apparel Store day after day. Consistent with our well established policies, we are sacrificing many garments we might well keep for the coming season. Because our keeping faith with the public means more to us, than it does to the people, and until this sale is concluded savings and values will be the paramount element of our service. The women who fails to profit by this saving sale will surely regret it.



### WAIST SALE EXTRAORDINARY

One Thousand New and Pretty Georgette, Pongee Silk, Crepe de Chine and fine Voile Waists in a generous assortment of styles and sizes, principally lace trimmed, and semi-tailored models, all at Money Saving Prices.

\$2.48

#### GROUP NO. 1

About five hundred fine Voile and some Georgette Waists, short, medium, and full length sleeves, neatly trimmed with Valenciennes lace edgings and insertion, the necks are cleverly cut in round or square styles, all sizes from 34 to 54, regular values \$3.00 to \$3.75. Sale Price \$2.48.

\$3.75

#### GROUP NO. 2

Three hundred Pongee Silk Crepe de Chine and fine Voile Waists, principally short and three-quarter length sleeves, square and round neck styles, neatly trimmed with silk embroidery effects. Waists worth regularly \$4.75, \$5 and \$3.50. Sale Price \$3.75.

\$5.75

#### GROUP NO. 3

Georgette and Crepe de Chine Blouses—that will charm with their newness. New models every one of them, round and V-shaped necks, also Waists worth regular \$7.50, \$8.50 and \$9.00. Sale Price \$5.75.

The Economic Store, 318 Court St., where Lower Prices Prevail

| SWEATERS                                               | SKIRTS                                                     | APRONS                                                                               | HATS                                                                                                     | MIDDY BLOUSES                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| \$7.50 Shetland Wool Sweaters, Slip-on and Coat styles | \$5.50 to \$7.00 Plaid Silk Skirts, Clean Sweep Sale Price | \$3.00 Bungalow Apron and House Dresses, made from good quality ginghams and percale | \$2.50 to \$5.00 Straw Hats, black and various colors, principally sailor models, Clean Sweep Sale Price | Big lot of White and Colored Smocks and Middy Blouses, values to \$3.00. Sale price |
| \$5.75                                                 | \$3.98                                                     | \$1.98                                                                               | \$2.48                                                                                                   | \$1.98                                                                              |

Portland Cloak & Suit Co.  
Salem Or.

SALEM'S GREATEST WOMEN'S APPAREL STORE

(OLD WHITE CORNER)

## FOR Saturday

WE OFFER:

|                         |     |                                |      |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|------|
| Mutton Stew, per pound  | 8c  | Legs of Veal, per pound        | 25c  |
| Mutton Chops, per pound | 15c | Fresh Sausage, per pound       | 15c  |
| Mutton Legs, per pound  | 20c | Fresh Liberty Steak, per pound | 15c  |
| Veal Steak, per pound   | 25c | Beef to Boil, per lb.          | 12½c |

A choice lot of nice young hens. All kinds of fresh fish. Try our Kipperd Salmon, its delicious.

## MIDGET MARKET

Originators of Low Prices

NOT IN THE COMBINE 351 State St.

NOTE—We close at 7 p. m. on Saturdays. It is to your advantage to shop early when possible.

MEET ME AT MILLER'S

## NEW ARRIVALS TODAY!

Mr. Miller, who is now in New York, has expressed to us some very New and Beautiful Neckwear



Point Lace Collars, Organdie Collars and Cuffs, embroidered in yarn—Net Collars and Vests

Included in the shipment are the new MARIBOA THROWS, in black and taupe. Visit our Neckwear Section and let the young lady show you these "New Things."

## Extra Special in Underwear

LADIES AND CHILDREN

To make a final Clean Up on Broken Lines we have marked it at prices that will close it out fast. It is all summer weight.

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| LADIES' UNION SUITS          | 59c |
| LADIES' TIGHTS               | 29c |
| LADIES' VESTS                | 29c |
| CHILDREN'S VESTS and DRAWERS | 19c |

## Mention of Other Specials That Are Money Savers

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Skinner's Satin   | Toilet Sundries |
| White Wash Skirts | Taffeta Dresses |
| Ladies' Hose      | Men's Shirts    |
| Ladies' Blouses   | Middies         |
| Ladies' Gloves    | Men's Underwear |

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