

Growing Up With Warren Harding

Mrs. Harding Joins "the Force"

By JACK WARWICK

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

XVII

Warren Harding's belief in his fellow was an outstanding trait of his character in all the years we worked side by side. I wanted to say "worked shoulder to shoulder," but he is so tall and I am so short that it was necessary to change the phraseology.

Always it was W. G.'s aim to give every man a chance, and more than one worker in the old Star office got more than one chance. Some of them got many. In the "soaking wet" days if an employe fell by the wayside he was given an opportunity to gather himself together and get up, if W. G. did not in reality take him by the hand and help him on his

feet. With some it was a case of try, try again, while their employer waited patiently for them to regain their self-respect. Some may say he was "easy." I prefer to think it was the human warmth of his nature that kept him on the lookout for the good that he must have believed was in every human being.

No man came to the Star office without getting his chance, if it was possible to make room for him. W. G. kept the matter of employing help well in his own hands, and I think now, as I thought then, that this was for the purpose of giving the boys who came to us a fair show, that

couldn't see its importance to Marion. He wrote his report and turned it over to me — not more than a hundred and fifty words. "This what you make of it?" I asked.

"That's all," he replied, and there was a note of conscious failure in his voice.

Another reporter was sent out and he covered the fire pretty well in a story that made a column and a half in the Star. W. G. smiled; to him one failure in the life of a young man did not mean disaster.

Frederick O'Brien was one of the most likable young men that stopped over with us while in search of a place in the world. He came in a box car, but he rode away one midnight on an upholstered seat. His friends entertained him in a game of draw poker until almost train time. He walked half a mile to the station, found his train an hour late and walked back, to lose what money he had left. His final departure was characteristic. His friends around the table remembered these words long after:

"Boys, when I am gone say anything you like of me, anything but this—that I'm easy. I know I am, but don't say it."

Mrs. Warren G. Harding must not be overlooked. She was a Star office worker. There is a cynical old rhyme that runs something like this:

"Needles and pins, needles and pins,
When man marries trouble begins."

Mrs. Harding saves the pennies. I am quoting that bit of nonsense here because it is the opposite of truth in the life of Warren Harding. The Star office was a democratic institution. W. G. made it that by his own daily work among the men. After his marriage Mrs. Harding joined the workers and became one of them in the spirit of splendid good fellowship that was always prevalent. She did not at any time edit the paper or dictate its policy; she did not report; neither did she write editorials. She took upon herself a harder task than any of these when she assumed the management of the circulation and the newsboys. She controlled those lads, kept their accounts and spanked them when it was necessary.

Mrs. Harding saved the pennies. I want the reader to accept this statement literally. No pennies escaped her. They may have disappeared before her advent, but she got away with none was unaccounted for after she took over the management of the newsboys. She took them home from day to day, and after the accumulation reached bankable size it was carried down town and banked. I have seen W. G. marching down to the bank with a gallon of pennies in either hand. I was always curious to know how many pennies made a gallon, but never found out.

Many were hired and few were fired in the Star office. There were no jangling notes in the old days. We worked in tune and the paper grew in importance, stamped indelibly with the individuality of Warren G. Harding. The boys had ambition, each, in his line of work, always happy to contribute toward success.

There was a time when the town looked forward with anxiety to each day's issue. We had Arthur Porter, cartoonist, sketching and caricaturing the town and its people; Kelly Mount, with a line of humor that bubbled up like Bill Nye's; Rhoads, the tireless reporter, with a sideline of light and airy stuff, and W. G.'s long and short, breezy, commonsense editorials—these when the spirit moved him. At this time he was giving most of his attention to the business office, with Mrs. Harding ever jealously guarding the inflow of pennies.

Merrily we ran along.

A "Cleaning Out" Failure.

When W. G. was away the editorial management of a big fellow fell to my lot, but he never left me burdened with instructions. He had confidence in us. At one time during his absence a street paving controversy developed which divided the town. I landed the paper on the side I thought was the right side, and was upheld by the courts later.

Upon his return home W. G. took "our side" of the controversy. By our attitude we made a fighting enemy of a big fellow who brought his big brother along to "clean out" the office. We had been threatened many times for a number of years, but nothing ever happened, and now that there was a chance for action I was at home sick abed.

The "cleaning out" process was a failure, however, for before W. G. could get into action Charley Kramer, foreman of the job department, had smothered the irate citizen in a shower of blows that took the fight out of him.

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Tomorrow Jack Warwick tells of Harding's political beginnings.

PRATUM PERSONALS.

PRATUM, Aug. 19.—Paul Silke and family will go to the beach the first of next week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Powell were visitors at the home of their daughter, Mrs. John Bair, at Albany last Sunday and Monday.

George Kleen and family were visiting with relatives in Clackamas county last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witham and Mrs. James Witham will attend the camp meeting at the fair grounds the next week or ten days.

Glen Smith, who has spent the summer at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Powell, intends to return to his home in Oregon City tomorrow.

Charles Sappingfield is successfully harvesting his wheat with his tractor attached to his binder.

Miss Lydia Powell is home from Oregon.

This neighborhood is anxiously waiting for the return of William Roth with his threshing machine.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN

By GENE BYRNES



He has been thrashing for the past week at Central Howell.

Sam Yates is hauling a large amount of wood with his new truck.

Everett Branch is taking care of Mr. Silkes' milk route while Mr. Silke is at the coast.

Miss Hazel Lambert, who had to undergo an operation in Portland, will soon be able to be home.

Mrs. A. W. Powell will leave for Oregon City tomorrow where she will be entertained at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Chas. Smith.

Mrs. William de Vries entertained the Helping Hand society yesterday afternoon.

Albert Eoff, after hauling 300 cords of wood, is now hauling wheat to Pratum with his truck from the Waldo Hills.

H. G. King is again assisting

Claud Ramsden handling the large amount of wheat and oats which is brought to the Pratum warehouse.

Dallas Prune Dryer Is Soon to be Completed

DALLAS, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—The large prune dryer of the Oregon Growers' Co-operative association which is being built in the south part of Dallas near the prune packing plant erected last spring is rapidly nearing completion. The intention of the contractors being to have the plant ready for operation within 30 days.

The dryer is the second largest plant of its kind in the state, having 32 tunnels for the drying of prunes. The largest dryer is now

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being built at Sheridan and will have over 40 tunnels.

The big plant is for the use of those members of the association who have no dryers to handle their crops. Growers not members of the association will not be allowed to use the plant.

Tourists Well Pleased With Dallas Auto Park

DALLAS, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—The free automobile camping ground in the Dallas city park is proving a veritable paradise for tourists and every night finds from two to a dozen or more enjoying the hospitality of the city. Free wood and water are furnished the parties and it is the intention of the park committee to have electric lights installed next season. Every

MOORE ON COUNCIL

DALLAS, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special to The Statesman)—Floyd Moore, county clerk of Polk county, has been elected to a seat on the Dallas city council to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of N. B. Young. Mr. Moore is the new chairman of the fire and water committee and is also member of the ordinance committee of the council.

Was there ever a woman in the world but could see where a neighbor could easily save a cent; she already scorns the limit—so she says.

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Extra good quality, best brand, not how cheap, but how good
Voiles, the new dark shades, the much wanted patterns, 40 inch at 90c the yard

R & G Corsets, popular numbers

New collar laces, dainty patterns, pretty designs

Silk Petticoats, nice goods at \$5—pretty assortment

Ladies' Scarfs, nice selection at \$7.50

Ladies' and Girls' Coats, new fall styles, good assortment, reasonably priced

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Cambrics.....	45c to 69c	Face Towels.....	15c to \$1.49
Ginghams.....	29c to 49c	Toweling.....	21 to 79c
Percaloes.....	25c to 45c	Sheeting.....	79c to \$1.19
Cheviots.....	35c	Outing Flannel.....	39c
Comfort Challies.....	39c	Pillow Cases.....	55c to 69c
Silkolines.....	35c	Sheets.....	\$1.69 to \$2.98
Oilcloth.....	49c	Bed Spreads.....	\$3.98 to \$9.90

EVERYTHING TO WEAR FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN



NEW ARRIVALS IN FALL SHOES

WE ARE NOW RECEIVING ADVANCE FALL STYLES in All the Latest Colors and Styles, both in High and Low Shoes. There seems to be quite a tendency towards low shoes in the heavier leathers for Fall and Winter wear. We are receiving both express and freight shipments of these new Oxfords and they are now on display in Our Show Windows.

Hanan Shoes

We now have the most complete stock of the famous Hanan shoes in Pumps, Oxfords and Boots black and the new shades of brown. We can fit any foot from the widest down to the very narrowest.

Boys' Shoes

We have just unpacked the largest range of styles and colors in boys' shoes ever shown in Salem and we picked these shoes up at practically half of their market value and we are going to sell them the same way, so if you want high grade stylish shoes for the boys, this is a chance of a life time.

Service

We are adding new features to our store service each year and improving the selling end of our business to make it more convenient for our customers, in fact to give them such service that they are sure to return again. We offer the highest grade repair work to our customers that can be obtained, using better leather, better materials and a higher grade of workmanship than can be offered elsewhere at the same price that you pay for inferior work.



We have graduate foot specialists always at your service to correct the results of poor fitting and to keep your feet in good condition, who will examine your feet and point out your troubles absolutely free. Our store is always open to every one to use as a resting place, as an information bureau, phone service and any other service that we may render the public. We will be glad to have everyone come and use these conveniences.

