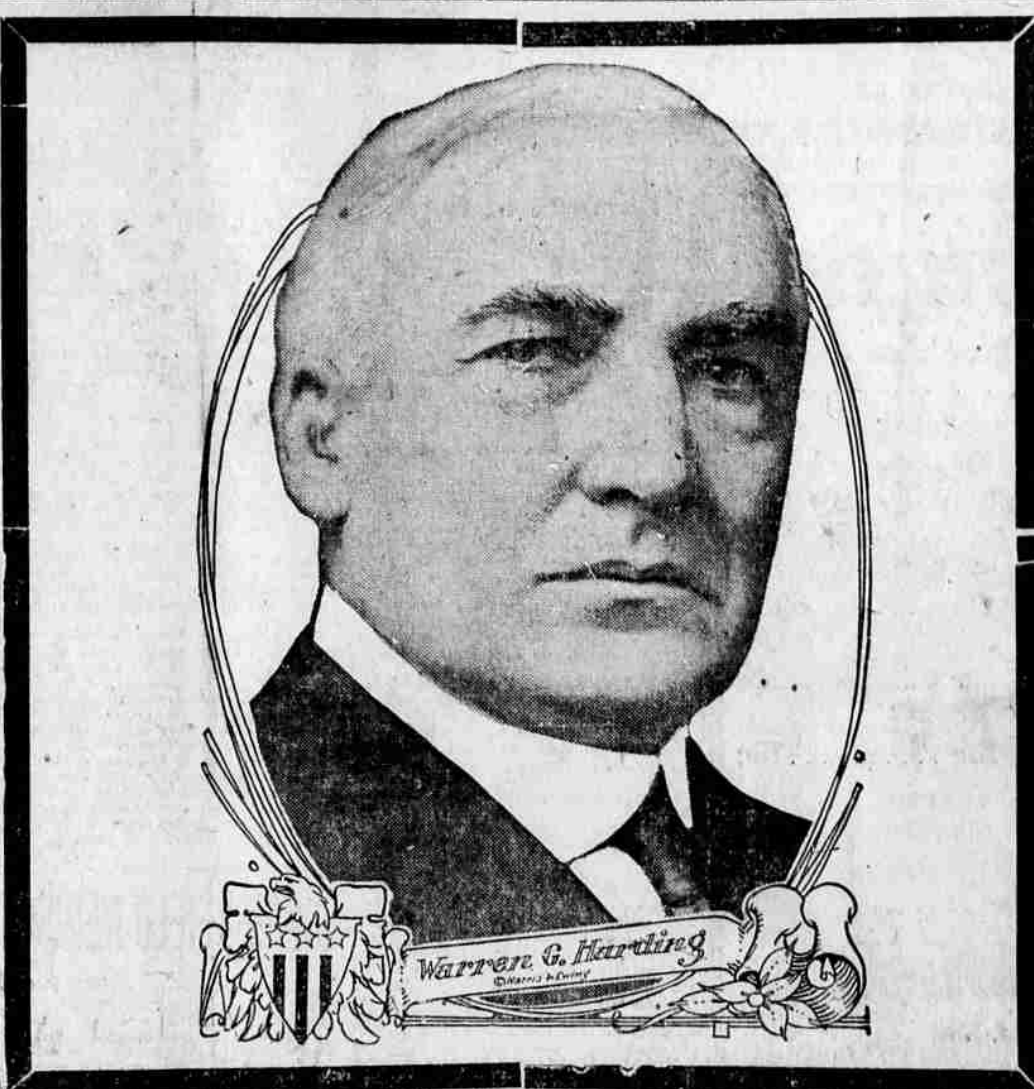


PRES. HARDING'S DEAD

With Slight Shudder Chief Executive Expires in San Francisco Hotel

and Comes as Mrs. Harding is Reading
and With Only Two Nurses Present--
Official Party Refuses to Believe
Until Official Bulletin Issued

COOLIDGE TAKES OATH FRIDAY



Wife Beside Harding as Death Came

Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Aug. 2.—Here is how President Harding died—
Mrs. Harding was seated by his bedside reading from a magazine—
At the end of a paragraph she paused and let the magazine drop into her lap.
“That sounds good; go ahead,” said the president. They were his last words.
A moment later he threw his right hand over his head—and sank down—dead.
President Harding’s body will be taken directly to Washington; the funeral train will leave San Francisco late Friday.
Burial will be in Marion, O. This decision was reached tonight.

Palace Hotel, San Francisco, August 2.—President Harding died at 7:30 tonight without warning.
A cerebral hemorrhage, or apoplexy, killed him just when doctors had deemed him well on the road to recovery from illness which abruptly halted his long journey, begun on July 20.
The death was announced in the following official statement:
“The President died instantaneously and without warning while conversing with members of his family at 7:30, due to some brain involvement, probably apoplexy. During the day he had been free from discomfort and there was belief and hope of recovery.”
(Signed)
C. E. SAWYER, MD
RAY LYMAN WILBUR, MD
C. M. COOPER, MD
J. T. BOONE, MD
H. W. WORK, MD

The death of the president startled his official party as well as the nation, following a day when his condition had been deemed the best at any time since his illness Sunday.
Mrs. Harding and two nurses were in the room at the time. Mrs. Harding was reading to the president when uttering a slight shudder passed through him. He collapsed and all recognized death had come. Within a few moments the official party had been summoned. Dr. Sawyer had been called a short time before the president died. He had then confirmed his earlier statements that the president had passed the best day since his illness began.
The news of his death filled the presidential suite and adjoining suites in the Palace hotel with indescribable confusion. Members of his party refused to believe the news until the issuance of the official bulletin confirmed it immediately. Telegrams were immediately dispatched to Vice President Coolidge, Justice Taft and members of the cabinet.
An official announcement was later made that Mrs. Harding did not break down, an unofficial report having stated she fainted and was carried from the room, but this was not true.
Immediately the wires to all parts of the world flashed news of the death of the president. Newspaper offices after the first shock became a bedlam. Crowds began to gather and the bulletin boards and soon there were extras on the streets announcing the sad news.
Messages of sympathy were pouring in from all over the world.
Members of the cabinet with the president’s party were notified when they were notified of his death.
“It is terrible,” said Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, in a choked voice with emotion, as he came out of the death-chamber where he hurried upon arriving at the Palace hotel.
Speaker Gillett, who was out to dinner, was summoned. General Pershing, Admiral Hugh Rodman, General Morton, Commander at the Presidio, and Congressman Curry of California, went into conference shortly after the president’s death.
Police had to be called to clear the corridors near the presidential suite as a crowd of hotel guests and people who had heard the news in the city crowded in. Though there was a great crowd in the hallways, it was a silent crowd—the hush of death brooded over the place.

Vice President Calvin Coolidge was notified of the president’s death and probably will be sworn in as president tomorrow.
Judson C. Wellever, the president’s close friend and confidant, leaned against the wall and said: “For God’s sake give me a cigarette,” as he came out of the Harding suite to deliver the text of the official announcement to the official typists.
Wellever’s hands shook so that he could not light the cigarette when he got it.
Mrs. Harding collapsed and was at once carried to her own room, where a nurse and a doctor worked over her.
The funeral arrangements will be given out a little later.
Immediately following the announcement of the president’s sudden death the confusion in the hotel became so great that Chief of Police O’Brien ordered the lobbies and halls cleared. The presidential flag was hauled down from the hotel and the American flags that flanked it were half masted.
Police and detectives milled about with the crowd, too thunderstruck, with all the rest, to clear the halls for the passage of members of the presidential official party who arrived by one and twos, their faces horror stricken.
A few minutes after the president passed away, it became evident to the crowds in the halls of the hotel that something had gone wrong.
It became noised around that the president’s physicians had been hastily summoned. Arrival of the doctors tended to confirm the fear that the president’s condition had taken a turn for the worse. In a few minutes the official announcement of death showed the full extent of the tragedy.
The word spread through the hotel like wildfire. It got to the streets. Instantly crowds surged into the hotel and filled the corridors leading to the Harding suite.

COOLIDGE TO TAKE OATH
Washington, D. C., August 2.—Calvin Coolidge, will take the oath as President of the United States at his home in Plymouth, Vermont, early Friday morning.



PRESIDENT WAS MUCH IMPROVED EARLIER IN DAY

With President Harding’s Party, San Francisco, Aug. 2.—President Harding, fighting his way back to health, was aided by another night of sound sleep, according to those on watch at his chamber at six this morning.
At that time there had been no activity in the presidential suite for seven hours. Secret service men in the corridors reported there had been no coughing in Harding’s room and it is believed he is resting easily.
Just after his final night examination Dr. Charles E. Sawyer said:
Temperature Normal.
“His temperature now is normal, as it has been practically all day. This we take to mean that the fire is out, so far as the febrile condition is concerned. We do not say that it will stay out. It may not. We hope it will.”
Sawyer said the president’s general condition was about the same as when the last official bulletin was issued, shortly before 5 p. m. yesterday. This bulletin said Mr. Harding was resting comfortably, after a restless day and that the lung condition was slightly improved.
Lieutenant Commander Boone reminded with him during the night.
While all indications furnished by Mr. Harding’s condition pointed to uninterrupted progress towards complete recovery, his doctors, headed by Sawyer, warned that relapses would undoubtedly occur and that some days the president would not be so well.
Even at the best, Sawyer emphasized, the path to recovery will be slow and Mr. Harding will for some days to come continue to be a very sick man.
“There will be many days,” said Sawyer early this morning, just before he went to bed, “when there will be no big news on the president’s condition.”
Slight Change Expected.
“There will be days when there will be no apparent change or only a very slight change. We have now settled down to the slow, gradual and we hope uninterrupted process of rebuilding the exhausted system of our patient. I will say to you

Oregon Short Line Plans Authorized

Washington, August 2.—The interstate commerce commission today authorized the Oregon Short line to construct a 2.6 mile extension of its line near Nampa, Idaho, to a connection with its Boise branch.
The purpose of the extension made necessary by the changing of the Boise branch to the main line, is to permit main line trains from Boise to be run through Nampa without switching.

City League Leaders Decide Title Tonight

The title contest for championship of Eugene business men’s baseball teams will be held at the University of Oregon diamond tonight at 6:30 o’clock between the Standard Oil, leader of the Twilight league, and Company C, topper of the Sunset rating column. The admission will be free, like all other games in these leagues, the schedule of which were disrupted by final games last week-end. A rather hot contest is expected, although the odds are given a shade on the dope.

Kansas Governor Wants Candidacy

Topeka, Kansas, August 2.—Governor Jonathan M. Davis of Kansas, today declared his candidacy for the democratic presidential nomination.
“In a recent trip to Chicago I found there was an urgent need for a dirt farmer president,” Davis said.
The governor made a bid for the support of Kansas delegation.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 2.—In the quiet evening hour Mrs. Harding was seated by the bedside of the president, where she had been in constant attendance since her husband was stricken. She read to the president a little while and then just sat there chatting with him. She had no premonition that the hand of death was even then gripping the president. Two nurses hovered about, talking in low tones.

Mr. Harding spoke now and then. Suddenly a shudder passed over him—and he was dead.
Mrs. Harding saw it and gasped. She seemed to realize at once what had happened and before the nurses could reach the bedside she was at the door calling “Send Mr. Boone.” She called for Boone because she believed Dr. Sawyer, the senior physician and family doctor had gone out for a short automobile ride.
The illness which brought tragedy to Mrs. Harding and to the American people began when the president ate tainted crab meat on his tour. When he returned to continental United States on July 27 he was suffering from what apparently was ptomaine poisoning.

Under the strain of a heavy program at Seattle that day, in excessive heat, he was forced to take to his bed when his train left Seattle and his plan to go to Yosemite National Park was cancelled that night and his train brought him to San Francisco on Sunday morning.

At that time there was not the slightest apprehension by Dr. Sawyer that the president’s illness might end fatally, though he was afraid that if Mr. Harding tried to go on with his speechmaking trip he would expose himself to danger of a breakdown.

On Sunday night, however, alarming symptoms developed and on Monday it was announced the president had pneumonia.

His entire California trip was cancelled. He grew steadily worse—and then as suddenly seemed to grow better, so that Tuesday, Wednesday and today he had been improving right along.