

SNAPSHOT OF PRESIDENT HARDING ON RECENT ALASKAN TRIP



Four specialists were called to the President's bedside in San Francisco just after his arrival from his Alaskan and Canadian trip. His illness began with ptomaine poisoning on the U. S. S. Henderson from eating crabs, but was not considered serious, until a relapse followed, and later bronchial pneumonia set in.

had in common a predominant passion for obliteration of class and sectional lines. A friendship sprang up between the two men. Mr. Harding also was close in later days to Theodore Roosevelt, Senators Foraker and Penrose and others high in his party councils.

The President was a life-long Baptist and was a trustee of his home church in Marion. He also had been

a member of the Elk and Moose fraternities for years, and after his election as President he became a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. Golf was his favorite recreation, but he also liked to fish, although

his opportunities for that sport were limited after he came to the White House. He played hard and possessed the faculty of putting all his worries behind him during his recreation hours.

PRESIDENT HARDING DEAD
(Continued from page 1.)

greatest tariff reform in American history.

Mr. Harding came of hardy pioneer stock. He was born at Blooming Grove, Morrow County, Ohio, November 2, 1865, the son of a country doctor, George T. Harding. Like most country boys he went to country school between morning and night chores and later attended college at Beria, Ohio. He tried school teaching for a year, but having had a smell of printers' ink while sticking type for his college paper, the lure drew him into the newspaper field.

His family meantime had moved to Marion, in an adjoining county, where he obtained his first newspaper job, and where his life interests were centered thereafter. Mr. Harding's ambition was to become a publisher, and it was realized at the age of 19 when he bid, in the Marion Star at a sheriff's sale. The paper was purchased under a heavy mortgage and his friends have often said that the struggles and hardships which were his in making this paper a success had much to do in fashioning his character and developing a broad patience and tolerance which were his chief characteristics.

Whatever his other attainments, Mr. Harding's greatest pride was in his professional accomplishments and training as printer, editor and publisher. Nor did the interests and exacting duties of his high office serve to dull his delight in pottering about a composing room. On his first trip back home after his inauguration, he went to the Star office, pulled off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, borrowed a chew of tobacco and helped "make up" the paper. His luck charm was a printer's rule, carried always in a vest pocket.

As his ambition had carried him into the ranks of publishers, so his fancy took him into the realm of politics. From the first he was an ar-

dent partisan, and his insistence upon wearing a "stove pipe" hat, the badge of support of James G. Blaine, while a reporter on a Democratic newspaper brought him a sharp reprimand from his chief, who held it to be inconsistent for a worker on a Democratic paper to so prominently display the symbol of his Republicanism.

The future President's ability as a stump speaker won him early recognition from his local party leaders. Marion County then was in the Democratic column and he undertook to switch it to the Republican party, but his first effort at office on his party ticket resulted in a defeat, though he commanded an unexpected vote.

Mr. Harding's first political office was that of Ohio State Senator, to which he was elected at the age of 34. He served two terms and later was elected Lieutenant Governor of his state. In 1910 he sought the governorship, but was defeated. Four years later he was elected to the United States Senate, where he served six years, much of the time as a member of the important Foreign Relations Committee. From this place he was elevated to the Presidency, the first Senator to be elected Chief Executive.

Early in his years of political service he met William McKinley, to whom his close friends have most often likened him, and with whom he



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