

EIGHT

NEWSMAN RECALLS MEMORIES OF FDR

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ing" in his stateroom to escape the curiosity of friends who boarded the train along the way as to his political intentions.

That absorption of newspaper folk who are rated trustworthy seems to be a Roosevelt family trait. It was even stronger in Franklin than in Theodore. Many a newshound, old and young, of my acquaintance can testify to that.

When I came up from stirring days with the Fleet, troops and Marines at Vera Cruz, Mexico, in August, 1914, my first Washington AP assignment was to take over the Army-Navy run in Washington. It happens that it was from Bill Hassett, one of Franklin Roosevelt's two surviving Presidential secretaries, then an AP man too, that I took over. The other surviving secretary, Steve Early, almost immediately became what still is, my closest and dearest friend. We worked the State-War-Navy building together as a team for the AP before, during and after World War I except for the time Steve spent as a machine gun officer with Pershing's crusaders in France.

Naturally when I first met Franklin Roosevelt at the Navy Department I tended to compare him in manner and in performance of his official capacity with his illustrious predecessor and distant kinsman. I can recall now the charm of his smile as I was introduced by Louie Howe, his secretary. I still can feel the magnetism of his personality taking hold of me. It was an irresistible force to most men, regardless of personal or political differences.

Nevertheless, I wondered how this upstate New York bluestocking of aristocratic Dutch ancestry came to be mixed up with Democ-

cratic party politics. I wondered, too, how this rumored play-boy of politics would match up against the dynamic personality, the punch and vigor in word and action of the Roosevelt who had preceded him in that "Little Cabinet" post. It is laughable to recall those immature reflections now in the light of what the following three decades were to disclose. I mean young Frank Roosevelt's capacities as statesman, politician or as "a sailor ashore" eager to promote the welfare of the Navy and its power and efficiency. It is said that his dearest boyhood ambition was to be a sea-going sailor, a naval officer. I think that was true. It is not my function to appraise Franklin Roosevelt's place in history or politics, domestic or foreign. My task is only to tell of him as I came to know him more intimately and personally than I have ever known any other public man, as I saw him year in and year out from the priceless vantage point of a place as a friend and confidant in the inner circle of his closest and most trusted companions.

These companions were to go with him to the White House, and two of them, Louie Howe and Magvin MacIntyre, were to die in harness as Presidential secretaries. Steve Early alone survived "the boss"—as he was known to this group. Even Early was on the eve of stepping out for other work when the end came in Georgia. I suppose, in fact I know—I might have had a place in that Roosevelt White House inner circle team had I wished it.

What Franklin Roosevelt had to give was any friend's for the asking, it often seemed. But I preferred life on the Washington news front as an AP man and have never regretted that choice. It is from that angle, and from personal contacts with Franklin Roosevelt that I will draw as best I can "Franklin Roosevelt As I Knew Him" in succeeding articles of this series. I only hope they will bring the man himself, not the Governor, the President, the Commander-in-Chief, or the world leader more clearly before the eyes of readers as he stands today before mine and will always stand.

(Tomorrow: Navy Department days.)

20 PERSONS DIE IN PLANE CRASH

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crashed in storm weather yesterday.

The big plane, flying from Pittsburgh to Birmingham was smashed in pieces and the bodies of the victims mangled. Wreckage lay strewn through a thousand yards of ash-reeled underbrush.

Searchers on foot reached the transport this afternoon after it had been spotted from the air by one of several planes searching since it was reported overdue last night. The plane, flight No. 142, left Pittsburgh at 4:37 p. m. (E.W.T.)

The scene of the crash was in Coopers Rock State forest, situated in the Cheat Mountain Range of Preston county.

Only a mass of smoldering rubble was left.

Wispes of smoke rose from charred wreckage. Clothing fluttered from broken tree tops.

The plane's right tailpiece pointed skyward from the wreckage in which only the bodies of the pilot, co-pilot and one woman were recognizable. Nearby lay a brief case in perfect condition.

Searchers discovered a watch stopped at 5:05 p. m. A heavy over-cast hung on the mountain tops at that time yesterday. The regular 4 p. m. flight from Pittsburgh had left there 41 minutes late. The bad weather cut off radio communication between the plane and the Morgantown airport, 12 miles from the crash.

Five of the passengers were service men, the others civilians.

Luxembourg Radio Says Prince Wilhelm Taken

LONDON, April 15.—(U.P.)—The Luxembourg radio said tonight that the Allies had captured Prince August Wilhelm, fourth son of the late Kaiser, who at one time participated in Nazi activities as member of the Reichstag.

ABISIE, American broadcasting station in Europe, said 96-year-old Field Marshal August von Mackensen, German commander on the eastern front in Galicia in the first world war, also had been captured by the Allies.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By WALTER LIPPMANN

ROOSEVELT IS GONE

The nation has received the news of President Roosevelt's death with profound sorrow but without dismay. Surely he would have wanted it to be that way. For the final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on.

The man must die in his appointed time. He must carry away with him the magic of his presence and that personal mastery of affairs which no man, however gifted by nature, can acquire except in the relentless struggle with evil and blind chance.

Then comes the proof of whether his work will endure, and the test of how well he led his people: whether when he is no longer able to give voice in their hopes, whether the course which he laid out when he was in power fixes the place where the broad highways will run over which the nation will continue to move. If not, then a man is great only in his own moment, a spectacular accident, like a comet which does not alter the course of things.

But if others can finish what he began, can decide what he had not yet decided, can plan what he did not have time to plan, can do what needs doing beyond the things he actually did, then his work is founded in reality and endures.

In the first hours after the President was dead, men took consolation in gratitude, and in their confidence that the nation itself now knows where it is going, and why, and how, felt relief from the shock and loss.

This noble mood can pass away as it did after Lincoln and Wilson were dead, and high resolve be squandered and dissipated in the quarrels of the pygmies. A wise but saddened man once said: "the tragedy of wars is that peace is made by the survivors."

No people has greater reason to know this than we have: we who know what came after Lincoln and after Wilson. Only by bearing it ever in mind can we make sure that all our highest hopes and purposes do not disintegrate under the harsh factionalism of our public life, the pitiless pressures which are the price of our freedom, and the discipline which accompanies our individualism.

Yet, though we cannot and must not hide from ourselves the risk which is imposed upon us by the death of the leader, who personified so much of what we can hope for and most need to do, there is good reason to think that we shall not repeat the dis-

asters which followed our other wars. For the experience of the past has become part of us, and if we are on better men, we are forewarned and therefore wiser. The nation has suffered. In almost every home there is an anxious vigil, in so many, sorrow and irreparable loss. We have learned much and learned it in the hard way; few men living today but have had their whole lives bent and misshapen by the wars and convulsions of our epoch. This then has been no more excursion, no triumphant adventure to be celebrated and forgotten. Our people have repurchased very dearly the freedom which they had inherited so easily and were beginning to hold too lightly.

"Whose feet they hurt in the stocks: the iron entered into his soul."

Roosevelt lived to see the nation make the crucial decisions upon which its future depends: to face evil and to rise up and destroy it, to know that America must find throughout the world allies who will be its friends, to understand that the nation is too strong, too rich in resources and in skill, ever to accept again as irremediable the waste of men who cannot find work and of the means of wealth which lie idle and cannot be used. Under his leadership, the debate on these fundamental purposes has been concluded, and the decision has been rendered, and the argument is not over the ends to be sought but only over the ways and means by which they can be achieved.

Thus he led the nation not only out of mortal danger from abroad but out of the bewilderment over unsettled purposes which could have rent it apart from within. When he died, the issues which confront us are definite. But they are not deep and they are not irreconcilable. Neither in our relations with other peoples, nor among ourselves, are these divisions within us that cannot be managed with common sense.

The genius of a good leader is to leave behind him a situation which common sense, without the grace of genius, can deal with successfully. Here lay the political genius of Franklin Roosevelt: that in his own time he knew what were the questions that had to be answered, even though he himself did not always find the full answer. It was this that our people and the world responded, preferring him instinctively to those who did not know what the real questions were.

Here was the secret of the sympathy which never ceased to flow back to him from the masses of mankind, and the reason why they discounted his mistakes. For they knew that he was asking the right questions, and if he did not always find the right answers, some one, who had learned what to look for, eventually would.

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City Briefs

FINAL MEETING

The season's final meeting of the McClure Fellowship Bible club will be held at 6:30 p.m. today at the YMCA with the Rev. William Crowe in charge.

HELD IN STOREBREAKING

Henry Jones, Negro, 44-years old, was booked by city police yesterday evening on a charge of attempt storebreaking and placed under \$1,000 bond. He was accused of attempting to enter the Sinclair filling station at 20 South Seventeenth street by breaking a glass in a side door.

One Injured In Mishap At Street Intersection

One person was injured when a Yellow Cab driven east on Princess street by Lee Pollock was turned over by a car driven north on Eleventh street by John Henry Yates, Negro, of Atkinson.

Pollock suffered a bruise over the left eye, according to police reports, and was taken to a local hospital and dismissed after treatment. Police reports also stated that Yates was driving at a high rate of speed, and failed to stop before entering the intersection. He was arrested for reckless operation of a motor vehicle.

Nazi Propaganda Officer And Von Mackensen Taken

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abouts. He also claimed he had lost favor with top Nazis after being expelled from the United States, that he had served 18 months on the Russian front, and only recently had been released to work on the American sector for the German Foreign Office.

Thin, nervous, and tugging at his goatee, Zapp said he did not fear capture because he did not consider himself connected in any way with Nazi atrocities.

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WILMINGTON FEED STORE 112 North 10th Street Authorized Distributor For the FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE

Two Persons Injured When Car Hits Tree

Two persons were injured yesterday morning about 2:30 a. m. when an automobile driven north on Third street near Orange street hit an oak tree.

The injured were E. W. Callahan, of 317 North Fourth street, driver of the car, who suffered bruises and abrasions about the face and a possible fracture of the ribs and Mrs. E. W. Callahan, who suffered severe lacerations of the lower lip and abrasion and lacerations of the legs. They were taken to a local hospital, along with a third passenger, J. M. Moore of 15 Court I Lake Forest who escaped injury. All were dismissed after treatment.

Callahan told police that he was traveling about 20 miles an hour, when he was blinded by the lights of an "oncoming" car. The front end of the auto was considerably damaged. No arrests were made.

NOTICE BEER & WINE DEALERS

Beer and Wine license expire April 30th, 1945. Before new license can be issued it is necessary to file application with the undersigned. Any person, firm or corporation selling beer or wine without a license is liable to indictment for violating said ordinance.

C. R. MORSE City & County Tax Collector.

NEW MOTORS

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Kingsley L. King, candidate for city councilman in the primary of April 23, announced that his platform is that of one of the most important issues to be confronted by the newly elected councilman if and when they are elected must be confronted with that of the Expansion of the City Limits. As a candidate and to be a true statesman, I will highly affirm a 100% vote as a councilman if elected. To call an election immediately. I want Wilmington to be on the map —in other words, on top. Kingsley L. King, Candidate in the forthcoming election for councilman, as of the primary of 4-23-45. —Political Advt.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

IT IS PROPER to look ahead to debt-free home ownership. You can accomplish this through the CAROLINA'S Direct Reduction Loan Plans.—Economic, satisfactory — with service you will appreciate. The Three Million Dollar Carolina Building and Loan Ass'n. "Member Federal Home Loan Bank" W. A. FONVIELLE, Sec.-Treas. Roger Moore, Pres. W. D. Jones, Asst. Sec.-Treas. Murray G. James, V.-Pres. J. O. Carr, Atty.

Long Distance is their link with home They depend a lot on Long Distance to keep them in touch with things at home. Mostly it's a matter of hearing the voice of a loved one. But sometimes it's an emergency. Whenever you can, please let the men and women in the service have Long Distance circuits from 7 to 10 each night. That's about their best time for calling. W. B. BRYAN, Manager SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY INCORPORATED