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HARDING SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE A NEW KEYNOTE

Republican Nominee at Notification Ceremonies Discusses Problems Confronting Nation.

"HOLD HERITAGE AMERICAN NATIONALITY UNIMPAIRED"

Advocates Party Responsibility as Distinguished From Dictatorial and Autocratic Personal Rule—In Referring to League of Nations, Says We Do Not Mean to Shun a Single Responsibility of This Republic to World Civilization—Favors Protective Tariff, Merchant Marine, a Small Army, Woman Suffrage and National Budget.

Marion, O.—(Special).—Warren G. Harding was officially notified here of his nomination as the Republican candidate for the presidency. His speech of acceptance is, in part, as follows:

Chairman Lodge, members of Notification Committee, members of National Committee, ladies and gentlemen: The message which you have formally conveyed brings to me a realization of responsibility which is not underestimated. It is a supreme task to interpret the covenant of a great political party, the activities of which are so woven into the history of this republic, and a very sacred and solemn undertaking to utter the faith and aspirations of the many millions who adhere to that party. The party platform has charted the way, yet, somehow, we have come to expect that interpretation which voices the faith of nominees who must assume specific tasks.

Let me be understood clearly from the very beginning. I believe in party sponsorship in government. I believe



WARREN G. HARDING

to party government as distinguished from personal government, individual, dictatorial, autocratic or what not.

No man is big enough to run this great republic. There never has been one. Such domination was never intended. Tranquillity, stability, dependability—all are assured in party sponsorship, and we mean to renew the assurances which were rendered in the cataclysmal war.

Our first commitment is the restoration of representative popular government, under the constitution, through the agency of the Republican party. Our vision includes more than a chief executive, we believe in a cabinet of highest capacity, equal to the responsibilities which our system contemplates, in whose councils the vice president, second official of the republic, shall be asked to participate. The same vision includes a cordial understanding and co-ordinated activities with a house of Congress, fresh from the people, voicing the convictions which members bring from direct contact with the electorate, and cordial co-operation along with the restored functions of the senate, fit to be the greatest deliberative body of the world.

International Relationship.

It is not difficult, Chairman Lodge, to make ourselves clear on the question of international relationship. We Republicans of the senate, conscious of our solemn oaths and mindful of our constitutional obligations, when we saw the structure of a world super-government taking visionary form, joined in a becoming warning of our devotion to this republic. If the torch of constitutional peace of the world and the tragedy of disappointment and Europe's misanthropy of America easily might have been avoided. The Republicans of the senate halted the barrier of independent American eminence and influence, which it was proposed to exchange for an obscure and unequal place in the merged government of the world. Our party meant to hold the heritage of American nationality unimpaired and unimpaired.

The world will not misconstrue. We do not mean to hold aloof. We do not mean to shun a single responsibility of this republic to world civilization. There is no hate in the American heart. We have no envy, no suspicion, no aversion for any people in the world. We hold to our rights, and

mean to defend, say, we mean to sustain the rights of this nation and our citizens alike, everywhere under the shining sun. Yet there is the concord of amity and sympathy and fraternity in every resolution. There is a genuine aspiration in every American breast for a tranquil friendship with all the world.

One may readily sense the conscience of our America. I am sure I understand the purpose of the dominant group of the senate. We were not seeking to defeat a world aspiration, we were resolved to safeguard America. We were resolved then, even as we are today, and will be tomorrow, to preserve this free and independent republic.

In the call of the conscience of America is peace, peace that closes the gaping wound of world war, and silences the impassioned voices of international envy and distrust. Heeding this call and knowing as I do the disposition of the Congress, I promise you formal and effective peace so quickly as a Republican Congress can pass its declaration for a Republican executive to sign.

It is better to be the free and disinterested agent of international justice and advancing civilization, with the covenant of conscience, than be shackled by a written compact which surrenders our freedom of action and gives to a military alliance the right to proclaim America's duty to the world. No surrender of rights to a world council or its military alliance, no assumed mandatory however appealing, ever shall summon the sons of this republic to war. Their supreme sacrifice shall only be asked for America and its call of honor. There is a sanctity in that right we will not delegate.

Leaving America Independent.

Disposed as we are, the way is very simple. Let the failure attending assumption, obstinacy, impracticability and delay be recognized, and let us find the big, practical, unselfish way to do our part, neither covetous because of ambition nor hesitant through fear, but ready to serve ourselves, humanity and God. With a senate advising as the constitution contemplates, I would hopefully approach the nations of Europe and of the earth, proposing that understanding which makes us a willing participant in the consecration of nations to a new relationship, to commit the moral forces of the world, America included, to peace and international justice, still leaving America free, independent and self-reliant, but offering friendship to all the world.

It is folly to close our eyes to outstanding facts. Humanity is restive, much of the world is in revolution, the agents of discord and destruction have wrought their tragedy in pathetic Russia, have lighted their torches among other peoples, and hope to see America as a part of the great Red conflagration. Ours is the temple of liberty under the law, and it is ours to call the Sons of Opportunity to its defense. America must not only save herself, but ours must be the appealing voice to sober the world.

It must be understood that toil alone makes for accomplishment and advancement, and righteous possession is the reward of toil, and its incentive. There is no progress except in the stimulus of competition.

The chief trouble today is that the world war wrought the destruction of healthful competition, left our storehouses empty, and there is a minimum production when our need is maximum. Maximums, not minimums, is the call of America. It isn't a new story, because war never fails to leave depleted storehouses and always impairs the efficiency of production. War also establishes its higher standards for wages, and they abide. I wish the higher wage to abide, on one explicit condition—that the wage-earner will give full return for the wage received.

Production, More Production.

I want, somehow, to appeal to the sons and daughters of the republic, to every producer, to join hand and brain in production, more production, honest production, patriotic production, because patriotic production is no less a defense of our best civilization than that of armed force. Profiteering is a crime of commission, under-production is a crime of omission. We must work our most and best, else the destructive reaction will come.

The menacing tendency of the present day is not chargeable wholly to the unsettled and fevered conditions caused by the war. The manifest weakness in popular government lies in the temptation to appeal to group citizenship for political advantage.

It would be the blindness of folly to ignore the activities in our own country which are aimed to destroy our economic system, and to commit us to the colossal tragedy which has destroyed all freedom and made Russia impotent. This movement is not to be halted in throttled liberties. We must not abridge the freedom of speech, the freedom of press, or the freedom of assembly, because there is no rationale in repression. These liberties are as sacred as the freedom of religious belief, as inviolable as the rights of life and the pursuit of happiness. We do hold to the right to crush addition, to stifle a menacing contempt for law, to stamp out a peril to the safety of the republic or its people, when emergency calls, because security and the majesty of the law are the first essentials of liberty. He who threatens destruction of the government by force or fraud, his contempt for lawful authority, ceases to be a loyal citizen and forfeits his rights to the freedom of the republic.

No party is indifferent to the welfare of the wage-earner. To us his good fortune is of deepest concern, and we seek to make that good fortune permanent. We do not oppose but approve collective bargaining, because

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