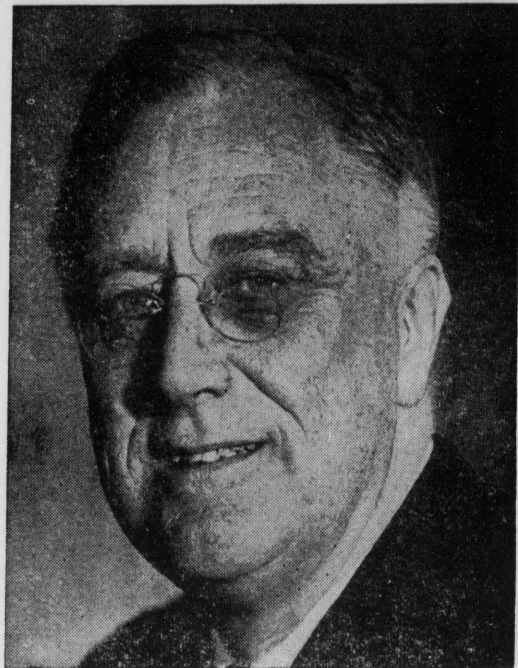


**Entire Nation Mourns Death
Of Franklin D. Roosevelt;
Vast Tasks Face Truman**



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
JANUARY 30, 1882—APRIL 12, 1945.

AS THE guns of America's fighting forces sounded ever closer the doom of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, Franklin Delano Roosevelt died in Warm Springs, Georgia, where he had been resting for 10 days.

Death resulted from a cerebral hemorrhage at 4:35 p. m. on April 12. Mr. Roosevelt was 63. He had been President for 12 years, one month and nine days. The White House was announced as the site of the funeral, with interment at the family estate at Hyde Park, N. Y.

Less than four months had elapsed since he had taken his historic oath of office for a fourth term. Only a few weeks before he had returned from the Yalta conference where in company with Marshal Stalin of Russia and Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain he had labored to build an enduring peace.

Fate denied Franklin Roosevelt the chance to enjoy the fruits of victory over the Axis. Yet history seemed destined to enshrine him as one of the immortal American Presidents. And every citizen who mourned the untimely passing of the Commander-in-Chief felt that he was a casualty of the war just as every G.I., Marine and Sailor who had fallen in battle.

Never before had an American President died in wartime. Abraham Lincoln fell under Assassin Booth's bullet just five days after the surrender of General Lee's army at Appomattox in 1865. Woodrow Wilson lived to see victory over Germany in World War I, but he fought a losing battle for the League of Nations and died early in 1924, a defeated leader. Many historians believe Lincoln's greatness might have been dimmed in the conflicts over reconstruction that followed the War Between the States, just as Wilson's prestige was lost in the conflict over the league that followed World War I. Thus Franklin Roosevelt, dying at the height of his career just as victory was to be achieved over Germany, seemed likely to live in history as a great man.

As the American people from Main Street to Riverside Drive mourned the death of Franklin Roosevelt, their prayers went up for his successor, Harry S. Truman. For on the shoulders of this slight, gray, 60-year-old Missourian had been laid a responsibility such as no American President had ever borne.

What the consequences of the President's death would be to the United States and the world, time alone would tell. But as Americans recovered from their first shock at the news, they quickly determined two things. The war must be prosecuted to a speedy and victorious a finish as possible. Lasting peace must be established.

And so, regardless of party or of past political differences, the people have rallied behind Mr. Truman.

The new President faces the immediate task of directing American participation in the United Nations' blueprints for a permanent world organization. He likewise faces the responsibility of establishing working relations with other members of the Big Three, so that the personal cooperation which existed between Franklin D. Roosevelt, Josef Stalin and Winston Churchill in leading the Allies toward victory

PRECEDENTS OUT:

Throughout his career as President, Franklin D. Roosevelt was known as the "precedent breaker." That title was first conferred in 1932 when he flew out to Chicago from Albany, N. Y., to address the Democratic convention that had nominated him. It continued after his election as a result of his informal methods of transacting business. But it reached a climax in his decision to seek a third term in 1940 and a fourth term in 1944.

**President's Life
Was Characterized
By Vigorous Action**

Unlike the "log-cabin" presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was not born into poverty. When Franklin arrived at Hyde Park, N. Y., on January 30, 1882, he came into a family that had possessed wealth for many generations. The Roosevelts had been thrifty land-owners in the Hudson valley since the first of the family came over from Holland. On his mother's side also there was a substantial fortune. Among his ancestors were many men who had served the state in various capacities.

Young Franklin attended the very fashionable Groton school, where he prepared for Harvard university. After completing the liberal arts course he entered Columbia U. law school, from which he was graduated in 1907. Two years earlier, however, he married his distant cousin, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt. Eleanor was a niece of Theodore Roosevelt, at that time in the White House.

After two years of legal practice, Franklin entered politics, running on the Democratic ticket for the New York state senate. He unexpectedly defeated a strong Republican candidate. From the beginning of his career he identified himself with reform movements, opposing the powerful Tammany organization in the statehouse. He was re-elected in 1912, by which time he had become a leader of the anti-Tammany faction.

Woodrow Wilson appointed Roosevelt assistant secretary of the navy. When World War I broke out Roosevelt proved himself an efficient administrator, handling billions of dollars' worth of contracts for ships and supplies. He served in this post throughout the war.

Ran for Vice President.

In 1920 the Democratic national convention chose him as running mate for James Cox. While campaigning for the vice presidency Roosevelt made many acquaintances valuable in later political life. Cox being defeated, F.D.R. returned to legal practice.

The following year the great tragedy of his life struck him—infantile paralysis. The big, strong young man became a bedridden invalid. For months he lay without ambition, almost without hope. Slowly his powerful will took command, however, and by persistence he partially regained the use of his muscles. It was during his convalescence at Warm Springs, Ga., that he determined to do what he could to eradicate the scourge that had almost ruined him. The "March of Dimes" campaign was the result.

At the Democratic conventions of 1924 and 1928, he aligned himself with the group supporting Alfred E. Smith, New York's governor. When Smith was nominated in 1928, Roosevelt ran for governor of his state and was elected. At the end of his two-year term he was again elected, this time by the greatest majority ever given to a New York governor.

As governor he continued the reform and improvement policies of his predecessor Smith. His achievements attracted nationwide attention. As the depression that began late in 1929 deepened, his efforts to control the mounting business failures, unemployment and distress in his state revealed his abilities as a vigorous leader in grave times.

Swept in as President.

When the national convention met in Chicago in 1932 Roosevelt was quickly chosen. He was swept into office by a plurality of seven million votes, carrying 42 states. Both houses went Democratic.

Before he could take office a wave of bank failures threatened the whole economic structure. The famous "bank moratorium" order, one of Roosevelt's first official acts, closed all banks until they could be reorganized on a sounder basis, thus preventing disastrous runs. In the spring of 1932 came the repeal of the 18th, or prohibition amendment. Then came the National Industrial Recovery Act, or "NRA," under which extensive emergency powers were granted to the President. A series of public works were authorized to combat unemployment, together with huge appropriations for direct relief.

The numerous executive and legislative acts of this first term were approved in general as necessary in the face of widespread suffering. A phrase from one of the President's speeches, "a new deal," developed into a title for the whole Roosevelt program.

In 1936 the convention in Philadelphia nominated Roosevelt by acclamation on the first ballot. He carried 46 states in the elections. This second term majority was so overwhelming that many New Dealers began to call it a "mandate from the people." During this second term a great number of measures were passed to increase the economic security of the individual, particularly the workers, farmers and small businessmen.



HARRY S. TRUMAN
33rd PRESIDENT OF U. S.

may be maintained in helping win the peace. He faces the long-range job of guiding the nation to postwar economic prosperity once Nazi Germany and Japan are finally defeated.

Known as a plain, modest man who has not dramatized himself personally, President Truman nevertheless has demonstrated on many occasions that he can be a leader of force and determination. His work as chairman of the Truman committee in the U. S. senate investigating the conduct of the war is cited as an example of this. And his conduct of the Vice Presidency has shown that he can work successfully with political leaders of both parties in getting needed measures passed and in reconciling opposing points of view.

The 33rd President was born in Lamar, Mo., May 8, 1884, although the home of the family for four generations had been on a farm near Independence, Mo.

Served in World War I.

When World War I broke out, Truman became captain of Battery D in the field artillery of the 35th Division and saw action at St. Mihiel and in the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Back in Independence, Truman and a war buddy opened a haberdashery business. He married his boyhood sweetheart, Bess Wallace, and they have one daughter.

Truman later turned to politics for a career, which started with his election as County Judge of Jackson county, Mo. In 1926 he became the presiding judge of Jackson county, with the endorsement of Tom Pendergast, political boss of Kansas City. He studied law at night and supervised the construction of a great highway system.

**We join the nation
in mourning the loss
of our leader . . .**

**Franklin Delano
Roosevelt**

The nation has suffered a stunning blow, a tragic loss, in the passing of its President and Commander-in-chief. His death comes at a moment when hearts, including his own, were filled with hope for the speedy end of hostilities in Europe, and for the success of the imminent peace conference.

As the full impact of this great loss makes itself felt throughout the nation and the world, it falls on each and every one of us to unite, with increased zeal, in the single purpose of carrying on in the great tasks still remaining . . . of winning both the war and the peace.

May our new President be given the vision and judgment and help that will be needed to lead us in the accomplishment of these great tasks

John White Post, No. 779, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Patton Aerie No. 1244, Fraternal Order of Eagles

Patton Lodge, No. 488, Loyal Order of Moose

Italian-American Club, Patton, Pa.

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