

Louis McHenry Howe.

Few men, in or out of public life, ever had a more faithful or valuable friend than President Roosevelt found in Louis McHenry Howe. To a considerable degree this self-effacing man was the author of the political career of Franklin D. Roosevelt. After the last Presidential campaign when the successful candidate was joyously celebrating his overwhelming victory he publicly paid tribute to Mr. Howe's part in making that success possible.

To a remarkable extent the exceptional qualities of Louis Howe complemented those of the President. This trusted adviser was entirely different in his mental makeup. He was reflective, painstaking and intuitive in the political sense. Men of the type of Mr. Howe seldom get far in public life, but they can greatly influence those who do. Other Presidents have had advisers who have contributed largely to their success; perhaps the closest parallel that comes to most minds is the service rendered to Woodrow Wilson by Colonel House.

Mr. Howe was much closer to Franklin D. Roosevelt than Colonel House was to Wilson. He began earlier on the job of President-making, and he remained to the end of the chapter just what he had been from the beginning. It should be noted also that the relationship between the President and his friend never changed. Mr. Howe might have had almost any public office he desired under the new Administration. Instead he moved into the White House itself, where he was a real member, not only of the President's official family but of his personal household.

The devotion of Mr. Howe to the man he served may seem to some to have elements of pathos, yet those best informed were convinced that Louis Howe was happy. It was a part of his nature to enjoy to the full the success of his efforts in helping to mold the career of the President. That the death of such a devoted friend is a grievous blow to President Roosevelt goes without saying. It is also a loss to the country, for Louis McHenry Howe was a notable public servant, despite the fact that he served unnoticed behind the scenes.

HOWE RITES TODAY IN WHITE HOUSE

Services Will Be Held in Historic East Room.

WASHINGTON, April 21 (A. P.).—The East Room of the White House—rich in history of events both sad and happy—today became a funeral chapel for the last rites to Col. Louis McHenry Howe.

The plans called for services at 4 P. M., with close friends and relatives attending, and with the Rev. C. Ernest Smith, rector of St. Thomas Church, officiating.

Col. Howe, secretary to President Roosevelt and his oldest political adviser, died Saturday at Naval Hospital after an illness of more than a year.

Tonight the body will be taken to Fall River, Mass., for burial tomorrow. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt will accompany the body on a special train. After the services at the grave at 10:30 A. M., the Chief Executive will go to Hyde Park.

There was deep sadness at the White House yesterday as the President made final arrangements for the funeral—the sixteenth in the history of the Executive Mansion.

With the President were Mrs. Howe and her son, Hartley, of Boston. A daughter, Mrs. Robert Baker, and her husband, of Urbana, Ill., came later to the capital. Also here for the services were James Roosevelt, eldest son of the President, and Mr. and Mrs. John Boettiger, his son-in-law and daughter.

Mr. Howe's two associates in the White House secretariat, Stephen T. Early and Marvin H. McIntyre, also planned to accompany the body to Fall River.

Five of the nation's Presidents and three First Ladies have been buried from the stately East Room. They were William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley, Warren G. Harding, Mrs. Tyler, the first Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, and the first Mrs. Woodrow Wilson. Several others, including Cabinet members, have been buried from the chamber.

In this same room the Marquis Lafayette was feted, Maria Monroe married the Russian Grand Duke Alexis danced. Here also the present King Edward of Britain, as Prince of Wales, was greeted by President Coolidge.