

## A Musquakie Memorial Tribute to Warren G. Harding

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YOUNG BEAR (MA-QUI-BA-NA-SHA)  
Eldest son of the late Chief Pushetoniqua of the Tama Reservation.

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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### A MUSQUAKIE MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO WARREN G. HARDING

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On August 10, 1923, the city of Ottumwa paused in its homecoming festivities. As a municipality the citizens gathered in the central park to do homage to the memory of President Harding.

Some fifty Musquakie Indians as guests of the city were encamped in a different park. Learning of the city's purpose they considered it becoming in them to observe the occasion among themselves. They were invited to participate in the general meeting.

Young Bear, leader and eldest son of the late chief Pushetonequa of the Tama Reservation, a descendant of Poweshiek and of Kishkekosh, accepted the invitation of the committee and spoke briefly from the rostrum, addressing in the Indian language his people who were in the general audience.

Hon. Joseph R. Frailey of Fort Madison delivered the address of the day. Young Bear rose and facing the great throng spoke with apparent feeling and with consummate grace. The interpretation by George Young Bear, son of the speaker and a graduate of Haskell Institute, was by the Curator of the Historical Department relayed to the great audience.

The speech is herewith reproduced in Young Bear's hand in Indian script, the interpretation is by his son in our own script.

The sentiments, it will be found, adapt themselves perfectly to the time, place and purpose. Nobility of spirit, loftiness of feeling, and superb physical bearing showed in every word and action of this native orator. He graced a rarely great memorial event.

ni ka me ta ke i no ki a wa se de ki  
 a to ni me, ke to ki me me me me  
 a wa ha me ko thi, me me to wa ni  
 ke ke me me wa tha a me ni me to  
 se me ni me ni thi, i ka ki se me ki  
 o me to se me ni me ni, a te ha  
 tu ki me ni ke ke me te me me  
 ni, ke ke ke me me ha me tha  
 me me to wa i a to a ni thi  
 a me ka me me wa thi, ke to ki  
 me me me me ni o me to se me  
 ni me ni a ke te me me wa thi  
 a gi tha wa me a wa wa me ke  
 i ka me ki me to se me ni me  
 wa ni, a we wa me te ni ki  
 i ka ke se me gi, ki me me me  
 tu, a me to se me ni me ni  
 ke ke te me ke se me  
 me me thi a me me me me  
 a gi, ke to ki me me me  
 o me to se me ni me ni  
 me me thi ke me ke, ki me wa  
 ke me, ke ke ke ke gi me to se  
 me, ke se me ni

Speech of Young Bear at the memorial given for President Harding, Ottumwa, Iowa, August 10, 1923.

Friends, Today at this hour  
our great chief is being looked  
upon by Mounlo he knows  
that he has led the life of  
service to his people, he sacrificed  
his life for the country he loved.  
We realize that the great spirit  
is with us at this hour receiving  
unto his folds our great chief and  
his blessings rest upon his people.  
He will not live amidst evils  
and temptations but will  
dwell in the life of continuous  
happiness where the great spirit  
places his children in the great  
beyond. It is, we, who are living  
that must often ask blessings, He.  
Our great chief has set us the example  
if we all follow, we will meet  
our great chief in heaven above

Translation of the speech of Young Bear. Script and translation by George Young Bear, son of the speaker and graduate of Haskell Institute.

"Friends, today, at this hour, our great chief is being looked upon by Monito. He knows that he has led the life of service to his people. He sacrificed his life for the country he loved. We realize that the Great Spirit is with us at this hour, receiving unto his folds our great chief and his blessings rest upon his people. He will not live amidst evils and temptations but will dwell in the life of continuous happiness where the Great Spirit places his children in the great beyond. It is we who are living that must often ask blessings. He, our great chief, has set us the example, if we all follow, we will meet our great chief in heaven above."

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#### RECLAIMED AREAS AND IOWA AREAS

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Contrast between the physical resources of Iowa and the West is often easy to state and to illustrate. Natural resources in Iowa compared with the artificial resources in the West, suited to the habitation of man and his engagement in agricultural pursuits, are interesting to consider in the following instance.

The Arrow Rock dam in Idaho, one of the great government reclamation projects, is the loftiest dam in the world. One great journal asserts that upon the formal dedication of this dam there was added a total farm area of 243,000 acres—"an empire in itself." A million tons of concrete 351 feet high, a masterpiece of engineering, "impound behind it the waters that raise mortgages and will repay its cost in a few years."

The Iowa Department of Agriculture informs us that in our state the average in each of our 99 counties is 339,216 acres actually in farming lands, after the deduction of waste land, timber, roadways, farmsteads, cities, and towns.

In comparing this 339,216 acres in Iowa farms "raising mortgages" in each county, with the 243,000 acre "empire" added in an Idaho dedication, we are aware of the humor in the observation

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