

## FLASHBACK to JULY 1921 100 years ago

### **President Harding in Somerset**

Courier-News, July 1, 1921 P12

Tomorrow President Harding, Mrs. Harding, Speaker Gillette, of the House of Congress, and Mrs. Gillette will come to the home of United States Senator Frelinghuysen for a visit over Independence Day. The people of old Somerset have arranged a number of affairs that day and every town that has planned a celebration wants to see the President... Citizens of Martinsville and Bound Brook should keep an eye on the highways Monday afternoon. They may see the President.

### **Harding to Sign Peace Resolution at Frelinghuysen Home**

Courier-News, July 2, 1921

President Harding is today comfortably enjoying relaxation from the cares of State at the country home of United States Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen on "The Hill, northwest of [Somerville]. His party arrived yesterday afternoon and after a brisk automobile ride from Bound Brook to this place, golfed until dark, a good dinner, a fine night's rest, the President was up early this morning and out on the piazza taking in the panorama of Somerville, Raritan, and "The Valley" visible from the Senator's residence.

Somerset County will add another chapter to its long and romantic history today, when the resolution declaring the war between the United States and the Central Powers, passed by the Senate yesterday, will be signed at Somerville. It is a significant fact that the American forces entered the European war and fired the first shots in the struggle, which terminated the conflict, at the French village of Somerville. It is a coincidence that the resolution declaring the war at an end should be signed in the American municipality of the same name. The Knox-Porter resolution, approved by the Senate....was rushed to Somerville by special messenger.

### **President Harding Spends Holiday Here**

Somerset Democrat, July 8, 1921, page 1

Somerset county has been able to add another brilliant chapter to its long and interesting history through the visit of the Chief Executive of the Nation at the home of United States Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, west of this place, over the Fourth of July week-end. During his visit in the vicinity, which lasted from Friday evening until Tuesday morning, the President played golf on the links of the Raritan Valley Golf Club and the Somerset Hills Country Club, signed the resolution ending war between the United States and the Central Alliance, attended worship in the Third Reformed Church at Raritan, was a guest at a luncheon in his honor, [launched] a boat owned by Senator Frelinghuysen's son, and received citizens from every part of New Jersey and beyond at a reception held on the lawn at "The Hill."

### **Factory Whistle Summons Somerville to Bid President Harding Adieu**

Courier-News, July 5, 1921

President and Mrs. Warren G. Harding and the Presidential party left "The Hill," the home of Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, this morning shortly after 9 o'clock. As the Presidential party started on the return trip to Washington the gong of the Cott-a-Lap Company [later American Cyanamide] announced the fact to the people and they turned out in force along West End avenue and Main street to bid the party farewell. The lonely line of automobiles carrying the Presidential party and led by one in which rode Mr. and Mrs. Harding, passed down Main street slowly...Instead of the cheering which characterized their arrival Friday, this morning the crowd along the streets in the most cases waved a silent farewell, to which the President and Mrs. Harding bowed their acknowledgement. The party continued down Main street to the New Jersey turnpike [modern Rt 28] and to the Lehigh Valley station at Bound Brook, where they boarded a B. & O. train for Washington, arriving there shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon.

### **Freeholders Transmit Resolution to President**

Somerset Democrat, July 15, 1921, page 1

*Resolved, That the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Somerset, for and in behalf of the citizens of this county, hereby express to our visitors and particularly to the President, our deep appreciation of the honor thus conferred; our genuine pleasure in the opportunity for personal contact with the Chief Executive, so graciously accorded and so generously used; our hope that the President and Mrs. Harding, as well as those who were of their party, may take with them, to their own gratification and to the service of this great Nation, blessings of mind and body in degree commensurate with the delightful memories they have left with us; and the assurance that our hills and our valleys will again be theirs so often and so long as their hearts desire and their duties permit.*

Shows President Greeting Citizens at Raritan, N. J.



Photo shows President Harding and Senator Frelinghuysen greeting two of the foremost citizens of Raritan, N. J., where the President stayed over the Fourth.

Image: Home News July 8, 1921