



# **A Time of Scandal: Charles R. Forbes, Warren G. Harding, and the Making of the Veterans Bureau**

*Rosemary Stevens*

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In the early 1920s, with the nation still recovering from World War I, President Warren G. Harding founded a huge new organization to treat disabled veterans: the US Veterans Bureau, now known as the Department of Veterans Affairs. He appointed his friend, decorated veteran Colonel Charles R. Forbes, as founding director. Forbes lasted in the position for only eighteen months before stepping down under a cloud of criticism and suspicion. In 1926?after being convicted of conspiracy to defraud the federal government by rigging government contracts?he was sent to Leavenworth Penitentiary. Although he was known in his day as a drunken womanizer, and as a corrupt, betraying toady of a weak, blind-sided president, the question persists: was Forbes a criminal or a scapegoat?

Historian Rosemary Stevens tells Forbes's story anew, drawing on previously untapped records to reveal his role in America's initial and ongoing commitment to veterans. She explores how Forbes's rise and fall in Washington illuminates President Harding's efforts to bring business efficiency to government. She also examines the Veterans Bureau scandal in the context of class, professionalism, ethics, and etiquette in a rapidly changing world. Most significantly, Stevens proposes a fascinating revisionist view of both Forbes and Harding?and raises questions about not only the validity but the source of their respective reputations. They did not defraud the government of billions of dollars, Stevens convincingly documents, and do not deserve the reputation they have carried for a hundred years.

Packed with vibrant characters?conniving friends, FBI agents, and rival politicians split by sectional and ideological interests as well as gamblers, revelers, and wronged wives? *A Time of Scandal* will appeal to anyone interested in political gossip, presidential politics, the "Ohio Gang," and the 1920s.

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The reason why? Because this A Time of Scandal: Charles R. Forbes, Warren G. Harding, and the Making of the Veterans Bureau is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I were being you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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