

BIOGRAPHY OF DR. KONRAD ADENAUER,
CHANCELLOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Dr. Konrad Adenauer was born in Cologne, on January 5, 1876. He studied law and economics at the Universities of Munich, Freiburg and Bonn, and practised briefly as an attorney and public prosecutor. He entered municipal service in Cologne in 1906. In 1912 he became Deputy Mayor of Cologne, the third largest city in Germany, and from 1917 to 1933 was Lord Mayor. During the same period, Dr. Adenauer was President of the Prussian National Council, member of the Rhineland Provincial Legislature, Chairman of the Provincial Committee of the Rhineland and member of the Executive of the German Centre Party. In 1918 he founded the new University of Cologne.

In 1933 Dr. Adenauer was dismissed from office on political grounds, and in subsequent years he withdrew to his small holding in Rhoendorf, near Bonn on the Rhine, and for a time lived in retreat in the Benedictine Monastery, Maria Lach, on nearby Laacher See.

In May 1945, the United States Military Government in Cologne appointed Dr. Adenauer as Special Adviser and then Lord Mayor of the city. In February 1946, Dr. Adenauer became President of the Christian Democratic Party when it was founded in the British Zone, and continues to hold this office in his Party. In 1948, he became President of the Parliamentary Council in Bonn, which approved the constitution of the future Federal Republic. In September 1949, he became Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Minister of Foreign Affairs in March 1951.

Dr. Adenauer is a widower, his first wife having died in 1916 and his second wife in 1945. He has seven children.
