

The following "biography" of **Isabella Hardie Barkley (1.12)** was excerpted from

John Hardie of Thornhill and His Family by Lillian Galt Martin

1.12 **Isabella Hardie (Isabelle or Belle)** was born on 24 March 1880. She was actually the thirteenth child of John T. Hardie and Annie Eliza Gary Hardie. [Therefore she should be numbered 1.13; however, the other daughter who died young was unknown as to name or position in the family when the numbering was done. See entry for 1.5b.] The family lived at 1238 Philip Street in New Orleans' Garden District. Isabella's father died in 1895. She was queen of the Comus carnival ball in 1898.



Isabella Hardie (later Mrs. Henderson Barkley) (1.12) (1880-1944) as queen of the Comus ball in 1898.

Her daughter-in-law, Malcolm Tullis Barkley (married 1.12.4), remembered [1984] that it was then (1898) that "... the practise of the krewes' presenting the crown and scepter to the queen began. Up until this time the father of the queen had bought the crown and scepter for her. The Krewe of Comus felt that a future debutante might have to refuse the honor of being queen because her family could not afford it, and that this was a good time (because Isabelle Hardie's family was wealthy) to establish the fact that the Krewe of Comus was honored to present the scepter and crown to their queen. The other balls followed suit. Isabelle Hardie's scepter and crown are on loan to the Louisiana State Museum, and are in a case at the Presbytere (on Jackson Square in New Orleans) for all to see. It is a small, very dainty crown and there is a photograph of the lovely young Isabella wearing it."

Isabella Hardie was married on 8 March 1900 in New Orleans, in the old First Presbyterian Church facing Lafayette Square, by Benjamin Palmer, its pastor, to Henderson Barkley, born on 29 May 1874 in New Orleans. He was the son of John Barkley and Josephine Henderson Barkley. Henry Mellon Hardie, Isabella Hardie's brother, was best man at the wedding.

After their marriage in 1900 Isabella and Henderson Barkley lived at Ellington Plantation, near Luling, Louisiana. "The only way to reach their home was by steamboat up river from New Orleans. Just before their second child was born they moved to Pitt Street in New Orleans." In November 1916 they were living at 5518 Pitt Street, and shortly thereafter they moved to 4615 Carondelet Street, where they lived until their deaths. Henderson Barkley was a member of the Boston Club and of several carnival organizations. Both died in New Orleans, he on 3 August 1936 and she on 3 December 1944. They were buried in Metairie Cemetery. Four sons:

- 1.12.1 John Hardie Barkley
- 1.12.2 Henderson Barkley Jr.
- 1.12.3 Gary Barkley
- 1.12.4 Laurence Moore Barkley

[Quotations and information, from Mildred Bone Barkley, who married Henderson Barkley Jr. (1.12.2), 1984. Information and quotation about the presentation of crown and scepter from Malcolm Tullis Barkley, who married Laurence Barkley (1.12.4), 1984.]