

A PENN PORTRAIT

OF ALFRED E. SMITH.

Written by the Hon. John W. Davis, Candidate for President in 1924.

As a Democrat, I am, and always have been, deeply interested in the success of the Democratic party...

The creed of the liberal is based upon a profound conviction of the worth of every man, no matter how humble, and his right to equality before the law.

Compare his political experience, if you will, with that of Lincoln, or Cleveland, or Woodrow Wilson: Lincoln, eight years in the Illinois Legislature...

In this contest of opinion I am a liberal, and I shall be a Democrat as long as the Democratic party continues to take the liberal side.

I am convinced, moreover, that a change in the administration of national affairs at this time would be a healthy and a wholesome thing.

An occasional vacation is a good thing for political parties as well as for individuals, and equally profitable to those whom they serve.

I am writing not about issues but about the candidate. I have been a resident of New York for the last seven years, during six of which Alfred E. Smith has been Governor of the State.

His career is one of the rare romances of American life. Born in humble surroundings, driven at the early age of thirteen years to support himself and his widowed mother...

Nineteen times he has been a candidate for office and but one defeat has been scored against him. In every office he has held he has won the praise of political foes as well as political friends.

Force of character. Readiness of resources. Clearness of vision. Grasp of intellect. Courage of conviction. Earnestness of purpose. Instinct and Capacity for leadership.

His four terms as Governor have been marked by an extraordinary series of achievements, winding up with a complete reorganization of the cumbersome and antiquated machinery of the State Government.

Above all the people recognized that he had the courage of his convictions and was willing to stand or fall fighting for them. In this truth, when dogging and evasion, half truths and sounding phrases are the stock in trade of the Facing-Both-Ways in politics, such open speaking as his is truly refreshing.

Take prohibition, for example, as all candid persons must, that the real question for the country to consider is whether we are on the right or the wrong road to do away with the evils of intemperance.

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wrong road, common sense dictates that we must retrace our steps and start again.

Governor Smith believes that the wrong road has been taken. He has the courage to say so; and, because it is his habit not to criticize without suggesting a remedy, he proposes what he thinks is a better plan.

What about his training for the Presidency? If there is a better training for the duties of that office than eight years as Governor of the largest State in the American Union, I do not know what it is—especially when his experience has been backed up by twelve years of legislative life.

In this respect an experience as the head of a Government department, or as an organizer of industry or of wide-spread charity, is not to be compared, in my judgment, with one of service as the head of a great State. It is one thing to give orders to men, but very different to know how to persuade those who follow only of their own free will.

Gov. Smith is a Roman Catholic. I count it to his credit that he is a sincere Catholic and not a mere pretender. His fidelity to his church springs from the same deep sources as his fidelity to his country.

Large game within the Commonwealth, such as the white-tailed deer and black bear, are held in their own cottontail rabbits may be purchased almost anywhere at reasonable cost.

Not having available lands at the time upon which to establish permanent plants, the Board distributed the 10,000 eggs among those of our game refuges which contained open territory sufficiently extensive for the task at hand.

After that Federalist leaders began to merge with the Republicans, but feuds broke out in the Republican ranks. There were serious State fights in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

After his second election, Jefferson promptly announced that he would not run again. His wishes regarding Madison were understood. This hurt Monroe and incensed Clinton, who wanted to step from the vice presidency to the presidency as Adams and Jefferson had.

Two excellent locations were chosen. They were enclosed with fine mesh wire fencing, and breeding pens and feeding houses erected, by this time most of the birds were ready for release.

Children Take Pride in School Grounds. The Young Citizens' league, which under the leadership and direction of E. C. Giffen, of the Oklahoma state educational department, has grown into an organization of about 75,000 of the school children of the state, devoted to the preservation and beautifying of school grounds...

Those who make it point to the fact that Gov. Smith carried the State against Theodore Roosevelt Jr., while I lost it to Coolidge. There are many things which explain this fact, without imputing it to any action or inaction on the part of Gov. Smith or the State or city organizations.

In 1924 Gov. Smith was most reluctant to accept a renomination. He felt, as many other men have done, that the time had come when he owed it to his family to retire from public life and make some provision for the future. I personally urged him to permit himself to be renominated for the good of the party in the State and Nation.

every candidate, was to carry the office for which he was nominated.

Throughout the campaign I enjoyed his cordial support and assistance, and I am equally sure that I had the support of the organization in the Island of Manhattan, to which the term "Tammany Hall" is usually applied, and the support of the organization in the other boroughs of New York City and throughout the State.

The best proof of this may be found in the fact that while the total registration of both parties in the five counties composing the City of Greater New York increased from 1920 to 1924 by only 126,000 votes (speaking in round numbers), I received in the City of New York 144,000 more votes than had been cast for the national ticket in 1920, while President Coolidge received 160,000 less than had been cast for President Harding.

In this year I hope, and I believe, that the tide is with and not against us, and that November will bring us safely into port.

STATE GAME COMMISSION RAISING RING-NECKS. Experiments in rearing ring-necked pheasants, made this spring for the first time in Pennsylvania, have been very successful considering the many difficulties with which the Board of Game Commissioners were faced at the outset.

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ARISTOCRATIC POWER BROKEN BY JEFFERSON.

The greatest political leader in American history was Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence.

Jefferson founded what is now the Democratic party. He obliterated the powerful Federalist party of Washington and Hamilton.

Hamilton's astonishingly bitter enmity toward Burr has been laid to their rivalry for the affections of a woman. Hamilton professed hatred of Burr's character and his shady political methods.

Jefferson's overwhelming victory over the Federalists in 1804 proved the collapse of the Federalist party. The 1804 election was held under the new law by which electors voted separately for president and vice president.

The Republican congressional caucus, forerunner of the nominating convention, unanimously renominated Jefferson in February and picked a northerner, George Clinton, of New York, for vice president.

Disgruntled Federalists agreed to support Charles C. Pinckney, of South Carolina, and Rufus King, of New York, but realized the futility of a strong national fight and made none.

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60 Years of Horses. 1894—Largest number of horses and colts reported on Pennsylvania farms during the past 60 years—659,484.

1897—Lowest average value per head—\$44.27 and lowest total value—\$25,819,103.

1914—Highest average value per head—\$139 and highest total value—\$81,176,000.

1928—Smallest number reported in 60 years, 859,000 head—Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

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