

BIOGRAPHY OF THOS. R. MARSHALL

THOMAS RILEY MARSHALL, the Democratic nominee for Vice President, although a Hoosier by birth, is a scion of one of the oldest and most notable families of the Old Dominion.

The Marshalls of Virginia, from the days of the father of the great Chief Justice of that name, have taken rank with the Washingtons, the Randolphs, the Lees and other notable families whose histories are part of the history of the State and of the country.

In the estimation of his political associates, Tom Marshall, as he is called in Indiana, is a worthy complement to Woodrow Wilson as a running mate. Like Gov. Wilson, Gov. Marshall is regarded as an excellent campaigner, and like the New Jersey Governor, he makes his most effective points in caustic or witty epigrams.

His private life is a domestic poem, and his public career is an open book, embracing the administration of State affairs in Indiana since 1909.

Like Wilson, he is the Democratic Governor of a normally Republican State. He was re-elected on his first term record. He was re-elected in spite of the machine, and after a decisive victory over the boss, Tom Taggart, who has been at the head of the Indiana Democratic machine since the days of Vice President Hendricks and Senator Daniel Voorhees.

With respects to executive ability Gov. Marshall's friends point out another similarity to Gov. Wilson, for in his home State he is regarded as of "Presidential size," well equipped to administer the office of President should the occasion ever arise.

Thomas Riley Marshall was born in Manchester, Ind., in 1854. He was educated at Wabash University and all his life has stood up for the old fashioned methods of education and the old fashioned ideas of government. He is fond of referring to the Dartmouth professor who, as President of Wabash University, drilled him in the principles and history of the Republic's foundation.

"We studied the Federalist and 'The State Papers,' Gibbon, Macaulay and Hume," he says, "and had to become familiar with the great American cases, the Dred Scot decision, the Dartmouth College case, and such famous cases. Such drill is calculated to fit men to take part in affairs as American citizens."

He reveres the founders of the Republic and considers them far superior to "the so-called" statesmen of the present day, who, he says, are pigmies in comparison.

Marshall began life as a country lawyer, and but for his sound common sense in refusing to run for Congress on the Democratic ticket when asked to do so in 1898 would probably have passed his days in comparative obscurity. When offered the nomination he said no.

He was urged to run on the ground that it was his turn to be defeated, "as every other decent Democrat in the district had been"; but he stood firm and said he would not consider politics as a vocation and would not accept any nomination for a less office than Governor of his State.

FORLOEN HOPE TO VICTORY

In 1908, when the party was searching for a man to lead what looked like a forlorn hope, his dictum was recalled and he was invited to lead. He was without enemies, his record

was unimpeachable and he had always made a strong appeal to the homely common sense of American citizenship. He had a reputation as a trial lawyer of great ability, he was strong with the church people of the State and he was well known as a "sound man" who had always been frank in all circumstances and who was as incapable of deceiving himself as to what was right or wrong as he was of permitting himself to be deceived by others.

Marshall accepted the nomination and won—won by his appeal to the "plain people" and his condemnation of everything that savored of political favoritism. His shrewd wit and homely phrasing of what everybody knew, his fearless attitude toward the boss and the machine and his frank statement of the issues won him a plurality of 25,000 or thereabouts above his ticket.

Marshall was known at that time, and is yet, as a man of peace. He likes ease, and is opposed to the strenuous life so far as his tastes go. He openly avows that he never splits rails, and says that his favorite exercise is reading.

This led the party bosses to take a very erroneous view of Tom Marshall, the Governor-to-be. They classed him as a

"reformer," and made capital of the classification. In his first campaign, when he was little known, the classification helped him.

A big liquor fight was on. Taggart was lined up with the liquor interests, but did not dare to openly oppose the overwhelming sentiment for local option. He put up with a nominee of Marshall's stripe because he classed all reformers as mere talkers who could be depended upon to take things easy or give themselves up to the advice of interested friends when the time for action came.

INDEPENDENT AND UNAFRAID

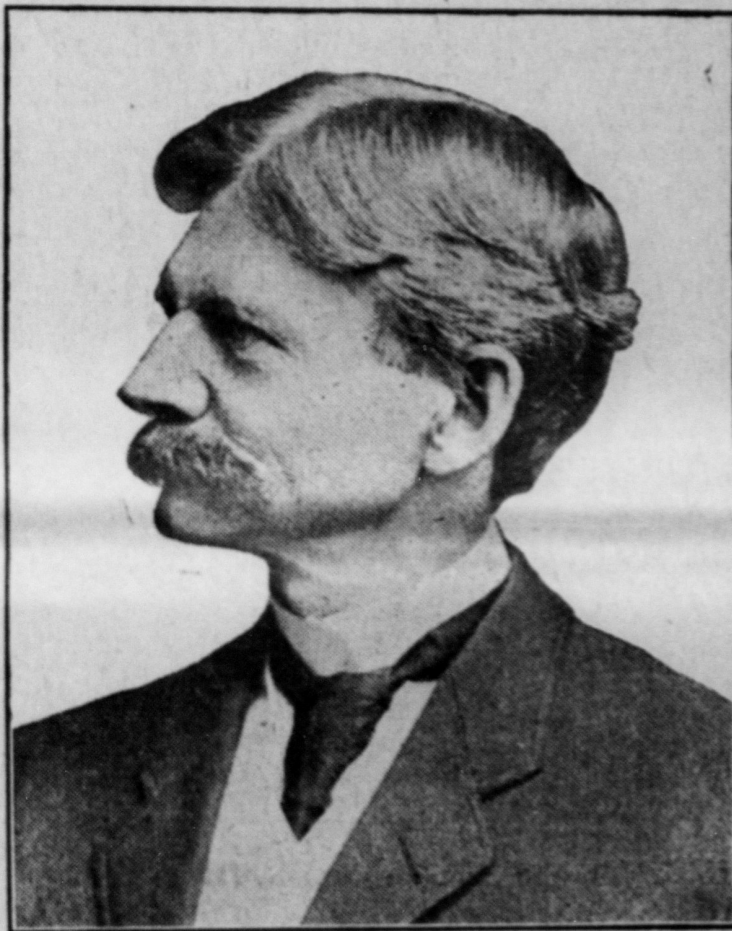
In this they were fooled. While a man of peace Marshall is the kind that will fight for peace or anything else that he thinks is worth fighting for. He does not ouster. His fighting takes the form of definite, well-considered action that strikes at the root of the matter, and takes little account of who is hit, or even destroyed, so long as the common weal is conserved and pledges are carried out in the spirit in which they are given.

Marshall said what he thought and was unafraid as a candidate, and when he took office as Governor

he began at once to redeem his party's pledges and to "see that the laws are properly executed," regardless of what anybody thought was good politics.

He had returned to his friends all the money they had contributed for his campaign expenses, and was under no obligations that could conceivably interfere with his official duty to the people. He began to fight from the day he took office. He did it in an impersonal way. He made fewer enemies than any man in public life who has opposed as he has such elements of his own party.

"There is nothing personal in my politics," he said once, when questioned intimately as to the reason for this. "Political feuds come from men trying personally to aggrandize themselves. I don't believe a man to be a scoundrel just because he does not agree with me. You can appeal to the patriotism of big men with better results than you can obtain by threats."



Thomas Riley Marshall.