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Folder Title: Nancy Reagan: Al Smith Dinner (Landon/Tony) Oct. 22, 1981
Box: 435

NANCY REAGAN: AL SMITH DINNER

EVENT

October 22, 1981

DELIVERY DATE

DUE	
DRAFT/KK	
DATE:	October 21, 1981
TIME:	12:00 noon
FINAL	
DATE:	October 21, 1981
TIME:	3:00 PM

RECEIVED

DATE: _____

OFFICE: _____

WRITER: Landon/Tony

RESEARCHER: Daryl

NOTES:

(Parvin) October 22, 1981

MRS. REAGAN -- AL SMITH DINNER
OCTOBER 22, 1981

-- I am very glad to see such familiar faces here tonight -- Cardinal Cooke, Mayor Koch, and so many other great New Yorkers. This is the only event I've ever attended where the dress was black tie and Yankee baseball caps.

-- As you know, my husband couldn't be here this evening. He's run off to Mexico with Margaret Thatcher. But he sends his best wishes.

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-- My husband is in Cancun, but he sends you his best wishes. And while we're talking about Ronnie, let me clear one thing up. It's not true that I'm jealous because Ed Meese is the one who wakes him up in the morning.

-- I've come this evening to report on some of my activities. As you know, I've taken a special interest in certain programs: drug treatment, Girl Scouts, Foster Grandparents, and, of course, the Nancy Reagan Home for Wayward China.

-- If no taxpayer money was involved in purchasing the new china, how did we pay for it? If you pardon the expression, we passed the plate.

-- Although there are critics, I'm proud to have raised nearly a million dollars for the White House. In fact,

I did such a good job Ronnie's asked me to work on the deficit.

-- Some of the criticism is exaggerated. There's now a picture postcard of me as Queen . . . how silly . . . I'd never wear a crown . . . it messes up your hair.

-- But really, I am so pleased I had the chance to come tonight and share in the bipartisan, multi-faith enjoyment of this evening. The goodwill and good work that flow from here should be the spirit that unites us all year long. So thank you and God bless you.

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Writer took this out

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Time, 10/26/81, p 75

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Time, 10/26/81, p. 75 $800,000

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Guest list includes D'Amato-Rep Moynihan-Dem Koch-Jewish Cardinal Cooke-Catholic

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BIOGRAPHY OF NANCY REAGAN

Nancy Davis Reagan was born on July 6, 1923, in New York City and was raised in Chicago. She is the only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Loyal Davis of Chicago and Phoenix. Her father is Professor Emeritus at Northwestern University after serving as Professor of Surgery there for more than 30 years. Dr. Richard Davis, a Philadelphia neurosurgeon, is Mrs. Reagan's only brother.

Mrs. Reagan graduated from Girls' Latin School, Chicago, and is a member of the 1943 graduating class of Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. She majored in drama at Smith.

Prior to her marriage to Ronald Reagan on March 4, 1952, Nancy Davis worked as an actress in stage, film and television productions. Her stage performances ranged from road tours to Broadway and Radio City Music Hall. From 1949 to 1956, she made 11 films including *The Next Voice You Hear; East Side, West Side;* and *Hellcats of the Navy,* in which she played Ronald Reagan's fiancee.

The Reagans have two children. Patricia Ann, age 28, is pursuing an acting career in California. Son Ronald Prescott, age 22, is a member of the New York-based dance company, Joffrey II. President Reagan also has two children, Maureen, 40, and Michael, 35, from his first marriage.

Shortly after her husband became Governor of California in 1967, Mrs. Reagan began visiting wounded Vietnam veterans and making regular visits to hospitals and homes for older citizens, and schools for physically and emotionally handicapped children.

During one of these hospital visits in 1967, she observed participants in the Foster Grandparent Program and became its champion. This unique program brings together senior citizens who need to be productive with handicapped children who need parental time, love and attention. Mrs. Reagan helped extend the program in California and worked to make the program available to all communities across the country through affiliation with ACTION, the federal agency which now administers the Foster Grandparent Program. As First Lady, Mrs. Reagan continues to work to expand the program on the national level and hopefully to promote private funding.

Mrs. Reagan has also been active in projects concerning POWs and servicemen missing in action in Vietnam. During the war, Mrs. Reagan wrote a syndicated column, donating her salary to the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Action in Southeast Asia. Mrs. Reagan now serves as an Honorary Sponsor of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

As First Lady, Mrs. Reagan is serving as the Honorary Chairman of the Wolf Trap Foundation Board of Trustees; the Joffrey Ballet Gala; the 1981 Cherry Blossom Festival; the Republican Women's Federal Forum; the 1981 Goodwill Embassy Tour; the Women's Committee of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped; the Ford's Theatre Gala; the JFK Center for the Performing Arts; the National Women's Republican Club; the National Society of Arts and Letters, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She is also Honorary President of the Girl Scouts of America.

In 1977, Mrs. Reagan was named one of the ten most admired women in the U.S. by readers of *Good Housekeeping Magazine.* She was named the *Los Angeles Times'* Woman of the Year in 1968. Mrs. Reagan has also been selected by the National Art Association as California's Most Distinguished Woman and has been named to the Permanent Hall of Fame as one of the country's Ten Best Dressed Women.

(2/27/81)

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 13, 1981

FOR TONY DOLAN

FROM PETER McCOY PMc

RE Al Smith Dinner
Thursday, October 22
New York City

The President feels that Mrs. Reagan should make short, light remarks at this event.

I would appreciate your preparing a draft as soon as you can.

Thanks very much.

Annunciation Rectory

470 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, CRESTWOOD, NEW YORK 10707 • 914/779-7345

October 1, 1981

Dear Miss Wormser:

I enclose some materials that I hope will be useful to you in planning Mrs. Reagan's visit at the Governor Alfred E. Smith Dinner on October 22nd in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

The guests of the dinner are people who make a contribution to the Smith Foundation Fund which supports more than 20 medical programs in the greater New York Metropolitan area. The guests are overwhelmingly business and professional people in the New York area and are perceptive politically. They look forward and will be most grateful to Mrs. Reagan's appearance, and if she says a few words to them, she will find they enjoy a good humored comment; but also are very pleased when a speaker like Mrs. Reagan ends on a serious moral note to conclude the evening.

I will send you, when it is formed, this year's dais list so that you and Mrs. Reagan's other associates will know exactly who will be there and who will be sitting near Mrs. Reagan.

Among the guests we expect are Governors Carey, O'Neill and Byrne, and Senators Moynihan and D'Amato. The other people on the dais are distinguished business-community, philanthropic and political leaders, most of whom Mrs. Reagan has met one time or another.

Cardinal Cooke, the host of the dinner, will be waiting for Mrs. Reagan shortly after 6:00 P.M. and a photo opportunity will be available for the entire press corp at approximately 6:15 P.M. Our reception line begins at 6:30 P.M. and ends at approximately 7:12 P.M. We try to start the dinner precisely at 7:30 P.M. so that our guests can leave at a decent hour.

The only events at the dinner will be an opening ceremony and the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. Following coffee and the briefest introduction, Mr. David Werblin (the President of Madison Square Garden and an old friend of President Reagan's) will speak very briefly to introduce the tone of the evening, and then Cardinal Cooke will introduce Mrs. Reagan, if she wishes to say a word (and thank her for coming if she does not wish to speak).

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions. My most direct telephone numbers are: (914) 779-3002 and (914) 779-7345.

Kindest wishes,

Eugene V. Clark

Monsignor Eugene V. Clark

Miss Nina Wormser
Room 212
East Wing
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

TENTATIVE TIMETABLE FOR THE ALFRED SMITH DINNER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1981

HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED

5:20 His Eminence and Monsignor Kenney leave 452 Madison Avenue

5:35 His Eminence and Monsignor Kenney arrive at suite in Waldorf Astoria

5:50 His Eminence and Monsignor Kenney leave suite

5:55 His Eminence and Monsignor Kenney arrive at Louis XIV Suite to wait for the main guests of the evening to arrive at 6:00 P.M. Also present: Mr. Charles Silver (Chairman of the Dinner), Mr. and Mrs. David Werblin, Monsignor Eugene Clark, Mr. James Heffernan (photographer). The speaker of the evening, Mr. J. Peter Grace, will arrive at approximately 6:00 P.M. If it is possible, Mrs. Ronald Reagan will arrive at approximately the same time.

6:10 His Eminence, Mrs. Reagan, Mr. Grace, Mr. Silver, Mr. Werblin, Monsignor Kenney, Monsignor Clark leave the Louis XIV Suite, pick up other distinguished guests in the Jade Room and proceed to the photographers in the Astor Room.

6:15 Press photographers in the Astor Room
(New York City or White House press passes required).

6:30 Reception line begins in the Basildon Room

7:08 Close doors of Basildon Room exactly and promptly to begin ending guestline

7:15 Formation of Dais line in Jade Room

7:20 Dais guests begin to move in order to Grand Ballroom

7:30 Monsignor Clark calls dinner to order in the name of Mr. Charles Silver.
His Eminence gives Invocation
Star Spangled Banner by

9:00 Monsignor Clark introduces Mr. Werblin in one or two sentences.

9:01 Mr. Werblin welcomes our distinguished guests and introduces the singer of the evening.

9:04 The singer performs.

MOR

9:14 Mr. Werblin thanks the singer and either introduces His Eminence to introduce Mr. Grace or Mr. Werblin introduces Mr. Grace.

9:26 Mr. Werblin thanks Mr. Grace and asks His Eminence to thank Mrs. Reagan for attending the Dinner.

9:30 (option) Mrs. Reagan speaks briefly to the audience.

In conclusion, Mr. Werblin concludes the evening in the name of His Eminence and Mr. Silver and looks forward to next year's Dinner.

12:55

10/16/81
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tony-

I hope this is what you need. Please give a call if you need further information.

Diane LaSalle
7910

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6:15	Press photographers in the Astor Room (New York City or White House press passes required).
6:30	Reception line begins in the Basildon Room
7:08	Close doors of Basildon Room exactly and promptly to begin ending guestline
7:15	Formation of Dais line in Jade Room
7:20	Dais guests begin to move in order to Grand Ballroom
7:30	Monsignor Clark calls dinner to order in the name of Mr. Charles Silver. His Eminence gives Invocation Star Spangled Banner by
9:00	Monsignor Clark introduces Mr. Werblin in one or two sentences.
9:01	Mr. Werblin welcomes our distinguished guests and introduces the singer of the evening. – Joey Adams
9:04	The singer performs.
9:14	Mr. Werblin thanks the singer and either introduces His Eminence to introduce Mr. Grace or Mr. Werblin introduces Mr. Grace.
9:26	Mr. Werblin thanks Mr. Grace and asks His Eminence to thank Mrs. Reagan for attending the Dinner.
9:30	(option) Mrs. Reagan speaks briefly to the audience.
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1. Mrs. Reagan introduced by Cardinal Cooke
2. Mrs. Reagan brief remarks
3. Then introduction of Peter Grace
4. Peter Grace Remarks

INVITEES FOR AL SMITH DIAS

Robert Applenap

Robert Abrahms

Joey Adams

Walter Annenberg

Mrs. Vincent Astor

Herman Badillio

George Bastillo

Abe Beame

Frank Bennack

Mrs. Elnore Bobst

Brendan Byrne

Cardinal Cooke

Mario Cuomo

Lawrence Quesack

Ray Donovan

David Edlestein

Mrs. Lorraine Freeman

Saul Fronkeys

Walliam Fugese

Mrs. Harry Gusman

Betram Gelfand

Howard Goldin

Harrison Goldin

J. Peter Grace

Vice Admiral James Gracie

Barron Hilton

Mrs. James Stewart Hooker

Harry B. Helmsley

Vincent Empalliteri

Judge Irving Kauffman

John W. Kluge

Edward Koch

Marie Lambert

Louis Laurino

T. Vincent Learson

Louis Lefkowitz

Vincent D. McDonlad

Judge McGiven

Mrs. Douglas MacArthur

Thomas Maciosi

Donald Maners

John Marque

Frank Massi

Thomas Miller

Williams Hughs Mulligan

Thomas A. Murphy

Lawrence Pierce

Judege Paul Rayo

Edward Regan

Mrs. Mary G. Robling

Mrs. Lewis S. Sosenstiel

Dr. Howard Rusk

Chuck Scarborough

Charles Silver

Stanley Simon

William Simon

Spirous Skouras

Walter Smith

Diana Soviero

Delbert Staley

Andrew Stein

Harold Stevens

Chauncey Stillman

Joseph Sullivan

Arthur Saultzberger

Mayor Wagner

David Worblin

Gov. Malcolm Wilson

William Wilson

Encyc Americ
Vol 28

polity implies the simultaneous relaxation of the secular and ecclesiastical bonds that the European tradition saw as the indispensable conditions for tolerable life in common.

Smith believed that he had solved the problem of freedom and order by this formula: Release the people into the custody of their passions—from which nothing can emancipate them in any case—and, with appropriate institutional limits to contain their clashings, they will find themselves drawn by self-interest to do what is required for the good of the community. Capitalism is the economic, and inferentially the transeconomic, historical premise of liberal polity—a testimony to the desirability of relying upon internal motives rather than upon external compulsions.

In *The Wealth of Nations,* Smith draws heavily upon the contributions to natural and political science by philosophers between the 16th and 18th centuries. At the same time, the book epitomizes much, if not all, of the character of Western liberal capitalism and the free institutions that are associated with it. Seen in this light, the work is a powerful, ever-present reminder of the deep sense in which modern life is the reflection of modern thought.

See also ECONOMICS—*The Classicists;* WEALTH OF NATIONS, THE.

Life. Smith was born in Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland, on June 5, 1723. His father was a lawyer and public officeholder in Scotland. His mother was a member of the Scottish gentry. Smith was educated at the University of Glasgow and at Balliol College, Oxford, where he remained until 1746 as an "exhibitioner" or scholarship student. He left Oxford for reasons which are supposed to be connected with his unwillingness to enter the church.

He was a public lecturer, probably on literature, jurisprudence, and philosophy, at the University of Edinburgh from 1748 until 1751, when he was appointed professor of logic at the University of Glasgow. Later in that year, he became professor of moral philosophy at Glasgow, where he remained until 1763.

He resigned his academic post to become tutor to the young Henry Scott, 3d Duke of Buccleuch, whom he accompanied on a tour of France (1764–1766). Thereafter he lived mainly in Britain, passing his last years in study, discussion, writing, and as a commissioner of customs for Scotland. During his life he moved among many of the eminent figures of the age, including David Hume, Edmund Burke, Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Johnson, François Quesnay, Edward Gibbon, and Sir Joshua Reynolds. He died in Edinburgh on July 17, 1790.

JOSEPH CROPSEY
University of Chicago
Author of "Polity and Economy: An Interpretation of the Principles of Adam Smith"

Bibliography

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Scott, William R., *Adam Smith as Student and Professor* (Kelley 1937).

SMITH, Alfred Emanuel (1873–1944), American political leader. A vigorous reformer as governor of New York, Smith became the first Roman Catholic to win the nomination of a major party for president. He was born in New York City's Lower East Side on Dec. 30, 1873, the son of poor parents and the grandson of Irish immigrants who went to the United States in 1841. Before he finished the 8th grade his father died, and he soon quit school to go to work. In 1894 he attended his first political meeting and became interested in a local contest in which he supported a candidate opposed to Tammany Hall, the powerful local executive committee of the Democratic party. His candidate lost, but another anti-Tammany candidate was elected mayor, and Smith was appointed a process server in the commissioner of jurors office.

Early Career. Smith took little further part in politics until after he married Catherine (Katie) A. Dunn of the Bronx in 1900. In 1903 he first ran for elective office. With Tammany support, he was nominated for state assemblyman and elected. By 1911, after being elected for seven consecutive years, he was Democratic leader of the Assembly, and when the Democrats gained control of that body in 1913, he became speaker. Meanwhile his outlook had broadened, and his characteristic political independence had begun to develop. In 1911, as a member of a special commission investigating factory conditions, he had gained a thorough understanding of factory conditions and of many other state economic and social problems that he later helped solve. In 1915, as a delegate to the state constitutional convention, he was praised even by leading Republicans for his outstanding work. In 1915, Smith was elected New York county sheriff. Two years later he was elected president of New York City's board of aldermen, and in 1918 he resigned to run for governor against the Republican incumbent, whom he narrowly defeated.

Governor. Al Smith, as he was everywhere known, had shown himself to be an able politi-

Alfred E. Smith when he was governor of New York

BROWN BROTHERS

cian, and one who believed that the greatest political advantage lay in wholehearted, unselfish service to the people. He was a popular governor and became a legendary figure with his brown derby hat, his ever-present cigar, his Lower East Side accent, and his common touch. In 1920, engulfed by an overwhelming national shift to the Republicans, he was defeated for reelection. Two years later he was reelected and then was returned for two more terms in 1924 and 1926.

Though Governor Smith usually served with Republican-controlled legislatures, he was remarkably successful in pushing through his political programs. These covered three main fields: (1) reorganization of the state government; (2) preservation of individual, political, state, and legal rights; and (3) welfare legislation. The state government had become cumbersome. Smith called for a constitutional amendment that, when finally adopted, replaced 187 state agencies with 19 carefully organized departments. He also succeeded in establishing an executive budget. The reorganization of the state government was Smith's most important achievement, though he also gained legislation for better housing, child welfare, better factory conditions, improved care for the insane, and better and more extensive state parks.

Candidate for President. Smith was first suggested as a presidential possibility in 1920. His supporters were more numerous in 1924, when his name was placed in nomination by Franklin D. Roosevelt, who dubbed him the "happy warrior." His Roman Catholic religion worked against him in the convention, as did his opposition to prohibition. He was most strongly opposed by William G. McAdoo, and their contest resulted in a deadlock, the nomination going to John W. Davis.

As a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1928, he had no serious opposition, and he was nominated on the first ballot. In the election, he was defeated by Herbert Hoover, winning only eight states and losing New York. Smith's defeat has often been laid to his religion. Although it is true that he lost votes on this account, most political observers concede that 1928 was not a Democratic year and that any Democrat would have lost.

Later Years. Smith never again seriously sought political office. Although he gave belated support to Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1932 presidential election, he soon broke with his old friend and supported Roosevelt's Republican opponents in 1936 and 1940. A forceful opponent of Roosevelt's New Deal, he was widely criticized for what was called his bitterness. Objective analysis, however, leaves this explanation open to doubt, for bitterness played little part in Smith's makeup. The controversy with Roosevelt aside, it is now apparent that Smith was one of the wisest and most capable political figures of his day.

After leaving politics, Smith became president of Empire State, Inc., the corporation that erected and operated the Empire State Building in New York City. He died in New York City on Oct. 4, 1944.

HAWTHORNE DANIEL, *Coauthor, with Emily (Smith) Warner, of "Happy Warrior"*

Further Reading: Handlin, Oscar, *Al Smith and His America* (Little 1958); Josephson, Matthew and Hannah, *Al Smith: Hero of the Cities* (Houghton 1969); O'Connor, Richard, *The First Hurrah* (Putnam 1970).

COURTESY OF PETE WELDING, FROM C. B. S. RECORDS

Bessie Smith, leading blues singer of the 1920's

SMITH, Bessie (1894?–1937), American singer, known as the "Empress of the Blues." She was born into a poor Negro family, in Chattanooga, Tenn., on April 15, 1894 (the year given for her birth varies to as late as 1900). She began her career in her teens with Ma Rainey's Rabbit Foot Minstrels. Ma Rainey, also a blues singer, taught her the fundamentals of her art. But Bessie Smith, who had a rich voice and dramatic intensity, perfected the genre with a subtle personal quality and a masterful technique, to become probably the greatest singer of the blues.

In 1923, Bessie Smith was discovered by a Columbia Records executive and made her first recording—*Down Hearted Blues*. This was followed by more than 150 other recordings, including *Jealous Hearted Blues*, *Jailhouse Blues*, and *Cold in Hand Blues*, often sung to the accompaniment of such jazz greats as Louis Armstrong and Fletcher Henderson.

After 1929, Bessie Smith's career began to decline, due partly to changing tastes in jazz and her frequent bouts of alcoholism. She died after an automobile accident, in Clarksdale, Miss., on Sept. 26, 1937. The story that her death resulted from the refusal of a hospital to admit her because of her race has been disputed.

SMITH, Betty (1896–1972), American writer, best known for *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (1943), a partly autobiographical novel of enduring optimism amid poverty and struggle. Elizabeth (Betty) Wehner was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on Dec. 15, 1896. Though lacking a secondary education, she was admitted to special studies at the University of Michigan, where, at the age of 17, she married a fellow student, George H. E. Smith. She continued her studies, wrote plays, and in 1930 won a degree. After attending the Yale School of Drama, she studied, wrote, and taught at the University of North Carolina. She was the author of many one-act plays and three other novels—*Tomorrow Will Be Better* (1948), *Maggie–Now* (1958), and *Joy in the Morning* (1963). She died in Shelton, Conn., on Jan. 17, 1972.

trolled electric power distribution in the city through four subsidiaries, was notoriously inefficient, in part because it was ridden with politics. Using the leverage of the city's franchise power, political leaders had evolved a system whereby public utility jobs were treated as part of the political patronage, and contracts for buildings, coal, and the like went to political favorites. In his first two years with the system Sloan was assistant to the president of the New York Edison Company (one of the Consolidated Gas subsidiaries) and hence powerless to effect reform. But in 1919 he became president of Brooklyn Edison and launched a modernization program. Despite his education he lacked technical skill, but he had a keen eye for talent and was an excellent administrator, and he was thus able to direct Brooklyn Edison on a course of modernization based upon the pattern being set by such utility pioneers as Samuel Insull [Supp. 2] in Chicago and Alex Dow [Supp. 3] in Detroit. His company installed huge generating plants, adopted uniform 60-cycle alternating current, simplified and rationalized its operations, repeatedly cut its rates and expanded its service, and far surpassed its sister companies in the Consolidated Gas system.

In 1928 the several companies in and around New York were combined (they were later reorganized as Consolidated Edison), and Sloan became president and operating head of the various constituent organizations. For four years he made a valiant effort to do for the entire system what he had done in Brooklyn, but the obstacles were enormous. For one thing, the system was a technological mess: New York Edison, for example, used partly 25-cycle alternating current and partly 3-wire direct current in Manhattan, and 4-phase alternating current in the Bronx; United Electric Light and Power (operating in Manhattan and the Bronx) used a variety of phases of a.c. at the same frequency as Brooklyn but at different voltage. Through his skill at internal politics and on the plea that uniformity was necessary as a means of supplying power to the subway system the city was just then building, Sloan was able to make considerable headway against the technical problems; but then other problems arose. Most important, at first, was the Great Depression, for after 1930 sales fell off and capital became extremely difficult to raise. Labor problems compounded the economic problems, but the final blow was political.

Sloan had made many political enemies by insisting upon rationality and efficiency instead of the "spoils system" that had earlier characterized the utilities' management, and late in 1931 his political enemies overcame him. So strained were his relations with Tammany Hall that, it was said, he was unable for six months to obtain from the city fathers a permit even to open a manhole cover. That made his situation hopeless, and early in 1932 the directors demanded his resignation. With his departure also departed from New York the likelihood that the city would ever obtain electric service of a quality and at a price that were normal in most of urban America.

The rest of Sloan's career was anticlimactic, though distinguished: from 1934 until 1945 he served as president and chairman of the board of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad and about a dozen related lines. An Episcopalian and a Republican, Sloan was active in many civic and business groups, such as the Brooklyn Academy of Music (vice-president), Long Island University (trustee and treasurer), the National Electric Light Association (president, 1930), and the United States Chamber of Commerce (a director). He died in New York City in 1945 and was buried in Auburn, Ala. He was survived by his widow, Lottie Everard Lane, whom he had married on Feb. 23, 1911, and by a daughter, Liddie Lane (Mrs. Andrew M. McBurney, Jr.).

[*Electrical World*, Feb. 13, 1932; *Who Was Who in America*, vol. II (1950); *Nat. Cyc. Am. Biog.*, XXXIV, 151–52; *N. Y. Times*, Jan. 29, 1932 (career portrait), and June 15, 1945 (obituary); U. S. Federal Trade Commission, *Utility Corporations* (96 parts, 1928–37); Frederick L. Collins, *Consolidated Gas of N. Y.: A Hist.* (1934).]

FORREST MCDONALD

SMITH, ALFRED EMANUEL (Dec. 30, 1873–Oct. 4, 1944), four-term governor of New York, progressive reformer, and the first Roman Catholic nominated for the presidency of the United States by a major party, was born on New York City's Lower East Side to Alfred Emanuel Smith and his young second wife, Catherine Mulvehill. His father, an East Side native and a Civil War veteran, was the son of a German mother and an Italian father. His mother, born in the same neighborhood, was the offspring of Irish parents: a Catholic tailor, and a Protestant of English stock who had converted to Catholicism upon her marriage. At the time of his son's birth, the elder Smith owned a small trucking business. As the Smiths had only one other child, Mary, born two years after Alfred, their five-room flat was uncrowded, and the Lower East Side was not yet the slum it would become by the end of the century.

Al's early childhood, passed amid the bustle and variety of the East River waterfront, was happy and relatively secure. He served as an altar

boy at St. James Roman Catholic Church and attended the local parish school. An average student, he excelled in oratory, winning a citywide contest when only eleven years old with an oration on the death of Robespierre.

When Al was twelve his father died, leaving the family very poor. At fourteen, a month before completing the eighth grade, he dropped out of school to work as an errand boy for a trucking firm, the first of a succession of odd jobs. At eighteen he became general clerk for Feeney and Company, a wholesale commission house in the Fulton Fish Market area. For two years he sold fish to merchants and restaurants, earning $12 a week—good wages for the time. He changed jobs again at twenty, this time working in a boiler manufacturing plant in Brooklyn. Active in the social life of his community, he often appeared in lead roles in productions of the St. James Dramatic Society, a church-sponsored amateur group, and occasionally worked as an extra on the stage of a local professional theatre. He married Catherine Dunn, an Irish girl from the Bronx, on May 6, 1900, after five years of courtship. They had five children: Alfred Emanuel, Emily, Catherine, Arthur, and Walter.

Smith's entry into politics was somewhat fortuitous. At the local saloon where he frequently dropped in for a glass of beer and conversation, he was befriended by the owner, Tom Foley, who was Democratic precinct leader and a Tammany Hall man. In 1894, after several years of running political errands for Foley, Smith followed him in opposing the man chosen by Tammany boss Richard Croker [*q.v.*] as the 4th District's Congressional nominee. The insurgents failed to elect their man but helped defeat the Tammany candidate, and the vote in their district also helped elect as mayor a Republican reform candidate, William L. Strong [*q.v.*]. Early in 1895, consequently, Smith was appointed process server for the commissioner of jurors at the comfortable salary of $800 a year. In 1903 Foley (now reconciled to Tammany and a district leader) chose Smith as the Democratic nominee for state assemblyman. Nomination was equivalent to election, but Smith conducted an energetic campaign.

Untrained in the law or in parliamentary procedure, the new assemblyman was at first ignored by both the Republican majority and the Tammany leaders, who instructed him how to vote but did not take him into their counsel. But slowly he learned assembly politics and state government, partly from his early roommate, Robert Wagner, a young lawyer who had also experienced poverty in his youth. Smith was appointed to the insurance committee in 1906, a year of insurance company scandals, but he attracted little notice in the assembly until 1907, when, as a member of a special committee to revise the New York City charter, he emerged as one of the best-informed and most articulate Democratic debaters on the floor, heatedly defending home rule and the rights of the city's "plain people." Through informal weekly dinners the Lower East Side politician became acquainted with many upstate men, and soon his spirit and wit, as well as his reputation for honesty, were well known in Albany. In 1911, after a Democratic election sweep, Smith was selected by Charles F. Murphy [*q.v.*], the head of Tammany, as majority leader of the assembly and chairman of the ways and means committee. He became speaker of the assembly in 1913.

In these years of his political emergence, Smith's energies were directed both to protecting the interests of Tammany and to achieving a variety of progressive reforms. He opposed a series of antimachine measures backed by the Republican governor, Charles Evans Hughes, in 1910. As majority leader he was deeply involved in patronage matters, in issues of interest to the machine such as racetrack gambling and public franchises, and in opposition to direct-primary and local-option measures. On weekly trips to New York City he usually conferred with Murphy. Yet at the same time he supported home rule for New York City (a favorite progressive issue), a state conservation department, and improvements in workmen's compensation. Indeed, the last issue would preoccupy Smith during most of his political career. Notwithstanding his Tammany connections, Smith won at least sporadic endorsement from the Citizens' Union, a New York City reform group. For Smith, there was nothing incongruous in the dual nature of his politics. Tammany had little use for the theoretical abstractions of progressivism, but practical humanitarian and reform measures which had wide popular appeal were acceptable to a political organization whose main objective was to gain and hold power.

Perhaps the most important single event in Smith's development as a reformer was the 1911 Triangle Waist Company fire, a New York City disaster which took 146 lives, most of them working girls and women. As a man of conscience, Smith was deeply moved by the tragedy; as a politician, he recognized its political potential. His bill to establish a factory investigating commission quickly passed the assembly, and the commission launched a statewide series of surveys and on-the-spot investigations of factory conditions. As its vice-chairman (Robert Wagner was chairman), Smith was thrown into a close working relation-

Smith

ship with a remarkable group of independent and sometimes brilliant social workers and reformers —an association that broadened his intellectual and social horizons, challenged his ingrained ideas on many subjects (including woman suffrage), modified the reformers' prejudice against Smith's machine background, and increased his stature in the eyes of Tammany colleagues. The commission's work continued until 1915, and Smith sponsored much of the social legislation it recommended: sanitary, health, and fire laws; wage and hour regulations for women and children; and improved workmen's compensation laws. These reforms, some enacted over the opposition of business and industrial interests, perhaps constitute Al Smith's greatest political achievement.

At the New York constitutional convention of 1915, Smith's intimate knowledge of state government and his adroit efforts on behalf of budgetary reform and home rule for New York City impressed both the newspapers and the predominantly Republican delegates, including such notables as Elihu Root [Supp. 2] and Henry L. Stimson. The acclaim spurred his ambition, and that autumn he was elected to a two-year term as sheriff of New York City, a position worth more than $60,000 a year in fees and thus a welcome change for an underpaid assemblyman with a growing family. He was boomed for mayor in 1917, but Murphy, paying off other political debts, backed John F. Hylan [Supp. 2] of Brooklyn. Smith, however, won easy election as president of the board of aldermen.

By 1918 the most popular man in the New York Democratic party, supported by Tammany, upstate politicians, and independent reform groups, Smith was the logical Democratic candidate for governor. To help broaden Smith's support and to prevent a break with the publisher William Randolph Hearst (who also wanted to be governor), Murphy allowed upstate Democrats to take the lead in putting Smith forward. After winning the nomination, Smith mapped out his own gubernatorial campaign. An independent "Citizens' Committee for Smith," composed of reformers and professional people, including associates from the factory investigation days, was established. Women and minority group members were appointed to the campaign staff: Belle Moskowitz [Supp. 1], Frances Perkins, and Joseph M. Proskauer—all of whom (with Robert Moses, who joined Smith somewhat later) were to become longtime advisers. Smith in his campaign urged a broad reorganization of the state government, economy measures, and social legislation, especially the regulation of hours and wages for women and children. When a fatal crash occurred on the Brooklyn-Manhattan subway line four days before the election, Smith attacked his opponent, Gov. Charles S. Whitman, for allowing laxity in the Public Service Commission, the agency responsible for subway regulation. The disaster produced a large Smith vote in Brooklyn, and the flu epidemic curtailed upstate voting, but 1918 was a Republican year, and Smith won by only 15,000 votes.

The 1919–21 gubernatorial term set the pattern for Smith's later incumbencies. Most jobs went to deserving Democrats, but a few major appointments demonstrated the new governor's independence: a well-qualified Republican became the patronage-rich highway commissioner, and Frances Perkins, an independent, was appointed to the State Industrial Commission. Applying himself to crisis situations in city housing and milk distribution, two issues basic to tenement dwellers, Smith supported the temporary extension of wartime rent controls, tax incentives for the construction of low-cost housing, and price-fixing of milk by a state commission. But though he brought his formidable political skills to bear on the Republican majority in the legislature, that body killed his milk bill and passed a housing bill lacking the key rent-control provision. When the legislature refused appropriations for a commission to reorganize the structure of state government, Smith found private benefactors who underwrote the expenses of a research staff. Normally prolabor, Smith utilized the State Industrial Commission to mediate labor differences, as in the Rome, N. Y., copper strike of 1919, when Frances Perkins initiated public hearings which led to negotiations and eventual recognition of the union. He was prepared, however, to call out the state militia when labor disputes led to violence, and indeed did so on one occasion.

In a time of political reaction, Governor Smith vetoed several antisedition bills which would have severely curtailed the civil liberties of Socialists and others. When the assembly expelled five duly elected Socialists, Smith declared that "to discard the methods of representative government leads to misdeeds of the very extremists we denounce." In 1923, during his second term, he pardoned an Irish revolutionary, Jim Larkin, imprisoned under the state sedition law, arguing that the "public assertion of an erroneous doctrine" was insufficient grounds for punishment. He granted clemency to the Communist Benjamin Gitlow on the Holmesian grounds that Gitlow's actions posed no "clear and present danger" to New York. He apparently saw such a threat, however, in the Ku Klux Klan, for in that same year Smith signed a bill virtually outlawing the

organization in the state. He supported the League of Nations; Wilsonianism evidently awakened in him an interest in international affairs that persisted into the 1920's. Before his first term was completed, the *New Republic* called him "one of the ablest governors New York has ever had."

In 1920, with an anti-Democratic current running nationally, Smith lost his bid for reelection by 75,000 votes. The result was a moral victory, however, for the national Democratic ticket lost New York in the same election by 1,200,000 votes. During the next two years, while serving as board chairman of the United States Trucking Corporation (headed by his close friend James J. Riordan), Smith kept in close touch with politics. He was renominated in 1922 despite a bitter challenge from Hearst, and in his campaign he again emphasized such welfare and reform issues as a forty-eight-hour week, governmental reorganization, conservation, and the creation of a public hydroelectric power authority. Smith's personal popularity, the continued support of his heterogeneous coalition, and a national business depression identified with the Republicans gave him a record 388,000 plurality over the incumbent governor, Nathan L. Miller. Two more successful gubernatorial campaigns followed in 1924 and 1926.

After Murphy's death in 1924, Smith was himself the most important Democratic leader in the state, and was thus freed from dependence upon bosses and machines. He supported James J. ("Jimmy") Walker for mayor of New York in 1925, but he did not reward Tammany heavily with the spoils of politics. When faced by legislative opposition in the 1920's, Smith, with his acute sense of timing, responded with persuasion, compromise proposals, and the use of referenda and radio appeals to the voters. By such means, he compiled a record of significant achievement. In the area of administrative reorganization, he reduced 152 competing, often overlapping, agencies to a comparatively few cabinet-level positions. His welfare program included state support for low-cost housing projects, bond issues to develop an extensive park and recreation system, more funds for state education, and support for the State Labor Department in enforcing safety requirements and administering workmen's compensation. At the same time, through economies, long-term funding, and the introduction of a modern system of budgeting, taxes were reduced. Although unsuccessful in achieving the public development of New York's waterpower resources, Smith did in 1922 and 1927 block the legislative transfer of several prime power sites to private interests. In short, in a decade little known for reform politics, Governor Smith played an almost classic progressive role.

Smith

Smith's position, and his record, almost automatically made him a serious presidential contender. Early in his second term Charles Murphy and Belle Moskowitz (his publicity director and most influential political lieutenant) had quietly sounded other parts of the country and learned that Smith had strong support in the states with the largest electoral votes. But the 1924 Democratic convention was torn apart by a conflict between the rural-dry-Protestant forces, centered in the South and West, and the urban-wet-Catholic representatives of the Northeast. Urban strategists almost forced through a platform plank condemning the Ku Klux Klan, but in so doing they crippled Smith's chances of gaining the two-thirds majority needed for nomination. After nearly two weeks of deadlock, both William Gibbs McAdoo [Supp. 3], representing the rural wing, and Smith—the "Happy Warrior" of Franklin Roosevelt's nominating speech—finally withdrew. Smith's obstinacy in prolonging the deadlock has been attributed to his anger at the anti-Catholicism manifested during the floor fight over the Klan and his conviction that his opponents represented the forces of bigotry.

By 1928 McAdoo was out of the running and William Jennings Bryan [*q.v.*] was dead, leaving the rural Democrats with no leader of national stature. Moreover, no one in the party wanted a second deadlocked convention. The religious issue, however, could not be stilled. In April 1927 the *Atlantic Monthly* published an article by Charles C. Marshall, a prominent Episcopal layman, suggesting a basic conflict between Smith's loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church and his allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. The Governor's immediate reaction to Marshall's largely legalistic argument was, "I know nothing whatsoever about papal bulls and encyclicals." Replying more formally in the May *Atlantic*, Smith emphasized that his Catholicism was not theologically oriented, that he believed in the total separation of church and state, and that he could foresee no conflict between the duties of a president and those of a Catholic. (As early as 1925 he had told an emissary from Cardinal William O'Connell [Supp. 3] of Boston, who was urging him to oppose a child labor bill then before the state legislature, that he would accept the Church's authority on matters of faith and morals, but not on economic, social, or political issues.) His advisers counseled minimizing his religion and his urban background, but privately Smith vowed, "I'll be myself, come what may!" He continued to dress nattily and to speak at Tammany rallies,

and when a papal legate visited New York City in 1926, Smith, kneeling, kissed the bishop's ring. Religion, however, was only one facet of the image Smith projected. Others emerged during the coming presidential campaign.

By 1928 Smith's candidacy could not be denied, and on the first ballot the Houston convention nominated him for the presidency. The campaign which followed has usually been interpreted as a victory for bigotry and narrow-minded rural prohibitionism. Unquestionably, fears of "demon rum," the big city, and the Catholic Church did play a part. In Oklahoma and Montana, crosses blazed along the railroad tracks as Smith's campaign train passed. Scurrilous literature and a whispering campaign against the candidate and his wife spread across large sections of the country. Yet with Republican prosperity then reaching its zenith the Democratic cause was all but hopeless. Often forgotten, too, is the ineptness of Smith's campaign. No serious effort was made to broaden his regional appeal. The Governor appointed a fellow Catholic, John J. Raskob, a General Motors executive, as Democratic national chairman. Smith believed that he needed the financial support of big business to win, but the choice of Raskob also reflected a growing personal conservatism. His closest friends and supporters were businessmen like Raskob, Riordan, William Kenny, and James Hoey. Smith's progressivism had always been rooted less in ideology than in his direct exposure to economic hardship and the plight of urban workers, and by the mid-1920's, with these earlier experiences far behind him, the conservatism which lay deep in the background of this self-made man of humble origins had reemerged.

Raskob's Catholicism, his outspoken opposition to prohibition, his close connections with big business, and his political inexperience hampered Smith's campaign from the outset. While ignoring the South out of overconfidence, Raskob poured large sums into hopelessly Republican Pennsylvania. As for the economically depressed farm belt, the Democratic platform did implicitly support the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill, and the influential farm leader George N. Peek [Supp. 3] campaigned for Smith, but these factors were insufficient to overcome the New Yorker's image as a big-city politician, a Catholic, and a wet. Smith and his running mate, Senator Joseph T. Robinson [Supp. 2] of Arkansas, received only 15,000,000 votes to Herbert Hoover's 21,400,000; the electoral count was 444 to 87. Hoover carried several Southern states, and even won Smith's home state of New York. But in losing, Smith polled more votes than any former Democratic presidential candidate, and he broke into areas of traditional Republican strength. He won the nation's two most urbanized (and Catholic) states, Massachusetts and Rhode Island; carried the nation's twelve largest cities; and compiled significant pluralities among most immigrant groups.

The bigotry of the campaign shook Smith's vision of America and left him, for the first time in a third of a century, without immediate political prospects. His hoped-for return to influence in Albany following Franklin D. Roosevelt's somewhat unexpected gubernatorial victory in 1928 was thwarted by Roosevelt's desire for independence. Instead, Smith entered business as president of the Empire State Building Corporation (of which Raskob was a director) at a yearly salary of $50,000; he also served as chairman of a trust company. As he settled in a Fifth Avenue apartment and was lionized by New York's social and business circles, his conservatism hardened, and he drifted into an acrimonious feud with Roosevelt. Believing that he had built Roosevelt's political career, he was irked by the latter's indifference, particularly in matters of patronage and prestige. Although himself critical of Hoover's handling of the depression—in January 1932 he called for a federal bond issue to pay for unemployment relief—Smith was even more disturbed by Roosevelt's emergence as the prime Democratic presidential contender. Late in 1931, probably in an attempt to forestall Roosevelt, he launched an ill-organized campaign for the presidential nomination. He labeled "demagogic" Roosevelt's plea in April 1932 for the "forgotten man at the bottom of the economic pyramid," and throughout the next two years he expressed similar views in a monthly column of political opinion in the *New Outlook*, which he also served as editor. In the mid-1930's his close association with the privileged classes and his genuine alarm at the New Deal led Smith to an active role in the right-wing, anti-Roosevelt American Liberty League. In a broadcast speech before this group early in 1936, the former progressive told the nation that Roosevelt's administration was socialistic and was concentrating too much power in the federal bureaucracy. The attack drew cheers from his immediate audience and the anti-Roosevelt press, but many of his old supporters were puzzled and saddened.

Smith's opposition to the Democratic ticket in 1936 (and again in 1940) was largely ineffectual. Although he never voluntarily abandoned politics, "political power and influence slowly ebbed from him" (Josephson, p. 422). In contrast to his political frustrations after 1928, his personal life

was somewhat happier. Knighted by the Pope and active in many church charities, he became the best-known Catholic layman of his time. His autobiography, *Up to Now,* appeared in 1929, and in the 1930's he wrote articles for the *Saturday Evening Post.* But even in the private realm tranquility was not to be his. The stock-market crash left two of his sons, a nephew, and several close friends deeply in debt, and Smith assumed heavy obligations on their behalf. The Empire State Building, completed in 1931, remained largely unoccupied, and only extreme efforts prevented bankruptcy. (Smith even made a trip to the White House to ask Roosevelt to rent federal office space in the building.) The approach of World War II partially mended the breach between Smith and Roosevelt. Smith supported the President's 1939 Neutrality Act amendments and actively backed the lend-lease program. Soon the two men were exchanging pleasantries, and Smith twice visited informally at the White House. The death of his wife in May 1944 was a loss from which he never recovered. His own death, of lung congestion and heart trouble, occurred later that year in Rockefeller Institute Hospital in New York City; his age was seventy. After a requiem mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, where his body had lain in state (Smith was the second layman accorded that honor, the pianist Paderewski being the first), he was buried in Calvary Cemetery, Long Island City, N. Y.

[The best recent study is Matthew and Hannah Josephson, *Al Smith: Hero of the Cities* (1969). Earlier books include the admiring *Gov. Al Smith* (1959), by James A. Farley and James C. G. Conniff; the straightforward *Al Smith, American* (1945), by Frank Graham; Henry F. Pringle, *Alfred E. Smith: A Critical Study* (1927); Oscar Handlin's warm appreciation, *Al Smith and His America* (1958); Norman Hapgood and Henry Moskowitz's useful *Up from the City Streets: Alfred E. Smith* (1927); Smith's own *Up to Now;* Charles C. Marshall's strenuously subjective *Gov. Smith's Am. Catholicism* (1928); Edmund A. Moore's scholarly study, *A Catholic Runs for President,* (1956); Robert Moses's adulatory *A Tribute to Gov. Smith* (1962); and *The Happy Warrior* (1956), by Emily Warner, Smith's daughter, in collaboration with Hawthorne Daniel. Other books with sections on Smith include William Allen White's *Masks in a Pageant* (1928); Michael Williams's fascinating *The Shadow of the Pope* (1932); Frank Freidel, *Franklin D. Roosevelt,* vols. II and III (1954–56); and David Burner, *The Politics of Provincialism: The Democratic Party in Transition, 1918–1932* (1968). Scholarly articles include: Samuel B. Hand, "Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and the New Deal," *Historian,* May 1965; and Jordan A. Schwarz, "Al Smith in the Thirties," *N. Y. Hist.,* Oct. 1964. A small collection of Smith letters is in the State Lib., Albany, N. Y. Four volumes of his *Public Papers* were published between 1919 and 1938. See also *Progressive Democracy: Addresses and State Papers of Gov. Alfred E. Smith, Democratic Candidate for President* (1928); and his *Addresses . . . Delivered at the Meetings of the Soc. of the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, 1922–1944* (1945).]

DAVID BURNER

SMITH, DAVID EUGENE (Jan. 21, 1860–July 29, 1944), mathematical educator and historian of science, was born in Cortland, N. Y., the second of four children and younger of two sons of Abram P. Smith, lawyer and county judge, and Mary Elizabeth (Bronson) Smith. His father was descended from Henri Schmidt, who immigrated to the United States about 1770, probably from Alsace, and settled in Cortland; his mother was the daughter of a cultivated country physician. David learned Greek and Latin from his mother, who died when he was twelve. He attended the newly founded State Normal School in Cortland and went on to Syracuse University, where he studied art and classical languages, including Hebrew. Graduating with a Ph.B. degree in 1881, he followed his father's wishes and took up the law, but after being admitted to the bar in 1884 he abandoned the legal profession to accept an appointment as teacher of mathematics in the State Normal School at Cortland. While there he received the degrees of Ph.M. (1884) and Ph.D. (1887) from Syracuse, the latter in art history.

From the beginning, Smith's mathematical interests lay in teaching and history rather than in original research. In 1891 he became professor of mathematics at the State Normal College at Ypsilanti, Mich. He published his first textbook, *Plane and Solid Geometry* (written with Wooster W. Beman), in 1895; his *History of Modern Mathematics* appeared the following year. In 1898 (having taken the degree of Master of Pedagogy at Ypsilanti) Smith was made principal of the State Normal School at Brockport, N. Y. Three years later he became professor of mathematics at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he remained until his retirement in 1926. From this position he wielded a great and lasting influence on mathematical instruction in the United States. The textbooks he wrote, sometimes with collaborators, for use in elementary and secondary schools numbered at least 150; they were widely adopted throughout the United States and were used in translation in other countries as well. Through everyday examples and other means, they brought a new liveliness and variety to the subject.

Smith's proficiency in languages, combined with his love of travel, early brought him in touch with mathematicians abroad. An appointment to the International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics, headed by Prof. Felix Klein of Göttingen, placed him in a position of international influence. He served as vice-president of this group, 1908–20, as president, 1928–32, and as honorary president thereafter. His

(Parvin) October 22, 1981

MRS. REAGAN -- AL SMITH DINNER
OCTOBER 22, 1981

-- I am very glad to see such familiar faces here tonight -- Cardinal Cooke, Mayor Koch, and so many other great New Yorkers. This is the only event I've ever attended where the dress was black tie and Yankee baseball caps.

-- As you know, my husband couldn't be here this evening. He's run off to Mexico with Margaret Thatcher. But he sends his best wishes.

(Parvin/TD) October 20, 1981

MRS. REAGAN -- AL SMITH DINNER, OCTOBER 22, 1981

-- I'm very glad to see so many familiar faces here tonight, including Mayor Koch's. Imagine how careful a man must be to run on both the Republican and Democratic tickets. Someone asked him what his favorite color was and he said plaid.

-- My husband is in Cancun, but he sends you his best wishes. And while we're talking about Ronnie, let me clear one thing up. It's not true that I'm jealous because Ed Meese is the one who wakes him up in the morning.

-- I've come this evening to report on some of my activities. As you know, I've taken a special interest in certain programs: drug treatment, Girl Scouts, Foster Grandparents, and, of course, the Nancy Reagan Home for Wayward China.

-- If no taxpayer money was involved in purchasing the new china, how did we pay for it? If you pardon the expression, we passed the plate.

-- Although there are critics, I'm proud to have raised nearly a million dollars for the White House. In fact,

I did such a good job Ronnie's asked me to work on the deficit.

-- Some of the criticism is exaggerated. There's now a picture postcard of me as Queen . . . how silly . . . I'd never wear a crown . . . it messes up your hair.

-- But really, I am so pleased I had the chance to come tonight and share in the bipartisan, multi-faith enjoyment of this evening. The goodwill and good work that flow from here should be the spirit that unites us all year long. So thank you and God bless you.

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