

Public Forum

Editor, WINNETKA TALK:

I am for Smith because his record as governor of New York for four terms and his speeches since his nomination indicate that he will carry on policies such as I believe will mean a better life for the whole body of citizens rather than the prosperity of any particular group, with a wholesome and much needed change in tone and standards of public service from

that which has characterized the last two Republican administrations.

Among the conspicuous accomplishments of his years as governor are the reorganization of the state government—proving his ability as an administrator—the most humane labor code to be found in any state of the Union, and many laws favorable to women and children to public education and health. He has consistently advocated ownership and control by the state of water-power resources and has prevented raids by private interests on state power. His record on free speech, at the height of the stupid and cowardly reaction against foreigners

and radicals after the war, is magnificent, and in all this time his appointments have been made for merit and fitness for the job in hand, into which party and religious prejudice did not enter.

In technical matters such as the farm question and Prohibition I think that his utterances have shown a frankness and independence superior to the Republican candidate's. To the farmer he seems to me to offer a fairer deal than the party in power with its long record of discrimination always in favor of the manufacturer. In regard to Prohibition I think a discussion in Congress and throughout the country of Smith's suggestions as to amendment and state control of liquor would be wholesome in the face of the hypocrisy and disregard of law that accompanies enforcement as we have it.

In regard to foreign affairs we have his record, his statements of future policy and his character only to guide us. We know that in his twenty-five years of public life Smith has shown a disposition and ability to inform himself through experts and specialists on every new subject that has come into his province. That he has evaded no issue because it was new to his experience, but with honesty, courage, a mastering of the most complicated facts, and a profound comprehension of the springs of human conduct, has set himself to understand it, to interpret it to the people of the state, and to take action or to bring about action by legislatures predominately Republican. In particular he has condemned interference in the internal affairs of Latin-America, and promised in the event of his election to make outlawry of war effective, not by a larger navy "to make us respected" as the Quaker candidate says, but by the removal of the causes of war. However this may sound like campaign generalities, it strikes at the economic imperialism of

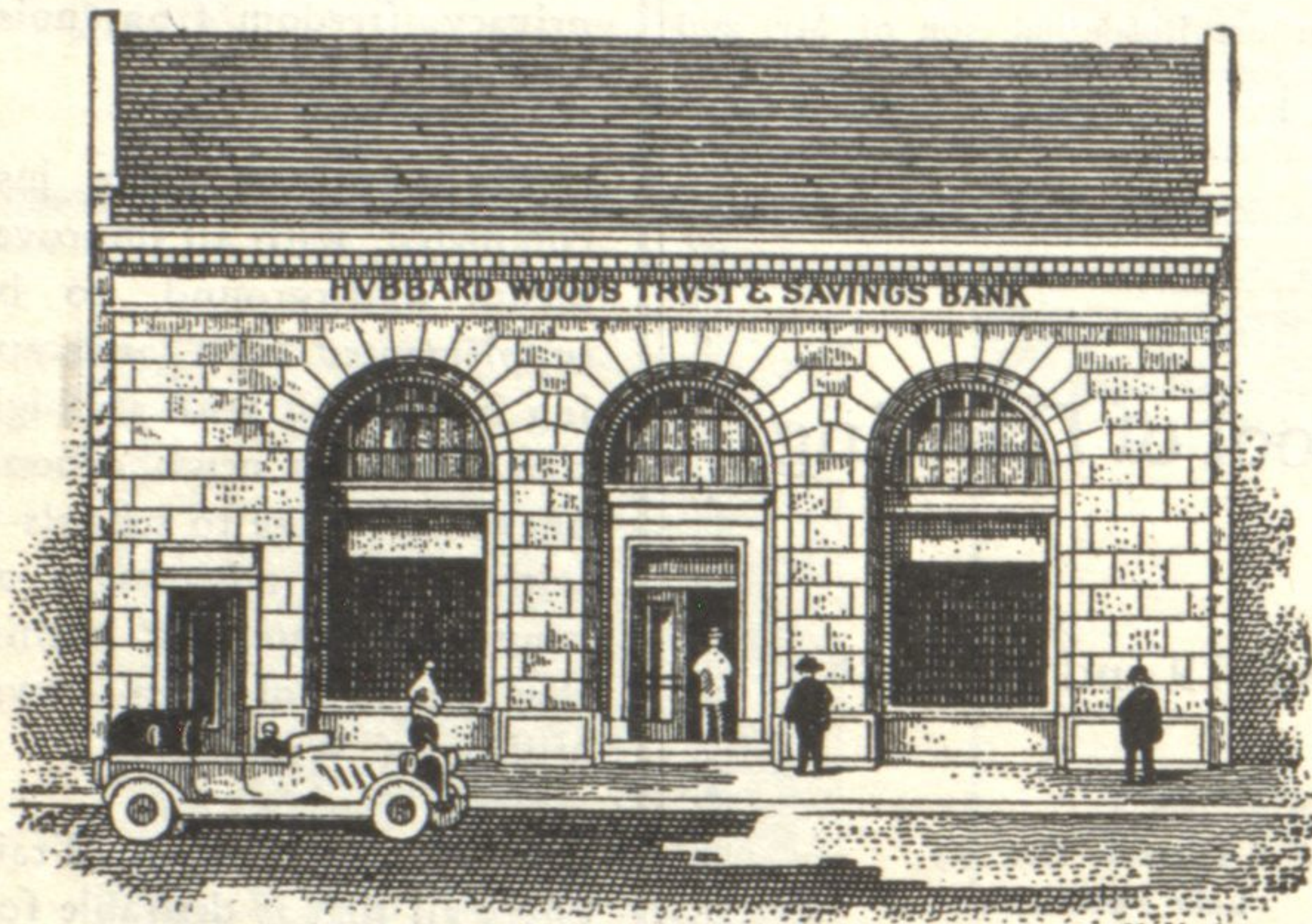
the present administration and is so far insignificant. The preparation for directing our foreign policy gained by an engineer engaged in promoting the interests of American business in an economically backward country, and his work as food dictator in wartime, does not seem to me as sound for the leader of a nation which has not yet renounced a great democratic experiment, as the training Al Smith has had.

In his twenty-five years in public life Gov. Smith has grown steadily in power and a high conception of constructive statesmanship. That his roots lie deep in the environment of poor and common people from which he rose makes it possible for him to interpret to the average man the problems of government here and abroad whose solving by the executive and legislative ends of our government need, in a Republic, public understanding, sympathy, and support. He has gotten his education by every experience and contact along his way and is still gaining in wisdom and power. I want, not a dictator, even the wisest. I want for president the man of whom Owen Young said, "No political leader in the world today—as far as I know—and I know most of them—has such capacity for mass leadership as he."

—Ruth W. Porter

Hubbard Woods Faculty Plans Hallowe'en Party

The faculty of the Hubbard Woods school is planning a Hallowe'en party for all teachers of the Winnetka Public schools next Tuesday night, October 30. This is the first of four faculty parties to be given by the various schools of the village throughout the school year. The affair is to be held in the assembly room of the Hubbard Woods building, and dancing will be on the program.



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