

Tom Marshall's Weekly News, November 3, 2008

Vice-Presidential Candidates: When I was born, there was no Vice-President. Calvin Coolidge had succeeded to the office of president upon Harding's death in 1923, and in those days, there was no vice-president until the following presidential election. Charles G. Dawes was Coolidge's running mate in 1924, and he served until Hoover's vice-president, Charles Curtis, was elected in 1928.

In 1932, Franklin Roosevelt swept Hoover and Curtis out of office, and John Nance Garner of Uvalde, Texas, became vice-president. Four years later, Roosevelt and Garner won again, defeating Governor Alf Landon of Kansas and Frank Knox, his running mate, in a landslide where the victors won every state except Maine and Vermont. Before World War II, FDR appointed Frank Knox as his secretary of the Navy. In 1940, Wendell Willkie was the Republican presidential nominee, and Charles L. McNary, Governor of Oregon, was his vice-presidential running mate. FDR triumphed again, but this time his vice-president was Henry A. Wallace. In the wartime election of 1944, an ill FDR won his fourth term with a little-known Senator from Missouri, Harry S. Truman, as his vice-president. Thomas E. Dewey, Governor of New York, was defeated, along with his running mate, Ohio's Governor John W. Bricker.

From April, 1945, when Truman became president upon the death of FDR, the country went nearly four years without a vice-president. In 1948, Truman was elected in his own right, with his running mate, Senator Alban W. Barkley of Paducah, KY. They narrowly defeated the Republican team of Dewey (again) and Earl Warren, Governor of California. In 1952 and again in 1956, Dwight D. Eisenhower was unbeatable with his running mate, Richard Nixon. Adlai E. Stevenson was defeated both times, first with John Sparkman of Alabama as his vice-presidential candidate, and in 1956 with Estes Kefauver of Tennessee as his running mate.

Now we are coming to the time when most of you remember:

- 1960: Kennedy and Johnson defeating Nixon and Lodge
- 1964: Johnson and Humphrey defeating Goldwater and Miller
- 1968: Nixon and Agnew defeating Humphrey and Muskie
- 1972: Nixon and Agnew (then Rockefeller) defeating McGovern and Shriver
- 1976: Carter and Mondale defeating Ford and Dole
- 1980: Reagan and Geo. H. W. Bush defeating Carter and Mondale
- 1984: Reagan and the same Bush defeating Mondale and Ferraro
- 1988: Bush (41) and Quayle defeating Dukakis and Bentsen
- 1992: Clinton and Gore defeating Bush (41) and Quayle
- 1996: Clinton and Gore defeating Dole and Kemp
- 2000: Bush (43) and Cheney defeating Gore and Lieberman
- 2004: Bush (43) and Cheney defeating Kerry and Edwards
- 2008: Joe Biden's name on this list will be the first ever from Delaware