

Pendergast Machine

Lyle W. Dorsett

Pendergast Machine:

The Inside Story of the Pendergast Machine by the Man who Smashed it Maurice Morton Milligan, 1948 *Pendergast!* Lawrence H. Larsen, Nancy J. Hulston, 1997 More than a half century after the death of Kansas City's notorious political boss Thomas J Pendergast the Pendergast name still evokes great interest and even controversy Now in this first full scale biography of Pendergast Lawrence H Larsen and Nancy J Hulston have successfully provided through extensive research including use of recently released prison records and previously unavailable family records a clear look at the life of Thomas I Pendergast Born in St Joseph Missouri in 1872 Tom Pendergast moved to Kansas City around 1890 to work for his brother James founder of the Pendergast Goat faction in Kansas City Democratic politics In 1911 Pendergast became head of the Goats and over the next fifteen years he created a powerful political machine that used illegal voting and criminal enforcers to gain power Following a change in the city charter in 1925 Pendergast took control of Kansas City and ran it as his own personal business In the 1930s he received over 30 million annually from gambling prostitution and narcotics putting him in the big leagues of American civic corruption He also wielded great power in the National Democratic Party and started Harry S Truman on the road to the presidency In this well balanced biography the authors examine Pendergast's rise to power his successes as a political leader his compassion for the destitute and his reputation for keeping his word They also examine Pendergast's character development and how his methods became more and more ruthless Pendergast had no use for ideology in his invisible government only votes counted In 1937 and 1938 the federal government broke the back of Pendergast's machine convicting 259 of his campaign aides for vote fraud In 1939 Pendergast who was believed to be the largest bettor on horse racing in the United States was jailed for income tax evasion and he died in disgrace in 1945 An insightful and comprehensive biography Pendergast will surely serve for years to come as the most thorough investigation of the life and infamous career of Tom Pendergast **The Pendergast Machine** Lyle W. Dorsett, 1980 From the 1890 s to 1939 Jim Pendergast and his younger brother Tom built and ran the notorious political machine of Kansas City Amid struggle scandal and gangsterism the Pendergast Goat party manufactured judges police govenors and congressmen The machine s gearwork eventually produced a president of the United States Harry S Truman The construction engineering and collapse of the Pendergast machine have become a classic case of American urban bossism **History and Tradition of Jazz** Thomas E. Larson, Tom Larson, 2002 Roosevelt Sean J. Savage, 2014-10-17 FDR the wily political opportunist glowing with charismatic charm a leader venerated and hated with equal vigor such is one common notion of a president elected to an unprecedented four terms But in this first comprehensive study of Roosevelt's leadership of the Democratic party Sean Savage reveals a different man He contends that far from being a mere opportunist Roosevelt brought to the party a conscious agenda a longterm strategy of creating a liberal Democracy that would be an enduring majority force in American politics The roots of Roosevelt's plan for the party ran back to his experiences with New York politics in the 1920s It was

here Savage argues that Roosevelt first began to perceive that a pluralistic voting base and a liberal philosophy offered the best way for Democrats to contend with the established Republican organization With the collapse of the economy in 1929 and the discrediting of Republican fiscal policy Roosevelt was ready to carry his views to the national scene when elected president in 1932 Through his analysis of the New Deal Savage shows how Roosevelt made use of these programs to develop a policy agenda for the Democratic party to establish a liberal ideology and most important to create a coalition of interest groups and voting blocs that would continue to sustain the party long after his death A significant aspect of Roosevelt s leadership was his reform of the Democratic National Committee which was designed to make the party's organization more open and participatory in setting electoral platforms and in raising financial support Savage's exploration of Roosevelt's party leadership offers a new perspective on the New Deal era and on one of America's great presidents that will be valuable Pendergast's Retaliation Carolyn Clyde Dolan, Shirley Clyde for historians and political scientists alike McCullough.2011-05-23 Uncle Reid committed suicide Shirley read from an article found in Mother's genealogy records We looked at each other in amazement as I shouted Mother what happened to Uncle Reid A compelling true drama of political corruption voter fraud and murder focusing on the 1932 Pendergast era in Kansas City Missouri Uncle Reid was a courageous and political figure who dared to take on the Pendergast machine Did Uncle Reid commit suicide or was he another victim of the political machine Did he uncover ties to the mob and corruption Did he pose a threat to Tom Pendergast s political machine Who was the unknown woman in Uncle Reid's life that appeared shortly before his death and disappeared right after he died Was she a part of a plot against Uncle Reid We discovered at the Kansas City Missouri Police Department that suicide records are not kept and that the coroner in 1932 was a Pendergast elected official No police or coroners records and no living relatives made our quest for answers frustrating Watch for many twists and turns Truman and the Democratic Party Sean J. Savage, 2021-12-14 What best defines a Democrat in the American political arena idealistic reformer or pragmatic politician Harry Truman adopted both roles and in so doing defined the nature of his presidency Truman and the Democratic Party is the first book to deal exclusively with the president's relationship with the Democratic party and his status as party leader Sean J Savage addresses Truman s twin roles of party regular and liberal reformer examining the tension that arose from this duality and the consequences of that tension for Truman's political career Truman saw the Democratic party change during his lifetime from a rural dominated minority party often lacking a unifying agenda to an urban dominated majority party with strong liberal policy objectives A seasoned politician who valued party loyalty and recognized the value of political patronage Truman was also attracted to a liberal ideology that threatened party unity by alienating southern Democrats By the time he succeeded Franklin Roosevelt the diversity of opinions and demands among party members led Truman to alternate between two personas the reformer committed to liberal policy goal civil rights national health insurance federal aid to education and the party regular who sought greater harmony among fellow

Democrats Drawing on personal interview with former Truman administration members and party officials and on archival materials most notably papers of the Democratic National Committee at the Harry S Truman Library Savage has produced a fresh perspective that is both shrewd and insightful This book offers historians and political scientists a new way of looking at the Truman administration and its impact on key public policies **Another Such Victory** Arnold A. Offner, 2002 This book is a provocative and thoroughly documented reassessment of President Truman's profound influence on U.S. foreign policy and the Cold War The author contends that Truman remained a parochial nationalist who lacked the vision and leadership to move the United States away from conflict and toward detente Instead he promoted an ideology and politics of Cold War confrontation that set the pattern for successor administrations Red State Religion Robert Wuthnow, 2014-03-10 No state has voted Republican more consistently or widely or for longer than Kansas To understand red state politics Kansas is the place It is also the place to understand red state religion The Kansas Board of Education has repeatedly challenged the teaching of evolution Kansas voters overwhelmingly passed a constitutional ban on gay marriage the state is a hotbed of antiabortion protest and churches have been involved in all of these efforts Yet in 1867 suffragist Lucy Stone could plausibly proclaim that in the cause of universal suffrage Kansas leads the world How did Kansas go from being a progressive state to one of the most conservative Queering Kansas City Jazz Amber R. Clifford-Napoleone, 2018-11 The Jazz Age a phenomenon that shaped American leisure culture in the early twentieth century coincided with the growth of Kansas City Missouri from frontier town to metropolitan city Though Kansas City s music culture and stars are well covered Queering Kansas City Jazz supplements the grand narrative of jazz history by including queer identities in the city's history while framing the jazz scene experience in terms of identity and space Cabarets gender impressionism clubs and sites of sex tourism in Kansas City served as world making spaces for those whose performance of identity transgressed hegemonic notions of gender sexuality race and class Amber R Clifford Napoleone takes an interdisciplinary approach to provide a critical deconstruction of how the jazz scene offered a space for nonnormative gender practice and performance and acted as a site of contested identity and spatial territory Few books examine the changing ideas about gender in the turn of the century Great Plains under the false assumption that people in middle American places experienced cultural shifts only as an aftershock of events on the coasts This approach overlooks the region s contested territories identities and memories and fails to adequately explain the social and cultural disruptions experienced on the plains Clifford Napoleone rectifies this oversight and shows how Kansas City represents the complexity of the jazz scene in America as a microcosm of all the other people who made the culture clubs music and cabarets of the age possible

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