

birthplace was on English Street, on English Hill, in the very heart of that section in which the English pioneers first made their home in this community.

Asked as to what he considered his most outstanding achievements during his entire public career, he replied that there were two:

1. Promoting the movement for a municipal electric light plant until it became a reality. Also water and Hospital service.

2. Appointment of men to the Board of Public Utilities who were sufficiently qualified to make the water and light plants the marked success which they have been.

When he was first elected mayor he devoted a portion of his time to his private business, holding an interest in the Vart Land Publishing Company, publishing a weekly newspaper, and being engaged in the insurance business as well, later he relinquished these connections and devoted his entire time to the mayoralty office.

### Sums Up Work

Looking back over the years, his thoughts may be framed in these words: "I have often been misunderstood; I have doubtless often misjudged my critics, but that is a part of the political game and in many of my actions I have made mistakes, although on the whole I have been vindicated in my main efforts and, after all, that is the real test."

Mr. Carlson was first elected Alderman on the issue that he would champion a proposal to inaugurate municipal commercial lighting. He was re-elected in 1895, having been endorsed by Republican, Democratic and People's Party. A few months after his election he was appointed by Mayor Eleazer Green as commissioner of public works, serving in that capacity for 10 years. In 1908 he was elected mayor on the pledge promising expansion of the city electric plant, which had been operated on a small-scale basis up to that time by the Council. He served one four-year term and 11 two-year terms as mayor. He served two terms as president of the New York State Conference of Mayors and is now serving his fourth year as a member of the Board of Public Utilities.