

GERMANISM ISSUE AT READING POLLS

"American Party" Opposes Socialists on Clean-Cut Patriotic Program

LOCAL MATTERS IGNORED

By VAN VECHTEN HOSTETTER, READING, Pa., Oct. 31.

The issue of Americanism against pro-Germanism has been injected into Reading's municipal campaign, the last and decisive battle of which will be fought at the polls November 6.

Four Socialists are fighting two Democrats and two Republicans for places in City Council. The pro-Germans are declared to be behind the Socialists.

Municipal elections in Reading are supposed to be nonpartisan. Party designations do not appear on the municipal primary or election ballots, but the voters know the politics of all the candidates and they vote according to their political beliefs and sentiments.

So it is that while the issues might have been purely local, they are not. The Socialists made Americanism against pro-Germanism the issue by injecting the question of peace into the campaign. "A Vote for Socialism is a Vote for Peace and Real Democracy" is their slogan. So most of the voters in Reading who want peace at whatever cost will vote for the Socialists, despite the fact that the Reading City Council has no power to bring peace. And by the same token, all the pro-Germans in Reading will vote for the Socialists.

Some readers may say, "That's theorizing. I want to know the facts." Well, here is a fact: One of the leaders of the Socialist party in Reading told a representative of the EVENING LEDGER that hundreds of pro-Germans were going to vote for the four Socialist candidates and that hundreds of men employed by pro-Germans were going to do the same thing.

"We're going to vote for the Socialists," he said. "We might do it without them, but we're sure to do it with them."

The issues have been joined. The line is sharply drawn. The situation is not complicated as it is in New York city.

The candidates in Reading are:

SOCIALIST PARTY

HENRY STUMP, chairman, member of the Commonwealth Cooperative Association, an industrial and business enterprise, conducted along socialist lines, and president of the Federated Trades Council of Reading.

BIRCH WILSON, Jr., member of the Berks County Anti-Trust League, which after being told of the activities of the Socialists, was organized in Reading under the protection of Mayor William Hale Thompson, Socialists' associate editor of the Reading Advocate.

CHARLES F. SANDS, machinist. GEORGE W. SNYDER, piano tuner and president of the Musicians' Union of Reading.

FRANK RUTH, Republican City Councilman and Superintendent of the Department of Accounts and Finance, and head of the manufacturing company.

JOHN K. STAUFFER, Republican, newspaper correspondent.

PETER S. HOLL, Democrat, copier, who for years has been in politics, holding office most of the time.

JOHN H. MCCONNELL, Democrat, dealer in lime and other building materials.

The commission form of government was adopted by Reading four years ago. Under it a Mayor and four Commissioners or Councilmen are elected. This year the four Councilmanic posts are to be filled.

McConnell, Holl and Stauffer are elected at the first election under the new form. McConnell and Holl failed of re-election. In the recent primaries Ruth's three associates in Council were defeated, Ruth being re-nominated and Holl, McConnell, and the three Socialists being nominated.

At the election November 6 each voter will vote for four men. Socialists declare they will elect all their candidates and assert the pro-German support makes assurance doubly sure. John A. Merkel, treasurer and one of the managers of the American party campaign, is frank enough to admit that the American party ticket is in danger. Mr. Ruth will have a particularly hard fight, because he has taken an independent stand in many matters and many politicians are dissatisfied with him.

He and Stauffer are the men most likely to be beaten if the Socialists succeed.

At the very beginning of their campaign—before the primary—the Socialists declared for early peace without annexations and without punitive indemnities and throughout the campaign they have preached against war. The local issues have been almost forgot.

The answer to the Socialists was the organization of the American party. The Socialists seek to make much of the fact that the first organization meeting of the American party was held at "Waldheim," the summer home of the Harmony Manner-chor, one of the German singing societies of Reading. Their references to this fact gives the impression that the American party is not so American as it seems—but the impression is false. The singing society increases its income by renting "Waldheim" for all sorts of meetings, and any person who has the money may rent it, providing the purpose for which it is wanted is not illegal. The meeting that organized the American party was not under the auspices of the German society.

Men of German blood helped form the party, however. They are Reading men who are loyal to the United States.

The local issues are dissatisfied with the principal one raised by the Socialists is that of taxation. They propose an entire revision of the tax assessment scheme and declare their plan is borrowed from the Single Taxers.

The Socialists declare they would not bond the city for general improvements, but would pay for such improvements out of money raised by taxation, which they maintain would be sufficient if the assessments were "scientifically" made.

They also advocate union wages and conditions and the eight-hour day on all public work; more laws for protection of men, women and children in mercantile, domestic and industrial pursuits, municipal factory inspection, a free municipal employment bureau, the abolition of city contract work and the performance of the work by the city whenever possible, free legal advice for all citizens, municipal ownership of all public utilities and no use of the police to break strikes.

But the Socialist speeches are always about the war and the rich, and the Reading Labor Advocate, which is the Socialist organ, hammers away against war and against the rich. The Labor Advocate is owned by Charles A. Maier, brother of Representative James H. Maier, boss of the Socialist party of Reading.

The attitude of the Labor Advocate may be shown by reproducing a few headlines

of the sort that dominate the paper—all taken from one issue:

"Soldiers Attempt to Break Up Meeting of Cleveland Workers." "Federal are Busy at Hoboken." "Globe Strikers Ask Salary Cut." "Federal Soldiers' Bread is Cheaper When Sent to Europe." "Terrorism That Does Not Terrorize." "Quaker City's Labor Demands Free Speech." "Daily Business Men Be Hinted at Being 'Held on Home Wagon, Says Scott.' " "Bible Gunmen Visit Morrison to 'Explain.'" "Springfield Strike Gains More Recruits."

In the same issue of the paper is a leading editorial defending the I. W. W. and assailing the War Department for its stern dealing with such organizations.

This is the American party's appeal for votes against Germany:

Dear Sir—Are you for America, first, last and all the time?

Are you for your country and her flag? Are you for the principles of true Americanism, established by Washington, sustained by Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, and reasserted today by Wilson?

If you are, Tuesday, November 6, election day, is the time to show it.

Sustain the honor and loyal reputation of old Reading, which has never been questioned since the foundation of the Republic.

That reputation is threatened and challenged by a party which has opposed every patriotic effort and movement; which has sneered at and derided loyal demonstration; which has done all that it could to numb and paralyze the nation's arm and has been zealous and untiring in seconding the wishes of the country's enemies.

Under such circumstances you should place none but true, loyal and patriotic Americans on guard, and give no powers, authority or confidence to those who openly advocate increase of water rates and taxes.

The Americanism of Reading is on trial. Her reputation for loyalty is challenged.

Stand up for American and straight Republicanism at the coming election, and at the same time insure the highest competency in the municipal government by voting for the four patriotic and efficient candidates of the American party, John K. Stauffer, Frank Ruth, Jacob H. McConnell and Peter S. Holl.

Take the inclosed card with you to the polls and mark as indicated. Yours in patriotism and efficiency.

Walter R. Freese, printer, is one of the leaders of the American party's fight. He is a former Socialist and a former member of City Council, having been elected as a Socialist and having served when the city had the bicameral system.

Freese and the American party charge that the Socialist candidates, if elected, will not be governed in their actions by the desires of the whole people, but by the commands of the advisory board of the Reading Socialist local. The Socialists have not squarely met this charge. Freese declares he knows it is true and everybody knows what his experience was when he was a Socialist and a Councilman.

Freese, when he became a candidate, willingly promised to be governed by the Socialist principles when they were concerned. He wrote a resignation from Council, authorizing the local to file it if he proved untrue to the Socialist principles. After his election to the advisory board, dominated ever since by James H. Maurer, was formed and called upon him as a Socialist Councilman to follow the dictates of the advisory board. This he refused to do, and the Socialist local filed his resignation, but Freese got hold of it in City Hall and destroyed it. The filing of the resignation was the direct result of Freese telling the board that if principles of socialism and union labor should ever conflict he would stand for union labor.

The population of Reading is estimated at about 110,000. The registered voters number about 17,000, but only between 12,000 and 13,000 voted at the primary.

The Socialist local has a membership of 700, but 1200 men are registered as Socialists and J. Henry Stump, one of the candidates, says many hundreds of Democrats and Republicans in the factories and mills have socialist sympathies and many others are Socialists, but will not call themselves so for fear of losing their jobs.

COAL HAS FIRST CALL IN WAR VICTORY PLANS

Garfield Acts to Supply Fuel to Households and Martial Plants

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—So-called "luxury industries" are being cut off from their coal supply by Fuel Administrator Garfield.

A silk manufacturer is the first to feel the rule that industries not essential to victory in the war shall receive no relief from coal shortage, even though the factories be forced to close.

This fact was officially announced and it was further stated that all "luxury" plants which cannot obtain coal on the open market shall receive no Government help.

It also shows, officials declared, the futility of electric sign owners seeking to modify the forthcoming order curtailing electric sign lighting.

Garfield's plan is to give coal priority to railroads, army and navy, public utilities, munition works and plants essential to victory in the war. A sufficient supply of fuel will be distributed to private homes.

I. W. W. Leaders Must Stand Trial

NEW YORK, Oct. 31.—Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Carlo Tresca, Arturo Giovannetti and John Baldacci probably will start a return journey to Chicago today, to face an indictment jointly with William Haywood and other I. W. W. leaders. United States Commissioner Hitchcock decided they must return and stand trial on charges of trying to paralyze the nation's industries.

Brakeman Decapitated by Train

While attempting to extinguish a hot journal on a freight car while it was in motion, James Ramsey, forty-five years old, of Mullins Hill, N. J., a freight brakeman on the Atlantic City Railroad, was killed last night at Third and Jefferson streets, Camden, when his head, striking a safety gate, was cut off.



LIEUTENANT WILLIAM THAW

The Pittsburgh aviator, now serving in France, is reported to be selected for the captaincy of the Lafayette Escadrille, the American section of France's flying corps.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER DEMAND MORE WAGES

Insistently Voicing Need of Increased Salaries—Committee Named to Handle Matter

The public school teachers in this city are becoming more insistent in their demand for an increase in salary and "are coming out into the open," despite the absence of encouragement from the Board of Education, Harry S. Levi, editor of the October issue appeared today, and voices in no uncertain manner the feelings of the teacher on the salary question. This is the one topic of interest to all teachers and the whole issue is given over to it.

One article, by Goodman A. Rose, of the Bridesburg public school, says:

"The Board of Education is confronted with an advanced standard in its purchasing market. Materials and labor have gone up in price. Instead of readjusting its finances to meet the changed market conditions the board consents to the payment of higher prices for materials, but cuts the purchasing power of its employees in half. Were the teachers not restrained by professional ethics the means employed by employers regularly in such cases would have righted the wrong. But, situated as they are, the teachers cheerfully assume the new tasks which the times impose upon them, and trust that an awakened public appreciation will put them into their rights."

LAUDER'S ART FUSES GAYETY WITH TEARS

Comedian on Farewell Visit Sparkles With Fun—Then Pleads for Allies

Tears ever lie close to the finest quality of humor, and great funmakers have often been intensely, often tragically, serious of soul. Sometimes the mask of Punchinello wears very thin. It did with Mark Twain, especially in his later years that produced "What is Man?" and "The Mysterious Stranger." It was removed altogether by Harry Lauder at the Academy of Music yesterday afternoon, when the most popular vaudeville artist in the world touchingly recalled his recent visits to the western front and pleaded potently for financial support of his fund for Scottish soldiers maimed in defense of civilization.

The change from the droll, magnetic and in his line inimitable entertainer to the fervent patriot of the land of Scott, Burns, Stevenson and Barrie, was less startling than the shallow minded might have expected. Mr. Lauder had been deliciously amusing for more than an hour. His ten minutes of seriousness seemed merely the result of natural development. It is incontestable, therefore, that true comedy in the tenderest and most poignant of the arts, Moliere and Cervantes demonstrated this in immortal accents. It's a long, long jump to the hem of the comic artist's exultant robe. "I Love a Lassie" and "The Safest of the Family" as he interprets them have produced laughter, aroused merriment—and a lump in the throat.

Mr. Lauder sings gay, simple ditties with such imaginative intensity that a subtle "secondary intention" of tenderness must be evident to any acute and sensitive auditor. Comedy without music contributes little worthy of its glorious ancestry. It becomes mere buffoonery. And Harry Lauder, he it said, for all his hilarious antics, is never a clown. That's why he's so irresistible, so unrivaled in his sphere, to which Yvette Guilbert, Albert Chevalier and very few other stage artists triumphantly belong.

All of his songs yesterday were new with the exception of the unaccompanied, slightly over-sentimental piece, "A Wee Wee." His character portrait of the middle-aged, garded woman in "Love to Be a Soldier" is as finely etched as any masterpiece in his repertory. His other offerings included the sunny and infectious "I'm Going to Marry 'Arry on the Fifth of January," "The Waggle of the Kilt," which in comic atmosphere recalls "She's My Daisy"; "We a Go Home the Same Way" and "The Lady That Fought and Won." A vaudeville bill preceded his contributions.

The current series of appearances are Harry Lauder's last in Philadelphia. The Comedienne with George Meade in tow, followed her; must smile and weep at the farewell. H. T. C.

U. S. POSITIONS OPEN

Government Needs Men and Women in Various Branches of Work

A number of vacancies for both men and women have recently occurred in various branches of the Government's work, according to reports made public today by the Civil Service Commission.

Following is a list of the positions open, the date of examination and salary:

December 4— stenographic clerk, Department of Science, \$1000 to \$2000 a year.

December—calculating machine operator (male and female), Treasury Department, \$900 to \$1300 a year; assistant herdman (male), Department of Agriculture, \$720 to \$1200 a year; mechanical laboratorian, Naval Academy, \$424 per day.

December 6—Manual training teacher (male), Indian service, \$720 to \$1800 a year; domestic science teacher (female), Indian service, \$600 to \$720 a year.

CITY'S AUTO MAKERS TO HELP U. S. IN WAR

Stand Ready to Co-operate in Every Way—Meeting in Washington Friday Important

Following the receipt of a news dispatch from Washington to the effect that a meeting is to be held in the national capital on Friday for the purpose of reorganizing the automobile industry of the United States with a view to diverting not more than 40 per cent of the productive capacity of all automobile factories to Government use for war work, local manufacturers today were unanimous in voicing the patriotic intention of co-operating in every way possible in any plan that might be evolved as a result of that meeting.

Virtually all the Philadelphia factories have representatives now in Washington, and they are being kept in close touch with all war developments that may affect the automobile industry in any way. It is, therefore, assured that each of these companies will be represented at any meeting that may be held on the subject at any time.

"The automobile history of the entire country is already on record in this matter," declared William B. Head, secretary and treasurer of the Edward G. Budd Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of steel automobile bodies.

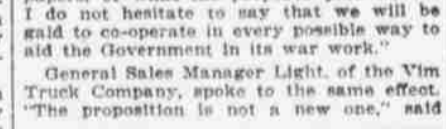
"We have told the Government to consider our plants at its disposal for any war work that might be necessary. I have not received official notice of the meeting to be held in Washington Friday, and I am not definitely advised, except through the newspapers, of what the proposed plan is, but I do not hesitate to say that we will be glad to co-operate in every possible way to aid the Government in its war work."

General Sales Manager Light of the Vim Truck Company, spoke to the same effect. "The proposition is not a new one," said

THE LOUIS MARK SHOES OF QUALITY

Real Russia Calf-skin, or genuine Gun Metal Calf. Both have swagger wing tip—both are \$8 value. Our price is \$5—judged either from the standpoint of style or wear there's nothing in town to touch them, even if you paid \$8.

1336 South Penn Square On City Hall, Near Veterans' Bldg., Southeast Corner 8th and Race 1st N. Philadelphia Branch



A Menace

City pavements blamed for many ailments

Within the experience of us all, the sidewalk has changed from a soft to a hard one. Hard pavements have greatly improved our traffic conditions, but they have proved a serious menace to health and efficiency.

The records of the Hospital for the Crippled in New York show that in the year 1890, just before the advent of stony streets, Arch Trouble claimed 2.6 per cent of the new patients treated. In 1906, the percentage had risen to 18.3, and in 1914 to over 30 per cent.

Save your health

You cannot have the streets unpaved, the sidewalks turned to turf—but you can protect yourself from the pounding jars that shatter nerves and break down health.

O'Sullivan's Heels act as easy, springy cushions between your heels and hardwood floors and pavements. O'Sullivanize your step. Put the spring of these little shock-absorbers under your feet, and walk with the vigorous stride that goes with real success.

When you buy your new shoes, buy them O'Sullivanized. Good shoe dealers now sell latest style shoes with O'Sullivan's Heels already attached.

In black, white or tan; for men, women and children. Insist on O'Sullivan's—avoid the disappointment of substitutes.

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Mr. Light, "and the attitude of the automobile industry all over the country is well known. We are not only willing but anxious to help in every way we can to win the war and we are willing to leave it to the judgment of the authorities in Washington as to what is necessary. We have no fear of unfair treatment."

Officials of the Automobile Company do not think it proper to give out any statement in advance of action taken in Washington but stated that the policy of the company had always been and always would be to lend all the aid in its power to the Government in war work.

Advertisement for Hotel Colonnade. Includes text: "Five Minutes From Anywhere", "Registers a Triumphal Re-Entry Into the Affections of Philadelphia's Diners-Out", "Tonight—Hallowe'en", "will find every square foot of dancing space filled with devotees of Terpsichore and every table a picture of life and animation in all three dining rooms—". Lists rooms: THE CRYSTAL ROOM, THE BENCH ROOM, THE TAP ROOM. Reservation clerk, Spruce 5800.

Advertisement for Cafe La Riviere. Includes text: "ON THE RIVER DRIVE", "Halloween Festivities TONIGHT", "Two Orchestras and Two Dance Floors", "Including the famous Palm Beach Society Colored Orchestra", "Best Dance Music in Philadelphia", "Special Table d'Hotel Dinner Served from 5 to 9 P. M.", "Telephone Reservations: Manayunk 280, 633".

Advertisement for Partnership. Includes text: "The making of even the most ordinary telephone call involves a partnership of at least three persons.", "The effectiveness of the service depends on the degree of team-play existing between these three partners—the person calling, who co-operates by consulting the directory and calling by number always; the operator, by making the connection quickly, courteously and with the maximum degree of human accuracy; and the person called, by answering promptly.", "Greatest satisfaction of service is attained when the second partner, the operator, is accorded the same consideration and courtesy which she is always anxious to show the other two members of the partnership.", "The Bell Telephone Company of Penna."

Advertisement for Samuel Earley Motor Co. Includes text: "A MAN'S judged by his appearance—a firm by their stationery. Beck's Stability Bond implies integrity and character.", "Charles Beck Co. Papers for All Kinds of Good Printing", "609 Chestnut Street Philadelphia", "BECK".

Advertisement for Mercer. Includes text: "People who appreciate the plain severity of refinement, or recognize the thoroughbred in the horse when they see it, can easily discern in the Mercer a clear distinction from all other cars.", "A limited number for immediate delivery", "SAMUEL EARLEY MOTOR CO., 669 N. Broad St., Philadelphia", "Manufactured by MERCER AUTOMOBILE CO., Trenton, N. J.", "Copyright, 1917, by O.S.S. Co.".