

METAPHOR AND SMOKE MIX AT CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

Well-Dressed Women and Broad A's at Pinchot Stronghold Contrast With Strong Talk and Breaths at Vane Sanctuary as Returns Come In

Oratory, cigar stubs, red flares, red liquor and cupidons, on one hand; conversation, cigarettes, orange punch, expensive perfume and broad A's on the other, represent, in brief, the extremes of atmosphere permeating the various campaign headquarters last night while the returns from the State-wide primary election were coming in.

Reversing the order of things, and beginning, as all proper stories should, amid cultured surroundings, the curtains on the Republican Women's Club of Pennsylvania, at 210 South Seventeenth street, where high hopes are entertained for the nomination of Pinchot and Pepper.

The telephone is busy here relating to the waiting groups of well-dressed women such returns as have come in. Inasmuch as the early returns are almost always freighted with heavy Alter majorities, the general state of mind is anything but optimistic. However, there is much conversation throughout the rooms, and a sizeable gathering about the orange punch.

Mrs. George Wharton Pepper is on hand as is Mrs. J. Willis Martin, Mrs. Barclay H. Warburton, Mrs. George Dunning and others. Major Warburton drops in, and then drops out again.

Then the Scene Shifts

For purposes of dramatic contrast the scene is now shifted to Eleventh and Chestnut streets, where the Vane cohorts are assembled in the edifice marked Republican Campaign Headquarters.

Mounting the slippery brass-bound stairs, we come upon a scene which seems composed at first of a solid wall of backs, surmounted by three layers of blue cigar smoke. Penetrating this curtain with a few deft strokes of the elbow, we find that some one is delivering an address at the other end of the long red room. It is Freeland Kendrick.

Mr. Kendrick is speaking of some statesman, to whom he ascribes most of those qualities prominent in the respective characters of Washington, Lincoln and William Howard Taft. At the end of his remarks he explains that he is alluding to George E. Alter, who, he believes, is the most worthy candidate that ever figured in a primary election.

Senator Vane himself reclines against the wall in a distant corner, with his hands in his pockets, and an expression of intense displeasure on his face. It is evident that his thoughts are elsewhere, and meanwhile his devoted lieutenant leaves him in august seclusion.

Bang!

Mr. Vane, the orator and the audience start as a bomb is set off on the roof. Greatly to the detriment of Mr. Kendrick's train of thought, a small parade appears in the street below.

having occasioned the detonation above mentioned as its means of welcome.

On the floor above the real business of the evening is being conducted. Making our way thither past an argument on the stairs as to whether or not "those farmers can beat the majority," the majority we got here in "Pittsburgh," we find a room of a strictly commercial aspect, in which telephone bells are ringing and some twenty of the free-born American citizenry cluster about to hear the latest returns.

But Here It's Business

There is a clean, cool-looking girl at a typewriter, like a Dryad in a stoke-hold, and in the inner sanctum, dimly outlined through the coiling cigar smoke is the familiar figure of Councilman Charlie Hall, intent over a huge sheet of vital statistics.

The scenes in the Pinchot headquarters may be reduced in exposition to two words: Watchful waiting. Being in point of fact an audacious outpost in the enemy's country, no rallying of the faithful may be expected.

There is little to do but take the returns as they come in, and to answer the numerous calls of those interested in the outcome. Once there is a slight break in the uneventful course of the evening by the visit of an indignant youth, who demands, upon pain of instant personal destruction, the surrender of certain moneys alleged to have been promised him by a Pinchot campaigner for services rendered.

It was a night of strain for Mr. and Mrs. Pinchot. The candidate had gone to his home in Pike County to vote, and then had intended motoring with Mrs. Pinchot to this city. The plan was abandoned later, and they came by train, arriving at headquarters on the ninth floor of the Real Estate Trust Building about 10:45 P. M.

No one was at the railroad station to greet them when they arrived, that detail having been overlooked in the general excitement. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pinchot showed the effect of the strain, which seemed to tell more heavily on the wife of the candidate.

Finally, as the fortunes of the candidates swung, the Pinchots left the clamor and excitement of headquarters and went to their suite in the Bellevue-Stratford. There they sat until 4:30 o'clock this morning, at which time they retired, feeling confident at last that victory had perched upon their banners.

As to the Republican State headquarters, an Alter stronghold at 508 South Broad street, it is peace itself. Here, too, the motto is watchful waiting.

RADIO FACTS BY AN EXPERT

The articles in the morning Public Ledger by Stuart Ballantine, the authoritative Baltimore radio expert side of the United States Navy. His articles are written for the layman, understandable, explanatory. Read them in the morning Public Ledger every day. "Make it a Habit."

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