

SOUTHBURY ZONES, BARRING NAZI CAMP

Town Meeting, 142-91, Votes
'Farming and Residence' Ban
on the Bund's Project

AND PROHIBITS DRILLING

Long, Sharp Debate, Circling
the Real Issue, Ranges Over
Democracy and Cemeteries

By MILTON BRACKER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SOUTHBURY, Conn., Dec. 14.—
Descendants of men who fought
under Washington and of women
who gathered at near-by Bullet
Hill to cast slugs for their husbands'
muskets decided in the white-walled
Community House today that they
would not brook a Nazi camp in
their backyard.

Over the vociferous warning of
one objector that they were threat-
ening their right to bury their dead
by adopting a zoning code aimed
at the German-American Bund, citi-
zens of the town approved the
code by 142 to 91 at a meeting
which lasted from 2 o'clock until a
frosty night enveloped the building.

There was no specific mention of
the Bund all through the proceed-
ings, and only one near-mention.

That was when Gregory Cassidy,
town Democratic chairman, scoffed
at the zoning proposal with a re-
minder that there was a "national
government to take care of all in-
vasions" and the mocking jibe
that "if you don't zone, the Ger-
mans'll get you."

In a room crowded with farmers
and other country folk, many with
white hair and in work clothes, it
became apparent from the start
that there was great feeling against
the outsiders who planned to de-
corate with swastikas the 178-acre
plot in the Kettletown area, whose
acquisition exactly a month ago
started the furore.

Conservatism Affects Vote

Before the meeting, a leading
sponsor of the code, which was ap-
proved four days ago by the Town
Zoning Commission, admitted fear
that farmers thinking about "add-
ing a chicken-coop here and there"
would jeopardize passage of the
measure.

It was evident during the session,
over which presided a clergyman
with a passion for fairness tinged
with humor, that such fear was well-
grounded. The decision was by a
considerably smaller majority than
that which on Nov. 23 decided to
establish the Zoning Commission.
Then the count was 122 to 41.

Not a seat was vacant when the
Rev. M. E. Lindsay, pastor of South
Britain Congregational Church, was
chosen to the chair, following open-
ing of the meeting by First Select-
man J. Edward Coer.

Promptly, Albert Aston, chair-
man of the zoning body, moved
adoption of the code, which he read
in full. His voice did not change
a trifle when he came to the sec-
tion restricting as "farming and
residence district," the area which
includes the proposed camp site, or
to that prohibiting within the town
limits "military training or drilling
with or without arms," except by
legally constituted armed forces.

The sections were the ones di-
rected at the Bund, which paid
\$4,000 for the land and had en-
gaged in clearing it until two Sun-
days ago, when an old Blue Law
was invoked to arrest two of the
brush-cleaners.

Russell Hickock, a utility em-
ploye, was first to question the
code. He thought the power of
amendment was too far removed
from the people.

There were several verbal skir-
mishes, and Mr. Aston warned that
the point raised might "upset the
whole works." After some page-
turning in law books, and while



SOUTHBURY CITIZENS VOTING IN ANTI-NAZI ELECTION YESTERDAY
Men and women of the Connecticut village balloting at the Community House

pointing out that the Zoning Com-
mission could be abolished by a
town meeting and that it occupied
a position analogous to the Finance

Committee, which every one seemed
to respect.

"Let's give the Zoning Commis-
sion the same chance," Miss Hub-

bell said. "We can do away with
it at any time."

Mr. Aston conceded that "rugged
individualism and Yankee independ-

cor

proved four days ago by the Town Zoning Commission, admitted fear that farmers, thinking about "adding a chicken-cop here and there" would jeopardize passage of the measure.

It was evident during the session, over which presided a clergyman with a passion for fairness tinged with humor, that such fear was well-grounded. The decision was by a considerably smaller majority than that which on Nov. 23 decided to establish the Zoning Commission. Then the count was 122 to 41.

Not a seat was vacant when the Rev. M. E. Lindsay, pastor of South Britain Congregational Church, was chosen to the chair, following opening of the meeting by First Selectman J. Edward Coer.

Promptly, Albert Aston, chairman of the zoning body, moved adoption of the code, which he read in full. His voice did not change a trifle when he came to the section restricting as "farming and residence district," the area which includes the proposed camp site, or to that prohibiting within the town limits "military training or drilling with or without arms," except by legally constituted armed forces.

The sections were the ones directed at the Bund, which paid \$4,000 for the land and had engaged in clearing it until two Sundays ago, when an old Blue Law was invoked to arrest two of the brush-cleaners.

Russell Hickock, a utility employe, was first to question the code. He thought the power of amendment was too far removed from the people.

There were several verbal skirmishes, and Mr. Aston warned that the point raised might "upset the whole works." After some page-turning in law books, and while Mr. Hickock's objection was left pending, the chair recognized A. Ewing Barclay, who said he was a carpenter who had been an electrical engineer.

Mr. Barclay, a tall man, attacked one line of the preamble of the code as flatly false—"they must've just reached up into thin air for it"—and said that was only one of several reasons why he was against it.

"In the first place," he argued, "it's contrary to the spirit of Americanism. If you want to build a building, will you have to go to Mr. Coer and pay a fee and say, 'Please can I build a building?'"

From the side aisle the right arm of the sturdy First Selectman shot up.

"I want you to stick to the truth," he demanded. "There's nothing about a fee in there. Stick to the truth! Stick to the truth or we'll put you out of here!"

Mr. Lindsay mildly but effectively checked a demonstration. Mr. Barclay walked around.

"I'm very glad that point was raised," he continued. "I was simply anticipating a bit there. We don't know about a fee yet."

He added that the code was "not democratic." It would empower the commission to "dig into your personal business like a Senatorial investigation."

Burying Grounds Illegal?

Then he raised the meeting to its most effervescent moment when he drew from the list of "farming and residence district uses" in the code the conclusion that burial of the dead was illegal.

"We've got one cemetery in town," said Mr. Barclay. "At least, I only know of one. And a cemetery in a farming and residential district is a non-conforming use."

His voice went even higher. "Well, we can let those who are there stay; but we can't bury any one else. Don't any of you die, for heaven's sake."

Basil Bass, lawyer, and one of the original backers of the code, protested. Mr. Lindsay strove to maintain order; threatened to clear the room. The chairman said he was giving Mr. Barclay leeway because he seemed to be covering the "entire field" of objection, which might simplify matters.

Robert C. Mitchell, town finance chairman, whose forebear, Matthew Mitchell, landed at Boston on Aug. 17, 1635, was on his feet.

"If he didn't know there wasn't but one cemetery in town, was he qualified to voice an objection?" said Mr. Mitchell, glaring at Mr. Barclay.

Mr. Coer and Bernice I. Hubbell, assistant town clerk, rebutted,

SOUTHBURY ZONES, BARRING NAZI CAMP

Town Meeting, 142-91, Votes
'Farming and Residence' Ban
on the Bund's Project

AND PROHIBITS DRILLING

Long, Sharp Debate, Circling
the Real Issue, Ranges Over
Democracy and Cemeteries

By MILTON BRACKER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

SOUTHBURY, Conn., Dec. 14.—

Descendants of men who fought under Washington and of women who gathered at near-by Bullet Hill to cast slugs for their husbands' muskets decided in the white-walled Community House today that they would not brook a Nazi camp in their backyard.

Over the vociferous warning of one objector that they were threatening their right to bury their dead by adopting a zoning code aimed at the German-American Bund, citizens of the town approved the code by 142 to 91 at a meeting which lasted from 2 o'clock until a frosty night enveloped the building.

There was no specific mention of the Bund all through the proceedings, and only one near-mention.

That was when Gregory Cassidy, town Democratic chairman, scoffed at the zoning proposal with a reminder that there was a "national government to take care of all invasions" and the mocking jibe that "if you don't zone, the Germans'll get you."

In a room crowded with farmers and other country folk, many with white hair and in work clothes, it became apparent from the start that there was great feeling against the outsiders who planned to decorate with swastikas the 178-acre plot in the Kettletown area, whose acquisition exactly a month ago



SOUTHBURY CITIZENS VOTING IN ANTI-NAZI ELECTION YESTERDAY
Men and women of the Connecticut village balloting at the Community House

Times Wide World

pointing out that the Zoning Commission could be abolished by a town meeting and that it occupied a position analogous to the Finance

Committee, which every one seemed to respect.

"Let's give the Zoning Commission the same chance," Miss Hub-

bell said. "We can do away with it at any time."

Mr. Aston conceded that "rugged individualism and Yankee independ-

ence" were qualities no one wanted to tarnish. But "proper zoning," he insisted, wasn't a threat.

A vote by ballot was demanded by Isaac Platt and was granted. In alphabetical order, the citizens of Southbury filed to the tellers with their slips.

Just past 5:30 o'clock Mr. Lindsay announced:

"Number of votes, 235; for, 142; against, 91; blank, 2."

Mr. Barclay said he didn't intend to press his objection for the present, at least. He reiterated he had acted as an individual, and added, "I don't give a hoot one way or the other" as to whether the camp ban would deprive him of carpentry work ordered by the Bund.

Zoning Board Holds Hearing

Form required that the Zoning Commission convene immediately for a public hearing on the code. It did so, with about fifteen townspeople present.

Mr. Hickock, stressing his original dissatisfaction with the means for amending the code, announced that he was in accord with the Town Meeting's decision. Mr. Aston assured him his suggestion for a new mode of amendment would be considered, and Mr. Bass complimented the commission in general.

Under the code, continuance of the camp project would subject the Nazi sympathizers to a daily fine of \$10 to \$100 if they were unwarned; to a fine of \$100 to \$250 daily or jail sentences of ten days for each violation, or both, after notification of the breach.

It was held likely the German-American Bund members would not attempt to return to the site of the projected Camp General von Steuben, at least until after Dec. 27, when the cases of the two men arrested for working on Sunday come up.