

Defeatists Back Pa. Republicans

GOP Leaders Silent on Bund Ties

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 25.—“Durch Kampf zum Sieg!” was the slogan in big letters on a banquet program put out by the Nazi German-American Bund in Philadelphia.

“Through Struggle to Victory!” and the local Nazis weren't talking about victory for the democratic nations or victory in the abstract.

This banquet was held on Feb. 17, 1938. And the Nazi program of world conquest had already become abundantly clear in Spain, in Austria, in Czechoslovakia.

One of the “Honorary Guests” listed at this banquet was Edwin A. Lee, Republican member from Philadelphia's 22nd ward of the state House of Representatives at Harrisburg.

Another guest was Fred C. Gartner, who was then the Congressman from the fifth district in Philadelphia but who has since fortunately been retired from the House.

Lee, however, is running again for another term in the state legislature.

GOP SILENT

And there hasn't been a word of disapproval of his candidacy from either ex-general Edward Martin, the Republican candidate for Governor, or from Rep. Hugh Scott, the Republican incumbent from this district who is running for re-election.

The fact is that the poison of defeatist and fascist connections has eaten deep into the Republican party of Pennsylvania, and marks some of the top candidates on the state ticket.

There is a reason for the reports which are coming in from all over Philadelphia of the sudden emergence from their holes of known Coughlinites and pro-Nazis who have been becoming active on behalf of Republican candidates.

John Cromwell Bell Jr., the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, was president of the Crusaders of Pennsylvania. The Crusaders nationally were investigated by former Senator, now Justice Hugh Black, in connection with the phony telegram campaign against the utility holding company bill.

FASCIST PATTERN

The Crusaders had denite semi-fascist leanings, and nowhere were they so clearly expressed as in Bell's speeches which were largely devoted to hysterical warnings against the menace of Communism.

Communism to Bell meant the New Deal which he said repeatedly was “based on the principles of Marxian Socialism.” He even drew

up an elaborate chart to show that this was so.

An undertone of anti-Semitism also crept into Bell's speeches. When President Roosevelt attacked the “economic royalists” in 1936, Bell asked:

“Whom does he mean? The international banker who is Governor of New York?”

The ugly, anti-Semitic sneer at Governor Lehman seemed unmistakable.

'CRUSADER' FUNDS

Many big industrialists contributed generously to the Crusaders, among them the Pews who are the financial backbone of the Pew-Grundy machine which controls the Republican Party of Pennsylvania.

In 1939 the Republicans in the state legislature did an important job for the pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic forces of Pennsylvania.

At that time the Christian Front, the Bund and Nazi agitators like “Two Gun Bessie” Burchett, the Nazi high school teacher, were riding high, inciting to race hatred and violence on the streets of Philadelphia.

A Philadelphia legislator, put in a tolerance bill which would have made it a criminal offense to arouse prejudice or violence against any group because of race, color or creed.

The Republicans in the state legislature killed the bill.

GOV. JAMES FAILS

Governor Arthur James, the Republican governor of Pennsylvania who is now winding up his four-year term, has failed signally to support important phases of the war effort.

James was asked by the Treasury Department and by the State, County and Municipal Workers to institute the ten per cent plan in the sale of government war bonds for state employees. He refused flatly.

The governor was also asked by the CIO union of state government workers to permit the sale of war stamps and bonds in the 580 liquor stores which are owned by the state. Again James refused. He would not even permit display of posters urging sale of bonds in the store windows.

Other instances of non-cooperation with the war program by James could be cited. He refused to nominate five men for candidates to

direct the state's rationing program for the Office of Price Administration. And he refused to equip and operate the Butler Sanatorium which is needed by the Army. Finally the Army had to lease the sanatorium.

While ex-general Edward Martin, the Republican candidate for

governor, claimed during the primary campaign to be an all-out supporter of the war, a definite defeatist tone has crept into his recent speeches.

Martin declared in one speech that “the American flag has been driven from the Atlantic, the Caribbean and the Pacific.”

Add to all this the 100 per cent opposition record to the administration's anti-Hitler program of the Republican Congressmen from Pennsylvania and it becomes clear why the Republican candidates have the support of the defeatist forces in Pennsylvania and why they must be beaten at the polls on Nov. 3.