

Independent-Progressive movement headed on the road to the White House and Capitol Hill at Washington, D. C.

Let us quote the following from a recent article by the well-known writer Samuel G. Blythe in a contribution to the Saturday Evening Post in which he discusses LaFollette, his platform and this third party movement:

His platform is no amateurish jumbling of fly-by-night reforms and ultraradicalisms. It is an exposition of the bed-rock essentials of his programme, to be followed, no doubt, by endeavors to secure the ultraradicalisms in case he is successful at the polls. Senator LaFollette is variously held to be a radical, a progressive, an idealist and a socialist. Whatever he may be, there can be no dispute that he is a politician. At that, any radical except the extreme communist can come in under his tent and find a seat that will warm him. And no pseudo progressive need stay outside for fear the seat he will find will burn him. Indeed, for LaFollette's purposes it is a model platform. It is concise, it stresses essentials. It dodges expertly. It need not disgust a red nor frighten a pink, but it should cause every citizen who has a stake in the United States to think twice before voting for its author. It is not necessary to quote the platform entire, nor to summarize it by planks, because various sections of it are so palpably political and demagogic. For example, the opening implication that our government fosters monopoly, with no proof to support the statement, and the demand for free speech, free press and free assemblage when the harking back to 1917 will recall to all that our leniency in the matter of free speech, say, was most conspicuously illustrated in the case of Mr. LaFollette himself.

If it were true that the foreign born citizens, and even the German born, were all for LaFollette in this campaign, the predictions of Mr. Viereck would have had a margin for consideration, but the facts are to the contrary.

Of the German born Americans the great majority of the best elements are true-blue Americans who long since crossed the borderline from the foreign colony into that sphere where every man speaks, thinks and acts as an American. These citizens repudiate Mr. Viereck and his leadership. They protest against his continued efforts to create strife and add insult to injury, rendering it difficult to heal the wounds of the war that ended six years ago.

Ask some of the prominent citizens of German birth in Portland how they stand in this election and see if they reflect the opinion of Mr. Viereck, Mr. Ernest Kroner, the Oregon State campaign manager for LaFollette, Mr. A. E. Kern, publisher of the local German newspaper, the "Nachrichten" and other celebrities of the German leaders here and in other parts of the country.

Let us refer those who are in doubt to one of Portland's most respected citizens of German birth, Mr. John P. Miller, of the East Side Lumber Mill, a pioneer sawmill man on the Willamette river. No one can truthfully accuse Mr. Miller for having a biased partisan opinion. He believes, with the majority of good Americans, that an administration that has created the confidence that is necessary for the general prosperity enjoyed at the present time throughout the country, should be retained.

And there are American citizens of German birth among the trades and working people, fundamentally sound, who share the views of Mr. Miller.

The standard bearer of the Democratic party, John W. Davis, is the type of an American whom citizens of democratic party affiliation can be proud to support. His doctrines are sound. They are in all fundamental respects distinctly American.

The standard bearer of the Republican party is President Calvin Coolidge. His election on November fourth seems now to hold no doubt. The life of our President is an open book. His administrative acts since he assumed the presidency, after Harding's death, are a guaranty for a successful administration of our government for the next four years.

The new citizen should weigh carefully the practical side of the election question. He should discard all the political rubbish he has heard and read before he goes to the polls on election day.

America's prosperity and safety for the next four years are his concern and of utmost importance, for in this thought is wrapped up all the Happiness, Good Will and Fellowship that makes life worth living.

Idleness, turmoil and strife always disrupt our relations in industry and commerce and results usually become disastrous to millions of innocent Americans.

America, Safe, Sane, Secure and Prosperous, with one hundred and ten millions of happy contented people, is all that matters with the individual citizen.

Let us keep President Coolidge for four years more and help to steer America on a safe course which will mean the realization of our fondest hopes — Prosperity and Happiness to all our People!

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