

# ROOSEVELT ROUSES REPUBLICAN CLUB

## Dinner to Will H. Hays Becomes Enthusiastic Welcome Home to Colonel.

## SENDS A MESSAGE TO TAFT

## Declares for Only Real Americans and the English Language—Wadsworth for Aiding Russia.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt was welcomed back into the Republican Club at a dinner of that organization in West Fortieth Street last night, at which were present leaders of the party in the city and State, as well as some 250 diners who yelled themselves hoarse when half a dozen speakers told how the party was standing back of the President of the United States and how America was in the war until the finish.

The dinner was given in honor of Will H. Hays, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, but Colonel Roosevelt was easily the centre of interest. It was the first time the Colonel had entered the club since 1912, and the members welcomed him back with vigor. The recent patching up of the break between the Colonel and ex-President William H. Taft was also made the occasion for jubilation, and the prediction was freely made that the Republican Party would be victorious in 1920. There were no attacks upon the Democratic National Administration, but each speaker claimed the right to criticize the conduct of the war if it would be for the best interests of the people.

Those who spoke besides Mr. Roosevelt were Governor Whitman, United States Senators James W. Wadsworth and William M. Calder, William R. Willcox, Charles D. Hilles, and Mr. Hays. James R. Sheffield presided and when he introduced Colonel Roosevelt by reading a poem entitled "Ted and Will," the diners jumped to their feet and cheered the Colonel for several minutes. Mr. Roosevelt was so deeply impressed with the demonstration that he commissioned Mr. Hilles on the spot to send a telegram to Mr. Taft, who is on a speaking trip in Iowa, saying how much the Colonel wished he could be present. The Colonel again brought the crowd to its feet by proposing a toast to the soldiers and sailors of the nation, as well as of the allied nations. The Colonel was vigorously applauded when he declared that any so-called American who tried to incite any spirit of opposition to the country or the Allies was a traitor to the United States.

### No Republican for Peace.

"Freedom stands with her back to the wall," shouted the Colonel, "and the supreme duty of this country is to put every ounce of energy into seeing that she is not conquered. Any man who tries to divide us is guilty not only of treason to the United States, but to civilized mankind. If any man claiming to be a Republican is against this war and in favor of peace, we will spew him from our mouths, for he is no Republican. When we come to a showdown on patriotism, I don't care a snap of my fingers what party a man belongs to. If he stands for the United States I'll stand by him."

At another point the Colonel said amid cheers: "The American people are at last waking up to their duty. They are beginning to understand that slipshod methods and laziness have permitted an upgrowth of elements, which, if successful, would have turned this country into a polyglot boarding house." The Colonel also raised a laugh when he referred to his own antecedents.

"I have little English blood in me," he said, "and what there is is Quaker. By Godfrey, I'm a Hicksville Quaker. I've got German blood as well as Dutch blood in me, and if you would indicate me by a hyphen you would have to use seven hyphens. But above everything else I am an American. If I had remained Dutch I might have been Sheriff of Nassau County, but I couldn't have been President of the United States.

"There is room in this country for but one kind of an American, and that is a real American. The time has passed for any kind of a compromise. We have got room in this country also for but one language, and that is English. If we allow all kinds of languages to grow up here our country will be another Balkan peninsula. There must be no other language but the English language taught in the public schools, primary or public. If I had my way I would provide that every immigrant should be treated not as a labor unit but as a possible grandfather with whom our grandchildren will have to associate. I'd enact a law making it compulsory for every immigrant to learn the English language within five years and if he didn't he would be returned to the country whence he came."

Colonel Roosevelt said he was in favor of shipping back to Ireland every Sinn Feiner who "puts his hatred for England above his love for America."

### American Troops for Russia.

United States Senator Wadsworth was loudly cheered when he said he was in favor of sending American troops to Siberia.

"By the Russian peace treaty," he said, "the Allies lost 8,000,000 soldiers and America must fill the gap. We must send to France hundreds and hundreds of thousands of American soldiers until we have gained the preponderance. We do not care where we go to lick the Germans. Cannot we project our vision into Siberia and into the Balkans? I look to the day when we will not only see American troops in France, but to the day when they will be in Russia and on the Balkan front. This is a fight to the death, and we are going to win no matter how long it takes, or where we find this brutal enemy of ours, whether on the other side of the world or on the other side of the Atlantic."

Governor Whitman declared that the people were thoroughly aroused, and that the State of New York was willing and ready to do its full share in the war. The State, he said, would always be overwhelmingly Republican, because the people believed that the Republican Party could be trusted to handle the affairs of Government.

"The people are ready to end this war by the sword," he said, "but they do not want peace unless it means lasting security for all the world. Every man and dollar in this State is pledged to the successful conclusion of the war, and it will be given rather than that the cause should be lost."

Speaking of the attitude of the Republican Party regarding the war, National Chairman Hays said:

"The Republican Party, always the party of patriotism in this country, is going the 'second mile' in everything that touches this war. The Republican Party heralded its own birth by saving the life of the nation, and from that hour to this moment it has been the party of patriotism, and in this supreme crisis its patriotic, loyal membership is giving to the last of its blood and its treasure as patriotic Americans, and will continue to strive, fight, give, and die until victorious American arms have forever ended the intolerable arrogance of that scientifically trained brutality; until we have a conclusive peace with victory, and not by compromise bargaining, and the world has been made safe for a home for our children's children."