

Hail East Side Response to Gurley Flynn

The response of East Siders to the campaign for nominating petition signatures for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was hailed in a statement yesterday by the National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party. The committee described the encouraging results as testimony to the correctness of the decision to run the veteran Communist leader as an independent candidate for City Council, and urged intensified canvassing in her behalf during the next ten days.

The statement follows:

We greet the campaigners, communist and non-communist, who are busy at work collecting signa-

tures to qualify Elizabeth Gurley Flynn as an independent candidate for New York City Council under the designation of the Peoples Rights Party.

We greet the New York State Party who, in the spirit of our National Resolution, are taking the initiative in organizing this campaign.

We know that it was not easy, at this time, to determine how the independent electoral role of the Communist Party could best contribute to our coalition policy in the November elections. There were different opinions and weeks of discussion went on at all levels of Party organization.

The correctness of your decision has now been confirmed among the people of the Lower East Side. The results to date show a much higher percentage of signatures on the petitions than in the previous campaigns. Communists and non-Communists are participating in the canvassing. There is every possibility of success.

The candidacy of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Communist leader and representative of the best traditions of the American working class, is being welcomed by many east-side voters, as an important addition to the fight for the peoples' needs.

More and more the fight-back of the American people is pressing

the courts to free the Bill of Rights from the McCarthyite chains. The latest example is the Circuit Court decision throwing out the Connecticut Smith Act convictions and acquitting all defendants. A successful campaign to put Elizabeth Gurley Flynn on the ballot will help the American people in their struggle for civil liberties for all. It will bring a distinguished representative of the American working class into the New York municipal campaign who will discuss the issues from the vantage-point of a socialist perspective. Hers will be a strong voice to help raise the issues: housing, integration, the rights of the Negro

and Puerto Rican people, schools, higher wages, stop the H-bomb testing, youth needs. It will challenge other candidates to speak out on the real problems facing the people.

The Elizabeth Gurley Flynn campaign, we believe, is already stimulating our entire Party to find ways and means of playing a more effective role in the political life of the nation.

We urge all New York Party members and friends to make every effort, during the next 10 days, to participate in this exciting and rewarding campaign. The entire Party thanks you and gains inspiration from your work.