

GURLEY FLYNN FETE ON SECOND AVENUE

By ART SHIELDS

It was Elizabeth Gurley Flynn's night at Rapoport's Restaurant on lower Second Avenue Thursday night. Every chair in two big dining rooms was filled by friends of the People's Rights candidate for City Council, whose joyous enthusiasm stirred every heart in the crowd.

Miss Flynn was introduced by Eslanda Robeson, anthropologist and student of United Nations Affairs. Warm greetings were also given by John T. McManus, general manager of the National Guardian; Annette Rubenstein, author of "The Great Tradition in English Literature," and Evelyn Wiener, co-chairman of Miss Flynn's campaign committee.

McManus hailed the Flynn campaign as a fine example of independent political action. Then he got the crowd chuckling with a fable of Wall Street.

The Big Money lane is in the heart of his candidate's district, McManus pointed out. And he had learned, he said,

that some of Miss Flynn's Wall Street supporters had formed the "Boom and Bust Social Club" to back her. The club had to go underground, however. It was now meeting in the basement of the U.S. Sub Treasury Building, across from J. P. Morgan & Co. Its slogan was Boom Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Bust the Trusts.

While the crowd was still grinning Miss Rubenstein made the collection appeal. More than \$600 was taken in for the campaign.

Miss Flynn's joyous mood turned anger at one point in her speech as she told of ghastly East Side conditions. One East Side hospital (Gouverneur) is even worse than the prison she sat in for three years, she said.

Some East Side schoolhouses are more than a century old.

East Mothers have been bringing her the ugly facts of the firetrap, rat-infested tenements, where the kids have to live.

But Miss Flynn is very op-

timistic of the future of the Communist movement. And the present election campaign will be followed by an active amnesty drive. Gil Green and Henry Winston and Irving Potash and other political victims must be brought out of prison.

"I am optimistic of victory," she said, "as I look at Steve Nelson here. Steve won't have to serve those 25 years." And the Smith Act appeals throughout the country are being won.

And Miss Flynn sees World Socialism ahead.

"I have to be optimistic when I think of November 7th, when the Soviet Union celebrates its 40th anniversary," she said. "Socialism was just an idea for the future when I spoke on the East Side with my father 50 years ago. Now 900,000,000 have Socialist governments today."

Socialism is coming to America too, she said. And Communists, like Ben Davis, will be back in New York City's Council before that.