
People's Rule Upheld in Berger Victory: District Returns Socialist to Seat Congress Refused: Big Business routed by 4,806 Votes, as Ballotting Shows Gain of 6,548 for Socialist Party: Genuine Americanism Wins Decisive Victory.

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In the biggest Congressional election ever staged in the 5th District, the voters went over the top for representative government and genuine Americanism and against attempted dictation by Congress, Democratic and Republican Parties, the so-called Good Government League, Big Business profiteers, and mudslinging, misrepresenting capitalist newspapers by according Victor L. Berger, the people's candidate, an overwhelming majority of 4,806 votes over Henry H. Bodenstab, confusion contender.

Carrying 11 of the 14 wards in this city section of the district and all of the county section — with the exception of silk-stocking Shorewood and Whitefish Bay — Berger polled 24,367 votes to 19,561 for the “harmony” candidate.

Bolo Carried 3 Wards.

Bodenstab, who campaigned as the “100% American,” following decision of the “Good Government” League and Democratic and Republican County Committees to back a candidate with a German name in their scheme to prevent Berger's re-election to the seat refused him by Congressmen representing Big Business, carried only 3 of 14 city wards.

Bolo carried only the 1st, 15th, and 18th wards — the ones in which he led in the Dec. 8 [1919] primary.

The splendid endorsement given Berger strikingly attests that the majority of the voters of the district resented the attempt of Congress, Big Business, and politicians to defeat representative government by dictating to them as to who their Congressman should be.

Vote Slap at Congress.

The landslide majority accorded Berger indicates the voters disapproved the action of Congress in barring him from the seat to which he was elected in the regular election in November 1918, and admire the courageous fight he waged in the interest of representative government and fair play.

The vote by which Berger was re-elected — 24,367 — was 6,543 greater than that given him in the 1918 battle of ballots in which he triumphed over W.H. Stafford, Republican, and Alderman Joseph P. Carney, Democrat, carrying the banner of the so-called “Patriotic” Congressional League, organized to prevent Berger's election.

Polls 10,475 More Votes.

Berger polled 10,475 more votes than he received in the primary and carried exactly the same wards and county districts — 2nd, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 25 wards

and city of North Milwaukee, town of Milwaukee, and town of Granville.

The fact that 5 of the wards carried by Berger are represented in the Common Council by nonpartisan aldermen reveals the big increases in the Socialist vote in what for years have been recognized as non-Socialist districts.

That Bodenstab proved a woefully weak opponent for Berger is revealed by the fact that his vote — 19,561 — is 3,287 lower than the combined vote given Stafford and Carney in the 1918 balloting.

“Big Vote” for Berger.

The record-breaking vote on which Bolo and two Milwaukee newspapers — *The Journal* and *The Sentinel* — in their big type, front-page appeals attempted to get the so-called stay-at-home voters out, based their hope of victory, materialized. But the big vote on which they relied merely snowed under the flag-waver and brought victory to Berger — a real American.

The total vote was 43,928, as compared with 40,670 in the 1918 election.

Bodenstab failed to carry his home precinct in the 6th ward. His strongest showing was in the silk-stocking 18th ward, where he polled 2,954 votes to 589 for Berger.

Berger's majority in the 25th ward was 1,902; in the 7th, 1,668; in the 20th, 1,661; in the 21st, 1,288; in the 9th, 1,073; and in the 10th, 905. He carried the 2nd by the narrow margin of 7 votes.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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