

A ROOSEVELT IDEA MADE IN GERMANY

Says the Fatherland Demands
Loyalty and Gets It, While
America Exacts Nothing.

NEW IMMIGRANT STANDARD

Would Make Them Learn English
and Live Up to Our Ideals or
Send Them Back Home.

Theodore Roosevelt, speaking at a luncheon given yesterday by Mrs. Vincent Astor for the National Americanization Committee in the Astor Court Building, declared that one of the reasons why many German-Americans have shown greater love for their native land than for their adopted country is that the German system demands greater loyalty than is demanded in this country, and a greater contribution to the common welfare. "And all of you know I am free from a taint of neu-

trality," he added, "so I can say this without suspicion."

The encouragement of better housing conditions and a compulsion to learn the English language, Colonel Roosevelt said, would help the process of Americanization.

"We cannot make the Americanization movement a success," Colonel Roosevelt said, "unless we approach it from the economic standpoint. It is true that governmentally Germany is an autocracy. But there has been a great deal more industrial freedom there than in many of our old industrial communities. The German Government says we expect you to work out good results, to get together with the laborer, and yourselves decide what you are going to pay to the doctors who are to pass upon the health of the employes, and the amount of damages any employe merits. The Government insists upon a great amount of self-government by the people themselves.

"I feel that by insistence upon proper housing conditions we shall indirectly approach this. I want to see the immigrant know that he has got to spend a certain amount of his money in decent housing; that he will not be allowed to live on \$2.50 per month board basis.

"Let us say to the immigrant not that we hope he will learn English, but that he has got to learn it. Let the immigrant who does not learn it go back. He has got to consider the interest of the United States or he should not stay here. He must be made to see that his opportunities in this country depend

upon his knowing English and observing American standards. The employer cannot be permitted to regard him only as an industrial asset.

"We must in every way possible encourage the immigrant to rise, help him up, give him a chance to help himself. If we try to carry him he may well prove not well worth carrying. We must in turn insist upon his showing the same standard of fealty to this country and to join with us in raising the level of our common American citizenship.

"If I could I would have the kind of restriction which would not allow any immigrant to come here unless I was content that his grandchildren would be fellow-citizens of my grandchildren. They will not be so if he lives in a boarding house at \$2.50 per month with ten other boarders and contracts tuberculosis and contributes to the next generation a body of citizens inferior not only morally and spiritually but also physically."

The other speakers included Frank Trumbull, Chairman of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, who presided; Dr. Katharine B. Davis, George A. Cullen of the Lackawanna Railroad, E. L. Corthell, President of the American Institute of Consulting Engineers; Mrs. Johanna von Wagner, former municipal housing expert of Los Angeles; John Ihlder, former Secretary of the National Housing Association, and Miss Frances A. Kellor of the National Americanization Committee.

Prizes totaling \$2,100 have been offered for plans in a national housing competition.