

POLISH HOUR
10/4/36
by Edward O. Tabor

Pillert
K. Q. V.

Ladies and Gentlemen and my good Slovak friends:

I am glad to be with you again on this Polish Hour. I send you my greetings, and in the language of my father and mother I say: "Ja vas srdecne pozdravuju".

Last Sunday I told you something about myself and my platform. I will continue that today.

My name is Edward O. Tabor. In Polish and Slovak and other Slavic languages my name is Tabor.

Po Anglicki ja sem Tabor-- po Slovenski ja sem Tabor. Mi sme vsicki bratri a Sloviani, ale mi musime byt dobry Amerikani.

For 20 years I have lived in the Pittsburgh district. I am a lawyer and during those 20 years I have practiced law among all people-- among the Polish people and the Slovaks, Ukrainians, Carpathian Russians and the Serbians and the Croatians and the Czechs and other average Americans. I believe that I understand the Poles and the desires and the needs of the common ordinary working man, because I have been a working man myself all my life. I am a working man now. If I am elected to Congress on November 3rd I will take with me to Congress all of my experiences as a working man and all of my understanding of the laborer.

I will not make promises which I cannot keep and which I do not intend to keep, but I promise you and the people of my district that I will do my duty faithfully and fully and honestly for all groups and all classes. We are one big family in America and in the Pittsburgh district, and everything that is done must be done for the family and not for any special member in it.

On Saturday night, October 3, Ellenbogen, over the radio said that while he was working for the people in Congress, I and the utility barons were working against the people, etc.

I changed my prepared speech for the Polish Hour by adding the following language:

After discussing that I would be fair to all people, rich and poor, native and foreign-born, Jew and Christian, Protestant and Catholic, I said: "Just one further word about the kind of a campaign I am going to make. I want to discuss issues, but I must make some personal remarks because of my opponent's unfair personal remarks about me over the radio and in print."

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I will not lie or deceive to go to Congress.
If I am elected, I will not lie or deceive to go back.
I will not assassinate my opponent's character to go to Congress.
If I am elected, I will not assassinate my opponent's character to go back.
I will not willingly mislead a single voter to go to Congress. No office is worth such a price.

My opponent, Henry Ellenbogen, got into Congress on the Roosevelt wave four years ago. He tried to go as a Republican. He failed in that, and he changed colors and was swept in as a Democrat. Do you think he would hesitate to change tomorrow, if he thought it would help him?

My opponent has told you for four years about the things he has done. Isn't it strange that he is the one that always tells you about himself? There are four other Congressmen in the Pittsburgh District-- Dunn, Moritz, Quinn, and Brooks. Why doesn't he get them or one of them to O. K. what he has done?

They know him, they are fellow Democrats, they have worked with him. I believe they would say that:-

They know he is a boaster and a braggart.
They know he claims credit which is not properly his.
They know he claims credit which belongs to them and others.
They know he disregards the truth.
They know he uses half-truths to hide, evade, and deceive.

They know he side-steps and wiggles and squirms on public matters and on his vote.

They know that Henry Ellenbogen is first of all interested in Henry Ellenbogen.

I repeat, I will not lie or deceive or assassinate character to go to Congress, and if elected, I'll not resort to those tactics to stay there.

My opponent, Henry Ellenbogen, is not telling the truth when he says that I am a utility lawyer and that I worked against the people. I am not a utility lawyer and he knows it, because I told it to him to his face ten days ago. But even if I were a utility lawyer, it would be alright, provided I was a fair and decent lawyer. In the course of my general practice I have represented utilities and I have been opposed to utilities. But I have not had anything to do with utilities for almost six years. But, I ask him to name one thing which I have ever done, as a lawyer or as a man, which was wrong, socially or personally. Let him name one act that I have done, or one case that I have ever tried, in which I did one thing or said one thing against what may be called the people's good. He cannot do it and he knows he cannot.

Next Sunday I will discuss unemployment insurance, old age pensions, and other matters of social value.