UP-STATE REPORTS - Schenectady County.

I saw Mr. John English, County Chairman, on Oct. 28 at Democratic headquarters. He seemed extremely optimistic of a good result in the county for the whole state ticket and was very pleased at the rally which had been held two days before at which most of the candidates appeared.

A very hot and active campaign is being waged for the county ticket and also for the congressional candidate "Pink" Gardner who has been elected County Clerk three times. (I had a little bit the feeling that there is perhaps more interest in the local ticket than the state ticket.)

I was surprised to find that despite the highly organized state of labor in Schenectady and the existence of an active P.A.C. organization, there does not seem to be very close team-work between the A.L.P. and the Democratic organization.

No special emphasis has been placed on the Lehman candidacy and Lehman seemed to be the one Democratic candidate about whom no literature was available in Democratic headquarters.

I suggested to Mr. English that it might be a good idea to have someone connected with Union College or some outstanding independent make a special broadcast in behalf of Lehman. He agreed to this and immediately called Prof. Patton (?) of Union who consented with enthusiasm.

English seemed entirely confident that the Democratic state ticket would carry the city by a good margin and that Mead would lose the county by not more than 5,000. (Bennett lost it by 15,000.) He believed that Mead and Lehman would run about the same.

Later I talked at length with John L. Halpin who is on the outs with the present organization in Schenectady. He seemed very much less optimistic about the result in the county than English - on the same old grounds, general dissatisfaction with the Truman administration and the effectiveness of the anti-Communist propaganda.