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Correspondence from Germany (From Matthias Hanschke)

Station 107 in Spremberg, 23 Jan 1912

Esteemed Volksblatt!

According to the official report of the National Election, the final ballot for the Cottbus-Spremberg District election on January 22, showed the following votes: Number of votes, 27,827 Invalid votes, 655 Valid votes, 27,172 Valid votes cast for: Labor Secretary Carl Giebel, 14,570 District Court Director – Frankfort Party (a. O.), 12,602

The winter has once more let us feel its might. In all the regions of Germany, the temperatures have stayed below zero. Snow has also fallen in greater amounts. The harshest cold was in the Weichsel District. There, in the last days, the temperature stood at 25 degrees Celsius below zero. It snowed so hard, that many of the country roads were impassible. In the forest, in spite of the wild animals being fed by the hunters, they suffered from the cold. With this very short letter, I will enclose a clipping of an article "In the Changing Times" by Ernst Heiter. I hope my friend in Texas will enjoy the article.

34 Bechielber Beit!

Es fann ja nicht immer To bleiben, brum find wir ben Bechfel gewohnt; die Beiten, fie mechieln und Lerifen, es tocchett em Summet bei Mond. Es wedyjelt ber Tag mit ber Racht: bier liegt in bem Bechiel ehr Segen, und boch, wird ein Bechel gebracht, fo feb'n wir ibm sweifelnd enigegent' Es wechfeln Gefdmad oft und Meinung, bie beffere Einficht" ift ba, wer beut noch ein Geift ber Berneinung, fpricht morgen fcon bulbfam fein "ja". Ca medfelt die Flur bas Gemand, es wechfelt die form Madar me Dode, ber Bechfel allein bat Beftand, brum liegt auch im Bedfel Methobet Es tann ja nicht immer fo bleiben: wie forfch ging ber Binter jungft bor, bicht ließ er bie Schneefloden treiben, nun lagt er gerrinnen, mas fror. So mocht und ber Alte, mas meiße, mer tonnte für ihn noch "entstammen"? Er schmolz nicht allein Schnee und Es, er fomols auch Porteien gufammen Die Bablichlacht, ffe murbe gefchlagen, fle machte viel Mas und Berbrus, fie forte bes Bure gers Behagen und brachte bas Reben in flus. Run ift alles, mas und miffallt, bem Bechfel qui's Ronto gu foreiben; er bat bie Brognofe geftellt: es tann ja nicht immer fo bleiben! Es wird burch bieStimmengewinnung bieButunft noch fange nicht rot, benn Dichel tommt ftets jur Befinnung, wenn wirtlich Gefahr ihn umbrobt, bann weiß er gu bandeln, pob Blib, bann mabnt ibn aus ewigen Spharen ber Geift jenes fieghaften Fris, beff' Bild große Taten vertiaren! Der Alte blidt lachelnd beinieber auf Deutschland, bas treu fich geeint: es trenne fein Bechfel bich wieder, fein auf'rer und innrrer Reindl Doch magt es ein frember Posjöh fich ted in bein Baubrecht au mifchen, bann fahr ich, fo grollts aus ber Dob, noch beut mit bem Rrudftod bajwijden! Da wechtell & bie Diffinmung wieder, jur geftfilmmung wird fle gar balb: ein Rrang patriotifcher Lieber glad. munichend gum Raiferthron fcallt! Rag wechfeln was will auf ber e Belt, die Treue, die dentiche, gluht & beiter, brum ift es gar wohl noch ge bestellt um unfere Butunft!

In the Changing Times

Things cannot always stay the same, therefore we all must get used to changes. The times, like the heavens, change each month. The day changes to night, which is a blessed change. And, still, when there are changes, we approach them so fearfully. There are often changes in tastes and opinions. The better insight is, when there is a spirit of understanding, one gives his patient "yes" to the opinions. There are changes in the flowers of the forest. There are changes in the styles of modern fashions. Change has its own life, and there is also a method in change. Things cannot always stay the same. Look at how dramatic this winter started. Still, after the snowflakes swirled, what was frozen melted. So who knows what empowers the Ancient One. Not only, the snow melted, but it also melted the parties to get together. Some were defeated in the election battles, which caused much concern and frustration. It disturbed the contentment of the citizens and made disagreements to flow. Now all of our misfortunes are blamed on change. But the prognosis is that things cannot always stay the way that they are. The winning of the election will not be felt for long, since Michael will also vote when danger threatens him. He will handle it like lighting, and remind us with his eternal _____that the spirit of the victorious Fritz is an image that declares great deeds. The Ancient One looks down lovingly on Germany that wants to be faithful. May no change get you down, no inner or outer foe! But when a foreign province ventures to meddle in your rights, then I will come from on high in anger and get between you with my rod! Then the discord will soon be changed into unity again. A wreath of patriotic songs will sound forth with well wishes to the Kaiser's throne. While changes in the world may came as they may, the faithfulness of the Germans will continue to grow, so it will be well for our future!

Ernst Heiter

Translated by Ed Bernthal

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