ATTACK ON UNION LABOR BELIEVED TO HAVE SPENT FORCE

Samuel Gompers Notes Signs of Improvement on Industrial Horizon and Declares That Reactionary Employers Will Give Up Attempt to Overthrow Power of Unions Despite Unlawful Help Given by Courts.

This is the fifth of a series of articles on the present labor situation by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor.

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS.

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PROSPECTS for the industrial future of the United States are the subject of discussion everywhere. No man or woman in America can escape an interest and responsibility regarding our future.

In the course of these articles we have examined the causes of the unrest which has been so clearly manifest and we have taken account of methods and policies which have produced discord. We have done this at a time when the nation has been stirred to profound depths by reason of the stoppage of work on the part of coal miners and railroad workers. Scientists know that certain cases can be relied upon to produce certain effects. Having that in mind, it would be possible to answer the question, "What of the future?" by saying that if there is an insistence upon policies and practices which we have seen to be ruinous and productive of distrust and unrest in the past there will be inevitably a corresponding distrust and unrest in the future. If, on the other hand, the futility of such methods and policies is recognized and a more constructive attitude is adopted by those who are responsible for the employment policies in great industries, there will be a responding evidence of good will on the part of workers which will prove profitable not only to employers, but to the country as a whole.

Hopeful Signs Noted.

I believe I see signs of improvement on the horizon. I believe the great onslaught against oganizations of the workers has spent its force. I believe the terrific, sweeping attack organized and conducted by powerful financial interests and by great organizations of reactionary employers operating in conjunction with great financial interests, has been brought virtually to a stop by the heroic resistance of the organized workers and by the force of an aroused and thoughtful public opinion, which has been affronted and injured by the brutal display of power and unreason directed against labor. Consider for a moment these facts:

1. The dominating factors in American industrial life are the railroads, the steel industry and the coal industry.

Wage Cut Ordered.

2. The steel industry about a year ago arbitrarily ordered a reduction in wages of approximately 20 per cent. Observing what was transpiring on the railroads and in the coal mines, and having an eye to the future, the steel trust has restored wages to the level existing before the last reduction. Of course, the steel trust has not repaired the damage done by the reduction, but it has at any rate restored wages to the figure existing prior to the reduction. It has to that extent recognized the end of the period of "deflation of labor" and retrogression.

3. The organized coal mine owners of the country have suffered inglorious defeat in their efforts to reduce the wages of the miners. After a strike lasting more than five months the mine workers have compelled the mine owners to abandon their policy of wage reduction. The Iron Age speaks of the outcome of the strike as the most brilliant victory the miners have ever won. The mine owners have thus recognized the end of the period of retrogression.

Rail Recognition Likely.

4. At the time this article is written it is apparent that the railroads of the country are about ready to recognize the end of the period of retrogression. The recognition will, of course, be in spite of the unlawful injunction secured by Attorney-General Daugherty and it will be in spite of the most strenuous efforts of the greatest financial powers in the country to bring the railroad unions to the point of collapse.

5. Some of the largest employers in the textile industry, who sought to impose upon the workers a wage reduction of 20 per cent in addition to a reduction of 22½ per cent imposed a year and a half ago, have been compelled to abandon their efforts after a strike of more than five months, and the workers have returned to their tasks in those factories at the wage existing prior to the strike. To that extent the employers in the textile industry have recognized the end of the period of retrogression.

Struggle Proves Labor Power.

I am not so optimistic as to say that we have before us a pathway strewn with roses and that reaction has disappeared. What can be said is that the organizations of labor have proved their ability to resist the most furious and concentrated attacks and that in so doing they have maintained for all the workers of America a standard of living that approaches equity and they have kept open the road of constant improvement.

As I have pointed out, there developed immediately upon the signing of the armistice a vast concerted effort to reduce wages, lengthen the hours of labor, and generally to lower the standards of working conditions. Because the trade unions constituted a constant vigilant barrier and because the trade unions continually sought the improvement and the elevation of the conditions of all the workers, their destruction became a necessity to those who sought to deteriorate working conditions. The war against the organizations of labor was planned and conducted because of what those organizations sought to accomplish. It was the result of a crude and ignorant greed which was entirely without foresight and without understanding.

Union Standards High.

It should like to attempt to make it clear that in their struggle to elevate the standards of labor the organizations of the workers are seeking to do much more than is generally understood. Good living conditions, the sense of freedom, education, good wages, relations of co-operation, and good will between employer and employed, and general industrial efficiency with high-grade high-speed production go hand in hand and cannot be separated. The greater the volume of our national production and the greater the consuming power of the masses of our people the stronger we shall be as a nation, the more fit for leadership we shall be as a nation, the more self-reliant we shall be and the fuller our capacity for living and the enjoyment of life.

We cannot have prosperity and well-being for the wage earners of our country without a consequent and coincident prosperity and well-being for our country as a whole. If this necessitates a curtailment of speculation and a curtailment of autocratic power and exorbitant, unearned increment for a few, I am sure that will cause no anguish except to the arrogant one-half of 1 per cent of our population which contributes neither intelligence nor initiative to our material, mental or spiritual progress.

Financial Rule Tried.

For the future the great need is for a drawing together of the forces that contribute usefully to the processes of production. We have seen the devastation brought by a control over industry exercised by high finance, which is interested primarily and chiefly in profits and only in production that yields the largest profits. It has been said, principally by the enemies of labor, that the American Federation of Labor holds the interest of labor and capital to be identical.

This of course is a vicious untruth, because labor holds the interest of useful humanity above every other interest about which we know. Capital is merely the stored up wealth created by labor in industry and utilized for further production of wealth.

So far as production is concerned, the interests of capital and labor, while not identical, are not necessarily in conflict, but the present dominating influence of the great aggregations of capital is not for production purposes, except incidentally to the making of profits.

Similar Interests Noted.

The interests of labor and management are much more nearly along similar channels. Each has a distinct function to perform; each, when free to function naturally and normally, strives for the same goal.

Perhaps I can achieve something in the direction of clarifying the importance of freedom in industry the importance of establishing the best possible relations, the importance of giving industry a chance to be industry instead of a power house for banking institutions, by quoting from the remarks of Viscount Haldane at a recent meeting of the National Institute of Psychology in London:

"We had reached a stage where more and more the mere mechanical work was being done by the machine—electricity would, make a still greater revolution in this direction—and mantial labor was getting to be more and more the directing of the machine. In other words, mind was coming into the business. Mind was a very important thing. It was not capital that created wealth, nor labor, but mind. One of the objects of the institute was, as far as possible, to relieve labor from the sense that men and women were only machines. Their aim was not to get the utmost out of the individual without regard to the individual's own concern."

Management Is Important.

Our future welfare development and prosperity require that there be mutual respect and confidence, thorough understanding and unity of purpose between those groups in and around the industrial world which have as their prime object the making and the distributing of commodities for human use. Of these groups labor is, of course, the largest and the most important. Two other groups which are rapidly coming to have a clearly defined identity and a clearly defined function are those generally known as management and engineering.

Functions Are Separate.

If the functions of men engaged in these two groups at times overlap that does not by any means destroy the separate identity of the groups or becloud their distinct functions. Management has certain definite functions for which it must be held responsible. The shortcomings of management cannot be laid at the doors of labor.

Labor already has incorporated in its formulated demands upon industry a demand for efficient management. It is the duty of management to correlate and regulate the various divisions and processes of production. Bad management results in low-grade production and sometimes in bankruptcy, and the workers pay the penalty. Bad management cannot produce in competition with good management so as to pay either good profits or good wages.

Labor has a right to demand that its energies be not dissipated and wasted by bad management. The most appalling and inexcusable bad management is that which is made ineffective or inefficient by the dictates of a financial control. Great industries compelled to adopt wrong methods at the behest of a financial control must collect from the workers directly employed a portion of the cost of that control. For the most part management is intelligent enough to realize the great harm that results from Wall street domination, but has not yet found the way to freedom from that domination.

Bain News Service

Samuel Gompers At Time Of His Reelection This Year

Co-operation Is Needed.

Future welfare demands co-operation between management, labor and engineers for the release of all industry from a senseless, wasteful, unsocial and brutalizing control by powerful high finance.

Against an honest return and legitimate profits but few will protest. We have yet to find an equal spur to initiative. What labor maintains is that profit must not be the sole and dominating motive in industry, but that profit must come as the natural and logical result of service rendered and must constitute a reward for service instead of a reward for speculation, chicanery, exploitation and autocratic domination.

Our machinery of production surpasses the machinery of production in any other country in the world. It is capable of infinitely more than it is doing. It is and has been under the necessity of operating at less than capacity because of the common practice of restriction of output and shutdown indulged in by those who control the most important industrial organizations in our country.

It has been charged that the trade unions restrict output. That may have been true in the long ago, but it is not true today. There is, however, an enormous restriction of output for which the whole country suffers. Is there any important industry in our country which produces to capacity 12 months in the year? Moreover, is there any industry in our country in which the machinery and methods of production could not be altered or improved so as greatly to increase the possible volume of output? If there is such an industry I have not heard of it. If there is this lack of capacity production who is responsible for the limitation? Manifestly it is those who own or control the industries. The limitation of output which is charged against workers would be infinitesimal when compared to the admitted and obvious limitation of output practiced continuously by those who control American industries.

Agreement Is Likely.

I am confident and all labor is confident that when management with the help of labor succeeds in releasing itself from the short-sighted, selfish and uninteligent control of what we may well call the financial oligarchy, most of the present restrictions of output will disappear and most of the disputes between employers and workers will be avoided. It is seldom difficult for workers to reach agreement with management when management is free to do the intelligent thing.

Before the railroads lost their identity as railroads and became feeders for the coffers of Wall street serious disputes between railroad workers and railroad managements were practically unknown. With the passing of the control of employment from the active managers of railroads to the banking interests of Wall street there began the period of serious disagreements with the workers. The root of the trouble experienced in the railroad world is imbedded in the Wall street control of railroad managements.

Ideal of Service Best.

I think it could well be laid down as a rule that labor has least cause for complaint, has the fewest grievances and exhibits the largest amount of good will and enthusiasm and initiative in those industrial establishments in which the ideal of service is most nearly approximated. Labor not only has nothing to fear from a liberated management, but on the contrary it looks forward with eagerness to the time when all management may be released from a control which must be as irksome and reprehensible to management as it is to labor.

No notion can be more destructive to real progress than the so-called company union proposal. Quite apart from the fact that workers in a plant are not in a position formally to present the interests and viewpoint of the employes in the plant, this further and most important factor must be considered: If wages, hours and conditions of employment can be determined by each of the company unions with each company's directors, industrial chaos would result by reason of inequalities in wages, hours and standards.

Bona Fide Unions Needed.

The leveling trend would be downward and every company union would be each for itself, his Satanic majesty taking the hindmost. What is required are rally bona fide unions of the workers as broad and wide as the industry itself, where men may speak the thoughts of their fellow unafraid and where the union may help to establish the minimum wage, the maximum hours and the best possible conditions for labor to give its service.

Production in industry is as much dependent upon good will as is success anywhere. So long as there is an unintelligent and frequently belligerent control of industry and consequently of industrial policies, the full release of good will on the part of the workers in industry is an impossibility. Those battalions fight best where there is mutual respect and mutual understanding between officers and men and where there is a common outlook toward the end to be achieved.

Mental Satisfaction Required.

There is never a complete release of good will, which is but another term for the expenditure of mental and physical energy, except under conditions where strife and conflict are avoided and which make for a mental satisfaction. When men are engaged in a battle for a cause to which they pin their faith there is an utter abandonment and a full release of energy. There is an almost equal abandonment and enthusiasm in the playing of a game in which there is at stake merely a test of skill and dexterity. In industry there is the nearest approach to this enthusiasm and release of energy in those cases where those at work have the deepest interest in their tasks; where there is at best development of harmony in human relations; and where the conditions and rewards for service are the most just and equitable.

Of course no one contends that industry should develop the temporary enthusiasm of sport or the magnificent self-sacrifice of war, and I have cited those things merely to indicate something of the possibilities of industry under conditions which are not only possible, but which I firmly believe are inevitable.

Improvement Is Aim.

We cannot remain as we are. We ought not if we could. As a people we owe it to ourselves to bring our industrial organization to the highest possible development in order that there may be the fullest and richest outpouring of commodities, not only to sustain life, but to make life in so far as possible intellectually and spiritually rich. It is not necessary that we shall always have drudges and drudgery. Every drudge in the world, every ignorant person in the world, every person who feels himself aggrieved, and every person who is unable to find a livelihood as the result of productive toil is a liability which can be discharged only by reversing the conditions which create and maintain the liability.

I trust that it will not be said that I have been painting a picture of too much excellence. For my own part I know that any excellence that the human mind can imagine can be achieved by human effort. If there is any shortcoming it is with our inability to imagine rather than our inability to achieve. The race will ultimately achieve greater perfection than any who are now alive can imagine.

Human Relations Problem.

But there is no royal road to the future. The road will doubtless be strewn with many hardships. There is no magic word which will compel the great and powerful organizations of finance to withdraw their tightening grip from the world of productive industry. We have ahead of us a task in the doing of which we shall be called upon to use all the reason with which we have been endowed and more patience than has been given to many of us. The whole problem in its essence is one of human relations.

Those who have the common good at heart must learn to think and act together for the common good. Those who are engaged in constructive work must learn to think and to function together and co-operatively. Management and labor have in reality a common purpose. Engineers have a like purpose. None of these three has any legitimate purpose in the scheme of things except to create wealth—to produce things for human use. If any of these think it is his purpose and his function to produce for some other purpose than human use he is laboring under a most pitiful delusion from which he should be aroused or relieved of his post.

Unions for Workers First.

The trade unions are primarily, of course, institutions for the protection of the rights and interests of the working people. So long as greed makes it necessary for the organizations of the workers to function as militant, fighting organizations it will be impossible for them to contribute fully toward the enlargement and the betterment of industrial processes.

Every thoughtful trade unionist hopes that the time is near when it may be increasingly possible to give more thought to the perfection of our industrial processes and to be relieved of the necessity for the expenditure of so much effort in merely preventing reaction.

I have indicated earlier in this article certain developments which seem to point to the end of the period of reaction. Labor will fight as long as it is necessary to fight for the preservation of progress, of rights and of liberties that have been gained and for the welfare of the great masses of the people of our country whose rights and liberties are inseparable from those of the workers.

The great end to be desired, however, is the concentration of all efforts upon the improvement of our industrial processes and the perfection of our industrial organization. It is fundamental of course that there must be recognition on the part of the employers of the right of the workers to organize and to be represented by representatives of their own choosing. It is fundamental that there must be joint relations between workers and employers and that through these joint relations there be agreement upon the terms and conditions under which service shall be given.

These are the first stepping stones of democracy in industry. I take it for granted that no thinking, progressive man or woman will contend that there can be progress in industry any more than in our political life unless the fundamental tenets of democracy are to be accepted. The general check and rebuke that have been administered to the reactionary forces in our most essential industries is an indication that the future belongs to those who espouse the democratic ideal. We have hope on the industrial field and, if I may interject, we have hope also on the political field, concerning which it may be interesting to speculate briefly.

Political Position Stated.

In politics American labor is non-partisan. It espouses principles, but it is not concerned as to parties. The American Federation of Labor is active politically, but in a strictly non-partisan sense, in every state in the union. It is proud to have contributed materially to the recent downfall of some of the outstanding leaders of reaction and it is equally proud to have contributed materially to the sweeping victories of progressive men who have been nominated in the primary elections during the last few weeks.

It is safe to say, even before the elections are held, that the next senate and the next house of representatives will contain a sufficient number of progressive, intelligent men to prevent the enactment of any reactionary legislation during the next two years. There will, it is certain, be a goodly number in the house of representatives, and among these there will be a gratifying proportion of trade union members. In the senate there will be a formidable group of such men as LaFollette, Brookhart, Frazier, Norris, Johnson, Borah, Harrison, Ladd, Swanson, McKellar and others. In addition to those who may be relied upon to be progressive in every contest there are those who will espouse certain progressive measures and who will to that extent be of service to the common welfare. Among such men is Senator McCormick, who has introduced the child labor amendment to the United States constitution.

I should like to make it clear that the American labor movement in politics is the champion of the interests of the great masses of our people. Labor is interested in politics in no narrow or partisan sense. There has never been a legislative proposal espoused by labor that was not in the interest of all America except those who are aligned with special privilege and the great financial powers.

Labor is not interested in politics as a means of solving the problems of industry, however. Labor is interested in politics for the protection of liberties and for the promotion of justice and equity in all things which are actually political. So far as industry is concerned, the best service which politics can render industry is to refrain from restriction and coercion in order that industry may be free to work out its own destinies. Labor is convinced that there is no political solution of industrial problems. The various factors in industry must and will work out the destiny of industry.

Labor is hopeful and confident. Our people are inherently and naturally constructive. They rebel at coercion and repression and they will not tolerate enslavement. As free men they will, through natural, orderly, rational and constructive methods, find the solutions of the vexing problems of today and make of the world a better place in which to live.

THE MARRIED LIFE OF HELEN AND WARREN

BY MABEL HERBERT URNER.

Aunt Amelia's Wedding Present Incites Warren to Disastrous Blunder and It Is Only by Wife's Clever Lieing That Visiting Relative Finally Is Calmed and Friend Husband Is Pulled Out of Awkward Situation—Clock Causes All Trouble.

"IT'S a square box—way back," instructed Helen, steadying the stepladder. "No, no, that's a band-box! Wait, you'd better let me get up."

Nora shuffled down and Helen climbed up the rickety step-ladder to explore the top shelf of the hall closet.

"Here it is. It's heavy—you'll have to help me lift it down."

The dusty box safely deposited on the hall rug, Helen took out the hideous gilt clock—their wedding present from Warren's Aunt Amelia.

Not daring to give it away Helen had stowed it on the top shelf of the hall closet. Now she was dragging it down because Aunt Amelia was in town.

Only once since their marriage had she been in New York. Guilelessly Helen had shown her through the apartment only to be staggered by the blunt question:

"Where'd you put my clock?"

Always resourceful when cornered Helen hastily explained that it was being regulated. They would have it back next week.

And now Aunt Amelia again in New York, the clock must adorn the library mantel when she came to dinner that evening.

Helen stared at the gilt monstrosity. Two dropsical cherubs with swollen abdomens held up the oval rhinestone-encircled dial. The pendelum, which swung between the bloated cupids also glittered with brilliants.

Would it run? Detaching the key tied to the elephantine leg of one of the cherubs Helen wound the clock and started the jeweled pendelum.

To her delight it ticked on—a creaking, rheumatic tick.

Then she set the hands on the ornate dial and with Nora's help carried it in to the library. Removing from the mantel the antique mahogany clock, a real Sheraton piece they set in its place this rococo monstrosity.

It fairly shrieked at everything in the room. Its hideous gild ornateness was emphasized by the chaste simplicity of Helen's old-world furniture.

Aunt Amelia was Warren's father's oldest sister—a widow, rich and penurious. Had she saved her trading stamps to buy that horrible clock?

Fervently Helen hoped she would not speak of the clock—so there would be no need to lie about it. It was enough to have it there.

Promptly at 6 Aunt Amelia arrived.

She seemed taller, thinner, more hatchet-faced than ever. Her love of the ornate was evident. She glittered with gold-filled teeth, jet and jewelry. Two diamond breastpins, earrings and three diamond rings!

"I can't stand that window open on my back," was her first complaint when she was settled in the library.

There was no draft but Helen closed the window and lowered another.

"Isn't that a new bookcase? You didn't have that when I was here."

"Yes, we brought that from England. Isn't it a wonderful old piece?"

"Hump, must have cost a lot of money to get it over," disapprovingly.

"We didn't have to pay any duty—it's over a 100 years old."

"Does the clock run all right?" complacently regarding the gilt horror.

"We've never had the least trouble with it," truthfully.

"You were having it regulated when I was here before."

"Oh, yes, I forgot—but that's the only time." Then feeling something more was expected Helen managed an effusive "We both like it so much."

"How bright that gilt's kept. Looks like it had just come out of the box."

Was there a note of suspicion in Aunt Amelia's voice? Helen felt her face burn as she nervously pyramided lies.

"It doesn't tarnish. Now and then I rub it up with silver polish."

"Silver polish! On a gilt clock? I'd think that would ruin it."

"It's a new kind—and I use just a tiny bit. Oh, there's Warren now." eagerly anatching at this interruption. "I told him to come home early."

"Why Aunt Amelia, you're looking fine!" was his hearty greeting.

"I haven't been well," almost resentfully. "Suffered with sciatica all last winter. I could hardly move my left leg. I'm going to Dr. Jordan while I'm here. They say he's the best. Wonder what he charges."

"Enough," shrugged Warren. "They all soak you."

Throughout the dinner Aunt Amelia expatiated on her ailments and her experiences with doctors, all of whom she claimed had overcharged her.

"What's this? Chutney. No, I like it but it doesn't like me."

"Aunt Amelia, if you'd stir around—a long walk every day, you could pass up the doctors and eat what you want," helping himself to the Brussels sprouts.

"With my sciatica how can I walk?" And I suffer so with lumbago—"

Aunt Amelia was still dissertating on her various maladies when dinner over, they returned to the library.

Warren was plainly bored, but having failed to change the subject he listened resignedly to a voluble account of Aunt Amelia's operation for gall stones.

In the midst of this Helen saw him stare at the library clock. Vainly she tried to catch his eye, riveted unbelivingly on the bedizened atrocity.

"For the love of Lulu? Where'd you get that damned thing?"

Aunt Amelia stopped short. A paralyzing pause!

"You mean that old candlestick?" with frantic telegraphic glances. "I found that at an antique shop the other day. It was so reasonable—"

"I mean that clock!" with a snort. "Of all the garish junk—"

"That's Warren's idea of humor," laughed Helen shrilly. "He's always saying absurd things like that. He knows we're both crazy about that clock—ever since you gave it to us. He's just trying to tease you."

"Oh, he is?" an ominous note in Aunt Amelia's voice.

"Do you know what he did the other day?" desperately Helen rattled on, trying to bolster up her lie. "Why—he—he asked a minister if he knew of 'a reliable bootlegger where he could get some booze.'"

Helen paused for breath. Imploringly she glanced at Warren, but his head was bent over the pipe he was cleaning. Never adept at lying, he could not help her out.

"And Aunt Amelia, that minister was furious. He wouldn't believe it was a joke. You said Warren visited you one summer when he was little—was he like that then? Did he say those absurd things and think them funny?"

"Not to my knowledge," Aunt Amelia's voice was still frigid.

"I venture he was always getting into mischief," persisted Helen. "You know he just loves to say things to shock people. The most atrocious things, without a grain of truth in them! Now don't you, Warren? Admit you do."

"That's right," he contrived, with a grin. "Guess I've got a rotten idea of humor." Then, abruptly: "Where's that cherry bounce we made last summer? Maybe Aunt Amelia would like a glass."

"Oh, I'm sure she would," Helen rose eagerly.

"No, I'll get it. Where is it? Sideboard?"

Helen shot him an indignant glance. It was like him to make this ghastly break, then escape and leave her to smooth it over.

"You were telling us about your operation for gall stones," hoping to steer Aunt Amelia back to this all-absorbing subject.

But apparently Aunt Amelia was thinking hard. She kept glancing at the clock as she sipped her after-dinner coffee.

Helen was desperate. Should she invent further stories to prove Warren's absurd idea of humor? No, that might make it seem more suspicious. Better pass it over and get Aunt Amelia back to the gall stones.

"Did you have many gall stones?" she chanced, knowing so little about them.

"Only one, but it was very large—as big as a hen's egg. The doctor said the largest he'd ever seen."

"Why, Aunt Amelia, how dreadful! Dear," as Warren appeared with the cherry bounce, "Aunt Amelia said her gall stone was as large as a hen's egg—the doctor said the largest he'd ever seen."

"Yes, both doctors said that," even Aunt Amelia's suspicions could not keep her from dilating on the size of her gall stone.

Helen, professing a breathless interest, urged her to further details.

"Did the ether make you sick? How long were you under it?"

Adroitly led on, Aunt Amelia dwelt verbosely on the operation. How she suffered when they dressed the wound, and twisted the tubes that drained the bile. Yet they said they never had a patient who stood pain so well.

Every detail of the operation finally exhausted, Helen led her back to the sciatica, which lasted until her taxi was announced.

Instead of merely seeing Aunt Amelia to the elevator, Warren took her down and put her into the cab. The moment the door closed after them Helen wished she had gone down, too. What if Aunt Amelia, still suspicious, should say something about the clock? Warren, who could never dissemble, would blunderingly give the whole thing away.

"Is it all right?" was her tense greeting when he returned. "Did she say anything more about the clock?"

"No, but she didn't quite swallow that yarn you tried to put over."

"It was the only thing I could think of. Oh, how could you make that awful break? The way you blurted it out!"

"How the Sam Hill was I to know? I'd forgotten she'd given us the blooming thing! Why in blazes did you have to plant it on the mantel?"

"Because the last time she was here she asked for it!" excitedly. "I had to lie and say we were having it repaired."

"By George, that's so. I'd forgotten that."

"Oh, you're hopeless. You're always making some dreadful blunder—and I have to smooth it over."

"You didn't smooth this over so blamed well," glaring at the offending clock. "That was a mighty thin story you cooked up."

"I had to say something—you wouldn't! It saved a scene."

"Yes, that was pretty awkward, Kitten," with a relaxing grin. "A tight hole to crawl out of. Best thing you did was to steer her back to the gall stones. But next time you drag out any old wedding presents, tip me off. Don't try to put anything like that without putting me wise!"

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Next week—"Warren a Clumsy and Reluctant Nurse."

Sale of Honors Whitewashed.

LONDON. — The distribution of British honors, the awards of peerages, baronetcies and lesser distinctions, is to be investigated, but in this wise.

A royal commission has been appointed and will inquire into the matter, which savors of scandal, for it is known that honors have been more or less openly sold. But the committee will make no public report on what it learns. Neither political party has a clean record in this regard. Therefore, to prevent the wreckage of many glass houses, it was decided no one should be allowed to throw stones.

There is to be no delving into the past, so far as the public is concerned. The commission will simply advise on future procedure in the awarding of honors in years to come.

Admiral's Son Sacrificed to Save Crew.

Swedish Submarine Commander Submerges Leaving Four to Drown.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 30.—Two men were drowned from a submarine under singular circumstances during the recent Swedish coastal fleet maneuvers. They were really sacrificed to insure the safety of the whole crew.

The submarine Illern, it appears, fired a torpedo at a movable target and then came to the surface in order to see the effect produced. Four of the crew came on deck, but trouble suddenly occurred in the ballast tanks, and the commander immediately closed the hatch and submerged, leaving the four to their own resources.

Three of the men were washed off the deck, but the fourth clung to the submarine's periscope. The submarine rose again quickly and this man was rescued. Two of the men in the water, including the son of Admiral Ancarerona, were caught in the wash of the battleship Sverige and drowned. The other man was picked up by a naval cutter.

It is reported that the entire crew of the submarine would probably have been lost if the commander had failed to submerge immediately the trouble was discovered.

Glider to Climb Upward 20,000 Feet Forecast.

German Engineer Predicts Commercial Future for Plane.

CLEVELAND, Sept. 30.—A motorless airplane capable of climbing to an altitude of 20,000 feet is forecast by Dr. George H. Madelung, designer of the successful Hanover glider which, in a recent glider competition in the Rhone valley, broke all records by staying in the air for more than three hours.

Dr. Madelung now is a member of the designing staff of a local airplane company. Describing the phenomenal development of the machine in Germany, he explained its operation.

The machine has a gliding angle of 15 to one—that is, in still air it glides 15 feet to every foot it descends. It has a still-air speed of 20 miles an hour. If the wind is 20 miles an hour the glider remains stationary, and if more than that it goes backward; but if the air current is upward the glider ascends. It is upon upward currents of air that the glider places main dependence for keeping aloft for more than brief periods.

In sailing for a considerable distance the glider pilot must know approximately where he will encounter upward currents. Plowed fields and other open spaces where the heat of the sun creates a considerable up current are favorable places. It is for this reason that the charting of the air currents has become necessary for the commercial development of the glider.

When the places along a certain route where air currents may be encountered become known, flights of hundreds of miles and ascents of more than four miles may be accomplished, Dr. Madelung said.

He pointed to the hawk and other soaring birds as an illustration. The hawk will sail down to a field, whence it will cycle in ascent, forced upward by the rising air caused by the reflected heat of the field. When it has reached a sufficient altitude it soars away, to repeat the process miles distant.

In this connection, Dr. Madelung commented that the hawks and other soaring birds do not fly at night, stating that the reason is because all air currents are downward at night. Night flying is impossible with gliders for the same reason, Dr. Madelung said.

With the application of the principles discovered in gliding a new type of arplane, far more efficient and safe than the present types, will result, Dr. Madelung believes. Dr. Madelung's designs are being used extensively in the construction here of a new type of seaplane. It will have a wing design similar to that of the Hanover glider to be used by the United States navy.

Dr. Madelung was assistant engineer before the war in the German institute of aeronautical research at Aldershoff. He was called to the front as a pilot, but was later recalled to Aldershoff.

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