

Daily Democrat

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AMERICAN RADICALS LOSE

Prophecies of a "social revolution" in this country do not find much support in recent elections. The radicals had a good chance to show their strength in Chicago and Milwaukee recently, and failed dismally in both cases.

In Milwaukee the socialists had made a show of strength last fall, when they elected Victor Berger to congress. But in this local election they were beaten two to one by the conservative vote, losing both their judicial ticket and school ticket.

In Chicago the test was still more conclusive. Chicago has always had a large "radical" element. In this last election there were, in addition to the republican and democratic candidates for mayor, three radical candidates, labor, socialist and socialist labor. The labor party was considered to have an especially strong candidate in John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor. The republican and democratic candidates were not in any way remarkable. Political and economic conditions were supposed to be fostering a spirit of discontent. Now, if any time, it was supposed, radicalism would assert itself.

Yet the three radical candidates together did not poll more than 11 per cent of the votes cast, and the strongest of them did not get more than seven per cent of the votes cast. The republican candidate, who was elected by a very small plurality, beat both the socialist candidates together by more than ten to one.

In both cases the thoughtful observer may see, instead of the Bolshevik wave that so many Americans feared, a protest against the attempted Bolshevizing of the American radical movement. The American socialist party, unfortunately for itself, has fallen largely into the hands of men who profess admiration for the Bolshevik program. Instead of gaining a large following, they find that they have driven from their party the more levelheaded socialists and alienated the large following of Americans who, though never professing socialism, have had a leaning toward it.

THE LIBERTY BOND MARVEL

One of the cities which invested most heavily in Liberty Bonds, and which might therefore be supposed to have cut down its savings bank deposits, has, according to recent re-

ports, \$30,561,000 more in the banks than it had a year ago. This represents a net gain of deposits for the year of about six per cent.

Thus the Liberty Bond purchases, far from depleting the citizens' savings, are actually credited with being the chief cause of their increase. While putting scores of millions into the government securities, the people got so in the habit of saving that they had millions left over.

This is thrift indeed, of a sort which has become the usual thing in a country formerly noted for its prodigality. The experience here recorded could probably be duplicated in the majority of American cities, if anyone took the trouble to go into the records. It is a good indication of the financial readiness of the nation for the forthcoming war loan, and a good reason for investing in it liberally, without the fear formerly entertained by so many citizens of "going broke" if they bought a bond or two. People don't go broke on bonds. They save money on them, directly and indirectly.

The assurance that pig iron is to be less does not mean that it will take any fewer "iron men" to buy a roast of pork.

The Bolshevik economic principle is simple, as someone suggests. Instead of increasing supplies they decrease the population.

BETTER DAYS FOR EDUCATION

Courses of study for school and college are already undergoing revision in preparation for work next fall.

There is some sound business reasoning in this, but on the other hand it is just as possible to make education too narrowly technical as too narrowly academic. The nation which substitutes commercialism for idealism in

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the education of its young will soon be one with Nineveh and Tyre—and Germany.

While it is true that unskilled labor is receiving such high wages as to make an education seem like a waste of time, it should never be forgotten that those very wages are possible solely because every so often back in the line a man has turned aside from wage earning to bury his nose in a book.

Educational standards may need revision to meet present conditions, but they must not be lowered by taking

from them the studies which tend toward idealism rather than to material things. That is to strike a blow at the foundations of civilized society.

The thing to do is to raise the standards of education, but make education equally accessible to everybody, and then to raise the wages of the educated so that no man who has taken the time and trouble to fit himself better to serve his fellow men shall be penalized by a low wage for his effort.

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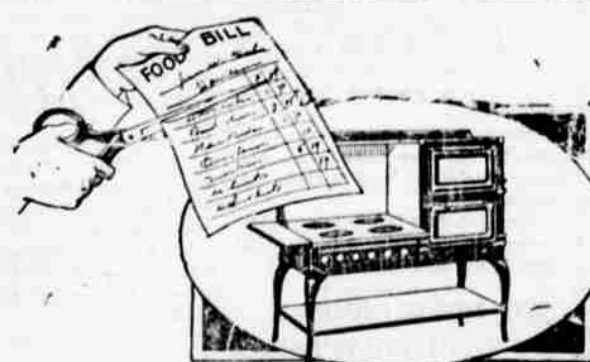
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