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GOMPERS ON BOLSHEVISM

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, who has earned a high place among the world's leaders of democracy, and who probably understands present labor conditions as well as any man living, deserves a respectful hearing from all classes when he says:

"I am absolutely opposed to Bolshevism, either in theory or in fact. In theory it is a mental impossibility; in fact—if put into operation—it would mean the decadence and perversion of the civilization of our times. I am unwilling that all the progress made by the genius of the past should be thrown to the winds.

"But it will be well for us to see that our own house is kept in order. There is another element in our life which needs scrutiny. Bolshevism is not the only danger; the standpatter and the profiteer are equally a menace. The industrial autocrat who thinks he is the monarch of all he surveys is the incentive for hatred and dissatisfaction which breed trouble."

The war has got rid of one kind of autocracy. Russian Bolshevism reveals another kind—the autocracy of a single economic class, the 'proletariat' or unskilled workers. Bolshevism is as bad as Kaiserism. And just as bad as either of them is the third type, known only too well in this country in the past, the autocracy of capital, seeking the absolute rule of its own limited class. Happily this type is less common than it was before the war. It must disappear entirely, giving way to genuine democracy in industry, if our society is to escape the opposite peril of an autocracy of unskilled labor.

There is to be a campaign against the common house fly conducted at every army camp and station this summer. Different kinds of traps are to be tried out, and swatters are to flourish everywhere. All this is doubtless a good thing, but about the only fly our soldier boys are interested in right now is 'fly away home.'

SCHOOL HOUSES FOR DANCE HALLS

At three school houses in Cleveland, community dances have been held for quite a while. A small fee is charged, which helps to pay for extra light, janitor service and mu-

sic, and also serves as a check upon the disturbing element which will seldom pay for the privilege of annoying others.

The dances are very successful and are to be continued through at least a part of the summer. Pupils and their parents come to the dances, and also people in the neighborhood having no especial interest in the schools.

The use of the school house for community dancing is but one of the many uses to which schools should be put for the public benefit. It has too long been the habit to use these expensive buildings for only such portion of the day and year as are demanded by actual school sessions. Most of them, by virtue of their location, their construction and the fact that they are centers of public interest to no small degree, are especially fitted for community use.

Almost every effort made to use them thus is successful beyond the widest hopes of those who pioneer in the attempt.

Lieut.-Col. Roosevelt says the men of the Expeditionary Force will yet rule this country. Very likely! Civil War veterans ruled this country pretty much all the way from Grant down to McKinley.

THE LONDON HORSE SHOW

They are going to have a horse show over in dear old London. A horse show!

Somewhat with all we hear about airplanes and flivvers and tractors we had about decided the horses were all dead. So the London horse show is good news.

Entries are to range from mules who distinguished themselves upon the field of honor to trotters who distinguished themselves upon the track.

It makes one think of the good old days when horse racing was not only the sport of kings but the sport of commoners as well; when the surley and the bay team were as familiar as Fords are now and when, instead of automobile races and shows we all used to go every year and watch the firemen drive the prancing engine horses around the little track without turning over the barrels which were placed at every turn. Talk about thrills! "Jake can do it if anybody can!" "Gosh! Look at old Black Prince—he's just layin' right on the ground!"

Then there was the county fair where all the girls in their

best dresses drove the farm horses, sleek and shining, up in front of the grandstand, and many a blue ribbon was won by the red-cheeked lass who could turn her team and the big spring wabon "on a half-a-dollar."

A horse show in London? Ah, there WERE horses in those days!

There will be a lot of the boys back from France by the Fourth of July. Yes, it will be a grand old Fourth.

STAND UP STRAIGHT

At one of the great colleges for women a "stand up straight" order has been issued, and if reports are to be believed the fair college 'policemen' are enforcing the order by means of that good sound slap on the back which, from time immemorial, has brought the human spine up stiff and the head straight.

There may be persons of over-refined sensibilities who deplore the slap as "unfeminine," but nobody can deplore the purpose of it.

The influence of military training has done a great deal to stiffen the spine of young feminine America. The sight of its effect upon the boys was too potent to be disregarded. But there is danger that as we revert to less martial thoughts and dress, both boys and girls may revert also to the slouching posture which has disfigured our young people in the last few years.

Besides being distinctly good for the body, a firm, erect carriage, a clean, light step, has its direct influence upon the mind, creating a tendency to assured and vigorous mental action.

As a matter of fact, the 'stand up straight' policy is a good one for old as well as young to follow. There is something about the slap on the back, though it be but mental and self-administered, with its resultant straightening of the body, which brings life's problems into better focus and stiffens the will to meet them.

To Visit Relatives

Mrs. George Bayne and son Albert went to Peoria this morning to visit relatives over Sunday.

Home From Eugene

George Cusick of the University of Oregon came home last evening to spend the week end.

Has Biblical Sanction.

The American Humane Education society thinks it has made a point by showing that "Spare the rod and spoil the child" cannot be found in the Bible, but was written by Samuel Butler in 1600. Butler probably got the alliterative "spare and spoil" from Ralph Venning, who used it in 1649, but the idea goes back to Proverbs 13:24: "He that spareth his rod hateth his son; but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." We are with the Humane society (and the chastening) in questioning the dominance of unselfish love in the average "chastening," but cannot approve of its quibbling as to the quotation, so far as substantial sanction goes.

But most people would be surprised to learn that the exact words were not scriptural, just as they would be to learn that there is no direct statement about the lion and the lamb lying down together. Many still think "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" is from the Bible, although Sterne quoted it, without credit, from Henry Estienne. Wesley's vague quotation of an ancient Hebrew's "Cleanliness is next to godliness" sounds like Bible. Numerous passages from hymns are also erroneously ascribed to scripture.—New York Times.

Business Trip

Frank Barrett, of the Mountain States Power Company made a business trip to Portland today.

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Compared them with our
Sanitary Government-
inspected Plant

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Eat

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CLEAN UP WEEK

Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be Clean Up Days in Albany. All trash should be piled on the southeast corner of block. On Tuesday the teams will work west of Washington, on Wednesday between Washington and Railroad Streets, Thursday east of Railroad. No ashes, brush or sawdust will be hauled away. Put trash in sacks or small boxes or something that can be handled easily. By order of Street Superintendent, 2nd 5 GLEN JUNKINS.

From Dover

Mrs. Willis Groshong of Dover was in the city today with her daughter Mrs. Raney who left on the noon train for her home in Oregon City.

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