

Albany Daily Democrat

Entered at the Postoffice at Albany, Oregon, as second-class matter.

W. L. JACKSON Editors and
and
RALPH R. CRONISE Managers

Daily published every evening except Sunday. Semi-weekly published Tuesdays and Fridays.

BUSINESS MATTER

In ordering changes of address, subscribers should always give Old as well as New address.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—DAILY

Delivered by Carrier, per month 40c
Delivered by Carrier, per year \$4.00
By Mail at end of year \$3.50
By Mail in Advance, per year \$3.00

CLASSIFIED RATES

One Cent Per Word for first publication; one-half cent per word thereafter, payable in advance. Minimum charge, twenty-five cents.

Established in 1865

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1919

PEACE NERVES

A London nerve specialist says that "war nerves" are not so bad as "peace nerves" that is, the nerves that accompany peace making.

During a military campaign he explains, the people can fight their hardship and depression with the mental stimulation of combat. They can and generally do, rise to the emergency precisely because the emergency is so great. But with peace comes a lessening of the stimulus, a letting down of the keyed up courage and a depression which may sink as low as the previous exaltation scored so high. In this period of dependency the public is prone to magnify difficulties and hardships, to exaggerate the grievances, to add unintentionally to the flames of controversy and to plunge into abnormal pleasures for relief from the strain and gloom.

In this way he explains the inordinate amount of drinking and dancing in various belligerent capitals, the grumbling discontent that has broken out again and again in every allied country during the peace settlement and the present crisis in Italy. They are all manifestations of abnormal psychology, which in view of the profound mental and spiritual disturbances as caused by the war might have been expected.

This is a plausible and a explanation of many things for which critics have been inclined to pronounce harsh judgment. Viewed as pathological phenomena those various outbreaks of temper and passion call for tolerant and friendly treatment.

It would be a fine thing if everybody would think of the numerous phases of peace settlement in this light, and be charitable. Such a state of mind, besides being the most kindly, human attitude would contribute more than anything else to a satisfactory solution of the big problem.

LABOR'S BILL OF RIGHTS

The "Bill of Rights" for labor drawn up by the peace conference deserves far more attention than it has received. It is to be given the dignity of incorporation in the formal peace treaty, so that it will be subscribed to by all the belligerent powers. That will give it the official endorsement of virtually all the important nations in the world. Here are the main points:

FIRST. "In right and in fact the labor of a human being should not be treated as

merchandise or an article of commerce." This is an extension to other nations of the American doctrine formally set forth in congressional statute, that labor is not a "commodity," as economists used to consider it, but a human thing, to be considered always in its human aspect.

SECOND. Employers and workers should be allowed the right of association for all lawful purposes." This seems to designate union rights alike for labor and for capital, and upholds the principle of collective bargaining.

THIRD. "No child shall be permitted to be employed in industry or commerce before the age of 14 years of age." This is an application to the rest of the world of the child-labor rule which has just become effective in this country.

FOURTH. "Every worker has a right to a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life, having regard to the civilization of his time and country."

FIFTH. "Equal pay should be given to women and men for work of equal value and quantity." This principle, developed during the war, is something new in international economics.

SIXTH. "A weekly rest, including Sunday or its equivalent, for all workers."

SEVENTH. "Limitation of the hours of work in industry on a basis of eight hours a day or 48 hours a week," subject to necessary climatic and occupational exceptions.

EIGHTH. "In all matters concerning their status as workers, foreign workers lawfully admitted to any country, and their families should be assured the same treatment as the nationals of that country." This seems no more than natural justice, but heretofore many countries have not practiced it.

NINTH. "All states should institute a system of inspection, in which women should take part, in order to insure the enforcement of the laws and regulations for the protection of workers."

Here indeed is progress, it may be objected that all these articles are mere abstract recommendations rather than binding pledges of practical reform. The word used throughout is "should", not "shall." But it is an epochal step forward to have the principles formally recognized by governments throughout the world, and such recognition will be a standing incentive for the working peo-

ple of every country to insist on them until the reforms proposed become a reality.

Don't kick about your war bill. You can't expect to get a war like that at bargain prices.

We do hope the Italians won't repudiate Columbus because he discovered America.

Watch the Germans gait change from the goose step to the side step.

THE GERMANS IN 1871

Maximilian Harden has undertaken to give the Germans some good advice regarding their present conduct toward the allies. Harden has observed with misgivings the unpleasant effect in allied countries of the insolent tone adopted by many German spokesmen. He therefore gives his countrymen a little lecture based on the history of the Franco-Prussian war.

Forty-eight years ago, he reminds them, when the Germans were making peace at Versailles as victors, and Bismarck was asked what Germany would do in case the French refused to sign the treaty, he replied:

"We will continue to occupy the forts. The armistice is not likely to be prolonged, and in any case we will lock up Paris more tightly than before. Our measures will prove more efficient when the French feel the pangs of hunger; in the meantime we will ask for their arms and their guns."

"Let them cry if they like; they would at last realize how ridiculous it is to make formidable threats, which it is impossible to carry out, to a victorious enemy."

In 1919, Harden points out, the situation is the same for the Germans as it was in 1871 for the French, "and the Iron Chancellor would think that we are threatening too much."

They are, indeed. And their threats are not only unwise because they may provoke the allies to greater severity but they are not justified by anything the allies have planned to do.

There is no allied statesman today so brutal as Bismarck was in 1871.

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NATIONAL ASHES



Daily Market Report

Local Yards

Wheat—\$2.10.
Oats—78c to 72c.
Hay—Cheat, \$25; clover, \$25.
Milfeed, ton—\$43.00.
Mohair—45c.

Butterfat—54c.
Creamery Butter—52-56c.
Dairy Butter—50c.
Pork, Veal and Mutton
Hogs—18 1/2c.
Pork on foot—17 1/2c.
Veal on foot—8 to 11c.
Steers—9 to 13c.
Cows—6 to 10c.
Lamb—9 to 14 1/2c.
Veal—8 to 11c.
Mutton—6 to 8c.

Eggs and Poultry

Eggs—37c to 39c.
Hens—28c; roasters, 14c.
Potatoes—1 1/2c trade.
Cabbages—7c.
Onions—4c.
Turnips—2 1/2c.
Parsnips—3c.
Carrots—3c.

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