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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

BOLSHEVISM ON BOTH SIDES

It was a startling statement that Samuel Gompers made the other day—that the I. W. W. and the United States Steel Corporation take the same position. Yet he made out a pretty good parallel.

The steel employers, he explained, refuse to enter into agreements with union workmen; and the I. W. W.'s say, "We will enter into no agreement with employers."

Such organizations as the Steel Trust would like to abolish unions, and such organizations as the I. W. W. would like to abolish employers.

It is not technically correct, of course, to call both Bolshevik, although Rabbi Stephens S. Wise, of New York City, and other leaders of American thought no less distinguished than he, have said practically the same thing as Mr. Gompers. Certain it is that there is about as much arrogance in one viewpoint as in the other, and that if such an attitude on the part of employers is not capitulatory Bolshevism, it tends powerfully to encourage Bolshevism among the workers.

In the present stage of civilization, at least, there must be both employers and labor unions. Both capital and labor tend to an ever-increasing degree of organization. Neither can safely ignore or flout the other. The only sensible thing, and perhaps the only possible thing, is for the two organized groups to evolve some kind of working compromise, each recognizing the other's rights and being, itself, as fair and decent as circumstances permit.

LARGE FAMILIES IN FRANCE

Current ideas as to French "race suicide" may be overturned by a revelation from the French Academy of Medicine. The Academy has been made custodian of a \$10,000,000 fund, from the income of which it is authorized to make 90 annual gifts to deserving families having nine or more children from the same parents. Word having spread over the country regarding this fund, the Academy has received applications from 12,000 French families.

If there are that many families asking for this bonus, it may be safely assumed that there are many thousand other families eligible for it.

For a considerable time two children seems to have been regarded as the ideal number in France—merely enough to replace the parents. It has been due not so much to a disinclination for children as a desire to provide comfortably for every child born. It has been a part of the French thrift program. It is clear, however, from these figures that there are plenty of families in France who have paid no attention to this rule. And there is likely to be a great increase of large families hereafter; the French people now feel keenly their paucity of population in comparison with Germany, and the need of replacing their war losses. If the French families of Canada are any criterion, the French may yet equal the Germans in this regard.

AMERICANIZED BORDEAUX

One of the big things the United States did in the war was to build huge docks and warehouses at Bordeaux in southern France. If placed end to end, these would run to a length of 250 miles. They are of the latest concrete construction, and have travelling cranes for loading and unloading huge ocean steamships in a day. The French were sure the work would take at least two years to accomplish. General Pershing figured that it would be of no avail unless it were completed in six months, and in six months it was done.

These structures are, naturally, of no further use to the United States, but of great value to France, which has recently bought them.

The opportunities of the French city are immensely enhanced by the possession of these shipping facilities, and its foreign trade will doubtless spring to new and huge proportions. Her imports have been chiefly metals, English coal, timber, grain and manufactured articles; her exports have been cloth, chemicals and wines.

It will be a matter of great satisfaction to Americans that France may be thus served by our war measures. And it will always be a matter of pride and gratification to them that they have this share in the sudden and Yanyee-like expansion of Bordeaux.

Two Irish newspapers appearing regularly in the Democrat's mail are the Western Freeman and the Irish World. Both espouse the cause of "President" Eammon De Valera of Ireland in America.

The final payment on the Fifth Liberty Loan Bonds is due Nov. 11—Armistice Day. It is important the last and final payment shall be made promptly, so that the bonds may be delivered immediately.

The wife of Lieut. "Hardboiled" Smith has secured a divorce on the grounds of cruel and inhuman treatment.

The humble evergreen blackberry is discovered to have been brought by skippers to Oregon from Hawaii. Its green and luscious vines swarm over the state's wild lands have been producing much pin-money for country people this year. It was considered a pest and burden for years.

The Shedd Bugle, a new Linn county newspaper, has sounded reveille.

"Let's push Germans back to Riga front"—headline. Altogether, now, let's do it.



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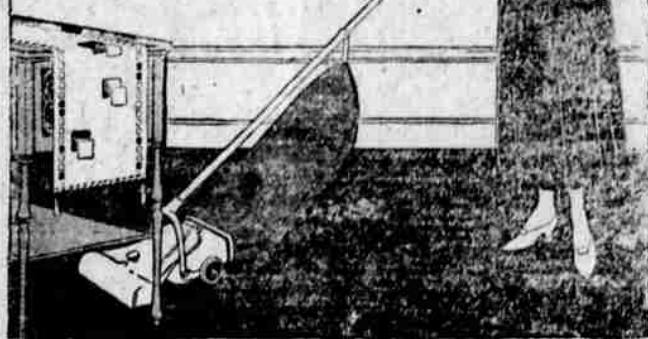
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