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W. L. Jackson and Ralph R. Cronise
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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

WORKER, NOT CLOWN

Lady Astor, who has just taken her seat in the House of Commons, has written a letter to London newspapers begging that she be regarded as "a regular working member of parliament and not a curiosity."

During her campaign, she says, "Instead of reporting the principles for which I stood, the newspapers were more anxious for good headlines, so they urged what they called my witty responses." She understands that as the first woman to hold a seat in Commons, she must naturally be considered good copy by the papers, and is willing to stand it. She has faith that the district she represents will understand this, and take journalistic reports at their true value, but, she adds:

"I feel that people in the other parts of the country must necessarily regard me as a vulgar, if witty, mountebank, and this is not a reputation helpful to a woman's position of great responsibility, who needs all the help she can get. I am hoping therefore that you will allow me to say how sincerely I intend to carry out my work and justify the trust the Sutton division has reposed in me."

This sounds like business. Lady Astor's attitude is one that inspires faith in her ability and good sense. Her costume when she took the oath confirms this—a simple black suit with white collar, small black hat and no jewels whatsoever.

One of the most difficult things for a woman to face and live down in entering any new field of service is this atmosphere of ridicule, this determination to regard her as a clown or a costume display. By her simplicity of garb, Lady Astor will soon be able to conquer the one point of view. If she maintains the same dignity and sanity which mark her letter, she will effectually dispose of the other, and prove herself the "regular working member" she wishes to be considered, and no mediocre one at that.

THE HONEST HOTELMAN

If Diogenes, unsatisfied in his earthly search for the honest man, is still prying with his lantern among the dark corners of the universe, he may now cease his age-long wandering and find peace for his soul.

The honest man has been found. He lives in Chicago and manages a hotel. His name is Earnest J. Stevens, and the hotel is the La Salle.

A few days ago he ordered a sharp and comprehensive reduction in the prices of rooms and food in his hostelry, and explained that he had taken this action "in the hope of starting a general movement back toward reasonable profits."

"I don't know how to get a reduction of prices unless some one starts it," he said. "Everybody knows that this is a day of extortion. 'Get it while the getting is good' seems to be everybody's motto."

This is the real thing. This man known that no movement ever started without a leader. He is willing to do his part, at a sacrifice if need be. If he can weather the storm which will undoubtedly descend upon him from those disgruntled ones whose game he has spoiled, he will surely find many followers among people who have been wanting to do as he has done, but have not quite had the courage. Also public opinion, honest and recent at bottom, will soon shame the rest into acquiescence.

Why not revive a wartime custom and let every business institution that is taking only a pre-war percentage of profit, and is willing to prove it by its books, hang a flag with a symbol on it over the door? The lantern of the Greek sage might be a fitting emblem.

A CURE FOR BOLSHEVISM

Undoubtedly Americanization is the most important cure for Bolshevism in this country. But what is meant exactly by "Americanization"?



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Compelling alien residents to become citizens and teaching them to read, write and speak our language are steps in Americanization, but they do not accomplish the whole fact. To complete the process they must be made over into Americans, that is, taught American initiative, independence, courage and ideals.

This is truly a land of opportunity. Many people have come here seeking opportunity, and in so far as they have earnestly sought and honestly striven they have found it and profited by it. But there are a great many aliens coming here who are so accustomed to lack of opportunity that they do not know how to recognize and grasp it when it is before them. They have grown up in an atmosphere of oppression, and do not realize that they are really out from under it when they come to this country. They are the ones who must be Americanized or made to stay at home.

As the World's Work remarks editorially, "Fundamentally our Government is an instrument by which a vigorous people will look after their own interests. It did not include machinery paternally guiding groups who prefer to be managed rather than to manage themselves." Such groups must be taught the science of self-government and given the inspiration to practise it, rather than their own underhand systems of violence.

This work can not be done negatively by letting things drift. There must be active work on the part of the individual American citizens and of every organization and institution that has the best interests of America at heart. It is not a quick task, either. It will take years of persistent effort and steady work. But it will be more than worth every bit of time, money and energy put into it.

REPRINTED EDITORIALS

TWO PICTURES

(Walla Walla Bulletin)
It is said that the Apaches had five words for murder, not one for love.

A recent analysis of soviet literature is said to show ten words for destruction, only one for construction; six words for communism, only one for patriotism.

Bolshevism, according to linguistic analysis, yields many words meaning pain, agony, torment, fear, awe, sadness, hunger, tears, distress, misery, imprisonment, adversity, calamity, disaster and confiscation.

Bolshevistic writings also yield many words meaning bereavement, widow, orphan, doom, death, grave and punishment.

We also find the following words abounding in soviet literature: revolt, masses, classes, seize, destroy, burn, demolish, blow up, and finally: "In the work of destruction we must be merciless."

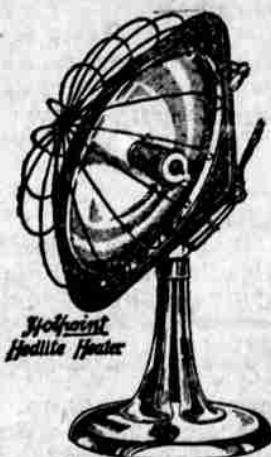
Americanism abounds in such words as love, brotherhood, home, country, protection, sympathy, pity, fellow-feeling, compassion, charity, friend, country, God, progress, assistance, hope.

The conditions portrayed by philology are as true to life as the negative is to that upon which the camera is focused. Take your choice.

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Comment of the State Press

Snappy Gleanings from the Press of the Valley

He Will Not Mention That Phase—

Will Senator Lodge please explain why the "killing" of the peace treaty raised the hopes of Germany so high that she now flatly refuses to sign herself? asks the Medford Mail Tribune, (Rep.)

The Auction Block—

The latest sensation from Mexico is that Villa has been captured by his own men and will be sold to the highest bidder, remarks the Guard. It is naturally presumed by the bandits that their chief is badly wanted by the United States and Mexico. Villa has not been killed for some time past and ought to be in prime condition, a fact that should enhance his ransom value.

More Mills For Coos—

A new logging camp is being established on Smith river by some parties from Coos Bay, who will engage in getting out logs for the Winchester Bay Lumber Co.—Umpqua Courier.

We Are Old Hands Now—

It was just about a year ago when Lieutenant Hogland made his path-finding flight from Sacramento to the north, and business was practically suspended during the times he was expected to be seen in the air. Now a passing plane excites little more attention than a circling buzzard, the Eugene Register remarks.

The New Beast—

The newest word is "Betriebsraete" which is German for Soviet. If the German Betriebsraete is as much worse than the Russian Soviet as the name is, Germany will be duly punished for all her crimes, opines the Corvallis Times.

Among Others—

There is no doubt that profiteering exists in the manufacture of print paper, thinks the Seio Tribune. The price has increased over 300 per cent over pre war days.

Nearly as Modern as Montana—

Lady Astor, the former Nancy Langhorne of Virginia, has been elected the first female of the British parliament.—Times, Brownsville.

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