

SOVIETS BUT UPON THE ALLIES WHO HAVE CUT OFF THE FOOD SUPPLY OF SIBERIA."

In a word Bolshevik propaganda ascribes all good results to Bolshevism and all bad results to the allies. It is simplicity itself.

European Russia is one of the great granaries of the world, but the Bolsheviks cannot save the people from starvation.

If the railroads are broken down, why not build them up? Let us present this inspiring picture—taken from the catechism—of increased production under Bolshevik rule:

"The Soviet committee closed the plant (the so-called 'American Works' at Vladivostok) and put the men to work in other places. Then it reorganized the shops and started up with a force of 1,800 men. In the underframe section, instead of 1,400 there were 350, but by means of short cuts, introduced by the workers themselves, the output of the department was increased. Altogether the 1,800 men on the new payroll were turning out twelve cars a day—an efficiency increase of more than 100 per cent per man."

Evidently that referred to a condition existing some months ago. If such a shop was like all other Bolshevik shops in Siberia and European Russia there is no reason why the Soviet republic should have made a miserable failure of both production and distribution. The railroads should have been rehabilitated quickly. Instead, they are still broken down and living conditions worse than ever.

In this catechism we find it stated that religion is free in Russia just as in the United States. "The Catholic, the Protestant, the Jew can worship as he pleases."

General Paris, of the French army, arrived in San Francisco the other day and told the horrible story of the death of the Romanoffs. The czarina and her daughters were mistreated before the eyes of the czar and then he was shot to death in the basement of the house in which he lived. In his statement Colonel Paris goes on to tell us how "free" religion is in Russia. He says:

"But the priests—many were stripped of their clothing and stood upright in especially constructed boxes, filled with ice; thus they were frozen to death. Others were thrown naked on spiked planks. Many were decapitated. In many ways, inconceivable to the average human mind, they were massacred.

"And some people are advocating that the Bolsheviks be recognized as 'the most democratic government in the world.'"

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IF WE MAY SAY SO.

"IT is very delightful, for one thing, if I may say so, to know that my presidency is not ahead of me and that his presidency is ahead of him," said President Wilson at a banquet given in honor of Dr. Epitacio Pessoa, president-elect of Brazil.

It is a very delightful thought, if we may say so. It is very delightful to the Republicans of the United States, if we may say so. It is very delightful to many Democrats, if we may say so. They take it for granted that Woodrow Wilson is not to be president of the United States after March 4, 1921. But does the president mean that he will not run again? Did ever a candidate intimate so gently that he would not seek re-election?

Thrice did they offer Caesar the kingly crown and thrice did he refuse it, each time more weakly than before. There lurks a suspicion in our mind that the president is reversing the process and begins with the weakest rejection first. We would much prefer an open rejection openly arrived at. We think that the president should enter into an open covenant with the people of the United States. It would be very delightful, if we may say so.

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DEVIOUS DANIELS.

SECRETARY DANIELS returns from his whisperings in Europe to announce that the United States will be under the protection of the League of Nations and, therefore, will not need the biggest navy. Last December he declared that as a member of the League of Nations the United States should have the biggest navy.

Secret understandings secretly arrived at apparently occupied the time of Secretary Daniels while in Europe. He hints that Great

Britain will turn aside from its program and devote its efforts to improvements in types.

Congress has only the impressions of the secretary to guide it. Great Britain has not bound itself—at all events not openly—to limit its program. If it should build all the ships it plans the United States navy will be far inferior in strength to the British navy five years hence.

What mysterious influences or assurances have led President Wilson and Secretary Daniels to alter their plans? What duties of a naval character were to devolve upon the United States as a result of last December's understandings in London and Paris? What lighter duties have foreigners assigned to us that makes it unnecessary that we have the greatest navy?

So far as the American people are aware there has been no change in conditions. They have only the word of the secretary that conditions have changed and his explanations, as reported in the dispatches, are vague. He seems to have heard in the country of Talleyrand that words were made to conceal thought.

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POLISH AMAZONS.

SEVERAL dispatches have informed us that the Poles were making headway in their campaign against the Ukrainians north of Lemberg. One of these dispatches briefly notes that the advance was carried out by "Polish women battalions and troops from the garrison at Lemberg."

How profound the yearning in Poland for freedom and independence when even the women will form regiments to fight for their country. It is no discredit to Russia's celebrated "Battalion of Death" to say that the women warriors of that organization cannot be ranked with the women of soldiers of Poland. The "Battalion of Death" met the trained regulars of Germany in combat and lost. The women of Poland defeated the Ukrainians north of Kulikoff and advanced.

Is not this the first time that women have fought and won on the field of battle? History tells us that women occasionally aided the men in the defense of cities or even on the field of battle, but if it has recorded a regular campaign successfully conducted by women soldiers in the field we have missed the thrilling narrative.

Legend has it that the Amazons, a race of gigantic women, once maintained themselves against all the warriors with whom they made war or who made war on them. Strange to say, their country was somewhere in the Slavic lands where our modern women warriors are fighting. But no one ever attached much credence to this fantastic story of ancient barbarism. It has remained for modern civilization to produce successful women warriors.

The story suggests a splendid field for moralizing, but as we pause to think what the moral is we are puzzled and so leave it to our readers.

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THE FATAL WEDDING.

AS the day approaches for the marriage ceremony according to the covenant of the League of Nations, Uncle Sam, the bridegroom, feels his heels winging themselves for flight, so to speak. Courage is oozing away through every pore and there are many indications that Dame Europa will find herself alone at the altar. The more Uncle Sam thinks of the marriage of convenience the more he dreads it.

Thus figuratively we have tried to express the indecision which is possessing the soul of the American public. "To sign or not to sign" is a question for the United States as well as for Germany.

In the spring our fancy lightly turned to idealism. We—that is to say most of us—fancied that the League of Nations was the long-sought antidote for war and preservative of universal peace. But now that a final decision must be made by the one body which can give effect to the League of Nations the public is not so certain of its ground. It hopes that the senate will act with more than human wisdom in making the choice. The public, in fact, feels relieved that the burden of decision rests upon the senate.

The senators themselves are not allured by the prospect. They have been browbeaten and cudgeled by a public which was not sure