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duced exactly the effect they desired, which was a reign of terror. A band of women who can scare the guardians of the largest city in the world are not ridiculous. They are a power to be reckoned with.

OPTIMISM WHERE IT IS NEEDED.
The Medford Mail-Tribune is a Democrat and an optimist. It is the former through sheer perversity and the latter through outright necessity. It sees a bright future for the wool industry in Oregon, because a lucky grower in Umatilla County recently sold his clip at 13 cents, an entire cent above last year's sale price, and has contrived to stave off bankruptcy a little longer. "All of which shows," cries our little friend, "how much bonum there is in this tariff calamity howl."

MURDER AND HOMICIDE.
In a recent article Rev. C. F. Aked dwells with telling effect on the great number of murders in the United States and grows satirical over our preference for the euphemism "homicide" over the frankly brutal word "murder." In the year 1913, he says, there were 8992 deaths by violence in the United States, or "more than the aggregate for any ten civilized countries, exclusive of Russia, where the record is swollen by the murder of Jews." He quotes a Georgia judge as saying that there are more homicides in that one state than in the whole British Empire, with its 400,000,000 people. Then he adds: "But in the British Empire some persons speak English. And they still call it murder."

PLENTY WATER, YET A SHORTAGE.
Commissioner Brewster, we understand from his letter published elsewhere today, would narrow the water-meter controversy to a question of purchasing only 10,000 meters. There is no water shortage, he says, and none in prospect; the need of equalizing rates by the meter system is yet to be demonstrated. His purpose in supporting the purchase of the first installment of meters is to enable the department to equalize the supply in districts where the distributing system is inadequate and to permit the metering of certain business establishments that use more than the domestic consumer.

KILLING THE GOOSE.
Were we in a position to offer good advice to Mrs. George Broadhurst we should urge her to pause and reflect. Her husband is a playwright and a brilliantly successful one, and she is bothering the wits out of him with court proceedings. He is the author of "The Man of the Hour," "Within the Law," and other plays which have taken the country by storm. For the last two years they have paid him more than \$100,000 a year. Unhappily, the playwright and his wife are no longer agreeable to each other and are living apart.

INCONSIDERATE SENATOR CUMMINS.
Senator Cummins does not intend to let his Presidential primary bill rest in a committee pigeonhole, much as President Wilson's Southern followers would like to smother and eternally forget it. A few days ago he recalled to the memory of Senators the fact that his bill was introduced in April, 1913, but that nothing had been done with it. When he called attention to it two months ago, the chairman, Senator Kern, said the committee would consider his bill as soon as the cases of Senators-elect Lee and Glass had been disposed of, but that there was no meeting since then. He therefore moved that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill. Mr. Kern in reply descanted on the

assiduity of his committee and explained its inaction on the Cummins bill by the illness of some members and the necessary absence of others. He promised an early meeting, at which the bill would be taken up. As that great apostle of white supremacy, Senator Yardaman, is a member of the committee, we may look for an interesting session when the bill is considered. The possibility that negroes voting freely at the Republican primaries might bring into strong relief the suppression of their votes at elections cannot be pleasing to Mr. Yardaman. In a speech against the woman suffrage amendment the Senator said there were probably 50,000 more adult male negroes than white men in Mississippi. If there were to be a full turnout of negroes at Republican primaries and if it proved in consequence that there were more Republicans than Democrats in that state, the fact would be very disconcerting to the Senator and his friends. The Republicans might not then submit tamely to Democratic domination through suppression of the negro vote.

NEW STORY OF PANAMA.
"The Story of Panama," which has been told from one standpoint at a Congressional inquiry and from another by President Roosevelt and those who were associated with him in obtaining the canal concession, has been related from a third standpoint by Philippe Bunau-Varilla, who has been an active worker for the great canal for thirty years. His connection with it began as a division engineer in 1885 and continued to the day in 1903 when, as Minister from the new republic of Panama, he and Secretary Hay signed the treaty which secured the concession to the United States. In fact, Mr. Bunau-Varilla has made the Panama canal his life's passion, for he says that from his boyhood he consecrated his life to its cause. He was educated as an engineer with that view, became engineer in charge of the Pacific division, which included the Culebra cut, and at the age of 26 was chief engineer. He developed the Panama canal project which was adopted by the French company and which, he says, would have completed the canal in four years—that is, in 1892.

When the wireless telephone is perfected, that convenient art ought to become as cheap as air or pretty nearly so. Marconi is at work on the invention with cheering prospects of success. We dare say our Government is shrewd not to be in haste about buying up poles and wires for postal service. In a few years, such paraphernalia may be mere rubbish.

STERILIZATION LAWS.
Sterilization laws fare better with sentimental legislators than with the people or the courts. Our prize Oregon statute was rejected upon a referendum. The New Jersey act was canceled by the courts. Now the Iowa law is on trial and its "finish" is in plain sight. The time, it seems, has not yet come for sterilization laws.

PORTLAND PULLS OFF A MILLION-DOLLAR FIRE.
Portland pulls off a million-dollar fire before breakfast and attends to business all day. Portland is neither spectacular nor hysterical.

WASHINGTON IS STILL HOPEFUL.
Washington is still hopeful that Carranza will recede from his belligerent attitude. Also that Huerta will resign.

CHICAGO MEN HAVE TRADED A SKYSCRAPER FOR OREGON LAND.
Chicago men have traded a skyscraper for Oregon land. Shrewd traders, those Chicagoans.

STARS AND STARMAKERS.
BY LEONE GARR BAER.
One thing I know. I'm not going to wear an orange-colored wig next Tuesday.
Mary Edgett Baker says that a Spring bonnet is rather to be chosen than great riches for on great riches you have to pay an income tax.

ROSEBURG, OR., MARCH 10.—(To the Editor.)—The short sketch relating to Hon. George M. Brown in The Oregonian March 10 relates a few facts regarding his career as District Attorney for many years. A long personal acquaintance with Mr. Brown impels me to say a few words more regarding George M. Brown, the man, and George M. Brown, the prosecutor.

HOUSES ARE BUILT TOO LARGE.
NEWBERG, OR., MARCH 11.—(To the Editor.)—Some of the causes for the high cost of living would be kept if people would quit building large houses. I was just taking a look over this little town of about 3000 inhabitants and most of the houses are nicely built and have from six to ten rooms and are mostly nicely furnished and have from two to three people living in them. These people don't need these big houses. They would much more comfortable in smaller houses and it would lessen the work of the women and they would have more time and could put in that time in the garden and raise a few fresh vegetables.

ELIMINATION IS BEST FOR ALL.
GEEK THINKS COUNTRYMEN WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT COFFEE-HOUSES.
PORTLAND, MARCH 11.—(To the Editor.)—In conjunction with the other places of public nuisance, the so-called Greek "coffee-houses" have been offering their share of trouble to the city. Greek myself, I believe that I am qualified to say a word concerning these places whose maintenance, to my regret, is still tolerated by some of my countrymen.

MAJOR MUST BE CITIZEN.
HOLLEY, OR., MARCH 10.—(To the Editor.)—What was Judge Kelly's reason for his decision in the Woodburn Mayoralty contest?
The only question presented to Circuit Judge Kelly in the Woodburn Mayoralty case was whether Mr. Landon was a citizen of the United States, which was decided in the negative. The charter of the town of Woodburn provides in effect, writes Judge Kelly, that only citizens of the United States are eligible to hold the office of Mayor. Mr. Landon testified that he was born in Canada, and had never declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States nor applied for or received any order from any court declaring him to be such a citizen.

POEM IDENTIFIED.
CORVALLIS, OR., MARCH 11.—The poem for which J. H. Bristol, M. D., asks in The Morning Oregonian March 9, "Cyrus There isn't any fellow, the title being Greek for 'potter's clay.' MRS. E. F. AYRES.

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Twenty-five Years Ago.
From The Oregonian of March 13, 1889.
Washington, March 13.—The President has sent to the Senate the nomination of Cornelius H. Hanford to be Chief Justice of the Territory of Washington.

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