The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1915.

THE LUSITANIA.

By sinking the Lusitania the Germans have shown their determination to destroy the commerce of Great Britain with neutral countries by any means and at all hazards. The loss of many lives, even of neutrals, appears to be matter of no consequence to them; or, if it is of consequence, they take the hazard. Until all the facts are known it cannot be stated how gravely, in this instance, the rights of neutrals and the dictates of a common humanity have been outraged.

Of certain facts there can be no question. The Lusitania, though adapted for conversion into a cruiser and though equipped with twelve six-inch guns, was engaged in commerce, not in any warlike enterprise. She carried many passengers, a majority of whom were doubtless Americans and therefore neutrals. She also carried much freight, a large part—perhaps the larger part—of which was contraband of war. Even the allies do not deny that a German warship would have been justified in seizing the Lusitania and taking the vessel into a German port for search. If the bulk of cargo was contraband, the Germans might hold her as a prize, or, in case they could not take her into port without danger to the captor, they could sink her. But first they must give warning to all persons on board to leave the ship and must allow time for this to be done. These are the rules laid down in the Declaration of London, and, though that instrument is not in force, its principles have been hitherto recognized by civilized nations.

In defense of the sinking of the ship it may be pleaded that warning was given before she sailed that this fate awaited her and that those who went on board did so at their own peril. This warning may be construed by the owners as no palliation, but as an aggravation of what they consider the offense of her destroyers and as justifying the ship in carrying guns for defense. The Lusitania was on a peaceful mission and was doing no military service. Her guns were intended solely for defense; the presence on board of 1253 civilian passengers, mostly of neutral nations, precluded the idea that she was roving in search of hostile ships to capture. Yet she was torpedoed ten miles from shore, without warning, and sank in 30 minutes. The act evinces a disregard for the lives of non-combatants which prior to this war characterized barbarians alone.

When Germany proclaimed a purpose to inaugurate a submarine blockade of British seas, of which the sinking of the Lusitania is the most serious outcome except for the loss of life on the Falaba, the United States Government informed Germany that the announced plan of operations was contrary to international law and that strict accountability would be exacted for all infractions of that law. In face of this warning a German submarine torpedoed the American steamer Gulflight and a German aeroplane dropped bombs on the American steamer Cushing. The British passenger steamer Falaba was sunk. The fact that an American was among the passengers drowned gives the United States a direct interest in that case.

Regard for the honor of the United States and for the rights of American citizens demands that the Government follow up its protests with earnest claims for reparation. No self-respecting nation can permit such acts to pass without vigorous measures to obtain satisfaction. Our Government has rightly chosen to exhaust the resources of diplomacy in an effort to uphold our rights and at the same time to maintain our neutrality in the presence of a war the ramifications of which spread from month to month. This latest event, which nearly concerns us, is an evidence of the war's tendency to involve us, strive as we may to avoid being drawn into it. In this respect we are in the same position as other neutrals, for the Germans, in their war on British commerce, have made war on the ships of Holland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. One would suppose that Germany had enemies enough to satisfy her, but she seems not to care how many are added in striking at those she already has.

WOMEN AND PEACE.

The common notion that women would sacredly keep the peace if they ruled the world derives some confirmation from their recent congress at The Hague. But with the full accounts of the meeting before us a few misgivings arise.

The inborn pugnacity of women is a fact of rather frequent notice. "The public scold" who troubled the peace of our forefathers was a woman. The ducking stool was invented for her behoof as a cooling, but not too perilous, mode of checking belligerent loquacity. The words termagant, shrew, harridan, Amazon and the like indicate the persistence with which the female has exercised her warlike proclivities in the course of the centuries. It need not surprise us, therefore, if some of these proclivities came out at The Hague.

The delegates gathered there were unanimously "for peace," as a matter of course, but what kind of peace? There was the rub. We all want peace if we can get the exact kind that suits us. If we cannot, most of us are for war, at least as long as other people do the fighting.

'Twas thus with the women at The Hague. It appeared, as the deliberations proceeded, that the delegates wanted "peace with justice," and when it came to defining justice, that holy word was found to have many meanings. To the English delegates it meant the supremacy of Great Britain. To the Austrians it meant the healing of the Hapsburgs' wounds and the continued subjection of Poland and Hungary. Many women many minds, as the old proverb puts it. They disagreed with one another about as a similar gathering of men would.

This is what any reflective person would have expected. As The Oregonian has faithfully pointed out many a time and oft, women are human beings with all the rights of human beings, but, unhappily, with all their frailties, too. Among these frailties is an inability to forget their own personal and patriotic interests. If they could they would be angels, as the romantic novelists so often make them. Most of us do not find angels particularly agreeable. We prefer Eve's daughters, whom, with all their faults, we still love.

WHAT O' THE NIGHT?

The sinking of the Lusitania is a sobering and startling event—the most impressive single thing on the seas since the war began. It is the climax of the recent series of distinct German successes. It is a remarkable triumph of the thorough-going and far-reaching German system, for undoubtedly it was planned days ago to strike just at this time and just in that way at the Lusitania. Else what did the special warnings of the Imperial German Embassy, just before the Lusitania sailed, mean?

The war has come nearer than ever to America through the Lusitania disaster. A great ship sailing from neutral America through peaceful waters into the danger zone is given a crashing blow by an unseen enemy and is sent to the bottom.

What hidden enemies lurk beneath the placid surface of America's serenity? What unknown dangers lurk in the path of America's own ship of state? What of weal or woe for us do the blue skies above us or the deep waters beneath us contain? Whither are we bound? What of the morrow? Who knoweth the time or the place which will change for us the friendly aspect of a peaceful fortune? What next?

Fate steals along with silent tread,
Found oftenest in what least we dread,
Frowns in the storm with angry brow,
But in the sunshine strikes the blow.

MAKE IT WORTH WHILE.

The tumult and the shouting over completion of the Celilo canal having nearly died out—with due recognition of the final celebration at Astoria today—let us once more repeat that a canal or a navigable river without traffic is a waste.

The Government has expended about $7,000,000 to open up the Columbia River to Priest Rapids and to Lewiston—$5,000,000 at Celilo and $2,000,000 at the Cascade Locks. What is to be done to get a return on the investment?

Traffic will not be developed spontaneously or automatically. There are two lines of railroad for 200 miles up the Columbia from Portland, and one railroad for 100 miles below Portland. They have all, or nearly all, the present business of the Inland Empire through their systems of feeders and of warehouses. If the river and canal are to be used profitably, they must get some or all the present railroad traffic, or create new traffic, or both. They cannot get either without facilities.

There are no adequate facilities now in the way of warehouses or of road feeders and very little for the present steamboat line to do.

It requires but a brief and simple statement of the situation to show that something—a great deal—yet is to be done to make the Celilo canal worth while.

CHINA'S SURRENDER TO JAPAN.

Japan may have extorted from China, by threats of force, concessions which place Japan to a large extent in control of both the foreign and internal affairs of China, but that does not end the matter. Japan united with the United States and the European powers in an agreement to maintain the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China and the principle of equal commercial opportunity to all nations. Before the other nations can allow the Chino-Japanese agreement to become effective, they must be convinced that it does not contravene this prior agreement. Its terms are of such a nature that such proof is impossible. If Japan insists on her bargain without furnishing this proof, she will prove that she has adopted the new definition of treaties and other international agreements as scraps of paper.

Under cover of promoting her commerce in China and of preventing any other nation from gaining a position in that country which would endanger Japanese territory, Japan has extorted rights in China which are in no way necessary to those purposes. She demanded for herself concessions of the same kind as she called upon China to deny all other nations. When China had granted all the rights of mining, railroad building, trade and settlement, also all the special rights derived from the lease of Southern Manchuria, Japan threatened China with armed force unless she granted further political and territorial rights which are inconsistent with Chinese independence and with the open-door principle to which Japanese faith is pledged.

Japan wishes to dictate what foreign political advisers China shall employ and wishes to have joint control with China over the manufacture of war munitions. She demands that no foreign loans be made without her consent. She insists that China grant no concessions on the coast to other nations, but leaves herself free to obtain such concessions. The pretext for this last demand is that a contract was granted a private American corporation to build a naval dock for China. The inference is that Japan would allow no non-Japanese enterprise to obtain a foothold, even though it had no connection with a foreign government, but would permit Japanese enterprises to be established there and would seek governmental control of that part of the coast.

The position Japan seeks in China is analogous to that which Britain obtained in Egypt in 1882. If Japan were to succeed in her designs, the outcome would in all probability be the same as in Egypt—complete control of the government and final annexation by Japan. As a result, Japan would Japanize China, as she has Japanized Corea, and other nations would have to be content with such rights of trade and industry in China as Japan chose to allow.

A time for these demands has been chosen when the great powers of Europe are in no position to enforce any protests they may make. The United States alone is free from the entanglements of war and alliances, but our position has been greatly weakened by the conduct of the present Administration. When President Wilson took office, the diplomatic support of the United States was behind American bankers who were to participate in making the six-power loan to China. That support was given in order to secure for the United States an influential voice in Chinese foreign relations and to secure for American capital and enterprise an opening in China and a share with men of other nations in that country's development. One of Mr. Wilson's first acts was to withdraw that support, and the American bankers consequently withdrew from the negotiations. The United States thus abandoned the position by which it would have been able to keep the door open, yet is now the only Nation which is free to insist upon the maintenance of the open-door policy. Those nations which maintained their position then are now unable to maintain it.

The United States Government will doubtless protest with all the vigor of which it is capable, but protests will prove as unavailing as did a scrap of paper in keeping the Germans out of Belgium. The American people would not willingly fight to enforce the open-door principle, and the ultra-pacific disposition of the Administration is so well known that it cannot be expected even to threaten war. The best we can expect is that Secretary Bryan will make impotent protests. If China should fall completely under the domination of Japan, the time may come when we shall believe it would have been worth while to aid her in resisting aggression. Having reorganized and rejuvenated China, Japan may use that country's millions in carrying out vaster schemes of aggression, which the power of Europe and America combined may alone be able to withstand.

The status of China is likely to be considered and decided at the peace congress which will follow the present war. American interests in the Orient are so vital that they require this Nation's participation, not merely as mediator, but as a party to the negotiations.

HIS CHANCE.

Theodore Roosevelt owes William Barnes a debt of gratitude for an extraordinary opportunity to put before the public once more the Roosevelt record, the Roosevelt personality and the Roosevelt methods. It is true enough that the people of the United States, and of the world, had shown a diminishing interest in the sayings and doings of Mr. Roosevelt since his disastrous political divagation in 1912. Not by the arts of authorship, nor by the exploits of the explorer, nor by the noisy devices of the crusader, had he been able to sustain himself in the public eye.

At this juncture along comes Mr. Barnes with his silly and frivolous libel suit. As a political boss—or leader, if he prefers—he ought to have learned the value of patient and silent submission to criticism; as a newspaper publisher, he should have been the last to drop the weapon in his own hands and fly to the courts for protection.

Mr. Roosevelt has risen grandly to the occasion. He has welcomed the opportunity to talk about himself. When asked the other day if he was sure that he did right in a certain transaction his reply was: "Why, of course, for I did it." Can you beat that? Yet evidently Roosevelt believes it. Not a single thing has been disclosed in all the minute investigation of his every act, through many years, that was in the slightest degree discreditable or dishonorable, if his frankly confessed relations with the bosses be excepted. What other public man who knew that 150,000 letters written by him were in the possession of others but might have been nervous if he learned they were to be made public.

Mr. Barnes may get a verdict, but we hazard the guess that he will not. But whether he does or not, he will not get what Roosevelt has had out of the trial.

CRYPTOGRAMS IN PEACE AND WAR.

Cipher dispatches of one sort and another play an important part in all wars, but they are common enough also in times of peace. Diplomats use them continually. Ciphers and cryptograms are in fact keystones in the arches of that secret diplomatic structure which does so much to keep up hostility between nations and bring on needless wars. The persons who agitate against secret diplomacy will do well to pay a good deal of attention to cipher dispatches. Business men also employ them, mainly for economy, though often for secrecy, too. Those who telegraph much find it a great saving to send cipher messages in which a single word may stand for an entire sentence. Cryptograms are a godsend to the novelists. "The Treasure Island" gains half its interest from the puzzling cipher guide to the location of the buried treasure. Dozens of other novelists have employed the same device, but none of them so skilfully as Stevenson, and even his genius in this matter pales before Poe's, who was the father of all the literary constructors and decipherers of cryptograms. There never was a better one than he used in "The Goldbug."

Melville Davisson Post, writing agreeably on "Secret Ciphers" in the Saturday Evening Post, reminds us that Poe boasted himself able to decipher any secret code, no matter how complicated it might be or in what language it was composed. A hundred cryptograms were sent in to test his adeptness, some of them in a mixed jargon of several languages, but that made no difference. He unraveled them all easily enough. It was a favorite opinion of his that any secret code devised by a human brain could be deciphered by another brain and he went far to prove that he was right. Military men have exerted infinite skill to make their secret dispatches unintelligible to the enemy, but almost every government has adepts who can read them, given a little time. There is no such thing as an impenetrable secret, once it has been committed to writing. The most famous cryptogram in the world was the hieroglyphics on the Rosetta stone which was found in Egypt early in the last century. Beside the hieroglyphic inscription on the stone were two others, one in Greek and one in Coptic.

By unwearied comparison of the three, Champollion, the famous French founder of Egyptology, managed to recover the meaning of the hieroglyphics which had been lost to the world for centuries. He began, as every decipherment of a cryptogram must, with a lucky guess. He assumed that the three inscriptions recorded the same event. Thus he was able to pick out words, such as the name of the King, that must be identical in all of them, and so step by step he unraveled the whole. Champollion's triumph has been the foundation of greater wonders than any he himself achieved. The language written with hieroglyphics was known to science. All he had to do was to unveil the meaning of the written characters, which was, after all, comparatively easy. Mr. Post tells of a stone found in Persia, plainly a relic of great antiquity, bearing inscriptions consisting of unknown characters in an unknown tongue. Luckily this was subsequent to Champollion's work and his methods were promptly applied to the riddle by a German scholar. In due time this gentleman reconstructed the alphabet and actually restored the forgotten language of the inscriptions. The decipherment of the cuneiform inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia, from which so much has been learned about the Scriptures, is nothing more than cryptogram work very much like that described by Poe in "The Goldbug" and his magazine articles on the subject.

It can hardly be doubted that Poe would have been a dangerous rival of Champollion and the other decipherers of mysterious inscriptions had opportunity been kinder to him. In his day America knew nothing of that "specialization" which is now deemed so essential to sound scholarship. Everybody was educated after the same fashion and studied the same branches. The colleges made no effort whatever to discover and foster genius. So Poe went through life a man without a fixed calling. Nobody in his day knew how to value even his poems, perhaps the most precious treasures of our literature, much less did his contemporaries make any account of his marvelous gift for deciphering cryptogrammatic inscriptions. Had circumstances supplied him with material from Egypt and Assyria to work upon, and had he possessed leisure to exercise his powers, the United States might have carried off many honors that went to other nations.

The ability to decipher cryptograms seems to be fairly common in all countries. Ireland has produced some of the best readers of cuneiform inscriptions. England has also helped essentially in the work, and the contributions of France and Germany are familiar to everybody. The scholars of the United States have been active in the same field of late years and have attained valuable results. Learned men have been busy excavating the remains of remote antiquity in Crete and Palestine as well as in Egypt and Assyria, and the discoveries they have made are more interesting than any romance. Among other things they have brought to light a Greek civilization antedating that of Homer by many centuries, with its principal seat in Crete. The influence of this civilization penetrated as far as Palestine and deeply affected the history of the Jews.

These additions to human knowledge have been made by deciphering cryptograms. Poe's belief that none could be devised which human ingenuity could not unravel has been pretty well justified by the facts, but not wholly. Inscriptions from the remotest Cretan antiquity have been dug up which seem to baffle all the scholars who attempt them. Neither the language is known nor the power of the characters in which it is written, and, worst of all, none of those lucky hints are yet at hand which would make the method of Poe and Champollion available. One cannot help regretting that our great American poet is not here to apply his genius to these tantalizing mysteries. If he were we may confidently believe that he would not only fill up a gap in the history of the ancient world, but that he would win enduring glory for his country's scholarship.

The statement has been made that if the Krupp factory were to quit producing guns and paraphernalia for war, it could make enough plowshares in one day to supply the demand in the United States for fifty years, and if it turned its attention to grain binders for a week the product would be a machine for each graingrower in this country for the next twenty-five years. This is the concern that is making and has been making for years guns for Germany. No other nation is so equipped. Is it any wonder the allies have not beaten her in the war game up to date?

There was a decided contrast between the marine parade which entered Portland on Thursday and that which entered several Irish harbors from the scene of the Lusitania wreck. It was the contrast between war and peace.

Philadelphia may seem slow in most things, but is not in spending money. The Councils have appropriated $30,000 for expense of the Liberty Bell on the Coast trip, with the Mayor and a dozen others to disperse the cash.

Those Oregon City boys are not the only lost boys who have gone fishing. In this weather the temptation is strong to many boys to get lost in just that way.

There is a close relation between German claims to sweeping victory and German attempts to keep Italy out of the war.

The time, early afternoon, was well chosen for the work of destruction. Those submersible people are humane to an extent.

Elbert Hubbard was on the big ship. Now look for a violent dissertation on the iniquity of waging war.

The unemployed are scattering to employment in all directions in these balmy days.

Germany gave notice a week ago, but those interested would not believe it.

Mr. Simpson, of Coos, is starting his campaign early for the Hawley succession.

By the way, once there was a man named Connie Mack who ran a ball club.

Harvest of the ultimatum crop began last August and still continues.

The jitney rider who believes in safety first walks.

The man who missed the boat was lucky.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian, May 8, 1890.

Tacoma—The Democrats are jubilant over their sweeping victory at the polls. The Tacoma News came out yesterday evening with humorous cuts for the Republicans and the general sentiment is to chide the convention for its selection, not so much because the men may not have been worthy, but because there was a division of sentiment and the men chosen were neither well known nor popular. The News also has a picture of its new building on the front page.

Salem—Frank Motter and Charles H. Chance have been appointed notaries public in Portland.

Silverton, Or.—The city election was held here yesterday with the following results: Council, Al Coolidge, J. M. Wolford, J. G. Remsen, J. G. Smith and E. L. Smith; Marshal, J. K. Mount; Recorder, R. C. Ramsby; Treasurer, M. J. Adams.

Washington — The House began the debate on the tariff bill yesterday. McKinley opened a heavy fire on the Democrats and expounded the protection creed. His fiscal doctrines are offered as a panacea for financial ills, and he shows a solicitude for the farmer.

Oregon City—S. Schwabacher, vice-president of the Crown Paper Company, is down from Walla Walla looking over the works under construction. He is accompanied by Mrs. Schwabacher, and they are on their way to Europe.

The Hotel Tioga Company has been incorporated and a family hotel will be built at Tioga, Wash., about one mile above Long Beach.

Captain A. H. Merrill and Lieutenant John L. Hayden, of the First Artillery, were at the International yesterday with 31 men in their charge. They are from Fort Canby, en route to Governor's Island and Fort Hamilton, New York. The two companies from there will arrive in Portland in about two weeks, the changes being made simply in the regular routine of the department.

The magnificent 65-feet-high poles being put up along Front street are for the Electric Light Company.

Ex-Police Judge Ralph Dement was thrown from his buggy yesterday and slightly hurt. He received a bad cut over the eye.

Fire last night practically destroyed the Cully block, on Fourth street, in East Portland. The blaze began at about 9:30 o'clock.

Baker City is being advertised as "The Denver of Oregon."

NO HARM OBSERVED IN DANCING

Another Textifies to Absence of Evil Thoughts and Insults.

PORTLAND, May 7.—(To the Editor.)—I would like to reply to certain remarks made in a letter in The Oregonian of May 6 and written by Mrs. Richard Rozell. I find exception to this statement:

You want to look out for the people that claim that they are so pure-minded and unsophisticated that while they are dancing there could not possibly flash across their mind a thought or a feeling through their body that they should not have.

Though it may seem strange to some people of narrow views that there are such phenomena as decent-minded people, and though I am by no means unsophisticated or a withered mummy, still I can dance with a man and not be bothered with any evil thoughts or suggestions, neither has any man "whispered anything into my ear that he should not," and I was not a stone image, either.

Now, I contend that men and women of good morals and manners can behave themselves under any circumstances, and no man who respects the lady with whom he is dancing would insult her with any improper remarks or suggestions. People of well-known immoral habits can be excluded from public dancehalls and all drinking, either in the cloakrooms or halls, be absolutely forbidden. If any man offend a lady, let her exercise some womanly dignity and refuse his further acquaintance or report him to someone in authority.

Classic and fancy dances are all right and much to be preferred, but not everyone can learn these dances, but the pretty folk dances of the different nations might be taught in the public schools. If people like to steal a few hours from the night for social purposes, that is surely their own affair, and as for breathing "dust," we get generous mouthfuls of that on any windy day, anywhere, and saints and sinners alike are treated impartially. The theaters are well enough, but just now there seems to be a plethora of sexual problem plays and matrimonial difficulties, which in my estimation are of little real benefit to anyone, and, personally, I would rather witness a good clean comedy and enjoy a hearty laugh than listen to the machinations of all the "vampire" women in the world. There is one good old-fashioned remedy for evil thoughts and that is for one to give oneself a mental shake and to say to one's self, "Get thee behind me Satan," but be careful not to say it aloud, or you might be arrested for using bad language!

MARIE WITTMAN DIXON.

"WANT A JOB."

Good morning, sir, I seek a job;
I ask it with an eager sob;
I gasp it with a hopeful throb.
A weary pilgrim all forlorn.
I've trudged until my shoes are worn.
I've had my mortal spirits torn,
My temper kicked and overborne;
I'll juggle brick or pack the hod,
I'll roll a truck or hew the sod.
I'm hungry, sir, and out of cash
And nature shyly whispers "hash!"

Thus I, a hopeless poet wight,
Unequal in the worldly fight,
Must quit my song about "the rose"
And sing of "Plainers" I suppose,
Or razor clams that grin at me
From every eating place I see.
For I am famished and my Muse
Is draggled too and has the "blues."
And feeling thus I hear the chimes
Of those sweet bells of other times,
The bells that rang me out of bed
Before the happy morning fled,
To grasp an honest dinner pail
And proudly strut to earn some kale.

But woe is me, how sadly changed
The happy scene where once I ranged!
In vain I walk the cheerless street;
In vain I tackle all I meet.
The elusive job is on the run
And everything I look upon
But adds its little spiteful store
To grieve my heart and make me sore.
Despairingly I almost cry
For fellowship and sympathy,
Somewhere, sometimes a friendly eye
Should greet me as I amble by.
Instead I get a sour stare
That stabs me like a prickly pear.
I halt before a shop or mill,
My bosom feels a hopeful thrill,
This place of jobs I will explore
When lo, above the frowning door
(And here a chill invades my spine)
I see the "No Admittance" sign.
The light of hope goes out for me;
A gasp, a gulp, I turn and flee.

GEORGE H. SANDS.

Building Permits in April.

PORTLAND, May 7.—(To the Editor.)—Please give the number of building permits issued for the month of April, and oblige A. L.

Permits numbering 477 and amounting to $559,415 were issued in April.

JOBLESS MEN AND BUSY WOMEN

Era of Female Employment Inspires Correspondent With Apprehension.

LENTS, Or., May 7.—(To the Editor.)—I just got to thinking that, when I was a boy, my mother was my father's wife; moreover, she was a great helper, by looking after the house end of her own and father's business. Further, she was an inspiration, a guide, a teacher, a character molder—a mother, to myself and my sisters and brothers; she was the custodian, the caretaker, the presiding personage in the house which I was privileged to call home. My sisters grew up very much, I fancy, like my mother was. We had neighbors, lots of them, and the history of our household was very like that of theirs. In those days women were known, largely, as wives and mothers. Marriages were frequent and divorces almost unknown.

Something more than half a century has come and passed into history since first the world and I became personally acquainted; but, what a change that half century has brought and stamped upon human affairs! Today we find women speculators, bankers and merchants; women doctors, lawyers and preachers; women farmers, stockbreeders and miners; women clerks, shopkeepers and teachers; women railroaders, politicians and policemen; women statesmen, officers and soldiers; women editors, orators and, occasionally, wives and mothers. (O, yes, I realize my danger as the author of this article, but I'll go through with it if I have to wear a diving suit ever afterwards.)

There are today more than 1,000,000 jobless men, worthy men, in these great and good United States, men who are practically reduced to pauperism, men who ought to be the husbands and and breadwinners for 1,000,000 women who have stolen their jobs.

Marriages have greatly decreased, while divorces have alarmingly increased. The birth rate of children of American parentage has been reduced to the lowest point recorded in American history. Marriage has come to be considered largely a joke, and motherhood, by many motherable women, is absolutely unknown.

But the army of women position fillers, along every line and avenue, continues to grow ever and ever larger and stronger and the army of the worthy unemployed males grows with corresponding celerity. And what of the years to come? The future looks a little dark, doesn't it? We may gain a little knowledge of the future by a careful survey of the past. We know what has been, what now is, and, therefore, what is likely to come, for such time, at least, until a reaction shall have begun. All will agree that a pace has been set which cannot much longer continue without serious consequences.

Would I deprive women of the ballot? By no means; I voted to enfranchise them, but I did not mean by that vote that—that—

O, woman! Thou who wast once the wife and mother in the home, the children's guide and inspiration; thou who wast once content to be a woman, a queen, and exercise a woman's function, where art thou today, and where wilt thou be tomorrow?

It is a physical law that a flood tide is always succeeded by an ebb tide, and, when this great feminine flood tide shall have reached its height, may we not be permitted to hope that its succeeding ebb will carry upon its crest stately, lovely woman back to her high station in life—that of queen, wife and mother? May we not innocently dream that, sometime, there will be employment for every honest male person who aspires to the exalted station of householder, father, breadwinner?

In conclusion, may we not entertain a hope that all who read this letter will understand that its intention is not to deprive woman, but to exalt her; not to ridicule, but to praise her?

LOUIS BARZEE.

Free Painless Dentistry.

New York Sun.

"One dollar, please," said the dentist. "A dollar! But your sign reads: 'Painless extraction of teeth, free.'" "Just so. But, as you hollered a bit, this does not apply in your case. I do my painless extracting free, exactly as I claim. When it hurts, I charge for it. One dollar, please."

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of May 8, 1865.

Senator Carlile, who represents, or misrepresents Virginia in the United States Senate, recently said in the course of a debate that if he had had the means of supporting his family without the $3000 a year he received as Senator, he would have resigned his seat the very day that the State of West Virginia was recognized by the Senate. Mr. Carlile in all events is candid.

For merely political offenses we have no recourse upon foreign powers as to the persons of the guilty. Our own course has established such a precedent, but when criminals from justice, assassins and incendiaries seek refuge among friendly powers, we can expect their arrest and surrender. And the honor of the Nation requires that Jefferson Davis and the chief accomplices in the murder of President Lincoln shall be demanded of any nation that shall harbor them and that demand sustained by all the power of our Government.

Eugene — A violent secessionist named Henry Mulkey was arrested by the military here today for hurrahing for Jeff Davis. Runners have started at full speed for Long Tom to rally the rebels. If anything startling occurs we will report.

Our dispatches of this morning show the arrival of the Golden Gate at San Francisco at 1 o'clock last Saturday. The passenger list which we have at this office shows that Senator Nesmith was on board and also L. M. Starr, of this city. These gentlemen arrived two hours too late for the Oriaba, which left for this place at 11 o'clock Saturday, and we are informed by the operator that Messrs. Nesmith and Starr will start north by overland stage. Mr. Nesmith will reach Salem probably next Saturday evening.

It is a matter of some consequence to our mechanics and manufacturers whether or not dealers and others patronize home industry. We have now established in our midst some of the finest branches of the industrial pursuits in the country and they should have home support.

In this we fully concur with a contemporary: "It has been rumored to us that an imported theatrical playwright in San Francisco, with a view to making money, is dramatizing the murder of President Lincoln. We hope this act of desecration will not be countenanced. It is very like gathering up the nails and thorns of the crucifixion for private profit." It should be discountenanced by every living patriot. If rebels wish to witness the act let them do so in England or within their own lines. America will never furnish an audience for it.

Every Word Had Been Printed.

Exchange.

Dr. Doane, now bishop of Albany, preached an unusually good sermon one morning and Mark Twain heard it. Stepping up to the clergyman after the service, Mark said:

"I have enjoyed your sermon this morning. I welcomed it as I would an old friend. I have a book at home that contains every word of it."

"Why, that can't be, Mr. Clemens," replied the doctor.

"All the same it is so," said Twain.

"Well, I certainly would like to see that book," rejoined the doctor with dignity.

"All right," replied Mark; "you shall have it." And the next morning Dr. Doane received, with Mark Twain's compliments, a dictionary.

When Fourth Falls on Sunday.

PORTLAND, May 7.—(To the Editor.)—Please tell me on what day the Fourth of July celebration will take place this year, since that holiday falls on Sunday. AMIGO.

Generally where the Fourth comes on Sunday it is celebrated on Monday. This, however, may be decided otherwise by a committee. Nothing has been done as yet to settle the question for this year.

"Weird Legends That Have Been Fulfilled"

-- Related in --

The Sunday Oregonian

Psychic phenomena predicting the outbreak of the European war are said to have taken place in the catacombs and ancient gardens of Paris for several years before the outbreak of the present hostilities. "The Pale Boy of the Catacombs," whose reported appearance presaged the downfall of Napoleon, the defeat in the war of 1870, and other great French disasters, was actually photographed, with his wagonload of kings' skeletons, in the Spring of 1914. Marie Antoinette and the golden-collared carp of Louis XVI were seen in the Little Trianon before war was declared. These apparitions, with the legends concerning them, will be the subject of an illustrated article by Sterling Heilig.

OPENING THE CELILO CANAL—

The voyage of the steamer Undine and the parade and festival held in Portland on the steamer's return, will be the theme of an illustrated article. The eventful celebrations from Lewiston to the sea to mark the dedication of Oregon's new waterway will be reviewed by a staff writer who attended them.

OREGON'S HISTORIC CANNONS—

Cannon used at Gettysburg, artillery captured at Manila, howitzers which fell with Fort Sumpter and many guns that figured in the history of the Pacific Northwest, stand as antiquated relics in Oregon parks, museums and public buildings. The history and pictures of these historic pieces will make an unusual magazine feature.

AMERICAN HORSES IN THE EUROPEAN WAR—

It is estimated that 5000 horses have been shipped to Europe from Oregon since last Fall. From Newport News 90,000 American horses have been poured into the European death-hopper since December 1. A special article, with photographs, will describe this traffic.

"SIGHT OUT OF BLINDNESS"—

"Something snapped—like that—in my right eye. I heard it, and then, suddenly, I saw," says 20-year-old Maud Emerson Lincoln, in speaking of her sudden acquisition of eyesight. Andrew Watres Ford will tell of Miss Lincoln's emotions when she beheld the world about her for the first time.

"MISSIONARY AND HOTTENTOT"—

A war poem by Frank L. Stanton, will be the subject of the illustrated cover of the magazine section.

"THE WOMAN BEHIND THE PLAYS"—

In a page of photographs and narrative Mary Worswick will tell how Katharine Corcoran, an actress, married James A. Herne and started him on his career as a dramatist.

THE BUILDING OF THE PANAMA CANAL—

Major-General George W. Goethals continues his story of the building of "the great ditch." Every American will take pride in reading this authentic story of his country's great accomplishment.

OTHER FEATURES—

These are only a few of many interesting special articles to be printed tomorrow. The pages set aside particularly for women contain all the latest news of fashions, clubs and society. Then there are the usual weekly reviews of sports, building, real estate and automobiles. There are new stories for the children, including a revised Arabian Nights tale and the doings of the Teenie Weenies, as well as Doc Yak, Polly and the other comics, which are enjoyed by the grown-ups as well as the children.