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Portland, Wednesday, June 9, 1915.

## MR. BRYAN'S RESIGNATION

Mr. Bryan's resignation as Secretary of State in an event of such gravity that with difficulty can the one be dismissed from the mind while considering the other.

Admittedly President Wilson and Mr. Bryan have disagreed on some vital point in the dispute with Germany about the Lusitania massacre and the marine general, Mr. Bryan is in a position to be a peace-at-any-price man. He has preached in and out of season that any war is a crime and that any quarrel between nations can be settled by arbitration. He has urged the opportunity to put his theory in practice, and political expediency induced Mr. Wilson to give him that opportunity. He tried his policy on Mexico and we see the result in ineffective meddling, the loss of the American flag in Mexico, and the loss of territory to a rich country made prey to murder and famine. He would have liked to try it with Germany in a case requiring prompt, firm, decisive and courageous action.

Signs have been accumulating for some time that the President was losing faith, if he ever had any, in the Bryan peace nostrums, and was chafing under the necessity of assuming responsibility for the lamentable failure of the Bryan policy in Mexico. He was restrained, doubtless, by reluctance to reverse himself, by consciousness that he is finally responsible for the policy and that he has accepted the obligation for the valuable aid given by Mr. Bryan in carrying out his domestic policy and by thoughts of the break in his own party which must result from a rupture between them.

But the signs were bound together only by a political community of interest. Mr. Wilson is a scholar, a trained economist, and, above all, a patriotic American who will brook no half-measures in dealing with a case of wholesale murder. He can have no sympathy with the shallow free-silver heresies and ultra-pacifist theories of Mr. Bryan. His true opinion of the ex-Secretary of State was no doubt expressed years before politics had obligations had tied his tongue when he expressed a desire to see Mr. Bryan "knocked into a cocked hat."

Close association, more intimate knowledge and practical tests of the Bryan theories have only confirmed his judgment.

Affairs were ripe for a break when the sinking of the Lusitania required the President to show of what stuff he was made. Instinctively he turned away from the peace nostrums, he took a poor staff to lean upon in such a crisis. He took the matter in hand himself and wrote a dispatch to Germany which sent a thrill of pride through every true American and gained unqualified approval from all except the most persistently hyperbated of our citizens. Mr. Bryan was consulted only in common with other members of the Cabinet. He suggested one amendment—the proposal for an ultimatum according to the peace treaty plan, which might have been expected—and it was rejected. The dispatch was sent for final revision to Counsellor Lansing, not to Mr. Bryan, whose only part in the work, which might have made the fame of any Secretary of State worthy of the occasion, was to sign it.

The time having come to call upon Germany to abandon evasion and to meet the clear issue put before her, she hesitated. Strange delays in sending a reply to the Secretary's note. These were explained by Mr. Bryan's resignation and by its announced cause. He has evidently held out for arbitration or conciliation in a case which requires a plain answer to the demand that she stop her hand-me-down delay when the National respect requires prompt and, if necessary, vigorous action. Mr. Wilson will be strongly fortified in the confidence of the people by the fact that, when called upon to utter his own views to the Nation and his most powerful political lieutenant, he did not hesitate.

The effects of Mr. Bryan's resignation on internal politics are only slightly less important than they are on our foreign policy. For sixteen years prior to Mr. Wilson's election to the Presidency Mr. Bryan had been the dictator of the Democratic party. Though we might object to his election as President, but not enough to prevent his nomination and his continuing control. In 1896 he led the party into the paths of radical experiment and he kept it there until 1912, when the latter year, finding his own nomination impossible, he skillfully engineered the nomination of Mr. Wilson and thus placed the President under an unforgettable obligation to him. Hence his resignation is a blow to the State. It will probably be found, when the secret political history of those times is written, that Mr. Bryan asked for that office, if it was not offered to him. At that time the Balkan wars had only begun and there was good ground to hope that they would not prove the prologue to the present world tragedy. Madero was still President of Mexico and his tragic end and its sequel were not in the mind of the State. It is a very probable hypothesis that Mr. Bryan's pacifist theories would not then be considered such an insuperable obstacle to his being Secretary of State as they have since proved.

The aid given by Mr. Bryan in carrying out his domestic policy has been of immense value and has been given loyally. Without it, the tariff law and the Federal reserve law, which are the two outstanding achievements of the Administration, could not both have been passed at the first session. The strong Bryan following was held in line, notwithstanding the tendency of an excessive majority to break into

sections. The President had no personal following and was dependent on Mr. Bryan for the means of carrying through his programme. He permitted the Secretary of State to have his own way in the lesser affairs of the department and the greater majority of appointments, praised him for his capacity for business and tolerated his Chautauqua lecturing.

But the President has been gaining a personal following and personal strength, while Mr. Bryan has been losing it. The latter, however, has the blame of the Pindell and Williams appointments, the Santo Domingo scandal and the Colombian treaty, as well as the peace treaties, which are peculiarly his own. The Mexican fiasco has been ascribed to his influence. He was not able to hold his party in line for Administration measures in the last session of Congress. His influence in Washington is waning.

Mr. Bryan's definite separation from the Administration, however, is bound to estrange from it thousands of his devoted followers. His name is a shibboleth among the radical Democracy. He is the political creator of many men in Congress, some of whom may seek to avenge what they deem his wrongs. A division of sentiment will arise which can easily be widened into a split by men like Champ Clark, who loves neither one of the two sides in the political quarrel.

Mr. Bryan, Mr. Wilson loses the support of the radical wing of his party, and may prove to have wrecked the party itself, as did Cleveland.

But, had Mr. Wilson done otherwise, he would already have wrecked his Administration and his party with it. The Nation would not patiently have tolerated any patting with the Lusitania affair after the Bryan fashion, and would at once have turned away from the Administration and its following. Having given proof that such is not his policy, Mr. Wilson may have lost the Bryan strength, but he has won immeasurably greater strength among the vast majority of Americans, tied only loosely to any party, which values the National honor and the National safety above all else. We know that he abhors war, but he has proved that he abhors peace with dishonor more than he abhors war. He has preserved peace with honor, if it is possible, and we shall support him the more readily if war comes.

Both proposals were on their merits recommended to the President, but they were strongly supported by the classes to which the radical activities of Mr. Daly particularly appeal, and by a combination of three newspapers. It is impossible to say which of the two proposals was the better, but each had its part. There has not often been so plain and pointed an expression of dissent and distrust by the voters. If there is anything of comfort or solace for the partners in the Commission through the wholehearted support of the narrow victory of Mr. Bigelow, due mainly to the division of the many elements opposed to him, it has escaped The Oregonian's notice.

Baker's election as Commissioner was a tribute to his remarkable personal popularity. It was a well-earned victory. He has had experience in city affairs, and he has a genuine desire to do his job in an honest and efficient manner.

June has smiled with singular favor upon the Rose Festival this year. The weather has encouraged the flowers to bloom in exceptional luxuriance. The colors are deep and pure, the odors are wonderful, the mild breezes, the purple shadows on the mountains and the shimmering waters of the Willamette all persuade us to cast away care for a week and join in the merry dance of the annual Festival.

There are fashions in graduation exercises as there are in fashions and gowns. This Spring no rigorous methods prevail. Some schools require each member of the class to deliver an "oration." Others go to the other extreme and cause the class to graduate in solemn silence.

The manufacture of whiskey has fallen off in the great distilling centers at a surprising rate. In Kentucky of all places, the decline is two-thirds. In Pennsylvania it is one-third. What ever else may stand still or recede, the cause of abstinence advances.

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had similar experiences before. In 1793 his owner, John Water, was sentenced to 500 fine and a year's imprisonment for libeling the Duke of York. Water had also to stand an hour in the pillory.

## THE CITY ELECTION.

The real issue in the city election Monday was Mr. Daly. The meter and garbage question were merely incidents in the organized political and Socialist activities of an astute and aggressive Commissioner. He has made himself somehow the central figure of the city administration by formulating and proposing policies for the conduct of his own department without the sanction of the Mayor, though with the more or less willing acquiescence of one or two fellow Commissioners. In some of his important aspects it has been Daly, and not an Albee administration. It ought not to be. It will not be hereafter if the verdict of the people means anything to the Mayor and the Commissioner.

There can be no mistake about the intent of the voters at Monday's election. It was a distinct and purposeful rebuke to Mr. Daly and an emphatic setback to Dalysim.

The Municipal Commission Daly committed his political and official fortunes to the meter and the garbage projects. They were schemes of his own devising. They were unmistakably and avowedly his own and nobody else's. His proposals for both the expanded sewerage and sewerage collection departments carried with it the opportunity to construct a formidable political machine.

It is interesting to read of a big Zeppelin flight to earth by an aeroplane. The affair reminds one of the swordfish and whale, David and Goliath and such like hare-brained fights between ill-matched foes.

A matrimonial bureau is not a necessity, and the more it is watched the better for public morals. Records of divorce courts show that getting married is an easy function and the man who thinks that a hawk and smote the monster hip and thigh. In the end it fell, like Satan, "as lightning from heaven" (Luke x:18).

As though some strange companion drew your tear,  
The morning light has found you  
And with its promise of the sun has dried  
The tear-dew on your cheek and left no stain.  
Or trace of grief. Yet, still it would appear  
Your smiling, patted face you seek to hide  
From mortal gaze; and gone that wonted pride  
Which was your gentle boast in yesterday.  
Today the air is heavy with your weeping  
It reeks and shrieks in furthering your fame;  
But you who loved the peace-pervading ways  
The homage of the ones who tip-toe came—  
No wonder you should dread inquisitive gaze,  
And ribaldry committed in your name!  
—H. H.

We have not so many relics of the old wooden Navy that we could not preserve them, as England preserves Nelson's victory, in order that the memories of the great victory inspire the new generation to rival the deeds of which these old ships were the scene.

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in now free to attack Serbia again, but the very fact that she must now fight Italy limits her power to fight Serbia. Had Italy remained neutral, Austria might have felt free, after the Russian defeat in Galicia, to declare the truce off and to detach troops southward for this purpose, but she now needs all her forces for defense as much after beating Russia as before. Italy's intervention neutralized the benefits of the Gallician victory, so far as the release of troops for a campaign against Serbia is concerned.

It is probable, instead, that Serbia will take the offensive with the aid of Italy. The invasion of Albania may be designed both to make good Serbia's claim to an outlet on the sea and to open the way for an Italian army to land for a joint invasion of Bosnia and Herzegovina. While Serbia would be the direct beneficiary of this movement, Italy would benefit indirectly by causing a diversion of Austrian troops. Should we add to this the fact that Italy is the only power thus facilitating the conquest of those provinces. Serbia may also join Montenegro in recapturing the fortress of Scutari, which the latter country was impeded by the powers to surrender immediately she had captured it in 1913.

In the last two years Oklahoma has wasted 2,000,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas. Should we add to this the political gas gone to the bad, the figures would be appalling. Nature has bestowed upon Oklahoma a great store of gas in the caverns of the earth. The people know of no better use for it than to dissipate it in the air. We might wish such a population, as the archbishop did G. H. Bass, "all manner of blessings, with a little more sense."

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## Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian June 9, 1890.  
Washington—Senators Squire and Allison of Washington are feeling jubilant over the increase in the rivers and harbors bill appropriation which they received for Washington. Representative Wilson obtained all possible aid for the bill, and the Senate carried the campaign successfully in the upper body. The Senate will take up the bill for final passage in a day or 30.

Montreal—Eugene Cowles, son of the great editor of Cleveland, O., was shot by his brother-in-law here yesterday. The cause was an alleged domestic trouble in which another woman figured. Cowles it is said was about to shoot when his brother-in-law stepped in and sent a bullet into Cowles' neck.

London—Stanley, the explorer, who has been the lion of the hour in England since his return from Africa, today went with Miss Tennant to the office of the Canterbury register and obtained a marriage license. With his fiancée he is being highly feted.

Mr. Hunt has ordered 200 more teams to work on the grading for the road between Centralia and the City of Grays Harbor.

William O'Donnell, who for years has been watchman of the New Market block has associated himself in business with J. Driscoll in the Boston Market.

At a meeting of the directors of school district 49, East Portland, the following teachers were appointed: Miss M. E. Cantenbury, Miss E. D. Dulin, Miss Margaret Gowans, Miss M. M. Packer, Miss Louise Sharkey, Miss Rosa Wittenberg.

We shall know in a few weeks what the population of Oregon is, but on estimate we place it at 250,000.

General Manager Smith says Union Pacific trains will be running into Seattle by December, 1891, in all probability.

The first authentic narrative of a trip across the Olympic range is printed in the Post-Intelligencer of Seattle of the 1st inst. The trip was made by S. J. Gilman, of Grays Harbor, and his father, C. A. Gilman, for several years Lieutenant-Governor of Minnesota.

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## ECONOMY SEEN IN SINGLE SERVICE

Consolidation of Telephone Systems Would Mean Saving to Patrons.  
PORTLAND, June 8.—(To the Editor.)—In reply to an interesting letter written by Mr. Dan E. Powers and published in The Oregonian June 2, I think that apparently demands that I "show my hand" in the telephone game. I respectfully submit the following information.

I do not own any interest in either telephone system, nor am I employed by either telephone company. My agitation of this subject is merely in the nature of a citizen of Portland, including myself, I want one, complete, manual-service, individual-line telephone system, and I do not care who owns it. However, the automatic system of a telephone system should not be taken into consideration by the public.

Either the Home or Pacific Telephone Company, operating a manual service, individual-line system, can render complete service, satisfactory to the public, at a cost much lower than is now being paid for incomplete and unsatisfactory service.

I prefer manual service because it is more conveniently operated. While I am in favor of the automatic telephone system, I learned that elderly persons, with impaired vision, cannot conveniently operate the automatic telephone system. I object to the automatic system, due to the fact that it requires a much greater investment than a manual system, as indicated by a report published in a local paper December 27, 1913, advising that the investment of the Home Telephone Company was \$2,500,000. According to a report bearing information to the effect that the Home company had, on December 21, 1914, less than a fourth of that total number of telephones in Portland, I feel justified in advancing a statement to the effect that the Home or Pacific company, by installing a complete manual service system through Portland and St. Johns for \$7,000,000. Probably the enormous investment necessary to complete the automatic system, as indicated by the report is true. However, insofar as the public indirectly pays all telephone expenses, it should be the privilege of the public and the business of the Pacific Telephone Company, to consider whether the public shall have automatic or manual telephone service.

Should the exclusive patrons of the Home Telephone Company transfer their patronage to the Pacific company, probably a condition would be created whereby the Railroad Commission would be justified in causing a 25 per cent reduction of the Pacific company's present rate. Accordingly, Mr. Powers would save approximately \$141 annually. By the consolidation of the two telephone companies, other individuals and corporations would not realize a saving of more than the amount of the rate, and the Pacific company, in other words, the Pacific company's present rate would probably remain the same, as was the case in Seattle.

One day Luther Burbank was walking in his garden when he was accosted by an officious acquaintance who said: "Well, what are you working on now?" "Trying to cross an eggplant and milkweed," said Mr. Burbank. "And what under heaven do you expect to get from that?" Mr. Burbank, regarding his walk, "Custard pie," he said.

Before and After Marriage.  
Boston Transcript.  
Wife—I am not sure that I didn't see these faults in you before we were married. Hub—No mystery about it, my dear; I didn't possess them then.

Burbank's Latest Hope.  
Ladies' Home Journal.  
One day Luther Burbank was walking in his garden when he was accosted by an officious acquaintance who said: "Well, what are you working on now?" "Trying to cross an eggplant and milkweed," said Mr. Burbank. "And what under heaven do you expect to get from that?" Mr. Burbank, regarding his walk, "Custard pie," he said.

Old "Dull Care,"  
Rode everywhere  
Upon the thoroughfare.  
Our learned Mayor  
Decided to call upon him, tell him of our needs and ask his help and influence in securing a position. The minister again promised to call and get acquainted. About a week or two weeks have elapsed that promise is unredemmed. Which leaves the question open in our minds, would he have called if he had discovered our financial plight? You can very readily understand that both of us, although confirmed members of the faith, are not attending church nor have we the least inclination of doing so. The world is full of truth which should be found in God's house if anywhere. Our experience has been that there truth is weighed and measured by the coin of the realm. To what purpose did the Nazarene drive the sellers and traders from the Temple? That is our reason for not attending church, perhaps many others have had the same.  
ONE WHO STAYS AT HOME.

When "June Time" found him there,  
"See here, Dull Care."  
"Explained the Mayor,  
"I don't see why you are,  
To fill the air.  
With hard-times scare.  
While I am in the chair."  
So answered Mr. Munglach, the Mayor.  
Our worthy Mayor  
Called on Miss Rose Fair,  
To see Miss Rose Fair,  
The old bug-bear,  
From off the thoroughfare.  
With quizzical air,  
She answered Mr. Munglach, the Mayor.  
Up rose Miss Rose Fair,  
With trumpet flare,  
And torchlight glare,  
She snatched her hat and discovered our fire.  
She pulled his hair;  
She licked him square;  
She sat him on his nose,  
She ran Dull Care,  
The old bug-bear,  
Clean off the thoroughfare.  
\*Merely poetic license. Of course the Mayor would never swear.

When Divorce 12th Husband,  
An Evansville, Ind., dispatch says: Mrs. Polly Ann Wood Strodes, 79 years old, who has been married 13 times, announced today that she would apply for a divorce from Harrison Strodes, aged 87, and as soon as she obtained it would marry a fourteenth husband.  
"Men love flattery," said Mrs. Strodes. "I never used love powder. I simply flattered them."

Plans for the Summer.  
Washington (D. C.) Star.  
"What are your plans for the Summer?" "Further exploration, I suppose." "You are usually a good going to keep on looking for some place that carries out the impressions I get from the pictures of the Summer resort postcards."  
Training of a Family.  
Hokus—Fludrud is very careful about the training of his family, isn't he? Pokus—Yes; he tries to bring up his children in the way he should have gone.

Delicate laces from the fairest looms,  
The daintiest velvets from all other  
She used for petals. When the day was done  
And dawning clouds said "good night" to the sun  
She stole their colors: from the dew distilled  
The fragrance of all the other blossoms spilled,  
Kissed it, and let her breath to mix with those  
Her best most perfect gift—The Portland Rose.

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