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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1917.

OUR CASUALTY LIST.

News that an American destroyer had been torpedoed, with the loss of one man killed and with a crew of 100 men, is a blow to our people.

By ones and twos the casualty reports drift in. Even the ordinary course of events they will not always come by ones and twos.

Every man or woman who has entered a battlefield knows that the most harrowing of all experiences is realization, too late, that something was left undone that would, or might, have prevented the fatal outcome.

There is only one way for us to shorten our prospective death roll, and that is to act as to convince our enemies quickly of the utter hopelessness of their cause.

It would be an ideal consummation if we could put so much vim into our preparations for the next day before we sent our troops "over the top" in one of those glorious but perilous drives.

THE POSITION OF ARGENTINA.

Continuance of nominally friendly relations with Argentina toward Germany in fact is the greatest provocation given by sinking of Argentine ships and by Count von Luxburg's "sink without a trace" dispatch, and in spite of the popular demand and in spite of the vote of the Argentine Congress in favor of severing relations.

These reasons may be found in the fact that Germany is second in the list of Argentina's customers. Great Britain being first and the United States third; also in the mixed population of the republic.

Although Argentina has a good army, organized under compulsory service, and has a small navy which could help in patrolling the Atlantic, its chief aid in case of its accession to the ranks of the allies would consist in further excluding food imports from Germany.

lies of the southern contingent have now expressed their moral condemnation of the Kaiser, and Chile inclines less toward the Teutons than was the case last April.

SOLDIER MORALS.

The Mayor of Seattle has been convinced, apparently, that moral conditions in that alluring city are not what they should be, and has promised improvement.

So indeed it would be a calamity from the point of view of any city located near a cantonment. Portland is not a spotless town, and it is promised everything left over from something will be done here. It must be done.

But how much can be done, if the soldiers are to be turned loose in a strange place, far from the restraints of home and the teachings of parents, in order of determination may be irregularly susceptible to the allurements of the other sex?

The health and morals of the American soldier must be safeguarded, at any cost. It is vital not only to him, but to the United States.

NO "GOLD BRICK" PEACE.

Chancellor Michaelis' speech to the Reichstag shows that, despite the crushing defeats which the central powers have suffered before Vpres, at Verdun, at the Marne, at the Somme and despite the mutiny in the German navy, militarism is still supreme in Germany.

Some over-sanguine persons believe that the German government has accepted the principle of no annexations and no indemnities adopted by the Reichstag. The head of the family begins to get the better of the burglar.

FACTS ABOUT LIBERTY BONDS.

Government bonds are a new form of investment for the average man. Here are a few plain facts about liberty bonds.

A liberty bond is a bond of the United States Government—a promise to pay a stated sum of money on a certain date and to pay interest on that sum every half year at the rate of 4 per cent per year.

Members of Congress now on their way to the United States always pay their debts and because it is well able to pay. The annual income of the American people is \$40,000,000,000, or 333 times the amount of the annual interest.

lish women that much of the success of the movement to improve the industrial condition of their sex, to which a decided impetus has been given by the war, will depend upon their tact and common sense while the issues are unsettled.

Even with the large additions now being made to our National debt, it will not be one-tenth of our National wealth next April, when we shall have been at war for a year.

STRIKE FEELS ON REMOIS.

It becomes evident from testimony elicited by the Wage Adjustment Board that prolongation of the shipyard strike has been due in part to circulation among the workers of incredible rumors.

There is one that the Chamber of Commerce had threatened to ruin the business of one employer if he signed the union agreement. That rumor has now been vigorously denied by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber of Commerce is in the building-up, not the tearing-down business. It might, if such an emergency arose, use reasonable and proper persuasion with an institution that was unquestionably conducting its business in such a manner as to injure trade in general and the standing of the community.

CONSERVING MATCHES.

Perhaps we shall yet come to the point of conserving our matches. The value placed upon these little articles of necessity, so inconsequential while they are plentiful, is being demonstrated when they are in short supply.

But for food sent from America.

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Not to criticize a judge, but to efferse.

One match does not amount to much. A mere splinter of wood, with a bit of nitre, or sulphur, or potassium chlorate or other chemical dabbled on the end is not calculated to make a text for a sermon on thrift.

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A further reason for fly killing at this season is the fact that the females that are to prevent extermination of the race are laying up in the warm places for the winter. A little while ago the weather was warmer and they were out of doors. A little while later than now, when the weather is colder, they will be in dark, inaccessible corners. Now is the accepted time.

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LIVING COST JUSTIFIES DEMANDS.

Worker's Wife Sees Disloyalty in High Price of Family Necessity.

PORTLAND, Oct. 14.—(To the Editor.)—I have been reading all the letters from mothers and fathers of our "soldier boys." And while I think they are right, in the main, would like to ask a few questions regarding the strikes of the "stay-at-homes" in the shipyards.

I think they are loyal and ready to "do their bit," but why not make the line in the world, that between Chicago and New York, was completed yesterday and the service formally inaugurated. Mayor Grant, of New York, spoke Mayor Washburn, at Chicago, and President Hindson also talked over the long wire. The conversation was distinctly heard.

In Other Days.

Boise.—The Supreme Court has ruled that the Mormons cannot vote in Idaho. It is a reversal of the first decision.

Colonel W. W. Chapman, long one of the foremost men in the Pacific Northwest died yesterday afternoon at the age of 82. Mr. Chapman was one of the men who went to San Francisco shortly after the dawn of 1850 and interested Mr. Dryer in coming to Portland with newspapers.

Half a Century Ago.

Queen Victoria made her willful Princess Royal pick up the handkerchief the other day when the lass dropped it. My thanks to the young officers against the wishes of the Queen. The Queen had "winked" her daughter in an effort to halt her coquetry but the young officers had dropped her handkerchief, not accidentally. When the several officers rushed to pick up the Queen in commanding voice bade them let it lie, and then in the hearing of all, ordered the Princess to alight from the carriage and rescue the dainty cambric from the dust.

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Henry A. Wisn, in a speech at Richmond the other day, urged all young men to go to farming.

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