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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 1913.

LANE, CUTTER OF RED TAP.

Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, who visits Portland today, is a man of the type which this city delights to honor.

For these reasons Mr. Lane's appointment as Secretary of the Interior was popular on the Pacific Coast, and it is not surprising that he should be regarded as a friend of the West.

There is a curious article by Susan Wilson in the current number of the Independent. It gives an account of a "talk" she made lately to some college girls who were, most of them, sorority members.

Why? Because, as one of the sorority members explained, "her people are quite poor and if you had seen the dowdy coat she wore at our evening party I guess you would have been for turning her down, too."

Here is the second story. A college girl was visited by a young fraternity man from her home town with whom she spent an hour or two talking.

A DESERVED REBUKE. Henry Lane Wilson has begun to learn at what promises to be the close of his diplomatic career a lesson which he should have learned at its beginning—the virtues of discretion and silence.

Mr. Lane has already given some illustrations of how he would solve his many problems in the red tape maze. He calls together all those who are interested in reclamation—officials, water-users, Senators and Representatives—talked over their differences with them, removed their misunderstandings and started the Reclamation Service to work on a new footing.

President Wilson has considered it necessary to ask the consent of Congress to the acceptance of a statute of William Pitt, the English statesman, from an organization of English women.

EXPLOSIVES IN THE BALANCE.

Far more interesting and important than the discovery of a thousand varieties of new explosives is the announcement from France that a device has been perfected which sets up a vibration of wireless rays which explosive cannot resist at a distance of fifteen miles and more.

If further governmental experiments prove that this wonderful agency is all that has been claimed, war will have to go out of fashion or else be revolutionized.

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AN ICE-COVERED CONTINENT.

Captain Koch's party narrowly escaped adding one more to the tragedies which have befallen expeditions. Seven-eighths of the area of Greenland, which is 1650 miles long and 500 miles wide, is covered by a great ice-cap, rising gradually to a height of 9000 and perhaps 10,000 feet.

Greenland is the source of a large proportion of the icebergs which imperil ships in the North Atlantic Ocean. All precipitation ultimately becomes ice, which pours in glaciers down the sides of the mountains.

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MOVEMENT. It is commonly stated that he was converted to Socialism by Liebknecht, but Bebel is at some pains to correct this misunderstanding.

Bebel is fourteen years older than Liebknecht, and he has had the advantage of a long political experience when we met. He was a scientifically trained man and I lacked such training. That Liebknecht should exert considerable influence over me in such circumstances was a matter of course.

Bebel entered the German Parliament in 1871 from the Saxony constituency and held his place with short interruptions, for the rest of his life. During his parliamentary career his struggles with the government and with his opponents in the Socialist party were numerous and often bitter.

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and corners of Europe, keeping well out of sight of the law, and especially of the bishops. They appeared evanescently at fairs and now and then at a church festival, but slunk away again before the corrective machinery of the neighborhood could be set at work upon them.

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Scrap and Jingles

Yells a headline, "Mrs. Hetty Green has birthday—takes a day off." 'Tis most of us women take a year or two off each birthday.

Account says woman in divorce suit "sheds scalding tears." Probably the brute made her boil with anger.

Walls an agitator, "Where will the left skirt lead?" Well, it's an open question.

Our telephone exchange operator is a girl of many callings.

Said the cub reporter to the blushing bride, "Please tell me for my paper where you will realize it."

Read a "poem" dedicated to the Blue Grass widow. But the green grass widow won't get any pomes. There ain't no such thing.

"Chorus girls strike for higher pay," reads a headline. I reckon they aspire to a certain figure.

"Times have changed since I was young," observed the old maid. "Where women used to cut a dash or throw their hair, it's now a slash they cut."

I know a man who keeps himself thin from constantly patting himself on the back.

It may be cold cash, but just the same it can burn a hole in your pocket.

Wind is air dancing ragtime. A promoter is a chap who promotes his own fortune by getting the other fellows.

The man who has to pay for a lot of millinery will agree that every family should have but one head.

Mary Elizabeth saw a cook stove advertised to "save half the coal bill." So she purchased two.

In a window labeled "Art Objects" I saw a picture of "September Morn." It isn't art objects in that case, it's a narrow-minded public.

A woman may not receive presents from her husband on birthday and wedding anniversaries, but she can sure count on some nice remembrance just after they've had a quarrel.

Topical Verse. She meant to play a sportsman's part and show herself an angler firm; but when she found the worms were scarce, she decided to let the worms.

He loved to dive, and he loved to swim, and he loved the tide to play; then he saw the world was the matter with him.

There was a fellow tight back in town—by name A. Gordon, which he runs the Emporium Store; and he was one of them wise ones, understood the ways of the world.

He caused a dammed out love about his petticoat; he was prepared to do as wild a deed as any under heaven.

English are alarmed by the aspect of South America looking to the United States for trade. Horrible, 'pon my word!