

## HISTORY OF DYNAMITE

### THEN

Forty-six years ago today the first official tests of dynamite in England were made. The hills around Merstham shook beneath the mighty vibrations of a new explosive born to civilization. It had been discovered by Alfred Nobel, of Sweden, and its experimental tests made in the preceding year. Nobel created it to take the place of the untamed nitro-glycerine which had appalled the world for several years with its grim tragedies. The inventor had lost his father and a brother when his nitro-glycerine factory had blown up a few years before his discovery. Its death toll was such that England, Belgium and Sweden forbade its manufacture. The world was aroused when as a climax to its record a ship loaded with nitro-glycerine blew up in mid-ocean while on its way from Europe to Chili, and the governments were on the point of prohibiting its use. It was then that Nobel began his experiments toward taming nitro-glycerine and created dynamite, or "giant powder" as it was first called in the United States. In his worldwide propaganda to convince governments that dynamite was a safe explosive, the inventor came to America. It was while he was registering at a small hotel in New York that he casually exclaimed to the hotel clerk that his satchel contained dynamite. The clerk firmly ordered Nobel to seek other quarters, and was relieved when he went out of the door.

### NOW

Today dynamite is being manufactured in the United States at the rate of 250,000,000 pounds a year. Filling 5000 freight cars, it is constantly being transported over the railroads of the country. Though it is the third most powerful explosive in general use, it has been tamed so that railroad companies receive it for transportation almost as readily as they do coal. Nitro-glycerin, however, is still under the transportation ban in both the United States and Europe. Dynamite is today one of the most important factors in the progress of civilization. Without it the mighty engineering achievements—the Panama Canal, the mountain and river tunnels—could not be accomplished. It takes an important part in building the modern skyscrapers; it is used to mine the necessary huge quantities of iron and other metals that enter into structures. It blasts out the millions of tons of coal that supply heat, light and power, and give life to the locomotives that bring food and clothing to the populace of cities. It is helping to grow the food we eat—the modern scientific farmer uses it to plow his land, its explosions shattering the sub-soil which no plow ever reaches. It is said to increase the crops greatly in quality and at least by fifty per cent in quantity. Today dynamite is used to fight great conflagrations, to fight wars and to prepare for a large part of the progress of the world.

### REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR GIRL.

The wonder of the modern woman is that she can be "clothed with modesty," yet wear it so very fluffily, that one scarcely notices it.

The first sign of a girl's love is her desire to run her fingers through a man's hair; the first sign of a man's is the self-control he exhibits when he allows her to do it.

There is so much wisdom in a fool and so much fool in the wisest man that to a normal woman they are but too slightly different kinds of baby.

It is always a shock to a girl to marry a man who adores her "little white hands," and then discover that he expects her to use them for peeling onions and broiling steak.

The "long, long thoughts of youth" are nothing to the thoughts of a woman of thirty-three, who has not yet met the right man, or is married to the wrong one.

When a man lives and dies a bachelor, it is not so often because he has never seen the "right woman," as because he has seen too much of the wrong kind.

PENDLETON—S. H. Elliott, of the Department of the Interior at Washington, has been at the Indian reservation here for the past two months settling up land cases in which titles to possession have been involved. Elliott comes as a special agent who charges the Indians a nominal fee, thus saving them the expense of employing attorneys to look up their deeds.

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