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Lower Main Street in Condon

THIS MEMORIAL DAY

By HERMAN HAGEDORN,
Of the Vigilantes.

IT IS fifty years now that the Amer-
ican people have every year laid
aside their tools for a day to re-
member their noble dead.

This year they again lay aside their
tools. This year they again gather
roses and lilies and apple blossoms
and cherry blossoms and wander out
to the cemeteries to decorate those old
but never forgotten graves. This year
they decorate them with apprehensive
hearts.

This year, as in other years, they re-
fresh in their memory the heroic deeds
and sacrifices of their fathers; but
they do something besides this. Re-
calling those deeds and those sacrifices
in the bright light of new heroism and
the shadow of new sacrifice, they ded-
icate themselves, their hands, their
minds, and their spirits, to the new
struggle on which their country is em-
barked.

They remember American men who
died fighting on old battlefields, but
they remember more vividly American
women and children who died on the
Lusitania.

They remember Gettysburg, and
Chancellorsville, and Fredericksburg,
and Chickamauga, and the Wilderness;
but they remember more vividly what
happened in Belgium, and France, and
Serbia, and Armenia, and on the open
sea.

They remember the Lost Cause and
the Cause that was victorious. With
high hearts they remember them, and
with grateful hearts they remember
the men who fought and died defend-
ing them, and the men who fought and
lived and were great enough, for the
sake of a united nation, at last to for-
give and forget. They remember these
things. But more vividly they remem-
ber that the nation which Washington
created and Lincoln preserved is face
to face with the most sinister foe that
has yet threatened its liberty. They
remember that this foe, with sly and
insidious cunning, sought to confuse,
corrupt, and hamstring the energy and
moral will of the American people
even while he sank their ships and
slaughtered their fellow-citizens. They
remember that by the force of his arms
this foe has beaten down great Russia,
subjugated Serbia, Roumania, Belgium,
northern Italy and northern France.

They remember liberty, and they re-
member that where this foe has trod,
liberty has died.

In the midst of a great war, the
American people give a day to their
heroic dead. They honor them in
speeches and parades. They honor
them with flowers and music. They
are doing them no more than justice
when they so honor them.

But they honor them best if with firm
will and fearless heart they resolve
that humanity's foe shall die; but that,
by the strength, the courage, the en-
durance, the spirit of devotion and sac-
rifice not only of the men in khaki or
in blue in France and Flanders and on
the sea, but of the fathers and moth-
ers and wives, the sisters, the sweet-
hearts, the brothers, who work and
wait at home in the Great Republic of
the West, Democracy shall triumph,
Right shall triumph, and Liberty shall
live, bringing to the world a peace
that shall endure, and to men and wom-
en everywhere a happiness that shall
have foundations.

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**"The Price
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A Jewel Special
Featuring Mildred Harris

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