## Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

Capital Journal Ptg. Co., Inc.

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The most terrific struggle struggle of the whole war is that now going on at Verdun, Yester ray was ine
hundredth day since the battle began and it has continued aimost without rest ever since. Its losses have beed
palling and so far but little has been accomplished. The Germans are apparently making a super human et fort to smash the French defenses, and to accomplish this have gathered a million men, so the dispatches state, an in a desperate attempt to utterly crush them.
Human life has not heen considered, is not being take thought of, the sole aim being to conquer, and the death list has brok
practically is
Night and day there has been a continuous rain of lead and iron until the earth itself is ploughed, torn and ground to dust by it.
In the last two or three days the French have been foreed back in places, but every foot gained has cost a
wealth of lives They say they may have to retire still further, but do
not seem at all alarmed at the situation, relying on the not seem at all alarmed
niles of trenches behind them to which they can retir
and which are almost ns impregnabie es Verd and which are almost as mpregnabie as veraun issen.
The French government is confident the Germans wil The French government is confident the Geemans win wear themsetves out and euttery exhaustech ong betme them and Paris.

## The dispatches

 trians for this great attack, If this is true, and the Russians take advantage of it, it is liable to cause the kaisesome worry, for he cannot let the Russians regain thei lost ground in Poland, without endangering his empire. Bloody history will be writter this summer but whether it will chronicle a German or Aimeid of the bi pond the result of the great conflict is as much in tloubt now as it ever was
The Capital Journal will assist in the movement for better homes and better food by promoting a cooking school next week. It will be free and Mrs. Vaughn and her co-laborers are among the foremost workers ien eople are conducting their school in Portland under the auspices
of the Oregonian and that paper reports an attendance of the Oregonian and that paper reports an attendance
of 1500 women at the afternoon lectures and demonstrations, the audience packing the building to the doors. We trust that the women of Salem will be equally apprecia-
tive of Mrs. Vaughn's splendid work in a field where there tive of Mrs. Vaughn's splendid work in a field where there
is room for so much progress along intelligent, practical lines.

March came in and went out like a lion, April con tinued the same cold blustering rainy conduct and May has done but little if any better. June is here now and
it is hoped has brought a little sunshine and wamth with it is hoped has brought a little sunshine and warmth with
her. It is only three weeks until the sun will have reached her. It is only three weeks until the sun will have reache
its farthest northing and will begin his journey back to where Christmas lives. Let us hope the month will set
down on the fuel dealer for a short time and give the long neglected iceman a chance

Umatilla county's sheriff, Till Taylor is to be, as it were, king consort to Queen Muriel, of the Portland Rose carnival. The king is to wear a cowboy costume and use a riata as a scepter. It is rather a freakish idea though the sheriff will no doubt be a great improvemen
on many that are in the king row. Still a somhrero and on many that are in the king row. Still a sombrero an
stern wheel spurs do not fit the average idea of royalty.

## Hitchcock by his course at Chicago shows how much

 mischief a meddling friend can do, without intending i He, according to his own statement, is acting without MHughes' knowledge or consent: Hughes' knowledge or consent; yet he gets to the fron
and places Hughes in the light of an avowed candidate for the presidency, a thing that gentleman has tried mos strenuously to avoid.

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## WOULD HAVE TAKEN PART IN WAR

Colonel Roosevelt in his speech at Kansas City Tues foreign plicy, and placed himself on recorl he would have done had he been president at the time the war broke out. Speaking of the over-running of Belgium by the Germans he said:
"I believe in international duty. I hold that assert that we are entirely guiltless of respon y Belgium, and on non-combatants, particular men and children, in the present war.
"Prior to the war we had become parties to
of war, and to limit the offenses that can with
be committed by belligerents on either neutra
combatants. When we declined to take any action nonhese conventions and treaties, we ourselves treated them as scraps of paper.
Could he have more plainly stated that had he been
president he would have attempted to force the United tates to take part in the war in order to protect the nentrality of Belgium? No other inference can be drawn
rom his statement.
At the same time he insists he wants bigger armies and mace naves for derense, and for the maintainence
If this is what the Colonel meant by his statement, an no other meaning seems possible, then it was indeed a
matter of profound congratulation that he was not at the head of the government two years ago. If his leadership would have been so dangerous to the country then, what would it be if we had a strong army and navy and allowed
him to play with it? How dangerous would he be to the country once the preparedness program is carried out and speech answers the question.

Both Hughes and his secretary remain silent on all pountless rumors flying around about Mr. Hughes and hi
andidacy. As a candidate he can safely be cla
ore essayed though cirant came pohtician
ing hard to "smoke Grant came near it. Teddy is try Hughes is some slinger of harsh English himecessfully he get waked up, and it would certainly make interesting reading sholud he try his tongue or pen on th
son, Hughes and Roosevelt in the midst of it.
All business stopped in St. Paul yesterday
wile the funeral of the late "Jim" Hill was At the same time if the governor's request was complied trains on the Hill lines stopped five for two hours. Al steamers on the Pacific and the Lakes stopped their bis gines for the same length of time. Under proclamation of the governor of Minnesota all flags were placed at hal deserved
Laerbes Roowrddes hurled three bricks through the
 Mity yeserady, thinking it was the Rockefelerer mansion: is mind we tell opell his name.
Europe will never follow America's custom of having Decoration day. They will never be able to raise flowers though still in the making.
the


BIRTHDAYS
A birthday is a solemn thing; a fellow realizes then how speedily the days take wing, the days that do not come again. A little grayer than last year, a little slower in my gait, I feel the dump is drawing near, and still I keep my smile on straight. little failure of my sight; a bit more deaf-
ness in my ears; a few more aches ness in my ears; a few more aches-but
that's all right! I would not stop the seudding years. My bald spot is a bit more wide, my muscles grow a trifle slack; I have more
stitches in my side, a few more cricke my back. But yonder vault of azurs are above no gladder heart than mine, for all about me there are friends, who keep an
old gent feeling fine. Their ake my bosom swell, and fill my piebald eyes with tears they tell me I am looking well, and hope II years. A few more symptoms of the gout have vainly years. A few more symptoms of the gout have vainly
tried to kill my joy; a few more teeth have fallen out, but
l'm as happy as a boy.


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HOSTETTER'S

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