

# The Herald

D. E. STITT, Editor.

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Monmouth, Oregon.

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1911.

## CONSCIENCE IS WHAT WE MAKE IT.

Lorimer, of Illinois, election fraud notoriety is credited with having made the assertion that his "conscience doesn't hurt" him, as though that condition constitutes a safe resting place and frees him from blame or reproach in regard to the manner of his election to a seat in the United States senate.

We have frequently heard persons make like statement when their acts were questionable, while others have said that their conscience was their guide, and in all these instances we presume each party believed that conscience was an infallible something that invariably aided its possessor to know when he or she had done right or wrong, or was a guide to say whether the thing about to be committed was right or wrong.

Now conscience is a very valuable asset, and it is pleasant to walk in paths of rectitude so that its accusing influence does not bother its possessor, but for all that, conscience is not a guide, and neither is its silence a surety that its possessor has been pursuing a path of rectitude.

No one, who will take the trouble to exercise their brain power and examine into the matter, will contend that the dictates of conscience are always right. Take the cannibal, for instance; Does any one even dream that his conscience troubles him when he kills and eats his human victim? Does the conscience of the Mussulman upbraid him when he takes the life of a Christian?

If not, then, why not? and the answer, "because he believes that he has done that which is right," forces itself upon our attention and then comes the intelligence that, "The conscience is a creature of education," and is a monitor only according to the training of the person who possesses it. The cannibal has no qualms of conscience when he eats his victim, and neither has the Mussulman when he slays the Christian; both have been educated to their respective beliefs, and conscience upholds each in pursuit of what he has been taught as the right thing for him to do.

These are extreme cases, to be sure, but there are other instances, innumerable, where the reader, or the writer, are taught differently, and act differently in regard to what each may do. We often see people do things that we could not be induced to do, and yet, such persons are just as honest in their belief as we are in ours, and because of their honesty we respect them, while the same exchange takes effect on their parts. So, after summing the whole matter up, we can come to no other con-

clusion than that conscience is a monitor according to education.

## Farmer Hunt Tells Us How to Make County Better.

FROM THE DALLAS ITEMIZER

Editor Itemizer:

Permit me once again to enter the arena as a pencil pusher. I want to suggest that we organize a 5000 club for the purpose of boosting Dallas and Polk County. We have in our midst too many criers or knockers. We need more and better roads. The bridges in this county are a disgrace to the 20th century. Let us boost for things modern. We have too many old ramshackles, too many fenceless farms. If a man builds a hen house or a goat shed, let him whitewash it; it does not cost much and looks lots better. Don't cry about your taxes and want a county job all summer and your wages paid out of the public treasury. Good and nice things come by united effort on the part of good residents. The rock mountains can be crushed and transported to different parts of the county, but it takes labor, and that means money. Where does our money come from? Why, from the county treasury. Well, how does it get in the treasury? By taxation. Now, good people, do not expect the commissioners to build good roads and fine bridges and let you off without paying your just taxes. I do not want any office, not even do I aspire to be president; but I do aspire to live in one of the first class counties of Oregon, and the people who live in a commonwealth are its builders or retarders. Boost, boost, boost, first, last and all the time. Many things make light work. Remember that it is said that an honest man is the noblest work of God and there are 10,000 ways of being dishonest. Come early and avoid the rush when it comes to an election and pick out, not one idea man for servants, but men who are broad minded enough to saw the wood.

I have traveled from Mexico to Northern British Columbia, and have never seen finer strawberries, cherries, prunes, peaches, or apples grow in Polk county, and as for her soil, she cannot be beat. But there are thousands of acres that are too wet; more underdraining and better cultivation will do the work. Let the watchword be more and better farms and farmers, better fences and more attractive buildings. They do not necessarily need to be expensive, but neat and clean. If a person never changed clothing or washed he would be a sorry sight. If your hen coops and goat sheds are not cleaned up and whitewashed, they look sorry, too. Yours for a booster club,

JAMES E. HUNT.

### FOR SALE.

For sale until July 1, 28 1/2 acres 2 1/2 miles of Dallas, on good road, about 19 acres in cultivation, balance timber; at least 1800 cords standing cordwood timber; good spring, five room double box house, barn for five horses and 15 tons hay, 2 chicken houses, good well; the house is old but is comfortable; a company is drilling for oil within 1/2 mile of place; saw mill in 1/2 mile, about 1/2 of this place is rough, but wood on it will pay for it. This is the cheapest place in Polk County, and must be sold by July 1. Price \$2000. Address owner, Box 131, Dallas, Oregon.

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Monmouth, - Oregon