

MONMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Magazines Ordered—Societies at Work—Basket Ball Thursday Night

The committee appointed by the Student Body to select magazines for the High School, has ordered the following list: Harpers, Outlook, Scientific American, Etude, National Sportsman, Popular Mechanics, Outing, Good Housekeeping, Home Needlework, Pictorial Review, House Beautiful, School Review, Oregonian.

In addition to these the following have been donated by different members of the student body and faculty: Literary Digest, Worlds Work, Sunset, Popular Electricity and Modern Mechanics.

The School Board has provided for a magazine rack which will be placed in the Assembly Room. The magazines are for the use of any one who cares to read them. They may be taken from the building outside of school session.

Literary Societies Have Good Meetings

The girls' Literary society held its first regular meeting Thursday evening, Dec. 3. The name Athena was chosen for the society. It was decided to have a joint meeting with the Y. N. O. A. on the evening of Dec. 18. After the business was transacted, a short program was given. One unique feature of this was having each member answer her name at roll call by telling what some one else should have been thankful for on Thanksgiving.

The regular meeting of the Y. N. O. A. is to be held at the High School, Friday, Dec. 11. A business session will be followed by a short program, planned by the Social and Program Committees of the society.

Basket Ball Season Opens

A basket ball game was played Thursday night between the Normal School and the High School. A. H. Craven is coaching the High School team and has them in splendid condition. Their line-up was as follows: C. Powell and Strong, forwards; Webber, center; Evans and Portland, guards; Haley and Knapp, substitutes.

In anticipation of the basket ball season, the yell leader, Jay Knapp, called a "yell practice" Monday afternoon. A number of new yells were learned and given with a good deal of zest.

The regular meeting of the Polk County Principals' Club was held at Dallas, last Saturday evening. Pres. J. H. Ackerman, J. B. V. Butler, E. S. Evenden, H. C. Ostien and E. L. Keezel were present from Monmouth. A banquet was given after which State Supt. Churchill spoke on proposed school legislation, and the standardization of high school athletics.

We hope that parents will not forget that Friday, Dec. 11, is "Go-to-School Day."

THE POLITICAL PREACHER

THE PULPIT WARNED AGAINST THE YELLOW PERIL OF POLITICS.

A Consecrated Ministry Needed for the Rural Churches.

By Peter Radford.

Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

The farmers of this nation have on their payroll 95,000 preachers and this number applying themselves diligently and exclusively to the religious work at hand is sadly inadequate to properly serve their respective communities.

Those who put on ecclesiastical robes are in a measure free to unlock every door to the human heart and enter the secret chambers of reason and every person should submit their conduct to review and seek the counsel of those divinely appointed mes-

sengers of life, but the moment the minister closes the Bible and opens the law book, he becomes a menace to society.

The difficulty of keeping the preacher in the pulpit is as old as religion. Christ encountered it in the temple when he drove the priests from the bargain counter back to the pulpit. Our pilgrim fathers met it when, through the influence of the clergy, a witch court was established at Salem, Mass., in 1692, that precipitated a legal holocaust threatening to reduce the population to ashes and which was extinguished by the laymen uniting and forcing the preachers back to the pulpit.

The greatest peril to the church today is politics. The temptation of the ministry to throw down the cross of Christ and pick up the club of the policeman; to substitute the penalties of the law for the power of the altar and to legislate religion into human hearts, never was greater.

The world never needed a religious ministry more nor political preachers less than it does today. We need ministers to teach us how to live; we know how to vote.

The religious preacher is the most capable servant and the political preacher the sorriest master the world has ever known. Wherever power is placed in the hands of the latter they invariably become intolerant, bigoted and vicious and resort to the whip and the fagot to enforce their opinion.

Civilization has many times been compelled to drive incorrigible preachers back to the pulpit at the point of the bayonet. Many of the pages of history are wet with blood shed at the hands of political preachers who wrote laws on the statute books that committed arson upon mankind, maimed human beings with the hatchet and sent helpless women to the torture rack, all because they disagreed with their views. When in control of government, the pulpit politicians invariably undertake to perform legislative miracles such as casting out witches with the flame of a torch, suborning conscience with shackles and enforcing opinions with the guillotine.

Mixing Politics and Religion.

Politics and religion will not blend. No free government can long exist or the church perform its mission to society when preachers and politicians temporarily exchange callings, and a civilization that will countenance such conduct will soon decay. Such a traffic in occupations is as unsound in principle as the white slave trade is immoral in practice.

The hand that passes the sacrament should not collect slush funds for political purposes. The gentle voice that comforts us in sorrow and pronounces the last sad rites upon our departed loved ones should not rave and rant on the hustings. I do not believe a preacher can manipulate political machinery and be righteous any more than he could become a burglar and be honest. I think it as immoral for a preacher to seek to lobby while he prays as it would be for him to

gamble while he preaches.

A preacher can no more preach a political sermon without converting his pulpit into a political rostrum than he could sell intoxicating liquor from the altar without converting the church into a bar-room. He can no more purify politics by playing the game than he can sanctify gambling by running a lottery.

I join in the oft-repeated suggestion that a preacher has as much right in political brawls as a saloon keeper and we also admit that he has as much right to get drunk as anyone else, but we would rather he would not do so for the "greater the saint the greater the sin." I think a political bishop can turkey trot in the name of Christianity as consistently as he can enter into a mud-slinging political contest to the disgrace of his church.

It is my opinion that when this world is saved it will be through religious sermons and not through political speeches. Salvation must come to us from the Bible and not from the statute book; it will come through holy councils of consecrated ministers and not from caucuses of political preachers.

The Problem of the Laymen.

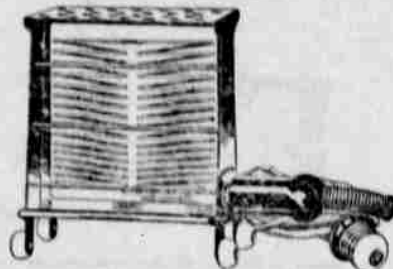
There never was a time when preachers and politicians formed an unholy alliance that civilization did not shriek out and Christianity cry aloud. Since the beginning of government, politicians have sought to decoy the ministry into the meshes of politics and make them carry banners in political processions. They have taken the ministry to the mountain-top of power and offered to make them monarch of all they surveyed, and while most of them have said, "get thee behind me Satan," a few have fallen with a crash that has shaken every pulpit in Christendom.

The ministry, unsophisticated and coniding, is no match for the politician versed in artful persuasion and skilled in deceit, and it is the duty of the laymen to protect the ministry against the onslaught of these wolves in sheep's clothing and drive the politicians from the pulpit with the lash of public scorn. It is the laymen's problem to keep the ministry free from unholy alliances, for it is said on divine authority that we are our brother's keeper.

Political Prayer Meetings.

It is a sad day for Christianity when the church bells call the communicants together for a political prayer meeting. Such gatherings mark the high tide of religious political fanaticism, put bitterness into the lives of men; fan the flame of class hatred and destroy Christian influence in the community. The spirit actuating such meetings is anarchic, un-Christlike and dangerous to both church and state.

It must be said to the credit of the church that the political preacher is fast disappearing and may his influence ever wane and his shadow ever grow less is the prayer of the farmers of this nation.



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