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**WINEGAR & LORENCE, Monmouth**

**Normal History**

Continued from page 1

cattle while enroute. The great plains were very dry and hot, but in due time the Snake and Columbia Rivers were reached. It was August 30, 1852, that the beautiful Willamette valley was greeted by the pilgrims. ✪

The first winter was spent at Crowley, five miles from what is now Rickreall. They then moved a few miles south to a beautiful green plain bounded on the south by low foot hills covered with great oak trees, and the fir covered Coast range bordered on the west, the Willamette River rolled to the east and the Cascade range with its jagged snow peaks rose in the background, and the little LaCreole Creek wound its way along the north side to meet the Willamette. In this beautiful little spot they took up their "donation claims". Log houses were built and homes were started.

In 1854 Rev. John E. Murphy, Elijah Davidson, J. B. Smith, T. H. Lucas, and S. S. Whitman donated land—about six hundred and forty—on which to found a town, the proceeds from the sale of town lots to be used in establishing a college to be placed under the supervision of the local Christian Church and to be called Monmouth University.

At a mass meeting of the people, the town was named Monmouth in honor of the town the company of devoted men had left to come to the great West.

The first money for the school was raised by donations. A small wooden building was then built on what is now called the "Public Square". Finally the Christian Church of Oregon took charge of the school. At this time forty life scholarships were

issued, representing five hundred dollars each. This made an endowment of \$20,000. In 1858 a wooden building was erected at the cost of five thousand dollars.

This building was located on the present State Normal grounds upon which Mr. A. W. Lucas had so carefully planted fir and maple trees. At an early annual meeting of the Christian Church the name was changed from Monmouth University to Christian College.

A chapel service was held every day. The true christian life was always upheld as the only life to live. The education obtained by the scholars here was a christian education. The influence of the instructors and those in connection with the school was great and good.

Mr. A. D. Butler was the head of the Christian College during 1868 and 1869.

In 1869 Professor T. F. Campbell, a descendant of Alexander Campbell, came from Montana to become the president of the school. Mrs. Jane Eliza Campbell was a second cousin of Alexander Campbell and married T. F. Campbell, a Bethany student from Mississippi in 1851. He was no relation of A. C. On the account of the inadequacy of the wooden building, he secured donations from the people over the state, and at the cost of \$16,000, erected a brick building, which still stands as the north wing of the present State Normal building. The wooden building was then moved back and used for a gymnasium.

In 1876 the Christian College lost one of its strongest supporters, Rev. John Murphy. He had been the vice-president and financial secretary from the founding of the school. Almost every Saturday he would mount his saddle

and ride for miles to Harrisburg, Coburg, Pleasant Hill, or some other distant town to preach to the people.

Professor D. T. Stanley led the school during the period of 1882 to 1890. It was during this time (in 1882) that the name was changed to the Oregon State Normal School and the school and grounds were given free of debt over to the state for a Normal school. The gift was accepted by the legislature in 1890.

Prince L. Campbell, son of Professor T. F. Campbell, became the president of the Oregon State Normal School. This office he held from 1890 until 1902, when he went to the University of Oregon to act as president of that institution. His leadership at the Normal was recognized as strong and fine. His kind words of encouragement and readiness to help a student who was in trouble have never been forgotten by the people of Monmouth.

Professor E. D. Ressler took his place and carried on the work successfully until 1909. The last six months the institution was kept up by private donations. It was then closed for lack of funds.

For two years the Oregon State Normal School buildings and grounds were vacant. At last the legislature put the Normal School question before the people and at a general initiative election November 8, 1910, the majority of ten thousand voted one twenty-fifth of a mill tax yearly, for its maintenance. A woman's dormitory which provides a home for eighty girls was built in 1912 at a cost of \$50,000. During 1913 a gymnasium and heating plant were built. The training school building, to cost \$50,000, is now in the process of construction.

Continued next week

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