

The Herald

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Monmouth Meditations



OUR Snake Story editor, in view of the approaching festival of Thanksgiving, has been casting around with a few reflections on reasons for being thankful and has found the usual ample supply.

He is thankful that Hobson & Hoskins' cement mixer did not fall into the Rickreall on the way down and that the work of laying concrete on Main street is at last in progress.

That the result of the election did not suit everybody, otherwise living would have become too humdrum and a vast quantity of choice wit would never have been brought to light.

That the people of Monmouth have spunk enough to get up a little scrap among themselves once in a while because it shows that we are live ones.

That we have a good set of city officials and the prospects could not be improved by substituting any one for any of them.

That it has not rained hard since our street has been depressed, otherwise it would have been a canal and the boating is not good.

That while pork is expensive it is not as costly as venison or turkey.

That Mr. Webster invented the word "unusual." It has helped out as a description of our weather all summer and fall.

The trouble with undersea war is that it is not on the level.

The fog of the first of the week gave us all the pleasures and sensations of a cottage by the seaside.

The turkey is fond of roosting high in the tree tops but this year the Thanksgiving variety appears to have climbed higher than usual.

As a means of reducing the cost of living a fleet of German submarines, patrolling the Atlantic ocean, would be about as effective as anything we know of.

When it was necessary to move lively in the raw fog the work of mixing the concrete for the pavement made lively progress and the area of hard surface grew fast.

Women exercising the right of suffrage have acted about as men would have done except that the moral questions and questions dealing with sentiment have been made more popular.

From the way the effervescence of youth is being suppressed in Monmouth at present it will soon be a healthy proceeding to be courteous and considerate in play as well as in the more ordinary doings of life.

There is nothing in the ancient writings more perennially truthful

than "The poor you have always with you." And it is gratifying to know that the poor of Monmouth at this season, are being looked after.

The rights of a majority are at issue on the subject of a strict quarantine for infectious diseases and private notions do not count. A man should be able to do about anything he wishes to himself but when he becomes a menace to his neighbors is where the right of the majority steps in. The person who hides a contagious disease or who violates a quarantine, needs looking after and a wholesome dose of discipline.

From an editorial in the Falls City News we gather that the editor of that paper thinks the school ma'ams should pay for their training as well as the doctors and dentists, etc. The News man should interview some of his home town school ma'ams and see if they ever had anything in the educational line presented to them. In proportion to what it costs them to prepare, the school teacher is the poorest paid of any of the professions. The person who begrudges them any of their privileges and perquisites is a mighty mean man.

Here is a straw. Dudley Field Malone, formerly a member of President Wilson's official household and now Collector at New York, said at a recent meeting in San Francisco, that a new alignment of parties would come as a result of the election. Republicans and Democrats would disappear and in their stead conservative and liberal parties would be born. Possibly, but Mr. Malone fails to take one fact into consideration—the South. There would have been a re-alignment twenty years ago had it not been for the South which has peculiar problems that would render a shift dangerous in the opinion of a majority of its inhabitants.

The report of the Federal Trade Commission declares that the cost of producing paper now is less than the average of the last three years. Tradesmen will tell you that there is any amount of pulp in the country from which to make the paper (print paper.) But there is a scarcity because machinery can not be obtained with which to increase the output. It is certain that the better grade of print paper can not be bought at all in the West. The sugar manufacturers and the oil refiners are declaring yearly dividends in amount close to the face valuation of their stocks while the ultimate consumer is raking the four quarters of home economy for the wherewithal with which to pay the retailer. Now that the Federal Trade Commission is uncovering a few facts it is up to them to plan a method to relieve the situation.

The Portland Chamber of Commerce believes that Oregon is getting the wrong kind of advertising in the East. Every time a freak law is proposed by initiative the fact that it is up is featured in Eastern papers and the fact that it is beaten at the polls does not get equal publicity. The eastern banks are overflowing with money and the Chamber wants to attract some of it this way and would counteract the impression that we are irresponsible, erratic, and a few more things. To this end they are striving to give publicity to the fact that the single tax law was overwhelmingly beaten. One thing which this publicity move will keep in the back ground is the fact that the negro suffrage amendment was beaten and that the vaccination law came close to being beaten. These things do not reflect much credit on the intelligence of Oregon voters nor are they calculated to inspire enthusiasm for the workings of the initiative and referendum.

The probabilities are that the Monmouth Normal will continue to be the only one in the state for several years. There will not be an opportunity to start another by initiative for two more years and

the operations of the six per cent law will operate to prevent the legislature from establishing another, at least during the coming session. As the Monmouth school is steadily growing, to secure its fullest measure of successful work it must have the facilities to care for the students that come in increasing numbers each year. The situation is abnormal and extraordinary efforts will have to be put forth to meet and handle it. By the time another summer school is to be held some plan must be put into execution for caring for the administrative functions of the school. Just at present the greatest need is for facilities for practice work for the Senior students.

The Board of Regents appreciate this and have asked for \$6,000 to be used in enlarging this feature of the school for the next two years. And it may be assumed that whatever the difficulties to be encountered in obtaining appropriations, this sum will be granted. The most available practice work can be obtained by taking over one of the grade schools of Independence and negotiations to this end are now in progress.

The distance is not great. Were the Normal located in a large city the distance between school and practice work would be as great, if not greater. To all practical purposes, Independence and Monmouth could be considered as one city.

The proposal should be advantageous for Independence. It will save the district of that city the expense of four teachers. It will improve the quality of the four remaining teachers, who will rank with instructors in the higher institutions of learning. The student practice teachers are the same as those which a few months later are taken as considerably above the average teacher and given good positions. In their practice they are better than they will be when they are graduated for now they are on their mettle. Their work is concentrated on a limited period of instruction each day. In addition each lesson is planned in advance, and is criticised by the critic teacher. The practice schools of Normals are always highly considered by educators. We have in mind one school in the east which has a waiting list and parents consider themselves fortunate when their children are admitted to the school.

The writer of this has two boys who have within the past four years been in four different schools in three different states; in Wisconsin, at Riverside, Cal., at Bandon and in Monmouth. Especially, the schools of Riverside were of a very high grade and everything that money could buy was put in practice there. We have thus had an opportunity to compare the practical work of the schools mentioned and believe that the training school is yielding practical results, the equal of any of them.

Items of Interest

Independence is to have a corn show Dec. 1 and 2.

The Polk county teachers' institute and county Parent-Teachers' association meeting will be held in Dallas, Dec. 2.

Ralph E. Duganne, dentist, of Independence was married in Portland Nov. 15th, to Miss Edith Curtis of St Thomas, N. D.

Two Dallas boys, Orlie Chase and Dewey Inman, while out for a Sunday walk came upon a flock of wild geese. The boys threw stones at the geese and succeeded in killing one of them.

A number of Independence ladies are walking the two miles of paved highway north of town for exercise. This is not at all a bad idea as it brings a glow to the cheeks and brawn to the muscles. If practiced consistently it means better health and temper and is a good cure for the blues.—Monitor.

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