

Oregon Hist Society
Public Auditorium

The Monmouth Herald

Vol. X

Monmouth, Polk County, Oregon, Friday, March 8, 1918

No. 27

Monmouth is Located in the Best Section of the Best Valley of the Best State in the Union.

NEWS NOTES OF NORMAL

President on Southern Oregon Trip. Miss Greene Speaks

Fully five hundred eagerly interested people composed the audience which listened most attentively to Major Ian Hay Beith's lecture "Carrying On" which was given in the Normal Auditorium last Thursday. Major Beith was a speaker of rare personal charm who delighted his audience not only by his clean cut forceful thinking in regard to the war and its problems, but also by his unique humor which never failed of appreciation. His handling of the whole situation, his sane view of the future and his thoughtful optimism which predicted victory, but through tremendously hard work, all left his hearers with a new feeling of stern confidence that they too must fight at home to back up the troops overseas. The pictures taken personally by Major Beith at the front and the carefully explained maps and aeroplane photographs added immensely in making the evening's lecture one of permanent interest for the whole community.

Miss Alberta Greene, head of the Art Department, was the faculty speaker for last Friday. Miss Greene's subject "How Children Learn to Draw" was presented delightfully and offered a clear definite illustration of the means and processes by which children acquire the ability to express themselves through drawing. By means of concrete examples of children's drawings—some from the training school here—Miss Greene showed the various phases of development and the corresponding accomplishments. The psychology of the drawing process was given most clearly so that the hearers felt a new interest in the whole subject as well as in Miss Greene's very fine presentation of her point of view.

A student rally for the Oratorical contest was held Wednesday morning where Mr. Ernest Morgan, the Normal representative gave his oration "America's Mission" and the student body sang rousing songs and cheered enthusiastically. This meeting marked, too, the appearance of the girl's quartette, which is to appear on the program at Salem Friday night. A large number of students plan to make the trip to Salem to support the candidate and show the live spirit of the school.

This week President Ackerman has been absent on a speaking tour in Southern Oregon. Monday he appeared in Grant's Pass and Gold Hill; Tuesday, Central Point and Medford; Wednesday, Ashland and Jacksonville; Thursday, Glendale and Roseburg; Friday, Oakland. He is speaking to high school students and others interested in normal training and the Oregon Normal School.

Squirrel poison will be up before the grange at its meeting Saturday. J. E. Larson, county agriculturist will be there and expects to mix three bushels of the poison which will be sold at cost.

Mr. and Mrs. Staats and daughter Katrina have moved to Airlie for the summer at least, where they go to operate their farm in the vicinity of that town. They have found it impossible to get help to run the farm and have to move as a result. Joe and Thyra will remain in Monmouth until school is out.

Training School Facts and Fancies

Wednesday evening a large crowd saw "The Cinderella Man" which was shown in the chapel. Everyone was pleased with the picture.

President Ackerman has helped to solve the warm lunch problem, by securing the services of Mrs. Boche during the absence of Miss Butler. It is needless to say that the soups are delicious, and students are clamoring for Mrs. Boche's recipes. The only fault that the pupils find is that teacups are not large enough. Who will come to the rescue with 10 cents for the proper bowl and thus add to the school-boys comfort and happiness?

If Dorsey Edwards, Elmer Green and Leonard Wharton seem unduly importunate in urging you to buy war savings stamps, it is because they are trying to win the pig offered to the boy or girl who sells the most stamps in Polk County during the month of March. It is to be hoped that Monmouth will win the pig.

The grammar grade pupils who heard Prof. Ide's lecture on habits, at the P. T. A., Tuesday night, were apparently much interested and instructed, judging by the review the pupils gave the next morning.

If people realized how the attitude of pupils toward their work, is affected by criticism of teachers in charge, or by any reflection on school regulations, they would be loathe to give or to sanction such criticism.

Some of our history classes are certainly in a reflective state of mind. A teacher asked, "What prompted John Brown to do what he did?" The pupil replied, "He was asked by Rhode Island to free the slaves." "By Rhode Island!" asked the teacher. "Yes, Miss—it says so in our history." The pupil then read to her teacher, "He was called by Providence to free the slaves."

In a subsequent lesson the teacher was saying, "No children, the people of the South wouldn't like to have you call them lazy. They simply couldn't endure the scorching rays of the sun. The negro was better suited to the work and the climate." "But," said a boy, "How is that?" "Black absorbs heat, the negro is black, therefore the negro would feel the heat more, wouldn't he?"

Halley G— asks if it is unpatriotic to have German measles.

The beautiful large community flag in the possession of the training school, has been hung in the hall back of the Lincoln statue. The statue with the flag as a background, is an inspiring, an ennobling sight.

THE STORY OF AN EYE WITNESS

Major Beith Thrills Audience With Description of the War

With the recital of a plain, unvarnished tale, albeit spiced a little with native wit, Major Ian Hay Beith held the attention of a large audience in the Normal chapel last Friday evening, detailing some of his experiences on the western front in the European war. At the close of his lecture he displayed a number of stereopticon views taken by himself on the scene of war.

Major Beith was one of the "hundred thousand", the "contemptible" little army which England sent over at the beginning of the war; an army large enough, however, to hold the Germans, when baffled in the taking of Paris, they turned to Calais. With his dry humor, the speaker told of experiences when the British were on the low ground which was two feet above water in the summer time and two feet under water in the winter; how they fought and struggled until they had driven the Germans out of the elevations onto lower ground and that now the British looked down on the enemy from the various eminences. None of these, however, were very high. Hill 60, which had had more or less fame because of struggles incident to its possession, was so called because it was sixty feet in height. This hill was now a hole in the ground, having been destroyed by mining it with explosives.

To show how thoroughly the Germans respected British prowess, he showed a diagram giving the relative density of soldiers in the various regions, showing that on the British front the enemy were several times as numerous as on other fronts farther to the east. He described the events which led up to the appearance upon the scene of Hindenberg who when he had sized up the situation, decided that he would do what only a successful and talented general could do—retreat. How the retreat had been made to the "Hindenberg line" which was impregnable and could never be taken by any force brought to bear upon it.

The only trouble with its invincibility was that Hindenberg had not taken Thomas Atkins into his confidence. He had in his ignorance taken it to be the same as any other fortification and as a result had taken and occupied vast stretches of the line. Major Beith described these intrenchments, solidified with concrete and with a net work of tunnels extending into the earth with all the appurtenances of permanent abode.

He spoke of the continuous and renewed fighting around Ypres, which Tommy called "Wipers" of the casualties and destruction but of failure for the Germans.

A vein of optimism ran through the address, reflecting in a large measure the attitude of the men in the trenches. They wanted to be let alone to fight it out. They were supremely confident of success if not interfered with by a premature peace at home. He said the Germans in that section were no longer on the offensive but had been de-

fending themselves for some time past. This was instanced in a different mode of fighting. They were abandoning the idea of continuous trenches and had taken to the fortifications of shell holes, communicating with one another by tunnels. These acted like boulders in a stream to stop the onrush of an offensive but were not at all adapted as agencies in making an offensive.

Throughout his address, Major Beith was given close attention. His was not a subject that any one could enjoy. The nature of the topic precluded that. But it was intensely interesting and one not readily forgotten. As a real actor in one of the great actions of history, he was a human document, eloquent and stimulating.

Curious Facts About Habits

Prof. Ide in his discourse to the Parent-Teacher Association made a slight improvement on Shakespeare. The latter had said that "habit breeds a power in a man" and Mr. Ide asserted that power, or effort could easily breed a habit in a man. He began his address by expressing a desire to assassinate the man who had given him a reputation as a humorist. Such a reputation, he said, smothered all the good things he might say and anyway, he had a serious subject to discuss.

He showed that the power of sense, although deemed voluntary and under control of the mind might be in a large degree habit, giving peculiar experiments to demonstrate the truth of the assertion.

He spoke of habits, good and bad, especially good habits and made suggestions on how the good habits could be acquired and cultivated until they became part of the self. He detailed numerous anecdotes illustrating how good habits had been cultivated in people old and young; by other people interested in them; for he said the one most anxious that good habits should be developed was not the subject himself, but some one with a more or less close interest in him.

He showed how the ideals and customs of youth are habits, inherited from ancestors more or less remote, taking the babe, child and youth and pointing out traits of character that were really habits inherited from more primitive man.

Mr. Ide's talk was given close attention and was warmly applauded.

Previously, the other numbers on the program had been given, the congregational singing led by Miss Hoham; a reading by Miss Fishwood, a selection by Richard Harding Davis, a police court epic, illustrating that class distinctions are only skin deep, and a solo by Denzel Moore.

Sickafoose Place Sold

An important real estate deal of the past week was the sale of Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Sickafoose's Monmouth property to A. F. Young, recently of Southern Nebraska. Mr. Young came into the valley looking for a location and the Sickafoose property appeared just the thing he was looking for. The deal was closed Tuesday, the consideration \$11,000 which includes the room-

NATION WIDE PROHIBITION

Is Close at Hand, Louis Banks Tells Monmouth Audience

Some startling statements were made by Louis Banks in his discussion of the temperance situation in his Monmouth appearance Friday night; nothing more so than the percentages given of rejections for physical disability on the part of the youth of the land who were sought for the army. The rejections ranged from fifty to eighty five per cent, he said, and the greatest disability he asserted was due to the use of strong drink. This fact was in evidence in the large centers of population more than in the rural districts.

For this reason, he said, it was a matter of special concern, what happened to the young men who had passed the test and were sent across the water. The most virile, the cleanest and most wholesome of our young men, the hope of the future are there met with the assertion that "the water of the country is bad, our people all drink wine, and thrive on it," etc., until thousands who would be normally safe, get a start toward intemperate habits.

Mr. Banks detailed incidents in the recent coal shortage in the east where schools were compelled to close up but where breweries always had plenty of coal to keep in operation full time. He spoke of the need for grain for use as substitutes for flour and of the immense quantities wasted in the production of beer.

Ten years ago there were, he said but three prohibition states in the union. Now there were nineteen. He spoke of the surprising changes which had been brought about in public sentiment; how the prohibition idea was making strong inroads into what was always considered as booze strongholds and asserted that now the chief danger for the prohibition constitutional amendment was in the lethargy of the "safe states".

Mr. Banks in his speaking tours, and he has spoken for temperance for many years, has contracted rheumatism in his hip and made his address seated in a chair. He was born in Benton county and in his younger days was acquainted with several in the audience. He has two sons with the army in France.

W. E. Smith Promoted

W. E. Smith has resigned his position as Cashier of the First National Bank, of Monmouth, to accept a position in the State Banking Department at Salem.

ing house built last year, the old residence, 22 acres of land, barns, stock, machinery, and feed. Also all the furniture of the houses except a few articles of personal interest to the late owners. Mr. Young, who has his family with him, with three children of school age, will take possession March 18. The Sickafooses have not yet decided what to do but may remain in Monmouth if they can find a suitable place to live in.