

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

## AMERICA'S PAST AND HER FUTURE

Dr. Powers Discloses our Antecedents and Coming Destiny

With a series of three lectures on the United States and its problems, Dr. Powers closed his engagement in Monmouth. He spoke Friday and Saturday evenings and Monday morning, taking for his topics "The United States and its Expansion", "The United States and Latin America" and "The United States and England."

While his story of the growth of the United States contained a few new points it was for the most part a rehearsal of the familiar story, and was kept from being common place by a witty vein of comment. He showed that the United States had not always been dignified when engaged in the national pastime of adding to our domain, but had been consistent in its promotion of the best aims of our national destiny. Never at any time in positive need of the added territory to relieve the expansion of population he showed how the territorial acquisition had been necessary, first because of our location in America and secondly because of our position in the world.

With a reference to the map he showed how the Panama canal was vital to America and its maintenance a matter of supreme importance. It was one of the two great ocean routes, destined to develop and increase in importance each year it is used. Its value to America is greater than to any other country in the world. We have two coasts to defend and possession of the canal, heavily fortified as it is, assumes a significance in naval matters hard to over estimate.

He explained the strategic value of the islands enclosing the Caribbean sea and told of the treaties and the course of events by which the influence of the United States had become paramount in Haiti, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Danish Islands. The United States, he said, could not look with tolerance on the possession of a foot hold within striking distance of the Panama canal by any nation hostile to or apt to become hostile to us. As instances he named Germany and Japan. Both of these countries were not satisfied with their present boundaries and would be apt to take advantage of any chance to increase their domains.

The Central American Republics had been cared for by treaties, backed by garrisons of our soldiers, but there was still room for danger in the northern boundaries of Colombia and Venezuela. Both of these countries were anti-American in their sentiment and were at present held possibilities of danger to us.

The climax came in the closing lecture which dealt with the United States and our relations to Great Britain. He showed how, in the course of our career as a nation Great Britain had at critical times stood between us and serious danger extending from the time of the treaty of peace following the Revolution down to the present day. The treaty following the war of 1812 he characterized as one of the

most remarkable in history. Although Great Britain had been practically the winner; although she had conquered her long time enemy, Napoleon, and had him out of the way; she had in the treaty asked for no reprisals or damages but only insisted that the United States should join her in a war on the African slave traffic. He asked if any one could see Germany making any such treaty as that in a war in which she was victor.

He spoke of the loose connections which held the British Empire together, how Canada, Australia and New Zealand made their own laws, had their own diplomats, regulated their own tariffs and said that the governor general which the crown supplied was not even allowed a veto of legislation.

He said that the United States was a part of that Empire with the exception that it had a different flag, and that the war was demonstrating that the English speaking people of the world, which was one quarter of its population, were the champions of the liberty of the world; that they were fulfilling a destiny in the development of civilization, a destiny which they had not sought, but which had become a duty they could not shirk if they would.

## NORMAL FACULTY FOR NEXT YEAR

Many New Faces to be Seen When Session Starts in Fall

The Faculty which will administer the affairs of the Oregon Normal School for the ensuing year has been named as follows: President, J. H. Ackerman; Department of History and Civics, J. B. V. Butler; Department of Training, Thos. H. Gentle; Department of English, Rosa B. Parrott; Department of Libraries, Mabel G. West; Dean of Women, Jessica S. Todd; Department of Science, L. P. Gilmore; Department of Physical Education, Laura J. Taylor; Department of Education, Archie L. Ide; Assistant to Dean of Women, May Lewis; Department of Art, Margaret Anderson; Department of Domestic Science and Domestic Art, Lucile Chase; Department of Rural Schools, Mrs. Margaret Curran; Assistant in English, Gladys M. Boise; Department of Mathematics, Ida H. Holmes; Department of Music, Marie M. Schuette; Training School Departments, Principal, Thomas H. Gentle; Monmouth, Grades Seven and Eight, Alice A. McIntosh; Grades Five and Six, Mamie Radabaugh; Grades One and Two, Ida Mae Smith; Grades Three and Four, Bessie Dunham; Independence, Grades Seven and Eight, Katherine Arbuthnot; Grades Five and Six, Kate Houx; Grades One and Two, Emily DeVore; Grades Three and Four, Mary Williams; Rural, Principal, Mrs. Margaret Curran; Mountain View Center, Principal, Upper Grades, Mrs. Inez Miller; Assistant, Lower Grades, Myrel Bond; Elkins Center, Principal, Gladys Carson; Oak Point Center, Mrs. J. H. Collins; Clerk and Registrar, Allie F. Bramberg.

John Fuller is having his house fitted up for the use of city water.

## IN THE TRENCHES SINCE OCTOBER

Chas. Plessinger has Experiences in France With U. S. Artillery

The following letter was received by Jacob Smith from Chas. A. Plessinger.

Louraine Sector, France,  
June 13, 1918.

Dear Friends, Will drop you a few lines as I have time now. I am feeling fine. Am still up to the front and have certainly seen some war times. Have seen and been through that gas you read about in the papers. It sure is bad stuff. I got a little bit of it but it didn't hurt me much. I hope they don't send any more very soon, it is too hard on the eyes or any place it touches. The gas mask is a great thing. A person doesn't realize what war is until he gets to the front where the shells are flying thick and fast. They send over some big ones. They make great holes in the ground. Wish I were back there where I could tell you all about things. Hope the time soon comes when I can. Haven't had a letter from any one around there for a long time. Wish I was there to ride in your new car, haven't had a ride in a long time. Wish you would send me some pictures of you folks or somebody else or of any thing. Would like a picture of your house. I have forgotten how everything looks around there. Are you having a nice summer? It is fine over here. It is not a bad country now, but I don't think much of it in the winter time. I hope I don't spend another one over here. I will close for this time. Hope to hear from you soon.

Pvt. Charles W. Plessinger,  
Bat. E. 5th F. A. A. E. F.

Chas. W. Plessinger and Robert Thompson enlisted in the Coast Artillery, were transferred to Field Artillery and arrived in France, August 1917. In October they were at the front and have been in continuous battles since then, except for a short rest in December. So far as known these boys were the first Polk County Volunteers to see actual fighting in France.

Both Plessinger and Thompson are teamsters, handling six horse teams which move the large pieces of artillery. One is in the light artillery and the other the heavy artillery.

On Saturday Mrs. Cass Riggs and daughter of Rickreall and Mrs. McConnell of Portland called on Mrs. T. J. Edwards. Mrs. McConnell and Mrs. Edwards were at one time nurses working together.

The Independence Monitor, which has been published by G. A. Hurley since March 1 when Clyde T. Ecker left it to become editor of the Post, has suspended publication. The subscription list has been turned over to W. J. Clark of the Independence Enterprise. The Western Youth which was also published by Mr. Hurley, was abandoned several weeks ago. We have not learned of Mr. Hurley's future plans but wish him much success in whatever he may undertake.—Post

H. K. Sickafosse is working for Wm. Riddell, Jr.

## Dean Walker at Eugene

The instructor in charge of bayonet and grenade work at the Reserve Officer's Training Camp being conducted at the University this summer is Capt. Dean H. Walker, former Independence man. His work has been very successful and Col. Leader, the British officer in charge of the camp has rated him as the best man in the west in those lines of work, and has used his influence to have him stay at the second camp to begin August 3, rather than go to the Presidio of San Francisco for special work as was intended.

## NEWS NOTES OF NORMAL

Attendance Now Over Four Hundred. Programs Coming

Dr. H. H. Powers' concluding lectures at the Normal dealt with "The Relation of the United States to the Other World Powers." His analysis of the situation proved conclusively that common interests must keep the two great Anglo-Saxon powers friends. His prophetic statement, that the world of tomorrow is not going to contain separate republics, kingdoms and empires but that there will be combinations for mutual benefit and protection, will be interesting to remember. Doctor Powers' lectures were most informing and all are agreed that the course has been a rare privilege.

The attendance at the Summer School now numbers over 400. All are enthusiastic over the work and many who came only for the six weeks are planning to remain for the year.

"The Garden of Allah" based upon Hichen's well-known novel, will be the special motion picture for this week. This picture is advertised as one of the "most spectacular films in filmdom."

Professor Laube, of the Political Science Department of the University of Washington and Assistant Director of the Civilian Relief, was the Chapel speaker on Tuesday. He outlined very fully the work that was being done by this organization in caring for the families of the soldiers who had been called into service and touched very briefly upon the reconstruction work.

The "Stunt Program" this year has a patriotic theme which will be evidenced in all its parts as well as in the disposal of its proceeds to augment the Canteen Fund. The title "Cheer Up" for the evening's entertainment in very significant. Additional announcements appear elsewhere in this issue.

In order that the picturization of Maeterlinck's "Blue Bird", which will be shown at the Normal on Wednesday, July 24, may be fully appreciated, Miss Parrott will tell the story in Chapel on Tuesday morning at 9:30. All are invited, but the children are especially urged to be present.

A fine entertainment was given for the benefit of the Wigrich Red Cross on the lawn of the home of Major and Mrs. Rose last Thursday evening.

## LABOR SCARCE WAGES HIGHER

Threshermen Find That They Must Pay More to Get Help

(by Winnie Braden)

The labor shortage is becoming acute in Polk County, and efforts are being made to supply the men needed to harvest the crops. The scale of wages as adopted by the Threshermen's Association on June 29 was found to be too low, and men and teams could not be procured, so a meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the office of the County Food Administrator last Saturday and the wage scale was revised as follows: Man and team, \$4.50; pitcher, \$3.50; sack sewer and jig on 24 and 30 inch machines, \$3.50 and over 30 inch machines, \$4.00.

On account of the raise in wages it was found necessary to fix the minimum price for threshing at 18 cents per sack for oats and 22 cents per sack for wheat. Practically every thresherman in the county has adopted this wage scale and threshing price and has pledged to support them.

Fall sown wheat is ripening rapidly and binders are operating in many fields. Although somewhat damaged by the long drought many fields will average from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre. Much of the spring sown grain is being cut for hay.

Preparations are being made for the annual chautauqua which will be held in this city on July 17 to 24. A week of instructive enjoyment is promised as many of those appearing on the program are artists of the first class.

The local committee in charge is putting on a two day campaign to dispose of the tickets which were guaranteed last season, and is receiving a hearty response from all parts of the county. No guaranty as yet has been given for next year.

## Intensifying the work

A recent visitor to Monmouth was Mr. Laube, interested in Red Cross work, and among other things he urged that Monmouth Branch of the Red Cross be represented at a six weeks institute which is to be held in Portland in the near future. As the war continues and the results of the participation of the United States become in evidence the work of the Red Cross is increasing and in many directions, especially in the Home department. The purpose of this institute is to give intensive instruction as to character of work which the Red Cross must assume and it is important that this information be as widely diffused as possible. The Monmouth Branch of the Red Cross would surely be greatly benefitted by sending one or more of its members to the institute all or part of the time.

The Commercial club have staked something like 20 bushels of early potatoes from the corner patch opposite Morlan's store.

N. Foster is preparing to move into Mrs. Ireland's house on Monmouth Avenue.