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

PRIZES FOR INGENUITY

County Fair Encourages Home Talent For Food Preservation

Feeling that the best way to create interest in homemade household conveniences as a means of conserving time, labor and fuel would be through competition, a new division in the Home Economics section has been created and endorsed by the County Fair board.

A story must be submitted with each device, telling the cost of making and estimated saving in time, fuel or labor. Following is the list of entries in the homemade convenience division: Three prizes will be given for each; first, \$2.00, second, \$1.00; third, ribbon;

Homemade fireless cooker, Cook stove drier, Cold box, Service tray or table, Folding ironing board, Most all-around convenience. To be scored as follows:

10 points general appearance; 20 points general use; 35 points practicability and ease of manipulation; 35 points suitability to purpose.

It is hoped that this new division will prove of exceptional educational value to visitors.

Suggestions and directions for making the various conveniences, as well as the remodeled garments, may be secured from the home demonstration agent.

In connection with this exhibit Miss Mills will have a demonstration of household conveniences which will prove of benefit to the fair visitors and help in stimulating the installation of household devices in the homes of the county, as that is most important at this time when we must conserve our time, strength, fuel and money.

PRUNE, POPU- LAR PRODUCT

Army and Navy Large Custom- ers For Most Staple of Fruits

In peace and war the prune has its place which is close to the head of the procession in fruit line. While many of the more aristocratic fruits contend for favor in their season, the prune is found contending with them all for its season is all the year around. The perennial prune it might be called, and while wits are inclined to wax a little gay over its prominence on the boarding house table not an article of fruit on the board would be missed more than the prune were it suddenly to cease to flourish. Pungent praise of the prune as an army ration is given in a statement from the war department, which says the prune has won an important place upon merit, because of its food value, fruit value, tonic value and value as a confection.

It has received the approval of food experts of the subsistence division of the quartermaster corps, and it has been recommended by the surgeon general for its dietary value. Out of last year's crop, it is stated, the army used 20,000,000 pounds, which figures out 1,100,000,000 prunes, based on size 55.

The export of prunes to Europe of the 1917 crop was 47,000,000 pounds.

New County Agent

A new county agent has been employed for Polk in the person of Mr. Gregory, late of S. Dakota, but formerly of the Yakima valley. Mr. Gregory is a graduate of Washington Agricultural college and of Chicago university, and has had 14 years experience in actual farm work.

NEW VOTERS MUST ACT

Special Registration To Be Held on Saturday August 24, 1918

Who must register—All male persons (citizens or aliens) born between June 6, 1897, and August 24, 1897, both dates inclusive, except officers and enlisted men of the regular army, navy and marine corps, and the national guard while in Federal service, and officers in Officers' Reserve Corps, and enlisted men in Enlisted Reserve Corps while in active service.

When—On Saturday, August 24, 1918, between 7 a. m. and 9 p. m.

Where—At office of local board having jurisdiction where person to be registered permanently resides, or other place designed by that local board.

How—Go in person on August 24 to your registration place. If you expect to be absent from home on August 24, go at once to the office of the local board where you happen to be. Have your registration card filled out and certified. Mail it to the local board having jurisdiction where you permanently reside. Inclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, with your registration card, for the return of your registration certificate. Failure to get this certificate may cause you serious inconvenience. You must mail your registration card in time to reach your home local board on August 24. If you are sick on August 24 and unable to present yourself in person, send some competent friend. The clerk may deputize him or her to prepare your card.

Information—If you are in doubt as to what to do or where to register, consult your local board.

Penalty for not registering—Failure to register is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for one year. It may result in loss of valuable rights and privileges and immediate induction into military service.

Caution—Do not confuse this call for registration, which is only for men who have reached their 21st birthday since June 5, with the coming registration of men 18 to 20, and 32 to 45, inclusive, which will be held some time early in September.

The funeral services of the late A. E. Young were held in the Christian church Sunday afternoon and were largely attended. Many beautiful floral offerings were in evidence and the funeral sermon was preached by Rev. Victor Morris. Burial was in the K. P. cemetery.

Henry Ebbert was here from Philomath for a visit Wednesday.

PLANING JOLTS FOR GERMANS

Letters From Polk County Boys Who Are At The Forefront

It was on the fourth of May that Tom Ostien entered the engineering corps of the army and within three months he was close to the firing line in France, which is about as fast as any of our soldiers have accomplished the journey in a time when expedition and haste are the watchwords. Tom crossed the ocean on a transport where the bunks worked in three shifts to accommodate with eight hours slumber three different sets of soldiers and where the meals were a continuous performance for the cooks and waiters. Here are extracts from a letter recently received from him at the front:

July 22,

We have taken quite a long jump over beyond a certain famous river in France, and are now close to the front. I have seen an air battle and heard a shell or two whistle.

When we left the rest camp, so called, two days after my birthday, we traveled in the much talked of "Hommes 40, Cheveaux 8." 40 men to a car. I got no sleep for a couple of nights and at 4 a. m. we marched into a little French town and were billeted in barns, etc. We were there a couple of days and then marched at night quite a few "kilos" to our present camp in some woods in "pup tents". I don't know how long we will be here but just for your benefit will give the articles we packed in here: All clothes were worn, blouses and slickers (by the way it rained all night), two blankets, half a tent, toilet articles, two cans to carry rations, extra pair of trench shoes, towels, socks, etc., steel helmet, two pound can of beef, two boxes of hardtack and several other sundries.

July 23,

We were ordered to move where I finished yesterday and now are camped in the woods nearer the front lines. There has only been three gas alarms this afternoon, one is just over. 4 gas shells and 3 H. E.'s all within 100 yards, but as I can put on my mask in 6 seconds all well and good.

I got a little promotion last night to corporal.

I don't know how long we will be here so will stop for this time and go to bed.

From Stanley Evans

July 24, 1918,

Some time has passed since I had the pleasure of writing you, but to offer excuses would show poor judgment on my part, at least I always thought so. The Herald comes very often now and am saying frankly I enjoy its messages from home, "Home News" is good news to us fellows in foreign service "over here". You would be surprised to know how much one forgets of his home and social surroundings after a years continual absence. This of course can be easily accounted for, our work is necessarily confined to military matters, and naturally to be most efficient in his daily effort one must

cast aside all civilian relationships which once dominated his mind, thought and actions in the fields of hurried industry.

I am thoroughly enjoying each task as it is assigned to me, regardless of personal feelings, I can see no other way of bettering ones attitude in the great mission we have attempted and hope to complete. Every truly earnest soldier must possess the spirit of our forefathers in "76" in the fight for Freedom and National Unity. This spirit shall eventually restore a lasting freedom to all peoples and nations on earth.

We are no doubt living in one of the most tragic epochs in the history of man, on all sides are evidences of terrific battles being fought, with untold courage and suffering, that human freedom may not again be turned into chaos by the power of aristocracy. Just as the mud in the river's bed must be stirred and brought to the surface in order that each particle of earth can do its full share in the process of purifying the stream. Just so the errors in political, educational, religious, social and domestic life must be purified by the principles and laws of "democracy" and the reins of government placed where they rightfully belong, in the master hand of the people, whose judgment never fails. Germany has wrongfully disobeyed all principles of justice as seen in the past 4 years and Geamrny in the end must be defeated absolutely and punished for her sins in accordance. This is the reason why we are here and this is why the American army shall win a glorious victory.

The summer season has been fine with the exception of a few warm days. My observations of the past show that each extreme in climatic conditions brings about a sudden change in form of thunder storms and heavy winds, of course this is much the same any place one may mention. I was amazed an evening or two ago as I sat out in the open just as the sun set. Everything seemed so calm, every muscle and nerve in my body perfectly at rest, watching the hues of colors as they blended into brilliancy against the horizon. Then just as the last ray of the suns sparkle had ceased everything became dusk and the day's troubles and success was complete.

It is now harvest season in France. The crops are of various diversion such as rye, oats, wheat, asparagus and the most extensive, grapes. The cereal crops are all mostly bound by hand as the average farmer's acreage is very small, then it is stacked ready for the harvester or reaper which ever one it may be. It is a custom among the people to use a lot of wine made from the grapes. Nearly all families keep a good supply of wine in the cellar, not as a luxury but as a commodity of life. As to the possibility of wine being used as a liquor, I may say it is too sour for most American's taste.

News is very scarce it seems, and anyway I've extended a little on my first plan, so I shall close for this time sending my very best wishes to you all.

Very sincerely,
Corp. E. Stanley Evans.

NEW CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED

Independence Has Two In Latest List and Perrydale One

Independence got its first batch of casualty announcements yesterday, carrying two names. Ralph Floyd of the signal corps is reported missing in action July 24, and Harry H. Stalmaker, a former member of Company L is reported as seriously wounded in action July 18. At the same time it was reported that Wm. Bennett of Perrydale was killed in battle June 19. Flying rumors also connected the name of Harry Ord with the casualty list but this was not confirmed. It is known that many of the Polk county soldiers are in the thick of the fighting at present and as a result every casualty list is closely scanned by anxious relatives and friends.

ATTRACTED BY WALNUTS

Party of Visitors to Inspect Or- chards of the Valley Next Week

Inspection of some of Oregon's choicest walnut groves will be conducted by the Western Walnut Association, August 26-28. The committee in charge of the excursion which leaves Portland at 8 o'clock Monday morning, is composed of the following walnut growers: E. W. Matthews, Amity; Knight, Pearcy, Salem; Prof. C. I. Lewis, O. A. C.; Chas. Trunk, Dundee; Ford Groner, Hillsboro; M. McDonald, Orenco; W. W. Reburn, McMinnville; Phil Metschen, Portland and A. E. Wright, Portland.

Other members of the party will be men interested in the nut industry, several G. A. R. men now holding their reunion in Portland, a group of Agricultural College men, and such of the general public as can enlist a car for the journey. Intimate talks by orchard owners and others qualified to speak will be given at suitable times. The schedule provides for a visit to Fred Groner's Groves at Schools Ferry, followed by dinner at Newberg. The Dundee orchards, oldest in Oregon, will be inspected in the afternoon, supper and lodging at McMinnville.

Tuesday morning the Eola Walnut grove, said to be the largest seedling tract in the world, the La-Follett Wheatland peach farm, and the Senator McNary walnut tract, will be inspected before dinner at Salem. A longer trip by way of Skyline, Jefferson and Albany will take up the afternoon, ending with a reception and dinner at Eugene. Next morning the visitors will inspect the George Dorris filbert grove, the largest bearing tract in America, and some of the other prize orchards of that district. The journey will be concluded by way of Corvallis, Independence, Monmouth and Dallas districts, where some of the most successful groves are located.

Dr. J. M. Young who was here to attend the funeral of his brother, left for his home in Chicago, Wednesday.