

# The Herald

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## Monmouth Meditations

From the way the wind blew Tuesday night it must have been in a hurry to get to its destination.

The good citizen is the man who obeys the quarantine restrictions with a mind on the public welfare.

The backbone of winter appears to have suffered a decided fracture.

The French are a little inclined to keep to the tried and tested paths to peace and prosperity. Their experience has not made them over sanguine about the outcome of untried experiments.

The person who insists on sharing his diseases with his neighbors is a good person to avoid just at present.

From the way the Germans have gone for the Bolsheviki, they do not need outside help to straighten out their domestic affairs.

If anyone knows just what the Sinn Feiners are after he is requested to rise to his feet and explain it.

Consolidation is a dream that is difficult to make a reality. Like the consolidation of churches it would be fine if all would quit in favor of your favorite.

The idea of a League to Enforce Peace appeals strongly to the American mind. It may not be practical, and day by day the developments indicate that securing an international agreement on the point is no easy matter, but it is worthy of the strongest effort and whatever is accomplished is so much to the good.

The legislature which met this week in Salem found so much to do in the way of prospective legisla-

tion that it did not have time to consider the influenza. Road making and its attendant problem of providing work for the returning soldier have the active interest of both houses and the consolidation idea also promises to absorb considerable attention.

The Phez Company of Salem is putting out attractive calendars this year advertising their products but especially spurring on the grower of fruit and berries to greater effort. With the spread of prohibition the bottling of fruit juices assumes a new importance and the Phez people believe in getting in on the ground floor.

A writer in the Portland Telegram suggests that printers all over the country contribute each a quota of type, worn in service, all to be gathered and melted for the construction of a monument to Theodore Roosevelt in Washington, D. C. An ingenious idea and one that would make a worthy tribute to a man who perhaps has occasioned as much copy as any man this country has produced.

Somehow or other we don't covet for our Yankee soldiers the privilege of restoring order in Russia. If we insist on restoring order to the world we will have a job on our hands and if we are just seeking for trouble we can find it a whole lot nearer home. We have been dodging that sort of thing in Mexico for some time past.

When we speak of a million men killed in action we little realize what those few words mean. A million is a vast number, larger than the ordinary mind can readily grasp and to give a better idea of the slaughter that has accompanied the present great war we quote the following which originally appeared in the New York Tribune:

If the British dead alone, for instance, were to march down any street 20 abreast and with the rows only three feet apart, they would pass a given point from sunrise to sunset without a break for ten long days. It would take another eleven days for the French dead to file down the same thoroughfare. Russia's loss in killed would require the time of more than five weeks to pass the given point in the specified formation; and the dead of all allied nations, marching 20 abreast, could not be reviewed in less than two months and a half. German and Austrian dead would require another six weeks for review and the whole total of men killed in the war on both sides of the conflict would march steadily abreast for more than four months before they could

all pass.

Not all of the get-rich-quick people strike oil, or gold or a real estate boom. It is told that a Vancouver, Wash., lady laughed aloud with joy at receiving a letter and when asked the cause of her hilarity, explained that her husband had been killed in action and that she would get \$10,000 insurance. It is explained that some war weddings have been contracted by speculative ladies who have had eye rather for the insurance money they might get than for the sedate responsibilities of matrimony.

With several state legislatures racing to achieve the honor of being among the thirty six necessary to the adoption of national prohibition the prospect is that the skids will soon be under the Demon Rum. When we consider how easily and speedily the victory has been won, once the track was cleared, we may wonder why it was not done long ago. We have long realized with Ingersol that "intemperance cuts down youth in its vigor, manhood in its prime and age in its weakness"; that it "blights parental hope and brings down mourning age in sorrow to the grave". We have also accepted as a truth that "from the time that liquor issues from the coiled and poisonous worm in the distillery until it empties into the hell of death it is demoralizing to everything it comes in contact with from its source to where it ends". We have seen it convicted of causing misery and crime, seen the hearthstones it has desolated, the wealth it has squandered and in spite of it have thought it impossible to cope with. This because of the ingenious scheme associated with the traffic [by which the tax payer shared with the rum seller the profits of the business. Now we are about to put it under foot along with the opium habit and the gambling habit. Truly, the world progresses.

The mayor in his annual report presents two matters which should hold the attention of the people of Monmouth. One concerns a means of increasing our water supply. The past year has been exceptionally dry and every city in the valley has been confronted with water shortage. This is more than likely to correct itself with the shifting weather conditions and while the probability is that Monmouth will have plenty of water for domestic purposes, yet the interests of the city demand that it work toward not only increased amounts but also for cheaper water. Public opinion is in favor of a gravity system and

this must eventually come. It may and probably will take years to bring it about but it is something toward which we must construct and devise plans. It is a matter which should be kept constantly in mind and freely discussed as is also another recommendation of the mayor bearing on increased revenue. Personally, we believe a new fund should be created which might be called the Progress Fund. To supply it the city could levy an additional ten mill tax. Since practically the whole of our outstanding warrants, have been accumulated in progressive measures, one half of the new fund could be applied to wiping out the old debt. The other half could be applied to keeping up the appearance of the city. Monmouth has the possibilities of a most attractive city. Beautifully located, there are dozens of ways by which its natural advantages could be enhanced to make the city attractive as a place of residence. Think it over.

### The Family Goat

The cartoonist with whom the Newly-weds are a favorite if somewhat hackneyed subject, may sharpen a fresh pencil; the day is coming, if not already here, when the joys and sorrows of young wedlock may be pictured from a new angle. We are familiar with the Newlyweds' bungalow, with their baby, with their Tin Lizzie, fruitful of mishaps; soon with these stock possessions may be listed another—to wit, a goat.

One may keep a goat in the ordinary city or suburban back yard. No extensive pasturage is required as in the case of the cow. If a vacant lot or brushy hillside be available, a goat will thrive on what it can glean there, though a cow, horse, or even a sheep might starve. But our suburbanite Newlyweds presumably must keep their goat within the confines of their own back garden. Very well; everyone may still be happy including the goat. For the goat will contentedly resolve into milk and mutton any kind of vegetable or green stuff that grows in the garden. Weeds enchant her; she will eagerly devour, and with great profit to herself and her owner, the results of a strenuous morning's weeding on the part of Mr. Newlywed. By-products of the kitchen, such as the parings of fruit and vegetables, are welcome, though it must always be remembered that contrary to general belief, the goat is a clean feeder; the garbage must go to the chickens, not to the goat. Briefly, a single goat may almost be kept on the waste from a garden, and the feed of a cow will maintain seven or eight goats.—Eleanor Anstruther, in the January Sunset.

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