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The Herald

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RICHARD B. SWENSON
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Monmouth
Meditations

A dollar a mile for traveling space is a high price to pay but one should remember that an aeroplane flies high.

From now on lesions in the brain may be expected to rival appendicitis and tonsillitis in popular favor.

We are entering on the third week of October with green vegetation still unfrosted. Can Florida offer anything better than that?

This is what is called Indian summer in some sections, but that should not deter plain and ordinary palefaces from enjoying it.

If we can't build highways in the winter we might use some of the spare time in laying a pipe line to Teal creek.

Society reports indicate that ex-Kaiser Wilhelm is preparing to visit London and while there he will patronize that famous hostelry, the tower.

Possibly the highway would be more appropriately decorated with the traffic that passes over it rather than by the shrubs or trees that might be planted along side of it.

A recent letter from M. S. Pittman suggests the thought that it will take more than a Dakota winter to make sluggish his mental processes. Mr. Pittman inquires affectionately after Antioch and Sunny Slope.

After all if it were ornamental fowl we were after we would raise peacocks and birds of paradise instead of chickens. The non-laying hen makes a better potpie than back yard decoration.

Riekreall appears to have capitulated to the highway workers. Not since the golden age of the Lullalo has our neighbor to the north been so well populated as it is right now.

Bringing home the bacon was a popular pastime in Monmouth Wednesday, said bacon being of the army ration variety. It is said that to enjoy it properly the diner needs to wear khaki and use tin forks and spoons.

If Vice President Marshall believes in preparedness he has doubtless before this ascertained dimensions and thickness for the cushion he may order for the executive chair.

At the industrial congress being held in Washington some professional labor men met a farmer representative and asked him if he was for the eight hour labor plan. "You bet" said the farmer, "we're for it. We're the people who invented it. Eight hours before dinner and eight after." In this connection Henry Watterson has a few words to say: "In a country like ours what right has any body of men to get together and labeling themselves workmen, to talk about political means and practical ends exclusive to themselves? Who among us has the single right to claim for himself, and the likes of him, the divine title of working man? We are all workmen, the earnest plodding scholar in his library, surrounded by the luxuries and comfort which his learning and his labor have earned for him, no less than the poor collier in the mine with darkness and squalor

closing him round about, and want, it may be, staring him in the face, yet—if he be a true man, with a little bird singing ever in his heart the song of hope and cheer which cradled the genius of Stephenson and Arkwright and the long procession of inventors, lowly born, to whom the world owes the glorious achievements of this the greatest of the centuries."

It surely does require some nerve for a single group of citizens of this republic to assume the title, emolument and responsibility of work. Work, in its essentials is a privilege and we might as well conceive of a monopoly of the air we breathe as a monopoly of work.

There are a number of reasons why Germany may succeed in regaining her dominance in the world of trade as it existed before the great war. She must look to America as one of her great rivals and in a race with us she has the advantage that winning means more to her. The notion is prevalent with us that foreign trade is an incident in our commercial career, that we have markets among ourselves and wealth in the undeveloped resources we possess. But the life of Germany depends on foreign trade and this will spur her to heights of energy. We are starting out also flushed with wealth, indulging in a wild orgy of price raising while the Germans, defeated, with a large indemnity to pay, know that they must undersell us and that cheap labor will be their portion. But the handicap will probably react in their favor as did that placed on France in 1870. Prices are the final test in the business world. If they can produce goods for less money, they can find a market in the face of any sentiment. A large factor in their favor is that from now on they will not have to be taxed for war preparations and a standing army. There are forbidden by the treaty. On the contrary, the allies having taken on police work for a considerable part of Europe and Asia, will have to spend more each year for military things. If the Germans are content to forget war there is good reason to believe they can again achieve an important place in the world of commerce.

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