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Monmouth
Meditations

Ringling Brothers overlooked a grand opportunity when they did not make the departure of the ark with the deported reds a show with the appropriate number of rings and a proper admission fee. If the radicals did not take themselves so seriously they would be supremely funny.

Geo. Chenoweth, ex-Curry county legislator has just been released from the state insane asylum where he was placed when it was decided the killing of George Sydnam was due to insanity. His cure was surely a speedy one but it is quite likely that his incarceration was merely a sop to conventionality and is just that much more punishment than would have been inflicted a few years ago. Private justice was formerly quite the thing in the west but the case of Chenoweth illustrates that the form and letter of law are gradually assuming greater importance.

Norman Haggood, ex-editor of Colliers is to be recalled as minister to Denmark if we are to believe the reports. He appears to have been too active in his sympathy with the Russian soviet. The trouble with Haggood and a great many others is that their theories are grandly interesting as reading matter, but decidedly dangerous when put into active practice.

With the thermometer at 60 and balmy south winds blowing, with green grass and occasional dashes of warm rain, it is hard to believe that a week ago we had just emerged from zero weather and everything outdoors piled deep with snow. The man who has frozen spuds or apples in the storehouse has something to remind him that what now seems impossible was then a vivid reality. A trail of bird skeletons which the owls have picked, furnishes further testimony, for the birds had a hard time of it that week of winter. The song sparrows shivered in the branches

around human dwellings glad to pick up such stray crumbs as were thrown to them. Robins and larks even dared to share the spoil with them although many of these birds died; especially the larks. Many quails also died. China pheasants were hard pressed for food and shelter. Occasional ears of corn were found in the fields and on these they fed. One Alaska robin that we know of found a few last walnuts that had fallen in the snow banks and dug these out for sustenance. Song birds will be fewer in number during the coming summer because of the freeze.

A few brief months ago we prepared for re-construction on the basis that the returned soldier would be restless and restive and would need to be kept busy to keep him out of mischief, he having been so long separated from civilian life. It has since turned out that the man whose help in winning the war was conducted at home at a great financial profit to himself is the man who needs something to keep him out of mischief and the ex-servicemen are foremost among the advocates of law and order. The indications are the ex-soldiers will be a needed balance wheel to the body politic and it is quite likely they will demonstrate the benefit that would accrue were all young men taken and subjected to rigid discipline at a certain period of their lives.

While the wreck of the Chanslor off Cape Blanco holds public attention, an article in the Oregonian calls attention to the fact that there is 200 miles of dangerous coast country along Coos and Curry counties that is without a life saving station, this being the distance between Bandon and Humboldt bay. Although his name does not appear, the interview bears the ear marks of F. B. Tichenor, U. S. deputy marshal, prohibitionist, poet, and ever a peripatetic booster for Port Orford, a place which Tichenor thinks will some day spring from a modest hamlet to a thriving metropolis. Doubtless the big reason why this long stretch of coast country has no life saving station is that it has at present no harbors from which a life saving crew could launch a boat at all seasons and in any weather. Port Orford might be made a harbor of refuge at an expense of something like a million dollars for a breakwater, and with jetties and dredging the mouth of the Rogue river could be made suitable for better accommodations than now. Probably no where in the state of Oregon is there a section that has the same possibilities of development as this same southwest coast country.

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