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## The Herald

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RICHARD B. SWENSON  
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Monmouth Meditations

The rain revives the old gag about spoiling little potatoes. It turns them into big ones.

We trust the many bouquets being thrust at Dr. Butler this week will not turn his head. Otherwise he might desert the dentist business for the job of managing Chautauquas.

As to the highway business, there is nothing settled until the supreme court has its final say. We will soon know how the learned justices regard the work of their underlings on the circuit bench. When the supreme court decides there is always the legislature to start another cycle.

We suggest that some philanthropically disposed organization of the city present a drinking fountain to the public. It is something that would fill a very apparent need.

Practically everybody who has gone over the new water rates approves them. They guarantee to the city an income to meet the needs of the system and at the same time give to the citizen an unlimited supply of water.

In a recent interview with Judge Malone in the Corvallis Courier, he states his satisfaction with Cox who, he is sure is all right on the dry issue as he announced he would not run on a wet platform. In the same paragraph the judge says Cox is a strong candidate as he is sure of a big vote in the wet cities of the east. If the judge had been allowed to edit the interview, we surmise he would have separated these two statements with a few generalities and thus given the reader time to forget the first before he read the second.

The success of the Chautauqua is another indication that Monmouth is finding itself. The friendly spirit manifested by people in the surrounding country is especially encouraging. While we do not aim at metropolitan honors, nevertheless, with the combination of the Normal and a good agricultural country back of us, there is no rea-

son why we should not have a considerably larger population. With our gravity water to help Monmouth can be made a decidedly attractive resident city and a little judicious work now will help bring this about.

The ability of a people to yield deference to the opinions and will of the majority is what makes a democracy possible. If the different groups which are in convention in Chicago this week, show a tolerance to the hobbies of one another and a disposition to merge their ideas on the different hobbies that each rides, to one greater and larger hobby on which all can ride, it will demonstrate they have reached that stage in political evolution where they can safely unite. Parties are rather awkward vehicles for the expression of public sentiment at the polls and it is quite possible that a need of the moment is for a radical party. Whatever the Democratic party was in 1896 a review, of the convention in San Francisco must convince the observer that it is now no longer radical. The responsibilities of power have sobered it and there is in its adopted platform nothing that strays very far from the conventional. The assertion that both of the old parties are alike has considerable reason in it. The selection in Chicago of LaFollette as a presidential candidate would show that the party is in truth radical. If it showed the cleverness that the old parties have shown, it would name Henry Ford, who would make a very much stronger run.

D. E. Frost of Oregon City, who was author of the bill and directed the signing of petitions to place the anti-cigarette issue on the ballot next November, has given up the effort according to a recent issue of the Oregonian. He states that he is through with reforms and is disappointed because he did not receive anywhere near the support he had hoped to have. While the anti-cigarette idea has admitted merit, it must be very apparent that now is a poor time to press it. The winning of the great prohibition issue has given moral reformers enough to do in order to hold ground and repel the assaults which are sure to come. To take up and push a new reform at this time would be to scatter and divide effort where the same should be concentrated, and run the risk of losing all along the line. There is also wide room for the belief that the tobacco habit and the liquor habit can not be placed in the same category. For while liquor indulgence had a special importance in that it interfered with the rights of the associates of the man who indulged, and all who came in contact with him, the tobacco habit like the coffee and tea habit is quite closely limited to the person who indulges. Except in the case of minors it is rather a matter for moral suasion and education than for forcible restriction by legislation.

## Monmouth Man Takes Church at Hillsboro



Len B. Fishback, who is taking up the work at the Central Church of Christ. Mr. Fishback is a graduate of the Eugene Bible University and majored in Public Speaking and Psychology in the U. of O.

He comes from Brownsville where he was student pastor for two years.—Hillsboro Argus.  
Len is a well known Monmouth boy, having spent the early part of his life near here.



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J. E. Wiegand, Proprietor

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