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**Monmouth Lumber Company**  
L. W. Waller, Manager

**The Herald**

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RICHARD B. SWENSON  
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**Monmouth  
Meditations**

In Eastern Oregon they are finding water in wells for irrigating purposes where it was not expected water supply existed. With a little California hot air large areas in the eastern part of the state might become densely populated.

After Congress has got our revenue troubles adjusted it might turn attention to the formulation of a law that would make it easier to get up at six o'clock these mornings.

The accounts of the baseball championship series as submitted by Grantland Rice for the Oregonian come close to being genuine literature. The mystic fire of inspiration is rather rare in the surging flood of printed words that keeps the average reader just about submerged and when encountered it has all the refreshing glow of unexpected discovery. People who don't know baseball from dominoes must enjoy Rice's accounts of the battles on Manhattan island.

The commercial club of Missoula, Montana, had a happy inspiration recently. It caused the moving picture houses of the city to advertise that they would accept mail order catalogues as tickets of admission. They even offered prizes: a prize for the oldest catalogue, a prize for the newest catalogue, a prize for the most used catalogue, etc. It must have been a novel sight to see the spectators at the shows coming, each with a large catalogue under his arm and the men who collected tickets must have had a few busy moments. It took several bon fires to dispose of the collection and now the mail order houses are appealing to the federal trade commission for relief from that sort of treatment.

An Eastern lecturer is puzzling over the problem of why people argue. Since no one is ever convinced by arguing it is assumed there must be some mental kick or reaction that is sought. Arguing differences of politics or religion is our idea of zero as a pastime.

Thos. Boulden asserts that what we know as vetch is known in England as tares and it is closely allied to the weed that is known in scripture by the same name. He says that when the seed of vetch and wheat get mixed no average farmer has the machinery that will separate them. While either grain can be marketed separately, the mixture is wanted by no one. He has found that by placing the mixed seed where chickens can get at it they will pick out the wheat and leave the vetch, thus making a new use for chickens that has not heretofore been recognized.

"Mugsy" McGraw, manager of the ball team known as the New York Giants, has a reputation as a bully, gained in various encounters with men of his own and other allied professions. That there is another side to his character may be inferred in that he delights to help former fellow players who have not fared well in the battle of life. James Mutrie, the man who organized the Giants, was recently placed upon the club's pension list. Amos Rusie, the pitching hero of a generation ago, was recently rescued from a humble job in a Western

lumber yard and given a job on the Polo grounds that virtually amounts to a subsidy. Christie Mathewson, another great pitcher who is now battling with tuberculosis in a New York sanatorium, had his room wired with special apparatus to enable him to keep track of the big games as they are played; at the expense of the New York management.

In the complexities of modern business we make a living by helping others to make a living. We cannot expect to continue long to prosper if there are several million men out of employment in the United States. When all are working and buying we all prosper. When this unemployment comes because a most important group of citizens, that is men who have been accustomed to working through money, are dissatisfied and are withdrawing from activity or in other words, have gone on a strike, we realize the power of the weapon they hold. For years the fact that certain of our citizens were acquiring great wealth has been considered a menace and from time to time remedies have been advocated that would equalize the chances for success of the man who has wealth behind him and the man who has only his strength and intelligence. The struggle to pay debts arising from the world war has at last given a weapon that was expected to bring so called wealth up short to a sudden halt. This was through the income taxes that under several classifications took from certain incomes as much as three fourths of their annual amount. As enacted the revenue law was both hasty and experimental and many odd situations have resulted from it. For one thing it is doing the country an injury in that it is falling more heavily on producing wealth than inherited wealth. The men whom we class as financial kings are escaping in a large measure because they are investing in tax exempt securities. The men who are essential to prosperity, who employ labor, who develop inventions, who exploit mines, are being hit and this so radically that they have had to travel new and strange seas in order to finance themselves and keep going. There is no business, the farmers, the retailers, or the manufacturers, that has a fat year every year. The times when good crops and good markets come together are exceedingly rare. The manufacturer who has had a number of lean years and then finds things come his way for a twelve month and has the government take three fourths of his earnings without any reference to previous years, feels about it just about the same way a smaller operator would do in the same circumstances. Thus we get some idea of the problems that confront the law makers at present. How to curb accumulated wealth and at the same time encourage the business of the country to proceed is a problem over which a great deal of hard thinking is being done.

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