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The Herald

Entered as second-class matter September, 1908, at the post office at Monmouth, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

RICHARD B. SWENSON
Editor & Publisher

MONMOUTH, OREGON

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1922

Subscription Rates

One year	\$2.00
Six months	\$1.00
Three months	75 cts



Monmouth Meditations

The resignation of Miss Marvin as a Normal regent and the appointment of George A. Hartman of Pendleton as her successor suggests that one of the regents should be a resident of Monmouth. The fact that we have invested considerable money and are planning to spend more in public utilities because of the Normal and because in many ways our welfare is linked with the Normal is good reason why our lay citizens should have a spokesman on the board.

However dry parts of the year may have been, the indications are that 1922 will go out wet.

After all the newspaper prophets have detailed what Governor-elect Pierce will do when he assumes office, that gentleman has always shown a disposition to think for himself and is apt to make all of the predictions look foolish. For one thing he has said that candidates he has in mind for different positions are not actively seeking the jobs.

Even if you have a few resolutions of your own to put into effect January 1st here is one the community might adopt: "Boost, brothers,

boost!"

Here is a program which cannot all be accomplished during 1923, but will do to aim at.

- Clean up and keep clean.
- Put in a sewer system.
- Build a gymnasium.
- Build a public hall.
- Plant roses and shrubs along streets.
- Provide a camp ground.
- Encourage home institutions, especially those employing labor.
- Establish boarding clubs.
- Encourage enlargement of school district.
- Patronize home industries.
- Encourage the building of many more cottages.
- Work for unity in Polk county.

If what has been accomplished through the county agent in the way of rodent extermination, seed test and treatment, poultry breeding, fruit culture, etc., were to be overlooked, the services of Mr. Carpenter, now about to be dispersed with would have been of value in teaching co-operative action. The principal that what one cannot get alone profitably can be readily and economically attained in co-operation with others is one that means much for future development, especially of rural communities. Such co-operation in order to be effective must be tolerant. Too much class talk is prevalent just now. Co-operation is not simply to organize farmers that they may war against those whom they consider their enemies but to work constructively for results which only the mass formation can obtain. It is especially helpful in marketing products and combating disease.

The county library is showing us how one set of books, formerly sufficient to supply a single city, can through co-operation supply a whole county. Some counties have county nurses who point out how the health and growth of the young are best assured. Some day lawyers and doctors will be selected and paid by the public as a whole

and advice from them may be sought by any one. Newspapers will be officially conducted by municipalities and counties and state. Because, more and more enterprises are being conducted by the masses instead of by individuals, the cost has increased and taxes have been raised. We may talk of returning to the old makeshifts when taxes were negligible, but a trial of it would soon set people clamoring to get back again to 1923.

There should be a readjustment of taxation to place it more evenly upon the shoulders of those who profit through organized government. At present the wage earner

and the professional man do not share with the owner of visible property. A just income tax should be levied to equalize this thing.

Where we find evidence of extravagance in public work we should fight it and the tendency to it, but when increasing expenses come because united effort is more and more taking the place of individual effort, we cannot complain for it is to our profit to conduct business this way. We may do without a county agent or county library for a year, but in the end we will come back to the system, for they have proved themselves profitable to the general public.



Hail! Hail! Hail!
The New Year's here!
And we send to you
Our greeting true.
May lots of prosperity
And none of adversity
Be yours
While 1923 endures!

MORLAN & SON

May the gods of joy, happiness, pleasure, mirth and sunshine come early and the cheer of their presence linger through the New Year.

P. H. JOHNSON "The Normal Book Store"

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