

THANKSGIVING ASSEMBLY



Nearly all the makings for a Thanksgiving dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Pumpkin, the Sweet Potato family, the little Apples and the leading character in the Thanksgiving drama.

Present-Day "Turk" of Mexican Breed?

Empty-handed discouragement would be the lot of the Pilgrim father were he to return this year and go in quest of food for the Thanksgiving table in the woods and fields of Massachusetts. Settlers seeking to live as those pioneers did would find life vastly harder in some respects in this twentieth century than did the Pilgrims in 1620. For the enormous flocks of game birds that were a vital source of supply for the larders of early settlers have vanished.

Woodlands Now Bare.
The bare and lonely woodlands of Massachusetts today are in contrast with the time when Obadiah Turner wrote in his journal, July 28, 1630, that "we are of truth in a paradise of those moving things that be good for food."

"Incredible," is the word used by ornithologists to describe the numbers of individuals in the flocks of birds that once roamed the North American continent, of which Massachusetts was a favored spot.

Writing in 1632, Thomas Morton said: "Turkeys there are which divers times in great flocks have sallied by our doors; and then a gunne, being commonly in readiness, salutes them with such a courtesie as makes them take a turne in the Cooke Roome."

The president and council of New

England, setting forth the advantages of New England as a place of abode in 1622, spoke of the country as abounding with diversity of wild fowl, as turkeys, partridges, swans, wild geese, wild ducks and many doves. The turkeys, which attained a length of 48 inches, were seen in flocks as great as 300 to 500. Among the most unsuspecting of birds, they were easily killed and an early settler might come home with as many as ten or twelve as a result of half a day's shooting. It was the original Thanksgiving bird.

Ruthless slaughter wiped out the turkey in Massachusetts, and most other sections of America. The last wild turkey known to be captured in Massachusetts was shot in the winter of 1850-51 on Mount Tom.

No True Descendants.
Millions of families this year will feast on turkey on Thanksgiving day. But these birds are no true descendants of the original wild turkey, in the opinion of such ornithologists as Edward Howe Forbush, former state ornithologist of Massachusetts. Rather, the Mexican turkey, a distinct breed, is their progenitor.

Other birds that once were a providential source of food for the Pilgrims have likewise been extirpated and a number of species are extinct. Gone is the great auk, once abundant. Likewise the Labrador duck, the Eskimo curlew, the trumpeter swan, the whooping crane, the heath hen, the sandhill crane and the passenger pigeon have been wiped out.

King Turkey on Path to "Glory"

To the martial music of brass bands 10,000 Thanksgiving turkeys march down the broad street between the gaily decorated buildings as the cheering multitude applauds the strutting battalions. For Turkeyville—any one of the half-dozen Texas towns which help supply us with rare meat for the festive holiday board—is celebrating the one red-letter holiday of the year.

Row upon row until their lines stretch into the far distance in shimmering colors of red, white and bronze come the multitude of turkeys. Fluffy white privates, bronze corporals, coal-black lieutenants, dull red sergeants and gold-bedecked majors and colonels push out their wishbones a little farther as they pass the mayor's review stand and add a bit of swagger to their gait.

On and on they march, until a mile or more of the trotting turkeys have passed up the main street, ever getting closer and closer to that ignoble fate that makes this truly the "march of death" and reach the end of that long and treacherous maneuvering which insures to the American consumer his Thanksgiving turkey. While admiring throngs to the right, applauding people to the left, cheer the turkeys on, the leaders are marching through the gates of the large dressing plant into the very "jaws of death," Earle W. Page writes in the New York Evening Post.

All Hall King Turkey.
Among the harvest festivals of America, "Turkey day" stands out unique, linking the Pilgrim Fathers' love of the tender, juicy breast of wild turkeys with the modern popularity of this piece de resistance of the annual holiday table. On this day, the turkeys are hailed as the absolute monarchs they will later become formally upon the throne of the American Thanksgiving dinner table. For this is Turkeyville, in the heart of Turkeyland—a land of magnificent distances, vast grain ranches and a wealth of climate, which makes the empire a natural ranging country for the most beautiful and profitable of our farmyard fowls.

Each town in Turkeyland has its turkey dressing plant, to which all turkeys intended for the holiday table, for many miles about, head early in November. While a few are brought in motor trucks, most of the thousands each plant prepares for market are driven in great flocks, after the fashion of trailing western cattle to market.

A dozen men are required to handle these large flocks, and shelled corn is scattered to the leaders to keep them moving. When night comes a stop is made under a grove of trees, where the fowls may rest. Early the next morning the journey is continued, a man driving ahead in a cart and scattering handfuls of corn now and then, to keep the leaders headed in the right direction.

Thus it is that, during the two or three days prior to the big "turkey day" celebration great flocks of turkeys are being driven over many roads toward the town. Sunrise of the morning of the big event finds a host of turks ready for the final dash down the main street to the dressing plant. It also finds the multitude of King Turkey's hinterland gathered along the street to participate in the celebration.

After the flock has paraded into the large corral of the dressing plant, and the army of killers, pickers and packers have started in dead earnest to wind up the season's work, that the refrigerator cars of dressed turkey may start on their long journey across the continent, the milling multitude enjoys all manner of pastime, from real "turkey trot" dancing to gay ceremonies characteristic of the Southwest.

In the days of the Pilgrims, flocks of wild turkeys strutted in unrestricted pride and splendor through the forests of New England. Doubtless the red man introduced the early settlers to the creamy taste of the white and the succulence of the dark meat of the fowl. From that good day to the present the turkey, either wild or tame, has continued to occupy the place of honor at the American Thanksgiving dinner.

Its Name a Mystery.
Just why this fowl should have been named "turkey" in the English language no one seems to know. The realm of his sultanic majesty had no more to do with the introduction of the bird into polite society than did Greenland. The real turkey is a bird indigenous to North America and was from here introduced to the rest of the world.

The name possibly may be explained by the peculiar call of the mother to her chicks, which sounds very much like "tur-r-k, tur-r-k, tur-r-k." At any rate, there is no relation between the bird and the country of the same name.

The turkey was a favorite fowl among the aboriginal inhabitants of America. It had its habitat all over that vast area, where grew its favorite food—Indian corn. When Cortes, in 1519, reached the realm of the Aztecs, Montezuma entertained him with royal splendor, and among the delicious viands set before the Spanish invaders was roasted turkey.

North of the Rio Grande the turkey was well known and the adventurous Coronado found it among the cliff dwellers and other tribes he met on his expedition through what is today Texas, Arizona and New Mexico.

High School Notes

Editorial

In basketball one rule is, "the team shall consist of five players: one center, two guards and two forwards." If one player is going to play the game alone, why do they require four other men? Because it takes five men to play the game correctly and to win. If you have one man who will not work with the other four what good is he? They cannot set their plays and cannot have a good offensive. The defensive will be nearly as good because the "one man player" has a certain position to play and he has to be there to break up the play; but to win you must have a good offensive and all the players must cooperate. This is also true on the football field. You will find certain individuals who think the team cannot function without them. This is especially true in the back field. They are always "nagging" at the line for not opening up holes in the opponent's line; but they will be stopped behind the line if their line fails to hold. This shows that neither the backfield or the line can function without the other. A player who plays individually is more of a detriment than a help.

Glee Club

The Glee club is practicing on songs for Christmas. One is a piece by Work entitled "Grandfather's Clock." They are also working on some Christmas carols.

Girls' Athletics

Girls are having scrimmage now in place of exercises. They are being played in all the positions to see where they play best, as there are many who have never played before. Most of the girls left from last year—four—are being played in their regular positions. These four made letters last year and should be heard from in a real way this year.

Faculty

Mr. Bloom's mother and little nephew are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bloom. They all plan on spending the Thanksgiving vacation with one of Mr. Bloom's sisters who lives at Olympia, Washington.

Mr. Tilley was in Walla Walla Saturday.
Miss Cameron plans on spending Thanksgiving vacation with her parents in Portland.

Alumni

Eldon Myrick came over from Walla Walla and spent the week-end with his parents.
Curtis Duffield was in Walla Walla Friday.
John Kirk spent Saturday in Athena.

Society News

The Girls' League met Tuesday afternoon at 3:15 p. m. in the auditorium. They talked of what work there would be for the Philanthropic committee to do for Christmas. They also considered sending a box to the Boys' and Girls' Aid society in Portland, but they did not decide definitely on the plan as they may confine their work to local vicinities.

Student Body

The student body play "The Goose Hangs High" which was given November 14, resulted in the total amount of \$72.00 being turned into the student body fund. This money will be used to help put out the annual at the end of the term.

Personals

Fred Singer and Walter Singer visited friends in Waitsburg, Sunday.
Jack Moore motored to Helix, Sunday.
Robert Lee visited friends in Dayton, Wednesday.
Esther Berlin and Solista Pickett were in Walla Walla, Sunday.
Jim Wilson, Harold Kirk and Glenn McCullough motored to Pendleton, Saturday.
Goldie Miller and Marjorie Douglas spent Saturday in Pendleton.
Roland Richards motored to Pendleton, Friday.

Took Car From Parking

Floyd Pinkerton's car was taken from the parking of the Baptist church, Sunday evening, during B. Y. P. U. service. Its loss was not discovered, however, until after church service, when a search was made and police notified. The car was found later at the east end of Adams street where it had been left either because of the inability of the driver to make it operate, or because the would be thief was frightened away.

Official Majority 22,405

Julius L. Meier, independent candidate for governor, was swept into office by a majority vote of 22,405 over his three opponents. His total vote was 135,608, according to complete official count tabulated Friday by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state. Edward Bailey, Democratic candidate, received 62,452 votes; Phil Metschan, Republican, 46,840; Albert Streiff, Socialist-Independent, 3911.

Auto Skids; One May Die

Mildred Waldron, Oak Grove, Or., was injured probably fatally and Gladys Schellenberger, Portland, instructor at a girl's school in Walla Walla was badly hurt in a collision of their car with a telephone pole late Saturday night. Sam Gordon, negro chef at the school and driver, also was injured. The fog and slippery pavement were blamed for the crash.

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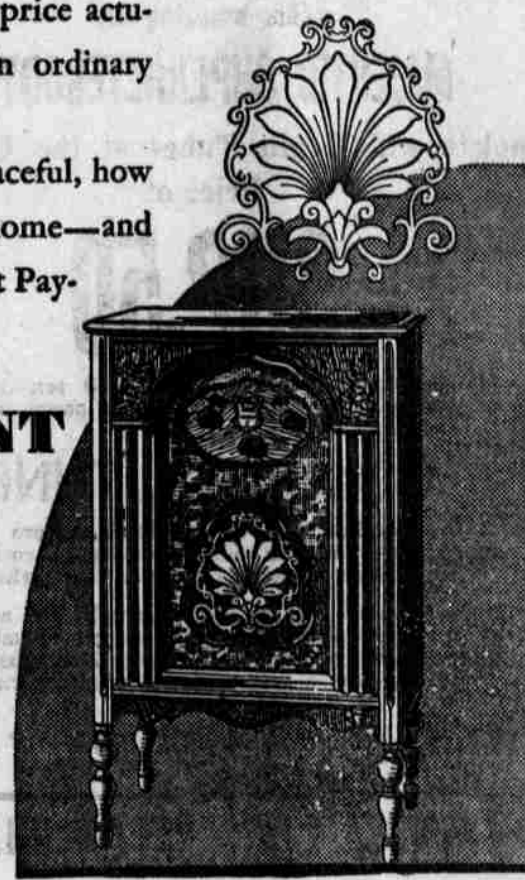
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LESS TUBES



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Specialty Manufacturers
University of Oregon.—Specialty manufacturers in a large number of lines are becoming firmly established in Oregon, and in the future this branch of commerce will become increasingly important, it is declared by Harry C. Hawkins, professor of business administration at the University of Oregon, with L. E. Angell, research agent and formerly of the department of commerce in Washington, is making a survey of foreign trade activities and potentialities of Oregon business concerns.

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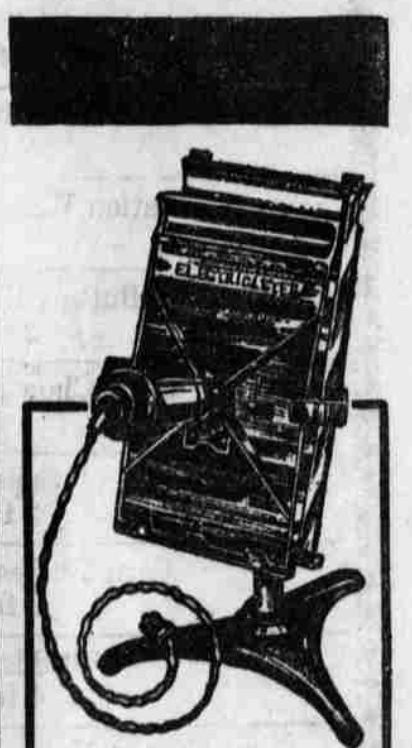
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