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 THURSDAY - JAN. 4, 1912

OUR POPULATION

According to the Thirteenth Census Bulletin just issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C., the population of the state of Oregon is 672,765. Compared with a population of 413,536 in 1900, this represents an increase during the last decade of 62.7 per cent. During the same period the population of continental United States increased 21 per cent. The growth of the state was a little more than twice as rapid as during the preceding decade, 1890-1900, when the rate of increase was 36.2 per cent.

Oregon has 34 counties, ranging in population from 2,044 in Curry county to 226,261 in Multnomah county. Crook county leads 14 other counties in population having 9,315.

The city of Madras is given a population of 364, while Kutcher precinct, which includes the city of Madras, has a population of 879. This precinct with the exception of Prineville, has a greater population than any of the others. Redmond is credited with a population of 216, while Redmond precinct, including the town, has a population of 723.

Other precincts enumerated in the Bulletin are: Ashwood, 241; Bend precinct, co-extensive with Bend city, 536; Cross Keys, 64; Haycreek, 139; Haystack, 456; Lamonta, 319; Lyle Gap, 818; Montgomery, 137; Prineville, 142; Warm Springs, 442.

In a new country where settlers are arriving every day, the last census is very indefinite in a correct population of any district or town. Some of the towns in the above list have added at least a hundred since the 1910 census taker made up his list, and in another couple of years the prospective emigrant in the east who refers to the census of towns in Central Oregon taken in 1910, for information, can safely add 30 per cent to the number and still keep within the bounds of conservatism.

John F. Hill of Maine is the new chairman of the Republican National committee. Chicago has been selected as the convention city and the meeting will be held June 18. Harry New, President Taft's choice, was chosen chairman of the powerful committee of arrangements which will have the naming of the temporary convention officers.

The Leap Year ball is fast approaching and it bids fair to be the biggest success in Madras society during 1912. What the result will be other than a brilliant social function is a matter of conjecture, but Dan Cupid is a queer little fellow and he will probably be hovering near with his dangerous bow and arrow.

If someone asks you when the water system will be installed you can truthfully tell them that work will commence this week and according to the "dope" handed out by Mr. Jeffery, the contractor, who is now on the ground, it will be finished in about two weeks.

If there are any who didn't get their names in the list of eligibles published on another page, it is an oversight and we promise not to overlook anyone on Leap Year rolls around here.

White, oat Christmas and New Year cakes passed we can believe for the Fourth of

F.C.P.

INTERESTING EPISTLE FROM 'OULD IRELAND

Bridget Hooligan Pens Pathetic Letter to Her Nephew in Madras— Deceased an Only Uncle

Monaghan, Ireland, Dec. 9, 1911.

Mr. Tommy McCormack, Madras, Oregon.

My Dear Nephew:—I havent sent ye a letter since the last toime I wrote to ye, bekase we have moved from our former place ov living, and I was afraid a letter wouldn't foind ye. Annyway I now wid gr.at pleasure take up me pin to inform ye ov the death ov yer ownly living uncle, Ned Fitzpatrick. The poor fellow died all ov a suddint afhter a lingering illness of three weeks. He was lying in bed perfectly still in violent convulsions all the toime, nivver spakin a wurd, being perfectly quiet, crying out for wather ivvery minnet. I am at a loss to tell ye what his death was occasioned by, but I fear it was through his last sickness, for which he nivver got well, for he was nivver well ten days together during the whole toime ov his illness, but be that as it may, when he breathed his last, the dockther gave up all hope ov his recovery.

I need not mention his age, for ye know that in August next he would have been 72 years, all but 11 months, and if he had lived until that toime, he would have been six months dead. His property, which ye know, is very large, now goes to his next ov kin, who are all dead, so I expect it will be divided between us. As ye know it was all sold some toime back, and the remainder he lost on a horse race, but it was the opinion of ivvery one at the toime that he would have won if the baste he run against hadn't been too fast for him. I nivver knew a man, and the dockthers all said so, as took medicine better than he did. He said he would as soon drink bitter as sweet, if it only had the same taste as whiskey punch, and if it only put him in the same humour for fighting, but, poor soul, he will nivver drink, bite, nor sup again, and ye haven't a living relation in the world, but meself and yer two cousins who was kilt in the last war. Yer ould sweetheart sends her love unknown to ye. I cannot write anymore now, so I shall seal me letter wid black sealing wax, and stamp it wid yer uncle's coat of arms, so when ye open the letter do not break the seal, and do not open it for two or three days, when ye will be well prepared for the sorrowful tidings.

Your affectionate aunt,
BRIDGET HOOLIGAN

Feast of Fools.
 The best authorities agree that the origin of the ancient custom of celebrating a feast of fools is unknown. Some identify it with the Roman feast of fools on March 31. But why did the Romans institute the feast of fools? In India March 31 is "the bull festival" when all manner of pranks are played upon the heedless. But, again, where did the Hindus get it? The French call the April fool "un poison d'Avril" (April fish). To the Scotch he is a "gawk" (a cuckoo).—London Graphic.

A Habit Stanley Had.
 It was remarked of the late Sir H. M. Stanley during his last visit to New York that he stood all the time with his back to the wall during receptions instead of standing out where people would pass behind him. Lady Stanley laughingly explained that this was an old habit contracted in Africa—that Stanley always stood with his back against a tree or a barricade when brought in contact with the savages, and it had become such a habit with him that he took that position no matter where he was.

When buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is most effectual for colds, croup and whooping cough and that it contains no harmful drug. For sale by M. E. Snook.

See line of CHINA and GLASSWARE at Mrs. Crosby's.

How to Make Canna Bed.
 As the canna is a deep rooted plant the bed should be dug deep. It is also important to provide plenty of plant food. Three inches of well rotted manure spaded into the soil is not too much. Do not elevate the center of the bed, but leave it level so water will not run off.

If the bed is to contain several varieties of cannas much care should be given to the selection of varieties. If the bed is to be viewed from all sides put the taller varieties in the center and use the shorter kinds for the border rows. Your florist can give advice about varieties best suited for your purpose.

Do not plant too many varieties. Unless it is an exceptionally large bed two or three will be better than more. For small beds of a dozen to eighteen plants it is good taste to use some other plant for a border. If tall growing cannas are used the fountain grass is unsurpassed, and for dwarf kinds such plants as coleus dwarf salvia and Dusty Miller are serviceable.

As cannas are subtropical they thrive only in the warm months and should be planted only when the season is well advanced. May 20 to June 15 is best for the territory between latitudes 40 and 45. The plants should be set a foot to a foot and a half apart each way, according to their size.

How to Remove Rusty Nuts.
 Every man who has to work with nuts and bolts doubtless has his own method of removing rusted, stubborn nuts. There are many workmen who apply a blow torch to the obstreperous nut on the principle that it will expand in the heat. The difficulty about this is that the torch heats the bolt as well and when it expands the nut is as tight as ever. Marine engineers have a way of handling the nuts on pipe flanges which work on the same principle, but is surer and at the same time simpler.

Heat an open end wrench that fits the nut and while almost red hot apply it to the nut. After a sufficient time has elapsed for the nut to be heated through it will be found an easy matter to twist it off, for in this fashion a minimum of heat reaches the bolt. It is safe to say that any nut which refuses to move when thus attacked will have to be cut away with a chisel.

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