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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1910

OUR EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY.

With this number The Bulletin starts upon its eighth year of publication. As a newspaper is a semi-public institution, a brief statement of the controls through which this publication has passed may not be deemed out of place on this occasion.

When the first number of The Bulletin was issued, Max Lueddeman, of Antelope, was owner, Don Res, of Madras, editor, and A. H. Kennedy, of Prineville, printer. On the first of the succeeding August, J. M. Lawrence, then U. S. Commissioner at Bend, bought a half interest in the paper, which he conducted from that time until his departure to be receiver of the Roseburg land office, January 1, 1906. There was no change in the ownership of the paper until May 1, 1908, when Mr. Lawrence sold his half interest to Mr. Lueddeman, and immediately, through E. A. Baldwin, the paper passed into the possession of Fred S. Stanley, of Portland, who held it until the first of last February, when he sold to Don Steffa. On the first of the present month, the property was purchased by George Palmer Putnam, of New York, who came to Bend last year (not the George P. Putnam of Medford, Oregon.) With him is associated J. M. Lawrence, who resigned his office at Roseburg to return to Bend. From the time Mr. Lawrence went to Roseburg until his return the paper was conducted by Charles D. Rowe, but it was not owned by residents of Bend. It is now for the first time owned and managed entirely by Bend citizens.

It has not been the habit of The Bulletin to boast of what it has done or make large promises for the future. Its record is before the public every week. It is very hopeful of the future and intends to be a factor in the development of the Central Oregon region, ever striving with what energy and intelligence it can command to give high character to the new civilization planted in this remote part of the republic and to promote every beneficial interest. It will doubtless fall short of its ideal—few attain that—but it will exert itself to maintain a high standard of excellence and to serve the people adequately as a local newspaper. Upon this ground it asks the support of the public.

The Bulletin will not be found a mealy-mouthed, mollycoddle newspaper. It has opinions on public questions and will express them in its editorial columns, not in its news. It tries to be right, never shuts its mind against the truth. Its columns are always open for proper discussion. Contributions of general interest are cordially invited and are assured respectful treatment, whether they accord with the views expressed by this paper or not. The Bulletin has no relations, political, religious, industrial or social, to prevent it from being the vehicle of honest news and honest comment upon matters of current interest. It stands for the best industry and intelligence of the community.

A MISGUIDING WEBFOOTER.

Some person bearing the patronymic of Boyd appears to have wandered over into the Deschutes country from his happy home in the beautiful, mild and fruitful valley of the Willamette some weeks ago. We also wandered in his mind. And while he thus wandered he was discovered by the Harrisburg Bulletin, a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of its office, which exposed to a gaping world what its wandering subscriber thought of Central Oregon. Thereafter, to-wit, last week, the Lebanon Express discovered the item in the bulging columns of its Harrisburg contemporary and proceeded not to

Spread the truth from pole to pole, but to spread a lie from Harrisburg to Lebanon, State of Oregon, SS.

The wanderer from Webfoot was not pleased with this new and bustling country. Evidently it disturbed the placidity of his dreaming. He pictured it as a rock-bound, frost-bound, barren, bitter, inhospitable region, useful only (if so much could be admitted) for the purpose of holding the world together. "It freezes 365 days in the year over there!" shrieks our aberrant friend, evidently forgetting leap year. "The whole country is covered with rock and is quite impossible for agriculture." Et cetera, et cetera.

Now, it might not be kind to say to our critic that he doesn't know what he is talking about; those

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who escape from the violent ward may often be returned to safety by ignoring their cracked notions. But we should like gently to draw his attention to the fact that we are having the most delightful spring weather, bright, balmy and frostless, in this month of March, widely famed for its roughness; the birds sing their matins and vespers, the farmers are plowing and seeding, the grass is showing green, crocuses and violets are blooming in the open air. Large farms sell for \$100 per acre—rock heaps hard-ly. Deschutes valley products cannot be beaten in good old Linn county. So convincing is the worth of this country that two great railroads are racing construction to get here. Yet, tastes will differ and it is not worth while to quarrel with those who see no beauty in nature, no honesty in man, who have no pride or hope. But we are mighty sorry for such afflicted souls.

A congressional statesman named Lafean is endeavoring to embark our federal lawmakers upon a new era of trivialities and time wasting. Congress, it appears, may fix to the fraction of an inch the dimensions of our Oregon apple boxes. There will be learned and costly discussions upon this problem of vast national insignificance; and enough will be expended, to reclaim land sufficient for a community, if otherwise employed. Next, mayhap, the transcendent minds of the congressional sagas will focus upon the matter of compulsory nine foot bed sheets for the nation, or the regulation of the capacity of the hitherto elastic near beer bottle. But in the meantime tax bills will be as regular as ever.

The opening for settlement of the Warm Springs Indian reservation would seem a probability not over remote, particularly in view of the great and ever increasing pressure for land which the railroad development is fostering. The figures quoted in our news columns—and here used for the first time, by the way—will indicate the importance to Central Oregon's future of the contemplated move.

Eastern Oregon is to be visited by another agricultural demonstration train. Perhaps before another summer has passed the Deschutes Valley will be favored with such a visitation.

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