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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14, 1910

Isn't this as good a time as any for the people of Bend to begin to get together for a strong pull?

Count Tolstoy at 82 years and Mary Baker G. Eddy at 89 recently cast off the mortal coil. Both were social reformers and wrought great works and the world is better for their having lived.

"All things come to him who waits"; but we'd like to choose the things that come to us, and to be in position to choose we should be alert and have that strength which goes with united effort. There are some things which we do not want. The chicken got one of them. Let us not wait for such.

It was a mistake to admit Utah to statehood without first definitely uprooting Mormon polygamy. It will be a mistake to admit New Mexico and Arizona before the English language and the principles of civil liberty are understood by a majority of the people there. But probably it will be done.

The expense of building and maintaining another school was put upon the Bend district last Saturday by eight voters. That's all right; we are not kicking about providing adequate school facilities. But we would call attention to the fact that voters and taxpayers should pay more heed to public matters or they are likely to suffer from inconsiderate action. The duty of citizenship is not discharged by simply electing officers to do everything. This theory is at the bottom of most official rottenness.

The native of Nebraska frequently calls himself an Aksarben, thinking the name of his state the only one that will stand spelling backward. Now we have "Roly-at" for a new postoffice in Crook county, which most people will think is a pretty poor spelling of a very good name. A better one might easily have been selected—Hampton, for instance, for the new postoffice is in the Hampton valley. Or the first postmaster, Schreder, might have lent his name. "Roly-at" owes to the world the duty of having a more euphonious and easier name.

Jonathan Bourne falls far below our ideal of a United States Senator; but when it comes to choosing between Bourne and popular government on the one hand and Taft and Fulton and government by the gang on the other, we opine that the former will win just as often as the issue shall be placed before the voters of Oregon. The amazing stupidity which perpetrated the "assembly" blunder last spring still clings to the Republican camp and will carry the "interests" wing of the party to the same goal, unerringly and inevitably. The people of Oregon have tasted power and will not surrender their right to rule. Their new manner of government may not in all respects be exactly perfect, but it is vastly better than the old rule by a corrupt machine.

ROADS OF OREGON.

Crook county has more miles of main wagon road than any other county in Oregon, according to the figures of the Conservation Commission, which has just filed its report with the Governor. We have 450 miles, with 9,500 inhabitants and taxable valuation of \$7,910,421. Harney and Malheur counties each have 350 miles of main roads, but each of them is much larger than Crook in area, though having less population and taxable value. Hood River county maintains but 20 miles of main roads, Union county 50 miles and Gilliam and Tillamook each 70

miles. Multnomah has 100 miles. The commission drops this interesting conclusion: Assuming that the present roads represent a total of 6,000 miles, one-third thereof, or 2,000 miles, should be good roads and their cost be equitably provided. Estimating this cost at \$5,000 per mile, \$10,000,000 must be expended. The state alone can finance this amount; no local taxation system could supply it.

In view of the fact that the road-building trust has just got Oregon to authorize counties to bond themselves heavily for roads, this judgment of the Conservation Commission is unkind. But it is not dominated by Webster and his fellow conspirators.

NEW CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

The politicians are figuring on a third Representative in Congress from Oregon. The state has a population of 672,775, of which Multnomah county has 226,261—almost exactly one third. Therefore it seems proper that Multnomah county should constitute a Congressional district. The ratio under the census of 1900 was one Representative to 194,182 of population. The ratio under the census of 1910 will be materially raised, of course, but Oregon will still be safe for three Representatives.

A Salem man has a scheme to add Columbia, Washington and Clackamas counties to all of Eastern Oregon for a Congressional district and leaving the rest of Western Oregon in another district. This would put one-third the votes of the Eastern Oregon district in counties bordering on Multnomah, with practically no interest in common with the counties east of the Cascades.

Why not attach Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine to the Eastern Oregon district, leaving the other Western Oregon counties in a district by themselves? And then maybe we could send Binger Hermann back to Congress. He is certainly more desirable than our Congressman elect.

The state of Washington is not districted at all but elects three Representatives at large. This is a matter that each state settles for itself.

A CLASS OF "JUDICIAL MURDER."

Grave crimes may sometimes be traced directly to the door of the courts. Last week a woman was cruelly murdered in Portland by her recreant husband, who had repeatedly threatened to kill her. He had gone so far as to leave no doubt of his design, and complaint was made to the Municipal Court and protection asked for. But the judge dismissed the complaint and turned the villain loose. The brutal murder promptly followed. In Crook county four years ago old man Melvin sought the protection of the Circuit Court against S. H. Dorrance, who, in violation of express agreements, was crowding the old man out of his property in the most overbearing manner imaginable. The convincing evidence was before the court, yet it would not act. What everybody who had knowledge of the case foresaw followed in regular order. Dorrance shot first but Melvin had better aim and Dorrance was killed.

Why are the courts so tender with lawbreakers of this class? Law-abiding citizens should be

protected from desperate men who threaten violence. The courts have no greater duty than this to perform. It is much more sensible than harging a man for an act that was, in effect, permitted by the court. For hanging, as a famous humorist once said, is the very worst use a man can be put to, and it doesn't restore the murdered life.

Obituary.

Emily Rose Couch died at the home of her parents, near Laidlaw, Oregon, on November 13, 1910, aged sixteen years, one month and twenty-seven days. She was the daughter of J. L. and Martha E. Couch, and was born in Cleveland, Minnesota, on Sept. 18, 1904. At the age of five years she moved with her parents to Ritzville, Washington, where they resided one

year. Two years were spent in Cheney, Washington, when they moved to Cunningham, Washington, where they resided five years. In 1907, she came with her parents to Laidlaw, Oregon, where she remained till the time of her death. During the fall previous to her death, she attended the public school of Laidlaw, where she was commended for her good behavior and diligence in study; her work in Geographical Drawing took the prize at the recent Crook County Fair, the prize being presented to her parents, by her teacher, shortly after her death. After a short illness of tonsillitis, which terminated in pneumonia, she passed peacefully away. She was conscious to the last, and seemed to realize some time before her death, that she would be called to her home above, and she signified a desire to see her brothers and sisters; the absent ones were sent for, and two brothers arrived just before interment was made. On account of the nature of her illness, young company was debarred from her room, but her many young friends and schoolmates remembered her by sending letters and loving words of sympathy and encouragement, which were greatly appreciated by the patient sufferer. On the morning of November 13, surrounded by her parents and other mem-

bers of the family, she breathed her last, and on November 17 the remains were interred in Laidlaw cemetery. She was loved by all who knew her, for her noble character and purity of thought and actions, and while her many friends and loving relatives do not wish to call her back, she leaves a place in the life of the home, school and community, which can never be filled by another, and her gentle words and ways will ever be remembered by the many who knew her. We know not why her sweet life should be ended just in the bloom and promise of youth, but though we may not divine the reason we trust her to the care of the Heavenly Father, knowing that His will is best, and that "Some time we'll understand."

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CROOK COUNTY

Judge.....H. C. Ellis
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 Treasurer.....W. F. King
 Assessor.....J. D. La Follette
 School Superintendent.....R. A. Potts
 Surveyor.....Fred A. Rice
 Commissioners.....R. H. Bayley
 James Rice

THE COURTS.

CROOK COUNTY—First Monday in May, third Monday in October.
 PROBATE COURT—First Monday in each month.
 COMMISSIONERS' COURT—First Wednesday, in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

BEND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 12.

Directors.....M. Triplett
 J. H. Ray
 C. L. Hotelling
 Clerk.....L. D. Wood

Teachers.....J. C. E. Harrington
 Miss Anne B. Markel
 Miss Ada Porter
 Miss Harriet Dolan
 Miss Florence C. Young
 Miss Ida M. Anderson
 Miss Katherine Haskins
 Miss Nona Richardson
 Mrs. Glenn H. Slack

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 Recorder.....H. C. Ellis
 Treasurer.....S. J. Spencer

Aldermen.....J. N. Hunter
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