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COUNTY DIVISION GAG AGAIN.

Word comes from Pendleton that Milton is to spring the county division gag again. The East Oregonian alleges that one J. P. Neal of Freewater, who by the way is an attorney, was at the county seat Wednesday working in the interest of east end divisionists. It is also learned that the services of Sam D. Peterson of Milton have been retained.

Not since the days of the illustrious Frank Hull, of Milton Eagle fame, has county division been agitated by the Miltonites. It has been killed so often in the past that at the last killing it was supposed that it would remain forever dead. But it would appear that this Mr. Neal has resurrected the corpse, and with the assistance and encouragement of a few agitators who hope for reward in emoluments from prospective county offices, is about to launch the revival of an old scrap.

It is presumed that the same old lines will be contended for, the same old claims made and the same old sores opened. The same old song of the same old bunch of malcontents will be heard to the same old tune.

Athena and Weston will be found standing against division of the county as they always stood in the past and always will stand. To the taxpayer there is nothing found in county division that appeals to him. It means to him a double burden of taxation when he figures correctly the maintenance of two regimes of government in a territorial area capable of supporting but one. He sees in the demand of the divisionists the needless expenses of another county court house with its equipment of offices, the expense of carrying on the county government and readily computes the unnecessary burden that would be entailed in the birth of a new county.

Then he reads the statement of the treasurer of Umatilla county showing the county to be out of debt, with a surplus on hand, hunts up his last year's tax receipt and goes to bed, damning county division.

Insurance matters in the state of Washington will be brought to a head before the next legislature, when the Insurance Code committee, appointed by Governor Hay, reports its proposed new code of laws to govern all insurance companies. It is almost a certainty that the mutual companies and the old line companies in the fire insurance business will get into a good hot conflict before the legislature. The public is only hoping that the outcome will be of advantage to the insured, and that lower rates will result.

soft wire is better for the binding strand than one more liable to break with winding.

Tungsten Lamps for Farms.

The introduction of tungsten lamps is doing much to advance the use of electricity on farms. It is possible for the farmer with a small plant driven either by a gasoline engine or by damming a small stream, to obtain sufficient current to light his house and barn with this economical type of incandescent lamp. The use of electricity on the farm, by the way, is growing, and, as pointed out by the Electrical World, farmers will in time come to consider electricity a necessity. Then it will be found profitable to establish central generating stations for farming districts to take the place of the small individual plants now being installed.

Live Stock Builds Up Land.

It is very well known that in the old agricultural districts of Europe where land has been under cultivation for 2,000 years there is an increasing tendency to expand live stock industry. It is now recognized that animal husbandry is a wonderful help in not only maintaining the fertility of the soil, but also live stock industry builds up the land. Germany now has 10,947,000 milk cows, an increase of 500,000 in the past seven years. The total number of cattle in the empire aggregates 20,831,000, a gain of nearly 5,000,000 since 1883. Pigs total 22,147,000, as against 9,206,000 in 1883. The only class of live stock which shows a decrease is sheep, which declined 1,000,000 in the past seven years.

The escape of five prisoners from the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, by using dummy revolvers made of wood, recalls to the minds of old timers in the Northwest, the celebrated delivery of the King county jail at Seattle in 1894, by Tom Blank, a desperado under sentence of death. Previous to the Harry Tracy hunt, it was the most noted jail break in the history of the northwest. Blank made a dummy revolver out of pieces of wood stuck together with chewing gum. One night he proceeded to hold up the jailer with this weapon, took the latter's keys, delivered fourteen prisoners from the jail and locked the jailer in together with a man accused of wife beating who, Blank said, was so mean he ought to stay in jail. The escaping prisoners scattered to all parts of the country but were all recaptured except two. Blank himself was the last man taken and then not until he had been shot to death in a pitched battle with two deputies, fought in the open on a railroad track south of Seattle.

Both men and women in the Western states, especially those where equal suffrage is the rule, are indignant at the statement of President Taft in a recent speech wherein he declared that he was opposed to women voting, because where they were allowed to do so it was the undesirable element which did most of the voting. To prove that this is untrue, figures have been circulated showing that at the last election in Denver, where 30,000 women voted, not more than 400 of that number could have been connected with the evil element. In fact, the President himself, at Flagler, Colorado, last fall, congratulated the women of Colorado on their right to vote and declared that if men would vote as the women do, they would seldom be far wrong. The new attitude of the President on the suffrage question has been widely commented on in suffrage states.

Fanning seven in the first and second innings is pitching some ball. That is what "Lefty" Smith did to Pendleton Sunday. But you saw no mention of the feat in the Pendleton papers, did you? Maybe "Lefty" was overlooked because he was in the cellar brigade. We dunno.

From every section and county of Oregon come reports of great agricultural and fruit prospects. The aggregate yield will in all probability be much larger than ever before and prices will remain remunerative, even if they fall a little. It is going to be a great year in Oregon.

Next week is Methodist week in Athena. The Ministerial Association convenes in this city Sunday evening and the sessions will be held daily until Thursday, the 5th. The meetings will be of great interest, especially the evening sessions, and all are cordially invited to attend.

While the people of the Central states were shivering in blizzards and freezing weather, we of Oregon were basking in the draught of electric fans and eating lettuce, radishes and onions from our own gardens. But such is our climate.

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do not necessarily result in bankruptcy, due, no doubt, to the fact that the farmer gets most of his living from the farm without any cash outlay, whereas the merchant must pay cash for everything he eats and wears. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the farmer who keeps a book account will find it just as profitable, if not more so, as the merchant.

Fattening Fowls.

A fowl should always be fattened quickly as possible. Ten days is long enough, but it should be confined either in a coop or a number in small yard. They must have a continual supply of fresh water, and should be fed four times a day, the first meal being given early and the last one late. A recommended mixture is three parts corn meal, one part ground oats, one part bran, one part crude tallow, the entire lot scalded and fed for the first three meals, with all the corn and wheat that can be eaten up clean at night. Weigh the articles given.

Milk Production.

Where help can be obtained to operate the dairy, milk production is one of the best paying branches of animal husbandry. The farmers operating their holdings with milk cows are enabled to market all the roughs and grain produced on the farm in milk, butter, cream or cheese. The dairy industry is especially adapted to build up and increase the fertility of the farm. It is popular among farmers because the farmer realizes monthly income on his investment. As a rule, dairymen are thrifty and prosperous agriculturists. —Drovers Journal

A DISAPPOINTED MAN.

The Question Over Which He and the Insurance Agent Split.

Mr. Halloran surveyed the insurance agent with a dark and hostile countenance. The fact that one eye was concealed by a somewhat grimy bandage did not add to the attractiveness of his expression.

"Haven't you made up your mind yet to insure with us?" inquired the agent. "You told me I might call again in a few days."

"There was two of you at me to get an accident insurance policy," said Mr. Halloran, breathing heavily. "I told you and him both you might call in again, and he come first, day before yesterday, and I insured with his company."

"That very night I met up with Barney Casey on the way home, which was what I was expecting would happen," continued Mr. Halloran, raising himself by grasping the arms of his chair with two capable although scarred hands, "and when we'd finished with one another I was like this."

"Yesterday morning I sent for the insurance chap, and says I to him, 'Look at me,' I says, 'and estimate the damages and pay them.'

"He squirmed right out o' the door, saying 'twas no accident I'd had."

"Now, if meeting with Barney Casey after keeping out o' his way for six months is no accident I'm done with insurance companies, and the sooner you have this house the better 'twill please me."—Youth's Companion.

HE UNDERSTOOD.

An Interview That Made Matters Clear to the Officer.

"Come, mister, no one can sleep here!" said a policeman the other evening when he found a man lying on a vacant plot of land by the side of the road and aroused him.

"But I have a good excuse," replied the man.

"What is it?"

"See that house over there? Well, please to do me the favor to go and ring the bell and ask if William Dockey is at home."

The officer went to the house, ascended the steps and rang the bell.

A head was thrust out of a window, and a woman's voice demanded:

"Now, who is there?"

"Madam," replied the officer, "is William Dockey at home?"

"No, he ain't, and I don't expect him until daylight," said the woman, and at the same time a bowlful of water descended on the officer's head.

"Well," said the man on the ground as the dripping officer came up, "you see how it is, don't you? I'm Dockey. That's Mrs. Dockey."

"I think I understand," replied the officer. "You can remain where you are."—London Answers.

Death, Ancient and Modern.

The art of the ancients would certainly seem to show that their conception of death was a much more cheerful one than that which has obtained in later times. It was at one time thought that the old Greeks and Egyptians had no artistic symbol for death, but this was a misconception. Death was almost invariably represented by them as the kinsman of sleep. The Greeks personified it as Thanatos, elder brother of Sleep. The Romans sometimes depicted Death and Sleep as twin children reposing in the arms of Night. The skull and crossbones and the skeleton as emblems of death do not appear to have become common until comparatively late Christian times. It has been suggested that the terrible fables and pestilences which scourged Europe during the middle ages were responsible for the fear or horror with which the modern mind is usually accustomed to look upon death.

Discourtesy Rebuked.

Lord Palmerston expected work to be done well, but Mr. Preston Thomas in his book tells us that of mere peccadilloes he was tolerant. Some young gentlemen in the foreign office amused themselves by "shining" young ladies who lived on the other side of the street—that is, by catching the rays of the sun on a mirror and flashing them over the way. The father of the young ladies complained to Palmerston, who thereupon issued this minute:

"The secretary of state desires that the gentlemen in his department will not cast disagreeable reflections on the ladies opposite."—London Chronicle.

How to Test Paper.

You cannot test paper as you would string, by stretching it. It has been stretched so much in the process of manufacture that it won't stand much more. The way to test it is to rub it in the hands. After such treatment poor paper is full of holes and cracks. Good paper simply takes the appearance of leather. If much white dust is produced we know there are earthy impurities. If it cracks it has been bleached too much.—London Globe.

On His Own.

"While I was engaged to her she made me give up drinking, smoking and golf. Last of all, I gave up something on my own account."

"What was that?"

"The girl."—Judge's Library.

Feminine Bliss.

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When thou wishest to delight thyself think of the virtues of those who live with thee.—Marcus Aurelius.

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