

**Should Change Ugly Names.**

The first meeting of the Oregon Geographic Society was held in Portland last Saturday, when the work of the board was outlined and decided upon. It is the purpose of the board to work for the adoption of more appropriate names for mountains, rivers, lakes, towns and other places than now prevail.

One of the cognomens which met with the most disfavor when mentioned at the meeting was Pitt mountain.

The board doesn't like the sound of the name Pitt. And then the name is Pit anyhow and not Pitt. It was named Pit after a tribe of Indians who lived at its base in Jackson county and who dug pits in the ground to catch their game. Before that time the mountain was known for 20 years as Mount McLaughlin and the board will attempt to have all maps and government surveys show the mountain by its old name.

George H. Himes has a veritable storehouse of legends regarding the different names throughout the state, and it is very likely that a great many of the old Indian tales and traditions will come to light in the new task of getting out the muck rake after the "handles" of places and things that don't seem to fit.

It is likely that Grayback mountain will be called Marble mountain, if the wish of the board carries and Sucker creek, which springs from this mountain will no doubt be called Marble creek. This is because of the fact that Oregon's marble beds are situated on Grayback mountain.

Nobody wants to change the name of the Willamette river, but the fact developed yesterday that Willamette as it is spelled is not correct. The word is, according to Mr. Himes, Wallampt which in the Indian Language means green water. Mr. Himes says that the river was named by a tribe of Indians who lived a short distance south of where Eugene is now situated, and that there the waters of the Willamette are tinted with a soft green and so that accounts for the name Willamette.

Incidentally every postoffice in the state will have a name of its own if possible, all to itself, and not after any living man.

The state legislature will be asked for an appropriation to defray the expenses of stationery, traveling expenses and other incidentals.

The 34 counties in the state were divided up for work among the five members today as follows: Will G. Steel—Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Klamath, Lake, Josephine and Jackson; Joseph Schafer—Lane, Douglas, Coos,

WE WISH YOU ALL A

# Merry Christmas

AND A

# Happy New Year

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Lincoln, Linn and Curry. John B. Horner—Union, Wheeler, Sherman, Crook, Polk, Benton and Gilliam. George H. Himes—Clatsop, Columbia, Marion, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill. Major Lee Moorehouse Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla and Wallowa.

Little Peter Applegate, who has been very ill, is much better at this writing.

S. I. Moseley, of Junction City, is here spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Wm. Moseley. While here Mr. Moseley bought a fine team of horses from the Virgin Flouring Mills.

Joe. P. Hoagland and family have returned from a pleasant visit to California, where they spent several months looking around the country. The Rogue River valley looks better than ever to them since returning.

The masquerade ball given Christmas night by the local camp of the M. W. A. was one of the most successful affairs of the kind ever given in Central Point. The camp cleared about \$80.00 over all expenses during the evening.

Frank Carl and family, formerly of Saratoga, Wyoming, and more recently of Goldfield, Nevada, arrived here last week and will remain here until Spring looking the country over with a view to locating permanently. Mr. Carl is an old friend and neighbor of J. D. Parker of this place, and he is so far well pleased with the country. He reports business pretty dull at Goldfield.

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