

## COOS BAY TIMES

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BUSINESS LIKE ADMINISTRATION

COUNTY JUDGE WATSON, Commissioners Diment and Armstrong and Roadmaster Hall Lewis are business visitors on Coos Bay. The Commissioners are here to investigate the changing channel in South Slough and to inspect boats with a view to the installation of a night ferry service to Eastside. There is apparent effort on the part of the County Court to give Coos County an efficient and business-like administration of affairs. In this they deserve encouragement and will receive approval. There is need for greater economy in the administration of public affairs and business of all kinds—but it should be economy with efficiency. There is economy that is expensive as well as economy that is wise. There is need of the exercise of common sense and judgment in the expenditure of public funds as well as private.

The Times wishes County Judge Judge Watson and the County Court a reign of prosperity and successful endeavor. In the big things that are to take place in Coos County in the next six years the County Court will play an important part and the Times hopes to see its efforts rewarded in a manner that will bring invaluable benefits to the county and its people, and the satisfaction to the Court that comes with having a task well done and appreciated. "Here's hoping," to the new Court.

## IMPROVEMENTS IN UMPQUA TOWNS

WARREN REED'S WATER SYSTEM AT LAKEPORT—NEW BANK AT GARDINER SHOWS UP WELL.

The water system which Warren Reed is installing at Reedsport will give that section one of the best water supplies in the state outside of the famous Bull Run supply at Portland, according to W. C. Bradley, who returned from there yesterday. Work on the system is now underway and it is expected to have it completed with sixteen months.

Already about seventy feet of the tunnels which will be 1156 feet long, has been driven from Clear Lake, the source of supply. Through this tunnel, a main two feet in diameter will be put in. This main costs \$3.50 per foot. The intake will be ten feet below the level of Clear Lake.

Mr. Reed has secured Clear Lake, which has a water area of 339 acres. Besides this, he has also filed on the Lake Edna supply. Lake Edna can be connected with Clear Lake by a short canal and when connected up will raise the level of Clear Lake about seven feet. It will give a total water area of over 600 acres.

## New Bank Does Well.

The First National Bank of Gardiner is in full swing now, Mr. Bradley states. Although it has been open for business less than a month, it has deposits that would be flattering to a bank in a much larger city. H. L. Edmunds is the cashier. He is a new arrival there. O. B. Hinckley, Fred Aschenheimer and the leading men of the Umpqua Valley are stockholders in the institution. The new building for the bank is progressing rapidly, the roof being now on. A fine vault is being put in. It will be as nearly burglar proof and fireproof as can be built. It is of concrete, reinforced with railroad iron and is built according to the U. S. Government specifications.

Business is pretty good and all are feeling optimistic over the future.

## DIRECTORS ARE CHOSEN

Coos Bay Business Men's Association Elects Directors

Twenty-four members were in attendance at the annual meeting of the Coos Bay Business Men's association last night. The reports of Sec. Caton showed the year to have been a successful one for them. The plans for the branch associations organized under vice-presidents in the various towns of the county were approved.

The newly elected directors will meet next Tuesday night and choose officers. The directors chosen are E. P. Lewis, R. A. Copple, Geo. H. Rotnor, F. G. Horton, H. Nashburg, C. E. Mather, R. B. Hazer and J. S. Lyons.

A bargain day plan was discussed and referred to a committee.

Times Want Ads for results.

## SKERRITT CASE NEXT MONDAY

(Continued from Page One.)

reached the ground, after awakening many of the sleepers was the statement of E. O. Willets on the stand.

**Up Shortly After Fire**  
Shortly before he was awakened by the cries of "Fire," William Butts testified that he had left his room and had gone down the hall. "There was no trace of fire or smoke at that time. I read for a few minutes and then I went to sleep." He escaped down the fire escape.

On crutches P. T. Casey came to the stand. He left the third floor by the window route, landing on the ground in his night clothes. "I saw old Mr. Craig come to the window. The fire was all about him then. Some of the boys turned the hose on the window. It was awful and I turned away."

**Heard an Explosion**  
He stated that a short time after this he heard an explosion, though in the north end of the building and after that the fire burned up to the third floor.

Mrs. E. Grandell, who lives within a block of where the boarding house stood, testified that when she first saw the fire it was burning "in the north end on the lower floor".

A question asked by the prosecution regarding the garage fire of Skerritt's some time ago was objected to by the defense.

Vivian Craig, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Craig told of the books and personal effects that Skerritt owned and kept in his room.

She was asked about the wiring. Several times, she said, fuses had been blown out.

**Engage in Wordy Battle**  
"Just a moment," broke in the attorney for the defense, following a question that had been interrupted by the state. The former was asked not to be so "d—ned cranky" and thereupon followed a brief engagement regarding "bottles of milk" and "bottles of beer." The court interrupted and the case proceeded.

Walter Condon stated Skerritt told him the fire must have started on the second floor "for there it seemed burning the most".

**Receives Insurance**  
"It was about the last of December," said August Frizeen, "that Skerritt took out \$500 insurance on his books and personal effects. Once afterward he remarked about \$200 more on books received from his father for Christmas. He made an attempt to get the insurance.

L. E. Bliven, one of the firemen, told of how the building was "all a-blaze when we got there."

**Tells of Finances**

Jack McDonald, who sold Skerritt the two cars used on the Bunker Hill stage run, stated the accused told him, after the fire that he "was broke." "He told me the same thing before the fire. After his garage burned, destroying one of the cars, I asked him for security. He told me then he had not sold out.

"Skerritt owes me about \$1,500. George Craig told me that Skerritt had sold the run and the cars." McDonald testified that he had granted Skerritt "as much time as he wanted to pay because a hospital and doctor's bill had cost him about \$750."

"He also told me," said Mr. McDonald, "that he was not going to leave and that he had an insurance policy on which he could raise \$2,000 any time. It was in C. R. Peck's office later that he testified the policy was not transferable and that his father had been paying the premiums."

C. F. McKnight here stated that a settlement had been started, \$400 having already been paid and also a note for more than \$160 at the Flanagan and Bennett bank had been taken up.

"Skerritt owed \$300 to the Goodrum Garage and so I went his note at the bank. He later told me this had been paid and I had no idea there was anything wrong until the bank notified me, as one of the signers, that there was \$150 due."

Says he is Young Man

On the stand C. R. Peck testified that Skerritt, being unable to make payments on the cars, had attended a meeting of some of his creditors. He owed \$300 to Smith and Wade, also. "We figured from his life insurance that he was only 31 years old," said Mr. Peck and Skerritt had replied that he is "only a young man."

William Grimes, foreman of the jury, was called to the stand and then followed the motion of Mr. Liljeqvist that the hearing be postponed until Monday. "We have two witnesses to find," he said. "I have been away on the duties of my office. There is business that must be attended to in Coquille."

A vigorous move to have the case continued this afternoon was made by the defense but was overruled by Judge Pennock.

Late yesterday afternoon Dan Orr was subpoenaed as a witness for the defense, though he was not on the stand today. He is expected to appear Monday.

## With Bondsmen

Mr. Skerritt has kept close to some of his bondsmen ever since he was released on bail. He spends the nights with Mr. Lindberg.

**Up Shortly After Fire**  
While Skerritt's friends expected that he would be bound over to the grand jury, they were anxious to get a line on all the evidence that the state has against him so that his defense can be arranged better. They said that they expected to be able to furnish reasonable bail in case he was bound over.

**SEAMEN'S BILL TO GO TO PRESIDENT**  
By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27.—The Senate adopted today the conference report on the seamen's bill already adopted by the House, ending a two year's fight in Congress. The bill now goes to President Wilson. The measure raises the standard of labor for seaman and provides for increased safety equipment on lake and ocean steamers.

## COSTS IN BARTON CASE ABOUT \$1000

**LILJEQVIST TELLS OF ROSEBURG TRIAL—C. A. SEHLBREDE IS CHARGED WITH NEWSPAPER ATTACK ON LILJEQVIST.**

That the costs in the Barton case, the defendant was ordered to pay, together with a \$300 fine, will total close to \$1000 is the belief of District Attorney Liljeqvist, who returned late yesterday afternoon from Roseburg, where he prosecuted the case. Barton will also have to pay his own expenses. Barton received a verdict convicting him of simple or indecent assault. The jury was entirely unprejudiced, according to the attorney, and the verdict, he believes, was as strong as the evidence presented would permit.

**Mr. Liljeqvist has been complimented by many on the way he handled the case, as it was generally expected that Barton would probably escape conviction on the second trial.**

## Attack Is Explained.

Mr. Liljeqvist was quite irate over a contemptible attack and criticism of him in the Roseburg papers. Yesterday he received a long distance telephone message from District Attorney Neuner, of Roseburg, who ably assisted him in conducting the case, explaining the matter. Mr. Liljeqvist was then not aware of the attack, but Mr. Neuner told him about it and said that he had gone to a Roseburg paper printing it and asked an explanation. He said that they told him it came from C. A. Sehlbrede, one of Barton's attorneys. Mr. Neuner said it was uncalled for and untrue and that everyone who heard the case or been connected with it knew the facts. Mr. Neuner was more exercised, apparently, over than was Mr. Liljeqvist, as the latter feels that the outcome is a better criterion than a statement to go by.

**FICKLE VICTORY COMES TO LOCALS**  
With Victory in a fickle mood, changing constantly from one field to another in a basketball game that was hard fought from whistle to whistle the Marshfield High School, passing in the last few minutes of play, last evening defeated the Myrtle Point five by a 21 to 13 score. As a preliminary the Sophomore team defeated the Freshmen 13 to 6.

And in so doing the local quintet pulled themselves again to the top of the ladder, the upper round of which is crowded now by Marshfield, Coquille and Bandon, all having the same percent and each team having still two games to play. It is upon the outcome of the final series that the championship of the county rests.

The following was the line up for the two schools and the points made by each man last night.

Marshfield . . . Position . . . Myrtle Point Burrows 8 . . . . . E. Spires forward  
Watters 6 . . . . . Adams center  
Lecocq 6 . . . . . Miller 7 McDonald . . . . . R. Spires guard  
Chapman 1 . . . . . Wimberly Referee: Harold Adams, Myrtle Point; Umpire: Dr. R. W. Morrow, Marshfield.

## FINAL REPORT ON BUNKER HILL FIRE

(Continued from Page One.)

## With Bondsmen

Following persons are among the deceased: S. E. Lewis occupied room number 44 in the ell or annex, and there is no evidence that he was ever awakened or made any effort to escape, but from the position of his remains in the debris, we believe that he suffocated and never awakened. The same may be said of Lewis Kalinowski, who occupied room number 18 on the northwest corner of the building. The last named person could have escaped as did Mr. Zielke, by swinging to the porch roof below. Mr. W. S. Glover occupied room number 32 on the west side of the building, and was evidently confused in making efforts to escape. The door of his room was about sixteen feet from the fire escape at the south end of the building, which was unobstructed as shown by the fact that others escaped down the same.

On the second floor were 19 occupants on the night of the fire, four of whom died in the flames or as a result of their burns. Their respective cases are described as follows:

Roy B. Askew occupied room number 39 on the northwest corner of the building, and it was only necessary for him to step out the window onto the porch roof and escape, as did the others on that side of the building, but from the testimony, we are satisfied that he suffocated in his sleep and never awakened to make the attempt. In connection with Mr. Askew's case we would compliment his relative and friend, Mr. Chas. Reece, occupant of the adjoining room, for the brave effort which he made to arouse and awaken Mr. Askew at the danger of his own life.

Louis Papas, occupant of room number 12, on the east side of the building, could have saved himself by simply stepping out of his window onto the roof of the storage room, but evidently became confused and ran down the hall to the worst of the flame and fire, where his body was found.

Byron Craig, son of Geo. W. Craig, the lessee, occupied room number 15 on the west side of the building, and attempted to reach the fire escape at the south end of the hall, but became over-powered by smoke and suffocation and was found in an unconscious condition at the door of the fire escape, whence he was taken by Wiley Langdon. We would especially compliment Mr. Langdon for the daring courage and endurance which he displayed in making this rescue, but as a result of his burns, Byron Craig died at the Mercy Hospital, in the city of North Bend, at 7:30 o'clock on the evening following the fire.

At the time of the fire, A. A. Craig, son of Geo. W. Craig, the lessee, was an occupant of room number 13 on the west side of the building.

**UPTON IS AFFLICTED**  
J. M. Upton, of the local United States land office, is suffering from blood poisoning of the hand. The in-

fection is the result of a couple of slivers that penetrated the hand a few days ago.—Roseburg Review.

## SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, in and for the County of Coos.

Home Mortgage Co., formerly known as Home Trust Co., a corporation, Plaintiff, vs. L. H. Heisner and Elizabeth Heisner, his wife, L. J. Simpson, Albert Seelig, Patrick Hennessey, C. P. Coleman, E. L. Roberts, George Ross, John Basterndorf and C. W. Harris, Defendants.

We find that the statutes of the State of Oregon were not complied with in the manner of equipping said building with fire protection and means of escape.

For the information of the public in this regard, we would call attention to the provision of Sections 4982-4986 of Lords Oregon Laws:

"All hotels or lodging houses in the State of Oregon more than two stories in height shall be provided with at least one fire escape of iron or other incombustible material, on each street front of the building, conveniently accessible from each room of said building.

"All hotels or lodging houses in the State of Oregon not covered by the provisions contained in the last section, and not provided with at least one fire escape of iron or other incombustible material, as provided in the last section, shall be provided with manila or sisal ropes, not less than one-half inch in diameter, and of sufficient length to reach to the ground, knotted 12 inches apart, in every room used as a lodging room, except the rooms on the ground floor.

"All ropes to be securely anchored near a window, kept coiled and exposed to the plain view of the occupant, with printed directions as to how to use such rope, posted within six inches of where the rope was fastened.

"Any person failing to comply with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding Fifty Dollars, and every day that such person shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act shall be deemed a separate offense.

"Louis Papas, occupant of room number 12, on the east side of the building, could have saved himself by simply stepping out of his window onto the roof of the storage room, and became over-powered by smoke and suffocation and was found in an unconscious condition at the door of the fire escape, whence he was taken by Wiley Langdon. We would especially compliment Mr. Langdon for the daring courage and endurance which he displayed in making this rescue, but as a result of his burns, Byron Craig died at the Mercy Hospital, in the city of North Bend, at 7:30 o'clock on the evening following the fire.

"While we do not wish to make any defense for the owners or lessee of the building in question, yet, it is our opinion, based upon our observation of other lodging houses in this vicinity, that the building in question furnished more opportunity for escape from fire by reason of the porches, leanto's, water tower and fire escape than the average building used for like purposes. We believe that, while the city ordinances, of the cities of this county may have in a manner been complied with, that hardly in any instances has the above-quoted state law been observed, and we would recommend to the public, and urge upon the law enforcing officers of this county, that the campaign of law enforcement in this regard be at once entered upon.

"Any person failing to comply with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding Fifty Dollars, and every day that such person shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act shall be deemed a separate offense.

"Judgment against said defendant L. H. Heisner for the sum of \$1,000.00 with interest thereon at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 14th day of February, 1913, and attorney fees upon plaintiff's second cause of suit:

"Judgment against said defendant L. H. Heisner for the sum of \$1,255.27, with interest on \$160.41 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 14th day of February, 1913, and attorney fees upon plaintiff's second cause of suit:

"Judgment against said defendant L. H. Heisner for the sum of \$1,592.00 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 31st day of December, 1913, and attorney fees upon plaintiff's third cause of suit:

"Judgment against said defendant L. H. Heisner for the sum of \$1,572.86 at the rate of 9 per cent per annum from the 14th day of December, 1913, and interest on \$160.41 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 14th day of December, 1913, and interest on \$592.00 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 31st day of December, 1913, and attorney fees upon plaintiff's fourth cause of suit:

"Judgment against said defendant L. H. Heisner for the sum of \$671.98, and interest on \$54.08 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from April 10th, 1913, and interest on \$127.90 at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 6th day of June, 1913, and for the sum of \$60.00 as attorney fees herein on its fourth cause of suit:

"Judgment for its costs and dis-