

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS THE COUNTY SEAT NEWS

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\$1.50 THE YEAR.

PARK AND BRIDGE

Projects For Both Promoted by the Council Wednesday Night.

The deal for the purchase of the Patterson Grove tract for a city park, which has been hanging fire for the past four years, was practically completed at an adjourned council meeting Wednesday night when the city agreed to trade the old city hall for the 10-acre park tract. Chas. T. Skeels was the man who made the deal possible and it was the result of a suggestion by J. A. Lamb a month ago, and reported in the Sentinel at the time, that the city agree to give a deed for the front street property in exchange for one to the Patterson Grove.

About a month ago the council made a tentative proposition to pay the \$184.80 interest due on the note held by Leo J. Cary and signed by ten business men; \$310 on the principal thus reducing the note to \$2,000, and the 1916 taxes, amounting to about \$16; and give up their option on the tract.

There was so much opposition to the idea of giving up all claim to the ten acres, which is needed for a city park, that the council has been endeavoring to devise means by which the tract could eventually be secured.

With limit for bonded indebtedness already reached and a tax of 17 1/2 mills it was impossible to pay for the park outright. But when the council agreed to reduce the note held by Mr. Cary to \$2,000 and offered the old city hall triangle for \$2,000, it was simply a case of finding the man to whom the business property was worth the \$2,000.

In offering to take the corner on front street at that figure, Mr. Skeels said that the deal could not be completed until Mr. Cary's return the latter part of the month, but that then either he or the Coquille Valley Mercantile company would take the city's property at once and pay the note, thus releasing the ten men who signed Mr. Cary.

It was a very happy solution of a difficult problem and the majority of the council were ready to jump at the chance to carry out the wish of the people, as expressed at the election in May, 1914, to own the park. Mr. Sanford moved that a warrant for the \$185 be ordered drawn at once and the option continued until Mr. Cary's return. To this there was a demur on the part of Mr. Hawkins, who did not want the city obligated with any more options, nor any money paid over until a deed for the park was secured. However, all the councilmen expressed themselves as willing to make the trade.

Mr. Sanford's motion failing to receive a second he made another that the matter of the purchase of the park be laid on the table for further consideration and it was carried. This means that upon Mr. Cary's return the city will pay the \$500, interest, taxes and principal, and exchange deeds with R. H. Mast, who is trustee for the park tract.

With this matter settled and out of the way the council were ready to tackle the bridge, which they did very promptly. Mr. Sanford said it was reported to him that the J. J. Lamb heirs were anxious to have a street put through their property both east and west and north and south, and that Mr. Lorenz also favored the north and south street which would cut through the N. Lorenz estate property. The expense would be small and an avenue of exit from the bridge would thus be opened.

The bridge site as accepted by the county court is just above the ferry with the south approach in the county road south of McAdams house and the north end striking the bluff between the J. A. Collier and W. J. Longston properties. A 60-foot roadway is planned from the foot of the bridge to the point where the new east and west street is to be opened. This latter street, 40 feet wide, will be just north of the house where Fay Jones lives and with but a slight jog be a continuation of First street in front of the Masonic Hall. This will necessitate cutting down the length of the north parking in Willard street by 30 or 40 feet.

J. E. Norton reported to the court that affairs had gone as far as it was possible until the city secured the right of way for an approach to the bridge and for crossing the Collier property between the railroad and

front street. The County court can not secure the plans, profiles and estimates from the state engineer's office until the point of landing for the bridge is determined and the rights of way are secured.

With Mr. Norton's explanation of how the bridge master stands thus clarifying the situation, the bridge committee instructed the city engineer to immediately make a survey of the proposed landing and street leading therefrom and secure the necessary data with which the council could make amicable arrangements with the property owners or, failing that at any point, start condemnation proceedings. The bridge committee and the engineer met on the ground last evening to look over the proposed site.

A few other matters of city business were attended to Wednesday evening. The water committee reported as favoring the installation of meters at the consumers' expense on all users of city water across the river and it was so ordered.

There being very little city work for two marshals at the present time, the proposal to dispense with the services of one was discussed at length. For the month of March, however, it was thought the repairing of the fence around the reservoir on Walker creek would require the services of a second man. Beginning next month it is probable that one-day officer will be deemed sufficient.

COMMERCE OF OUR RIVER

The following report of the tonnage and passengers going out of the Coquille river during the month of February is furnished by C. M. Spencer, secretary of the Port Commission at Bandon. Outward shipments were:

	Tons	Pounds
Lumber	3,308,000	13,232,000
Match Wood		
48 cords	73,728	294,912
Berry Baskets		
4,382 Bundles	61,248	306,740
Piling, 6x5	312,750	1,563,750
Telephone poles, 12x3	461,850	2,309,250
Chairs		18,192
Wool		75

Totals 4,207,176 17,667,419
This makes a total tonnage of 8,834 and with 26 tons miscellaneous, 8,860.

The inward shipments of merchandise amounted to 431 tons, making the total tonnage in both directions 9,291. There were 18 passengers outward and 17 inward.

Sailed on Frederick VIII.

One of the passengers on the Frederick VIII, which is carrying Ambassador Barnstorf and his party to Sweden, is C. G. Magnus, of Marshfield, who is on his way to visit his old home in Sweden and who on Tuesday telegraphed his wife that they would leave Halifax that night. The English authorities there took nearly a week to search the ship for contraband but found only 200 surplus pajamas, which were supposed to be intended for the manufacture of gun cotton, and an excess of rubber in the shoe heels that would also have come in handy for military purposes. Those they accordingly confiscated.

Bitten Off Their Own Noses.

The North Bend people who stabbed Charles Hall in the back as a candidate for state highway commissioner, have probably neither helped themselves nor hurt Coos county by their treacherous action. The road from the Bay to Myrtle Point and beyond will doubtless be a paved highway long before that "forest road" is cut through from Eugene to the coast.

The new highway commission appointed by Governor Withycombe will consist of Simon Benson, of Portland, E. J. Adams, of Eugene, and William L. Thompson, of Pendleton. They will serve without pay.

The McGinnis Will.

Judge Watson returned this morning from Marshfield, where he had been for two days past listening to arguments on a demurrer in the McGinnis will case. If he overrules the demurrer he will have several days more of argument to listen to; but whichever way the matter of the very peculiar will is decided in the Probate court, it will probably be appealed.

The general merchandise store of N. P. Peterson at Myrtle Point was entered by burglars last night. They secured \$25 in money.

IS THIS TO BE THE LAST STRAW?

Germany Has Been Using Her Minister in This Country to Incite Mexico to Join Her in Making War on Us.

Yesterday's Portland dailies bring news of Germany's attempt to incite Mexico and Japan to join her in making war on the United States. With the same lavish generosity that inspired the Kaiser when he promised Christ all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them if he would fall down and worship him, the Germans propose to reward Mexico for coming to their aid by offering to give them Texas, New Mexico and Arizona as their reward. Thus is again manifested the same fiendish spirit which actuated the Kaiser in striving to stir up the Mohammedans to rise against the English in Asia and Africa.

And while Ambassador Von Bernstorff was being treated so nicely by our people he was the medium by which such negotiations were being attempted with Mexico and Japan. He ought to have received his passports when the Lusitania was sunk. It was like keeping vipers in our bosom to permit a single German diplomat to remain on our shores after that supreme act of piracy had taken place.

To learn what Germany has proposed to do to the United States ought to solidify our nation as one man in standing behind President Wilson in asserting and maintaining our rights.

Following is the text of the Instructions forwarded by German Foreign Minister Zimmermann at Berlin to German Minister von Eckhardt, in Mexico City, a copy of which is in the hands of the American Government:

"Berlin, Jan. 19, 1917.—On the first of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite

of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America.

"If this is not successful we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to recover the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas and Arizona. The details are left to you for settlement.

"You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in confidence as soon as it is certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States and suggest that the President of Mexico, on his own initiative, should communicate with Japan, suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time offer to negotiate between Germany and Japan.

"Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that the employment of ruthless submarine warfare now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months.

(Signed) "ZIMMERMANN."

Senator LaFollette in his single-handed attempt to prevent the passage of the act to authorize President Wilson to take steps to defend our country and its people is playing the part of a traitor. He ought to be expelled from the senate.

The house of representatives Wednesday night passed the bill providing for prohibition in the District of Columbia by a vote of 273 to 137. It had previously passed the senate and now goes to the President.

SPLENDID LECTURE BY J. C. HENBSMAN

The third number of Coquille's Lyceum course was given at the Seenic Tuesday night, when the theater was well filled with the audience assembled to listen to J. C. Henbsman's lecture entitled "Life's Balance Sheet."

The lecture began with a talk about lurid stockings and other things so much in evidence among some high school girls now that fixed the attention of all the pupils present at once. The responsibility for such errors of dress he placed upon the parents, rather than on the pupils themselves or their teachers.

A parallel between the stages of the life of a newly hatched bird and the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior years of high school life ran all through the discourse and added to its piquancy and impressiveness. In each case the height of wisdom appeared to be in learning how little one knew and how much there was to learn.

Many stories and anecdotes were very felicitously used to illustrate the points the speaker made. One which it took the audience a breath or two to catch was about the woman who thoughtfully had her reckless spouse buried face downward because "he always did hate to ride backward."

But the lessons inculcated for the instruction of the rising generation were all sound and worth while. The treatment of the theme was new and catchy, but it was the same old truth that "he, who soweth to the flesh, shall reap corruption, but he who soweth to the spirit, shall reap life everlasting." There was no suggestion of a letting down of the standards or any compromise with evil. Instead there was insistence on the single standard for men and women, a plea for the same white life for the groom

that he demands of his bride.

Reference was made to the fateful days through which we were passing and the probability that our nation might at any moment find itself involved in the cataclysmic struggle that is now convulsing the old world. The speaker, while mentioning with pride his German parentage and extolling the virtues of the race from which he sprang, at the same time proclaimed his undivided loyalty to the stars and stripes and his readiness to answer his country's call if war must come. His words here went right to the hearts of his American hearers, adding as they did one more to the many recent proofs that if we have to take up arms to defend our people and safeguard their rights to unmolested freedom of the seas, we shall all stand together in the coming struggle whether our forebears came across the seas 250 years ago or whether we are of the first generation born on the soil of the new world. Hearty applause greeted the deep and thrilling expressions of patriotism that fell from the speaker's lips, and the audience appeared to have received a new consecration to Americanism—the cause of "government of the people, by the people and for the people" as Lincoln phrased it and our German born orator re-echoed it.

In introducing the speaker Superintendent Howard, of our city schools, gave the pleasing information that the expenses of the Lyceum course had already been met to the last dollar by the receipts now on hand; and urged as large a patronage as possible for the Brewer Concert company's entertainment two weeks later, so that we might have a nest egg laid up to provide a bigger and better course for the season of 1917-18.

Pay Up or Shut Up.

Recorder Lawrence was asked by the council Wednesday evening whether any water delinquents had had their water shut off. He reported that they had not. Although the city has lost very little from the failure of consumers to pay their water rent, the city does not propose to pay for sending a man out to make those collections, and it need not surprise any one to have his water turned off by the water superintendent if he neglects to pay by the 10th. Mr. Lawrence being busy with street assessment notices last week, paid out of his own pocket for having these delinquents hunted up and dunned, and he is not supposed to make outside collections either. The council proposes to shut down hard and require the water superintendent to turn off the water on the 11th of each month for those in arrears.

Don't forget that our 4-magazine offer at 2 bits still holds good.

Organization Papers Here.

The Coquille Commercial Club has been interested in the Federal Farm Loan Act and in seeing an association established at Coquille. This week the preliminary papers for organization have been received and in order to help matters along, a meeting has been called for Saturday, March 10, at 10 o'clock a. m., to which all farmers in this section are invited. It only requires 10 men whose loans will aggregate \$20,000 to form such an association and, from the inquiries County Agent Smith has been receiving, there are many who desire to take advantage of the new law.

The Commercial Club stands ready to assist in any way the organization of a Farm Loan Association, although the law, of course, only applies to owners or prospective owners of farm property.

Adjustment Delays.

Adjustment by the insurance companies of the losses sustained by the E. E. Johnson mill from fire a week ago yesterday was delayed a week, the adjustor from San Francisco not having arrived until this morning. This has seriously delayed the work of repairing the burned portion and the resumption of cutting operations. While the cutting of the logs has not been interfered with, it only requires a few days to choke the storage space with the saw and planer idle, and consequently no shipping being done.

ECHOES FROM GREAT WAR

Rev. T. H. Downs has this week received two letters from his son, James, who writes that he is in good health. He is with a Canadian regiment on the Somme front in northern France, where considerable activity has recently been reported.

Mr. Downs has just received the sad news of the death of his nephew, Alfred Medland, who has been in the British navy since the war began. Stationed on the African coast, a company of the midshipman crew of a ship and he was killed. After the troops with which he was connected had overcome the Germans in West Africa, they went around to German East Africa, where the climate is very unwholesome for Europeans. There young Medland, who was only 24 years of age contracted the malaria, which resulted in his death.

Pick Through His Hand.

Don Donaldson suffered a very painful injury down at Cedar Point last Sunday afternoon where he was loading ties on the cars. He and Josh Billings were taking a tie from the hoist with "pickaroons," and in some way Don threw his hand out under Billings' descending pick. His hand was caught by the pick in mid-air and the blow drove it clear through his left hand between the bones. He lost considerable blood on the way to town and became so weak he had to have assistance before reaching the doctor's office. Dr. Jas. Richmond dressed the hand and it is getting along in good shape now.

New 75-Ton Locomotive.

A new seventy-five ton geared locomotive, built especially for heavy hauling, and which has been six weeks on its way from New York, is expected to arrive in a few days for the Smith-Powers Logging company who will use it on their logging road. The new engine is an oil burner and will probably be used to do switching and make up trains at Powers.

A. H. Powers announces that the difficulty that has been experienced in getting coal has caused the company to make arrangements to have all their engines converted into oil burners.

Confectionery Changes.

Yesterday Mrs. Abbie Kelley sold her confectionery on Taylor street to Miss Vera Kelley who is now in charge. She expects to rearrange the room with a recessed front and giving better facilities for protecting and handling the full line of confectionery tobacco and cigars she will carry.

Ned C. Kelley is moving his real estate and insurance office to this location, leaving the front street room he has occupied for the last five years. Mrs. Kelley moved out to her old home in the north part of the city yesterday.

Send the Sentinel to eastern friends

AT THE AGE OF 74

Close of a Long and Eventful Life—Half a Century in the Coquille Valley.

Born in Ireland, married in Australia, the mother of ten children, twice widowed, once shipwrecked, a resident at various times of each of the three Pacific coast states, but for the past half a century, of the Coquille Valley, Mrs. Catherine Figg, who departed this life here Tuesday night at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. M. H. Hersey, certainly had a unique and interesting history.

She had been in failing health for the past year and a half and succumbed at last to an attack of heart failure. She was the sort of a woman of whom pioneers are made and an indomitable will was one of her most prominent characteristics, else she would hardly, at the age of 74 years, have insisted on remaining at her own home, where she had lived, much of the time alone, for years. Indeed she did not express a willingness to be removed from there until the last day of her life.

Catherine Doyle was born in Dublin, Ireland, October 3, 1848. While still a child she was taken to Australia by her parents where at the age of 18 she was united in marriage to Fred Johnson. To this union there were born five children, one of whom came into the world during the long voyage the Johnsons made from Australia to San Francisco. Starting north from there by boat the family was shipwrecked at the Golden Gate, but when the boat was got off the rocks and repaired they went on north with her to Washington, where one of the two survivors of the five children—Ed Johnson, of Fat Elk—was born. Mrs. M. H. Hersey, of this city, is the other.

Returning to California, the Johnsons lived there for a while before coming to Coos county in 1868. Shortly after arriving here they became separated and in 1870 Mrs. Johnson married Ben Figg, a well known ranchman of the Coquille Valley, who was an Englishman by birth and who had settled at the forks of the Coquille in 1856. Three years later he bought the big place a mile this side of Fihatrap still known as the Figg ranch.

Five children were also born to this second union, of whom three grew to maturity, but only one survives, Mrs. W. T. Dement, of Myrtle Point. Another daughter by the first marriage became the first wife of Rock Robinson.

During the nineties the Figgs built a home in this city a block north of Drane's Grocery, and there Mr. Figg died in 1905.

Since then Mrs. Figg has walked her shadowed way alone, doing many deeds of kindness, meeting her friends with a hearty Irish greeting, and ever as ready at repartee as any daughter of the old sod.

Only a year or two ago, at an entertainment at the hall she recited a selection with fine elocutionary effect and in the delightful brougue of her race. Not only that but she talked interestingly of the early days in this valley when neighbors were distant, the trails were lonesome, Indians were feared, imported luxuries and dainties were few and the menu consisted mostly of the products of the soil, the forest and the streams.

This woman, whose departure we all mourn, had been at home on three continents and certainly deserves to be chronicled as one of the "empire builders."

The funeral services took place here at eleven o'clock yesterday morning at the Catholic church and were conducted by Rev. Father H. J. McDevitt, with the impressive ceremonies of that church. Motherhood was especially exalted in his touching tribute to this departed mother in Israel.

The attendance was large and the older settlers of the valley were well represented in the audience, many of whom were unable to find seats.

The interment was in the Masonic Cemetery.

Card of Thanks.

For the many kindnesses extended, the sympathy expressed, as well as the beautiful floral offerings received during the illness and after the death of our mother and grandmother, Mrs. Catherine Figg, we wish to return our heartfelt thanks. Edward Johnson and family, Rock Robinson and family, W. T. Dement and family, M. H. Hersey and family.