

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS THE COUNTY SEAT NEWS

VOL. XII, NO. 22

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1917.

\$1.50 THE YEAR.

SCHOOL MEETING

Kistner Re-elected as Director and Lawrence as Clerk—District Levy Is \$9,900.

The annual school meeting of the city district here was held in the high school room last Monday evening with W. L. Kistner, president of the school board, in the chair, and J. S. Lawrence, clerk, as secretary.

The attendance was perhaps smaller than at any other time during the past five years, notwithstanding the fact that the law has been changed so that a property qualification is no longer required for a voter at these meetings. Only about sixty were present.

Mr. Lawrence read the report for the past year giving the following facts:

The number of persons in the district between four and twenty years of age is 512, of whom 246 are males and 266 females. The girls have been gaining on the boys during the past year, the previous report showing a difference of only three, where there is 20 now.

The number of teachers employed during the year was 14, of whom three were men and eleven women. There were 14 rooms in operation during the year.

There are 1,100 volumes in the school library of which 100 have been purchased during the past year.

The following is the financial statement for the past year:

Receipts	
On hand one year ago.....	\$ 27.66
From district tax.....	7,237.45
From county school fund.....	3,443.05
From state school fund.....	864.50
From tuition outside pupils.....	822.30
Miscellaneous receipts.....	2.50
Total.....	\$12,397.46

Expenditures	
Teachers' wages.....	\$5,528.10
Rent of school rooms.....	187.50
Fuel and supplies.....	1,212.58
Repairs and janitor work.....	1,283.34
Interest on warrants.....	968.50
Insurance.....	255.00
Clerk's salary.....	190.00
All other purposes.....	500.43
Cash on hand.....	7.92
Total.....	\$12,397.46

The amount of outstanding warrants is now \$6,845.63, having risen from \$4,326.31 a year ago. The estimated value of the school house and grounds is \$16,000; of the school furniture and apparatus, \$5,000. The insurance carried on the school house and contents is \$13,000.

The total amount of money per month paid to male teachers last year was \$369.33; that paid to female teachers was \$777.50.

The total enrollment in the high school during the past year was 117, and the average daily attendance was 88. Of the total number 38 came from outside the district, and the county paid for their tuition the \$322.30 shown above. One of these outside pupils attended only for a few days and ten of them for only six months.

The report was accepted and approved.

The election of a director for three years to fill the place of W. L. Kistner, whose term had expired, being the next business in order, M. O. Hawkins complimented the board on having managed the affairs of the district carefully and satisfactorily and nominated Mr. Kistner for his own successor. C. R. Barrow nominated C. J. Fuhrman, whom he commended as a progressive young man interested in every forward movement.

The chairman appointed O. C. Sanford and Mrs. C. R. Barrow as tellers and a ballot was taken resulting 31 votes for Kistner to 28 for Fuhrman. It was close enough to be interesting, first one candidate and then the other forging ahead. Director H. O. Anderson, of the school board, declared Mr. Kistner duly elected.

A. J. Sherwood moved that the budget for the coming year be approved as read, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Anderson explained that the \$6,874.09 of uncollected taxes resulted in the district having to pay interest on outstanding warrants of about the same amount, or about \$600 a year. On this account the board had asked for a larger levy which would raise \$9,900 by district tax during the coming year.

No objection to this was offered by any one present; but as the new

school law requires that the levy be made in dollars and not in mills on the dollar of property valuation, the meeting deemed it best to back up and do it over again, so a motion was made and unanimously adopted that the meeting make a levy of \$9,900 taxes for the coming year. With this amount it is expected that one-third less warrants will be outstanding at the end of the year than at present. It is also hoped that the amount will be still further reduced by the collection of more of the delinquent taxes due the county.

New School Building Needed.

It is to be hoped that the deadlock of the past three years on the school site proposition here in Coquille will be settled soon. The efficiency of our schools is going to be impaired again the year by crowded conditions at the high school, in any event; but if the matter can be settled soon it may be possible to do better next year.

FOUR PICNICS NEXT WEEK

J. L. Smith, county agent, is chairman of the committee for the series of Dairymen's picnic to be held in this county next week, last night finished sending out the invitations.

Two of the best speakers from O. A. C. have been secured to make addresses at these picnics. They are Prof. R. R. Graves, head of the Dairy department, and Dr. B. T. Simms, head of the Veterinary Science department. Dairymen are requested to submit at these meetings any questions they wish answered or any problems they have been unable to solve.

It is proposed to have at each meeting an informal discussion of the most important problems that the dairymen of today have to contend with. Professor Graves has been in attendance at the dairy meetings during the past two years, and all of the farmers who have heard him before are anxious to hear him again. Dr. Simms will speak on a number of the most important diseases of livestock and especially those of dairy cattle, and will recommend methods of prevention and treatment.

The first of these picnics will be held on Monday next, June 25, at Sealand's grove near Sumner. A special boat will leave Marshfield at 9 a. m. and carry free all who wish to attend this gathering. The boat will run as far up Catching Slough as the tide will permit and from there on Coos Bay business men will take them in their cars and transfer them to the picnic grounds.

The second picnic will be held Tuesday, June 26, from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. at James Landrith's farm on South Coos river.

On Wednesday, June 27, the picnic will be at the same hours at Earl Topping's farm at Parkersburg.

The fourth and last picnic on Thursday, June 28, will be held at Dixon's Grove at Myrtle Point.

Hitching Racks at Last.

At last Coquille has some hitching racks. The Coquille Valley Mercantile Co. have just installed about 50 feet of pipe rack in front of the old city hall property, which they recently bought, and their warehouse. This will accommodate a good many teams and if two or three like sections were put in elsewhere it would probably be sufficient for all who desire to use them. An auto does not have to be driven up to a hitching rack and the percentage of farmers who drive autos is constantly increasing. All honor to this mercantile establishment which took the bull by the horns and began the fulfillment of this long desired civic need.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.00.

"Give Him a Ride; Then Give Him a Special Red Cross Week."

The president had YOU in mind when he proclaimed a special Red Cross week.

He counts on YOU to bandage up the wounds of the men who will fight in YOUR behalf.

The \$100,000,000 needed will be raised if YOU give YOUR share.

The hour of sacrifice is at hand. Mothers are giving their sons. Women are giving their husbands. Men are giving their lives.

What will YOU give?

WE CAN MAKE IT \$5,000

Nearly \$4,000 Already Given for the Red Cross Fund in the Coquille District and Liberal Subscriptions Are Steadily Pouring In.

The campaign for Red Cross funds in the Coquille district has been in full swing this week. While a good many other localities we have seen reported were promising to oversubscribe the amount asked, Coquille and Marshfield were the only ones we learned of that accomplished that result on Tuesday, the first day of the campaign. Our Coquille committee went to work with a vim on the day and by night the returns showed that \$2,812 had been actually subscribed where our "bit" was put down at \$2,500. Our team captains and their helpers are certainly to be congratulated on getting such quick action, but the people who gave must also have had "a mind to work" in the Red Cross vineyard.

Nothing has happened during the years we have lived in Coquille which has appeared so well worthy of congratulation and commendation as this oversubscription of the Red Cross fund on the first day of the week's campaign.

Nor are we among those who feel that the knowledge of this fact will tend to quench the ardor of those who had not already been asked to contribute or dry up the springs of generosity. The Red Cross is not for a day or a year, not for a battle or a war, but for all time and any event in which human beings are suffering and in need of aid. Nor is it alone for the wounded soldiers at the front. It also looks out for their needy families at home.

If we should even double the amount asked and make it \$5,000, so much the longer will the Red Cross physicians and nurses and helpers take care of our friends—and our enemies also—on the other side of the world as well as at home.

Give, give, give, and in such a cause not will the receiver be blamed but the giver as well.

After Tuesday's successful drive here in the city and some nearby neighborhoods, Wednesday was devoted to Lee, Dora and Burton, and Thursday to localities down the river, Riverton, Fat Elk, and Conlogue's and Aasen's camps. Today Cunningham, Conledo and Beaver Hill are to be looked after, and tomorrow (Saturday) this city will be gleaned for any who have been overlooked.

Next Monday will finish the week's campaign and it is hoped that everyone who has not already enlisted in this good cause will see his way clear by that time. Among the incident's of the first day's work here on Tuesday, the following men gave \$100 each for the cause: A. J. Sherwood, L. H. Hazard, Leo J. Cary, R. E. Knowlton, R. H. Maet, George A. Robinson, J. E. Norton, E. H. Harnden, E. E. Johnson and H. W. Young.

The girls who gave their time to the work of tabulating the names and everything else in the way of clerical work at the headquarters in the Laird building are: Mildred Norton, Muriel Landrith, Maude Toates, Mary Pike, Myrtle Cunningham, Maymie DeLong, Mrs. V. L. Hamilton, Ada Downs, Davis Tyrrell, and Carol Rahskopf.

There has been some question about the wisdom of publishing at this time the statement that the Coquille district has largely oversubscribed the amount which was assigned here for the Red Cross fund. Yet it is the Sentinel's judgment that no one will decline to help swell the war fund for that organization—which under no circumstances can be too great—because we have simply done what we were asked to do. There are other localities in the state which promise to give twice what they are asked and we should feel very proud to see the Coquille district in that class. When yesterday's contributions were checked up last night and added to the previous total our bit amounted to \$3,900. It will only take \$1020 more to make it \$5000. Let's all work hard for the next three days to push the figures up to that point.

HIS HEAD WAS SEVERED

Chas. A. Walker Committed Suicide Here Yesterday Afternoon by Throwing Himself in Front of an Advancing Engine.

In a fit of melancholia from brooding over financial matters, Chas. A. Walker ended his life at 2:05 yesterday afternoon by throwing himself in front of a Southern Pacific engine.

The deed was committed just the other side of the trestle south of the Johnson mill and near the city limits.

The engine, which was running light with no cars attached, was in charge of Conductor Griggs, who was riding the pilot. As they rounded the curve he saw Mr. Walker walking the track ahead of them going toward Myrtle Point. When he heard the engine Walker looked around and having just passed the trestle, stepped off onto the path alongside the track.

When the engine reached the end of the trestle Walker was about thirty feet ahead of them. Glancing back, he saw they were close enough for his purpose and taking a little run up the incline he threw up his arms and fell crosswise of the track. His head lay outside the rail while the rest of his body was between the rails, and the wheels completely severed the head from the body.

Hair on the rail where he first struck showed that the body was pushed a couple of feet before the wheels passed over his neck.

As soon as he saw what Walker intended, Griggs gave the stop signal and the air was thrown into the emergency brakes. Griggs also shouted and the bell was ringing but it did not deter the unfortunate man from carrying out his suicidal intent.

The engine was not traveling more than eight or ten miles an hour and was stopped in three rail lengths. The engineer said he was not traveling that fast but called it that to be on the safe side.

The body was lying about 10 feet up the track from the head which was outside the rails on the path, on the opposite side from which Walker had been walking. J. J. Stanley was immediately notified and acting as coroner empaneled a coroner's jury, consisting of I. T. Weekly, A. L. Noster, E. A. Beckett, A. M. Woodford, J. L. Crosby and H. A. Young.

The train crew was questioned, Conductor Griggs and Fireman Westcott being the two who saw the act. Their testimony was as recorded above. They were then released and proceeded to Myrtle Point.

The jury then came back to Mr. Stanley's office, where they rendered a verdict exonerating the train crew from any blame in the matter and declaring that they believed Chas. Walker committed suicide by throwing himself under the wheels while in an unbalanced state of mind.

There can be little question that Walker's mind was unbalanced. J. A. Jackson testified as to his peculiarities Wednesday evening, and Dr. Jas. Richmond testified that he was suffering from melancholia. He was called to see Walker at the Bledsoe House, where the latter has had a room for years, Sunday evening by P. B. Anderson. Mr. Walker said that the best thing for all concerned was for him to be out of the way.

Last Saturday he disappeared and when he did not return for dinner or supper Mrs. Bledsoe notified Marshal Epperson who began a search for him. Sunday morning it was reported that he had gone to Myrtle Point and J. J.

Settling First Street Case.

On account of the school meeting Monday evening the regular council meeting was postponed until Tuesday evening. At that time R. O. Graves, attorney for the property owners, several of the First street people interested in the case, and Edwin Ellingsen, contractor, were present to discuss with the council the adjustment of the First street paving case in accordance with Judge Coke's instructions.

About two hours was consumed in discussing the matter with all those affected and getting their viewpoints. The council then decided to set the final disposition of the case, as far as the city was concerned, at the next regular meeting, Monday, July 2.

Owing to the stress of other affairs, both public and private the Coquille Military Reserve has decided to hold drills only once a week—each Tuesday evening. Now let those who could not spare the time three evenings a week show their interest by making these Tuesday drills one of great interest and large attendance.

PICNIC DINNER AT FAIRVIEW

A combination of Red Cross, church preparation and picnic dinner at Fairview last Saturday proved too strong a temptation to be resisted and about a dozen Coquille business men accompanied the Simpson party from the Bay out to the school house there.

The ladies of Fairview have been raising funds for some time with which to build a church, and having nearly enough to buy the material, they invited the men Saturday to a picnic dinner, the rest of the time being spent in getting the site across the road from the school house in shape for building.

The dinner, for which Coquille provided strawberries, was one of those homelike, informal affairs, where everyone wanted to continue eating after they knew they should stop.

After the spread under the fir L. J. Simpson made an excellent talk on the origin, purpose and necessities of the Red Cross. He knew his subject and handled it well and many were the promises of support at its close. Those promises were promptly kept when the Red Cross committee solicited funds in that valley on Wednesday.

Red Cross Benefit Dance.

The Coquille Honor Guard girls subscribed \$250 to the Red Cross fund here, and have made arrangements for a benefit dance for that cause on Saturday evening of next week, June 30. The dance will take place at Headlet Hall and guests are expected from all over the county. It is sure to be one of the big social events of the season.

The girls are loud in their praise of the generosity of those whose assistance they had to have in giving this dance. The Coquille Band especially is to be commended for the patriotic spirit they manifested in offering absolutely free the music for the dance. Beside that the hall rent is nothing, the printing was donated, and they feel they can make a week's strenuous effort in selling tickets, every cent from which sale will go to the coffers of the American Red Cross for the relief of wounded and stricken soldiers and sailors.

Busy Corner Ablaze.

An incipient blaze at the Busy Corner Wednesday was extinguished with chemicals before it had done any damage except to burn the shingles off a space two feet square. It occurred on the roof of the warehouse at the rear of the store about 30 or 40 minutes after a train had passed and it is supposed a hot cinder smoldered on the dry roof for that time, protected from the wind by a wooden bulkhead, before blazing up. Clarence Tuttle discovered the blaze and it was smothered out without calling the fire department.

Not Much But Hot Air.

In the case of the West Coast Development Co., of Bandon, which was up for hearing in the Circuit court here Monday Elbert Dyer of that company testified that \$50,000 of the stock of the company had been issued, that \$50,000 of this was issued as promoters stock and that about \$600 was paid for the other \$50,000. In other words \$50,000 in hot air was ballasted by \$600 in cash.

McNary on Good Committees.

Washington dispatches say United States Senator McNary, of Oregon, has been appointed to senate committees on public lands, Indian affairs, irrigation, public health, Philippines, manufactures and Pacific railroads and commerce. The first three named committees have to do with Oregon interests.

The only business done by the County court here at its session Wednesday was to order two new road improvement projects advertised—one at Bunker Hill on the Marshfield road and the other between Coos City and Sumner. The court will hold another meeting next week.

Better Wrappers and Trespass Signs at the Sentinel Office.

Call on us for Stationery.

CRUSHED BY TREE

Clifford Laird, of Sitkum, Victim of Fatal Accident Yesterday Morning.

Clifford Laird, the 17-year old son of James D. Laird, of Sitkum, was struck by a falling tree at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and almost instantly killed.

He and his brother Ivan were slashing up the hill and across the river about a quarter of a mile from the house. They were cutting large alders with a cross cut saw when a large tree which leaned down hill broke and split before the saw had gone through the trunk. A large piece of log struck back knocking Clifford down and pinning him to the ground.

Ivan exerted the last ounce of strength he had and managed to raise the log slightly but not enough to clear Clifford who was unconscious and could not crawl from under. The older brother then took his axe and chopped through the log and released Clifford.

Picking him up Ivan started down the hill but when Clifford gave a couple of gasps he thought he was dying, as he probably was, and laid him down while he ran to the creek for a hatful of water. When he got back Clifford was dead.

Dr. Hamilton was summoned from here and although Walter Crook took him out there in an hour and a half there was nothing he could do.

The funeral was held this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Dora cemetery.

The victim of this sad accident was a large, well developed young man, although he would not have been 17 until next month. His father had just recently turned the management of the ranch over to him and he was starting at it in a way which insured success.

It was a terrible blow to the entire family, his father and mother being crushed by their loss.

His elder brother was summoned from Roseburg and arrived home yesterday afternoon. Besides those mentioned he leaves a younger brother, three sisters, a number of other relatives and a host of friends all over the Coquille valley who mourn his untimely passing. He was esteemed and respected in an unusually high way for one of his years.

Some Mammoth Berries.

Since we mentioned last week those Kerrigan strawberries, of which eight laid side by side measured a foot in length, more returns have been coming and the majority has been considerably increased. Bert Seal doesn't often let anyone get by him when it comes to big berries and he brought in some Magoons that were whoppers and just as toothsome as they were immense. On our office table eight of them reached the length of an 18-inch rule, averaging two and a quarter inches across. The next day A. B. Dean—another Bert—came to the bat with a box it took only 12 berries to fill. Six of them made a line 12 1/2 inches long and nine filled the length of the 18-inch rule. Coquille is revealing now in the finest berries the world ever saw.

Ten Gallons of Ethyl Alcohol.

Last Saturday Constable Zimmerman brought down from Powers A. M. Zevary, who was indicted at last week's session of the grand jury for introducing liquor into the state. His bond was fixed at \$500 which he was unable to furnish, so he was committed to jail. The booze he shipped in consisted of ten gallons of ethyl alcohol, which is said to make a superior brand of coffin varnish.

McNary on Good Committees.

Washington dispatches say United States Senator McNary, of Oregon, has been appointed to senate committees on public lands, Indian affairs, irrigation, public health, Philippines, manufactures and Pacific railroads and commerce. The first three named committees have to do with Oregon interests.

The only business done by the County court here at its session Wednesday was to order two new road improvement projects advertised—one at Bunker Hill on the Marshfield road and the other between Coos City and Sumner. The court will hold another meeting next week.

Better Wrappers and Trespass Signs at the Sentinel Office.

Call on us for Stationery.