

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS THE COUNTY SEAT NEWS

VOL. XL NO. 24

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1914.

\$1.50 THE YEAR.

## REACHED \$5,000

### Coquille District Gave \$2 to Red Cross for Every One That Was Asked.

The reports from the Red Cross headquarters in Washington indicate that the \$100,000,000 asked by the President to be donated during the week from June 18 to June 25, was oversubscribed by \$10,000,000. In view of the fact that everyone knows if the war continues another year, there must be further contributions, this was a splendid exhibition of the American people's patriotism and of the humanitarian principles which never fail of expression when a righteous appeal is made.

In the Coquille district the response was much more spontaneous and hearty than those in charge of the campaign had anticipated.

The executive committee had notified the county committee that Coquille and vicinity would probably give \$4,000. But when the total was made up Monday evening it was found that the \$2,500 quota had been just doubled with \$7.30 for good measure.

The total was a trifle shy of the \$5,000 when the last possibility had been canvassed, but a \$10 contribution by the Knights of Pythias and another for \$25 by the Commercial Club put it over.

Not only did the Coquille section double her allotment, but Coos and Curry counties, with \$18,000 asked, practically doubled that amount with a total of \$36,028.30.

Of this Marshfield subscribed \$9,466.35; North Bend, \$9,008.00; Myrtle Point, \$3,000; Bandon, \$8,265.10; Powers, \$2,538.45; Coquille, \$5,007.50; and Curry county \$2,743.10.

North Bend ranked highest in percentage of over-subscription, giving three times the \$3000 requested of her.

The cash receipts in the Coquille district were \$1401.80, being 28 per cent of the total amount subscribed. The balance is payable in four equal installments—July 1, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, and Oct. 1.

It is probable that an auxiliary of the Marshfield chapter of the Red Cross will be formed in Coquille soon, all those who expressed a wish for \$1 of their contributions to be applied, constituting the membership.

There were 614 separate subscriptions made. Of these Team A—F. E. McKenna captain—secured 163, or a quarter; Team B—A. T. Morrison captain—61; Team C—W. H. Lyons captain—81; Team D—Chas. Barter captain—89; Team E—Dr. C. W. Endicott captain—114; Executive committee—L. H. Hazard, J. E. Norton and Leo J. Cary—106.

The subscriptions secured by the various teams were as follows: Executive, \$2,270.25; A, \$591.05; B, \$391.00; C, \$386.00; D, \$475.00; E, \$724.00.

Mr. J. E. Norton, chairman of the Red Cross executive committee for the Coquille district is in receipt of the following appreciative letter from the committee for Coos and Curry counties:

"In this time of triumph and felicitation on the tremendous success of the Red Cross Drive for funds in Coquille, the undersigned Executive Committee for Coos and Curry counties take great pleasure in acknowledging the splendid and effective work done by your organization.

"Never has more gallant work been done in a noble cause. Coquille's answer of 'Two to one' to the President's request for funds is typical of the splendid spirit of your people. We would be pleased, indeed, if you would use any means in your power to express to your contributors the satisfaction of our committee for the receptive attitude and the generous manner in which they supported this worthy cause. It will always be a source of satisfaction to them to feel that they have so promptly placed upon the battlefields of France their quota for relief work.

"We feel highly honored to have been selected for this great humanitarian work, and are receiving much commendation for its successful outcome. However, we take great pleasure in making acknowledgment to your patriotic and tireless committee for the splendid success in your locality, thus placing the honor where it belongs.

"You will please to convey to your co-operators the appreciation of this committee. Your greatest satisfac-

tion will be in having done a service for your country and the boys in uniform who are going forth to fight our battles. We can well indulge in a feeling of satisfaction when we know 'our bit' has been contributed to make our boys comfortable if disaster should overtake them. Sincerely yours, Geo. E. Dix, J. T. Brand, Hugh McLain, L. J. Simpson, Chairman, Chas. Hall."

### Myrtle Point Drive.

Mrs. W. T. Demest, wife of our former county commissioner, made the best record as a Red Cross solicitor at Myrtle Point. She obtained \$778 from 112 people and was refused by four.

Here are the facts as to the other team captains as shown by the report made to the Coos and Curry committee:

Dr. O. H. Clarke, South Fork of Coquille River, solicited \$459.00 from 50 subscribers, donation refused by one person.

Mrs. P. W. Laird, West Myrtle Point to Arago, solicited \$454.00 from 47 subscribers, donation refused by one person.

Don Snyder, East and North Myrtle Point, solicited \$372.50 from 90 persons.

J. O. Stemmler, of Myrtle Point to Bridge and vicinity, solicited \$264.75 from 68 persons.

Rev. Thomas Barlow, West Myrtle Point and Catching creek, solicited \$141.95 from 41 persons.

Dr. Pemberton, Norway and vicinity, solicited \$332.50 from 57 persons.

E. C. Roberts, North Fork and vicinity, solicited \$305.70 from 65 persons.

The above named captains were aided by their respective committee members.

## DRAFT COMES NEXT MONTH

In computing the number of men to be drafted in this State the percentage of the total number of men registered in Oregon as compared with the total number in the entire country will be the basis. For instance, if the total draft registration in the United States were 10 millions that would be one in ten of our total population of our 100 millions; and a call for a million men would take just one in ten of the number registered. It will not work out exactly that way, as some states have more men of military age in proportion to population than others.

Again the number of men enlisted in the National Guard in any county in this State will be deducted from the number to be drafted.

Assuming that Oregon has 70,000 available young men and will have to contribute 7,000 for a draft of a million, she has also 4,115 men enrolled in the National Guard, which is considerably more than half that number. And if Coos county has to contribute one in 100 of her population, or 200 men, she will be credited with the 90 members of the Coast Artillery company at Marshfield and there will be only 116 men to draw.

Coquille, however, from which at least a dozen young men have volunteered, will get no credit on that account, and whether the 18 or 20 will be reduced half on account of the Marshfield company we are not informed. As it is the draft would take about ten of our citizens—though if the draft is made with the whole county as the unit, there might be more or less than that number taken from here as a matter of blind chance.

### Coos and Curry Fair.

We are in receipt of the Premium List for the Sixth Annual Exhibition of the Coos and Curry Fair Association which will be held at Myrtle Point beginning Wednesday, September 12 and continuing until Saturday night of that week. Send for a copy of this list to the secretary at Myrtle Point and plan to exhibit some of the best things you are growing this summer.

### Work Begins on Power Line.

Work was begun yesterday morning on the construction of the Oregon Power company's high potency line to Marshfield. The first post hole was dug on Taylor street, across from the Sentinel office. This work will keep quite a bunch of men busy for the next sixty days.

Buy your season tickets now for the Chautauque, July 15 to 22. Price \$2.50 for adults.

## P. C. LEVAR DEAD RETURN MONEY

### Former Herald Editor, Passed Away at Eureka Last Tuesday Morning.

Ward was received here just afternoon on Tuesday that P. C. Levar had passed away at 11 o'clock that morning at Eureka, California, only a little more than 24 hours after leaving Coquille in hopes of finding improvement by a change of climate.

As there would be no other boat to Coos Bay until the return of the Breakwater from San Francisco, it was not expected that Mrs. Levar could return with his remains until Sunday and the date of the funeral is not yet settled, though it will be held at Marshfield under the auspices of the Knights of Pythias lodge there of which he was a member.

Perry Chase Levar was born in Maine 37 years ago, and came to Oregon with his father, John Levar, who quite young. The family were among the early settlers of Coos county and the subject of this sketch grew up in the Coos Bay section where most of his life was spent.

In early manhood he was employed as a book-keeper in one of the lumber mills on the bay. Later he engaged in the printing business in the Willamette valley. In the year 1906 he returned to Coos county and became the proprietor of the weekly Coast Mail at Marshfield, which he later made a daily. In 1908 he sold that paper and started the Coos Bay Monthly, an ambitious attempt in the line of the eastern magazines. This was not a success, however.

Mr. Levar came to Coquille early in 1913 and took charge of the Herald, which he continued to edit and publish until two months ago.

He had pronounced opinions of his own on all subjects of public interest and never lacked the courage to express them whether they were popular or not. In matters of business he was always perfectly square and he never failed to meet his obligations, with it was possible to do so.

He kept at work as long as his strength lasted and might perhaps have lived longer had he been less determined to keep going. From the time he got out of the newspaper business he failed steadily in health and his friends saw that he had not long to live, though he talked hopefully about going to California and getting better not more than ten days ago.

He was carried to the train Monday morning on a cot, and went over to Marshfield where, accompanied by Mrs. Levar, he took passage for California. That it was his last journey we all felt, and it was not unexpected when the word came that he had died at Eureka the next morning.

His devoted wife and daughter, Mary, have the sympathy of the entire community in their irreparable loss.

### Much Work Ahead.

E. E. Johnson returned from Portland last Friday evening with another good sized contract for lumber safely tucked away. Mr. Johnson says that with the local orders which are continually coming in he now has enough contracts to keep the mill here running steadily until next April. All of which listens good to Coquille. It means lots of outside money coming in to be spent in this section.

While up there Mr. Johnson also purchased another donkey engine for Crane's camp.

### Mrs. Pendleton Buys Scenic.

Last Saturday the Scenic theatre here changed hands. Mr. Levar disposing of it to Mrs. Mary Pendleton, who is going right along with it, as if she had been cut out for that business. We are sure the new proprietress will cater as carefully to the amusement seeking public as her predecessor had done and that the popularity of the Scenic will be maintained under her management.

### The Draft Board.

The board who will have charge of the selective draft here next month will be the same as looked after the registration—Sheriff Gage, County Clerk Oddy and County Health Officer Richmond. The state officers will oversee this business and decide as to whether those on whom the choice falls are most needed at home or at the front in Europe.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.00.

## County Ordered to Refund \$156,925 to the Southern Oregon Successors.

At last the Southern Oregon company, is going to be permitted to withdraw the moneys which it placed in the hands of the officials of Coos county in 1913 and 1914, to guarantee the payment of the taxes which it then owed Coos county, if the courts decided its title to the Coos Bay Watson Road grant lands was good, but which it was not willing to pay if the government reclaimed the lands.

Since the late decision by the U. S. Supreme court directing the O. & C. to refund all interest in its grant lands beyond \$2.50 an acre, it has become evident that the same order would be made as to the wagon road grant lands.

So Judge Skipworth has filed in the county offices here a decree directed to County Treasurer Dismick, commanding him to make out a warrant for the Flanagan & Bennett Bank for \$156,925 with interest at two per cent annually a part from Jan. 1, 1913, and a part from Mar. 31, 1914, to favor of the Menasha Woodware company as successor to the Southern Oregon company. Also to issue a warrant on the First National Bank of Coos Bay for \$98,209.17, with interest at the same rate running partly from Jan. 1, 1913, and partly from March 27, 1915.

The decree further directs these banks to pay the amount of these warrants to the Menasha Woodware company on presentation.

This means, of course, that Coos county will have to look to the United States government when it reclaims the lands of the wagon road grant in this county, for the payment of these taxes, the same as the county is now doing in relation to the O. & C. taxes for several years past.

The \$156,925.05 covered by this decree has been on deposit in the banks named as "county funds," and they have been paying the county interest on it while they have been using it.

### Roadmaster Is Designated.

At the June session of the County Court the 6th inst. a resolution was adopted, in view of the vote at the bond election last year in regard to using a part of the funds then voted in the improvement of the Coquille-Bandon road, declaring the intention of the court to alter, change and establish the Coquille-Lampa portion of that road 60 feet in width from its beginning opposite this city to a point near Lampa. The resolution further provides that proceedings under it will be heard at the August term of the court August 3, 1917, at the County Court room in Coquille.

At an adjourned meeting of the court held on Wednesday of this week, the 27th inst., referring to the foregoing resolution it is further stated: "It appearing that the court is required to designate the County Roadmaster, or County Surveyor or duly qualified deputy to post such copies of said resolution; it is therefore ordered that R. B. Murdock, county road master, be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to post copies of a resolution of the County Court" relocating, altering and changing the Coquille-Lampa creek road."

Back of this, of course, are differences of long standing between the court and the county surveyor and some recent events and publications at the Bay that may result in "carrying the war into Africa."

### Judge Watson Purchasing Agent

The county court made an order Wednesday installing the requisition system and made Judge Watson the purchasing agent for the court. He will make the purchases for all the county offices except where it is otherwise provided by law. This order will go into effect next Monday, July 1.

The milk receipts at the Creamery here now are running over 19,000 pounds per day—19,220 yesterday to be exact. In addition about 1500 pounds of cream is coming in daily. The pay checks for milk and cream according to the pay roll now being made out will amount to about \$16,500 for the month of June.

Buy your season tickets now for the Chautauque, July 15 to 22. Price \$2.50 for adults.

### Rebuilding the Road.

Steady progress is being made on the Coquille end of the road to Fairview which is being improved on force account by the County Court, with Roadmaster Murdock superintending the work. For most of the way between the Henry street bridge and the Watson barn it has been closed to travel, though a way has been kept open across to the T bridge for outside travel. Two of the old bridges over the draws near the Barrow and the Fred Noeler residences have been torn out and fills made in place of them. The same is true of the third and higher one, where the fill is not yet completed. Across the deep ravine at the Watson barn an entirely new bridge with pile driven logs for supports is being put in, which looks as if it might last a long time. It is building just west of the old one, so that traffic will not be interrupted. A temporary road curves out to the east where the deep fill is being made, and one wonders why the road was not laid out there in the first place to evade the draw.

### Dance for Red Cross.

The Honor Guard girls have been working hard this week to make their dance tomorrow (Saturday) evening for the benefit of the Red Cross a huge success. And the present indications are that it will be. Visitors from all over the Coquille valley are expected and the girls are sparing no effort to afford everyone the most enjoyable evening they ever spent. The music by the Coquille band will leave nothing to be desired on that score and the girls of the Honor Guard will keep things moving smoothly. Be there.

## OUR TROOPS REACH FRANCE

The arrival of the second detachment of General Pershing's command at a port "somewhere in France," on Wednesday of this week is thus told in an associated press dispatch of the 25th:

The second contingent of United States troops arrived and were disembarked here this morning. The men landed amidst the frantic cheering of the great crowds which had gathered at the piers for hours before arrival of the transports in anticipation of a repetition of the surprise of yesterday when the first contingent reached French soil. Enthusiasm among the thousands at the piers rose to fever pitch when it was learned that the United States transports had successfully passed the submarine zone, and the port was speedily flagged in honor of the occasion. The stars and stripes were everywhere flaunting in the breeze.

Enroute the transports were accompanied by a convoy of destroyers which scouted every square rod of ocean surface for miles around the ships bearing the troops which are destined to bear such an important part in the world war.

All troops that have arrived here have been transferred to a camp not far distant, where Major-General Wm. L. Sibert, U. S. A., is installed, and from thence will probably soon go to a point near the fighting front in northern France. All of the Americans are in excellent form and eager for action. The men are distinctly pleased with the enthusiastic reception given them by the French people, and the streets are thronged this afternoon with bluejackets of the navy and khaki clad soldiers of the U. S. army. Every consideration known to the courteous French is being shown the men.

### One Carries; Other Falls.

The school district Boundary Board met here Wednesday. This board consists of the members of the county court and the county school superintendent. Their business this week was to canvass the votes of the two elections held recently to decide as to proposed consolidations. The proposition for the Allegany district, No. 1, to unite with Coos River Consolidated, No. 36, received a majority in both districts and will be put into effect. The Allegany pupils will all be taken to and from the school by boat on the Millicoma and Coos rivers.

The second proposition was for the union of districts No. 2 and 78, Locust Grove on the South Fork with Broadbent four miles above Myrtle Point. The vote of Broadbent was favorable but Locust Grove defeated the measure by its adverse vote.

## MUST PAY TAXES

### Judge Skipworth's Decision in the Kinney Case Has Been Filed.

For twelve years or more what are known as the Kinney properties over at the Bay have been delinquent in their taxes and four years ago a tax foreclosure suit was begun to force their payment by the publication of a tax summons in the Marshfield Record.

This tract lies on the peninsula south of North Bend and northwest of Marshfield and includes hundreds of acres of land and perhaps thousands of town lots directly in the line of growth of these cities. Major L. D. Kinney, who fathered the speculation in this tract became land poor, sunk under the burden, was sent to the insane asylum at Salem where he died not long ago.

Meanwhile a Butherlin capitalist, F. B. Waite, became the principal creditor of the Kinney estate, and the one who must lift the burden if it were raised. He attempted two years ago to make a compromise with the County court when the county's dues as taxes, penalties and costs on the tract amounted to about \$60,000. What he asked was to have all the penalties taken off and to have the interest reduced to six per cent in lieu of the legal rate. The court did not see fit to make one rate for the rich speculator and another for the poor home owner, and so the matter had dragged along until the county's claim is probably not less than \$80,000.

The case has been in Judge Skipworth's hands for nearly a year, with the attorneys of Mr. Waite using every resource and artifice to stave off a decision. Indeed it has been announced time and again that a purchaser had been found for the tract who would shortly appear and liquidate those long due taxes.

But the man with the dough never materialized and on last Monday the long awaited decision was filed in the county clerk's office here, in favor of the county.

The attorneys for the mortgagees have sixty days in which to perfect an appeal; but as an appeal involves the paying into court of the whole amount the county has sued for it is not anticipated that the case will ever go to the Supreme court. And the only way the interested parties can get out without an appeal is to pay over the entire amount of \$80,000 or thereabouts to the county treasury.

In case they lie down the county can go on and sell all the properties in September; and there appears to be small question that enough can be realized from the sale to settle the score for taxes.

This is a situation on which the people of the county and especially the prosecutor who has steadfastly fought the case through—L. A. Liljequist—are to be most heartily congratulated.

One feature, however, remains to be noted, and that is that the decision bars the county from recovering all amounts paid for publication of the tax summonses above ten cents for each description. It is estimated that this will make a difference of \$3,000 on the amount charged against the tract in the pending case, but it in no wise affects the county's right to go on and sell for the taxes and other charges against the tract.

In rendering his decision in this case Judge Skipworth thus states the points made by the attorneys for the Kinney properties:

First: That the assessment upon which the tax certificates were based were false, arbitrary and unfair and was not made according to the value of the property assessed, and was grossly in excess of the market value of said property, and in making said assessment the assessor did not use his best judgment but assessed all lots in the same addition alike without reference to their actual size, location or value; that he did not examine nor view the property nor make any effort to ascertain its value, but assessed said property in an arbitrary and illegal manner.

Second: That there is included in the certificates large sums as costs and advertising charges which are illegal and without warrant of law; and

Third: That no proper or legal summons was ever issued nor served

(Continued on third page.)