

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS THE COUNTY SEAT NEWS

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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1917.

\$1.50 THE YEAR.

## NOTHING DOING

The Investigation Committee on the Road Business Stalled Here Monday.

At the meeting of the delegates from the cities of Coos county at the court house here last Monday to take up the proposed investigation of the road expenditures and engineering in this county, the following representatives were present: Peter Loggie, North Bend; H. J. Kimball, Marshfield; Leo J. Cary, Coquille; Claud Giles, Myrtle Point; E. J. Loney, Powers; I. N. Miller, Bandon.

They organized by electing E. J. Loney, of Powers, as chairman, and Leo J. Cary, of Coquille, as secretary. After going into it pretty thoroughly, the meeting figured out that it would take \$800 to engage an expert engineer and accountant to make a thorough investigation, and that if only a superficial investigation was made it would be useless. They reported back to the Coos County Good Roads Association to this effect and left it up to President Hall and his officials to decide whether to go ahead and as to how the money should be raised.

Roadmaster Murdock was called in to answer some questions on which information was desired.

Mr. Giles, representing the section from which the demand for an investigation had come, was asked to state their grievances. He made no specific accusations but pointed out that Pink Laird, of Myrtle Point, had been one of the best road builders in that section, and had been discharged by Mr. Murdock.

Mr. Murdock explained that Mr. Laird had absolutely violated instructions and instead of utilizing his district fund so that the whole road could be maintained for the year, he had expended all the money in graveling only a portion of it. He said that insubordination could not be countenanced and the committee agreed with him.

Then Mr. Giles complained of the large number of engineers on the payroll. Mr. Murdock did not disclaim any responsibility in this case

Project	Amount	Spent	Per cent	To be spent	Per cent
Coquille-Marshfield	\$149,980	\$50,937	34	\$99,042	66
Bandon-Curry Co	86,198	11,433	17	54,765	83
Coquille-Myrtle Point	47,580	8,517	18	39,063	82
Coquille-Bandon	49,648	3,367	7	46,281	93
Coos Bay-North	61,026	11,619	19	49,407	81
Special Fund	3,882	521	15	2,862	85
Total	\$377,814	\$86,394	23	\$291,420	77

but stated that the State Highway Commission had adopted a road plan as to grades, width and curvature, and required that these be in accordance with their own engineer's supervision or otherwise the commission would not consider them as state projects entitled to hard surfacing.

A complaint was entered from J. Larson that a force of engineers had spent considerable time on the North Inlet-Glasgow road project, only to find when they had completed the job that the engineer's instrument had been out of condition and all the work was wrong. Mr. Murdock said that this was something he knew nothing whatever about and had had nothing to do with.

I. N. Miller, entered complaint from Bandon that the county was paying 25 cents per yard for crushed rock at the government rock quarry—a price twice too high.

Mr. Murdock said that although he had supervision of the Bandon road he had never ordered rock bought and never O. K'd a bill for it and consequently the report must be wrong.

Someone entered a protest about the South Inlet road work, quoting F. P. Norton to the effect that the old road grade could have been cut and the highway hard-surfaced for what it cost to grade the new winding road.

Mr. Murdock said that this was not true. He said that the grading of the new road totalled about \$500 more than the grading of the old road, but the new highway was more scenic and the cost of maintenance would be less than the old one. He also pointed out that the right of way was given free by L. J. Simpson.

Mr. Giles, of Myrtle Point, objected to the Grant Smith Co. force account contracts. He said that he understood that the company was "stringing" the work because they were being paid eight per cent on the total

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## The New Shingle Mill

D. D. Pierce informs us this morning that he expects to be making shingle within 30 days at the new mill he and W. L. Clark, of the box factory firm of Clark & Callaghan, are building on Goshing creek four miles above Myrtle Point on the B. Bartlett ranch. Most of the machinery has arrived, the engine has been set and the building will soon be finished. Mr. Pierce says that the prospects for this enterprise are most flattering. They have secured timber enough immediately contiguous to the mill to suffice to keep it running for ten years. The first year's output is already contracted for.

The capacity of the mill is from 35 to 40 thousand shingles a day. Shipments will be made either from Myrtle Point or from a railroad siding two and a half miles from the mill. Altogether the success of the new enterprise appears to be assured from the start. A. H. Powers says he knows of no better location for such a mill than the one selected.

Superintendent Landreth says there are only 14 people at the County Infirmary now. Prohibition seems to have cut down the attendance there.

Our Myrtle Point correspondent could not come across with his usual newspaper thoroughness this week for reasons unexplained.

## BOND FUND REPORT

The financial report of the Roadmaster made for August first contains some very interesting and instructive figures.

From it we learn that the amount available for the five road projects of the county to be constructed from the road bond fund, is \$377,811. The road bond fund itself was \$262,006, and the additional \$115,805 comes from the premium paid for the bonds and the accrued interest on the bonds at the time they were sold.

The following table shows the total amount available for each project; the amount already expended and its percentage of the total; the amount remaining in each fund and likewise its percentage of the total:

Project	Amount Available	Amount Expended	Per cent Expended	Amount Remaining	Per cent Remaining
Coquille-Marshfield	\$149,980	\$50,937	34	\$99,042	66
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The fact that less than a quarter of the road bond fund had been expended up to the first of the month might be taken to indicate that road work is dragging in this county; but such is not the case. July was the first month in which full time had been put in, and with good weather this month and next the statement for October first will show a surprising change in all the projects except the Coquille-Bandon road, on which only engineering work has yet been done and where it may be that nothing further will be done until the war is over. In all but one of these projects it is only expected to put the roads on line and grade with the amount of funds available. On the Bandon South line, however, there will be \$25,000 of these funds available for surfacing after the grade has been finished.

## Doesn't Depend on Locks.

In order to obviate the possibility of another jail delivery until there has been an opportunity to make the locks there secure, Sheriff Gage has employed Lee Goodman as night watchman, thus making his charges absolutely secure.

The contractor for the jail equipment when it was put in offered to give \$100 to any man who got out in 24 hours and the sheriff is willing to give Raicy and Weidner a chance to win that money if the offer was anything more than hot air.

## Neil Watson To Be Married.

Mrs. Jennie Landreth, of this city, announces the coming marriage of her daughter, Miss Helen Landreth, to Neil Watson, of Coos City, to take place some time during September. Miss Landreth is among the well known young ladies of the Coos Bay country, having been reared on North Coos river, and taught school for a number of years, a portion of the time in Marshfield.—Coos Bay Times.

## LASTS FULL WEEK IT IS SPLIT 50-50

Much Business Transacted by County Court at Its Recent August Session.

The following are notes of the proceedings of the August meeting of the county court, which lasted from Wednesday, the first, until Tuesday, the sixth—a full week.

Lewis Aasen appeared and asked the court to match dollars with the people over in the Arago neighborhood where he lives in graveling the roads. The court agreed and told him to get the signers on his list.

The wages of the crew of the ferry steamer, Transit, which runs between Marshfield and Eastside, were raised. As there is a night service the boat has two captains and two engineers, who are to get \$3 a day in place of \$75 a month as before. The dock hands are to get \$2 a day instead of \$40 a month. They said they would have to quit if they couldn't get more but would stay by the ship in any event until Capt. Alex Hall, who has recently undergone an operation, was able to return to duty.

The application of the upper Two-mile section near Bandon for \$300 more to complete their road on which \$700 has already been spent was granted.

It was decided to advertise for the two miles of macadam agreed to be applied to the Sunset Bay road, where the sand is the worst.

The galley of Norman Wilson, the ferryman at Bullards, was increased to \$150 a month on condition that he keep the ferry, which has heretofore been free only until 6 p. m., running until midnight during the months of June, July, August, September, and October if the tide runs continue passable.

A refund of \$102.95 was made to the Coos Bay Investment Co., on account of an erroneous charge when a tax deed was issued by the sheriff, the property having been sold twice on the same proceeding.

The Buehner Lumber Co. was notified to repair the railroad crossing it had damaged at Lakeside, where a wagon was recently wrecked. This company has appropriated a public road from Lakeside to Eel Lake for its logging road.

Delegates from Myrtle Point asked for county aid in graveling a county road at the west end of Maple street near the depot. The city proposed to put up \$250; Binger Hermann, as the owner of abutting property would pay \$200, and the county was asked for \$250. This was allowed, to be paid when the work is completed. The S. P. railroad will gravel its own portion of that street.

Under the widows' pension law as amended at the last session of the legislature, in order to secure pensions for her children, the widow must present certificates showing the birth of the children and proofs of the death of the husband and father. Also affirmative evidence that they did not enter the state as paupers, and show 3 years' residence in the state and one in the county. Nor can pensions begin running until after an order by the court. They cannot be dated back.

Under this statute the applicants for such pensions at this time were given time to make the required proof, and meantime the following monthly allowances were granted from the indigent fund:

Irene Reese, of Bandon, \$25.  
Mrs. Thomas Rookard, of Bridge, \$10.

Mrs. Emily Wirth, of Copston, \$10.  
Hans L. Christianson was allowed to redeem lots in Marshfield on payment of interest, penalties and costs.

R. H. Coshun, of Seattle, was allowed a refund of \$23.12 on account of double assessment.

The residents of Parkersburg presented a petition for a road running from that place up on the hill to the west of it.

No bids having been received for the graveling of the Bandon-South road, it was decided to do the work on force account. This is a bond account project and the county will need to quarry 8000 yards of rock to complete it.

A dollar apiece was distributed the other day to the firemen and volunteers who went out to Cedar Point a couple of weeks ago to put out the fire at the log dump there. The Smith Lumber Company put up for the boys

and a big bond, which it was hoped would bar indiscriminate competition.

The mayor, who opposed the passage of the ordinance last year because it would have imposed a license fee on every truck or car which might bring a paid passenger into town, said that such a fee on jitneys, stages and cars for hire for passengers exclusively, would be all right and told the jitney men if they would present their wishes to the ordinance committee, of which C. R. Barrow is chairman, a special meeting would be called to consider the amendment of the old ordinance, or the enactment of a new one.

City Attorney Stanley expressed himself confident that such an ordinance could be enforced.

The Runaways Came Back. The question whether the men, Raicy and Weidner, who made so sensational a departure from the county jail a couple of weeks ago, would "come back" for trial as they promised, was settled sooner than anyone anticipated when they came back last Saturday and surrendered themselves to the sheriff and gave him the key with which they made their getaway.

Since then they have requested permission to be permitted to go out and work on the roads. Whether this request can legally be granted is now the question.

## CHURCHES TO UNITE

The Quarterly Conference of the M. E. Church South here last Tuesday evening was one of the most important in its history. A proposition was presented from the M. E. Church for a federation of the two churches.

The proposition came as the unanimous desire of the M. E. people and there wasn't a dissenting voice raised by the people of the M. E. South church, though it was the opinion of the latter that in order to allay all factional feeling and to make union more perfect and harmonious the pastor for the united church should be some man who has never been pastor of either.

The two churches will maintain their individual organization only so far as their reports to contributions for and connections with the conferences of the two churches are concerned—and, of course, it is well known that plans for a union of these conferences have been underway for some time and will probably be consummated in the near future.

Locally the federation agreed upon will mean that the preaching services will be held in the M. E. church South, and that the two Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues and prayer meetings will be united. Some meetings will be held in the M. E. church for the time being, for insurance reasons if no other. One of the parsonages will be rented and the proceeds applied for the payment of the pastor's salary.

As the conference year of one of the churches ends within about a month, and the other in two months, it is expected to effect the proposed union very shortly.

There will be another meeting at the M. E. Church South next Monday or Tuesday evening to perfect the details of the federation.

## Going to Crater Lake.

Sunday afternoon W. C. Chase, A. N. Gould, C. E. Schroeder and Albert Schroeder are going to start for Crater Lake in Mr. Gould's car. They will go out to Dillard's that day, then on to Medford on Monday and up to the Lake Tuesday. The Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias is going to have a unique initiation ceremony on Wizard Island in the lake which will be attended by members from all over the State and will be a memorable event. Jap Yoakam may also go out from here in his car taking Frank Burkholder and two other pilgrims.

J. S. Lawrence brought up the matter of having the city charter put in book form, the Supreme court library requiring a copy of the charter under a recent law. The matter was left with the ordinance committee.

A bill from the Longston Construction Co. for \$1112 for sidewalks recently built in the "Second and other streets improvement district" was left over until an adjourned meeting Wednesday evening when the council allowed 80 per cent of the bill, or \$890.

The jitney and stage drivers were present Monday evening to ask that a \$10 license fee and a bond of \$1500 or \$2000 be required from every car operating stages for hire in or into the city. Several of the councilmen took this occasion to remind the drivers that such a law was enacted by the council a year ago and that practically everyone of them prepared to resist its enforcement. The jitney men objected to the \$25 fee of the present law and wanted a \$10 license

The deer hunting season will open next Wednesday, Aug. 15 and close on October 15.

## COUNTY SCHOOLS

Summary of the Annual Report of County Superintendent Raymond E. Baker.

County School Superintendent Raymond E. Baker has favored the Sentinel with a copy of his annual report for the year ending June 18, from which we gather the following information:

Number of persons over four and under twenty years of age, 6761, of whom 3430 are boys and 3331 are girls.

Number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of the county, 4768, of whom 2258 are boys and 2510 are girls. Though there are fewer girls than boys more of them attend school. In fact two-thirds of the boys are enrolled and three-quarters of the girls.

The number of pupils by grades is as follows: First, 744; Second, 686; Third, 595; Fourth, 504; Fifth, 472; Sixth, 428; Seventh, 362; Eighth, 301; Ninth, 186; Tenth, 168; Eleventh, 147; Twelfth, 86. The striking fact here is the dropping out at the end of the Eighth grade, only 61 per cent of those graduating from that grade entering high school.

The number of teachers employed in the county is 248, of whom 46 are men and 202 women. One man and 51 women hold Normal school certificates. Eighteen men and seven women are college graduates.

The number of pupils who completed the Eighth grade work during the year was 277, of whom 119 were boys and 158 girls.

The average number of days taught during the year was 145%. The whole number of days' attendance during the year was 649,180%. The number of days' absence of enrolled pupils was 36,948%. The average daily attendance was 446, and the per cent of attendance 94.

The number of organized districts in the county is 84, with 104 schoolhouses, of which 97 were in operation during the year. Two new school houses were built.

Twenty-four districts had nine months' school; three ten months; two had eleven months; one had 11 1/2 months; and one kept school going continuously for the entire year.

This is the financial statement for the year:

Receipts	
Cash on hand	\$ 62,594.87
District Taxes	105,431.64
County school fund	54,024.00
State School fund	12,016.63
Tuition below high school	400.95
Sale Bonds and Warrants	18,736.55
High School Tuition	5,663.11
Other Items	6,631.64
Total	\$264,789.29

Expenditures	
Teachers' wages	\$117,167.19
Rent of rooms etc.	815.30
Fuel and Supplies	12,732.19
Repairs, Janitors etc.	29,018.29
New buildings and Sites	7,295.00
Bonds and Warrants paid	48,608.72
Insurance	2,038.08
Clerks' Salaries	4,098.25
Library books	866.56
All other sources	9,682.50
Total	\$230,622.08

Cash on hand, \$4,167.21. The bonded indebtedness of the districts of the county is \$248,565.92; the amount of district warrants outstanding is \$47,821.44; all other indebtedness, \$10,130.59.

The estimated value of school grounds and properties is \$456,465.79; the estimated value of furniture and apparatus, \$48,640.89; the insurance carried on school property is \$259,167. The total levy of school district taxes is \$138,284.01.

The average salary of principals in buildings of more than one room is \$109.44.

The average salary of men teachers is \$82.61 and of women \$58.72.

Twenty-six teachers have completed four years of college work; six have had three years in college; four have had two years and one has had one year. Fifty-one have had two years of normal training and thirteen one year. The remaining 110 range from seven who have only gone as far as the eighth grade to 38 who have completed four years' of high school work.

The superintendent has made 192 visits in 67 districts during the year; the supervisor made 255 visits in 78 districts.

The number of standard rural and

(Continued on third page.)