

MUCH NEW WORK

Council Has a Big Program for Street Improvement This Year

The council met in regular session last Monday evening with all members except W. H. Mansell present. An important program was started that evening by which it is hoped to see all the streets on this side of the gulch paved or plankled this summer and possibly some of the streets in the north end of town, especially those leading to the new school house. Last year the council asked for bids for the improvement of Hall street from Naylor's grocery to the Chabe bars at the brow of the hill with a 14-foot concrete roadway, but no bids were received. Monday night the council instructed the city engineer to include with that the three blocks on Third street from the court house to Taylor street with the same kind of paving and to prepare plans, specifications and estimates. He was also instructed to do the same for the block between the Blodgett House and the T bridge, with planking on the paving material. Likewise on Henry street for the block along the east side of the court house, planks to be used for the improvement. The city attorney was instructed to ascertain what action was necessary for the city to assume title to the streets on Sherwood Hill, some of which are now county roads. After this has been done and control of the street up there secured, it is the intention to consult with the property owners up there and pave that section.

W. A. Ireland, Geo. Ward, Oveal Smith, and Mrs. Hattie Blodgett were present to again ask the council to build a bridge across the gulch from the Fensley corner on Third and Collier to the entrance to the city park. They wanted the city to pay part of the cost. While a bridge to the Fensley corner would be a fine thing, it is doubtful whether the property which would have to pay for the improvement could bear even half the expense of building a bridge. And it is doubtful whether the city has authority to invest the amount required for such an improvement. The improvement of Fifth street from Taylor street to the park would answer the same purpose, but would not be as convenient for the citizens living up in the neighborhood of the park. But this latter route seems to be the one looked on with favor by the city fathers.

A number of north end residents presented a petition asking the council to improve certain portions of Naylor and Smith streets and Williams avenue, with a 9-foot plank roadway with sidewalks on at least one side of the street. A. T. Boldon said that in circulating the petition he had not presented it to land speculators who owned property out there, but that only three actual residents on the streets affected had refused to sign. He also said that the people out there wanted an improvement which would let them go into town without wading through the mud, but that they were unwilling to help pay for the improvement of the entire north end, claiming that each property should pay only for the street work alongside of it.

A. T. Morrison, as member of the school board, took issue with this program, and said he was surprised that anyone out there should contemplate an improvement which did not include the paving of the street in front of the new school house. That should be one of the first considerations with the people of the north end after a \$75,000 school house had been built out there.

The mayor referred the petition to the street committee for a report thereon at the next meeting. Mayor Hamilton reported for the fire chief that the fire equipment was all in first class condition but that a rack for drying the hose was urgently needed.

Marshal Hollenbeck was instructed to enforce the dog ordinance, which provides for the impounding of all dogs running at large and a \$20 fine for their owners.

Addressing himself more especially to the police force, Mayor Hamilton said he had heard reports of rowdiness, boozing and bootlegging in Coquille, and although he didn't believe conditions were worse here than elsewhere, he wanted the officers to understand that he did not uphold anything

of that kind and he expected them to do their duty in suppressing all lawlessness and in preventing bootlegging if possible.

As a start toward cleaning up the town, the marshal was instructed to notify all property owners to have the debris and trash removed from their property forthwith. The bid of \$77.50 by Geo. Goodman for painting and calcimining the recorder's office was laid over for further consideration.

The council is still trying to secure some practical engineer to come down here and make a complete examination of our water system and available sources of supply and they have had some correspondence with a firm in Portland. City Engineer Gould, who plans to go to Portland next week, was authorized to consult with engineers up there and ascertain if possible who was the best fitted to tackle Coquille's water problem and the probable expense of such a survey as is necessary.

The council decided to enforce the ordinance which fixes a license of \$25 a year for all cars running for hire on the streets of Coquille. It was also thought best to amend the ordinance regarding the use of the city's docks by providing a dockage fee for scows.

By motion the Mountain States Power Co. was instructed to install three lights near the new school house at the same positions as ordered by the old council—one at Thos. Lane's corner, one at the west end of the bridge between there and the school house and the third at the southwest corner of the school building.

Having done an unusually large amount of work for one evening, the council adjourned about 11 o'clock.

OLD TIMES REVIVED

"Slippery Gulch," the same kind of a frontier days reminder as the Home Guard held three or four years ago under the name "Days of '49," was opened last night in Gould's Hall here under auspicious conditions. The hall was decorated and fixed up to represent the old-time dance hall with all kinds of games of chance running wide open. The show is put on under the auspices of the local American Legion and they will receive half the net profits.

Of course the currency used is script and the winners receive nothing more valuable than printed slips of paper, but it creates a lot of fun and hilarity. Roulette, poker, craps, twenty-one and all the other games of chance run full tilt with the sky the limit.

Last night Recorder John Lawrence acted as police judge of the municipality of Slippery Gulch and was kept busy for hours assessing fines against the offenders brought before him.

The dance is one of the big features of this wild west scene and a local orchestra is kept busy producing the 'razz' for the happy crowd.

Fun and a general good time will be rampant tonight and again tomorrow night and no one is barred from attending.

The Legion intend using the funds thus secured in fitting up a club house for their members and one in which ex-servicemen down on their luck can be given shelter and sleeping accommodations until they can get on their feet again.

Buckner's Minstrels Monday

Buckner's Minstrels will be the next attraction on the American Legion Lyceum Court which will be presented at the Liberty Theatre next Monday evening, the 14th inst. This troupe comes highly recommended as the greatest lyceum attraction which ever visited this section.

Free Lecture Sunday

Christian Science Society, Coquille, announces a free lecture on Christian Science by Dr. Walton Hubbard, C. S. B., Los Angeles, Ca., member of the board of lectureship of the Mother Church, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Massachusetts, on Sunday afternoon, February 13, 1921, at 3:15 o'clock at the Liberty Theatre. The public is most cordially invited.

At last reports House Bill No. 215, which so radically changes the law in relation to country school district and the methods of financing them if adopted by the voters of the county, was still reposing in the educational committee of the house.

Call on us for Stationery.

DEBATE TONIGHT

Coquille and Bandon the Only Contestants in the Field This Year

The debates for the high school championship in Coos county are to be held tonight. Of the five teams in the state association here, three have dropped out so that the contest is between Coquille and Bandon, and neither Marshfield, North Bend or Myrtle Point will be represented.

A Bandon team will come up here to debate with one of our teams, consisting of Lawrence Moon, of Coquille, captain; Della Sherwood, also of Coquille; and Mary Bennett, of McKinley.

The team, which will go to Bandon, consists of Alice Barker, captain, and Lerin Schroeder, both of this city, and Errol Sloan, of Lampa.

The question to be discussed by all the debating teams in this contest is: "Resolved that the principle of the open shop should be established."

These debates are to take place under a new system, and no student has to take the negative or the affirmative of the question but all can talk as they believe, and the decision will be made according to the rank of the individual debaters as given by the judges.

The state director of these high school debates picks out the important phases of the subject and these will be submitted to the debaters one hour before the debate opens.

One of the Coquille debaters is said to have written out five or six different arguments; but the adaption of the arguments previously written out by the students to the important phases of the question as furnished by the state director, all within an hour's time, would seem to require unusual mental agility on the part of a novice.

The debate here will take place in the High School Study Hall and begin at 8 p. m.

Funds for Corn Pavilion

Most of the session of the Commercial Club Wednesday evening was devoted to a discussion of ways and means for financing the construction of a Corn Pavilion this summer. O. C. Sanford, J. E. Norton and L. J. Cary were appointed as a committee to outline some plan of procedure, and their report is to be made a special order of business next Wednesday, after which a committee will present the plans to the city council for their approval. It is the desire to have a Corn Show Association formed to handle the management of the business, which will still leave title to the entire property vested in the city, as, of course, it must remain.

Legion Will Play the Mutes

The American Legion basket ball team will meet the deaf and dumb team from Portland on the High School Gym floor here next Monday at 7:15 p. m. sharp. The early hour is set so that those wishing to attend the lyceum number at the theatre may have plenty of time to get there. The date for the lyceum was originally the 15th, but the management is sending them in here a day earlier.

The following are the members of the local Legion team from which the five will be chosen: John Stanley, Chas. Oerding, Roy Watson, Geo. Oerding, H. H. Oerding, Jno. Oerding, Otto Davis and Philip Johnson.

Salaries of County Officers

If the proposed bill fixing the salaries of the Coos county officials passed as introduced, the salaries of the court house people will stand as follows: C. E. Mulkey, School Superintendent, \$1800. J. P. Beyers, Assessor, \$1800. Ines F. Bunch, County Clerk, \$1800. Edwin Ellingsen, Sheriff, \$2500. T. M. Dimmick, Treasurer, \$1800.

Hollister Loses Case

The case of Reed as administrator of the estate of Frances S. Ferry vs. Fred Hollister came up for hearing in the Circuit Court here Tuesday and Judge Coke gave judgment for the plaintiff. Though the order has not yet been drawn we understand that this settles the long pending litigation over the estate of Fred Hollister's mother, involving about \$4,000, adversely to his claims.

It has begun to look and feel this week as if the garden planting season was at hand.

MURDERED AT BAY

J. B. Stephens Shoots Ed Wilson Through the Heart Tuesday

J. B. Stephens accused of the killing of Ed Wilson at North Bend on Tuesday was brought over here on the big auto line stage last night by Deputy Sheriff Malhorn and placed in jail.

The verdict of the jury which Coroner Wilson summoned Wednesday to investigate the case was as follows:

"We find that the deceased was named Ed Wilson and was a native of the United States and was 37 years old, and that he came to his death on the eighth day of February, 1921, by a gunshot wound from a gun in the hands of J. B. Stephens." The jurors who signed the verdict were G. A. Smith, H. P. Gurnes, Andy P. Davis, E. E. Riggs, H. L. Crawford and F. W. Wood.

Yesterday a charge of murder was made against Wilson by County Attorney Ben Fisher in Justice Johnson's court and at the close of the preliminary yesterday afternoon he was held to the grand jury on that charge.

The evidence at the inquest Wednesday and at the preliminary yesterday was practically the same.

Mrs. Lillian Wilson, wife of the murdered man, said she was the daughter of Albert Snodgrass of Curry county, and was married the first time to John Ostrander, also of Curry. She married Ed Wilson in 1918 and lived with him 10 days, when he was drafted and stayed in the army nine months. On his return they conducted the Alpine hotel in North Bend, which Mrs. Wilson had bought with her own money. She is not divorced, but was separated from Wilson.

The witness told of her husband frequently coming to see her. She said he was drunk on moonshine most of the time and often threatened to take her life. Once, she said, he shut her in a room and held her prisoner, crying out that he was going to kill her and had the hole dug ready to bury her in. She said he frequently displayed a pistol in making his threats.

Mrs. Wilson said she lived in terror of her husband and once moved to Marshfield to live alone with her son, Wilber Ostrander, whom she raised and who is now working in Oakland, but Wilson often came and threatened her.

The witness knew of no trouble between Wilson and Stephens, except that Wilson had threatened to kill anyone seen with his wife. She attended a show with Stephens a few nights ago. On the day of the shooting, Wilson came to the hotel. Stephens was there and she tried to keep them separated. She did not actually see the killing. As she ran downstairs she heard the fatal shot.

Deputy Sheriff E. R. Bryant was another witness. He reached the Alpine rooms about fifteen minutes after the tragedy, said he saw Stephens, whom he knew, standing in the hallway, and asked him what he knew of the affair. Stephens' answer was: "I know all about it—I done it myself." Bryant then said: "Well, Slim, I suppose you know that I'll have to arrest you for this?" To which Stephens replied: "Yes, I know it, and I'd rather you did it than anybody."

Stephens then gave Bryant his gun, saying, "Here is the gun, you'll find just one shell gone." Bryant then presented the gun to the jury, showing where the shell was missing, and the other chambers loaded. He stated that he had kept the weapon in his possession since the shooting.

Bryant also gave testimony of Stephens' explanation of the shooting. According to Bryant, Stephens said he heard Wilson cursing and shouting outside the door, and heard him say, "Where is the — I'll cut his damned head off!" Wilson then kicked the door open, and came toward him crouching, with his gun pointed at Stephens, repeating the threat, "I'll cut your — head off!" As Wilson rushed toward him, Stephens averred, he shot him.

Stephens himself refused to go on the stand in his own defense, thought that this fact might be used against him. Bennett Swanton appeared as his attorney.

Wilson was already under indictment in the circuit court here for burning a note for several hundred dollars he had given G. W. Stewart for the purchase of an automobile.

Wilson went to Stewart's house, it is alleged, and said he wanted to pay for the note. Stewart innocently handed Wilson the mortgage and note, whereupon he is said to have torn them up and thrown them into the fire, saying the debt was paid. The mortgage had not been recorded.

WOMAN'S CLUB

Almost Out of Debt—Where to Put Rest Room Now a Problem

The regular meeting of the Woman's Club was held at the Rest Room Tuesday evening. Among matters of interest was the report that a sum of \$20.00 had been realized from the 10-d sale which the club held two weeks ago. This amount diminishes the indebtedness on the Rest Room to \$16.55, and if the second sale, which is to be tomorrow, Saturday, Feb. 12, is as successful, the debt will be entirely paid.

Considerable discussion was given the matter of a future location for the Rest Room. The building, since it has been taken over by the Woman's Club, has been greatly appreciated by out of town visitors and Coquille women, as well, and has answered its purpose admirably.

Whether the proposed community building, or "Corn Show Building," as it is popularly spoken of, will provide a rest room, or whether it is desired to use the "Hot-a-Spall" in conjunction with, or as an asset to the proposed building, is not known at the present time. A committee is at work on the various possibilities and propositions in the matter, and it is hoped will meet with the co-operation of all concerned.

The Woman's Club has been asked by the school authorities to provide a program for the dedication of the new High School. On account of the inclement weather and its attendant difficulties the club wishes to postpone the matter to a later date but will be planning a ceremony of an appropriate nature and in keeping with the fine spirit which has made this splendid building possible.

A short time was devoted to the future plans of the Club regarding a study of Oregon. The motto, "Know Oregon," has been given all the clubs of the state, in view of the coming World's Fair to be held in Portland in 1923, and the club here will at each meeting present in the way of a program facts, stories, traditions, songs and verses pertaining to the history of Oregon. Further notice of the program will be given in next week's Sentinel.—Com.

WAY HOUSE BURNED

The fire alarm sounded about 5:30 Wednesday afternoon and the department made a quick up-hill run to the Marshall Way house just south of the Adventist church which was a mass of flames. The fire was quickly gotten under control after the water was turned on but not before the building was more than half destroyed.

L. L. Bunch occupied the residence, which was a four-room structure, and he estimates his loss at \$500 to \$600, three-fourths of his household goods being destroyed, only one rocking chair being saved undamaged.

Mr. Way estimates that his loss is \$300 or \$400 with \$700 insurance.

Just how the fire started is unknown. Mrs. Bunch had some clothes drying near the stove in the kitchen and at the time was out in the back yard talking to Mrs. Way. She says the fire in the stove was not unusually hot but that the clothes might have caught fire from that source. It is also suggested that defective wiring might have started the conflagration, for just about the time she saw the blaze the lights in the house went out.

Mr. Way has not decided yet whether he will rebuild or not.

Jury for February Term

The following is the jury list just drawn for the February term of the Circuit Court here, which will convene on Monday, Feb. 22nd:

- Dave Mussion, teamster, Marshfield.
- C. S. Winsor, bookkeeper, North Bend.
- John Nielson, hardware, Bandon.
- E. D. Webb, banker, Coquille.
- F. W. Wood, real estate, North Bend.
- J. T. Jenkins, farmer, Parkersburg.
- C. W. Wolcott, grocer, Marshfield.
- A. L. Volkner, farmer, Myrtle Point.
- R. M. Pressey, farmer, Bandon.
- L. L. Thomas, merchant, Marshfield.
- Fred Blundell, merchant, Bandon.
- E. W. Fahy, farmer, Bullards.
- J. H. Jones, retired, Bandon.
- W. H. Dindinger, merchant, Marshfield.
- Dorsey Kreitzer, banker, Marshfield.
- R. S. Lyon, farmer, Marshfield.
- Willis E. Neely, farmer, Sumner.
- Ray B. Dement, stockman, Myrtle Point.
- M. R. Lee, merchant, Powers.
- Peter Loggie, real estate, North Bend.
- Jas. Landrith, farmer, Marshfield.
- W. S. Nicholson, druggist, Marshfield.
- J. W. Offield, farmer, Coquille.
- S. S. Endicott, retired, Myrtle Point.
- J. A. Yates, farmer, Coquille.
- L. P. Branstetter, stockman, Coquille.
- H. T. Miller, cheeseman, Parkersburg.
- Ray Ollivant, grocer, Marshfield.
- Chas. Webb, retired, Coquille.
- Walter Norris, farmer, Fairview.
- A. R. Mercer, merchant, Cooson.

Calling Cards, 100 for \$1.50.

WAY HOUSE BURNED

County Court Short Handed

The county court convened here Tuesday, that is, Judge Wade and Commissioner Kern forgotten and attended to a little business and then went over to the bay and put in a full day in going over the line of the Davis Slough road to a junction with the Libby road and also through the brush on the line of the proposed Coos river road from Eastside to Catching Slough. Judge Wade says that if the Coquille-Marshfield road had not been in shape for auto travel most of the way it would have taken two days instead of one to cover the distance they did on Wednesday.

An adjourned meeting of the county court is set for Monday, Feb. 21st, but it is not yet quite certain whether it will be held, as Judge Wade cannot hold a meeting alone. Commissioner Yoakam is in California, and though his wife says she expects him back on the 19th, it is thought somewhat uncertain as to his being here then.

Meantime Commissioner Kern is going to the hospital to be operated on for appendicitis, and will be unable to be about for some time.

There has been some question as to where Commissioner Yoakam's residence would be now that he has sold his ranch and the purchasers had taken possession. As he retained 25 acres in making the sale and there is a small house on that tract to which he and his family moved, there need be, therefore, no anxiety as to the commissioner's legal residence.

Coos County Salaries Raised

A press dispatch from Salem yesterday conveyed the information that the salaries of the county judge and treasurer, of Coos county, had each been raised \$200. This renders it certain that Judge Wade's salary has been raised to \$2,000, but leaves the amount of Treasurer Dimmick's salary somewhat in doubt. The bill that was pending raised Judge Wade's salary as stated but proposed a raise from \$1400 to \$1800 for the treasurer. It may have carried as introduced, in which case it is now \$1800, or may have been amended so that the raise is only to \$1600.