

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

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## FISHTRAP ROADS

### Residents of That Section Are Asking a Fair Deal from County Court

"Be careful whom you select as judge and commissioner," was the remark which started the applause at the meeting here Wednesday evening of the ranchers living between Coquille and Fishtrap and the Commercial Club.

The object of the meeting was to start a movement looking to the naming of the road leading from the bridge here to Fishtrap as a market road.

Speaking of his talk with Judge Wade a month ago, J. E. Norton told the assembly that it seemed to be the policy of the court to designate as market roads those highways in districts where the people voted a special tax for road purposes. The money thus raised was matched by the county and the combined funds were then matched by the state out of market road funds. The judge told him that the people of that section had not been before the court asking for such a road and that the county court was not initiating such matters. Mr. Norton reported that he had urged the selection of the road to Fishtrap as a market road, and also the road skirting the foothills from the Figg place to a connection with the Bandon road.

There were 19 ranchers in attendance at this meeting and many of them took part in the discussion. W. B. Smith, Frank Willard, E. H. Harnden, Frank Robison, M. T. Clinton all speaking to the point.

The general tenor of their remarks was that this section of road district No. 19 was one of the richest in the county, that they had paid taxes for year after year which would have put this road into perfect condition, and that they had less work done on their roads than had any other section of the county. They were opposed to higher taxes, such as a special road tax would entail, but thought it time to demand their rights and an improved road from the taxes they were annually paying.

It was also pointed out that the law did not require a special road tax in order that state market road money might be spent on a road, and several of the speakers took occasion to mention that no special tax was voted before the road from Fishtrap through an uninhabited section and over a high mountain to Lampa Creek was designated a market road. In fact no one knew what was contemplated until it was so named. Some inside history as to how that road came to be considered as a market road was also given.

Marion Clinton said that when he was road supervisor in that district the court would never allow him to spend a nickel on that foothill road. He also said that that district built more roads for nothing than any other district in the county; that county courts had been spoiled by the free work the citizens up there had done to get roads, and that it seemed to be expected they should continue to build their roads by donation.

W. B. Smith's suggestion that the Commercial Club prepare a resolution asking for the improvement of the road to Fishtrap and signed by Coquille and Fishtrap residents, was carried farther by the decision to go before the court in numbers asking for the work.

In order to have concrete facts on which to base their claims of past discrimination in the matter of spending road money, a committee was appointed to secure figures from records in the court house showing how much money has been raised from general road tax in that section, what the assessed valuation is, and how little has been spent in road building or maintenance.

The adoption of this report and resolution will be considered at another meeting next Wednesday, June 14, and the time selected then for presenting it to the county court.

With the main business of the evening finished, a considerable time was spent by both farmers and club members in urging a better acquaintance and more united action in tackling matters which affect both town and county. It was a very harmonious meeting throughout.

It was voted by the club to make the second Wednesday evening of every month "Farmers' Night" at which time any matter of particular interest

to the farmers will be considered, and while they are urged to be present at any meeting of the club, they are particularly invited to attend on Farmers' night.

It was nearly 10:30 when the meeting adjourned and all present seemed to feel that an important step had been taken in securing the improvement of this always-neglected road to Fishtrap.

## Walker Creek Flowing Strong

Just as we go to press Engineer Gould informs us that the water running into the city reservoirs on the hill east of town in 24 hours yesterday, through the main from both Walker and Rink creeks, amounted to 453,600 gallons, of which he says comparatively a small percentage was wasted. The amount of water running into the present small reservoir on Rink creek above the dam is 200,000 gallons a day, some of which is spilling over, but most of which went into the main to help make that 453,600 gallons which came out yesterday.

## FIGHT CANADIAN THISTLE

T. M. Stover and E. M. Hoffman were down from Myrtle Point yesterday to interview the county court in regard to measures desired to be taken to check the spread of the Canada thistle, which is becoming a great pest in some sections of the county. Indeed, there are five acres of good bottom land on the Hoffman place near the mouth of the Middle Fork, which have been overgrown with this thistle. Last year it was sowed to barley and the two crops grew together, the barley coming out second best in the encounter; but this year corn has been planted on the ground and it is hoped by keeping it thoroughly cultivated to control the intruder. Mr. Stover understood the court to say that Frazier Hoffman was to be given the work on combatting this pest in the sections on the Middle Fork, the South Fork and the Arago section; but Judge Wade says this is a mistake, but that the court is endeavoring to secure the services of a weed exterminator for the whole county, who will be given authority according to law to destroy noxious weeds wherever found, if the owners neglect the work after being notified, the expense to be charged to the land benefited, in the tax levy. When one considers how easily and how far the seeds of plants like the Canada thistle can be scattered by the winter floods in our rivers and creeks, the necessity of combatting the menace becomes apparent.

## Mountain States Improvements

The Mountain States Power Co. started this week the stringing of a wire to Powers to furnish electric current to that town. An additional wire will also be strung from Coquille to Myrtle Point. They have also just finished running a wire from the main line over to Cooper bridge on the North Fork where the city of Myrtle Point is going to build a dam and install a pumping plant for the city's water system.

The installing of the larger insulators between here and Marshfield has been completed and the company is now ready to install the transformers, which will give a greater supply of juice.

## Want Woodyard Fenced Off

The clean-up committee from the Woman's Club and the Commercial Club went before the county court this week asking that the woodyard at the northeast corner of the court house block be shut off from the public gaze by a 12-foot lattice fence around two sides, with vines covering the lattice work. They were told that the county had no money with which it could do this year, but the idea was approved by the members of the court and the suggestion made that the matter be taken up again with the court this fall so that arrangements could be made for doing it next year.

## Health Ass'n Members Here

Mrs. W. C. Chase says that one hundred names have already been reported in the membership drive of the Coos County Health Association and that a little more than half of the committee have reported. It is expected that the campaign will be continued next week. This is an unusual good showing and evidences much interest in the health work.

## FORTY MILLIONS CHURCH IS NAMED

### Of Gallons To Be the Capacity of the Rink Creek Reservoir

After deciding to lay over the four bids on the Sherwood Hill improvement road last Tuesday night "for further consideration," the council and some spectators went into committee of the whole on the water question and proceeded to thresh out that question from every possible angle.

Since Stevens and Koon, the reservoir experts, who have been engaged to supervise the Rink Creek dam, learned that the people here wanted it made ten feet higher they have done some more figuring, but say that without investigating further as to the character of the ground on which the dam is to be built, they cannot approve a structure of that height—and when they said it would increase the cost of the work from \$32,500 to \$40,000 to build it 4 1-2 feet higher, it became quite evident that the people here would not desire to build to the extreme height proposed.

As to the quantity of water, it will be possible to impound with the dam raised 4 1-2 feet, they put it at 40 million gallons. City Engineer Gould says that the four months summer flow will amount to 12 million gallons more; and that with the Walker Creek flow also to utilize, we can get an additional 10 million gallons—or a total of 62 million gallons for the three summer months.

This will not give the 72 million gallons that would be needed to furnish an average of 300 gallons per capita for 2,000 people; but that is probably an overestimate anyway, as the years in which we shall need to use stored water for four months will probably be few and far between. The longest time ever recorded between drinks—that is between spring and fall rains here—is 88 days, and there is no month between May and October in which we do not sometimes have abundant rains.

A. J. Sherwood and Bert Gould went to bat again, this time over the question what would happen to our city water supply if the watershed above the Rink creek dam should be logged off. The former insisted that if the timber was removed the summer flow of water there would practically cease. Mr. Gould, on the other hand, was sure that the dense vegetation with which Nature surely covers logged-off land in a year or two would hold just as much surface moisture as the timber does—the sponge would be just as effective in one case as in the other. He agreed that in case the land was cleared and cultivated the water flow would cease in the summer; but no one will think of making a clearing about that reservoir.

The statement was made that Coquille is better situated for an ample water supply than any other city in the county; but, of course, in case the unexpected happens and this becomes a city of 5,000 inhabitants it will be necessary to go much farther than Rink Creek to get enough water.

The financial considerations involved in the \$20,000 bonding proposition were threshed out, the general opinion being that we could never expect to pay off all our water bonds in a growing town, where more mains and frequent extensions of laterals were required.

Some of his hearers were a little astonished when Councilman Mansell averred that all that had ever kept him from being a socialist was Coquille's experience with a city-owned water system.

## Farm Loan Rates Down

Secretary R. H. Mast, of the local government farm loan association, has received word that the interest rate has been cut from 6 to 5 1-2 per cent, and that all the pending loans in this section will be made at the lower rate. He has been expecting the federal appraiser here since the first of May to pass on the \$50,000 of loans he has applications for.

## To Discuss Water June 17

R. E. Koon, the engineer who made the surveys and estimates for the Rink Creek storage reservoir, informs City Engineer Gould that he will be here Saturday night, June 17, to explain the details of this project to the people of this city.

### He Will Succeed F. R. Ellis as Superintendent at the County Farm

In the county court this week the roadmaster was ordered to advertise for bids for the construction of 2,000 lineal feet of bulkhead work on the Coos River road, bids to be opened June 27.

Bids were also called for, to be opened June 27, for excavation work on Rock creek, from its junction with Myrtle Creek as far up Rock creek as the available funds pay for.

E. C. Church, of this city was named by the court as superintendent of the county farm to succeed F. R. Ellis, who has resigned.

The reports of the viewers on the Lakeside to Douglas county line road, the Hauser to Schutter's Landing road, and the Dement creek road, were read, accepted and filed.

A right of way fence along the roadway on the dike along the edge of Larson Slough, between the upper, or Weir's landing and the Philip place, was ordered to be paid for by the county as compensation for rights of way granted. Where property owners desired to build the fence themselves, the county will pay 75 cents a rod for it.

The resignation of C. F. Johnson as road patrolman in the Broadbent section of district 27 was accepted.

The court took action on several applications for relief from the indigent fund. Those of Lille McCamman, of North Bend, and Bartha Newton, of Powers, were denied. Those granted were to Emma Steach, of North Bend, \$10 a month; Mary J. Smith, of Prosper, \$12.50 per month; and John Grimes, of Lakeside, \$10 a month. The monthly allowance of Jos. Marton, of Riverton, was discontinued.

The court adjourned yesterday and took a trip through Fairview, McKinley, Brewster valley and up to Sitkum. Judge Wade reports that they ran into a heavy rain up in the valley about two o'clock yesterday, which will do the crops there a lot of good.

The road work in that section is progressing but the roads are the same there as elsewhere—not as smooth as in former years at this season. Where the county had \$70,000 last year for maintenance work, there is only \$30,000 available this year and as a consequence the grader cannot be used as often as heretofore in scraping the roads.

The court met again this afternoon for an hour or so to consider a bunch of applications for trucking licenses.

## Death of Geo. A. Gould

A. N. Gould received word last Tuesday that his father, Geo. A. Gould, died there at 2 o'clock that afternoon. The deceased had been suffering for some time from cancer, and although Dr. Richmond performed an operation for him a year ago, it did not stop the spread of the disease. The funeral was held at San Bernardino yesterday afternoon.

Two daughters, Mrs. E. C. Barker, of Myrtle Point, and Mrs. Geo. Terry, of Tar Heel camp, were down there when he died. Mr. Gould had just recently returned from San Bernardino and Mrs. Jas. Richmond was there prior to Bert's visit.

The deceased was an old settler in Coos county, having settled above Allegany, north of the bay, in 1836. He was 69 years of age, having been born in 1853 in Iowa. In 1862 he crossed the plains, going first to California and coming to Oregon in 1882. While living in the Santa Clara valley, California, he married Miss Hattie McClay, who is still living. Nine children were born to this union, of whom seven survive: A. N. Gould and Mrs. Jas. Richmond, of Coquille; Mrs. E. C. Barker, of Myrtle Point; Mrs. Geo. Terry, of Empire; Clarence Gould, of Sumner in this county; Mrs. Wm. Roberts, of San Bernardino; and Geo. Gould, of Blythe Calif.

About six years ago Mr. and Mrs. Gould left Allegany and have since made their home in the south, most of the time with their daughter at San Bernardino.

The Bandon World reports that David Morgan marketed 50 pounds of this spring's crop of home grown potatoes there yesterday. We have seen none in the market here yet.

## Wallace Crouch Acquitted

Wallace Crouch, of Kentuck Inlet, on trial for the third time, in Circuit court here this week for shooting D. Hart last year was acquitted by the jury Wednesday evening after they had been out four hours. Although the first ballot stood as the preceding jurys had split—half for conviction—the acquittal half appears to have had the better of the argument as they swung the others into line.

The proposal to convict for a lesser crime was not acceptable to the jury-men, and from what is heard on the streets the reasons for the acquittal verdict were that Crouch had been punished quite severely in the three trials, which had cost him at least a thousand dollars, that he was to be sued for damages by Hart, that his retrials were piling up expenses for the county and that the young men who had bedeviled their older neighbors were also deserving of punishment. That young Hart was practically entirely recovered from the effects of the wound probably also had a determining influence with the jury.

## ONE LESS STILL AT DELMAR

Sheriff Ellingsen, Deputy Malehorn and two Federal prohibition officers made another raid in the Delmar neighborhood Wednesday noon, where they caught one moonshiner and secured 40 gallons of booze and 600 gallons of mash.

The offender was G. Toocoo Borsatto, who was living across Isthmus Slough from Delmar and had a small still outfit. He had evidently lived there for some time as he had two tents and other paraphernalia.

The booze was found planted around in the brush, five gallons at a place. When approached by the officers he submitted to arrest very peaceably.

He was taken before Justice Stanley yesterday and was given the limit—\$500 fine and six months in jail. He says he can pay a part of the fine at least. His most earnest plea was for the fine collie dog he had. "Shoot me, but don't hurt my dog," was his first remark to the officers.

There were half a dozen or more "clean-outs," a contrivance fastened to the lid of his copper boiler still, lying around his camp, and any number of empty whiskey kegs.

## Antone Jensen Boose Case Up

The Antone Jensen booze case has occupied the attention of the Circuit court the past two days and was given to the jury about noon today. This is an appeal from justice court in Marshfield. Six months or more ago the officers arrested Jensen for having wine and moonshine in his possession and he pleaded guilty in Joehnk's court, was given a term in jail and fined. Later he was urged to fight the case but Joehnk said it was impossible in view of his plea. He received the same answer on appeal to the circuit court on writ of review and Wm. Stoll, his attorney, then appealed to the Supreme court, where the case is still pending.

Not content with this predicament he continued to sell booze at his home in Bay Park and when the officers went to arrest him again, they were followed by some of Jensen's regular customers who were surprised to find the officers there.

For this offense he pleaded not guilty, but in a jury trial before Justice Joehnk he was convicted. Before sentence was announced Attorney Stoll gave notice of appeal to the circuit court and it is this appeal which has been up this week.

## Late Three Times This Week

The mail train has been late three days this week due to "engine trouble." Looks as if the S. P. shunted its dilapidated engines onto the Coos Bay line. In travelling over the line we have noted that it seems like an entirely different sort of a road as soon as one strikes the main line at Eugene.

## Professional and Business Men

The baseball game scheduled for next Monday evening will be a return engagement between the business and the professional men of Coquille. The professionals won the last time the teams met but the business men are determined this time to give the doctors, lawyers, etc., the same treatment they did the clerks.

## HILL TO BE PAVED

### And a Wide Connection To Be Made Via First Street Bridge

Sherwood Heights on the hill south of the main part of town has waited a long time for street improvements but it will get them right this summer after the contract is let tonight. Heretofore during the entire half a century of the town's life the only means of access to that part of town has been up the narrow goose neck between the Tuttle House and the Brewster apartments, and the 18-foot alley east past the Harlocker residence. The improvements now to be made contemplate a broad highway from the First street bridge past the Gardner Garage, directly up the hill—front door entrance so to speak.

The improvements there will cover four or five blocks and will be of a permanent character with concrete paving and walks and no planking except for the two bridges for the north end west approaches. There will be 1153 square yards of paving in this work, 5650 square feet of concrete sidewalk and 3443 cubic yards of excavation. On the hill there will extend one block east and west past the Sherwood residence. The old bridge, connecting with the Hall street bridge on the Myrtle Point road will be repaired, and then the paving will begin and run up the hill to connect with the north and south paving on Elliott street, which will extend south from the new bridge at Gardner's Garage to a point between the Sherwood and Mehl residences, and on Henry street which runs between the Sherwood and Harlocker residences a block east for 300 feet.

Four bids were received for this work, which varied considerably in the prices asked for the different items.

The lowest was by M. W. Payne, whose price for excavation was 50 cents per cubic yard; for clearing and grubbing \$300, (which was the highest figure for this item); for cedar lumber for posts and mudsills, \$35 per thousand; for fir lumber, bolts, spikes, etc; for the decking of bridges, \$30 per thousand; for concrete paving \$2.35 per square yard; for sidewalks 20 cents per square foot. The lump sum was \$5,995.81.

Carl Ensele's was \$7241.03. Pearl Brothers' was \$7320.20. Anderson & Anderson's was \$7,622.42.

The lumber prices ranged from \$32 to \$40 per thousand for cedar and \$25.50 to \$35 per thousand for fir. Two of the bidders made a price of 20 cents a square foot for concrete sidewalks, one 21 cents and the other 23. For the paving the prices ranged from \$2.25 to \$2.85 per square yard.

## Sherwood in the Tolls

It isn't often that a law-abiding citizen like the president of the First National Bank here gets pinched, but Mr. Sherwood had that experience last Saturday. He left his Ford truck standing on the street and when he returned for it he found the traffic officer had left a billet doux requesting his presence before Justice Stanley. His offense was not having his license plates attached to the car, and the justice thought \$15 would save the law's injured feelings. When R. H. Mast had repainted the truck this spring he had failed to put the tags back on and Mr. Sherwood had driven the car to Bandon the day before, remained all night and returned to Coquille before the lynx-eyed officer spied it. Needless to say Mr. Sherwood replaced the tags in a hurry.

## Nursery Business Is Better

Frank W. Settlemier, District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand lodge, A. F. & A. M., who has just visited the Masonic lodges in this section of the state, is in the nursery business when at home and now has two million apple trees growing, all of which have been sold. During the war business in that line went down to the vanishing point, and Mr. Settlemier was doing his own plowing on his 400-acre ranch adjoining the city of Woodburn but there is so much business in his line now that he keeps 35 men busy on the place.

If you would know how not to run an elevator, see Buster Keaton in "THE GOAT" at the Liberty Theatre next Tuesday and Wednesday.