

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel!

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XII, NO. 49.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1922.

4 THE YEAR.

## CONSOLIDATION?

### New High School District Being Considered Today

The Bandon World of yesterday says that petitions from all the districts proposed to be consolidated into a union high school district in that community will be in the hands of Chairman John Nielson of the local board and will be presented to the boundary board which meets in Coquille today. The petitions will be presented by Chairman Nielson and Clerk L. J. Radley.

The only active opposition so far encountered has come from the Randolph district. While sufficient taxpayers had signed the petition to that district to warrant the calling of an election, some of those opposed to the movement have circulated a remonstrance and this is to be presented to the boundary board together with the petition.

The situation is peculiar, inasmuch as all but two of the Randolph taxpayers who signed the petition also signed the remonstrance. If the remonstrance is considered by the board it is likely that the petition from that district will be made void.

However, those active in the movement for consolidation say that the law providing means for consolidation does not provide for the recognition of remonstrances; neither do the general laws of Oregon make such provisions; for that reason they believe the boundary board will have no authority to consider anything but the legally signed petition. The matter will be up to the boundary board to thresh out.

### On a Serious Charge

Eugene Schroeder was released by Justice E. W. Jochak at Marshfield last Monday under \$500 cash bail for his appearance. The charge against him was having liquor in his possession and giving it to minors. With Schroeder at the time of the offense was Delbert Cooper, of Salem, and Deputy Marshborn brought the latter back from Salem Wednesday to answer to the charge. His bail was fixed at \$500 and he is still in jail.

The minors to whom the liquor was given were two Marshfield girls, whose ages are reported as from 15 to 17 years. The four were over here a week ago Monday evening and made such a display of themselves in The Grotto, that Night Officer Perrott preferred the charges and Marshal Hollenbeck signed the complaint. Voluntary abstinence and drunkenness were the incidents leading to the arrest.

### Correcting a Clerical Error

The county surveyor's office calls our attention this morning to a manifest error in the county court list of bills paid as published in the Coos Bay Times and in this issue of the Sentinel. In the copy furnished us the first item under Road District No. 28 is marked "survey" and the rest are dittoed all the way through. After the first three items the rest should have read "Labor." As the page of the Sentinel containing the court proceedings was printed yesterday, (some pages are always printed on Thursday), it is impossible to make the desired change this morning. Of course the error is evident enough now that our attention is called to it.

### Three Divorces Granted

Judge Coke granted three divorces here Monday, as follows: Sarah Ross from John Fors. Plaintiff awarded custody of minor child, and defendant ordered to pay \$100 for costs of the suit and \$20 a month for the support and education of the child.

Walter C. Hoffman from Hazel Della Hoffman.

Emily Adey from Dewey Adey, and defendant ordered to pay costs of suit and \$500 alimony.

### Repairing Highway Bridges

Slow progress is being made on the new laminated decking of the two bridges this side of Coaledo on the highway. The second one from Coaledo is finished and the one nearest that village is about a third done. The plank taken up is being hauled to the China Camp bridge where a wider approach at the farther end is to be constructed.

## Death of Former Citizen

L. H. Hazard is in receipt of a letter from Dr. F. M. White, of Los Angeles, who left Coos Bay early this year, stating that his father, G. W. White, died at Pasadena Dec. 11, and was buried there Dec. 16.

The elder Mr. White was a former prominent resident of Coquille, who organized the Coquille Valley Bank here in 1890 and conducted it until 1908, when he sold out to the corporation which now owns the First National Bank, and which immediately reorganized it as a national bank and changed the name. After selling his interests here Mr. White went to Klamath Falls, where he organized the First National Bank of that city. Later he went to Pasadena to make his home.

He was 68 years of age at the time of his death, which was caused by intestinal flu.

## For Numbering Houses

A. L. Simpson has this week received neat samples of the street signs, which will be placed at all street intersections here in Coquille. The sample favored by the council committee is a metal sign, with raised white lettering and a blue background. The edges of the sign turn over a block of wood to which it will be nailed.

At the council meeting Monday evening it was decided to ask permission of the power and telephone companies to place these signs on their posts.

The city engineer was also instructed to prepare a map showing the number to be placed on every residence and business house in the city.

## Finest Christmas Weather

We've had the finest sort of fall weather so far this week, with fog and cool weather in the morning but pleasant days and not even a sign of frost. Certainly this is a wonderful country to live in. We could ask nothing better in the way of weather.

## CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE IS LET

M. W. Payne, of Marshfield, was awarded the contract for building the Coal Bank Slough bridge by the county court here yesterday. His bid was \$23,796, a few hundred dollars under the engineer's estimate. The other bidders were J. W. and J. R. Hillstrom, Marshfield, \$24,417; Monson Trierweiler Co., Portland, \$27,425.50; A. B. Gidley, Marshfield \$29,693; Union Bridge Co., Portland, \$27,362.50.

The bridge, which will connect with the highway at the end of the concrete pavement, will intersect the wooden causeway just beyond the veneer plant. It is to be completed by July 1, 1923.

Being on tidewater it will have a draw-span 40 feet in the clear, and the counter weight will contain 50,000 pounds of scrap iron. Other items entering into the construction are 220 square yards of concrete, 45,000 pounds of structural steel, 7,500 feet of piling, 25,000 feet of lumber, 15,000 pounds of machinery, 210 feet of trestle superstructure and 90 yards of excavation.

## Hamilton Sells Hospital

Dr. and Mrs. V. L. Hamilton left Sunday morning for their new home at The Dalles. Their son, Earl, will remain here until the close of the school semester next month.

Before going the doctor made a deal for his hospital property with H. E. Shelley, and the latter expects to erect thereon a fireproof building if he can dispose of the present frame structure. Unless he sells it soon, however, he will move into it while he is building a new bungalow on his lots across the street west from the county's Hall of Records.

## Wants a Guardian

Until recently being able to handle his own affairs, John Myers, 101 years old, submitted to the appointment of a guardian. The request was followed with the full knowledge of Mr. Myers, who admits that his advanced age handicapped him in his activities. The petition states that Myers is unable to care for himself and wife, who is 75 years old. He has a daughter who is more than 80 years old.

If you want the Portland Telegram in connection with the Sentinel, we can save you some money.

## WHY NO ACTION?

### The Right of Way for Bandon Road Is Still In The Air

J. E. Nerion and J. C. Kendall returned last Saturday from attending the meeting of the State Highway Commission at Portland. No actual results were accomplished in regard to the letting of a contract on the Bandon road for the highway commission has been ready for two months to let a contract for the fill across the marsh land, and it was only a couple of weeks ago that the securing of a right of way was turned over to the attorney general's office for action. Mr. Ross spent two weeks in Coquille during the fall and had a highway engineer with him, but he had to return south without ever having a chance to talk the matter over with the authorities.

Mr. Norton found the matter sleeping on the assistant attorney general's desk, but when it was called to his attention Mr. Devers promised to come down to Coos county at once and try to effect a settlement. He was prevented coming the first of this week because of an urgent need for his presence at Astoria on highway matters, but he is expected soon.

The Good Roads delegation also secured the promise from the commission to give Coos county credit for the money spent on the highway north of the Bay and it is expected several miles of surface will be done up there the coming year.

## Had to Walk In

Traffic Officer Williams was at Powers Monday. He states that he left his car about four miles this side of that place and walked in owing to the road being too muddy to navigate with a machine. The district there has voted \$10,000 special tax levy to spend on that end of the road and when it is done, he says, they will have one of the finest macadam roads in the county.

He says the road between here and Myrtle Point is not standing up as well as desired, the light coat of gravel being forced through into the mud. Few heavy trucks are used at it except the oil trucks. There is no load limitation on it yet.

## Bruner Hurt Yesterday

Roy Bruner received a severe scalp wound yesterday morning about 10 o'clock at the logging camp north of town. Just what struck him he doesn't know, but it was probably a branch on a log coming down the hillside. He was rendered unconscious for some time. He was put on the logger and brought down to the highway and there transferred to Vance Weekly's care and brought to Dr. Low's office where a number of stitches were required to close the long gap and two cuts branching off from it.

## Mose Land for City Hall

After buying a site 100 feet square for the site of a new city hall for \$8,000 the Marshfield city council came to the wise conclusion to add an adjoining 100 feet square that could be purchased for \$3,500. This will give the city 100 feet front on Central Avenue running through 200 feet to Anderson Avenue two blocks west of the Chandler hotel. The cost of the new building is to be \$50,000, and \$8,000 of it will have to be spent for the foundation as the ground is such that it will have to be built on piling.

## Churches in Good Condition

The Rev. A. W. Bell returned Sunday afternoon from a week's trip with Bishop Sumner, where he visited the Episcopal Mission churches in Douglas, Coos and Curry counties under the care of Mr. Bell. He found them in excellent condition and with a new spiritual awakening. The Bishop went on to Portland and the Vicar held service in St. John's church that night.

## Not to Be Deputy Sheriff

Two or three newspapers in this county have reported that Jim Brown defeated candidate for constable at Powers at the November election, has been appointed deputy sheriff by Sheriff Ellingsen; but Ed strenuously insists that he is "not guilty."

Calling Cards, 100 for \$1.50.

## MONEY WASTED

### Excessive Costs for Poor Roads in the Bridge Road District.

(The following letter about work in the Bridge district is very important if true. It is written by Henry Brownson and if the parties he criticizes have any statement to make in regard to what he says, the Sentinel will be more than willing to give them space in which to answer him.)

A Word From Road District No. 28 District Attorney Ben S. Fisher in his ruling on the validity of the special tax voted in road district No. 28, seemed to lay stress on the fact, that if the people were allowed to do that every district would vote taxes and spend the money without any regard for the county's system of road building. If this county has any system of road building worth mentioning, then I am from Missouri. The only system I have noticed is to get all the money they can and spend it just as quickly as they can without any regard to whether they get any roads for the money spent or not.

Now if the county court will prove to the people that they are competent and willing to use their money justly and economically and give them somewhere near a 100 cents' worth of road for every dollar spent, then the people will not want to have a committee to spend the money for no one who has anything else to do cars to put in a lot of time on the road to see how the money goes.

Just to show why the people of Bridge voted as they did, I will state a few facts about what took place up here this past summer and fall. On the Big Creek road Joe Lett was given a contract to do some grading. The work was completed in just six weeks and his expenses outside of wages for himself and team were \$1200. The court paid him \$2400, making him \$1200 for himself and team for six weeks' work. Pretty valuable man and team. His bid was 35c per yard for moving the dirt, with an additional 5c for rock and 4c for gravel, and \$250 for clearing the right of way. He put the culverts in at force account. The actual cost of moving the dirt, including right of way clearing and cost of culverts was approximately 25c per yard, allowing wages for the contractor and team. The road was supposed to have a 10-inch crown, but one of the fellows working for him said it did not have any more crown than Lett would have in the next world. Now I want to say if Lett don't have any more crown in the next world than he gave the road, he won't even have a hat band around his head.

When roadmaster McCulloch and Jim Caughell came up to receive the road, some of the people insisted they make Lett put a crown in as per contract, but they contended that we did not want too much crown or the rock wouldn't stay on, and they accepted it as it was, when it was an absolute certainty that it would remain a dirt road this winter and probably next, and it looks now as if it would be several. When the first rains came there were two or three sections of the road where the water stood from 4 to 6 inches deep in the center of the road. It could neither get into the ditch nor off the grade.

About the same thing happened on Rock Creek. Dwight Culver did about a \$1800 job in four or five weeks and walked off with about a \$1900 above wages. Spent enough money to have finished the road to where the people could get some good of it, and as it was, left it in such shape that there must be \$800 or a \$1000 more spent before they can use what he built.

Then Walter Rhule was sent up here to operate a rock crusher and oversee the rocking of a portion of the Myrtle Creek-Rock Creek road. In the first place the crusher shouldn't have been put where it was, for the equipment isn't sufficient to handle that grade of rock; besides the rock is in such a shape it cannot be handled with economy. Any man with brains enough to crack a peanut should know it. So much more for our roadmaster who gets \$200 per and expenses.

Rhule began putting the rock through the crusher and kept putting it through long after he should have been stopped on account of wet weather; for we all know it is a waste of money to try to rock roads in this county after it has rained enough to soften the ground. One fellow said he knew they put a foot of rock on three times in one place. He spent several thousand dollars on a mile or two of road and it is nearly impassable now. The rock wasn't crushed but merely cracked and is of all sizes and shapes. It is absolutely ruinous to car tires and so rough it nearly shakes all the nuts off a wagon. The money was practically thrown away as there will have to be a lot more spent there before the people can derive any real benefit from it.

Now this was all in Road District No. 26 and special tax money, and if you can show me that some one other than the county court shouldn't handle the special tax money, then I'll kiss the pope's toe until he backs like a fox.

Road District No. 26 is not the only one that has suffered either. After Lett finished his work on Big Creek he got a contract near Leo. He completed a \$600 or \$700 job in 8 days. He got \$150 for clearing the right of way, and hired a local man to do the work for \$25 and the fellow made good wages.

We have nothing against the contractors. The court is to blame. If they don't know what it costs to build roads, let them get out and learn. They don't have to accept these bids. They reserve the right to reject any and all bids. If no reasonable bids come in then turn them all down and hire some one to do the work; and if they do hire some one, don't just turn the work over to him and let him be all summer doing a few weeks' work, but see that he does it as cheaply as possible. The commissioners are allowed 5 bucks a day for every day they are on the job. Let them get out and earn it, wear the soles off their shoes and not the seat out of their trousers. Signed—Henry Brownson.

## COAST RAILROAD

### Matt Kerrigan Says It Can Be Forced Through By the People

T. M. Kerrigan, public service commissioner of Oregon, and a former resident of Coquille was here Monday and Tuesday of this week shaking hands with old friends. He was down here from Portland on business for the commission.

While here Mr. Kerrigan told of an opportunity soon to be presented for securing a coast railroad from the mouth of the Siuslaw to San Francisco. The Southern Pacific line from Eugene through Marshfield, Coquille and Myrtle Point to Powers is a link of this possible coast line. The Smith-Powers standard gauge logging road from Powers through Eckley and over the divide toward Port Orford is another link. The C. & O. railroad at Brookings is another, while from Eureka south the S. P. and Santa Fe own the line jointly.

That it is possible for the Southern Pacific to be compelled by the Interstate Commerce Commission to connect up these separated links by building 125 to 150 miles of new track is the statement of Mr. Kerrigan.

Some time next month a representative of the Interstate Commission is to be in Portland to conduct a hearing in connection with a railroad proposed to be built east from Eugene, and Mr. Kerrigan states that if the proper presentation is made to the federal commission at that time and that body is convinced of the need for a coast road, it can require the S. P. to build.

He presented the matter to local members of the Commercial Club and took it up with the executive board of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce, all of whom were greatly interested. It will be necessary for Coos and Curry counties to work together in collecting and presenting the data for the commission's consideration, but with the billions of feet of timber all along the proposed route, it should not be difficult to convince its members of the need for through service between Portland and San Francisco, via the coast route.

## THREATENS TO SUE CITY

M. W. Payne told the members of the council at a short session held Monday evening that he would place the collection of the \$150 held back by the city for the Sherwood Heights improvement in the hands of his attorney. He also intimated that the councilmen were not treating him like a gentleman.

The council was very lenient with Mr. Payne and took into consideration the fact that material was slow in delivery and labor scarce at times, but at the latter end of the job when all material had been delivered, there was the most inexcusable delay in completing the job. Mr. Payne was not here at the time but he had a foreman in charge. No extension of time was asked for finishing the work, nor was any granted by the council.

## Free Matinee Christmas

The Liberty Theatre is giving a free Matinee to all children under fourteen years of age Christmas day at 2:00 P. M. The doors will open at 2:45. A special program has been arranged consisting of the Mack Sennett comedy, "Love, Honor and Behave" for the feature; "Official Movie Chats" and as an added attraction Miss Lulu Therrion, of Marshfield, will sing and dance a popular number.

All children are invited, so be sure and be on time.

You can secure your pass at the box office any time between now and Monday noon.

## 7540 Now Registered

The county clerk's office has been checking up the registration since the election and finds there are now 7540 registered persons in Coos county. Prior to the election the books showed 9,357 as registered, but 3,115 registrations have been cancelled because of failure to vote during the past two years. Many of these have moved away. A total of 1,619 were sworn in at the November election, but the cards of 242 of them have been cancelled for the reason that the cards were not correctly made out by the election boards.

C. A. Machon plead guilty in Justice J. F. Stanley's court last Saturday to selling cigarettes to minors. He was fined \$5 and costs.

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## Holycross-Carter

John L. Holycross and Miss Viola Carter, both of this city, were married last Sunday evening at the M. E. South parsonage by Rev. H. V. Moore. Following the ceremony the wedding party went out to the residence of Bert McEwen, a brother-in-law of the bride, for a wedding supper.

One chivviri party got out to the house before Mr. Holycross and his bride had started for Marshfield, and his departure was considerably delayed by the removal of an important part of his car. After candy and cigars had been set up to the first crowd the missing part was quickly found and a ride to Marshfield begun. Mr. Holycross decided on the way over, however, not to stop at the Bay, for telephoning is much faster than driving, and friends over there were preparing to properly greet the newlyweds. They turned around and came back to Coquille and so escaped further molestation.

Mr. Holycross conducts the cigar store on Front street, and is fitting up the rooms above for housekeeping. His bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. W. Carter. She has recently been employed at Marshfield.

## More North Bank Road

Judge Wade states that bids will be opened on the 11th of January for dredging work on the North Bank road, the dredging to begin at Randolph and extend up the river to the foot of the hill near the Walstrom landing, a distance of about 1.4 miles. This piece of road will be an extension of the road that serves a number of Bullard farmers and which branches from the main Seven Devils road near the Paky place. There still remains a link of about eight miles between the Walstrom place and the present terminus of the road down the north bank where no road exists.—Bandon World.

Peter B. Bases, Coquille dairyman, filed a petition yesterday for final hearing on his application for citizenship. The hearing will be in June. Mr. Bases is a native of Switzerland, born in 1895, and came to the United States March 12, 1909.