

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1923.

\$2.00 THE YEAR.

22 TRUE BILLS

That Number of Offenses Against Which Answers Will Have to be Made

The grand jury made its report to Judge Kendall Wednesday evening, returning twenty-two indictments. Eight of these were blind indictments and will not be made public until those named therein have been taken into custody.

L. W. Pearce, the Catching Creek murderer, was indicted on two charges, one for first degree murder and the other for murder in the second degree.

Cy Goodman was indicted for assault with a dangerous weapon; Alfred Leaton for non-support; F. E. Clausen twice for obtaining money by false pretenses; Lloyd Zachary on four forgery charges; R. E. Conley, Joe Vangener and Melvin Manning for criminal syndicalism.

Sam Gordon, of Powers, was indicted twice, once for gross fraud at common law and on another charge of bribery.

The last indictment is a result of the mess now being made public at Powers and is mixed up with the proposed recall of Justice Zimmerman.

Gordon was charged with acting as go-between in passing the money along from those who paid for protection to operate gambling places and to sell booze, to those who winked at the law violation and made no effort to stop it. One of the secret indictments was against a man supposed to have paid money for such protection, but no indictment was returned against the official whom many Powers citizens swore was the man receiving it from Gordon.

The grand jury returned not a true bill in the case of A. McMannam, charged with passing a bad check and also in the case of J. H. Barklow, who was bound over on a charge of larceny of logs.

Sheriff Ellingsen and Deputy Malehorn were out until one o'clock last night seeking those against whom indictments were found, and they started out again early this morning.

The sheriff had instructions to bring those indicted into court at ten o'clock but at that hour court had not yet been called.

What Legislature Is Doing

We have had no news from Salem about what the legislature was doing since Wednesday but the dispatches that afternoon told that the income tax bill had been passed by the senate with only two dissenting votes after it had been amended in some important particulars, since it had been sent over from the house. The attempt to insert a provision that those who paid real estate tax should get a deduction from their income taxes on that account failed, and, of course, such a provision would have made complications that ought not to be invited.

The proposal to increase exemptions for unmarried people from \$1,000 to \$1,500 was also defeated.

The schedule set out in the Clark bill ranged from 1 per cent on the first \$1000 of net income to 6 per cent on the net income in excess of \$5000, with equal steps of one-half of 1 per cent on each \$1000 of net taxable income.

The schedule set out in the Edwards amendment adopted by the senate provides for a tax of 1 per cent on the first \$1000 of net taxable income, and then ranges upward in jumps of one-half of 1 per cent per thousand of net taxable income until it reaches 6 per cent on all taxable income in excess of \$12,000.

The bill approved by the senate and sent back to the house for its approval carries a provision for a special election next November, in the event that the referendum shall be invoked against the bill. This provision was written into the bill on motion of Senator Strayer, who explained that it represented the expressed wish of Governor Pierce, who did not want the operation of the bill unduly delayed by holding it up until the next regular election two years hence.

Hare presented an ultimatum said to bear the signatures of 34 or 35 members of the lower house threatening the defeat of any measure which did not include the real property offset.

The Sentinel and the Oregon Farmer can still be obtained for \$2.15 for one year.

Base Ball

Dr. G. E. Low, president of the Coquille Base Ball Club, requests the Sentinel to state that all those interested in seeing this city represented in the Coos County League next year, should turn out Sunday at the ball park and help in the work of grading the grounds. A few turned out last Sunday, but two or three can't be expected to do it all. The diamond is being levelled off, taking out the hump there was between second third base, and the whole field is to be put in better shape.

It's a little early yet to talk baseball, but unless the preliminary work, and especially the financial end is attended to this spring, the local club will be starting the season not fully prepared.

Coquille is a good baseball town and Carl King has been getting a line on some good men, who will be willing to come in for the summer, work during the week, and play ball on Sunday, at so much a game.

Neither Coquille nor Bandon can afford to pay a monthly salary to young fellows to lie around six days and play four games a month, and Mr. King is trying to line up a bunch of players who can play ball and still not require all the gate receipts for salaries.

NOT SO BAD AS AT FIRST

City Attorney Jas. T. Brand, of Marshfield, was over here Monday and took occasion to file a demurrer to the charge that he was grabbing county tax money for Marshfield. The bill passed by the legislature was one prepared by Senator Eddy, of Douglas. Mr. Brand said he didn't know what had happened to his bill but that it had not been introduced. However, his bill provided for a more equitable division of road funds—forty per cent to the district and sixty to the county.

In this same connection Judge Mast reported to the Commercial Club Wednesday evening that Gov. Pierce had not answered the telegram requesting him to veto the Eddy bill, but that Senator Hall had had the bill called back to the senate, and amendments were being made to it which will make it much less inimical to the interests of the county.

One improvement is that all funds for road bond sinking fund and interest are deducted from the total road tax before there is any division between district and county. Another excellent amendment is one protecting the market roads, funds for that purpose being deducted before any division is made.

And still further, the original 50-50 division has been restored so that the counties will be in much better shape than they would have been had not the local Commercial Club and Judge Mast started the agitation they did.

Senator Hall informed Judge Mast that there was such a sentiment for a road fund division in practically all the cities of the state that it would be impossible to kill the bill altogether.

As finally passed yesterday the bill is much more equitable.

The senator also stated that there is a law now on the statute books which permits a town or city to spend its share of road funds or roads outside the city limits, should the city's authorities deem it the best place to spend them.

Special Order Next Week

As several members of the Commercial Club wanted to get away early, only a short session was held Wednesday evening. President Leslie stated that he wanted to make a special order of business for next Wednesday evening and urged a large attendance. His idea was that every present at that time should have some suggestion for the improvement, betterment and upbuilding of Coquille, and some constructive plan for carrying their suggestion into effect.

L. H. Hazard said he wanted to make a suggestion right then, and that was that the city proceed to fill the holes in the pavements on Second and Front streets and his constructive plan was the use of the paving repair plant the city has just purchased. C. T. Skeels assured him that the repairing would be done soon but that the street commission had been so busy on other work and unable to secure additional help that the repair work had been delayed.

After voting to take a page advertisement in the high school annual, "The Laurel" the meeting adjourned.

THE NEW HOTEL NOW ASSURED

Forty-two Men and Women of Coquille Have Subscribed Stock to the Amount of \$25,000 and Put the Project Over the Top

THE STOCKHOLDERS

- J. E. Norton
- C. T. Skeels
- J. E. Ross
- C. J. Fuhrman
- A. O. Walker
- H. N. Loreau
- S. M. Nosler
- Geo. A. Robinson
- Coquille Hardware Co.
- City Bakery
- J. D. Graham
- G. Earl Low
- H. E. Shelley & Son
- J. W. Laird
- T. A. Walker
- Kenneth Kistner
- Mrs. E. E. Johnson
- E. W. Gregg
- Coast Auto Lines
- C. W. Gardner
- M. J. Hartson
- A. Ellingson
- W. H. Mansell
- R. A. Jeub
- O. T. Nelson
- Mrs. J. E. Paulson
- H. W. Young
- James Richmond
- F. G. Bunch
- J. H. McCloskey
- C. A. Gage
- Mrs. B. J. Smith
- L. C. Newman
- Gould & Gould
- J. L. Aasen
- Geo. N. Battey
- Wm. Richardson
- A. L. Simpson
- Robt. Train
- E. L. Vinton
- Ray Long
- C. L. Willey

That the people of Coquille have to so considerable an extent decided to work together in a true community spirit to build a modern hotel on the Baxter Hotel site augurs well for the future of our city. For the past ten years at least, since the writer has been a resident of Coquille, and without doubt considerably longer, the business men of this city have been impressed with the need of a first-class hotel and have been talking about the possibility of getting some one to come here and take the heavy end of the job of financing it.

But all the talking was a reminder of the "farmer and the lark" story in our third readers one or two generations ago. The grain was ripening in the farmer's field, and the lark overheard the farmer tell his boys the grain was nearly ripe enough to cut, and said he would look about for some one to do the work. The lark on its nest told her fledglings that they needn't worry; they would not be disturbed right away. A few mornings later the lark heard more talk of the same kind and still sat easy. But the morning came shortly when the farmer told his sons that they would have to tackle that job themselves and get busy with their cradles. [How many present day pupils know what use cradles were in harvesting, we wonder?]

Then the wise old lark told her babies that it was no use to wait any longer, they would have to get busy my pronto.

So long as we were waiting for some one else to come along and build us a hotel, and the old was here as a stop gap, nothing was done.

But when the fire put that out of business, everyone saw that the waiting game had come to an end and if we wanted a hotel to take care of the tourist travel that is bound to flood this coast section in a year or so when the roads are functioning, we would have to get busy and tackle that job ourselves. The result was that a few energetic men took the initiative and in a couple of months got a capital stock to the amount of \$25,000 subscribed as a nucleus to begin work.

So our people are pulling together again something as they did in war times and we are once more demonstrating the truth of the old adage that "Heaven helps those who help themselves."

The \$25,000 stock needed to finance the construction of the proposed hotel on the site of the former Baxter, having been all subscribed—250 shares by the men and women named above, \$100 a share—a meeting of the stockholders was called at the city hall Tuesday evening to perfect an organization; and of the whole number of shares all but ten were represented at that meeting. Mayor S. M. Nosler was elected chairman of this meeting and Ray A. Jeub, secretary.

The work already done in securing these subscriptions and the organization and objects of the Coquille Investment company, whose incorporation was the first step taken in furtherance of the hotel project, was very fully detailed by J. E. Norton; and though the information he had to give was not in the form of a continuous narrative, but was interspersed with questions and expressions of opinion by other stockholders in regard to the proposed structure and its site, this being a community undertaking it will perhaps be fully as satisfactory to the readers to give the history of the enterprise straight away than to go back and forth over the same ground, as was done when one point of view after another of the matters under consideration was brought out.

After the burning of the Baxter Mr. Norton purchased the lots composing its site, two fronting on Front street, each 25 x 100 feet in size and three fronting on First street, each of the same size as the others. With C. T. Skeels, C. J. Fuhrman, J. E. Ross and A. O. Walker as the other incorporators, the Coquille Investment company was then organized and arrangements made to hold this site as long as might prove necessary for the construction of the hotel. The idea of making any profit out of the purchase did not enter into the minds of these gentlemen, though it seems to have entered into the suspicions of those who were not fully informed as to the transaction.

Mr. Skeels referred to the thought involved in these suspicions as being termed the "joker" in this deck and positively assured the stockholders that there was nothing of the sort in the deal, so that idea no longer fogged any brains.

Mr. Norton's offer to the hotel stockholders was equally definite and clean cut. The holding company would sell so much of the old hotel site as was needed for the proposed first unit, 50x125 feet in area, on the basis of the average cost per square foot of the entire tract at just what they paid for it plus the 75 per cent attorney who examined the abstract and six per cent interest on the money from the time they bought it until it is taken over by the new hotel company. For the site of the second unit, on which it is not proposed to build now, there were two more elements to enter into the price—the unpaid First street assessments for paving and the taxes that might have to be paid before this tract was taken over by the present organization, if it later desired to go on and build that second unit of the hotel, or for a new organization that might be called the hotel annex company to build that second unit.

If such a second company was formed, it would be the privilege of all the shareholders in the present company to take stock or not, just as they wished.

For the Coquille Investment company, or holding company, Mr. Norton not only agreed that they would sell the site for the second unit on the terms outlined above when it was wanted, but that they would keep the property for three years before disposing of it in any way.

In relation to this he expressed the conviction that when the first unit of the hotel, with 42 rooms was built, the venture would prove so successful that before another year had passed it would be necessary to build the second unit on the remainder of the site. He added that with the new highways reaching this city from the north, south and east, if the hotel business

(Continued on eighth page.)

Warrants to Be Endorsed

Coos county warrants on the general fund will no longer be made out "to bearer" so that they can be passed from hand to hand as readily as green-backs or national bank notes. The county court has, we think, acted wisely in having the new issue made payable to the person to whom it has a debt to pay "or order," so that they will be just like any bank check and must be endorsed by the payee before they are paid or transferred. This is more business-like and much better for the careless payee, as they will be worth nothing to the finder if they are mislaid or lost by the person named. When another series of road warrants are provided, the same change will be made in them.

Health Association Meets

At the regular meeting of the Public Health Association on Tuesday evening an excellent address was given by Dr. Mingus on the subject of Diet. Some new scientific facts were discussed and valuable information given about foods essential to the building up of the human body and keeping it in its best condition, bringing out especially the need of vitamins found in butter (not substitutes) and uncooked vegetables.

The next meeting will be held on March 13th.

LOOK OVER THE ROADS

Judge R. H. Mast and Commissioners H. G. Kern and W. W. Gage were down over the North Bank road Tuesday, trying to get some idea of what it would take to make it ready to use as a detour road when work starts on the Roosevelt Highway.

They formed no estimate of what it would cost to get the grading done for a connection between the North Bank road and a ferry at Lampa, but know that it will take all they can rake and scrape from every source. They are going to try, however, to get it in shape for a summer road this year. They say they cannot possibly do any travelling on it in 1923.

They also went over the Myrtle Point-Lampa market road in the Argo and Fishtrap section and found some of it almost impassable for a team. Had there not been a shortage in the market road fund of \$23,000 left by the last court, they could probably have gravelled the most urgent portions of that road, but having cut down \$13,000 in market road appropriations this year, they cannot see where any money is coming from for any graveling. The balance of \$10,000 will have to come out of next year's expenditures in some districts, too.

Logs on the Coquille River

A public hearing will be held by Captain George Mayo, U. S. District Engineer, First District, Portland, Oregon, in Coquille, Oregon, in the council chamber of the City Hall, at 1:30 p. m., on Monday, March 5, 1923, to consider agreement upon satisfactory rules and regulations for floating logs or sack rafts of logs, and safeguarding navigation for commercial steamboats, as the basis of a recommendation to the Secretary of War for the regulation of all navigation on Coquille River.

All parties interested, especially those engaged in logging, milling and transportation, are invited to be present or to be represented at the hearing, to express their views orally or submit them in writing.

Five Were Admitted

Tuesday was naturalization day in Circuit Court here and the following five were accepted and made full-fledged citizens:

Arthur Poessans Dt Bolleau, of Eastside; Johannes Christian Brauer, of Norway; Michael Wholey, of Powers; Jean Shepherd, of Eastside; and Maude Myrberg, of Coquille.

The application of Carl Hanson Nelson, of Bandon, was dismissed, and those of Marcus Keizer, of Marshfield, Spero Statharas, of Marshfield, and R. J. Galbraith, of Coquille, continued for further investigation and study.

Christian Science Lecture

A free lecture on Christian Science by John C. Lathrop, C. S. B., of Brookline, Mass., member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Mass., at Liberty Theatre tonight at 8 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

CITY TO GET BUSY

Will Improve Road to Grove ---New Pool Hall Prohibitions

At the regular session of the council Monday evening, at which Mayor Nosler and all councilmen were present, the petition for the improvement of Fourth street from the Henry street bridge five blocks east to Division and north on Division to Patterson Grove, was presented, and after checking it up to ascertain that it contained the required signatures of owners of two-thirds of the property included in the assessment district, the council passed a resolution instructing the city engineer to prepare plans, specifications and estimates. For the purpose of indicating what they deemed a suitable improvement, the council and engineer went over the ground the next evening.

On account of weather conditions the time for the completion of the remaining four feet of the Rink creek dam was extended to April 1. At the same time Mr. Gidley had on file a communication authorizing the city to fill the dam at any time the engineer in charge, A. N. Gould, specified, and that he would hold the city blameless for any unexpected result of such filling.

The question of a new ordinance regulating pool halls was brought up and City Attorney Stanley read the ordinance which he prepared two years ago but which was not adopted then. The teeth in this proposed ordinance were published at that time. While it permits the playing of pool and billiards on Sunday, it does not permit card playing and the councilmen all expressed themselves as being opposed to any provision permitting Sunday card playing.

Under this proposed new ordinance the council alone has authority to grant a permit to operate a pool room and it reserves the right to reject such permit at any time without stating a reason.

The prohibition regarding boys under 21 years of age frequenting pool halls is made to conform to the state law and provides for prosecution, both the proprietor and the youth. An offender, under 18 years of age, is to be taken before the juvenile court instead of the recorder.

The last mentioned provision is one which has been most persistently violated in some of the pool halls in Coquille and is one which should receive the serious attention of the officers.

As looking toward the posting of the street signs which were ordered by the last council, it was requested that former Councilman Simpson be present at the next meeting, March 5, to give this council the benefit of his ideas.

McLain Resigns Office

His many friends in this section will be a little surprised to learn that Hugh McLain has resigned the position of postmaster at Marshfield to take effect tomorrow. He would have completed over 8 years' service if he had continued to the end of his second four years' term in August. The reason Mr. McLain gives for resigning is that he wishes to engage in the contracting business. He built some of the first concrete work in this county, including that on the basement of the old court house here 25 years ago.

Electric Bell at Bridge

An electric alarm bell was received at the local Southern Pacific depot last Friday for installation at the bridge crossing on Ferry street. Work was started yesterday, but it will take a week to get it connected up. The alarm will begin sounding when an approaching train is a half mile distant and continue until it has passed the crossing.

Basket Ball Tonight

The North Bend high school teams, both boys and girls, will be over here this evening to meet the Coquille teams at the high school gym. They will both be hard games, although Coquille was returned the victor in both when the double header was played at North Bend a few weeks ago. The first game will start at 7:15.

John C. Lathrop, of Brookline, Massachusetts, is to deliver a free lecture on Christian Science at the Liberty Theatre tonight at 8 o'clock.