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Oregon Historical Society X Auditorium

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1923.

\$2.00 THE YEAR.

GOT 120 GALLONS

Officers Find Lots of Booze Up Stairs on Front Street

One of the largest, if not the largest hauls of liquor by police officers in Coos county was made by Marshal Leach and Night Marshal Hollenbeck about five o'clock Wednesday evening, when they captured 120 gallons of moonshine in an upstairs room over the W. G. Brandon Confectionery.

A large crowd of interested spectators quickly gathered to witness the work of the officers as they brought keg after keg of shine down the rickety stairs and hauled it up to the city hall for safe keeping.

No other evidence of a still was found except a broken piece of a coil and a rubber tube, which might have been used for syphoning.

There was a 50-gallon keg containing about forty gallons, six 10-gallon kegs full, three five and enough more to make the 120 gallons, which at the selling price of "shine"—even at \$20 a gallon—would make it worth \$2400 or more to the seller.

Whom the stuff belonged to has not been proved. The first step was to interview Mr. Brandon, who owns the building. He told Mr. Hollenbeck that he had the upstairs leased but did not state to whom, so he was taken before Justice Stanley and yesterday was placed under \$500 bonds on the charge of having liquor in his possession. Dr. Jas. Richmond and W. H. Mansell signed his bond.

District Attorney Fisher had returned to Marshfield prior to Mr. Brandon's appearance, so the judge set his hearing for tomorrow when the prosecuting attorney will be back here.

The raid was the result of a booze capture earlier the same afternoon. The officers had entertained a suspicion of Tony Yennick, the Austrian who has run the Royal Cafe on the south side of Front street, for some time, so Wednesday afternoon Leach and Hollenbeck and Deputy Frank Dungey searched the restaurant and found four bottles of moonshine under the couch on which Yennick sleeps in the kitchen.

He was arrested and taken before Justice Stanley where he pleaded not guilty. The judge put him under \$100 cash bond, which Tony posted, and then released him.

Yennick went down the street and in a few moments returned and told the judge if he would not make his fine more than \$200 he would plead guilty. The justice accepted his offer, not knowing that this was Yennick's second offense; the latter having paid a fine and served 60 days in the county jail last winter on a similar charge while living at the Bay. Yennick paid the \$100 additional and was released.

But Marshal Leach was not satisfied, and so declared himself. He had expected to find more than four bottles in the restaurant.

With Mr. Hollenbeck he began looking along the back of the buildings on Front street, this side of the railroad track, and when they came to the Brandon building they went up the back stairs. A hole in the window gave them an opportunity to smell the interior and the whiff he got sent the marshal post haste for a search warrant, leaving Hollenbeck on guard.

When they broke in they found the stuff in a back room, with a number of empty barrels, pails, funnels, gallon jars, besides the moonshine.

Commandeering the City Bakery truck they began to move the booze out. Whether any of the stuff disappeared during the interval that Hollenbeck was downstairs talking to Brandon is not certain, but a girl told Deputy Sheriff Malehorn that she saw a couple of men go up the backstairs and take down two kegs.

The same afternoon the officers searched other buildings on Front street but found nothing except a part of a still in the rooms over the City Bakery, formerly occupied by a cousin of Yennick, who spent some time here a few weeks ago.

There is a belief among many citizens that the "shine" was made in the room where it was found for one man tells of seeing a light up there all through the night before the raid.

The ownership of the booze will probably be established tomorrow when Mr. Brandon tells in court to whom he had leased the rooms.

Must Help Themselves

Before the so-called Coos Bay road boosters begin any whispering recall agitation they would do well to digest the figures showing the amounts spent by the county from market road and general road funds and the amount of special taxes voted for road purposes in comparison with the amount spent on roads in other districts.

This year from the market road and county funds the county court has spent \$24,500 on the North Bend-Empire-South Slough road, and last year about \$10,000 was spent. The amount collected from special road taxes in that district is about \$1300 this year, and a total of over \$11,000 for the past three years.

On the Myrtle Point-Sitkum market road the county has spent \$51,000 while the special taxes voted in those districts total \$55,000 for the three years.

On the Norway-McKinley market road the county (including market road funds) has spent about the same as the districts have voted—in the neighborhood of \$26,000 each.

Other market road projects have been treated in a similar manner, the county sometimes spending more than 50 per cent, and the districts sometimes voting more than half.

The county court stands ready to give the South Slough road, from North Bend to Shoreacres, as good a road as they can pay for, but the rest of the county will object to it's all being done out of county funds.

E. L. ROBINSON ROADMASTER

County Roadmaster Chas. S. McCulloch presented his resignation as roadmaster to the county court the first of this week. It was accepted and the commissioners named E. L. Robinson, of Reedsport, as his successor.

The court had had this move in mind for some weeks, but had done nothing toward making a change, and Mr. McCulloch's resignation was precipitated by an unauthentic report in the Coos Bay Harbor last week that Mr. Robinson had been appointed.

Judge Mast received word from Mr. Robinson yesterday that he would be down here next Monday. Mr. McCulloch's resignation is effective tomorrow.

Mr. Robinson is a former resident of Marshfield, an engineer of ability, and one whom the court is convinced will make good in the roadmaster's office.

Mr. McCulloch has about sixteen months yet to serve as county surveyor, his term expiring Jan. 1, 1925.

Young Covell Feeble Minded

Judge R. H. Mast received a letter yesterday from the Court of Domestic Relations at Portland informing him that the 16-year old boy, Alton Covell, who is being held in jail here during the investigation of the killing of his step-mother, Mrs. Fred Covell, had been adjudged feeble-minded in that court some years ago. The family lived out from Portland on the Powell Valley road and after he had been examined but before the commitment paper had been made out for his admission to the asylum, the family left there and came down here. No further effort to have him committed was made by the Multnomah county court.

There have been no new developments in the murder case the past week. Officials are working on the case and every incident and phase of the crime is being investigated. No charge has yet been preferred against Dr. Fred Covell, nor his son. District Attorney Fisher is reported in a Bay paper as saying that Dr. Covell's hearing will be held next week.

Progress of New Hotel

Work was started toward the laying of the roof on the new hotel yesterday morning, and it can be finished in five days if the material arrives. At any rate the first layer will be in place before there is any danger from rain.

The lathers are nearly through with their part of the work and the middle of the week workmen began tearing off the wooden forms. The two front sides of the hotel are to be white stucco and the west side and north end are to be concrete waterproofed only.

Whether it can possibly be ready for occupancy by the first of the year is debatable, but it should be opened to the public early in 1924.

THE BOY SCOUTS BOOZE ACCIDENT

Coos and Douglas Counties Will Have Paid Executive

K. L. Haga, regional Boy Scout executive from Sponkane, made a visit to Coquille Wednesday evening to speak before the members of the Commercial Club regarding the Scout program. He was accompanied from the Bay by A. T. Lagerstrom, M. D. Bromberger, Guy Warner and R. T. Spaulding.

Mr. Haga was formerly connected with the boys in Scout work but recently he has been transferred to that part of the Scout program which consists in getting the men of the country more interested in the movement—"at the front, instead of behind the movement, so far behind that no one knows when they drop out at the rear."

Mr. Haga told of many interesting experiences he had had with boys and their parents and explained at considerable length what the purpose of the Boy Scout organization is. To sum it up in a few words, it is the building of citizenship, not the making of soldiers, nor the teaching of games, but the fitting of the boys to be leaders, to be courteous, considerate and of the highest class of citizenship.

He promised that a publicity campaign would be instituted in Coos county which would inform any person of the real purposes of the Boy Scout movement.

The other visitors spoke of the movement started at the Bay this week, which if put into effect, will result in a first class Boy Scout council in Coos county and tie the local organization up to the national council. In short, it is the employing of a paid executive by the Coos and Douglas counties who will devote all his time to the work, overseeing the work of each troop and training future scout masters.

It is expected, of course, that troops will be formed in Myrtle Point and Bandon, and that these towns will assist in paying the expenses of this executive along with Coquille, Marshfield and North Bend. The expense will be shared equally between Coos and Douglas counties.

In speaking of the Boy Scout work in the county, Mr. Bromberger paid a high compliment to C. C. Farr, of this city, who for over a year acted as Scoutmaster with but little assistance from Coquille citizens.

There are about forty Scouts in Coquille and the appointment of a qualified Scoutmaster is the first requirement.

The Boy Scouts is one of the biggest things before the American people today and Coquille should respond and assist the movement as is being done all over the country.

The Commercial Club went on record as being willing to assist in the work in every way possible.

Budget Meeting Monday

Next Monday evening, Sept. 17, the annual budget meeting of School District No. 8, will be held at the high school building in Coquille. All property owners in the district are entitled to vote at this meeting and it is hoped a good attendance will be present. The amount of special tax to be voted, as outlined by the budget committee, is \$26,451.23, a slight decrease from this year's tax.

Rev. H. V. Moore Returns

It is the best of news to the congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church South here that Rev. H. V. Moore was reassigned to the local field by Bishop DuBose at the annual conference of the church held in Milton this week.

Word has just been received here from Mr. Moore that he will be here to preach at the Methodist Church South next Sunday.

Church Resigns at Poor Farm

E. C. Church, who has been superintendent at the county infirmary for the past year or more, tendered his resignation to the county court at its meeting last week, to take effect as soon as his successor could be secured. The court is elsewhere in this issue calling for bids from those who may desire to secure the appointment.

If you are looking for a bargain in farm property, write Box 479, Coquille, Ore. 8542

BOOZE ACCIDENT

Collision Above Bridge—Nash Car Seriously Damaged

Irving A. Paasch was taken before Justice Stanley yesterday afternoon to answer to two traffic law violations, that of driving a motor car while intoxicated, and also for failure to keep on the right side of the road. He pleaded not guilty to both charges and his trial was set for nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

In addition to these charges it is reported that District Attorney Fisher is going to place a charge against him of having liquor in his possession.

The accident which resulted in these charges occurred about 6:30 Wednesday morning, a mile and a half above Bridge on the Coos Bay Highway, when the Hudson which Paasch was driving struck a new Nash car being driven in by a gentleman named Deasles, from Portland. It made an almost complete wreck of the Nash.

Paasch was driving on the wrong side of the road, as his wheel tracks showed, and he struck the Nash just back of the front wheel.

With him at the time were M. S. Saunders and a Miss Richards. The former was badly lacerated, although not seriously.

Traffic Officer Williams, who was called out there, says he found, where Paasch had ditched it a gallon jug containing a quart of moonshine, three full pint bottles, another with a couple of spoonful in it and an empty bottle.

He arrested Paasch and placed him in jail here on Wednesday. His home is in Marshfield and the Hudson he was driving belonged to Joe Emery.

Hotel Man May Come Here

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shaw were in Coquille two or three days last week, leaving in from their home in Nevada. Mr. Shaw is an experienced hotel man, who is negotiating for a lease on the new hotel. He and Mrs. Shaw were very much pleased with the prospects, both for Coquille and for the hotel, and although no deal was closed with him, he promised to write soon whether he desired to be considered as an applicant for the lease. Reports from other sources received locally are that he is one of the best hotel men in the west.

Last of the Heat Waves

Apparently we have had the last heat wave stories from the East for the present year; but hardly had they stopped coming when we began yesterday to hear of killing frosts, which were reported in Montana, North Dakota and northern Wyoming. And here on the Oregon coast, where the weather is as even as anywhere in the United States, the evenings are getting cold enough, for fires, which we need almost every month in the year.

Death of Mrs. Fredenburg

Mrs. H. K. Fredenburg, of Arago, who less than a month ago was called to mourn the death of her daughter, Augusta Marie by the sad drowning accident at Reedsport, became ill last week and on Sunday was taken to the Myrtle Point Hospital, where she passed away Wednesday night. She was 49 years of age and there seems little doubt that the cause of her death was prostration with grief over the loss of her daughter.

The funeral services took place at Myrtle Point yesterday and the interment was made at Coquille.

Has United 403 Couples

Last Sunday at his residence here, Justice Stanley performed the wedding ceremony for Jos. Lopez and Agnes Jordan, and at his office on Wednesday he performed the same service for Harry C. Houser and Beale Martin. This was the 403rd marriage ceremony which Mr. Stanley has performed during his eleven years incumbency of the office. His first wedding was Sept. 5, 1912.

Being called on to make his report to the county court of the number of children of school age in the county six weeks before the school census is taken, County School Superintendent C. E. Mulkey estimates an increase of 800 over last year. The earlier report is necessary because the budget has to be prepared about three months earlier than heretofore.

Tax Commission Not Needed

Some weeks ago Gov. Pierce named at the tax supervising commission for Coos county, A. K. Peck, of Marshfield; Walter Donald, of Bandon; and J. Finley Schroeder, of Norway. They have not yet organized and it seems to be the almost universal desire all over the county that they should not.

In many counties in the state the men appointed have refused to organize or have resigned.

If this law of the last legislature should be observed it would mean the addition of a \$2500 tax bill, with but very little compensating results for the several tax levying bodies have a much better idea of how much money is necessary to conduct the affairs of such district, city or county, than any commission could have without months of study and investigation, and with the present budget system any unnecessary amounts to be raised by taxation would be quickly apparent.

And in the case of a school district, what right has any commission to veto a budget which is adopted by a vote of the taxpayers? Yet, according to the opinion of Attorney General Van Winkle, that is just what the new law permits. It is a fool law which should be repealed by the next legislature.

W. T. Culbertson was in from the Dora section on Monday with a panther hide, measuring 6 feet and 3 inches. He had killed it the day before and its weight was 70 pounds.

IRA JOHNSON'S FINE SHOOTING

The shoot held at the fair last week was a most successful affair and the directors of the association plan to make it a regular event at future fairs. They had two traps working and about 50 shooters participated, five of them being professionals with ammunition companies.

O. N. Ford, manager of the Portland Gun Club, and champion shot of Oregon, won the cup or the highest average for the two days, although he was not high gun either day. Hugh Harlocker was high the first day with 49 out of 50 birds hit.

The second day Ira Johnson had his eye working in the best of shape, and dropped 75 straight. He showed the professionals, the Portland crack shots and the spectators how target shooting really should be done, and it is doubtful if there is a marksmen in the state who can equal Ira when he is going good. John Miller was second with 74 and Mr. Ford third with 73. Mr. Johnson won the cup for highest score made. He was also second highest for both days and Dr. Leep, of Bandon, was third.

The shoot attracted considerable attention on the outside for ten men were present from Portland on Saturday, but they didn't have a look-in with the kind of marksmanship Messrs. Johnson and Miller were showing.

Special Tax Across River

A large number of the farmers in Road District No. 20, across the river from Coquille, met at the Roy school house Tuesday evening and decided to have a special election called this fall for voting on the proposition to raise \$6,000 by taxation for improving the Coquille-Fishtrap road, and the road around the foothills from the Dement ranch to Fat Elk. It is their intention to have the money spent equally between the two projects.

With this kind of a program outlined the citizens of this district are going before the county court and ask that the county budget this fall an amount necessary to put these roads in the condition they should be. The farmers of that section will attend the meeting of the Commercial Club here next Wednesday evening to explain what they propose doing and to ask Coquille's assistance in putting the project over.

Bandon Saw Eclipse

It has been thought by many people that at the mouth of the Coquille the sky is more frequently obscured by clouds and fog than is the case at Coquille, and this is probably the case. All the same the people down at Bandon had a view of the eclipse of the sun last Tuesday, while all we noted here was that it was darker than would have been expected at mid-day. We didn't get even the best glimpse of the sun while it was shadowed by the moon.

THE CITY BUDGET

What Taxes Are to Be Levied For This City Next Year

The budget committee for the city of Coquille met in the city hall last Monday evening and organized by the election of Geo. O. Leach as chairman, and Geo. T. Moulton as secretary.

A tentative budget had been prepared by the city treasurer and finance committee of the council, and this was followed in the main. The full text of the budget will be found on another page of this issue.

The total estimated expenses for the year 1924 is \$16,236.77, as against \$15,711.87 estimated for 1923. The estimated receipts for 1924 are \$1,795, which is \$47.97 more than that estimated for this year. This leaves the total amount to be raised by city taxes or 1924 at \$14,441.67, which is \$477.03 more than the 1923 were supposed to produce.

This keeps the city within the six per cent tax increase limitation, for 6 per cent of \$13,964.64 is \$837.88—the amount which could have been levied by the city without submitting the budget to a vote of the people.

The items which go to make up this \$14,441.67 are divided in seven classes, as follows:

Personal services—recorder, two marshals, attorney, treasurer, fire chief, health officer and other services \$4850, which is \$210 more than budgeted last year.

Material and supplies, including fuel, light and power, stationery and printing, \$3,000. This is \$150 more than last year's estimate.

Construction—engineering on streets and bridges, reconstruction of wharf and hose tower—\$1875; \$125 less than last year. \$1500 is budgeted for rebuilding the wharf now, while last year \$1800 was budgeted for the Spurgeon street bridge.

Indebtedness—sinking fund and interest on 1915 bonds, interest on Lamb Grove warrants and general fund warrants—\$3566.67, a drop of \$70 due to decreasing interest on bonds.

Miscellaneous—elections, Library Association, city parks, garbage and other items—\$1205, an increase of \$200 over this year's expenses.

Emergency Fund—\$100, the same as budgeted last year.

The receipts estimated to be received next year are from rental of city property, wharfage, licenses, fines, miscellaneous and the 7-10 of a mill road tax to be received from the county.

The date set for a public hearing on the budget, before its final adoption is Monday, Oct. 15, at which time any citizen who desires to enter a protest against any item in the budget, will be heard and his claim considered.

Change at City Cleaners

The City Cleaners and Tailors shop, on east Front street, changed hands Wednesday when L. C. Newman sold the establishment to Chas. H. Lowery, who comes here from Weiser, Idaho, where he conducted a tailor shop for ten years. He is a practical tailor, but intends to conduct the shop as it has been, with the addition of a line of samples from a house which is second to none in the country. Mrs. Lowery came with him and they will occupy the rooms over the shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman, who have been here for the past three years, are going to move to Marshfield and in about a month or six weeks he will open a pop corn and confectionery stand over there.

Mr. Newman has served for the past year as secretary of the Commercial Club very efficiently and it was with regret that the members received his resignation Wednesday evening.

Enrollment 25 More

The enrollment in the Coquille High School at the opening of school this week was 155, as against 140 last year. This means that an additional class room will have to be fitted up in the basement of the new building at once in order to accommodate all the students.

In the grades the increase was less, the enrollment being 355 this year as against 345 last year. The increase here was well scattered through the several grades, the seventh being the only grade unduly crowded.