

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

Oregon Historical Society X  
Auditorium

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XX. NO. 46.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1923.

\$2.00 THE YEAR.

## AUTO KILLS ONE

### Jos. Zachary Dead and Four Injured From Combination Speed and Booze

Another auto went over the grade at the Albert Schroeder place, a mile or so beyond Johnsons Mill, Sunday afternoon, and plunged through the same hole in the fence that the Tom Berry Buick made a month ago, taking out one more post.

The accident resulted in the death of one of the five men in the car, Joe Zachary, whose back was broken, and the injury of all the men. The other four were Wood Zachary, brother of the man killed, D. D. Stratton, who was driving, A. Hawkins, who owned the Chevrolet, and W. Hollingshead. They were on their way from Powers to Marshfield, and were going at high speed.

Within five minutes after the accident 15 or 20 cars were lined up along the road. Joe Zachary was placed in a car at once and brought to Coquille and then taken on to meet the ambulance which came over to take him to the hospital. He looked to be fatally injured when picked up and it was later ascertained that his back was broken. He died about 7:30 that evening.

The other men were lying or sitting on the ground, some with their clothing partly torn off and evidently in great pain. One of them had several ribs broken. They went back to Myrtle Point, and after his injuries were dressed Stratton was brought down here by Traffic Officer Williams and lodged in jail, charged with reckless driving and involuntary manslaughter.

The point at which the car left the roadway is not a very dangerous one, but it would have been dangerous for any car ascending the hill on this side, for the wheel tracks show that instead of hugging the bank, Stratton was driving clear on the outside of the road for a distance of nearly 100 feet. It is possible that loose gravel on the outer edge of the road threw the car over the bank, but it descended over and stopped, resting on all four wheels, about 25 feet below the roadway and about 50 feet distant.

Unless something was wrong with the steering gear or wheels of the car, there was not the slightest reason for its going over, except that it was on the wrong side of the road. Joe Zachary was about 30 years of age, a son of Mrs. M. B. Zachary, of Powers, and had worked at Eel Lake camp, Dement creek camp and at Powers. He came to this country from North Carolina.

Stratton, the driver, admitted to the officers here, that the party had been drinking before they left Powers.

Stratton was taken before Justice Stanley Monday to answer to the charge of reckless driving filed by Traffic Officer Williams. Through his attorney, Grant Corby, he pleaded not guilty. The amount of his bond nor the date of his trial has yet been set by the judge.

## Successful Turkey Shoot

The turkey shoot held by the Coquille Rod & Gun Club at their grounds here last Sunday was attended by a good sized crowd, many sportsmen being here from Myrtle Point and Marshfield. It was an excellent day for a shoot and the crowd enjoyed it and also the noon lunch.

Thirty-five turkeys and twenty-five chickens were hung up as prizes and so carefully were the shooters classified that nearly every one present got a bird of one kind or the other.

## Cleaning Up Drug Joints

Two Chinamen and all their outfit, including pipes and opium, were captured after midnight Tuesday night by Sheriff Ellingsen and deputies, when they made a raid on the Chinese laundry at North Bend. One of the Chinks runs the laundry and the other was cook at the North Bend hotel. One hoophead was found in the joint at the time of the raid.

## County Will Help

Judge R. H. Mast told the representatives of the Roy district here Wednesday evening that since they had voted 4 1-2 mill special road tax, the county court was planning to help them in road matters as much as possible, and he thought the court would meet them 50-50 out of the market road funds.

## Baby Clinics Every Month

The second clinic will be held at the Setaspell Building on Friday, December 7th, from 1 to 5 p. m.

All mothers of children of pre-school age are urged to take advantage of these clinics which will be held on the first Friday in each month. Mothers are requested to bring a blanket to wrap the baby in just previous to and during the examination.

The clinics are for all children up to six years of age; also for pre-natal mothers.

Similar clinics will be conducted in the County by the County Health Department and local units of the Coos County Health Association as follows:

Myrtle Point—First Thursday in each month.

Powers—Second Thursday in each month.

Marshfield—Third Thursday in each month.

North Bend—Third Friday in each month.

Bandon—Fourth Friday in each month.

The name of President Monroe was misspelled four times in an article telling about the one hundredth anniversary of the Monroe doctrine in one of our exchanges this week.

## PASSING OF MRS. J. C. SLAGLE

E. E. Johnson received word last Friday morning of the death of his sister, Mrs. J. Calvin Slagle, at a hospital in Oakland, Calif., that morning at 9:30.

He and Alfred and C. McC. started the next day for Oakland to attend the funeral, and were joined at Roseburg by their sister, Mrs. T. H. Mehl, of Vancouver, B. C. The funeral was held Monday morning at 11 o'clock in St. Paul's Episcopal church, and interment was in the Mountain View cemetery.

The brothers returned from the south Wednesday.

Mrs. Slagle, born Kathryn Johnson, was between 41 and 42 years of age, at the time of her death. She was born in Stronach, Mich., and came to Coos county with her parents. About twenty years ago she was married to Mr. Slagle and they made their home in Coquille and elsewhere in the county until ten years ago. They spent three years in British Columbia, and for the past seven had resided in Oakland.

For the past four or five months Mrs. Slagle had been in poor health and nine days before her death had gone to a hospital for an operation but she was not strong enough to withstand the shock.

Besides the brothers and sister mentioned she leaves her husband and son, J. Calvin Jr., and two sisters, Mrs. D. L. Albert and Mrs. R. Stanley Dollar, both of Oakland.

Mrs. Slagle was a lovely woman, who had a host of friends in and around Coquille and her passing was a great shock to all who knew her. She was a member of the Episcopal church.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Slagle, of Los Angeles, also attended the funeral Monday.

The floral offerings at the services were the most beautiful he had ever seen said Mr. Johnson this morning.

## Voted Special Road Taxes

The special road district elections held over the county last Friday and Saturday, resulted in the special tax being voted in all districts but one—the McKinley section.

Those which voted a tax and the amount voted are as follows:

Templeton, \$1572.  
Larson Slough, \$1031.16.  
Kentuck Slough, 10 mills.  
North Fork of Coos River, \$11,437.55.  
South Slough, \$6,316.40.  
Sumner, \$3,820.  
Fairview, \$9,500.  
Sitkum, 10 mills.  
North Slough, \$3,290.  
Arago, \$5,125.50.  
North Bank, \$14,000.  
Roy, \$2,698.54.  
Bear Creek, \$6,574.70.  
Bridge, \$9,282.  
Lee, \$1,300.  
Norway, \$2,000.

Remember the sale of fancy articles and cooked food by the Ladies of the Episcopal Guild at the Coquille Hardware Co.'s new store Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 2 o'clock p. m.

## GOING TO ROCK IT COUNTY UNIT PLAN

### Highway Commission to Start Work on Bandon Road This Winter

Judge R. H. Mast, Mayor C. R. Wade, of Bandon, and C. W. Parker, of Marshfield, were in Portland on Monday and Tuesday this week when the matter of rocking the Coquille-Bandon road was up for consideration by the State Highway Commission.

After considering the matter from all angles, the commission ordered advertisements for bids to be opened at the December meeting for surfacing the road the entire distance, and it is expected that work will be begun during the winter.

The grading is so nearly completed that one of the men in charge for Contractor Hampshire says that a month's work in the spring will finish it.

This is great news for Bandon, as well as for all of Coos county, and probably means that the road will be open for travel next winter.

The county's share of the \$180,000 it is estimated the rocking will cost, will come mostly from credits the county has for money already spent—for the bridge here, for the Bandon south road, and elsewhere. The county is claiming, and the indications are that the commission allowed, a credit of \$30,000 for the new Coalbank slough bridge at Marshfield and \$30,000 more for two miles of the pavement built this way from Marshfield out to Millington. Other credits may be honored if necessary, which would have to be made good later.

## Coquille at O. A. C. U. of O Game

There were over thirty Coquille people at the O. A. C. U. of O. football game at Eugene last Saturday afternoon, most of whom went out by auto Friday evening. The list included Mr. and Mrs. Keith Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Davis, Mrs. Philip Johnson, Misses Marvel Skeels, Janet West, Ruth Woodward, Maxine Paulson, Alice Collier, and H. N. Lorenz, L. H. Hazard, G. Russell Morgan, Dr. C. A. Reitman, J. Arthur Berg, Raleigh Miller, Perry Lawrence, Jan. W. Laird, H. A. Young, Levi and Lester Wilson, Lewis Donaldson, Kenneth Kistner, Jackson Knife, Guy Mintonye, Allen Young, Pat Harville, Ted Bennett, Walter Paulson, Wilford and Eugene Laird, Geo. Belloni and Ross Kistner. There were besides a good many from Marshfield, North Bend and Myrtle Point, so that Coos county probably had from a hundred to a hundred and fifty representatives in the 15,000 through which witnessed the game.

All the Coquille boys did not get there, however, for the Laird car in which were Wilford and Eugene Laird, Pat Harville, Walter Paulson and Ted Bennett, broke an axle on Winchester hill, north of Roseburg. The boys were unable to get a service car to come out for them and it was not until six o'clock Saturday evening that a mechanic at Sutherland got their car repaired. They went on to Eugene, however, spent the night and came home Sunday.

O. A. C. was the victor in the game, because her team played better football, winning 6 to 0, but the game was not as well worth watching as was the U. of O-Idaho game a month previous.

## Christmas Seals on Sale

The annual sale of Christmas seals for this county, is now on and Mrs. Ida K. Owen, who has charge of the sale here in Coquille, has supplied each of the drug stores here with stamps. The proceeds of the sale are to go for anti-tuberculosis work and if the quota allotted to Coquille is all sold, as much as 65 per cent of the receipts will be expended in this locality. Mrs. Owen has no doubt that our whole allotment can be sold. To what extent there will be personal solicitation we do not yet know, but every one who desires to help this work for the unfortunate by buying these seals can find them at the drug stores.

## Why is Not Bell Installed?

Judge Mast informs us that the Public Service Commission wants to know why the people responsible for the running of the logging road up the Cunningham at Coquille haven't obeyed its order to install a bell at the highway crossing near the cemetery here. It's time Mr. Powers got busy.

## COUNTY UNIT PLAN

### Supt. C. E. Mulkey Explains Its Workings and Benefits to Result

Superintendent of Schools C. E. Mulkey delivered a talk to a fair audience, composed of both ladies and men, at the city hall Wednesday evening, explaining the workings of the county unit plan for handling school affairs. He stated that Oregon was one of the 15 states which still continues the district system, but there is a law on the Oregon statute books which makes the operation of the county unit plan optional with each county. Originally every state in the union except New Mexico adopted the district plan but by 1920, all but fifteen had abandoned it.

Seven years of study was made of the question before the present county unit law was prepared by a committee of school officials and presented to the legislature.

When adopted the office of the county school superintendent as now known, would be abolished, and the board of directors for the county, which would include all schools having less than 500 attendance, would select an executive head who would have the active charge of all schools, assisted by three representatives from each school section.

In Coos county there would be seven districts—Marshfield, North Bend, Coquille, Bandon, Myrtle Point, Powers, and the county, at large. In the first six mentioned there would be a governing directorate of five in each, instead of three as we now have in the Coquille district.

One board to handle the affairs of all the smaller schools would centralize the authority and take their handling out of politics. Mr. Mulkey said that the only question asked him by the county court when he applied for the position made vacant by the resignation of R. E. Baker was, "What are your politics?" Being informed that he was a republican the court appointed him county school superintendent.

Under the unit plan the salaries would be uniform. He told of one rich district now which pays \$150 for a lady to teach two girls, while another district gets an \$80 a month teacher for upwards of 20 pupils.

Under the new plan any person who was not qualified for teaching would be weeded out after one experience. Under the district plan he knew of a bright girl, whose forte was not teaching, who spoiled four different schools in the county, going to another as soon as requested to resign from each. This would be impossible with one board directing the affairs.

A uniform tax levy would be the greatest benefit to accrue from the unit plan, and using the present \$318,000 general school tax as a basis it would mean a levy of about 7 mills over the county. It would eliminate waste and duplication, it would provide equal facilities for children in all districts and tend to bring every school in the county up to standardization. In Crook county every school was standardized within one year following its adoption of the county unit law. In Coos county 14 one-room schools out of 53 are standardized.

Klamath county saved \$18,000 the first year of the unit law operation over what the district plan had been costing.

To show the inequitable features of the district system, Mr. Mulkey took the Lakeside and Coos River districts for comparison. Lakeside has 93 pupils, Coos River, 92. The former employs five teachers, the latter, six. Both have high schools. Lakeside with a special tax of 41.7 mills raises \$9,959. Coos River with only 7.3 mills, raises \$10,020.

That means that to raise practically the same amount for school purposes, a taxpayer at Lakeside must pay \$41.70 on the thousand of valuation, while in Coos River one pays but \$7.30 on the thousand.

And the unit plan would not raise the Coos River levy a fraction of a mill.

Over on the Seven Devils road there is a district which has to levy 23.3 mills, while for the same sized school at Hauser only 1.8 mills is required.

Ed Fahy and Frank Bullard, living across the road from one another at Bullards, are way apart in their school tax levies. One pays \$2.40 on the thousand valuation and the other

over eleven dollars.

This county unit plan is coming up for action before long. There will be opposition to it on the part of the rich districts, but it is a just and equitable means of raising school funds and should be adopted.

## Hearing Was Postponed

A. L. Martin, Coos county manager of the Mountain States Power Co., and the chief engineer of the company for Oregon, were here last Saturday in connection with the complaint made by the city of Coquille against the service rendered by that corporation. The hearing on the complaint had been set for November 24, but on the statements made by the two officials, J. J. Stanley, as attorney for the city, signed a stipulation granting them 30 days more to answer. Within that time the company hopes to make an announcement that will satisfy the city and all their patrons.

Both gentlemen freely admitted that the service they were able to render has not been what they thought it would be when the improvements were made at the Smith mill on the Bay, and Mr. Martin expressed himself as greatly embarrassed by their failure to live up to the promises he made to the council some weeks ago.

They are going to make those promises good, although it may require more time than he anticipated to do it.

## COQUILLE GETS \$94.77 PER PUPIL

At the request of F. R. Bullack, clerk of the Cunningham school district, the Sentinel asked Superintendent of Schools Mulkey how much of the taxes levied by the Cunningham district was for high school tuition. Mr. Bullack disagreed with the statement two weeks ago in the Sentinel that the high school tuition paid to the Coquille district did not cover the overhead cost, and that the only way by which pupils from outside this district could be accommodated in the local school was by the formation of a union high school.

Mr. Mulkey informs us that while the Cunningham district pays \$218.27 into the high school tuition fund, the Coquille district gets but \$94.77 of this amount for the one pupil attending high school from the Cunningham district. The remainder of the \$218.27 is divided among the other high schools in the county.

Everyone knows that \$94.88 per annum is not sufficient to cover the per capita cost per pupil in the local high school, to say nothing of the expense of erecting, repairing and maintaining building and equipment.

It is a condition that will have to be faced. Either the districts contiguous to Coquille will have to help bear the cost of buildings and equipment, by the formation of a union high school, or attendance at the local high school will have to be limited to students in this district only. The time for such action is not here yet but it is coming fast. Attendance has increased at the local high over 50 per cent in the past few years.

## Fine Concert Monday

The Mooseheart Concert Party, under the auspices of Ko-Keel Lodge No. 568, L. O. O. M., presented an entertainment in the Liberty Theatre here Monday evening, which delighted the crowd of over 500 which filled every seat in the house. It was a most successful affair and the enthusiastic attendance was highly pleasing to the local management as well as to the artists.

Most of the six young men in the troupe are graduates of Mooseheart and these has been a desire on the part of Moose everywhere to learn how successful their efforts to educate the children of deceased Moose have been. Needless to say they were satisfied with the showing made Monday evening.

The concert was mostly musical with vaudeville interspersed, and the jokes were to a large extent new and made a hit. Garrett, clarinetist and colored musician, was probably the one who received the most applause, but LaFlamme, on the xylophone, Dibona on the cornet, McFate on the trombone and Peterson at the piano, were all musicians of ability.

As a saxophone quintet the boys showed their versatility, and each one was clever on a number of instruments.

Sketches of their lives at Mooseheart by one of the party gave an intimate idea of how home like and efficient this big institution, sixty miles east of Chicago, really is.

## TWO APPROVED

### Tax Conservation Commission Has Passed Coquille's City and School Budgets

The Coos Bay Times contained a statement Tuesday that the Tax Conservation Commission had approved the Coos county budget. The report is a mistake as the only budgets so far approved by the commission are the Coquille city budget, and the Coquille school district budget.

As stated in the Bay paper, the bone of contention between the county court and the commission is the matter of a recruise of the timber in the county. The court is opposed to spending from \$50,000 to \$75,000 for another cruise, with no assurance that a recruise would be any nearer correct than the one made by Dennis McCarthy ten years ago, and they will try to work out some method of arriving at a more nearly correct valuation of timber without going to an enormous expense.

The commission is required by law to either approve or reject all budgets before Dec. 10, and Secretary Watson says they will act on them all next week. The commission is in session today with two members, Finley Schroeder and Walter Donald present. A. K. Peck is confined to his home by illness.

## Highway Is in Good Shape

There have been so many reports in circulation about the impassability of the Coos Bay Highway, between Myrtle Point and Roseburg, that this Sentinel writer wants to state that the road is in much better condition than it was a month ago. There is some mud in the upper canyon for three or four miles this side of Camas valley and the mountain on the Roseburg side needs a lot more rock, but where a month ago the mud was stiff and autos had to follow the truck tracks, which were sometimes almost hub deep, the recent rains have softened the mud and it is not that deep anywhere.

There was not the slightest need of chains Sunday when we returned, and aside from the two places mentioned the entire roadway was smooth, hard and dry. Rock is still being dumped into these soft places and eventually the surface will be built up over the foundation rock which is now in.

The Highway Commission says the road will be open all winter, and after going over it we are convinced that they know what they are talking about.

## Lafe Compton Gets Hotel

Last Friday evening the directors of the new Coquille hotel made a lease with Lafe Compton, of Marshfield, for the operation of that hostelry as soon as it is completed.

Mr. Compton is a hotel man of years' experience, who has been clerk at the Chandler at Marshfield so long that he knows every man and woman who travel into this territory, and is universally popular with them.

It is expected that the hotel will be ready for a formal opening soon after the middle of January.

## Coos Furnished the Majority

Coos county almost turned the scale in the vote on the state income tax early this month. She gave 1,555 for and 1,067 against the tax—an affirmative majority of 488 of a total of 506 in the state. So the rest of the state came within 18 votes of a stand off. The big majority against it in Portland where so many incomes will be hit by this tax was, of course, expected to defeat the measure, but in this case Portland wasn't big enough to swing the state.

## Roy District Wants Juice

A delegation from the Roy district across the river was present at the Commercial Club meeting Wednesday evening to ask that body to use its influence in getting them electric service. They have applied for service at various times but have so far failed to get it. It was pointed out that the company would, of course, be desirous of adding new business as soon as it was in a position to handle more, and the club passed a resolution declaring that the people of the Roy section should be furnished light and power without delay.

"We have put our staples on the shelves until after Christmas. Ask for what you don't see. Variety Shop."