

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XXI. No. 1.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1925.

\$2.00 THE YEAR.

UP TO COQUILLE

To Provide Larger Facilities for the School Children of This District

Coquille is growing much more rapidly than its school board facilities and the district board has had to go outside and secure a room to accommodate the class of 24 beginners who presented themselves at the grade building last Monday.

To handle this class, the basement of the M. E. Church South has been secured by the board and as quickly as it can be fitted up and another teacher arrives, Miss Cronk will be placed in charge of the beginners there. But it will not be ready by next Monday. A little carpenter work will have to be done, two toilets installed, blackboard made ready, etc.

Supt. Parr has wired for a teacher who is expected the first of the week. She will be in charge of a second grade class, leaving Miss Cronk free to give all her attention to the new pupils. These latter were dismissed last Monday for a week until arrangements could be made to accommodate them and it may possibly be another week before they can be received.

When the high school building was erected it was thought Coquille had ample facilities to take care of all increase for years to come, but now there are four class rooms in the basement of that building, all in use, there is congestion in the high school so that a recitation room and study hall are connected by an opening to the confusion of both classes, and the grade school rooms are too crowded for most efficient work. Up there 40 pupils crowd one room, another has 43, another 39 and on down to 26. This is the most that any teacher can do justice to.

The board's plan to cut up the gymnasium at the high school into six rooms will relieve the congestion for a year, or possibly two, but Coquille is faced with the problem of building another school in the very near future.

The schools and the churches are the first things that possible residents inquire about. We have churches enough to satisfy anyone but our school facilities are very limited.

Urging a Police Signal

S. A. Malehorn, who is president of the Coos County Peace Officers Association, has made a suggestion to the various cities of the county, which might be advantageously adopted. It is for the placing of three or four colored lights in the business section of the towns, connected with the telephone offices, so that when calls are made for either city or county officer, the central operator could flash the signal and the officers could quickly locate the place where they were desired. Mayor Johnson approves the idea and will probably bring it before the council for consideration.

County Wants Toll Road

People in Washington, Yamhill and Tillamook counties are interested in a direct highway to the coast but prefer that it should be paid for by those who use it and so propose to make it a toll road. If they build that kind of a road they will probably have to pay for it themselves, as most travelers will prefer to go over the free water grade route down the Columbia rather than to pay toll to use a shorter route over the hills direct from Portland to Tillamook.

Kendall Gone to Eugene

Judge John C. Kendall left last Monday for Eugene to hold court for Judge Skipworth. He will not be back here before February 3, and possibly it will be the tenth before he returns. The February term of the Circuit court will begin on the 24th, the 23rd being a holiday, because Washington's birthday falls on Sunday.

Federal Farm Loan

The Coquille Farm Loan Association which has loans totalling \$116,000 in this district, held its annual meeting recently and elected the following officers: President—C. E. Mulkey. Vice president—Geo. S. Davis. Directors—D. F. Thompson, G. C. Welch and W. O. Matthews.

Early Road Work Planned

Three road projects which are to come up first in the county program this year are the Fairview to Lee market road, the mile of road from Lakeside to the highway and the completion of the rocking on the Big creek road.

Roadmaster Gilbert is preparing to install a rock crusher near Fairview as soon as the road there is graded in the spring, so that a contract can be let for rocking from the Matthews place to the quarry. The abrasion test of the rock there—5.12 per cent—is the lowest of any rock yet found in the county.

The Lakeside road is also to be graded and rocked for a connection between the town and the highway just as quickly as work can be done in the spring.

In the Big creek section, the roadmaster has installed a rock crusher at the old state quarry and an additional surfacing of finer rock is to be laid over the greater part of four miles of road.

Large Barn Burned Yesterday

Yesterday morning the large barn on the Kruse estate ranch just north of the viaduct on the Marshfield highway near Overland was destroyed by fire. It contained a large supply of feed and ensilage and was 48x120 feet in size. Its value is estimated at several thousand dollars. Mrs. Alice Kruse and daughter reside on the ranch which is leased to J. L. Hatfield.

HAS GONE TO BOOST CHEESE

John E. Ross left last evening for Portland on business, expecting to return Sunday. One of the most important matters he will attend to is in connection with Coos county cheese. Mr. Ross is taking a deep interest in the development of that industry in this county. He will investigate marketing conditions, how the local product can best be placed on the market to secure the highest returns, all with the idea of the greatest return to the producer. If 50,000 cows can be producing milk for cheese in the Coquille river valley and all its tributaries and the finished product sold at the highest market price, business conditions will advance in Coos county by leaps and bounds. And it all depends on the producers' returns whether Coquille, Myrtle Point, Powers, Bandon, Marshfield and North Bend advance slowly or develop rapidly.

Anything that Mr. Ross can do toward the building up of the cheese industry will be for the best interests of the whole community.

Covell Must Hang

Arthur Covell, crippled astrologer of Bandon, Oregon, who killed his sister-in-law, Ebba Covell, "at the bidding of the stars, must hang. In a decision handed down this week the supreme court affirmed Judge John C. Kendall in sentencing Covell to death.

Covell was convicted of plotting the death of his brother's wife through his use of an ammonia soaked rag September 3, 1923. The actual deed was performed by Alton Covell, a stepson of the woman and the 17-year-old lad is now serving a life sentence for his part in the crime. Covell had a mysterious occult science of the stars which he said told him to slay the woman. Testimony showed that he had a strange influence over the boy that was described by some witnesses as hypnotic.

Duck Banquet Tonight

The third annual banquet of the Coquille Rod & Gun club and the Pat Elk Duck Club will be held at the Hotel Coquille this evening. About eighty of the members and their guests are expected to be present. The piece de resistance will, of course, be the canvas backs and mallards killed the last day of open season, which under the law must be consumed within ten days of that date.

For the past two years these banquets have been one of the most enjoyable events of the winter season and ample provision has been made by the club to outdo its previous records this year.

There are between 1600 and 1800 garage and service stations and about 450 automobile dealers in Oregon.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Has a Banquet, Adopts Constitution and By-Laws, Elects Officers and Listens to the Canaries and Speakers

There was a tinge of sadness at the Chamber of Commerce banquet at the hotel Wednesday evening for the occasion, marked the formal demise of the Coquille Commercial Club—that organization which has inaugurated and fostered so many projects in the past for the upbuilding of Coquille and this section.

This thought was expressed by J. A. Lamb, president of the expiring Club, who regretted the passing of the old, yet rejoiced at the birth of the new.

Covers for sixty were laid in the two dining rooms and that was the number who sat down to one of Manager Lefe Compton's delectable dinners.

The Canaries, minus half the brood, were present to cheer the banqueters with song, and the club joined in many of the numbers.

Just before the final adjournment as a Commercial Club, A. J. Sherwood rose to extend encomiums to the retiring president and secretary and referred to the time when Jack Lamb, then a boy of eight or nine—this was 41 years ago—had attended the school which he (Sherwood) was teaching at Fishtrap.

"I used to wonder what he would become," continued the speaker. "He was tardy nearly every morning and played hockey every other afternoon."

"I had the same thought regarding Joe Peters when I used occasionally to see at Summer."

"Later I went to Empire to attend court and asked what had become of Jack. 'Oh, was the reply, he and Louis Hazard and Jimmy Watson are over there playing with the Indians.' And now I see what they have become—the chief officers of the Commercial Club."

Mr. Watson refused to respond to a plea that he give the club a talk in the aboriginal language. The members all stood while a toast was drunk to the past president and secretary as a testimonial of appreciation for their services.

A. N. Gould reported that the budget committee consisting of himself, C. C. Archibald and S. M. Nosler, had secured 105 names to the subscription paper, totalling \$1525 with three or four more yet to be heard from.

L. H. Hazard reported a balance of \$120 in the treasury of the old club which would be turned over to the new organization.

At the invitation of Geo. Belloni, president of the High School student body, the club voted to take a page advertisement in the "Laurel" which is expected to appear early in April. Adjournment sine die.

The club officers were elected temporary officers by the Chamber of Commerce and the proposed constitution and by laws were then read and accepted.

The election being the next matter of business, ballots were distributed. No other nominations were made aside from those submitted by the nominating committee. The vote resulted as follows:

President—C. T. Skeels 50, C. C. Archibald 1, A. N. Gould 1.
Vice President—C. C. Archibald 49, F. C. Hudson 2, H. A. Young 1.
Treasurer—L. H. Hazard 49, J. E. Ross 1, E. D. Webb 1, Holycross 2.
Directors—O. C. Sanford 28, J. E. Norton 30, John E. Ross 32, H. A. Young 26, A. N. Gould 31, G. Russell Morgan 10, Fred Wimer 27, J. P. Beyers 20, Harry Fenalar 4, J. A. Lamb 36, S. M. Nosler 13, E. D. Webb 7, Philip Johnson 8, J. W. Miller 10, C. J. Fuhrman 10, F. G. Leslie 19, A. A. Selander 15, A. O. Walker 17, Fred Lorenz 15, C. A. Rietman 10, A. T. Morrison 3, J. L. Stevens 7, C. C. Farr 1, Lefe Compton 1.

The chair declared that Messrs. Skeels, Archibald and Hazard had been chosen officers, and Sanford, Norton, Ross, Gould, Wimer, Young and Lamb, directors. Then turning to the newly elected head, he exclaimed, "Chamber, behold your president; Mr. President, behold your chamber."

Mr. Skeels responded to the welcome by asking for the co-operation of every member of the chamber. He said the position of official head of

the city's most important civic organization was a position which he deemed it a duty to accept, and he would put forth every effort for the upbuilding of the Coquille Valley.

"Whatever you put into our association, whether it is Chamber of Commerce, or lodge, or church, just that much will you get out of it," said Mr. Skeels, and he urged all to put their heart and soul into the chamber's activities.

While the old club has done a wonderful work, there remains much for the new organization to accomplish, and the greatest efforts the coming year will be toward securing a larger payroll for Coquille, was the tenor of Mr. Skeels' remarks. He also expected each individual member to assist the officers and directors throughout the year.

G. Russell Morgan recommended to the Chamber a plan followed in many cities of the state, that of refusing peddlers of all kinds a hearing until they had secured the authorization of a solicitation committee.

The Sentinel has heretofore recommended such action and believes if the members will absolutely refuse to consider any of the numerous itinerant peddlers propositions until the Chamber of Commerce, or its committee, has passed upon the plan, that they will be money ahead at the end of the year.

Mr. Jones was endorsed by the new president and J. E. Norton.

Others who spoke during the intermission between songs were J. H. McCloskey, L. H. Hazard, O. C. Sanford, and Fred Wimer, the latter saying he felt like the boy sitting with his girl on the seashore. "Why don't you say something," asked the girl.

"I can't, my mouth is full of sand," was the response.

"Then, swallow it, it might do you some good," she snapped.

C. S. Bergner, when called upon, said he had just one request to make and that was that the members join the Canaries when they sang.

That brought Mr. Skeels to his feet with the declaration that there was one thing the chamber should do this year: get the Canaries some new music. He didn't mean it as it sounded but a roar of laughter greeted that implication that the Canaries should get some new music. But music suitable for such occasions is not easy to find and the Canaries would welcome an increase in their repertoire.

The next meeting of the entire club will be the last Wednesday in February, but directors meetings will be held weekly on Wednesday, and anyone having anything to bring before the Chamber will be welcome to attend their lunches.

\$25 for Switching Licenses

Chas. Stillmer, working in Camp S was recently fined \$25 by Justice Dodge at Myrtle Point for switching auto license plates.

On the 20th of December he was driving his Chevrolet near Roseburg when he ran a Standard Oil truck into the ditch. His car was also damaged. The oil company officers made complaint, and when the license was checked up it was found to have been issued to L. A. Perrone, of Myrtle Point, for a Ford.

The matter was referred to Traffic Officer Williams here who made the arrest.

State Highway Contracts

At the next meeting of the state highway commission Feb. 26, a large number of contracts will be let including the surfacing of the Jetty-creek-Brighton section of the Roseburg highway and the grading of the Myers Creek section of the Roosevelt highway to Pistol Creek in Curry county.

In the coast counties of Oregon there are in government ownership 6,136,580 acres and in private ownership 6,272, 620 acres; the timber stand is 100,001,577,000 board feet and upon private holdings 96,820,000, 000 board feet.

A Dream Come True

Twenty-two years ago our genial justice of the peace was publishing a newspaper in Coquille and being very much interested in Chamber of Commerce work, week after week he published a call for mass meetings to form such an organization. But responses were very meager and finally on February 8, 1903, he ran a full line across the top of the first page "Big Mass Meeting Organizes Chamber of Commerce," followed by a six-deck head telling what an enthusiastic meeting had done. He followed it

in the body of the story by saying that he had been holding that head in the office for months, hoping against hope for an opportunity to use it. This week my dream of long ago has come true," was Mr. Stanley's comment after the big Chamber of Commerce banquet and election Wednesday evening.

Game at Bandon Tonight

The Coquille High basketball team goes to Bandon this evening to play the high school there tonight. Myrtle Point plays at Arago, and Powers at North Bend. Tomorrow evening Marshfield plays at Coos River.

Next Friday, January 30, North Bend will meet Coquille in the Community Building here. The order placed for bleacher seats is promised to be ready and the seats installed for the game.

1924 TRAFFIC COP'S REPORT

The following report of traffic officer activities for the year 1924 is an abstract of the daily reports submitted by C. C. Williams to the State Highway Department. It will be noted that the arrests for the year totalled 208, while the warnings for minor infractions of the traffic laws were 637, showing that the traffic officer has combined judgment with watchfulness in the performance of his duties. Many of the items listed below were included in the 637 warnings given:

Days in field	35
Miles traveled	25,501
Cities and towns visited	661
Arrests	208
Warnings	637
Fines	\$3,982.50
Fees	\$2,169.02
Speeding	139
One license plate	72
No license	51
No operators' license	10
No operators' license on person	61
Operator's license, suspended	19
Switched license	11
Void foreign license	45
No transfer of license	18
No lights	3
One head light	93
No tail light	66
No mirror	32
Overload, trucks	19
No permit to haul logs	17
Parking	22
Reckless driving	45
Accidents observed	11
No. non resident permits	68
Insufficient fee	4
Foreign cars registered	60
Lost operators' license	33
Passing without clear view ahead	2
Failure to stop and render aid	7
Allowing minor to operate	4
Inadequate brakes	3
No chauffeur's license	44
Failure to give signal	2
Driving on wrong side of road	3
Colored lights	2
No signaling device	2
Stolen cars recovered	5
Improper use of dealer's license	14
Failure to report accidents	2
Operating with 1923 license	10
Trucks speeding	1
Trucks weighed and no overloaded	11
Failure to give right of way	3
Driving while intoxicated	5
Transporting liquor	1
Jail sentences	3
Lost chauffeur's license	2
Failure to dim	7
Using siren	1
Failure to control motor vehicle	1
Void temporary license	1
Cleats on highway	1
No speedometer on bus	2
Inadequate steering gear	1
Driving with operators suspended	1

Liberty's New Electric Sign

C. A. Gage has just had installed across the corner of the walk at the Liberty Theatre a large electric sign. There are over 100 lights in it. It is very attractive in appearance and no one can miss seeing it. The cost installed was over \$500.

TO REVISE RATES

Council to Make Needed Changes in the Water Schedule

Mayor Johnson, Councilmen Oppetman, Farr, Fuhrman, Chaney and Ramsey were present for a half hour session of the city council, during which all matters coming up were disposed of with promptness and dispatch.

H. L. White presented a petition requesting permission to improve with a two board for each track driveway on Heath and Sixth street so that he could drive to his home. Permission was granted.

Jas. Inger's petition for a sidewalk on Heath street, south from First was referred to the street committee for a report.

The bond of O. C. Sanford as city treasurer, in the sum of \$2,000, with H. Hazard and A. J. Sherwood as sureties, was accepted and approved. Thos. Curtis was granted a license to conduct the Coquille Rooming House on Front street.

The council adjourned till next Monday evening at which time the water committee's report on a readjustment of water rates will be considered. Mayor Johnson announced that the committee had been working on the theory of raising sufficient revenue to pay all operating expenses, pay interest on water bonds and provide a sinking fund for the bonds' retirement.

A just and equitable schedule of rates is the aim of the council, and there is no desire to make any one pay more than a fair rate for what is used, but he does not think a charge of a cent a day for every family using city water is unjust. And that is what the minimum rate is at present—\$1.50 a month. Even though the whole city is to be metered, there will have to be a minimum charge adopted and a nickel a day would seem to be as low as the city could furnish any family with water—at least until the water bonds are paid.

Bound Over for Rape

Last week the Sentinel told of an attempted housebreaking at Norway, but it was evident, according to the information given out by the sheriff's office that robbery was not the motive. The next day the officers arrested R. C. Pierce, who has a lease on the M. T. Clinton ranch there, charging him with rape. The victim was the 14-year old step daughter of the man whose house he was attempting to enter and Schmidt had exchanged rooms with the girl for the purpose of catching the miscreant.

Tuesday Pierce had his hearing before Justice J. J. Stanley here and was bound over to the grand jury. His bail was fixed at \$2,000, which he has so far failed to furnish.

If the stories told of Pierce in that neighborhood are correct, it is time he was put where he can ruin no more young girls.

He has been in that section for something less than a year, and has a wife and a three-year old daughter.

Probably the Shoe Fit

A man claiming to be a representative of an upstate grocery house became very indignant in the Sentinel office yesterday because we didn't care to publish any answer he desired to write replying to our article of a couple of weeks ago in which we told of an instance where a bill of groceries purchased in Portland could have been secured at local stores about \$4 cheaper.

He must make a living, of course, and if he wants to solicit orders for groceries that is his business, but the Sentinel still insists that Coquille will never become the city it might be as long as money is sent out of town for articles which could just as well—and as cheaply—have been purchased here. It goes to help build another community.

Why Juice Was Off

The electric service was interrupted for nearly an hour yesterday morning due to a break on the line between Marshfield and North Bend. The power for the valley is not transmitted over that line and Mr. Archibald is at a loss to know why our line should have been affected, unless the heavy ground current at the break pulled the plant down sufficiently to blow out the switches for the rest of the system.