

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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## SHOT HIS FIANCEE

### Peter Klaudes Injures Woman Who Came from Bay with Him to Get Married

Mrs. Freda Page, of Bunker Hill, 30 years of age and the mother of four children, is rapidly recovering up at Richmond's hospital from a bullet hole through her left shoulder, and keeps insistently calling for the man who shot her.

He is a husky, swarthy-complexioned Greek, named Peter Klaudes, who has been working in the Anderson logging camp at Reedsport, and he is now lodged in the county jail where he has been since the near-tragedy about 4:30 Tuesday afternoon.

The couple came over here from Marshfield last Tuesday to be married. After learning that he must have a medical certificate, they went down to Dr. Richmond's office, and she waited in Dr. Bunch's reception room.

He passed the examination and was given the certificate, but while the doctor went down stairs to have a five dollar bill changed, the Greek stepped in to the other room and told the woman that the doctor said something was the matter with his head and that he couldn't get the certificate.

"What shall we do, now?" she asked.

"There is nothing to do but die together," was his response, as he drew a .25 calibre automatic, Belgium make, from his pocket.

She screamed and pulling the door closed, jumped out into the hall, but Klaudes followed her and shot her once, the bullet making a flesh wound under the left shoulder and coming out at the back under her shoulder blade. It passed through her coat at the back and imbedded itself in Officer Gault's office door.

Dr. F. G. Bunch stepped out of that office immediately, and seeing the woman lying on the floor, rushed into his private office for a gun.

After the first shot Klaudes evidently tried to fire again, but two shells jammed, and while he was working to free it he walked down the hall where Dr. Bunch and G. Russell Morgan were standing in their doorways.

Seeing them he turned back, just as Dr. Richmond arrived and raised the woman's head from where it was hanging down over the stairway.

It was somewhat of a shock to the doctor to look up and see the Greek he had just examined standing over them with a wavering revolver muzzle pointed in their direction.

He and Dr. Bunch grabbed the man and Bunch took the gun from his unresisting hand.

Tom Walker held the fellow until the arrival of Deputy Malhorn while Drs. Richmond, Bunch and Mr. Morgan took the woman up to the hospital.

Before he was seized, Klaudes had dropped on the floor and rubbed his face around the woman so that his gory aspect gave the impression that he had been in a fight.

"What did you do it for?" asked Malhorn when he got the man up to the sheriff's office.

"Because she wouldn't go with me."

"Did she say she wouldn't," asked Malhorn.

"Oh no, she think too much of me to tell me that," was the reply.

"Then why did you shoot her?"

"I was afraid she wouldn't go with me."

And this was the tenor of his talk next day when questioned. Just what he meant is not clear, but Mr. Malhorn got the idea that the man had been brooding over her willingness to marry him and her uncommunicativeness, and that, they loved each other, that he didn't fully trust her.

Klaudes owns the rooming house which she conducts in Bunker Hill, and since the death of her husband, 18 months ago, has helped her in many ways.

She told Mr. Malhorn on Wednesday some of the queer things he said when he came to see her the evening before the shooting. One of them was,

"What are you going to do with me when you get me?"

Dr. Richmond says he didn't tell the fellow that there was anything the matter with his head, but now he thinks that he should have told him that.

Klaudes was taken before Justice Stanley yesterday morning and informed of the charge against him—assault with a dangerous weapon

with intent to commit murder—and his preliminary hearing set for two o'clock this afternoon.

Unless blood poisoning should develop there is little doubt that the woman will recover.

## Basketball Tonight at Bay

Tonight, at the armory in Marshfield, the Coquille basketball team will complete its schedule with a game with the much improved North Bend High team. On by losing this evening this and losing again to Arago in a game to settle a tie can Coquille be prevented from winning its second championship of the year—in basketball and football. The chances favor Coquille's favorites. Marshfield plays at Myrtle Point and Bandon at Arago. Tomorrow night Bandon is scheduled to go to Powers for the final game.

Independent basketball at Community Building, Wednesday, March 4. Coquille American Legion vs. Bandon All-Stars. Come out and help the Legion to win its third game.

## 1110 COWS IN TESTING ASSN.

Twenty-four local dairymen, members of the Coquille Valley Cow Testing association met in the City Hall here last Tuesday afternoon and perfected an organization which has for its purpose the keeping of production records on 1110 cows in 85 herds. The territory covered by the association extends from Broadbent to Bandon.

Permanent officers were elected at the Tuesday meeting and include L. P. Trigg, Norway, president; E. H. Harnden, Fat Elk, vice president; H. E. Hess, Coquille, secretary-treasurer. Directors were elected to represent the various districts in which the association will operate. John P. Devaux, was elected to represent the Bandon district, Joe Nilan, the River-ton district, and Frank Henry, the Lee district. The officers and directors form an executive committee which is the governing body of the association.

Following the general meeting the executive committee met and considered applicants for the position of tester. While no candidate was definitely selected one will be chosen and start work by March 1. Every herd in the association will be visited by the tester once each month and on this basis it will be necessary for the tester to work 30 days a month in order to make the rounds.

In order not to slow up milking on farms which use double unit milking machines, arrangements are being made to obtain a complete, single-unit milker which will be carried by the tester from farm to farm. It is thought such a unit will be supplied by some of the milking machine companies without cost owing to its advertising value.

It was decided that an honor roll of high producing cows in the association, arranged according to ages, will be published each month. The statement will include the breeding of the cow, whether grade or purebred, her owner's name and the pounds of butterfat and milk produced. No monthly herd averages will be published, it was decided.

Herd books and all record blanks are being supplied through the extension service of the Oregon Agricultural college of which the Coos county agent will be representative. In addition to production records plans this year provide for the keeping of records on feed costs so that each dairyman in the association at the end of the year will know what every cow in his herd made him and what it cost him to keep her.

The movement to organize a cow testing association started less than three weeks ago and was completed last Tuesday afternoon. The interest which local dairymen have taken in the organization which aims to increase the production per animal by determining and culling out "border" cows has been gratifying, the executive committee of the association said.

## A Legion Game Wednesday

The Coquille American Legion has arranged for a basketball game to be played in the Community Building here next Wednesday evening, March 4, with the All-Stars of Bandon. The latter is composed of ex-university players, who are prepared to give the local five a hard game. Coquille has won both its two previous starts and hopes to keep the record clean. Game starts at 8 o'clock; admission 50 and 25 cents.

## MONTHLY DINNER PECK VS. TIMES

### Of Chamber of Commerce Wednesday Proves to Be the Best Yet Held

For several months now every meeting of the Coquille Commercial Club, or Chamber of Commerce as it now stands, has been more interesting and worth while than those which have gone before, and the one at the hotel Wednesday evening was the best yet held.

C. T. Skeels, as president, directed the evening's discussions and program in the most efficient manner, putting snap and go into the entire meeting.

The Wampus Cat Orchestra, by invitation of A. T. Morrison, furnished a delightful musical treat during the first half hour of the dinner, and their program was interspersed with Scotch dialect songs by a gentleman named MacLaren.

The judge, when he was willing, were he the defendant, to have twelve men in his frame of mind, sitting on his case. "Not bragging about myself any, I would be willing," was Mr. Gant's reply.

Peremptory challenges were made by the attorneys for both sides, after twelve had been passed, for all the law permits.

Two or three were excused after admitting Klan membership. Peck & Brand and W. T. Stall are attorneys for the plaintiff, while Goss & Murphy and McKnight & Giles are conducting the defense for the Maloney.

The judge rapped the defense attorneys rather smartly yesterday morning when they asked permission to amend their answer to the complaint, stating he didn't like the idea of trying the case on technicalities. "Here you are, supposed to be the best lawyers in the county," he said, "and you have had months to prepare your case. I don't like it."

After Mr. Peck had closed his side of the case yesterday afternoon, presenting the articles from the Times in May, 1923, as evidence, the defense opened up on the plaintiff.

One of their "character witnesses," with whom the defense attempted to smirch Mr. Peck's reputation, was one Bill Carver—receiver of the News prior to its purchase by the present publishing company. Mr. Carver, with a six weeks growth of whiskers on his face, stated that he was broke but that he would have been glad to come down from Salem to testify in the case against Peck, even had the defense not sent for him.

He claimed to be an organizer for the Klan, prior to his employment on the News, and told all he could about Klan organization and particularly as to Mr. Peck's connection with that body. He claimed that Mr. Peck had misappropriated funds belonging to a Klan robe fund, although his bare word, on that or any other subject, must be considered in connection with his very evident determination to get even with Mr. Peck.

When asked if he was not a "hop-head," and if he hadn't gone into Peck's office declaring he was full of "hop," after which Peck had put him on a train leaving the Bay, he said the only thing he had had was liquor furnished by Peck.

Among others who had been subpoenaed as witnesses, the defendant, M. C. Maloney, was on the stand this morning, but it was like pulling teeth to extract any information from him on cross-examination.

## Improvements Completed

Geo. R. Johnson has received and installed practically all of the machinery for his enlarged ice and cream plant and within a short time expects to be turning out butter, cottage cheese and buttermilk, as well as ice and ice cream. The new machinery includes a churn, a Pasteurizing machine, cottage cheese tray, viscolizer—for breaking up the fat globules when unaltered butter is used in the manufacture of ice cream—and a cooling rack.

He is equipped now to largely increase his ice cream business as well as handle the new lines just added.

Yesterday a lot of Japanese goods from the Steamer Brush wrecked at the Bay two years ago, including rugs, Japanese inlaid ware, china, cigars, etc. were sold at auction at the Bay. The sale had been delayed awaiting the payment of the U. S. customs duties.

### Damage Case on Trial Here All This Week—Defense Brings Wm. Carver Back

The jury, as finally selected late Wednesday evening, to hear the case of A. K. Peck vs. the Coos Bay Times for damages, is composed of the following:

Charles Enegreen, Marshfield.  
J. W. Laird, Coquille.  
H. T. Clausen, Bandon.  
Fred Zumwalt, Myrtle Point.  
George Horn, North Bend.  
Robert Rackleff, Myrtle Point.  
Kirk Shelley, Coquille.  
I. Taft, North Bend.  
Ben Gant, Powers.  
Ray Keith, Myrtle Point.  
Oscar A. Mintonye, Coquille.  
Harry H. Hunt, Bandon.

Judge Evans called the case after noon on Tuesday and the examination of jurors was so painstakingly gone into that a score or more were dropped.

The judge stated at the opening that in view of the circumstances he would allow considerable latitude in the questioning of jurors. And the attorneys went the limit. A man's religious beliefs, whether he was a Klansman, or a member of the Roman Catholic church, whether his sympathies were for or against those organizations, how he considered and voted on the school bill law in 1923, whether he was a subscriber to the Coos Bay Times, everything was delved into to ascertain whether any of the prospective jury men had a conviction—no matter if they declared they were open-minded and could decide the case on its merits.

Many amusing incidents arose in the examination, the answers of Benjamin Gant, of Powers, even causing the judge to hold his face behind his hand as he chuckled with the audience in the courtroom.

John Goss, after going over Mr. Gant's beliefs very carefully, asked The Canaries also added considerable zest with their songs, in which everyone was invited to take part.

There were 57 present for the occasion, which included Edgar McDaniell, Peter Loggie, Rev. J. E. Snyder and Peter Weld, from North Bend. Lack of space prevents our doing more than mention the matters considered.

C. C. Archibald reported for the building committee that as the Community Building needs a stage, auditorium chairs and paint, they would recommend the appointment of two committees to arrange for shows to raise funds.

The chair appointed S. M. Nosler, F. G. Leslie and G. O. Leach as a play committee and J. L. Smith, Aaron Wilson and G. Russell Morgan to arrange for a minstrel show.

Further standing committees for the chamber were named as follows: Civic Improvement—G. E. Low, H. C. Getz, F. C. Hudson, F. F. Schram and Aaron Wilson.

Education—J. F. Cramer, E. E. Johnson, R. H. Mast.

Athletics—J. W. Laird, J. L. Holy-cross, Ray F. Miller.

Two members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Wilfred Laird, its president, and Geo. Belloni, had been invited to attend the meeting and both made good talks. Mr. Laird said the school had been so busy winning championships they had not been able to function very actively in a Chamber of Commerce way, but that they had a program planned for the beautifying of the school grounds.

One plan is to seed the grounds, between the building and the highway, and in this they had been promised the co-operation of Lyman Carrier, who makes "better turf" his business.

Their other plan was the laying of a ten-foot concrete walk to the highway from the building. "Most people think the south entrance is the front," said Mr. Laird, but it isn't.

They asked for the co-operation of the Chamber in putting the sidewalk plan across and were assured they would get it.

The need of an athletic field, owned by the public, was brought up by Mr. Skeels, and he was followed by Mr. Holycross. The suggestion was made that the school district and city unite efforts and possibly their funds in securing the six acres where the ball park is located.

Approval of the plan was expressed by both the chairman of the school

(Continued on eighth page.)

## Spring Advancing Fast

We notice the blossoms are beginning to bloom on a plum tree in the parking of South Coulter street. That tree has always been an extremely early bloomer and has made a wonderful growth for its age. We used to attribute its abnormal precocity to a leaky plank sewer at its roots; but that was replaced last winter by one of lathern tile, which we presume no longer leaks. All sorts of vegetation is making wonderful advances now, though, for the last week in February, currant bushes being already in leaf on our own place. Spring is coming on apace.

## Gym Class Is Active

The Women's Gymnasium class is meeting regularly each week on Tuesday and Thursday evening. Much interest is shown in the work and Miss Martha Seabum has proved a very capable director and she makes the work both enjoyable and worth while. Any one desiring to join this class is still welcome upon payment of two dollars dues. All women over 18 years are eligible.

## PRINCE OF PILSEN MARCH 11

"The Prince of Pilsen," musical comedy extraordinary, is to be staged in the Community Building, Coquille, on Wednesday, March 11, the evening after its presentation at the Bay, and by the same cast.

The show will be given here under the auspices of Beulah Chapter, No. 8, O. E. S., and they will divide receipts with the company and director, 50-50.

There are sixty-five in the cast, with G. Russell Morgan, of this city, taking the leading part, that of the prince.

The show will be staged at Marshfield for the benefit of the Elks, but the latter have no interest in its presentation here.

Frank Huelshoff, of Portland, is director and is assisted by Miss Constance Pinney and L. Picard, dancing and step directors.

"The Prince of Pilsen" has occupied a chief place in amateur as well as professional production for years and years, and is a charming presentation with lots of good singing and side-splitting comedy.

It will appear in Coquille, March 11.

## Mast and Gilbert to Portland

Judge R. H. Mast and Roadmaster W. A. Gilbert left Sunday morning for Portland. The object of their trip was to purchase rock crushing equipment for the quarry the county is going to open up on the Fairview-Lee market road. They did not remain over to attend the meeting of the State Highway Commission yesterday, at which time bids for the bridge across the North Fork at Myrtle Point were to be opened. They arrived home at midnight last night, having left Portland at 8:15 yesterday morning. They are prepared to submit prices and other information at the session of the County court next week.

## Fairview Home Destroyed

The W. O. Matthews two-story ranch home, at Fairview was totally destroyed by fire Tuesday morning with all its contents. How the fire started is unknown for there was no one in the house at the time. The \$1200 insurance which Mr. Matthews carried in one of T. A. Walker's companies, falls far short of compensating for the loss, which is estimated at \$2500.

## Still Undecided

V. C. Gorst, of North Bend, was over here Wednesday and with Geo. Bryant, manager of the Coast Auto Lines, was looking over the company's property on Front, and also at other lots, where they are considering the erection of their stage depot and garage. They have not definitely decided yet just where the depot will be built, nor when it will be started, but that it would be built this year was the pleasing assurance they gave.

Clara Mintonye, of this city, has just been nominated for track manager of the Women's Athletic association at O. A. C. for next year. A track meet is held every spring during women's week end after a consistent term of practice. Miss Mintonye is a freshman in vocational education.

## IN CIRCUIT COURT

### Indictments, Pleas of Guilty and Sentences Imposed So Far This Term

It was said around the court house Tuesday that the only reason that the grand jury indicted but forty in their session last week was that the supply of blanks had become exhausted. That shortage was remedied Wednesday.

But it was a larger grist of indictments than has been made by any grand jury in Coos county for years. Six of them were blind. Of the thirty-four which have been served, the following is the list of those held for gambling or permitting gambling: Joe Bush, Ben Hersey, Neil McGillivray, Wm. A. Zosel, L. Leland, Geo. Shepherd, LeHayes, J. M. Grimby, A. George, J. L. Holycross, R. R. Wright, Julius Ruble, G. F. Brumfield, H. D. Jones, G. T. Brumfield, Nick Clavencia, John Pethoulah and Chas. Kamper.

Indictments on statutory charges were returned against Silas Gibbs, Jas. H. Lowe, and Thos. Morgan, while Ted and Edna Burr are charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Clyde Waterman, who forged warrants, while clerk of the Bancroft school district, was indicted for larceny.

Samuel F. Russell, of Bandon, was held for carrying concealed weapons after having been convicted of felony.

R. A. Wells; now serving time for possession of booze, was indicted for trying to bribe an officer and his wife, Ruth Wells, for carrying a weapon while transporting liquor. This is the couple arrested on the North Bank road with a buffer roadster full of liquor.

H. A. Potts, on two counts, and W. A. McCutcheon on one, were indicted for obtaining money under false pretenses.

Hugh DeWitt was indicted for assault and battery; Tom Morris for non-support; Frank Curtis and Elmer Springer for larceny; Chester Vining and Chester Johnson for breaking in to and entering a building.

In the following complaints the grand jury found no true bills: N. O. Fillicroft, in assisting in escape from county jail; William Humphreys and Jack Winters, statutory; Archie Morningstar, larceny; Leonard Ingeman, non-support; Hilda Jensen and Donn Stonebrake, contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Five of the local billiard parlor owners, J. L. Holycross, Neil McGillivray, W. A. Zosel, Ben Hersey and Julius Ruble, yesterday morning entered pleas of guilty to permitting gambling in their places of business and they were each fined \$250 by Judge Evans.

They had expected to give the judge the history of their cases, and relate the nature of the "hickey" game they had been conducting, but after their pleas were entered no opportunity was given them.

H. D. Jones pleaded not guilty and will stand trial at a later date. He has retained C. F. McKnight to defend him.

Others who pleaded guilty were Thos. Morgan, two years in the pen; Silas Gibbs, five years; W. A. McCutcheon 30 days in the county jail.

Tom Morris was sentenced to one year in the county jail and paroled on condition that he go to work, pay one-half his wages—not less than \$20 a month—to the county clerk for the support of his family.

Samuel F. Russell pleaded guilty but judge postponed sentencing him for a year. The conditions are that he go to work and let liquor alone.

The two boys Curtis and Springer are to be given a chance to make good and passing of sentence postponed for one year.

The other boys, Vining and Johnson, were sentenced to a year in the pen and paroled to the custody of relatives.

John Gentry, against whom one of the blind indictments was issued was arraigned yesterday and given until today to plead. He is charged with pointing a gun at another. Edna Burr is also to plead today.

The following pleaded not guilty and their trials will come up later: Ray Pearce, R. A. and Ruth Wells, John Pethoulah, Jas. H. Lowe, Hugh DeWitt and E. J. Potts.

Warranty and Bargain & Sale Deeds for sale at the Sentinel office