

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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Oregon Historical Society  
Auditorium

## BOTH TO HANG

L. W. Peare and Arthur Covell  
Re-sentenced—Will Occur  
on Friday, May 22

Judge John C. Kendall, in Circuit court here Wednesday morning, for the second time passed sentence on the two Coos county murderers—L. W. Peare and Arthur Covell—whose appeals for new trials were recently decided adversely by the Oregon Supreme court.

Both men were in court here that morning, having been brought down from Salem by Deputy Sheriff Osmond and a guard at the penitentiary. The sentence imposed was the same for each—that they be hanged on Friday, May 22.

The same evening they started on the return trip to Salem and it was their last one—unless commutation to life imprisonment is made by Gov. Pierce. If that is done, some governor in the future will again turn them loose on society.

Peare's offense was the killing of his wife and a neighbor, James Culver, up on the divide between the headwaters of Floras and Capehart creeks, during a drunken debauch at Christmas time in 1922. He was tried for the murder of Culver and convicted by a jury in March, 1923.

He had no statement to make when asked by the judge prior to the passing of sentence.

Arthur Covell was found guilty of the murder of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Ebba Covell on Sept. 3, 1923. He did not actually perform the crime, but planned it and left its execution to his nephew, Alton Covell, a step son of the victim. The latter is now serving a sentence of life imprisonment for his act.

Covell, the uncle, who has been a cripple for years, due to an accident years ago, when he was run over by a wagon, is an astrologer and claimed that he was obeying the stars in instigating the murder, but since spending nearly a year at Salem, he has changed his mind about his guilt and when asked by the judge if he had anything to say, read from the manuscript his confession of innocence. He had prepared the statement at Salem and read it from his cot as he lay just under the bench in the court room. The following is a copy of his "confession."

"I do not desire to speak for myself alone but in justice to my nephew, would like to state that in my alleged confession wherein I said I used the nephew as a tool of my will forcing him to commit the crime—this is without foundation, untrue and on the face of it, a statement absurd and unreasonable.

"If I had possessed such a power of will I would use that will to reconstruct my body to regain the use of my limbs and not remain bedfast, and to find relief from the continual pains I am in. Yet I have not enough will to control my own body let alone control the mind, will and body of another.

"Any nerve specialist can bear out my assertion that when the key-board of the body, the nervous system is deranged, every other part and function suffers in sympathy, and the will is also affected in proportion.

"I was injured in the fall of 1920. This accident wrenched the whole back; fractured some of the vertebrae, partly split the pelvis, strained the spinal cord, and left the whole of the nervous system deranged. The least excitement would leave me a-tremble for hours, sometime days at a time. I was always under nervous strain and often so tense I could not relax to compose myself and it was difficult to think straight.

"From the time of my injury I lost influence over the boy and though he never neglected me, yet it was a cause of more or less worry to get from him the full care I required. Many times he has flatly refused to take further orders from me. In this, his father and sister will bear me out as I have often spoken about him to my brother.

"The night my brother was arrested and charged with murder, the nephew freely and voluntarily told his sister and me he was going to claim his duty. He thought he owed a duty to his dad in helping share this trouble, and by taking the blame on his shoulders he would be discharging that duty.

"I tried to dissuade him from

## Legion Room Finished

The building committee for the Community Building, reported to the Chamber of Commerce directors Wednesday evening that the rooms in the east end of that building were nearly finished, but that the balcony and seats above those rooms could not be provided until more funds were raised.

The larger of the rooms is the one just south of the entrance hall which is 20x25 feet. This is the one dedicated to the American Legion and is a very comfortable room, with closet. A stove has also been installed.

To the south of that is a committee room 16x20, opening into the main hall.

The entrance hall is 15x20, with stairway leading to the balcony, and north of that is another 15x30 room.

The finishing of the balcony and the building of a permanent stage are two matters which will be taken up as soon as more funds are available.

## Bond Election May 12

The county court this morning set the date for holding the special election to vote on the issue of \$770,000 road bonds, for Wednesday, May 12. It is probable that three projects will appear on the ballot, one for the \$280,000 match money due the state, another for the program for county roads, and another for the Eastside bridge.

## CERTIFICATE FOR BRAVERY

A Boy Scout Court of Honor was held in Coquille Monday evening, presided over by J. J. Stanley and A. T. Morrison.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Scout Executive Ricksacker asked Judge Stanley to present a certificate of bravery to a Coquille Scout, Geo. Pankey. This was one of 60 awarded in the United States last year.

George's act was one of bravery and cool-headedness. When another boy fell off the dock at the city wharf here, he jumped in after him as though saving a life was an every day occurrence. The other boy grabbed hold of George, but the latter broke his hold, seized him by the collar and paddled with one hand to the dock where willing hands lifted them out.

In presenting the certificate, Judge Stanley commented on how well young Pankey had lived up to Scout teachings, showing bravery and an unusual coolness in time of accident.

The Scouts advanced, after successfully passing their tests, were:

Second class—Mark Seely and Denton Ellingson, Troop One; Everett Seely and Harry Mast, Troop Two.

First class—Clarence Barton and James Galbraith, Troop One.

Rev. C. S. Bergner, who has done so much for scouting the past two years in Coquille, was presented by Mr. Ricksacker with a certificate of service and discharge. He also expressed regret at losing so valuable a scoutmaster as Mr. Bergner.

## Telegraph Off the River

Yesterday the Telegraph made its last run between Bandon and Coquille as a daily freight boat on the Coquille river, the Myrtle Point Transportation Co. deciding that it would not pay its keep. The Telegraph has run without interruption for the past seven or eight years but the opening of an improved road down the river and the installation of trucking service has so altered shipments that the boat was not paying expenses.

But the ranchers along the river will not be left without water service for Hermann Bros., who own the Norma, have recently launched a new 16-ton freighter, "The Imperial," and the two will be used by that partnership. The Imperial will leave Coquille at 7:30 every morning and return in the afternoon, while the Norma will come up the river in the morning and go down after noon.

The Imperial is a flat-bottomed boat, and more economical to operate than was the Telegraph or any gas boat, crude petroleum being the fuel used.

## Tomorrow the Last Day

Tomorrow (Saturday) will be the last day on which the whole, or the first half of last year's taxes can be paid at the court house without penalty and the sheriff's force is anticipating something of a rush then.

## THREE HAVE GONE A BANK FAILURE

S. K. Gulliford, Mrs. Henry Johnson and Mrs. Frank A. Shaw Pass Away

S. K. Gulliford, for the past thirteen years a resident of Coquille passed away at his home on North Henry street Tuesday morning at four o'clock. Death was due to a stroke of apoplexy.

Mr. Gulliford, who was 82 years, eight months and five days of age, had not been well for some time. About a month ago he suffered a stroke but from which he partially recovered. Last Saturday morning he was out in his chicken yard and his wife found him leaning against a building, practically helpless. She got him into the house, but he never recovered from the attack.

The funeral services were held at the Ellingsen chapel yesterday afternoon at two o'clock, and this morning his son, W. H. Gulliford, of Santa Monica, Calif., left for St. Anthony, Idaho, with the body to lay it away in the family plot there.

A daughter of Mr. Gulliford's, by his first wife, lives in St. Anthony, while another lives in Iowa.

Mr. Gulliford was a kindly man, who always attended to his own business, quiet and unassuming, but well liked by his friends and those who knew him best.

Not being in the best of health herself, Mrs. Gulliford was unable to make the trip to Idaho.

Mrs. Henry Johnson died at eleven o'clock last night after a week's illness with flu and pneumonia, on the boat house near the bridge, where they have been making their home since leaving the ranch near River.

The funeral services will be held at the Ellingsen Chapel Sunday afternoon at two o'clock.

Mrs. Johnson, born Belle Barrows, Nov. 6, 1875, was 49 years, 4 months and 26 days of age. She was born in Astoria and came to Coquille with her parents about 40 years ago.

October 26, 1907, she was married to Henry Johnson and they have made their home near River most of the time since, until her son's death last fall, when he accidentally shot himself after being out duck hunting.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Clarence, and a daughter, Mrs. Floyd Price, both of this city, and a brother, Dick Barrows, of Eureka, Calif., who is expected to come up for the funeral.

Mrs. Johnson was a strong and robust woman, but could not survive the attack of pneumonia.

Mrs. Frank A. Shaw, wife of one of Coquille's contractors and carpenters, died at their home on east First street at one o'clock last night, the cause of her death being pneumonia.

The family came here nearly two years ago from Bend.

Besides her husband she leaves six children, ranging from a year and a half to 14 years of age.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made, pending word from Mr. Shaw's parents and two sisters of the deceased.

## Mast Buys Former Booze Car

The Buick roadster, which the county confiscated as a booze car at the time R. A. Wells and Ruth Wells were arrested for transporting liquor in January, was sold Wednesday to the Howard Motor Co., of San Francisco, for the amount of the costs assessed against it. Wells still owed \$625 on the car and he gave a bill of sale to the company forfeiting all rights in it.

Berg & Morgan, who handled the case for the automobile company, immediately sold it to Judge R. H. Mast for the \$625 plus the accrued costs.

## To Ask Funds for Arch

Delegations from Chambers of Commerce all over the county are to meet with the county court at two o'clock this afternoon in regard to an appropriation for the arch, which it is proposed to build at the intersection of the Pacific and Coos Bay Highways. If the right kind of a showing is made it is possible the court will order a \$2000 payment this spring, with a good prospect of having the \$1600 additional needed included in the budget next fall.

Blank Warranty Deeds for sale at this office.

## A BANK FAILURE

First National at Bandon the First to Occur in Coos County

Yesterday morning the first bank failure ever to happen in Coos county occurred, when the First National, of Bandon, hung out a sign that the bank was closed.

This action was preceded by a meeting of Coos county bankers at Marshfield Wednesday evening when the whole situation was canvassed to see if anything could be done to stave off the failure.

The First National has enough paper on hand to pay off all depositors in full and liquidate its liabilities, but it is of a kind that cannot be turned into cash at a moment's notice and there was nothing for the bank to do but close its doors, call upon the stockholders to meet the deficiency and turn their "paper" over to the stockholders to collect on when the signers can pay.

Dr. H. L. Houston, president of the bank, and its heaviest stockholder, declared at the Wednesday night meeting that he would turn his personal assets into cash as quickly as he could to meet his share of the bank's liabilities.

While the failure is not a direct result of the Roy B. Corson embezzlement of a few years ago, considerable of the paper on which the bank cannot collect, is a hang-over from that period.

The heaviest debtor to the bank is the Thompson-Kelly Lumber Co., of the Bay, of which Dr. Houston is vice president. This concern has spent a great deal of money preparing for logging operations, purchasing equipment and building roads, but it has not yet begun to market timber in sufficient quantity to meet its "trade acceptances" which the First National holds.

The bank also has many other debtors who have been unable to take up their paper when it became due.

There is one pleasing feature in connection with the failure and that is that no other bank in the county is involved, it developing at the Wednesday evening meeting that none of them held any of the First National's paper nor had loaned them a cent, which had not been repaid.

There is a lesson in this failure—not for other banks and bankers, but for the general public.

When a man or a company desires accommodation at a bank to start some enterprise which promises to develop into a considerable asset for a community, it is the custom to condemn the banks if that accommodation cannot be secured. But there is a limit to a bank's loaning power. A national bank must keep a legal reserve with the federal reserve bank of 7 per cent of its demand deposits and 3 per cent of its time deposits. For a state bank the legal reserve is 10 per cent. If a bank falls under the limit the bank examiner closes it.

For that reason banks are quite often compelled to refuse loans to AI risks and they can't help themselves.

At the Bandon First National their reserve with the Federal Reserve bank at San Francisco had fallen way below the statutory limit and there was but \$1100 in its vaults to take care of the daily business.

The showing made Wednesday evening was that there was \$50,000 worth of paper not immediately cashable. The bank's capital was \$25,000 so that every stockholder is liable for every dollar of his stock and for as much more as his stock amounted to.

It is estimated that in time the depositors can be paid about 75 per cent of their claims.

## Coos Gets the Bigger Half

According to a Washington press dispatch published in yesterday's Oregonian, Coos county will receive a little more than half of the \$1,490,000 appropriated for Oregon harbors and waterways to be expended during the fiscal year beginning July 1 next.

Allotments are as follows: Columbia and Willamette river between Portland and Vancouver, \$683,000; Columbia river and tributaries above Celilo falls, \$6000; Coquille river, \$16,000; Coos Bay, \$750,000; Coos river \$3000; Snake river (Oregon, Washington and Idaho), \$14,000; Clatskanie river, \$7200; Willamette river, above Portland, and Yamhill river, \$17,400.

Calling Cards, 100 for \$1.50.

## Judge Kendall's Busy Day

Judge John C. Kendall made a record in circuit court here Wednesday and at the close of the session said he thought he had done enough to last a month. Besides sentencing L. W. Peare and Arthur Covell to hang, he heard the plea of guilty of G. F. Beumfield, on the charge of conducting a gambling game at Marshfield and fined him \$250, giving him till Monday to pay up.

He also pronounced sentence on J. Lundberg, who was found guilty of possession of intoxicating liquor after Judge Evans had left here last month. Lundberg was fined \$500 and given 90 days in jail, the sentence to be suspended on payment of the fine and during good behavior.

The judge also granted divorces to the plaintiffs in the following cases: Corinne A. Laird vs. Frank Laird. Beas Brown vs. Forbes Brown. Grace L. Hatcher vs. Archie V. Hatcher. Edgar A. Wilson vs. Dorothy Wilson. Milton R. Adams vs. Marie Adams.

## "Country Fair" Tonight

The "Country Fair" at the high school building tonight, put on by the students, will be sure to draw a crowd. All kinds of fun and amusement with a program which will start at 10:15 sharp. Captain Kidd's Cave, a fish pond, a tea garden, dancing are a few of the features being provided for entertainment.

## JUDGE AUSTIN S. HAMMOND

Judge A. S. Hammond, well known Coos county attorney, and reputed to have been one of the best legal minds in the state, died Sunday morning in Portland, after a long illness due to kidney and heart trouble. His condition had been serious for some time and hopes for his recovery were abandoned last week.

Judge Hammond, who was 68 years of age, was born in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., and came to Oregon when a young man. He practiced for a time in Medford and came to Coos county about 20 years ago. He started his practice in Coos county in Coquille and for about five years he also conducted The Title Company, which he later sold to J. S. Barton and associates.

He entered into the law business with Fred Hollister in North Bend about nine years ago and was with him for several years. Mr. Hammond was one of the leading attorneys in the Kinney estate litigation at North Bend. Judge Hammond also practiced for a time in Myrtle Point, and while there purchased a ranch on Catching creek about two and a half miles south of Myrtle Point. One of his chief delights was to go to his ranch and spend several days.

"Judge Hammond knew more about law without briefing it than most lawyers did after briefing it," was the statement made once by Judge John S. Coker.

Mr. Hammond married Louise Monroe of Portland 12 years ago, who survives him. He was three times married. He is survived by four daughters and a son, Winnifred B. Delpha A. and Earle J. Hammond, of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. William Booth and Mrs. Carl Starker, of Jennings Lodge, near Portland, and an adopted daughter, Marjorie, about three years of age.

The funeral services were held in Portland on Tuesday and were conducted by the Portland lodge of Elks at the request of the Marshfield lodge of which he was a member. The interment was in Riverside Cemetery.

## County Court Business

Archie McLeod has been appointed patrolman for Road District No. 25, the upper Four Mile Creek road, and W. A. Gilbert, M. T. Clinton and Wm. Betts were named by the county court as viewers to look over the proposed extension of the road up that creek.

J. R. Benham was appointed patrolman for district No. 14. It being necessary to have an assistant district attorney to look after the collection of delinquent personal property taxes, the court has asked District Attorney J. B. Bedingfield to recommend someone for the place.

The county court has spent most of the time since its meeting Wednesday morning in auditing bills and hearing numerous delegations.

## THE DAYS OF '49

To Be Held in Graham's Hall Next Friday and Saturday Nights

"Happy Canyon" and "Roaring Gulch," of the Days of '49 are to be revived in Coquille next Friday and Saturday, with all the fervor and sober hilarity of the days which are gone.

Under the auspices of the Coquille Fire Department this resurrection of the dead past will occur in Graham's Dance Hall on April 10 and 11.

T. A. Dyringer and R. E. Cook, of Roseburg, are the owners of the devices which will be brought in for the two days' show, and the dance floor will be one of the big attractions.

An old time bar, serving only soft drinks and lunches, will furnish the refreshments for the large crowd which is expected to visit Coquille both nights.

The two managers of the carnival, who have been in Coquille the past week, expect to bring in eleven people to operate the games, the dance and the lunch counter, but all the supplies, such as meat, flour, candy, printing, etc., are to be bought at local business houses.

The only legal tender inside the hall that night will be the ten buck pieces of currency which can be purchased at ten cents per piece. The fifty cent admission price will provide the purchaser with five "10 buck" pieces, which will enable him to get started on a wild career of pleasure.

Sufficient police protection to guard against rowdiness and drunkenness in the hall, is to be provided by Messrs. Earl Graham, Dyringer and Cook.

So everybody prepare to make two nights of it in Coquille next week, but leave your hob nail boots at home for they will not be permitted to near the maple floor of the dance hall.

## World's Splendid Edition

One of the largest and best special editions ever published in Oregon, was the 32-page industrial and development number of the Bandon Western World last week. The edition was profusely illustrated with views in and around Bandon, in the Coquille valley and in Curry county, and it is replete with information concerning dairying, logging, farming, etc. in Coos county. Many special articles of great interest to local residents and which will interest those living elsewhere showed the immense amount of time and labor which was expended by L. D. Felheim, its editor; R. M. Pressley and the World force in publishing so complete a chronicle of Coos county affairs as was contained in this edition. It was a credit to them and to Bandon.

## N. C. Kelley the New Secretary

At the regular meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce at the hotel Wednesday evening Ned C. Kelley was unanimously chosen as secretary of the chamber at the same salary as that paid C. S. Bergner. The salary is for part time only.

Mr. Kelley's office is conveniently located for attending to the duties of the position and for meeting the tourists who will be through here by the thousands this spring and summer.

Mr. Kelley is well qualified for the position, and it is a public matter in which he takes great interest.

## Can't Answer by Phone

Deputy Sheriff Malehorn asks the Sentinel to inform the public that telephone requests for the amount of taxes owed by any individual, cannot be answered. With Sheriff Ellingsen still sick at home and Miss Lenox also on the sick list it is impossible for him to look up the records and the clerks in the tax collection department are so busy waiting on those who come in that they cannot do so.

So the sure way to learn how much your taxes are is to go to the office and take your turn in line.

## Telephones for Hotel

Earl W. Gates and a telephone engineer were in conference here Wednesday with Lufs Compton relative to the telephone system the latter has ordered for the Hotel Coquille. It will be some weeks before the switchboard arrives and is installed together with a phone in each guest room.

(Continued on Sixth page)