

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XXI, NO. 24

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1925.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

\$980,000 BONDS

Proposition to Issue That Amount of Bonds To Be Submitted

You have to hand it to the Eastside and Coos River citizens. They are good fighters and good stayers.

Going before the county court Wednesday morning, with a majority of the three commissioners opposed to including \$300,000 in the bond election with the \$400,000 for county roads, the east of the Bay delegation emerged in the afternoon with a court order signed calling a special election to be held some time the latter part of July to vote on a \$980,000 issue. Thursday, the 30th, is the tentative date set, but it may be a little later.

Two hundred and eighty thousand of this is to go on the ballot as a separate item and the \$700,000 as another.

Fireworks had been anticipated when the various delegations got together to make their pleas before the county court, but the meeting was quiet harmonious, arguments for and against the bridge being presented without the use of personalities nor evidence of bitter feeling.

Standing squarely behind the Coos River and Eastside delegation were a number of Marshfield citizens and the Chamber of Commerce of that city and the united efforts of the three communities were successful.

Outside of a few from Coquille there were very few taxpayers present, except those from the various Bay sections.

Whether this apathy indicated a fixed intention as to the ultimate fate of the bond issue cannot be foretold, but if so it does not apply to the \$280,000 as it does to the \$700,000, for from all parts of the county farmers, ranchers and business men have united in approving the issue to repay the state, and all speakers at the meeting Wednesday expressed the hope and belief that the state fund project would carry.

The court had several sets of petitions before them. There was one calling for a \$980,000 bond issue and one for a \$300,000 bridge issue. Then there were petitions for each of the three propositions separately, and another for \$700,000 the last being one of the two approved by the court.

I. S. Smith, of Marshfield, made the main talk in favor of uniting the bridge and the county road bond issues in one item, his argument being along the line of fair play.

E. W. Gates, J. E. Montgomery, Anson Rogers, Wm. Smith, Archie Philip and John Gills also spoke in favor of the merger.

Dr. J. E. Snyder and Henry Kern, of North Bend, were the North Bend citizens who protested against the union of the \$300,000 and the \$400,000 items.

J. E. Norton was called on by Judge Mast and he stated that he wanted to be shown that issuing bonds for an Eastside bridge now was good business. The actual figures for bridge construction and operation and for ferry construction and operation should be prepared before any move was made to vote bonds for the bridge so that the taxpayers might vote intelligently. He expressed himself as not being opposed to the bridge and in this opinion he probably expressed the sentiment of a large majority of the voters of this city.

But he was opposed to jeopardizing the success of the county road project by tying the bridge to it. "Let the people know all the facts in the case and they will approve the bridge, but you can't acquaint them with the facts this year," was the gist of his summing up.

Whether there is any ulterior motive on the part of the proponents of the bridge in thus forcing that question to a decision this year, by uniting it with the county roads matter, it is too early to state. Nevertheless there were hints yesterday morning of proposing a million and a half bond issue next year should the \$700,000 issue be defeated this year.

The Sentinel is not urging anyone to vote for anything more than the \$280,000 issue, but it offers this suggestion to the people of Coquille: You might regret next year that the larger issue did not carry—if it is defeated.

Blank Warranty Deeds for sale at this office.

Street Work to Start

G. H. Bechill, of the United Contracting Co., states that his company expects to begin the improvement of Spurgeon, Second, Front streets, and Willard street down to the city dock by the middle of the month. The machinery is all here and will soon be set up and ready for use. Non-receipt of material from California has somewhat hindered getting the work started, but Mr. Bechill says that it will all be completed within 30 days from the date of starting.

The contracts on the four streets include about 12,000 yards of resurfacing of Spurgeon street and repairs to the concrete on the other streets.

No License to Speed

Marshal Hollenbeck asks the Sentinel to state that when the fire truck siren sounds, either on practice runs or to a fire, it does not give auto drivers license to speed to get out of the way. He warns drivers that unless they pull up to the curb and wait for the truck to pass he will be compelled to make arrests for speeding.

UNSIGHTLY GATEWAY

After the Chamber of Commerce directors dinner Wednesday evening, they adjourned in a body to a point on the Coos Bay-Roseburg Highway—the intersection of Front and Hall streets, the most prominent of the three entrances to the city.

What was said about the appearance of the city at that point would hardly bear repetition in a family newspaper, but it was the unanimous vote of the eight present that the city council should take some action looking toward the cleaning up of that quarter. Piles of wood, of lumber, trash and dirt, make a mighty poor impression on people coming here for the first time, or the second or third for that matter, and the city itself contributes to the wretched appearance, for the south side of Front is used as a dumping ground for street sweepings.

The city intends to patch the hole in the paving at the west end of the bridge, it hopes before long to have a new bridge or a fill to replace it; but the sidewalks at tip-tilted angles and the general unkempt condition is something that might be cured at once.

The Civics Improvement committee of the Chamber, whose membership consists of Dr. G. Earl Low, Aaron Wilson, Frank Schram, H. C. Gets and F. C. Hudson was requested to urge a spirited clean up of that quarter.

Wm. Schrock Dismissed

Wm. Schrock, deputy sheriff at Marshfield, after being given a chance to resign by Sheriff Ellingsen, of which he did not avail himself, was dismissed from office Wednesday. Sheriff Ellingsen made no statement as to the reason for his action, but it is known that the investigation and report made by the last grand jury was the basis for his action. There has not been harmony between Mr. Schrock and Marshfield police officials, and Sheriff Ellingsen is of the opinion that the office can function with one less man on the payroll for the present.

He Silently Stole Away

J. J. Stanley very evidently wanted to enjoy a vacation undisturbed for with his wife and daughter, Mrs. Alice Schroeder, and children, he left at five o'clock this morning, leaving a sign on his office door that he would be home Monday, July 13. So far as the Sentinel has been able to discover he told no one of his destination. He is sure of not being called home under these conditions.

Former State Officer Dies

A. M. Crawford, formerly attorney general of Oregon for many years and an old resident of Coos county, where he married a sister of the late Judge Watson, died suddenly early this week at East Lake, south of Bend, where he had gone on a fishing trip.

Want Pledge Cards Turned In

People holding pledge cards for Chautauqua for 1925 in Coquille who did not hand them in the evening of the last program, may leave them at N. C. Kelley's office.

THE CHAUTAUQUA THE OLDS SURVIVED

Large Attendance and a Good Array of Talent—Again Next Year

The Coquille Chautauqua closed here Tuesday evening with the presentation of "The First Year" by Robert Hardaway and cast of six. Fully eighteen hundred people were present for the final performance of the Chautauqua, and every number of the five days was well attended.

The consensus of opinion is that this year's Chautauqua was the best yet, and quite superior to the one presented last year.

So well were the people here satisfied that another contract, signed by more than twenty of Coquille's responsible citizens, assures that the Cadmean five day Chautauqua will be presented here again next year.

The pledges for the sale of reserved seats next year, from which the \$1,000 guarantee is paid, have not all been signed, but more than half of the required amount has been.

Beside the high class attractions which featured this year's program there were other contributing causes which enabled this year's Chautauqua to break even. The efficient work of Mrs. C. C. Farr, as chairman of finance, and her assistants, in disposing of reserve seat tickets brought this year's affair through without a dollar of deficit.

Ned C. Kelley, as general chairman, was on the job early and late and his efforts to make it a success were ably abetted by Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Ramsey, L. E. Alexander and others who had charge of the various details.

Mrs. Ida Owen, who has been decorating Chautauqua stages here almost from the first one given back in 1916-17, earned the thanks of the committee and also of the talent by the variety and beauty of the floral decorations which graced the platform each day.

Miss M. L. Walsh, superintendent this year, was the lady who induced Coquille four years ago to adopt the Cadmean course and she took a more special interest in seeing that things went right this year than would probably any other superintendent the company could have sent. This was her first return to Coquille since she induced us to abandon the Radcliffe Chautauqua.

The Cadmean is now the largest Chautauqua organization operating entirely within the United States and the untiring efforts of its owner, and his assistants has placed it on a par with any Chautauqua in the country.

The Community Building was greatly appreciated by the talent each day. Wind nor rain can interfere with their performances in such a building as the wind so often does in a tent.

The Junior Chautauqua was very interesting this year and the children found it very pleasant and instructive. Only one accident marred its presentation and that was when Frank Schram fell and broke his nose.

The first night performance was only one of which any criticism was heard. "The Gorilla" was not up to the calibre of the program which followed.

The three musical troupes, "The First Year" company and the two speakers, Raymond B. Tolbert and Dr. G. Whitfield Ray, were all attractions which drew strong and hearty commendation. Especially good was Mr. Tolbert's lecture on "The Role of the Republic." Those roots are soil, work, honesty, sobriety and morality, as he outlined them, and his whole speech was chock full of Americanism and patriotism. It would make better men and women of every citizen or immigrant in this broad land to hear Dr. Tolbert's address.

The three musical troupes, "The First Year" company and the two speakers, Raymond B. Tolbert and Dr. G. Whitfield Ray, were all attractions which drew strong and hearty commendation. Especially good was Mr. Tolbert's lecture on "The Role of the Republic." Those roots are soil, work, honesty, sobriety and morality, as he outlined them, and his whole speech was chock full of Americanism and patriotism. It would make better men and women of every citizen or immigrant in this broad land to hear Dr. Tolbert's address.

Stores Closed Tomorrow

Tomorrow is the "glorious Fourth" and everything in Coquille will be closed from this evening until Monday morning.

It is a safe guess that not many people will remain in town tomorrow. Many are going to the Bandon and Myrtle Point celebration, but still more will get out in the hills or along the bank of some stream, and enjoy a day or two of well-earned rest.

The Myrtle Point Chautauqua offers a very interesting program for next week and will be largely patronized by Coquille people. It begins Monday and ends Saturday evening.

Modern Buildings Crumbled But the Ancient Missions Still Stand

A press dispatch from Santa Barbara on Wednesday gives considerable new information about the destruction wrought by the earthquake there earlier in the week, and a better general idea of the damage inflicted than could be gathered from the earlier reports:

Spanish glories of early days in Santa Barbara, immortalized in the adobe houses of the old dons, today emerged from the ruins of last Monday's earthquake hardly dimmed by the violence of the tremors which flung the more modern buildings to destruction in the streets.

Perhaps the earthquake's strength among the older structures was felt most keenly by the Santa Barbara mission, known as "the queen of missions" on the Pacific coast. When two graceful towers, which rose to a height of 60 feet, crumbled and crashed to the stone court below, carrying with them the silver-throated bells which have called the monks to prayer for more than a century.

The facade and portico, which stretched in a graceful line between the towers, was torn loose and tossed to ruin on the stone entrance to the chapel. Several old statues, which which have graced the facade for a hundred years, were destroyed. The Franciscan padres despair of ever replacing them.

The walls throughout the mission were cracked and strained and the floors littered with bits broken loose from the ceiling.

The mission was built in 1876 by Indian neophytes under the supervision of the Franciscan padres, and the "queen of missions" was destroyed by an earthquake in 1812, but hardly had the dust settled before the padres began reconstruction of the present structure.

Another ancient landmark to suffer slightly, but by no means destroyed, was Casa de la Guerra, home of Captain Guerray Noriega, a wealthy don of 1826. He owned 50 leagues of land, 20,000 head of cattle and 12,000 horses, and was known as "the defender of the poor." The colorful history of Casa de la Guerra records it as the gay gathering place of the Spanish social elite of those days.

Damage to the De la Guerra was nominal. Plaster was thrown to the floor and the tremors tore loose many of the rawhide things securing the joists. It is serving now in the period of reconstruction as the center of the business life of the city, merchants having installed booths in its spacious patio, from which they are conducting their affairs.

Other old Spanish structures of adobe design throughout the city, although still standing, present gaping holes in their walls, torn by force of the quake. Efforts at re-constructing the adobe houses are under way.

Another landmark upon whose ruins the residents gaze with regret is the lighthouse which for 69 years has warned mariners of the dangers attending the rugged coast line of the channel. It was situated on the plain of La Mesa, and its light, lying in the ruins, is extinguished for the first time since December 19, 1856, when Captain Albert J. Williams, the builder, lighted the kerosene burner and took up the first vigil on the lonely rock.

While the commercial loss of the new buildings is rapidly being repaired, the residents of the quake-torn city feel deeply the damage done to the old mission, the homes and the lighthouse, and have announced plans to restore the ruins as nearly as possible.

Monument Man Locates Here

F. R. Shely, a marble cutter and monument dealer, has rented the Hersey house on Second street, just east of the P. E. Drane building. Mr. Shely comes here from Marshfield and has moved his marble shop from the Bay to Coquille.

Lions Will Work for It

A committee was appointed at the regular weekly dinner of the Lions Club yesterday to circulate petitions and present them to the council, asking that an amount be included in the budget this year for the purchase of Athletic park by the city.

To Close Receivership

In chambers at Marshfield Wednesday Judge Kendall heard matters relating to the receivership of John Aasen. A movement has been started to discharge the receiver and secure an order permitting the preferred creditors to foreclose on their liens and mortgages. The receiver was unable to operate the business because of objection of some of the creditors, and under the circumstances there appears to be nothing that the court can do except to order the property sold.

The matter was continued for a few days to permit further investigation by the court, and it is reported a sale is pending.

Irvine to Speak at Myrtle Point

One of the attractions billed for the Fourth of July celebration at Myrtle Point tomorrow is the address by B. F. Irvine, the blind editor of the Oregon Journal. Mr. Irvine is held in very high esteem in this section and will no doubt be heard by a large audience.

Racing and rodeo features are also a part of the celebration program there.

BUSINESS IN COUNTY COURT

Roadmaster W. A. Gilbert was this week named by the county court as Weed Inspector for Coos county. The county has been made a district, under the noxious weed law, for the extermination of all weeds, but more especially the Canadian thistle. The inspector is empowered to appoint deputies to assist him with the work.

Other matters attended to by the county court, included the allowing of a huge stack of road and general fund bills, and the granting of a number of indigent allowances; the hearing of delegations and the granting of permits to haul logs on the county roads.

As election officials for the newly organized Coquille Slough district, No. 59, the court appointed Geo. F. Ross as chairman; W. I. Bonebrake, judge; Lucy A. Ross, H. S. Bonebrake and Wm. M. Christensen, clerks. The boundary line of the Summer election precinct was also changed to place a part of that district in the new one.

An order was adopted vacating a portion of the Bandon Beach road as a county road, where the city of Bandon is improving it.

H. F. Miller was granted a license to operate a dance hall at Bear Creek in school district No. 11.

Heretofore Superintendent of Schools C. E. Mulkey has received \$60 a month for travelling expenses. According to a new order he will receive 6 1-2 cents a mile for the distance travelled in visiting schools, actual boat hire on waterways, and all hotel bills and other incidental expenses.

The salary of Miss Eleanor Foley, stenographer in the superintendent's office, was fixed at \$75 a month. The court finished its labors yesterday and adjourned.

Geo. Battey's Auto Camp

E. L. Perrott and Raleigh Miller returned last Saturday from Portland, where they had just finished erecting twenty cottages at the Portland West Side Auto Camp. This is the camp which Geo. N. Battey is conducting on Terwilliger Boulevard. Easy access to it from the valley is by the highway through McMinville and from the camp down town it is straight down Sixth street, with no traffic to cross.

Mr. and Mrs. Battey are both very much pleased with their new location. The tourist traffic is coming their way in steadily increasing volume. They send word that they would be mighty glad to have friends and acquaintances drop in to see them when in Portland.

Six to Eight Only

The hours for irrigating in this city are now from six p. m. to eight p. m. only, Mr. Epperson informs us. Some have been irrigating at other hours and overdrawn the capacity of the mainline, so this check is necessary.

Low Tides at Bandon

The tides at Bandon beach will be lower the rest of this week and all of next than they have been there for years, running from one inch to two feet minus, and giving an opportunity to see more beach scenery than is often visible.

FLORAS LAKE

Summer Resort Rising on Town-site of Former Town of Lakeport

Floras lake, fifteen miles below Bandon, and the site of that boom town Lakeport, of which nothing is left, is going to witness a revival of interest in its possibilities. This time it will not be as a commercial port but as a summer resort.

The shore line of this beautiful lake, set among the hills, and with but a few hundred feet of ridge separating it from the ocean, is said to be 22 miles in extent. At some points it is 100 feet deep.

John R. Smith, of gold strike fame, is the man who is planning to place Floras Lake on the map as a resort. He has purchased hundreds of the former townsite lots, and now has the foundation in for a three-story hotel, facing the lake and across that the Pacific. He also has several cottages already up and occupied and plans to fit them up with all modern conveniences. A gravel road leads from the Roosevelt Highway, below Langlois, to the place.

Mr. Smith has prepared for a large crowd which he anticipates will visit the lake tomorrow and Sunday, by ordering a plentiful supply of Cream of Coos ice cream, candy, etc. A flotilla of boats awaits the arrival of fishermen who usually find trolling to be successful.

Many gravel beaches make it also an ideal spot for Bantzen suits.

Were at Santa Barbara

Mrs. George Hartley, a sister of S. M. Nozier, Mrs. A. T. Morrison, Mrs. C. T. Skeels and Mrs. C. A. Gage, and her children, George Jr. and Mary Esther, arrived here last evening for a visit with relatives. They were in the auto camp at Santa Barbara the morning of the earthquake, a mile from the destroyed section.

They were awakened by the quake and looking out expected momentarily to see their car, parked between their tent and a gulch, topple over as it lay drunkenly on the brink. But it did not.

They drove down to the State street ruins before starting north, and saw something of the havoc wrought. Even where the buildings were not levelled, windows were broken out, cornices jarred loose and walls on one side of buildings laid flat. It was a scene of disaster that they won't forget.

Two Carloads of Cascara

Geo. T. Moulton recently shipped his second load of cascara bark for the month of June, one of them going to New York and the other to Indianapolis. One car contained 30,000 pounds and the other 45,000. The price on chittim bark is very low this season, and but for the fact that so many camps were shut down there would have been very little bark needed. Mr. Moulton still has a carload on hand for which he is hoping to find a market.

Telegraph Messenger Service

W. E. Bosserman, Southern Pacific and Western Union agent in Coquille, has been notified by the telegraph company that next week messenger service in Coquille will be established and that messages hereafter will be promptly delivered. This is an accommodation that has been greatly needed in Coquille for so, these many years and was the real point of asking that the telegraph office be located up town some years ago.

North Bend to Make It Free

North Bend has fallen into line and next year will present the Cadmean Chautauqua program as a free attraction. The Chamber of Commerce there guaranteed the thousand dollars required to bring that popular Chautauqua back next year. This was the first year North Bend had contracted with the Cadmean people.

Took Three to the Pen

Sheriff Ellingsen left Sunday morning in his car for Salem, taking with him three men stenciled to the pen at the June session of court. They were Clarence Derr, two years for perjury; T. A. Johnson, one year for criminal assault; and Arthur Hart, one year for moonshining.