

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XXI. NO. 41.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1925.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

Oregon Historical Society  
Auditorium

## ROBERT STARKEY

### Only Oregon Survivor of Mexican War Died at Roseburg Monday

Monday of this week Robert Starkey, who formerly lived at Coquille and who in the early eighties did much editorial work on the Herald of this city, died at the Soldiers Home at Roseburg leaving a will which directed that his body be cremated and his ashes scattered on the waters of the South Umpqua. The writer saw him within the past few years but had no idea he had lived to so near the century mark as he did, his age at death being given as ninety-six years.

J. E. Norton, of the Busy Corner, who worked at the Herald office much of the time from 1888 until late in the nineties, recalls setting many of Mr. Starkey's articles, though the latter was then living in Marshfield.

R. J. Dean was one of the employees of the Herald while his brother, John, now deceased, and D. F., always known as "Doc," who now lives in Bandon, were running it. When John took a trip east in 1896, Mr. Starkey was engaged to run the paper for him and did so for a year, living here

### Tonight's Entertainment

The following is the cast for the dramatic comedy, "Turning the Trick," which will be the feature of this evening's Corn Show entertainment. With the new well-appointed stage and the rehearsal the actors have held, it should go over big.

**Characters**  
Patrick Casey, a retired contractor Gen. G. Lee  
Mary Anne, his wife Mrs. F. G. Leslie  
Michael, his son Fred Wimer  
Kathleen, his daughter Ruth Nissen  
Maggie, his daughter Lois Kay  
George Drake, a friend of the family Ed Victor  
Eileen, the maid Mrs. Tracy Loren  
"Humpty" Steele, the janitor J. F. Rogers  
Jim Daugherty, of the U. S. Treasury Dept. Gavin Gant  
Madame Anna Baisok, a Bolshevik Mrs. Joe Richmond  
Armand Francis Boni Alime De Lavier a Modeste A. A. Sejanier

**Place**—New York City.  
**Scene**—Living room of the Casey residence.  
**Time**—The Present.  
**Synopsis**  
Act I—5:00 P. M. a Monday afternoon  
Act II—4:00 P. M. Tuesday afternoon  
Act III—Midnight Tuesday.

## ALL SET FOR CORN SHOW

All is set for the big Corn Show. The hall has been tastefully decorated with corn and colored crepe paper and this morning the final touches were being made to booths and exhibits.

The largest display of corn in an exhibition this year of any of Coquille's nine shows, with possibly one exception, and there is a display of apples stretching clear across the front of the stage in a double row. Potatoes and other vegetables make up the remainder of the exhibit. Necessary to bring in two extra long tables to accommodate the exhibits. Some of the largest squashes ever seen are lying just below the foot lights. It required two men to carry them into the building.

The community booths include exhibits from Myrtle Point, Marshfield, Arago, Lee, Broadbent, Kentuck Islet and Brewster Valley.

The streets have been decorated by the firemen with corn and there are many handsome window displays in the stores along the main street.

Rehearsals for all the entertainment features have been concluded and the Sentinel, without limitation, declares that this will be the best, as well as the largest Corn Show yet held.

Credit for the Corn Show must be accorded to a very large number of citizens, but C. T. Shells, as president of the Chamber of Commerce, and J. A. Lamb, as general chairman of committees have been most indefatigable in planning and performing the vast amount of detail work necessary to make the 1925 Corn Show a success.

### Start Highway Buildings Here

Contract for the construction of the State Highway Department's plant, consisting of the shop, office and service building here, was let by the commission Wednesday to a Tacoma concern. Their bid was \$12,285.21.

The plant will be built on the lot between the W. L. Kistner property on the west, and the Mrs. J. A. Collier, Mrs. N. Lorenz and the city's myrtle grove properties on the east. The land was purchased for this purpose early in the summer, and the completion of the buildings will make Coquille the headquarters for the state highway department in southwest Oregon.

### Hudson Lands Big Steelhead

The 30-inch steelhead, caught by Fred Hudson in the river Monday, is the largest caught on hook and twine this year, so far as reported. It weighed eight pounds. Of course, there are a number of gill-net fishermen on the lower river and Alton Grimes suggests that perhaps this salmon was stalked out and couldn't get away. We hardly believe, though, that any creature can be placed in Grimes' theory, which was probably prompted by jealousy, for it took two men to land the prize.

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



## Ninth Annual Coquille Corn Carnival

October 30-31, 1925

FRIDAY, OCT. 30

2:00 p. m.—Parade, including Coos Bay Pirates, Bandon Beachmen, Mermaids and Sea Nymphs.  
2:30 p. m.—Booster Clubs Drills and Court.  
3:00 p. m.—Street Sports.  
3:30 p. m.—Comedy entertainment in Community Building.  
7:30 p. m.—In Community Building:  
Corn Fed Canaries.  
Dramatic Comedy: "Turning The Trick."  
Between Acts I and II, the Meadowlarks will sing.  
Between Acts II and III American Legion Song.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

1:30 p. m.—Football game, North Bend vs. Coquille.  
2:00 p. m.—Parade.  
2:30 p. m.—Street Sports.  
3:00 p. m.—Comedy entertainment in Community Building.  
7:30 p. m.—In Community Building:  
Corn Fed Canaries.  
Ko-Ked Meadowlarks.  
H. S. Glee Club, direction Miss Ruth Nissen.  
Mandolins, Robt. H. Croger.  
Fanny Dance, Eleanor Oerding.  
Comedy, "Better Half's Worst Half."

8:30 p. m.—Corn Husking Contests under direction of J. L. Smith.  
9:00 p. m.—Husking Bee.  
9:30 p. m.—Old Time Dance for everyone.

(Arranged by Hoppe Beyers)

(Piano through courtesy of L. L. Thomas Music Co.)

### Afternoon Sports Program

On First Street

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1925**  
100 Yard Dash  
1st Prize - \$2.00  
2d Prize - 1.00  
3 Legged Box Match  
1st Prize - \$5.00  
Rooster Race (Free for all)  
1st Prize - 2 Roosters  
2d Prize - 1 Rooster  
Spud Picking Contest (Farmers Only)  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Stoop Race (Married Men)  
1st Prize - \$2.00  
2d Prize - 1.00  
50 Yard Egg Race 15 & Under  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
50 Yard Egg Race 15 & Over  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Pumpkin Race Farmers Only  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Greased Pig Pie Eating Contest  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Greased Pole  
1st Prize - \$2.00  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Water Fight  
1st Prize - \$15.00

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**  
Football game vs. North Bend—1:30 P. M.  
Sports starting at 3:00 P. M.  
Pumpkin Race (Farmers Only)  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
50 Yard Dash (Boys under 12)  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
3d Prize - .50  
(Merchandise order)  
3 Legged Boxing Match  
1st Prize - \$5.00  
Nail Driving Contest (Married Ladies)  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Rooster Race  
1st Prize - 2 Roosters  
2d Prize - 1 Rooster (extra chickens)  
Spud Picking Contest  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
100 Yard Dash (Free for all)  
1st Prize - \$2.00  
2d Prize - 1.00  
McKee Diving Contest \$5.00 in prizes  
50 Yard Egg Race (15 and Over)  
1st Prize - \$1.50  
2d Prize - 1.00  
Greased Pig \$5.00 in prizes  
Water Fight  
Prize - \$15.00

Dairy, Poultry, Agricultural, Manufacturing and Mercantile Displays in Community Building

### Progress to Regal Invaders

That the president of the United States is interested in the invasion of King George's powerful domain by the Pirates and Buccaneers is evidenced by the arrival of a Marconigram, received at one o'clock this afternoon:

Washington, D. C., Oct. 30, 1925  
To His Most Gracious Majesty, King Kere, and Sir Joffal Hilarity, Prime Minister:

Informed your domain is besieged with seven trillion of Bandon Beachmen, Coos Bay Pirates and Umpqua Chiefs. This is to inform you that the entire army, navy and air forces of the United States are at your service, at a moment's call. Expect to arrive by airplane this evening.

Your most humble and obedient vassal—Cathie Gullings.

King Kern, of the Coast of Carnival and State of Hilarity, will this afternoon hold court to decide on

the real claims of the Bandon Beachmen and Coos Bay Pirates as to the limits of their domain, and the King's decision will be final. When the Bandon Beachmen were initiated as a booster club, a treaty of peace was made between them and the Pirates, but both are now overstepping the bounds prescribed by that "scrap of paper," and after Captain Kidd and The Big Splash have presented their cases, a final adjudication of their rights will be determined and King Kern's sovereign will expressed in legal form, duly signed and sealed.

### New Grade Teacher Arrives

Miss Dorothy Guthrie, of Fall City, came in Wednesday afternoon to take the position in the city schools left vacant by the resignation of W. F. Van Pelt. She will teach classes of the seventh and eighth grades. Capt. Parr engaged her when he was at Roseburg Normal last week.

### Community Building Seated

The Community Building will seat this year something over 1500 people. The bleacher seats along the side and at the rear will accommodate 500 or 600, and the upstairs balcony and main floor will take care of more than a thousand. On the main floor there will be a hundred or more chairs, reserved for elderly people. Besides there will be several rows of benches and several rows of plank seats, horses for which were made by Corn Show boosters Tuesday evening.

The hall will probably be crowded both this evening and tomorrow night, and the committee requests that the audience make as little noise as possible so that all may hear. Children, too small to enjoy the performances, should not be present.

### Football at 1:30 Tomorrow

Couch Leslie is planning to use the same line-up against North Bend tomorrow that so upset the dope for the Marshfield game and nearly eliminated that eleven as a championship contender. The game is scheduled to start at 1:30, and on the showing Coquille made in its last game, the one should be a dandy, for North Bend has a strong eleven. She won from Myrtle Point last Saturday, 9-0. The same day Marshfield snowed Bandon under, 54 to 7.

## THE PROPOSED HIGHWAY LOOP

M. E. Ryan, a former county commissioner of Douglas county, of Drain, was here Monday for a day's visit with A. S. Bean. The two made the Sentinel a call, during which Mr. Ryan gave us additional light on the proposed Reedsport-Drain road. It is estimated that the cost of that road, from the Coos county line to Drain, will be \$650,000, and Mr. Ryan assured us that the Douglas county court was now ready to cooperate with the State Highway Commission in building north to Reedsport.

It will be remembered that at the meeting in Marshfield last July, members of the State Highway Commission stated that they were ready to complete the Roosevelt Highway to Reedsport, as soon as Douglas county would co-operate.

From Reedsport to Drain is 53 miles, and it happens that of Oregon's allotment for federal roads there remains just 53 miles not contracted.

But the government is not going to do it all and the people of northern Douglas held a meeting at Elkton yesterday to begin a campaign for the organization of a super-road district in eleven road districts there. If this super-road district is organized, and the people will vote a levy to raise \$50,000 a year for three years, Mr. Ryan expressed confidence that the federal bureau of roads would next year begin building what would be the northern sector of a loop.

Taking Coquille, for instance, as a starting point, a traveller would cross Coos Bay by ferry, continue on the Roosevelt Highway to Reedsport, thence via the proposed road east to Drain, crossing the Umpqua on a new bridge to be built at Scottsburg, thence south to Roseburg and home by the Coos Bay Highway, a distance of approximately 200 miles.

The Umpqua river road would be a most scenic route with no grades of over five per cent. It would shorten the distance from Coquille to Portland by about 20 miles.

Whether the people of this valley desire to see such a loop road built or not, it is something in which we have no voice; for if Mr. Ryan is correct, the only obstacle there can be to the plan is the failure to form a super-road district in northern Douglas this fall.

### Bob Stewart Is Transferred

Robert A. Stewart, special Stand-Oil agent here for the past year, was notified, when in Portland Monday, that he had been transferred to the Portland office. His friends here, who are only limited by the number of his acquaintances, greatly regret to learn of Bob's departure, but the company is going to send another representative here who made many friends while in Coquille. Ray Endicott, who was transferred from here to Cascade Locks less than a year ago, will return to take charge of the local sub-station.

## DIES UNDER CARS

### R. E. Richardson Lies Down on Railroad Track and is Cut in Two Yesterday

When the logging train, which left here at six-twenty yesterday morning, pulled out it crushed the life out of R. E. Richardson, known here for years as "Ed," by cutting him in two. The train left without the crew knowing anything about the unfortunate victim, but when Coroner Phil Keiser examined the wheels on the cars, later at the Bay, he found blood on most of the wheels on one side of the train, from the ninth car to the last.

The body was first discovered by John W. Dugger, who notified Deputy Sheriff Malehorn and then hunted up Marshal Hollenbeck.

The accident occurred at 6:20, according to the time at which Richardson's watch stopped.

From an examination of the plank roadway leading to the Johnson mill yard, where it crosses the railroad track, it seems clear that Richardson lay down with his head between the rails while the engine was halted at the water tank and the crew went for breakfast.

As it started up slowly the wheel pushed his body along until it was clear of the plank before it began to grind into the flesh. The wheels passed over his body just above the hips and, although, there were 30 or 40 cars of logs in the train the clothing was not so entirely severed but that it held together over the rail.

That it was a clear case of suicide, and not accidental, was the opinion of the coroner's jury, which J. J. Starkey secured for the inquest at 7:30. Those composing the jury were Edw. Walker, Paul McCarty, E. C. Finley, Melvin Kern, C. E. Hurl and Clifford

Five men were questioned, but as none of them had been present their testimony could not confirm or deny the theory of suicide. Those called were R. W. Ryckman, brother-in-law of the dead man, Dr. Jas. Richmond, Marshal Bert Hollenbeck, J. W. Dugger and Arthur Ellingson. The latter was the only one who could identify the man as Ed Richardson.

Mr. Stanley had been acquainted with the deceased but could not positively identify the body.

Ryckman had never before seen his brother-in-law, but told of hearing that he had said that he was going back to Idaho; that he would go crazy if he staid here.

J. W. Dugger, who had been feeding the horses at the mill, was standing on the bank as the train gulled in and says that both fireman and engineer had their heads out the cab and that Richardson was not in sight as the engine crossed the roadway. When Dugger returned from home where he built a fire, the train was gone and he found the body.

Richardson left Coquille about five or six years ago and just returned ten days ago. He leaves three children, Mrs. Wesley Downs and Geraldine Richardson, of Bandon, and Mrs. W. D. Lavoek, of this city. Their mother, who was Miss Cora Baumgardner, divorced him several years ago and has since remarried.

Richardson was working at the Coquille Mill Co., when this writer came here twelve years ago, as fireman. He also served as ferryman at the river crossing here for several months, and for a number of years owned and conducted a ranch at Riverston.

He was at one time worth \$10,000 or more and some of his acquaintances think he still had it but he remarked to an old friend here this week that while he wasn't broke, he was getting close to it.

The deceased was always of a morose and melancholy disposition and it is to be presumed that he was suffering some form of insanity when he committed his last act.

The jury held another session last evening to sign the verdict agreed upon, and heard the testimony of Geo. Steward, who said that he had told his wife, after talking to Richardson, that he believed the latter intended to kill himself.

Following is a copy of the verdict:

In the Matter of the Inquest of the body of R. E. Richardson.

We, the Coroner's jury duly and legally empaneled and sworn to investigate the matter of the death of

(Continued on eighth page.)

(Continued on sixth page)