

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1927.

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**Coquille High School Threatened
With Destruction by Early
Fire Monday**

Fire of unknown origin, although the cause is pretty definitely settled, damaged the north end of the Coquille high school building Monday morning, at six o'clock, which will cost \$3000 to repair. This figure was arrived at this morning by the insurance adjusters, with J. D. Graham and a contractor from the Bay, estimating for the district.

The fire started in the furnace room, directly under the fuel chute, and must have been smoldering for hours before it broke into a blaze which would have entirely gutted the building had Mr. H. L. Johnson, the janitor, been a few minutes later in arriving.

He reached the building at six o'clock and heard the snapping and crackling of the fire and saw smoke pouring out from crevices all over the building.

The fire department responded very quickly to the alarm, and it is due to their most efficient service, with chemical and hose, that the flames were stopped where they were. Two of them were overcome by the smoke and steam and another received a burn, but they staid right on the job till the fire was out.

It is supposed that boys or men or some one was sitting along side the north wall and dropped cigarette stubs down the coal chute. A circle of butts near the top of the chute indicated that they were there for some time. No one will ever know who it was for they will keep quite mum about it.

Fuel, wood and trash under the chute ignited and the pile of ashes showed that considerable wood burned before the flames reached the ceiling and began creeping up through the building.

Lath piled against the brick wall of the furnace, and across the room from the chute was scorched, but not burned.

Mr. Johnson says there had been no fire in the furnace since Friday.

The steps leading to the basement and the landing above were completely destroyed, the walls in the hallway at that end of the building were charred; in the room above the furnace the blackboards were ruined and the desks damaged; the first and second floors were burned and cut to enable the firemen to get at the creeping blaze, and all over the building the walls were smoked.

Talking with one of the insurance agents who has several thousand on the building, the Sentinel learns that the keeping of trash and debris in the basement is a common practice all over town and that it is a wonder more fires have not damaged so-called fire-proof buildings. He says the high school basement was no different than a dozen others in the city; as a fire hazard.

Assistant Fire Chief Frank Schram says that the department heads are going to begin a practice of inspecting basements and make recommendations for eliminating fire hazards. School was not interrupted at all by the fire for the only room seriously damaged was that used by Miss Katherine Kaye before her resignation and which has been little used since. Fortunately the weather has not been such as to make heat necessary nor have electric lights been needed. The board expects to let a contract for repairing the damage at the \$3510 appraised damage figure, this evening.

Someone Beat Him to It

Whether he was a bootlegger or the patron of a bootlegger is not known, but one man lost a pint of liquor Wednesday night. Raleigh Miller was cutting brush in front of his place and noticed a fellow make two trips over to the Masonic Hall corner. On his third trip he reached down under the planking at the end of the old T bridge—but the bottle was gone.

New S. P. Depot at Bay

Marshfield is to have the new depot for which they have been pleading for many years, according to word received at the Bay last Saturday morning, from Supt. E. L. King, of the Southern Pacific. The plans have not yet arrived and its size is not known, but it will be located just west of the present freight depot, on Broadway.

Water Scarce for Ten Days

Water consumers are requested to conserve as much as possible for the next ten days in order that there may be a supply sufficient for all. Monday morning Water Superintendent Epperson will cut off the main ten-inch pipe, which comes down Second street, and the entire supply will have to pass through the four inch main on First street.

The reason for this is that so many of the fittings on the present road line can be used on the iron pipe line which is to be laid before the concrete paving is done, and the total expense will be considerably less if the new line is laid in the exact bed of the present main. As fast as a block of iron pipe is laid Mr. Epperson will put in a gate and turn the water in to the new 10-inch main. He thinks the new main for that six blocks can be laid in about a week.

Lions Picnic Next Tuesday

At the Lions' Club luncheon yesterday it was decided to have a picnic in the Myrtle Grove park next Tuesday evening. The Lions are going to roar and between growls work on the playground for which \$500 or \$600 has recently been raised. The ladies of the party will not be expected to use the shovels and other tools, but will provide the viands for the picnic lunch.

AN APPEAL FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

From all reports the Pacific coast has not been doing its share in giving for the relief of the needy and distressed in the Mississippi valley, where flood and cyclone have caused the death of hundreds, left thousands ill and injured, and rendered upwards of half a million homeless, with over 14,000 square miles of land inundated.

This is the greatest crisis with which the Red Cross has ever had to cope in this country, and the need for contributions is urgent.

What is Coquille going to do? Are we not going to help in this most tremendous effort to relieve the suffering of the homeless and afflicted in this country of ours?

The Red Cross is not making a canvass for donations, but boxes have been provided in both the First National and Farmers & Merchants Banks here where free will offerings are being received. Mrs. Ida K. Owen, Coquille chairman for the Red Cross, asks that the public be informed of this opportunity to help, and that everyone give as much as they are able.

One of the churches here is planning to give the Sunday collection to this relief work and it has been suggested that it would show a fine spirit if all would follow the same plan. Clubs, lodges and all other organizations are also invited to lend a helping hand to the sufferers.

To Open Shoe Store May 21

Irvin Brunn, of Roseburg, was here Monday looking after the improvements he is making in the building he recently purchased from L. Myrberg, on Front street. New plate glass windows, an inclined entrance and a coat of paint will make a wonderful difference in the appearance of that building.

Mr. Brunn expects the shelving, counters, etc. to be completed by next Saturday, May 21, and that he will open the Bootie by a complete stock of ladies', men's, and children's shoes on that date. It will be the self service type of shoe store with samples of all kinds displayed, and plainly marked as to size and price. The self-service type of shoe store is just coming into existence, but Mr. Brunn says it has proved very successful in some places. He expects to spend half his time here and will have one man in charge at present.

Too Much Chlorine Was All

The disagreeable taste to the water the past week was caused by an excess of chlorine. The machine for impregnating the water at the reservoir was out of kilter for a day, before Water Superintendent Epperson discovered it.

Opens a Service Station

Stanley L. Fitzgerald, formerly electric welder at the Coquille Machine Shop, has taken over the former Wallace Tire Shop, in the K. P. garage building. He is operating it as a service station and vulcanizing plant.

TWA-TWA AFFAIR ROAD TO BE OILED

**Burlesque Presented by Eastern
Star to Visitors Here Last
Evening**

Beulah Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., was hostess last evening to Occidental Chapter of Bandon, and Elgin Chapter, of Myrtle Point. About twenty-five were present from the city by the sea and fifteen from the city at the river forks.

More than one hundred sat down to an elegant dinner at 6:30 and they were served in a most efficient manner by a corps of chapter members.

A regular session of Beulah chapter was held in the lodge room upstairs after the dinner. Special music and short talks by several of the visitors made the evening a most delightful one.

Following this was a stunt in the banquet hall, introduced by L. A. Parr, worthy patron, as a "Twa-twa" wedding. Preceding the ceremony Mrs. Paul Walker sang a "Twa-twa" song, accompanied by Mrs. C. T. Skeels at the two-twa piano.

Twa-twa F. G. Leslie performed the ceremony with many twa-twas and the groom, who in every day life pulls teeth as a profession was so twa-twa nervous that he could not keep his hands off his hair, his collar, or the bride's hands.

L. H. Hazard, in female garb and looking the most ravishing vamp imaginable, and Mrs. Anna Rooney, very sedate and formal in male attire stood up with the happy couple.

Oh yes, we almost failed to mention the bride, with her orange blossoms, bride's veil, and a gown we cannot describe, who is known to his friends as "Bill," otherwise Willard E. Bosserman. He was one cute girl. Zelma Bosserman as flower girl and Betty Glaisyer as ring bearer—a huge doughnut—preceded the bride in his entrance to the hall.

After the groom and the best man had kissed the cunning bride, the officiating clergyman got his wig and collar straightened out and the twa-twa service was concluded. It was a most laughable farce.

Cleaning Up I. O. O. F. Cemetery

At the last meeting of the Odd Fellows lodge here it was decided to have the cemetery on West Sixth cleared up and put in shape before Decoration Day. The board of trustees feels that local people who own lots there should co-operate to the extent of attending to their lots and Geo. W. Swinney, who is doing the work for the lodge will be glad to hear from any of the owners who desire their plots put in shape.

Arrivals at Sky Pañor

Jail arrivals the past week are as follows:

From North Bend, Pat Flynn and C. C. Dutton for drunkenness. Fine of \$50 each.

From Marshfield, Geo. Alasaami and Isom Weegly, 60 days and \$100 each for driving while intoxicated.

From North Bend, Elmer Billings for possession, \$100 fine; and L. D. Holdman, driving while intoxicated, 60 days and \$100.

Much Liquor Into Sewer

Deputy Sheriffs Ed Oakes and Chas. Hunt were watched by an interested crowd yesterday as they destroyed twenty stills and poured out 158 gallons of liquor, which is no longer needed for evidence. Some of the latter was labelled as bonded, but with the clever imitation markings, used by the modern moonshiner, it may all have been of the same unlawful make.

County Jail Redecorated

Coos county has one of the most sanitary jails in Oregon now. The interior of both corridors and cells has been re-calculated and all the steel work enamelled a gray bronze. The work was done to a great extent by inmates.

A new built-in cabinet in the jail kitchen has just been completed by Harry M. Ross.

No Class Day Exercises

Owing to the fact that the electricity is turned off at the high school building on account of the fire, there will be no class day exercises. There was some talk of having them in the Community building, but the students did not want to pay the ten dollars for rent.

**Highway, Coquille to Myrtle
Point Will Receive Oil
Bath Tomorrow**

Car drivers between Coquille and Myrtle Point will do well to take it slow for the next week and avoid slamming brakes on quickly, or they may find themselves in the ditch, and those who are going on a pleasure trip Sunday are requested to go some other way than out the highway.

Tomorrow morning the state highway crew will begin oiling the nine-mile stretch between the two cities, and Paul Van Scoy, highway engineer for this section, says it will require five or six days to complete the job. They will work Sunday.

The oiling to be done this spring is not the same as that done east of the Cascades where the oiling made a solid all-winter driving surface.

This is more in the nature of a dust-preventive and will be the only section treated, except for a few miles just this side of the Pacific Highway.

A light fuel oil is to be used here, while that for permanent oiling is a much heavier oil.

The cost of spreading the heavier oil is considerably larger than for the light oil and until the highway department is satisfied that oiled roads will stand up in the coast country the larger expense will not be entered upon. The experiments in Tillamook have not been a complete success.

The process of oiling is to run a tank truck with coils for heating in the tank, over the road, spraying it for the full width. Workmen will then scrape a thin layer of gravel over the oil, and the chuck holes will be filled. A second spraying of oil will follow when the first course has been completed.

Mr. Van Scoy says rapid driving will tend to spatter the oil from these little pot holes, and that the pools will tend to cause skidding if brakes are applied suddenly.

This light oil will not bind the macadam as the heavier oil does, and it is thought a blade can be run over it this fall to put the highway in shape for winter. The idea of oiling below Bandon has been given up for this year.

In the phone message to the Sentinel from Myrtle Point this morning, Roadmaster Gilbert said he had just been over the Fishtrap and Arago road and that those who do not want to have their cars oil-spattered can detour over that road for the coming week.

Teams and scraper yesterday and further smoothing of the rough spots today is putting that road in good condition.

A Cooking Demonstration

The Mountain States Power company will hold lectures and demonstrations in Coquille this week on the "Relation of Electric Cookery to Home Economics." Miss Estella Dorgan, of Albany, an experienced home economics instructor, will conduct the lectures and demonstrations, invitations to which have been sent out all over this section.

The affair will be conducted at the Mountain States Power company office from 2 p. m. until 4 p. m. on Friday and Saturday of this week.

Cow Bell Dairy Improvements

E. M. Briner is enlarging and renovating the Cow Bell Dairy this week by moving back the partition wall at the rear of the confectionery, installing new counters, and having the walls repapered. It will make a more attractive store room and enable him to accommodate more patrons at a time.

Colony Looking This Way

The Llano Co-operative Colony, now located in Louisiana, has been writing to parties in Coquille in regard to lands suitable for colonization in this valley. Just what kind of a sect it is cannot be stated, but if they want to tackle the logged-off lands of this section their coming should be heartily welcomed.

S. P. Officials Here

J. A. Ormanday, of Portland, and L. L. Graham, of Eugene, Southern Pacific officials, were Coquille visitors Tuesday evening. They were on the Bay for the meeting of all Coos county ticket agents, held at Marshfield Wednesday.

Forum Meeting C. of C. May 18

At the meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce at the hotel Wednesday evening, it was voted to present \$25 to the fire department's chemical truck fund.

It was also decided to make the forum meeting next Wednesday, May 18, a fire department meeting and endeavor to have all the firemen present. It is also hoped to have that long deferred talk from Geo. C. Huggins as to why Coquille insurance rates are high and what can be done to reduce them.

The Cornfield Canaries have been invited to be present and warble some of their new songs and another speaker will be secured according to J. L. Smith of the entertainment committee.

Makes For Better Traffic

There is a very pronounced increase in the space left for traffic on First street since Street Commissioner Dungey painted the parking lines this week and began to tag the cars which extend outside the lines. The ordinance provides that the right rear wheel must be within five feet of the curb, rather than four as the Sentinel stated previously, but the efforts auto drivers have made to comply with the ordinance since the lines were painted indicate that a little effort in instruction will result in enough room for traffic, even on Coquille's narrow streets.

HELD ON FORG- ERY CHARGE

Andrew Hulshizer, for several weeks the manager of the Hagquist & Bjorqvist logging and mill operations at Norway, was arrested here Wednesday evening by Deputy Sheriff Bohrer on a warrant charging him with forgery. His hearing is set for two o'clock this afternoon in Justice Stanley's court.

When Hulshizer resigned his position with the company last week there were five checks in the book in his possession, already signed by Wm. Hagquist.

When he turned the book over to Mr. Hagquist at the railroad crossing at Norway last Friday evening, he claims all five of the checks were still there. After an absence from his car, where he had dropped the book for fifteen minutes, Mr. Hagquist found the five checks gone. Two of them turned up in Marshfield a day or so later, made out to and endorsed by Theo Day, but no one knows who he is. One check was for \$26.25 and the other for \$25.

An expert from Portland, called to investigate, states that the front of the check was written by a man with his right hand and the other endorsement with his left, and it was after receiving this report that Mr. Hagquist swore out a warrant.

C. T. Skeels, of the Busy Corner, says that when Hulshizer wrapped up the check book in that store the five signed checks were still in the book.

Many Think It Was Incendiary

The fire last Friday evening at Myrtle Point, which destroyed the Train building and the equipment of the bakery and cafe, besides causing loss to occupants of adjoining buildings, is estimated to have been a \$30,000 blaze.

While no definite information has yet been secured, the general opinion there seems to be that it was of incendiary origin. Oil soaked rags were found in the yard of Ernie Schneider, at the other corner of the block, and when first discovered the blaze in the Train building apparently broke out all over the upstairs.

The Coquille department made a quick run up there and were of great assistance with the chemical in preventing the spread to adjoining buildings. The upper part of the Guerin Hotel was on fire at one time.

Oregon Featured in Post

The leading article in this week's Saturday Evening Post is "The Green Land" by Harry Leon Wilson and is about the Oregon country. One of the ten views with which the article is embellished is of the Rogers' ranch on Coos river, and another showing the falling of a giant fir is a typical Coos county scene.

J. T. Jenkins a Deputy Sheriff

Jas. T. Jenkins has been appointed deputy sheriff for the serving of papers in personal property tax collection cases. W. B. Riddle, collector for that department is now working on the 1924 delinquent cases.

COMMENCEMENT

**Will Be Held at Community
Building Next Thursday—
Twenty to Graduate**

The eighteenth annual commencement of the Coquille High School, will be held next Thursday evening, May 19, in the Community Building.

Commencement week really begins this evening with the Senior-Junior banquet at the Hotel Coquille.

Sunday evening the baccalaureate services will be held in the Pioneer Methodist church at 8 o'clock. Rev. Hale B. Eubanks, of the Episcopal church, will deliver the baccalaureate address.

Following is the program to be observed next Thursday evening when the diplomas are presented:

Invocation—Rev. B. L. Hicks
Solo—Mrs. Lyman Carrier
Address—E. B. Lemmon, of O. A. C.
Selected—Jenny Lind Sextette
Presentation of scholarship and citizenship cup—Lynn A. Parr
Presentation of diplomas—A. T. Morrison.

Benediction—Rev. B. L. Hicks
Chairman—John F. Cramer
Of the twenty who will graduate, fourteen are girls and six are boys, the following being the list:

Alice Collier, Fern Houdyshell, Ruth Schroeder, Clare Bean, Beryl Hopton, Alta Belle Elwood, Hadley Curtis, Opal Gaslin, Thelma Pullen, Harvey Benham, Lawrence Cadle, Blanche Jorgenson, Jean Young, Marvin Jane Hawkins, Clarence Barton, Esther Miles, Harry Mast, Edward Johnson, Fredah Baxter, Larkie Barnes.

E. W. Hermann Died Today

E. W. Hermann, of Broadbent, 65 years of age, and the youngest of the original Hermann brothers family, died at 6:30 this morning. He had gone across the river to the store and had started back home, when the attack came on. His son, Eugene, was the first to reach him, and as he started to pick him up, the father said something about having taken poison. He died almost immediately.

The coroner will hold an autopsy. Mr. Hermann is survived by his wife and one son at home. Another son, Ellis, lives in Portland. His three daughters are Mrs. Gus Dietz, of Myrtle Point; Mrs. N. W. McDonald, and Mrs. Hallett Bargelt, who live in Washington.

Two brothers, C. M. Hermann, of Roseburg, and T. M. Hermann, of Broadbent, and two sisters, Mrs. O. T. Bender, of Portland, and Mrs. Maria Baker, of Phoenix, Ariz., also survive him. Gus C. Bender, of the county clerk's office, is a nephew.

Boy Scout Camp Rally

A Boy Scout Camp Rally is to be held in the Community Building here next Tuesday, May 17, at 7:30 p. m., according to Scout Executive E. A. Britton, who was here Wednesday. The program will begin with a court of honor for both Coquille troops, presented as an Indian ceremony, and several Scouts are to be advanced at the time.

Other features of the program are a two reel comedy, a two reel picture of Scout camping, slides showing the Three Sisters country and talks by two boys on camp life.

The general public is invited and there will be no admission fee, nor will the hat be passed, but no Scout can gain admission unless accompanied by his parents or some adult. It is desired to have the parents know more about scouting. The program will last about an hour and forty-five minutes.

Georgianna Johnson Honored

Miss Georgianna Johnson was this week elected president for next year of the Pan-Hellenic council at O. A. C. This council is composed of two representatives each from the sixteen Greek letter sororities on the campus. Miss Johnson was given the honor over several aspirants. She belongs to the Zeta Tau Alpha.

Perfect Days This Week

What is so rare as a perfect day in May in the Coquille valley, to use the thought of James Russell Lowell. Idea spring weather has been the portion of Coos county this week and gardens are springing from the ground. The farmers are also pleased with the warm weather after one of the most backward springs ever known.