

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium

VOL. XXIV. NO. 36.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1928.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

A NEW INDUSTRY

\$50,000 Battery Separator Plant to Be Built Here at Once

by Ralph L. Smith

Like a bolt out of a clear sky was the announcement here Monday morning that a battery separator plant, which will also manufacture Venetian blinds, was to be erected on the Collier tract just north of the Oerding mill.

The plant is to be built by Ralph L. Smith, wealthy lumber broker of Kansas City, Mo., who has been financially interested in the Oerding mill for some time. He has already purchased \$350,000 worth of logs for the mill and will invest in it further by assisting in the purchase of more and larger machinery.

The main building of the new plant will be 75x200 feet and there will be in addition dry kilns and ample dockage.

The machinery for the plant will represent \$30,000 investment and it is expected the total cost will run over \$50,000. It will employ from 40 to 50 people, and will furnish employment for many girls.

Geo. Oerding, of Oerding Industries Inc., has been working on this proposition for six months and he has been ably assisted by Albert Reeves in proving to Mr. Smith that this is the logical place for a battery separator plant.

Mr. Smith was here last week at which time the option on 14 acres of the Collier place was secured and after the action of the city council Monday evening, in guaranteeing fire protection, the deal was completed.

Before leaving last Friday, Mr. Smith had conferred with Marshall mill men who desired the plant to adjoin the Western White Cedar Co. mill over there, but his final decision was for Coquille.

The new industry is in a way a life saver for the Oerding mill. Only about 35 per cent of their cedar cut can be used for export and the docks were becoming congested with the 65 per cent which could only be classed as waste unless a cut-up plant was handy, and it is this waste which the Smith plant will utilize.

While here Mr. Smith showed one order for next year, for ten carloads of battery separators, and the price is about \$25,000 a car.

With an interest in the Oerding mill he is assured of a steady supply of material for his separator and Venetian blind plant, as long as it cuts timber. That it will continue to operate is positive for arrangements are already being made for a larger head rig and other machinery to increase the output from 18,000 or 20,000 feet a day to 40,000. It will employ 10 or 15 men more than at present.

Construction of the plant will start about the first of the month and it is hoped to be ready to operate by the first of the year. Orders for extending the railroad spur along the site of the proposed plant have already been issued.

In locating this industry in Coquille, Oerding Bros. have earned the grateful commendation of every business man and resident in the city. They started the mill more or less on their nerve; then they secured the backing necessary to put it over, and now they have secured a plant whose payroll will equal and possibly exceed their own.

And another to whom Coquille owes much is Albert Reeves. He has been associated with Oerding Bros. for months and his influence was thrown with theirs in securing Mr. Smith's agreement to locate here. He will be connected with the new plant, both in construction and operation.

Two cedar shipments by the Oerding mill here the past week have been loaded on boats at the Bay for export. The two represented around \$20,000 worth of logs and timber.

Altar Set Presented Church

Announcement was made at the services Sunday of the Pioneer Church that Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Lawrence were donating a pulpit furniture set in memory of their mothers, Mrs. J. S. Lawrence and Mrs. P. E. Drane, who were both members of that church for many years.

Frost Two Mornings This Week

Early risers Wednesday and Thursday mornings noted frost on roofs and boards and both mornings felt like it. Clarence Hatcher, in from Fairview Wednesday, said that the frost was heavy enough out there to scrape off like snow.

Says New Era is Upon Us

W. B. Perry, a brother of Fred Perry, of Bandon, was a Coquille visitor yesterday morning, and being an old newspaper man, he dropped in at the Sentinel. His home is in San Francisco and he informed us that the talk around the bay there is that southwestern Oregon and Coos county are right on the verge of the greatest development this section ever saw. The sale of the Santa Fe's half interest in the Northwestern Pacific, the railroad line running from Sausalito to Eureka, according to Mr. Perry, was caused by the Western Pacific's intention to build up from central California into Oregon. "The development of this section is much nearer than most people realize," was Mr. Perry's confident conclusion.

Another Mail In and Out, Oct. 1

Postmaster H. C. Getz received word this week that the stage mail service between Coos Bay and Roseburg will start Oct. 1. The incoming mail will leave Roseburg at 7 a. m. and arrive here about 9:20, according to the tentative plan suggested to the postoffice department. Outgoing mail, which will be for the south, will leave about 11 a. m., arriving in Roseburg in time to catch the south-bound Shasta.

COUNTY FAIR DRAWS CROWDS

All roads in Coos and Curry counties lead to Myrtle Point today and it was anticipated that the largest crowd in the history of the county fair would be in attendance today. What gives hope to this is the fact that nearly every city in the county has declared a half holiday this afternoon.

Yesterday afternoon Hon. W. C. Hawley addressed the large crowd present.

All exhibits from both counties are now in place and they make a very attractive display. The livestock entries this year are numerous, with the club and Smith-Hughes boys making an unusually fine showing. Stock judging contests yesterday were decided by Judges H. A. Lindgren, N. C. Jamieson and Harvey S. Hale. The winners are announced here:

Dairy calves: Elmo Christensen, Myrtle Point, first; Lester Porterfield, Myrtle Point high school, second and third; Randolph Lorenz, Coquille high school, first; David Smith, Coquille high school, second.

Sheep: Truman Wagner, Myrtle Point high school, first; Erwin Hall, Myrtle Point high school, three seconds.

Swine: Edward Sturdivant, Myrtle Point high school, first; Delores Strong, Myrtle Point high school, second.

Swine—sow and pigs: Belmont Ireland, Coquille high school, two firsts.

Competition was keen among the youthful exhibitors. There were 48 swine, 20 sheep, 34 cows and 50 turkeys and 50 chickens entered in the Smith-Hughes Project, and 35 calves and 15 swine in the Boys' and Girls' club contest.

This afternoon the Chamber of Commerce novelty race is to be run. The Grange race was run yesterday.

All the amusement and hot dog stands have been on the ground for several days.

Tonight the American Legion boxing card and the dance at the Oaks are attractions which insure a large crowd up there.

The fair will close tomorrow night.

R. R. Men Here Today

B. C. Taylor, recently appointed general passenger agent for the Southern Pacific, with headquarters in Portland, was a Coquille visitor this morning with L. L. Graham, district traffic agent. Mr. Taylor succeeded J. A. Ormandy when the latter succeeded John M. Scott.

They stated that the outgoing mail schedule which will be inaugurated Oct. 1 and carried by the S. P. stage line, will permit a letter mailed here by 10:30 in the morning to be in San Francisco the next morning, and that it will save a day on outgoing mail for the east.

Naturalization Day, Oct. 1

October 1 will be "naturalization day" in Circuit court and W. W. Wiggins, acting district director of naturalization, will be here to conduct examination of the six applicants for citizenship whose petitions will come up at that time.

Let the Oerding Industries Inc. do your millwork. They can save you money, see them.

BUDGET OUTLINE ACTS FAVORABLY

City's Probable Receipts and Expenses for Next Year— 2 Mill Tax Increase

The budget committee for the city of Coquille met last evening at the city hall to make estimate of the probable expenditures by the city next year. The tentative budget had been prepared by Keith Leslie and the totals for the various items as adopted last night were:

Estimated receipts from all sources, including those from water, \$6700.

The estimated expenditures are: Personal services, \$6450; material and supplies, \$3800; construction and engineering, \$400; indebtedness, \$9,067.50; miscellaneous, \$2,075; emergency, \$500; maintenance and repairs, \$5300.

This leaves a total of \$20,892.50 which must be raised by special tax, but to arrive at the total on which the 6 per cent limitation is figured, \$7,867.50 of exempted indebtedness items must be deducted, leaving a total of \$13,025.

The exempt items of indebtedness include the following: Bond series 1917 and interest, \$2425; Henry street bridge bonds and interest, \$762.00; Water Fund bonds and interest, \$4680; making a total of \$7,867.50.

For the first time this year the city's water receipts and estimated expenditures in that department are included in the budget.

Mr. Leslie states that if the budget is finally adopted, as approved last night, there will be an increase of about 2 mills in the levy over last year's figure when it was 17.4 mills.

New Church Is Opened

The Pioneer church finished its campaign for building funds the first of the week, with pledges and contributions of \$2300 over the week end. Possibly another campaign will be held the first of the year.

At the community dinner held in the basement of the church last Friday evening about 200 were present, and a most enjoyable dinner was served.

The program following the dinner consisted of music by the Jenny Lind Sextette, saxophone solos by H. S. Norton, accompanied by Mrs. M. O. Hawkins, and talks by several men.

Mayor Skeels spoke on the benefit a church and community hall is to a town like Coquille; Rev. W. B. Smith spoke on the moral relation of a church to the community, and M. O. Hawking and Lyman Carrier also addressed the gathering.

On Sunday two very interesting services were conducted by Rev. H. S. Shangle, presiding elder, with good congregations present at both.

Praise for the appearance and usefulness of the beautiful edifice was voiced by every one present.

Exodus to College Is On

Beginning last evening a dozen or more Coquille youths will leave during the week for the state's higher institutions of learning. Those going to Corvallis at attend O. S. C. are Alice Fish, Fredah Baxter, Marietta Hufford, Lyle Beyers and Harold Gould. Coquille's representation at the university at Eugene will be Maxine Paulson, Avis Hartson, Jean Young, Geo. Belloni and Clarence Barton. Two others of last spring's graduating class at the high school, Wanda Houdyshell and Etta Marie Whobrey, will leave a week from Sunday to attend the normal at Ashland.

The new telephone directory of the West Coast Telephone Co. will be issued from the Sentinel press next week. It is finished now except for the binding. It will have a more colorful appearance than the Coos & Curry directories have had for some years past, for the cover color is yellow instead of the former gray and brown. It will be distributed to the patrons next week.

Circus in Town Today

C. H. Allton's wild animal circus is in town today and will show this evening. The show comes on a fleet of 20 trucks and presents sensational features with tigers, leopards, pumas, jaguars, lions, bears, Cuban ponies, dogs, monkeys, goats. Also wire walkers, aerialists and trapeze performers. Popular prices will prevail. The tent is pitched in the Kistner field.

Council Guarantees Fire Protection to New Battery Separator Plant

By a four to one vote Monday evening the city council gave assurance to Albert Reeves, who was representing Ralph L. Smith, that when the battery separator plant is built adjoining the Oerding mill that the city will furnish it adequate water for fire protection. Mr. Reeves had asked for a four-inch pipe, with hydrants at both the new plant and the Oerding mill. An overhead sprinkling system is to be a feature of the new industry, making a 4-inch line necessary.

Mr. Reeves presented the plans as outlined elsewhere in this issue and stated that fire protection was all they were asking from the city, but the location of the plant here would depend on whether fire protection was granted. With a free site and railroad trackage offered them at the Bay, to bring the plant here will cost them about \$10,000 additional; but Coquille was the point they had decided upon if the one requirement was met.

City Engineer Ninton gave as an estimate of the probable cost of laying a 4-inch main from the Willey place, near the new well to the site, a distance of 2350 feet, at \$1832.25. Two hydrants would raise that to about \$2,000, but as the council had already decided to lay a four-inch main down Knowlton avenue, and a two-inch main to Collier Heights, the additional cost for a 4-inch line all the way will not be more than \$1200 or \$1400.

But one objection was raised to granting the request. Councilman Chaney held the opinion that the city was not empowered to lay mains for fire protection outside the city limits and voted "no," while Councilmen Opperman, Farr, Walker and Willey favored the motion.

In this connection, Grant Corby later looked up the state statutes and finds that a municipality selling water or electricity has the power to extend its operations beyond the corporate limits.

The council authorized a contract with W. F. Kernin for the drilling of a twelve inch bore at the price of \$12 per foot, which includes casing and cementing to keep surface water from the well.

Mr. Kernin's bill of \$470 for drilling and bailing the test well was allowed.

An agreement having been made with W. G. Mehl for a right of way through his place for the rebuilding of the extension of the First street sewer to the river, the council ordered that \$100 be paid him for the deed. It now appears that when the first sewer was laid there years ago the city had no right-of-way title to the land crossed.

An ordinance levying an assessment of \$1421.84 against the Heath street property benefited by the grading and graveling improvement was passed, and the cost must either be paid in cash or the property bonded.

The street committee was authorized to purchase and spread not to exceed 30 yards of gravel on Fourth street where traffic has begun to break through the rock laid a few years ago.

A petition for a street light at the corner of Eighth and Heath streets was referred to the light committee with power to act.

Geo. W. Taylor Will Not Run

Geo. W. Taylor, who has been mentioned as a candidate for mayor, asks the Sentinel to say that he is not a candidate for that office or any other of a public nature, and that he would not accept a nomination if tendered him. He did say, however, that he will assist to the limit of his ability in the upbuilding, betterment and improvement of his home town.

New Chevrolet Salesman

Paul McElwaine this week added another automobile salesman to the force employed by the Southwest Motor Co. Hugh Coleman, who has been successful in selling automobiles to Coos county people for several years, is the man and he will demonstrate the ever-popular Chevrolet in the future.

Hon. W. C. Hawley to Be Here

Hon. W. C. Hawley, members of congress from this district and republican candidate for re-election, was in Coquille last night and after spending today in Bandon will return and visit in Coquille tomorrow.

Leland Peart-Suffers Collapse

Leland Peart, postal clerk in the Coquille office, collapsed Wednesday night on his return from a hunting trip in the hills between Camp 3 and Coaledo and several times yesterday his life was despaired of.

He and his brother, William, walked back from Coaledo Tuesday looking for deer. They killed a 150-pound buck Wednesday and carried it out through the brush and over the hills for miles. It was a great strain on Mr. Peart and the heat in the hills Wednesday was considerable. They managed to make it to their car at Coaledo and arrived home safely but Leland had several unconscious spells yesterday. He was much improved this morning, however.

Former H. S. Principal Here

J. W. Crites, high school principal 13 years ago, when C. A. Howard was superintendent of schools in Coquille, was a visitor here yesterday and looked up a number of the men who were high school boys then—"Brick" Leslie, Fred Lorenz, Marc Sholley, Arthur Hooton and Leslie Schroeder. He is now in charge of club work in his office of the state school superintendent, and came down here to judge the school work at the Coos & Curry county fair. He has been a resident of Hood River, until May first this year, since leaving Coquille in 1916.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE IN OCT.

The office of County School Superintendent announces the list of instructors for the County Institute which will be held in the Marshfield High School, October 15th and 16th. This list is complete except for the local leaders for the High School Round Table Discussion and the instructor for the Rural Section.

They are as follows: C. A. Howard, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Alfred Powers and Henry Davidson Sheldon, University of Oregon.

Katharine Arbuthnot, Oregon Normal.

Eva White and Leona Marston, Southfork Oregon Normal.

O. D. Adams, Trades and Industries.

Frances M. Wright, State Supervisor of Home Economics Education.

Jean Besley, Oregon Tuberculosis Association.

E. F. Carleton, Secretary for the Oregon State Teachers' Association, will be in the Assembly for a few minutes on October 15th.

Dr. Burchard Woodson DeBusk will during the two days of Institute, conduct a clinic.

Mrs. Maude Barry, head of the Art Department, Marshfield, will have charge of the Art Room. Miss Florance Newberry, music instructor of Marshfield, will have charge of the assembly music. Miss Newberry has planned peppy music for the occasion which will be greatly enjoyed by the teachers.

It is hoped that only a few minutes of the Institute time will be needed for the handling of the dues for the National Educational Association, Oregon State Teachers Association and County Division of the Oregon State Teachers Association. The executive committee which convened in the office of the county school superintendent Saturday, September 15, for the purpose of arranging for the drive will begin same within the next few days. It was also agreed at that time that a large roll should be provided and upon this roll will be written the name of each teacher and amount paid for dues placed thereon. This roll will be mounted in the auditorium where the Institute is being held and will greatly assist the secretary, Alice Guerin, and the teachers in checking.

Sara Huntington Married

Announcements were received here this week of the marriage of Miss Sara Huntington to Geo. R. Wertz, at Yoncalla last Sunday. Miss Huntington was teacher in the domestic science department of Coquille high school during the school year 1923-1924. They will make their home near Grants Pass.

The meeting and banquet of the Oregon Beaches and Roosevelt Highway Association, scheduled to be held tomorrow at Reedsport, has been called off for the present without any late being set. It will be held some time in the future.

Constitution Week Observed

After the dinner meeting of the Lions Club yesterday noon they adjourned in a body to the high school auditorium where a program of music and speaking was presented as Coquille's contribution to the Constitution Week observance.

Judge Walter H. Evans, of Portland, will be here next Tuesday to hold motion day in Circuit court.

COUNCILMEN?

Few Suggestions for Those Important Offices for Next Monday Night's Caucus

While there is a great deal of talk in Coquille as to who shall be mayor for the next two years there is a woeful lack of suggestions for the other positions which are just as important. We refer to the office of councilman. Three are to be elected this fall and it happens that the three who hold over are all from the east and southeast part of town.

Those whose terms expire are C. C. Farr, Geo. H. Chaney and E. G. Opperman, whose residences are on Spurgeon Hill and in the north end. The division for the past two years has been equitable—three from the south and east district, two from the north end, and one from Spurgeon Hill. To preserve that equality no candidate could be elected from south of the gulch, although that is not a legal consideration.

Whether any of the three whose terms expire would be willing to serve again, has not been announced. They have given faithful and efficient service to the city and if they are willing to act again will probably be renominated. But it is rumored that they are not willing.

F. G. Leslie, city recorder, has made a most efficient police magistrate and recorder and is entitled to an election on his record. He is serving his present term on appointment by the council.

Whom the conflicting interests will propose for mayor can only be told after the caucus. Two possible candidates are said to have the north end vote almost solidly behind them. Both cannot have such unanimous support.

Whether the caucus will name more than one set of candidates is a matter which will be decided by the meeting itself Monday night. Acting City Attorney Grant Corby gives it as his opinion that a caucus can name but one candidate for each position to be filled. This would not prevent any body of twenty citizens from holding a caucus to nominate candidates. The charter provides that the one receiving the majority of all votes cast at a caucus for any particular office shall be the candidate for that office.

But in the old saloon days, when the wet and dry issue influenced every city election, it became a practice to name two candidates and the custom has held for the past 14 or 16 years. Most important of all is to remember that the caucus will be held at 7:30 p. m., Monday evening, Sept. 24, at the city hall, and that it is the duty of every citizen to participate.

North Fork Pioneer Passes

D. W. Baker, since 1894 a resident of the Lee section where he owned a ranch, passed away last Monday, Sept. 17, at 11 p. m. He had been suffering from cancer for the past two years and it was that trouble which caused his death.

Funeral services were held at the Lee church Wednesday at 11 a. m., conducted by Rev. R. G. Sumerlin. Interment was in the Lee cemetery.

David W. Baker was born Dec. 13, 1857, being nine months and four days past 70 years of age. His birthplace was in Tennessee where he lived until he was 27 years of age when he came to Coos county and bought the ranch on the North Fork where he has since made his home.

He was married in Tennessee to Susan McQueen, who passed away in 1894. Six children were born to them of whom three are living, two sons and a daughter being dead. The living children are J. K. Baker, Mack Baker and Mrs. B. Lawhorn.

In 1907, while on a visit to his old home in Tennessee, he was married to Miss Mary Cable who survives him.

He leaves besides two brothers, J. D. and John Baker, in Arizona, and one sister, Mrs. Catherine Farthing, who lives in North Carolina, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild.

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