

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium

VOL. XXIV. NO. 50.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1928.

THE YEAR.

SOME RECOVERED

A Little of the Lorenz Store Loot Found Here—Harvey Miller Brought Back

Harvey Miller, who confessed to the Lorenz store robbery to Deputy Sheriff Frank Osmond in Portland last week, was brought in by the deputy yesterday afternoon. He says that he committed the robbery alone, but the sheriff's office is convinced that a Ray Olson helped Miller dispose of some of the goods in Marshfield, although it was not the Ray Olson arrested in Eugene last week.

When arrested Miller was wearing a shirt and leather coat taken from the Lorenz store.

He told Mr. Osmond that when picked up in Portland he had been out of the pen at Salem just 40 days. He served three years and eight months for a stick-up job. His statement of the 40 days is incorrect for he arrived in this section on Oct. 21, but that is an error of but a few days.

A small part of the loot was recovered last Saturday—morning by Deputy Geo. Bohrer at a home on Spurgeon Hill. It had been left with a 15-year old girl to sell and her efforts to dispose of it to other children resulted in the latter's parents informing Mr. Lorenz where some of it was.

Mr. Lorenz looked over the stuff recovered yesterday and claimed but four pair of Oxford shoes, the two suit cases and some of the shirts. Where the bath robes, three rain coats, two sweaters and other stuff came from is unknown to the officers.

The officers also found some stolen stuff at a second-hand dealer's in Marshfield. The latter became suspicious, after reading of the Lorenz robbery and notified Marshal Jack Carter. His purchase included two ladies raincoats and two sweaters which did not belong to Mr. Lorenz.

Evidently Miller was "knocking over" clothing and dry goods stores quite often.

Miller was taken before Justice Stanley at ten o'clock this morning for a hearing which was continued until this afternoon or tomorrow when District Attorney-elect Coleman can be present.

After Miller left Mr. Stanley's office, the latter remarked that he was no novice in criminal courts, but his remark to Deputies Osmond and Hunt as they took him back to jail indicated that he did not understand the proceedings. He says he wants to get before the court, plead guilty, and begin serving time.

Chief Endorses Extinguisher

C. W. Lynd, representative of the Shure Shot automatic fire extinguisher company, gave a demonstration to the fire department last Thursday evening which caused Fire Chief Gardner to highly praise his product as have fire chiefs wherever demonstrated. It is an hermetically sealed glass container, filled with a gas compressed into liquid form, and is attached to a wall by means of a bracket. A soldered joint on the bracket melts at 130 degrees, allowing the glass to fall and break, the liquid resumes its gaseous state and smother the flames. One tube will extinguish all fire in a room containing 1000 cubic feet and has been known to fill a 2500 cubic foot room with the smothering gas.

It is not harmful to man or objects with which it comes in contact. A canary bird is the only thing the fumes have been known to kill.

It Was Poor Publicity

Since no human being is perfect, nor free from mistakes and errors, it follows that no newspaper can be free from errors, mechanically nor in judgment. One of the worst cases of poor judgment noted lately is on the part of some daily papers in giving the statement that apprehension was felt in Coquille as the result of the unsuccessful attempt to rob the First National Bank here last week. Even had the statements been correct, it would be entirely out of place to give publicity to that sort of stuff.

Cypress Tree Snapped Off

On of the handsomest trees in Coquille, a cypress, fell a victim to the wind's fury Monday. It was at the northwest corner of the W. H. Schroeder lot on Coulter street. It was topped a few years ago but the shoots had sprung upward giving a good-sized surface for the wind's action. It broke off about three and a half feet from the ground.

Splashing Brought No Logs

W. R. Ocheltree, down here from Myrtle Point Monday afternoon, is a tender of one of the three splash dams on the Middle fork. He said that after collecting water for a week, the three were splashed Monday without moving a log from the huge piles which have been waiting in the river channel for many months.

It will require a donkey engine and cable to topple those young mountains of logs so that the current can carry them down stream.

The rains this week will be a wonderful help to the loggers in getting out their logs, both from the Middle and North forks and from the smaller streams.

Neither could logs be moved yesterday for the water was not high enough to carry them over the dams, but was too high to permit closing the splash dams so a head for splashing could be impounded.

Happy New Year

May all the readers, friends and patrons of the Sentinel enjoy a more abundant, prosperous and Happy New Year than they have ever before experienced, is our wish.

Not only in a material way is life more abundant but in the things of life not physical—mind and spirit—may we enjoy an expanding of all our powers and a continued preparation for the life which is to come.

The public hearing on the county budget will be held in the county court room next Monday, Dec. 31, at ten o'clock.

EASTERN STAR INSTALLS

Before an attendance which filled the lodge room of the Masonic Temple last evening, the new officers of Beulah Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., were installed by Mrs. Imogene Neal, retiring worthy matron, as installing officer, and Mrs. Bertha J. Smith, as marshal. As always, the ceremony was interesting and beautiful, even to those who have seen it for years.

After the chapter had closed its session a bountiful lunch was served in the banquet hall below.

All of the officers were not able to be present for induction into office, but the following list includes the entire official roster of Beulah Chapter: W. M.—Edna Robison
W. P.—E. A. Walker
A. M.—Lorraine Vinton
A. P.—Willard Boserman
Sec.—Bess Maury
Treas.—Alice Evland
Con.—Frances Zosel
Chaplain—Ora X. Maury
Organist—Inez Glaisyer
Marshal—Imogene Neal
Adah—Rheo Walker
Ruth—Mabel Clinton
Esther—Gamilia Rietman
Martha—Catherine Ruble
Electa—Violet Lorenz
Warder—Bertha Bertha J. Smith
Sentinel—Theo L. Clinton

Five Inches Rain Past Week

Rainfall this week has totalled 4 and four-fifths, since it began raining Monday noon, three and a half of it being Wednesday and Wednesday night. Total precipitation since September 1, has reached 21 1/4 inches.

The rain was accompanied Monday by a severe wind at two o'clock and it has been the most severe storm of the winter. But it is warmer weather than that experienced last week and everyone feels better.

Has Orders for 35 Chevs

Paul McElwaine, of the Southwest Motor Co., the largest Chevrolet selling organization in southwestern Oregon, has his orders in for nine cars, 36 cars, of the new six Chevrolts, in all models—and he has orders on the books for 35 of them. He expects to receive all these cars for January delivery.

Due to Paper Shortage

The Sentinel appears with fewer pages this week than it has had for years due to the failure of two tons of paper, ordered early this month, to arrive. We had just enough on hand for six pages but not enough for eight.

Another Pioneer Is Gone

Geo. C. Welch, for 30 years a resident of the Lampa district, passed away at his home early yesterday morning. He has suffered for some years from heart trouble, and was past 70 years of age. Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon.

HESS BUYS HOME AFTER 35 YEARS

Will Continue in Stock Business on Two Ranches of Cocos Seed, Inc.

Henry E. Hess expects to move into the new home he recently purchased from Bert Folsom, on East First street and across the street from the J. E. Ross home tomorrow. After several years as manager of the Russ properties he has severed his connections with Wm. Russ, the management being taken over by Mr. Stockhoff who came up here from Humboldt county early this month with Wm. Russ.

Mr. Hess intends to continue in the business of buying, raising and selling beef stock, and will have charge of the stock end of the two ranches recently acquired by Lyman Carrier for the Cocos Seed Co. One of these is the Coke-Chandler ranch of 150 acres, located near Eastside on Isthmus Slough, and the other the Paola Griffin tract of 180 acres this side of Coaledo on Beaver Slough. It is Mr. Carrier's intention to break up the bottom land there in the spring and use it, as well as the other ranch, in producing bent grass and seed for the Cocos company.

The purchase of the Coke-Chandler ranch will end the litigation over the bent seed product of the ranch between Mr. Carrier and Ben R. Chandler.

Mr. Hess has made many warm friends in both a social and business way since he came to Coquille a number of years ago and all who know him are pleased that he has decided to make this city his home. Mr. and Mrs. Hess will have one of the city's finer homes.

Live Wire Kills Frank Caughell

Frank Caughell, of Gold Beach, lineman for the West Coast Telephone Co. there, and a brother of Fred Caughell, county clerk of Curry county, Jas. M. Caughell, of the roadmaster's office here; and C. G. Caughell, of the sheriff's office; was electrocuted Tuesday, Christmas morning, when he caught hold of a 2300 voltage wire as he was working on the telephone line. The body hung to the wire till the power was shut off.

Funeral services were held at Gold Beach yesterday at 2 p. m.

Frank Caughell was 37 years of age and the youngest of the Caughell boys, a pioneer family of Curry county. A proper epitaph for this well known man is the remark made by a brother last summer, "all his life he has done something for others."

Jim and "Hode" Caughell had left here last Sunday morning for Gold Beach and Crescent City and a family dinner was planned for Christmas.

High Water Has Arrived

Most of the lowlands up and down the river from Coquille and on both sides are under water, and the water was running across the road at the Fishtrap end of the bridge here this noon. Just above the bridge the river is over the banks, and it is still rising. Another rain like that of Wednesday and Wednesday night would probably put the water across the dike.

Meanwhile most of the basements in the business section are, or have been, flooded.

Trespass Notices, printed on cloth, for sale at this office.

Josh Whitcomb Again to Be Presented in Coquille Tonight

—The 1893 Cast

Thirty-five years ago a local cast produced Josh Whitcomb, which the Monotony Killers are presenting at the Liberty Theatre this evening.

On December 30, 1893, the comedy was presented at the theatre in Myrtle Point and it had been produced a few days before that in Coquille. The program lying before us does not show any of the names who are in tonight's cast but it does contain a great many well-known names, some of whom have since passed away.

Following is the cast for the 1893 show:

Uncle Josh Whitcomb, a New England farmer - Geo. Leach
John Martin, a nephew - Bird Nosler
Dolby, an English dude - Gene Norton
Bill Johnson, a tough - Bunk Buzan
Reuben, Josh's son - Bunk Buzan
Burroughs, a policeman - Sam Norton
Carry, a bootblack - Aaron Wilson
Cy Prime, "nigh onto 80" - Will Price
Sam Foster, the sheriff - Jim Whetstone
Tot, a street sweep - Miss Pearl Baxter
Mrs. Johnson, Tot's mother - Mrs. Johnson
Miss Grace McEwen - Miss Grace McEwen
Miss Martin, John's sister - Mrs. Callie Leach
Miss Primrose, of Boston - Mrs. Callie Leach
Aunt Tilda, Josh's sister - Mrs. Lora Harrington

Of the above Geo. Leach is directing the present production and is ready in case of illness to take a leading part tonight. It was from his part in this comedy that he received the nickname of "Josh" by which he is sometimes still addressed.

There was one thing about Mr. Leach that made it so easy for the rest of the cast to work with him. If a player forgot his lines, George would continue his line of chatter, even after the cue had been given, and make the words of the one who followed him stand out so clearly that the player could not help understanding. Besides that, he would interpolate comedy stuff, all the lines of his part that added immensely to the enjoyment of the audience.

Bird Nosler, a brother of A. L., of this city, now lives in Huntington Beach, Calif.
Gene Norton, Aaron Wilson and Mrs. Callie Leach still live in Coquille.
Sam Norton, a brother of J. E., now lives in Redding, Calif.
Will Price is an uncle of Mrs. H. S. Norton, Jim Whetstone is the father of Miss Agnes Whetstone of the telephone company, and he is now in Portland; and Miss Grace McEwen, now Mrs. Grace Norton, lives in Stockton, California.

Bunk Buzan has also passed beyond as have Miss Pearl Baxter, sister of Mrs. J. W. Laird and Hal Baxter; and Mrs. Lora Harrington, sister of Geo. Leach.

Following is the synopsis of the comedy, "Uncle Josh Whitcomb," as it appeared on the program more than a third of a century ago:

Act I
Scene 1. Street in Boston; "Give me some money to buy chewing tobacco; "We have been insulted by a drunken brute;" Uncle Josh arrives in the city; "Ain't acquainted with the roads around here;" Uncle Josh meets a "bad man;" "Wipe off your

chin; "Want to buy a load of punkins?" "A shine" from Roundy, the bootblack; Uncle Josh runs to a fire; Tot, the street-sweep; "Mother is sick;" Roundy goes home with Tot.

Scene 2. Room in garret; "I'm (hic) your own sweet William;" "Anything to eat in the house?" "I'll sell it for drink;" "Poor child, she's singing in her sleep;" Roundy defends the mother and Tot from the drunken husband and stepfather; "No, you don't!"

Act II
Scene 1. Miss Primrose's home in Boston; "Tickled most to death to see you, Miss;" Josh finds an old acquaintance; "You don't tell me that's a spitbox?" "Give us one of your little songs, Tot;" "An old-fashioned country dance;" "I've busted my galluses, I have, by gosh!"

Scene 2. Street—"I'll have to stop runnin' 'round nights;" Tot sings; Ten cents; "There's a dollar;" Josh weeps and promises to defend her; Josh regulates the old brute of a father.

Scene 3. Josh in Tot's home; Prescribes and "don't ask a darn cent;" "Promise to take care of my little girl—I am dying;" Enter, Bill—Exit, Bill.

Act III

Scene 1. Home of Uncle Josh; Josh and Tilda; "Must a been asleep;" "How do you like my clothes?" Cy Prime, the oldest man in the country; "You look as slick as a circus horse;" "The train's comin'!" Several surprises; "You ain't married, too!" Roundy, the bootblack; Tot and Reuben; Tot sings; "A warrant for your son's arrest;" "Great God, Cy, a Whitcomb accused of robbery!" The real thief; "Knock me down an I'll call it square;" "I forgive you;" A happy ending.

P. O. HAS BIGGEST BUSINESS

The biggest holiday business ever enjoyed locally is reported by the Coquille postoffice as well as by many of the merchants.

The rush at the postoffice began ten days before Christmas and by Monday of this week the parcel post sack receipts were over 70. Nor was the outgoing mail behind in the increase.

For several days, with the morning train two hours late, the carriers were not able to finish up until 9 p. m., but everything in the office had been distributed that day.

On Tuesday, by order of Postmaster General New the postmaster and employees enjoyed a well-earned rest: No mail was delivered or even distributed to boxholders. It was received and outgoing mail sent, and the day's work was done.

But the star route carriers made their regular trips. Rural mail carriers, of which the Coquille office has none, were not on duty anywhere in the United States.

For the benefit of those who do not know the difference between a star route and a rural route it can be stated that on a star route there are one or more postoffices which receive their mail by the carrier, while a rural route is one on which there is no postoffice.

Coquille's two routes are star routes, one being to the Leneve postoffice and the other to McKinley.

Her Children All Here

All the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Mrs. Sarah Wickam, except Oscar Wickham, who is down with the flu, his children and the children of Chas. Wickham, were here Christmas for a family reunion. The big Christmas dinner was spread at the Geo. O. Leach home, and a most enjoyable time was had until Mrs. Wickham suffered one of the attacks which have caused her considerable illness of late years. She rallied later and is feeling better again. She was 78 years of age last June.

Those from out of town here for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Gene Wickham and daughter, Sarah Emily, from San Bernardino, Calif.; Mrs. Edwin Moeller and son, Therald, from Toledo, Ore.; and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benham and son, Virgil, from Portland.

Wind Blew in Plate Glass Fronts

Two large plate glass panes, each 6 feet by 6 1/2 feet, were blown out of the Southwestern Motor Co. show windows last Monday evening about seven o'clock, the crash being heard all over the business section. The glass withstood the hard blow at two o'clock in the afternoon but must have been weakened then, for the two panes were joined by a solid upright bar running from top to bottom of the window.

GUN UNEARTHED

Revolver Used by McGowan in His Attempt to Kill Members of Posse

Positive evidence that Bud McGowan, in the county jail for assault and attempted bank robbery, was not the innocent companion of Marion Rube, was obtained about noon last Friday when Frank Dungey discovered the 32-20 Colts revolver with which McGowan had fired at Bert Gould.

About four feet from where McGowan was lying, under a fir tree and back of a large log, Mr. Dungey saw the handle of the gun protruding in a bunch of Oregon grape. When the desperado had decided the game was up, as Osmond and Morgan approached, he jammed the muzzle down into the earth, but could not completely hide the butt. Three shells were empty and three were loaded.

The hammer of the Colts had been fied off so that he could "fan" it with his thumb as fast as he could pull the trigger, making it almost as rapid fire a revolver as an automatic. McGowan was taken before Justice Stanley last Monday where he waived examination and was bound over to the grand jury. His bond was set at \$20,000, which he, of course, has not been able to give, and he languishes in jail.

Hack saws, found in the soles of Rube's shoes, led Deputy Sheriff Bohrer to investigate those of McGowan. Saw imprints in the latter's footwear, caused the deputy to ask McGowan where the instruments were. "In the bunk," was the answer, and there Mr. Bohrer found them.

McGowan admitted an attempt to saw his way through the bars his first night in jail.

Bites the Hand That Fed Him

Of all low creatures the one which bites the hand which feeds it is the most despicable!

Howard Nelson arrested here two or three weeks ago and taken to Portland on the theory that the car he drove down here in was stolen, was released very quickly up there and promptly returned to Coquille.

He had no money, nothing to eat and nowhere to sleep, so Jack Phinnegar took him in and kept him for several days.

Last Friday when Jack returned from camp in the evening Nelson was gone. So was Jack's gold watch, a travelling bag, \$25 in money and a lot of clothes. The total loss ran above \$100. Aside from finding that the bag was sent to Oregon City, no trace of Nelson has been found.

Later—the officers were able to stop the suit case at Oregon City and after being held there for several days, in hopes that Nelson would call for it, it was returned to Coquille yesterday. Nelson used one name in sending the package and addressed it to the name of Hill at Oregon City.

Six-Year Old Boy Passes

Charles Douglas Waggoner, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Waggoner of this city, died at Wesley hospital in Marshfield, Monday evening at 7:30, from peritonitis. The little fellow had been in the hospital but a few days. Funeral services were held at the Schroeder-Gano Chapel here at two o'clock yesterday afternoon, interment being in the Sunset cemetery at Marshfield. He was 6 years, 2 months and 24 days of age.

Beside his parents he is survived by three brothers, Robert 10, Kenneth 9, and Lowell 8.

Will Soon Ship Coal From Here

A. C. Most, who has options or leases on seven sections of coal land north of the McLain mine, which is north of Coquille, was here last Friday. He has given up all thought of establishing a briquetting plant here, but says he will be shipping coal to either Medford or Portland before long, and that a railroad for bringing out his product will be the first move.

The coal is not to be sold for fuel purposes direct but will be processed, with the residuum made into briquets.

Yellow Creek Bridge Damaged

During the storm and high water Wednesday night the Yellow creek highway bridge, this side of Powers, was damaged and a 40-foot span went out. The county bridge crew is at work on it now, putting in a temporary crossing.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.50.

