

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

Oregon Historical Society X Auditorium

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1930.

\$2.00 THE YEAR.

## SEEKS LOCATION

### California Company Wants to Raise 300 Acres of Peas Here This Year

The prospect of making the Coquille valley a market garden for the eastern markets appear brighter this week than ever before. There is nothing definite to report, but two men have been here within the past month, one of them this week, looking for a 300 acre tract on which to grow peas.

The first visitor, W. M. Shrode, of the San Diego Fruit and Produce Co., was taken over the county and as far south as the Star ranch in Curry county by J. S. Erwin, local realtor, who recommended the Russ tract if it could be secured.

A brother of the first visitor, W. C. Shrode, of Arroyo Grande, Calif., was here last Friday until the first of the week, and while here conferred with Ned Kay, at the warehouse, in regard to space for handling the product. He also conferred with Geo. R. Johnson in regard to furnishing ice for refrigerator cars in which the peas would be shipped east.

These men, or the company they represent, ship peas from southern California in season, from Utah and Washington, and they are seeking a location where peas can be harvested in August and September.

They want to lease 300 acres this year to try out this section, with the option of securing the land for two years more, and they also want an option to purchase.

If they secure the 300 acres and the results are profitable they desire to plant 1,000 acres to peas next year. And while they did not specify it, it is very probable that any farmer who wished to raise peas at the summer's end would find in the company a buyer for their product.

On his way north, Mr. W. C. Shrode stopped at Eureka to confer with Wm. Russ but no arrangements were concluded at that time for using a part of the Russ company's land across the river.

If this new company, which ships extensively to the eastern market, can make a deal for valley land, it will mean the employment of hundreds of people during the picking season, with Coquille as headquarters.

They have checked up on all statistics, government reports, rainfall, etc., and what they have learned proved Coquille valley to be the ideal location for harvesting in August and September. The crop would be planted in May.

## Grand Jury to Meet Monday

Due to the absence of Ray Lewis, of Coquille, who is in San Francisco for medical treatment the grand jury was unable to begin its sessions last Monday. The date was postponed until Wednesday and then again postponed until next Monday, due to the failure of Judge H. K. Zimmerman, of Astoria, who will preside on the bench here next week, to arrive. The substitute on the grand jury for Mr. Lewis must be drawn in open court.

This is going to mean that the grand and petit juries will convene the same day and may delay the regular circuit court business for a few days. And the cost of bringing witnesses here on three different occasions when one would have sufficed adds materially to circuit court expenses.

## Ralph Nosler Buys Barber Shop

When he sold his barber shop here nearly three years ago, Ralph E. Nosler was the dean of Coquille business men, the oldest in number of years continuously in business.

This week he re-enters the ranks, having purchased the Woodford Barber & Beauty Shop of Fred Woodford last Monday. The shop will henceforth be known as the Nosler Barber & Beauty Shop.

For the ladies' beauty parlor he has secured an experienced operator from Portland, Mrs. Alice Percy, who arrived yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodford left on a short trip this week but will return soon. They expect to locate next month in Klamath Falls.

## Ted Houser Arrested at Bridge

Ted Houser, of Bridge, was arrested last Saturday by the sheriff's office and charged with operating a still in Bridge. He is the man whom the sheriff and deputies saw running from the still house when they seized his paraphernalia a few weeks ago. His bond was set at \$1500 by Justice Stanley here Monday.

## War on Dogs to Start

Keep your dogs tied up. This is the warning issued by Marshal Brown who says that next week the spring drive on loose-running canines will begin.

Complaints have been increasing lately at the city hall because of the destruction of flower beds and gardens by dogs, and the day marshal has announced his intention of enforcing the ordinance.

Nor is he going to give individual notice to the owners. On complaint that a dog is loose he will forthwith take the owner before Recorder Leslie, and he anticipates that it may require four or five arrests to convince the dog owners that the animals must be kept up.

There will be no police attempt to capture the dogs. The ordinance provides that the owner be arrested and fined.

## Rains This Week

With something over two inches of rain since Wednesday morning, the total precipitation for Coos county is in excess of 33 inches since Sept. 1. This is below the average for this time of year but there are still three or four months to reach the 65 inches which is recognized as the average rainfall for this section.

## H. A. SLACK TO BE ENUMERATOR

Harry A. Slack, of this city, has been appointed enumerator by the district manager at Eugene to take the census of all establishments in this section which have to do with the manufacture or distribution of merchandise. This is a federal census which has nothing to do with the enumeration of population, and which must be completed by April 1. The district covers the voting precincts of Coquille, Beaver Hill, Cunningham, Fat Elk, Dora, Missouri, Lee and Riverton.

All mercantile business houses and manufacturing plants are compelled to make this confidential report to the enumerator, and he asks that merchants and plant managers have their information ready so that the census may be completed on time. He will start the job next week.

Such information is required as the following: Name, location, date of establishment, date of present ownership, nature of business and goods handled, number of employes and wages paid them, inventory of stocks, rent and interest paid, cash and credit sales, farm products bought from farmers, and other questions as to product handled.

Much of the required information can be taken from the federal income tax report.

## It's a Huge Success

Highly complimentary and commendatory have been the comments made to C. A. Gage since the operation of his talking picture equipment began in the Liberty Theatre Sunday. That Mr. Gage was making no idle threat when he said he would have the best made in certain, for the talking features this week have rivaled in excellence those heard in any of the larger cities of the state. Many have said that the sound reproduction of the Liberty here is not excelled by any Portland theatre.

To fulfill old contracts it will be necessary occasionally to run silent pictures but most of the time the shows will be 100 per cent talking.

The Sentinel congratulates Mr. Gage on his very successful attempt to provide the entertainment-seeking public with the latest in pictures.

## Contract Is Not Yet Let

J. E. Norton stated this morning that no contract had yet been signed with anyone for the construction of the hotel annex. It is expected to build it on a cost plus basis and one Marshfield contractor has given his estimate but before closing a deal, Mr. Norton says they expect to have other contractors figure the revised plans and specifications.

The financing of the building has been arranged and as soon as a satisfactory figure is secured active construction will start.

## County Chamber Elects

The County Chamber of Commerce met at Bandon Monday evening and elected officers for the year as follows: Pres.—Herbert Brown, of Bandon. V. Pres.—J. G. Mullen, of North Bend. Sec.—L. D. Felsheim, of Bandon. Treas.—J. E. Norton, of Coquille.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.50.

## WELL PROGRESS MAD CAP QUEEN

### Shaft Down Over 200 Feet— Means Much to Coquille if Oil Is Struck

A trip to the sight of the well being drilled by the Fat Elk Gas & Oil Co., southwest of Coquille, last Tuesday morning by the Sentinel writer and others, was disappointing from the fact that operations were shut down while the "stem," to which the drill is attached, was being repaired.

At that time the shaft was down 204 feet and had been reduced from the original 24-inch bore, to 22 inches.

For that distance down the formations had been encountered exactly as stated by the federal geologists, and hard pan had been struck. Above that there was a section of water and muck and the fact that water was getting into the casing had the crew guessing for a while, until the company's president, A. E. Gault, was lowered 150 feet into the shaft and found a small hole in the pipe.

One purpose in keeping the bore as large in circumference as possible is to keep the shaft straight so that the tools may not be lost as they were in the Bear creek well years ago.

Just what it will mean to Coquille, Coos county and all western Oregon, to strike oil in paying quantities is something that can hardly be realized except by those who have experienced oil strikes in the east or in California.

Even one well will, if of sufficient volume, tend to double Coquille's population in a short time, and should a wide field be developed, there is no telling what magnitude the growth will reach.

Hopeful is the word. Oil drilling is a gamble and those who can afford the gamble should feel a divic duty to aid in the learning of what lies three or five or seven thousand feet below the surface of the ground here. It's only those who cannot afford to lose one or two hundred dollars whom the Sentinel would caution against investing their all in this project. There are scores of men, and women too, in Coos county who can well afford to take a chance on striking liquid gold, and lend an attentive ear to the stock salesman who are at work now.

Mr. Gault is so sure of the soundness of the project that he has invested most of his capital, and the other original members of the company are also digging deep into their pockets.

And their reward will be great—if the oil is there. That "if" is not used in a doubting sense; there is nothing positive until the Pulaski pool is tapped. So, too, will those who invest and furnish the sinews of war for punching a deep hole into the earth, after the equipment was assembled, be wonderfully rewarded when oil is struck.

This is the hour to show faith in the possibilities and development of the southwest Oregon empire.

## Stolen Car Found at Salem

It's becoming unsafe for a councilman to attend a session of the city dads—especially if he leaves his car unlocked. Last Monday evening Ray Jebb parked his car on the north side of the city hall while he spent half an hour inside on city affairs. When he came out the car was gone and two days later it was found parked on a Salem street.

There is no clue as to who the thief was but he knew enough to abandon the machine before the police began taking pot shots at him as happened to the young fellow who stole Albert Rives' car in Portland and who was killed in Los Angeles.

## Were Sleeping in the Jail

Two boys, 18 and 20 years of age, one from Lee and the other from Marshfield, waived examination in Justice Stanley's court this morning, on the charge of stealing blankets from the Coquille jail and were bound over to the grand jury.

Last night, having no place to sleep, they went down in the city hall basement, reached through the bars of a cell with a stick and pulled out the blankets in which they proceeded to wrap themselves and go to sleep.

Marshal Howell found them there and locked them up.

## Telegraphic Shoot Starts Soon

The Coquille Rod & Gun Club is one of 17 gun clubs in the state which has signed an agreement to participate in the Oregonian telegraphic shoot again this spring. The opening date for the shoot has not been announced but it will begin early in March.

Insure your car with Ned C. Kelley.

### Opera to Be Presented by B. & P. W. Club Tuesday Night, Feb. 25

"The Madcap Queen," an elaborately staged musical comedy, has been chosen by the entertainment committee of the B. P. W. club as the attraction to be given this season.

Although this popular musical comedy made its bow to the public only a short time ago, its fame as an ideal vehicle for clever amateur talent has spread so rapidly that the members of the committee count themselves fortunate in having obtained the services of Amateur Productions, New York City, to rehearse and stage it here in Coquille, for there is a heavy demand for the production. "The Madcap Queen" is new and exclusive in every particular, and is brought to the city with the highest recommendations from cities where it has already been shown.

Costly and elaborate scenery, costumes and lighting effects have been provided, and this means that the local public will be offered, not a rehearsal or a revival of one of the time-worn musical comedies of the past, but something that is bright, snappy and up to the minute. With the great wealth of talent which is available to the B. & P. W. club for its presentation of "The Madcap Queen," the committee here believes that the production will equal, if not excel, the big success it has enjoyed in other cities.

Rehearsals have been going on for over a week at the community hall, where it will be presented on Tuesday, February 25, at 8:30 p. m.

The play opens on board a Trans-Atlantic liner bound for Cherbourg, France. The Princess Claire of Klausenburg, who has been visiting Evelyn Byrd of Fredericksburg, Virginia, has been unexpectedly called home by the sudden death of her father, the reigning sovereign. She is accompanied by her lady-in-waiting, the Countess Dagmar, and Evelyn, the three girls having been schoolmates in Switzerland. Evelyn has her negro maid, Lillie White, with her.

In the steerage, Jimmie Lee, Evelyn's cousin, and his friend, Harry Stafford, of Toronto, Canada, along with Jimmie's boy servant, Jupiter, are traveling incognito, the boys having

(Continued on last page)

## Forum Meeting C. of C.

The Coquille Chamber of Commerce met for a short forum session at the hotel Wednesday evening, with about 30 present.

One of the items of business transacted was the purchase of \$20 worth of the "Build Oregon" stamps, issued by the State Chamber of Commerce. These will be resold to local business men at \$1.00 per sheet of twenty.

Resolutions, directed to our senators and representatives in congress were adopted, urging a tariff on bent grass seed.

The membership committee reported that upwards of \$900 had been pledged to date for this year's budget.

The Chamber has underwritten a page advertisement in Western Out-of-Doors, for the next six months, at \$63 a page. Of that amount \$48 per month has been pledged by local business men.

Jno. D. Carl, candidate for the republican nomination for county commissioner, and J. L. Burtiss, both of Arago, attended the meeting and spoke briefly.

## For Contributing to Delinquency

Victor E. Jewell, 35 years of age, and who has a wife and family living in Coos county, was arrested by deputies in the sheriff's office at 2 a. m. yesterday in Bandon. He is charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor and evidently got word that the officers were after him for he had left Coos Bay and was headed south.

He waived examination in Justice Stanley's court this morning and was bound over to the grand jury.

## 4 Arrested for Vicious Attack

Four men, Owen Judd, Lloyd Warner, Louis and Julius Maillard, are in the county jail, charged with assault on Jim Herman, tinsmith vendor, at North Bend last week. Herman lost one eye in the attack, glass from the broken front door cutting it, and for a time it was feared he might lose the other also.

No reason for the attack has been given either by Herman or his assailants.

## Revoke Jones Pool Hall License

By a unanimous vote of the council, at which all members were present, Monday evening, the license of H. D. Jones to conduct a pool room on Front street was revoked. His conviction in recorder's court last week on the charge of permitting liquor to be sold and drunk on the premises, was the reason given for cancelling his license.

C. A. Machon was granted permission to have constructed a marquee, eight feet wide, across the front of the Liberty theatre.

Requests for a street light at Sixth and Henry, and for removal of the light in the middle of the block to Seventh and Henry, were referred to the light committee with power to act.

The council ordered that the sidewalk in front of the Collier building on Front street, at the corner of Willard, be repaired. The ground has permitted the walk to sink for several feet, leaving it in a dangerous condition.

No other business being presented the council adjourned after a 45-minute session.

## Lecture Largely Attended

There was an attendance that nearly filled the lower floor of the Masonic Temple, Tuesday evening, to hear the lecture by Chas. E. Jarvis, of Los Angeles, on the subject of Christian Science. The lecture appears in full elsewhere in this issue.

## ENDORSE COUNTY UNIT PLAN

Both the Coquille Chamber of Commerce and the Coquille Lions Club have gone on record this week as approving and endorsing the county unit plan for the management of and taxation for school purposes.

The county unit plan does not apply to high schools, nor can districts of the first class, like Marshfield and North Bend, be included in its operation, but the voters of those cities may vote on it when the matter comes to an election.

In his talks before both the bodies this week, Assessor J. P. Beyers gave some interesting data in regard to the county unit system, which is now in operation in three counties in the state—Lincoln, Klamath and Crook. Taking the 1929 tax figures, Mr. Beyers stated that to raise as much money for the elementary schools as will be raised by the 1930 collection of taxes in Coos, it would require a levy of only 12.9 mills under the proposed system. In Klamath county the levy was less than 4 mills for school purposes.

Characterizing our system of school taxation as the most inequitable and unjust ever devised, Mr. Beyers stated that the county court was in sympathy with the idea and would place the question on the ballot at the primary election if a petition signed by 100 voters requested it.

"But what is everybody's business is nobody's business," declared Mr. Beyers, and unless a campaign of education on the subject can be made effective it is hardly worth attempting to introduce the change looking toward a more just and equitable system of taxation for schools.

The operation of the county unit system takes the management of the grade schools out of local hands and all grades in the county would be under the direction of a supervisor who would be chosen by an elected board of directors.

Salaries of teachers would be uniform throughout the county and expenses for school purposes would be decreased.

After its adoption, if school districts like Coquille, Myrtle Point and Bandon wished to withdraw from the unit plan it could be done by a vote of the electors at the annual school meeting in June.

## Theatre to Have Marquee

A metal marquee, the full width of the Liberty Theatre front in length, and eight feet in width, has been ordered by C. A. Machon and it will be put in place about the first of the month. It will be the height of the arch across the entrance and curve down to regulation height on the side. It will be ornate as well as protective and stands to cost over \$400.

Mr. Gage is also ordering a Neon sign for the theatre and when that and the one ordered by Wm. Fortier for his card and pool room have been installed, the west end of First street will be better lighted than ever before.

The Coos County Game Protective Association will hold its next meeting in Myrtle Point, Tuesday evening, February 26.

## CHS WINS DEBATE

### From Coos River Last Night— Lost to Marshfield, North Bend and Myrtle Point

Coquille High School's negative debate squad, composed of Donald Farr and Madeline McKeown, won a decisive victory over the Coos River affirmative team last evening at the Pioneer Church parlors, when the judges returned a 3 to 0 decision in favor of the local forensic aggregation. The teams were fairly evenly matched, but after the two rebuttals there was little question as to the outcome. Coquille's speakers excelled in both delivery and material. The judges were Dal King, Myrtle Point; J. E. Norton, Coquille; and J. Clifton Tucker, Riverton.

Following the debate, members of Mask and Dagger, presented a mystery-comedy one-act play, "Moonlight and Mistletoe."

While the negative team was winning here at home, the affirmative team lost to North Bend in that city by a 3-0 decision. Coquille people who heard this debate say that the C. H. S. representatives, Helen Belloni and Fred Fuhrman, had the better of the argument as far as material and points are concerned, but that the Benders were more polished and experienced speakers, which point seemed to have been the deciding element in the decision.

Wednesday evening the affirmative team stayed at home and met the strong Marshfield duo, losing by 3-0 count, while the negative team met defeat by a similar score at Myrtle Point. In both these debates the locals presented the material to win, but were unsuccessful merely because of lack of experience and polished speaking which featured the deliveries of the speakers of the larger schools.

The excellent showing made by the Coquille debaters presages well for future years, as three of the four debaters are underclassmen, two being freshmen.

## L. A. Victims Out of Luck

After reading what the Sentinel said last week about the liability for damages to Los Angeles cars when Albert Rives' stolen car ran into a couple of others when a policeman shot the thief, C. D. Walker, of this city, requested an opinion from the company he represents.

"Just out of luck" is the way the opinion reads. In other words for the Los Angeles owners it is "just too bad."

The company, which insured Mr. Rives' car, cannot be held liable for it was not under his direction when the collisions occurred, nor was it being operated with his consent.

The city of Los Angeles could not be held responsible, for the policeman was acting in line of duty. But, if the Los Angeles damaged cars were covered by collision insurance, the companies writing that insurance can be called upon to repair the damages.

That, in brief, is a synopsis of the answer received by Mr. Walker this morning.

## Florence Woodruff Returned

Florence Woodruff, 15-year old daughter of Jay Woodruff, of this city, was brought back from Springfield, Ore., where she was staying with her aunt, by Deputy Sheriff and Mrs. Geo. J. Bohrer yesterday.

Her disappearance on Sunday, Feb. 9, had occasioned a coast-wide search and the name of her uncle, 66 years of age, was connected with her disappearance in daily press reports.

Whether any arrests are to be made has not yet been determined by the sheriff's office, their action depending upon the district attorney's recommendation.

## Arthur Brown Leaves Coos

McKinley and all of Coos county will miss Arthur A. Brown who with Mrs. Brown has moved to Lane county where he will be actively engaged in Grange organization work. He has been master of the Coos Pamosa Grange for years.

Mr. Brown has rented his ranch at McKinley to Raymond Luthy.

## Only 2 Spinners, Lake Fishing

Deputy Game Warden Hearing requests the Sentinel to call fishermen's attention to the game law provision prohibiting the use of more than two spinners on one line in lake fishing. There is no such prohibition for fishing in the river, but it applies only to lake.