

# 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, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1937.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

## The Coquille at 20.7 Foot Stage Is All Over the Landscape

### Dike Portion of Highway Closed to Traffic Tuesday Evening—20 Inches Rain This Month

With nearly 20 inches of rainfall in the past three weeks, the Coquille river overflowed its banks last Friday night and by midnight Saturday night was overflowing the dike section of the highway near the George Lorenz place.

Sunday noon there was 24 inches at the lowest point of the dike, but it began to recede until Tuesday morning it was down to 12 inches.

However, the heavy rains of Monday and Tuesday caused the river to rise again and at 7:30 this Wednesday morning it was nearly four feet above the pavement on the dike.

The last car to cross the dike was the double-decked Greyhound stage this morning which came through under its own power.

The highway department had maintained a tow service until seven o'clock Tuesday evening but had to quit then. The last string of six or seven cars all got so much water that it was impossible start them after being towed to front street.

The North Bank road, from Beaver Hill Junction to Bullards has been open but reports this morning are that the water has finally crossed that road at the Joe Nulf place.

The Myrtle Point highway is open all the way to Roseburg with no immediate prospect that it will go under.

The gauge at the bridge here this morning showed the water to be 20.7 feet above mean river level, which is two feet below the high water of 1936 and about the same as it was the two flood in January of this year.

It's a duck holiday for they get so far out in the huge lake which covers the bottoms that hunters could hardly reach them with a rifle.

Aside from the inconvenience of an embargo on travel and the delay in mails to Bandon and south there has been very little damage to property. Stock has been moved to barn second floors or to the hill lands, for the ranchers have had ample warning of the flood.

### Jensen to Wrestle Friday

For the first time in three weeks a wrestling card is scheduled for the Community Building here. It will come off this Friday, Nov. 26. Last week's card had to be postponed due to the fact that the high school had the date.

This week's card is high-lighted by the appearance of Thor Jensen and El Zopliote in the main event and Frank "Mad" Murdock as referee.

Numbers of fans have asked Promoter Harry Elliott to bring back popular Thor Jensen again and, in matching him against the Mexican mystery man, El Zopliote—"the buzzard"—Harry feels that he will have a match that should be a wow. Jensen is known as one of the smartest matmen in the business.

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### Bishop Dagwell Confirms Three

Bishop B. D. Dagwell, of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon, confirmed a class of three at St. James' church here at a service held at 7:30 Monday evening this week. The bishop also delivered the sermon.

The class was presented by Rev. Geo. R. Turney, vicar of St. James' church. It consisted of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Schroeder, of Coquille, and Dr. E. F. Lucas, of Bandon. The other candidates from Bandon were not here because of the high water in the valley.

### Pro-America to Meet

The Coos County Chapter of Oregon Pro-America, a national organization of republican women, will hold their first meeting in the city hall on Tuesday, Nov. 30, at two p. m. Every woman is urged to attend who is interested in the current political situation and the coming elections.

An explanation of the purpose of Pro-America will be given by the county president, Mrs. Weldon Kline, and Clarence Osika will give a talk on the history of political parties. There will be an open forum for discussion and questions after the meeting.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

### Union Thanksgiving Service

The union Thanksgiving service of the Coquille churches will be held this year on Wednesday evening at the Baptist church, located on South Elliott street. The services will begin at 7:30 p. m. with Rev. W. A. Stephens, pastor of the Baptist church, presiding. The public is invited to attend.

The order of service is as follows: Opening hymns, congregation. Prayer, Rev. R. D. E. Smith, Assembly of God.

Scripture Lesson, Rev. Howard L. Graybeal, Pioneer Methodist church. Hymn, "America The Beautiful," Choral Club.

Prayer for offering for Children's Farm Home, Rev. G. A. Gray, M. E. Sermon, "It is a Good Thing to Give Thanks unto the Lord," Earl F. Downing, Church of Christ. Anthem, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," Choral Club.

Benediction, Rev. George R. Turney, Episcopal.

### Figures Not to Be Public

Figures are not available here as to the number who registered last week in the unemployed census. The instructions to the postmasters are explicit that the totals be not made public, although the instructions seem to have been violated at other points in the state.

## Graydon Clewes to Be Jr. Hi Principal

A. L. Beck's resignation as principal of the Lincoln school, or rather his request for release from his contract, was granted by the directors of school district, No. 8, at their meeting Monday evening.

Mr. Beck has been principal of Junior High for four years and, since receiving his master's degree at Stanford last summer, he desires to take the advanced step which the degree qualifies him for and he has accepted the superintendency of the Jacksonville school. He and Mrs. Beck intend leaving this week for their new location.

He stated to the Sentinel Tuesday that he wished to express his appreciation to the people of Coquille for the co-operation they have shown him and the Junior High during his stay here.

At their meeting Monday evening the directors authorized Supt. B. W. Dunn to attend the O. S. T. A. meeting during the Christmas holidays. The board ordered that fire extinguishers be placed in the basement of the high school building and that a fire alarm button also be placed there.

Besides allowing the month's bills the directors discussed the new gymnasium plans and it is expected that a call for bids for its construction will be made this week.

Graydon Crews, an instructor in the Myrtle Point high school for the past four years, was this morning selected as Junior High principal. He will enter his duties when the schools reopen next Monday.

### Pussy Willows Are Budding

On the Sentinel desk Monday were laid half a dozen pussy-willow twigs to which this year's leaves still adhered. Nothing remarkable in that, but on these same twigs, which were plucked from plants growing in the north end of Coquille were buds and blossoms, a half dozen to a dozen on each. Some of the buds were not much more than the first swelling, others were larger and white, while a few had attained the size where they resembled a burr.

Whether or not the 25 to 30 inches of warm rain which has fallen so far this fall has fooled these pussy willows into the belief that spring is just around the corner, it hardly seems possible that nature would play such a practical joke upon herself, and yet we have had no winter—cold weather—and the pussy willows are budding.

### School Census Shows Increase

The school census of Coos county has increased 229 over last year, making a total of 8539 boys and girls between the ages of four and twenty. Of this number 4104 are girls and 4435 are boys. During the last two years the census of Coos county has shown a steady increase.

Coquille school district No. 8 for the first time has a census of more than one thousand and is therefore entitled to become a first class school district on the third Monday in June, 1938. The Coquille school census as of October 25 was 1011, whereas only 1000 names are required.

## Coos Budget Adopted—\$609,279 to Be Raised by Taxes

### No Change in Grand Total Made at Public Hearing Held Here Monday Morning

The Coos county budget total of \$704,430.34 remained the same as previously advertised after the public hearing in the county court room Monday morning, although there was some little shifting of amounts from one item to another. The principal change was in moving the \$4,000 budgeted for state levy to the road bond redemption fund, the state tax commission having advised that morning that there would be no property tax for state purposes.

This total budget of \$744,430.32 is divided into three main items: \$500,000 for the general fund, \$47,727.49 for the bridge fund, and \$164,845.93 for the general road fund.

Estimated revenues are \$44,418.89 for the general, none for the bridge, and \$90,732.32 for the road fund, leaving to be raised by taxation, \$487,438.05 for the general, \$47,727.49 for the bridge, and \$74,113.61 for the roads, making a total of \$609,279.15 which must be raised by taxation. However, \$16,000 of that amount, levied for high school tuition, will be assessed against only a part of the school districts.

In the budget there is set aside \$111,000 for debt reduction, and approximately \$104,000 for relief of all kinds. This latter item is \$50,000 to \$60,000 larger than it was a few years ago.

The charge made that the county exceeded its budget last year by some \$20,000 is incorrect. As a matter of fact it spent \$30,000 less than its budget. The misstatement was made by a municipal research bureau in Portland and was due to the fact that the county general fund loaned the road \$50,000 while the suit to test the legality of the road bonds was in progress. Since the road bonds were sold the \$50,000 has been returned to the general fund.

### 1100 Seals Sent Out Here

Eleven hundred individuals and firms in Coquille will receive letters Friday, Nov. 26, from the Coquille committee in charge of Christmas Seal sales, asking them to accept the enclosed seals and return a check.

Mrs. A. L. Beck, of Coquille, who heads the Coos county seal sale drive, announced today that the local committee has prepared the 900 letters and will place them in the post office Wednesday night.

The letters, she said, will go to those individuals and firms who the committee believes will be glad to purchase seals in order to aid the 1938 anti-tuberculosis fight of the Coos County Health Association and the Oregon State Tuberculosis association.

"The importance of the work financed by the sale of these one-cent seals cannot be overestimated," Mrs. Beck said, "as it carries hope for life to persons who otherwise would be victims of the dread disease of tuberculosis."

### Mrs. D. F. Dean Buried Here

Funeral services were held at Schroeder Bros. Parlors here last Saturday for a former Coquille resident, Mrs. Barbara Ann Dean, wife of D. F. Dean, of Bandon, who passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Franklin D. Stafford, in Portland, last Thursday. The services were conducted by Rev. Geo. R. Turney at 11 a. m.; and interment was in the old Odd Fellows cemetery. She was ten months and eight days past 75 years of age.

Mrs. Dean had been living with her daughter since the fire which destroyed their home in Bandon a year ago.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two sons, Ray, of Bandon, and Clarence O. Dryden, of Klamath Falls, and the daughter, Mrs. Stafford.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean left here many years ago after they sold the Coquille Herald.

### Mrs. Hand Seal Sale Chairman

Mrs. Lee Hand, who served as Coos county Christmas Seal sale chairman last year, has agreed to act as chairman again this year, succeeding Mrs. A. L. Beck, who had been acting as chairman and who is leaving Coquille this week.

## Coquille's Labor Troubles As Viewed by C. C. Chapman

### Oregon Voter Editor Says "Employment Is Paramount Issue," Which Is Correct

Under the heading, "Employment Itself Is Paramount Issue," the editor of the Oregon Voter, C. C. Chapman, wrote the following after his visit to Coquille on Tuesday last week, and it was published in last week's Voter. The Sentinel reprints the article, not because it agrees with everything Mr. Chapman says, for it does not, but because he is writing about Coquille's big industry after he had, as he stated in his talk Tuesday noon, "sat in on the C. I. O. meeting" that morning, and had had a long talk with the A. F. of L. Minter, president of the A. F. of L. plywood union.

That he is prejudiced against the A. F. of L. because of its activities in Portland is just as apparent in his Voter article as it was in his speech at the Chamber of Commerce meeting here, but it is always well to know what the other fellow thinks even though we do not not agree with him.

We do agree with him that the Wagner law should be amended to make it hold the unions just as responsible for their acts as it now holds the employers. A one-sided law is not just.

At Coquille, Oregon, two Massachusetts yankees and a Kansas City lumberman have used eight years of the depression to build up an industrial establishment that provides regular employment to seven hundred men and women. This employment is placed in jeopardy by the labor union war. A majority of the employees do not want any union unless they have to have one in order to protect their employment. They signed up originally with A. F. of L., and now the same men who agitated for unionization and led them into A. F. of L. are heading up the C. I. O. in full feud. The community of Coquille, valuing the industry as they well may in what it has done for their city, are giving their A. F. of L. full local support, with enthusiasm now that the local has rid itself of leadership which the community deems destructive.

It is in the manufacture of Venetian blind stock and stock for battery separators that the industry is specializing. For these specialties it uses Port Orford cedar. It also manufactures fir plywood. Aside from these refined products, marketed mostly by rail, it manufactures fir lumber for export and domestic trade, lumber which is largely marketed by water from docks on Coos Bay. For all these purposes it operates a modern plant of large proportions, built new during the eight depression years, and built from capital brought in by these eastern people or developed in its own business without calling on the local community for investment co-operation. The firm is the Smith Wood-Products Co., of which Ralph L. Smith, president of the Ralph L. Smith Lumber Co., of Kansas City, is president. The active management of the operation is in charge of two young chaps who nine years ago were the Needham, Mass., agents and manufacturers of battery separators from the stock furnished by the Smith Kansas City plant. These two chaps figured out how they wanted to engage in the manufacture of the battery stock, and with Smith formed a company that took over a small sawmill operation in Coquille, the heart and outlet of the great Port Orford cedar forest of the Coquille Valley. At Coquille, George Uett, the senior of the two, is vice president and general manager, and F. S. Emery, the junior, is general superintendent. The growth of the great industry from this bright idea and a small local mill is one of the romances of business in Oregon and the West. A visit to the plant, with

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### Asks Return of Library Books

Mrs. Pearl Ellingsen, city librarian, asks the Sentinel to request all those having library books which are past due for return, to hand them in at the library at once. If a messenger is sent for them an additional fine will be imposed. All the books must be in so that the library affairs can be put in shape before the first of the year.

### High Water Closes Plant

Only the battery separator department of the Smith Wood Products plant, and the fir mill on a reduced schedule, have been in operation this week. High water, making it impossible to get logs, caused the Plywood plant to shut down Monday but it will resume operations as soon as logs can be handled, Geo. A. Ulett stated this morning.

He also stated that his company had not been called into the conferences being held Tuesday and Wednesday. When the unions have agreed to an arbitration of their differences and settlement announced, the Smith company will then be ready to take part in a move for permanent peace—if such a thing is ever possible.

### Inspecting Possible P. O. Sites

Floyd Williams, of Washington, D. C., construction engineer of the postoffice department, was in Coquille this morning and met with Geo. H. Chaney, H. L. Claterbos, A. N. Gould and H. A. Slack. The committee took Mr. Williams around the business section showing him the various sites which have been suggested as locations for the new federal building. Postmaster Hawkins was also one of the party.

## Coquille Tax Levy

### 7.97 Mills for 1938

County Assessor Beyers' office yesterday released tax levies for cities, ports and school districts in the county. The figures put Coquille at the head of the list of towns in Coos county with a total levy of 79.7 mills, 7.4 mills greater than it was last year.

The levy for city purposes here is half a mill less than it was a year ago, being 22.5 mills as against 23 in 1936. But the school levy has increased 5.9 mills, from 34.9 to 30.8; the Port of Bandon has increased from 1.9 mills to 2.3, and the state and county levy is 24.1 mills where it was 22.7 last year.

Eastside and Bandon have not yet been figured by the assessor, and Lakeside levied no special tax but the combined levies for the other towns in the county are Coquille, 79.7 mills; North Bend, 79.8; Marshfield, 78; Myrtle Point, 72.9; and Empire, 69.4.

The special city levies for those towns are Marshfield, 26.3 mills; North Bend, 26.1; Coquille, 22.5; Myrtle Point, 18.1; Empire, 11.8. The Port of Coos Bay has levied a millage of 7.5 where it was 7.9 last year and the Port of Bandon levy is 2.3 mills.

The levy for Myrtle Point Union high school district is the same as last year, 13.5 mills, while Riverton Union high district has increased from 7.1 to 8.6 mills.

The non-high school levy increases 0.3 of a mill over last year, from 7.2 to 7.5.

The special high school tuition levy is to be 1.7 mills.

Special levies for school districts (Continued on Page Six)

### Mrs. Jos. Meyers Passes

Mrs. May Ethel Meyers, wife of Jos. Meyers, of Lee, passed away at her home last Monday, Nov. 22, at the age of 54 years, nine months and eight days.

The services were held at the Schroeder Bros. Mortuaries here on Wednesday at 2:00 p. m., with Rev. G. A. Gray delivering the funeral address. Interment was in the Norway cemetery.

Mrs. Meyers was born Feb. 14, 1883, at Boncedoro, Maine, and was married to Mr. Meyers in Calgary, Alberta, in September, 1918. After six years' residence there they came to Coos county.

Besides her husband she is survived by two sisters, Mrs. John R. Grant, of Boncedoro, and Mrs. Jack Taylor, of New Brunswick.

### Father to Confer Degree

Chadwick Lodge, No. 68 A. F. & A. M., will hold a special communication Friday evening, Nov. 26, for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason's degree. Duane Fitzgerald, home from O. S. C. for Thanksgiving, will receive a portion of the work from his father, S. L. Fitzgerald.

### Thanksgiving Matinee at Roxy

Special holiday matinee at the Roxy Theatre Thanksgiving day. The feature, "Wife, Doctor and Nurse," will start at 2:30, giving time for patrons to finish their dinner and still see this very fine picture.

## Strike Settlement No Nearer Solution Than A Week Ago

### Longshoremen Load Smith Product at Portland But Refuse to Do It at the Bay

The Chamber of Commerce committees, four men from Marshfield and four from Coquille, began holding sessions yesterday morning with seven men from the C. I. O. unions and seven from the A. F. of L. sitting in on the conference yesterday afternoon.

No results were accomplished yesterday and adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock this morning.

The reported A. F. of L. stand is that the settlement of the jurisdictional fight between the two major union organizations should be left to E. P. Marsh, federal labor conciliator.

It is a peculiar condition which exists on the Pacific coast now. The Smith Wood-Products lumber which the longshoremen at Marshfield refused to handle, resulting in the closing of that port more than two weeks ago, was shipped by rail to Portland and loaded there on the West Ira, the same boat which was awaiting it at Marshfield. The peculiar thing is that the longshoremen there, who do load it, belong to the same union as the longshoremen at Marshfield. Harry Bridges' edict is evidently more potent with the Portland I. L. A. than it is with the Coos Bay local.

The West Ira is reported on its way back to Marshfield to await settlement of the labor trouble when it will take on more Smith product.

### Felt Show December 5

The pelting of silver fox and mink will soon be in full swing. A new adventure being attempted by the Coquille Unit of fox and mink breeders is a felt and fur show, which is to be staged in the new Odd Fellows' building in Coquille on December 5th, beginning at 10 a. m. and lasting all day until into the evening. This style and fur show will be open to the public. A special program of instrumental and vocal music will be presented for the entertainment of friends and guests interested in the fur exhibit. This section of Oregon and the entire west coast is becoming quite noted for its production of fine furs, especially the beautiful silver fox, which is most in demand by women of discriminating taste.

In addition to the entertainment provided, and the general interest that will be created in this new industry throughout this section of Oregon, a show of this nature will be exceedingly helpful and beneficial to the public in general, in that all purchasers of furs can and will become more proficient in recognizing the high quality in furs.

The public is cordially invited and it is hoped there will be a large attendance. There will be no admittance fee. The business men of the town are co-operating in every way possible, to make this fur show a great success. Coquille was selected as the best place to hold this first annual show, because it seemed more centrally located, and also because the business men of the town have always co-operated so wholeheartedly with the fur farmers of this section.

### New Equipment for Gas Plant

Wm. Ulett, manager of the Coquille Gas & Power Co., left Sunday for San Francisco, where the new equipment for the gas plant here was to be tested out on Tuesday, after which it is to be shipped to Coquille. It is the latest thing in gas pumping equipment and can be used for either the butane gas, which the local company has heretofore supplied its customers or for the natural gas which will be furnished as soon as the water goes down and the pipe line can be laid across the river.

### Turkey Keno Netted \$70

The Coquille Post of the American Legion netted about \$70 for its indigent fund from the turkey keno Saturday evening. Thirty birds were disposed of and the large crowd present seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening.

Judge J. T. Brand, who returned from Oregon City the first of the week, will hold motion day in circuit court here next Monday.