

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

Oregon Historical Society X
Auditorium

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 14.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON. THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1938.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

Highway to Roseburg Damaged by 321 Slides

River Has Eaten Into the Pavement at Many Points and Repair Bill Will Be Tremendous

Unless already apprised by one who knew, the number of slides between Coquille and Camas Valley will come as a complete surprise to the reader. The number counted does not include little slips but only those which filled the drainage ditch, or went on the highway or were on the river side of the highway. The figure is 321, according to Frank T. Dungey, who took Mrs. Dungey to Roseburg Sunday, from which point she was going to LaPine where their daughter, Mrs. Hawkins, is ill.

In some places the whole road was washed away and the river had cut into the paved portion of the highway.

According to our Salem correspondent, the state highway engineer estimates that this month's storms have done \$50,000 worth of damage to the Coast Highway. While the Middle Fork road is not part of the Coast Highway the damage to that 40 miles of highway from here to Camas valley will probably cost that much or more to repair.

Just north of the Coos Bay bridge the earth has been slipping into the cut making very sloppy one-way traffic and the hill side there is still slipping.

Another big slide occurred just below the Panter place on the highway to Bandon last week and even had there been no water on the dike, travel would have been stopped until the highway crew could move the tons upon tons of earth and rock from the roadway.

Anti-Aircraft Unit for Coquille Asked

The board of directors of the Coquille Chamber of Commerce endorsed the ministerial association plan for a three-hour closing on Good Friday, April 15, between 12 m. and 3 p. m., and left it with the ministers to secure the individual acceptance of the agreement by the individuals and business houses. The closing on Good Friday for the noon time services has been observed for the past two years here.

Rev. Geo. R. Turney, who presented the ministerial association request, also submitted a statement that the Choral Club would appreciate a \$10 donation for delinquent expenses. When the directors voted that amount, he jokingly remarked he wished he had asked for \$50.

D. E. Rackleff brought up the matter that has been talked for the past few months, that several anti-aircraft batteries are to be established in Oregon and suggested that the secretary write Major General Geo. A. White requesting information on the subject and making application for the establishment of one in Coquille. These batteries are to be a part of the National Guard, with a complement of 50 to 60 men, and will be similar to the battery that passed through Coquille last summer from southern California to Camp Lewis. The establishment of one here would mean quite a little monthly payroll and might eventually lead to the construction of an armory here.

The Job's Daughters Council will meet with Mrs. R. E. Boober Friday evening.

A. W. Chapin, Former Resident, to Be Buried Here at Two O'Clock Today

Graveside services are to be held at the Masonic cemetery here at two o'clock this afternoon for A. W. Chapin, who died at his home in Portland Sunday morning at four o'clock. They will be conducted by Chadwick Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at the request of the Scorby, Mont., lodge of which he was a charter member.

Mr. Chapin's passing was entirely unexpected and his daughter here, Mrs. Harold Gould, had expected her father and mother here for a visit the day of his death.

Ambrose Washington Chapin was born in Ontario, Canada, June 4, 1872, and was married in 1900 to Flora Erickson, who survives him. Besides his daughter he is also sur-

Traffic Resumed on Highway Tuesday

The Coquille river reached the high point here last Saturday night when the 23-foot mark above mean low water was touched on the gauge at the bridge. That meant nearly five feet of water at the low point on the dike. It continued to drop until Wednesday morning when the gauge showed 19 feet.

This morning it showed 19.8 feet and a tow car was being used to convey cars through the foot or more of water at the low spot. The water was falling very slowly.

The highway was opened to traffic at 10:30 Tuesday morning when it became possible for one-way traffic to go around the slide at the Panter place, a couple of miles below River-ton. That slide was 100 feet long and six feet high and it was not until the shovel could be taken across the dike from here that the other part of the slide was removed.

One-way traffic is also possible now around that bad pavement break just north of Gardiner, and past a large slide half a mile north of Arizona Inn below Port Orford.

The rain, which as everyone knows, has been deluging the country daily, except on Monday, and the total precipitation for the fiscal year is close to 80 inches. While we are at it, why not shoot for a 10-foot mark this year? That would only mean about 40 inches more in the next three months!

Sale Unsold Stock to Close April 2

The Northwest Liquidators, which has been selling out the bankrupt Geo. Unsold stock for the past two months, expect to quit in Coquille the first of next month, packing up the little stock that is left and vacating the room April 4.

Everything is for sale, including the fixtures and counters, some of which have already been disposed of.

Elsewhere in this issue appears the announcement of the final cut on all merchandise in the store.

Wrestling Card Billed for April 1

After a lay-off of two months due to bad weather and the fact that the Community Building has been in use most of the time, wrestling as successfully promoted by Harry Elliott, will return here next Friday, April 1.

The bouts will be held in the Community Building as before but the regular day will be on Fridays instead of on Wednesday.

The return of first class professional wrestling such as Harry has put on in Coquille for the past two

(Continued on Page Six)

Woman's Club Sponsors It

The Coquille Woman's Club is sponsoring the picture, "Everybody Sing," which opens for a three days' showing at the Roxey this evening. The club receives a percentage on every ticket they have sold during the past two weeks and this money is to be donated to the school milk fund.

Opens Meetings at Arago

Capt. G. L. Hall, of McMinnville, father of Mrs. Werner Plaep of this city, who came down to Coos county last week to conduct a series of meetings at the Arago church, was marooned here until Tuesday of this week. He started the meetings at Arago Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapin moved to Portland ten years ago, after residing in Coquille for four years. He operated the barber shop now belonging to R. E. Noeler in the W. O. W. building while here, and owned a shop in Portland at the time of his death.

Mr. Chapin was a splendid type of citizen, was universally respected and his untimely passing is mourned by all who knew him.

Coquille Proposes Projects for WPA This Summer

Park of Patterson Grove, Widening of Hall and Second Sts., Increased Water Supply

The city council Monday evening began lining up WPA projects on which relief labor can be employed. One of these is the brushing out of Patterson grove park in the northeast corner of the city which would be all labor except for the tools the city would be required to furnish.

Another is the widening of the pavement on Second street from Hall to Willard and on Hall street from Front to Third.

This would entail a much larger municipal expenditure for the paving materials, engineering, etc.

Still a third is the extension of the water system source of supply with two projects considered, one the raising of the dam on upper Rink creek to provide for impounding a much larger supply, and the other for laying a pipe line from the North Fork to the top of the hill above the dam.

A. N. Gould, who was city engineer at the time the dam was built, is familiar with the plans for increasing the city's supply as outlined by Mr. Coon, of Portland, at that time, and he is to be asked confer with the council at its April fourth session in regard to Mr. Coon's plans and also in regard to doing the engineering for the Hall and Second streets widening.

The water extension would entail considerable expense for material, the pipe line up the hill and the engine to force it to the top not being included in the amount the WPA will spend. If the decision should be to raise the dam the greater part of that expense would be for labor which the WPA furnishes.

The request of the Coos County Humane Society that the city pay \$25 a month for handling its dog problem until such a time as the 80 per cent of the one dollar license fee makes the society self-supporting, came up for considerable discussion. It developed that the humane society is opposed to keeping dogs tied up except for the three months of garden season in the spring and early summer and three councilmen—Bryant, Cunningham and Wood—expressed themselves as opposed to the city spending \$25 a month unless the dogs were to be kept up the year round.

Decision was held over until it was learned how the other cities in the county intended to co-operate in providing kennels, a gas chamber and in wage for an attendant, and as to whether other cities in the state where the humane society functions permitted licensed dogs to run at large for nine months of the year.

It was decided to employ J. Loy Stacer to bring the city's sewer maps

(Continued on Page Three)

Guy Cutlip Files Sheriff Nomination

In filing his petition to have his name go on the ballot as candidate for the republican nomination as county treasurer, Chas. Stauff names as his slogan: "Efficient service based on experience." And the slogan very aptly denotes his exceptional qualifications for the office.

It now develops that Levi Bunch is to have competition in the republican primaries for the republican nomination for sheriff. Guy A. Cutlip, of North Bend, filed last Friday asking that his printed slogan be, "Law and order from border to border."

As was anticipated R. H. Lawhorn is a candidate for the democratic nomination to succeed himself as county commissioner. He filed yesterday afternoon.

Pro-America to Hear Reorganization Bill Discussed

The Pro-America organization will hold a meeting Saturday afternoon at two o'clock in the Coquille city hall. The speaker will be R. A. Jeub who will talk on that vicious piece of proposed legislation, the reorganization bill now before congress.

All republicans and anyone interested in that subject which is of vital importance, or rather its defeat is, to the people of United States, are invited to be present.

Mrs. Wickham, Nearly 88, Buried Here Tuesday

A Resident of Coquille for 54 Years -- Splendid Type of Womanhood, Honored, Loved

Mrs. Sarah Wickham, honored and revered pioneer of Coquille where she had lived for nearly 55 years, passed away at her home on Second street at 1:15 last Saturday morning.

She had suffered a paralytic stroke the Tuesday evening before and did not regain consciousness before her passing. Her last words were "No use," when Mrs. Osmundson asked a visitor at their home to call the doctor.

Funeral services were held at the Episcopal church of which she was a member at ten p. m. on Tuesday with the Gino Funeral Home in charge. Rev. Geo. R. Turney conducted the service, the music being congregational singing with Mrs. Woodyard at the organ. Pallbearers were friends of Mrs. Wickham—L. H. Hazard, J. S. Barton, Geo. T. Moulton, O. C. Sanford, R. E. Noeler and L. L. Bonney. Interment was in the Masonic cemetery. The body lay in state at the church between eleven and one o'clock the day of the funeral.

All her living children were here, Mrs. Kate Moeller arriving from Portland last Thursday and Gene Wickham and family from San Bernardino on Sunday.

Mrs. Wickham was born in England, June 20, 1850, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Taylor, who came to the United States and settled in Michigan where she was a small girl. In 1869 they crossed the plains to California.

She was married March 10, 1867, at West Point, Calif., to Geo. R. Wickham, a survivor of the Civil war, who passed away Feb. 4, 1902.

Of the ten children born to them only four survive, Mrs. Ella Osmundson and Mrs. Callie Leach, of Coquille, Mrs. Moeller and Gene Wickham. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Mrs. Wickham's reminiscences of her trip across the plains, her trip to Coquille and of the early days of this city would make a most interesting narrative had they ever been collected and written as she told them. Their escape from Indians while trekking westward, the hanging of a murderer on that trip, the wagon trip to Coquille, the city's early history when dense woods covered the whole townsite, as near as Mrs. Ida Owens' home to the river, all have been told in a very entertaining way by Mrs. Wickham.

After her husband's death she conducted the Wickham House, popular hostelry, which stood where the post-office is now, and was burned in that March 17, 1918 fire.

Mrs. Wickham was one of the mainstays of the Women's Relief Corps until advancing years interfered and that only a few short years ago.

She was always an active person, one who has left the imprint of her character on Coquille, and the sincere mourning of her friends here is a testimonial of the high regard and affection in which she was held.

Many Wish to Remain Open Saturday Night

Aside from one line of business in Coquille, nearly all places of business are yearning for the return of the "open Saturday night" program with the town full of people as it used to be up to a few months ago.

Whether it will be carried out or not, there is talk of circulating a petition to ascertain just how many business houses in Coquille would like to see a return of the Saturday night business which is now going elsewhere.

Wasn't a Magician

Tom Thrift had the whole post office force razzing him yesterday. He was attempting to show Vernon Smith how he could set fire to alcohol held in the palm of his hand, but some of the liquid seeped through the cracks between his fingers—and all the hair was burned off the back of his hand. He didn't call out the fire department but he was almost as loud as the siren.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

To Organize Employers' Association

A public meeting has been called for next Monday evening, March 28, at 7:30 p. m., in the circuit court room, court house, at which time Dan Hay, manager of the Associated Employers of Oregon will be present to tell Coquille employers what is being done by the association elsewhere in the state and what is necessary to form a local association of the state organization.

The chamber of commerce received this information from L. A. Liljeqvist in reply to an inquiry last week.

Every business or professional man and every employer is urged to attend this meeting and participate in the organization of a local association. Such union is vital to the business of Oregon and with a cohesive state association the needs of the, at present, ununited majority in Oregon will be able to make themselves understood.

Dr. Parke to Move to Ground Floor

As soon after the middle of April as the room can be made ready, Dr. W. S. Parke will move his office from the First National Bank building, on the second floor, to the Grimes building which is to be vacated April 4 by Northwest Liquidators, who are selling out the former Geo. Unsold store.

Considerable plumbing, decorating and carpenter work will be necessary for the doctor plans on ten separate rooms or offices in the new location, with the reception room and his private office at the front.

These various rooms will be for fever therapy, minor surgery, adjustment, x-ray and other needed separate rooms.

In addition to his already well equipped electrical apparatus, he is adding several more machines, including the x-ray for treatment purposes rather than for picture purposes.

The doctor's wife, who is his assistant in the practice of his profession, is quite enthusiastic over the prospect of a ground floor office, entrance to which will be so much easier for some of their patients.

E. L. Perrott & Son have been engaged for the remodeling of the room, P. L. Johnson for the plumbing, and Don Donaldson for the decorating.

Registration Closes April 19

Every person of voting age who wishes to take part in the state primaries in May, and it is a duty which no one should neglect, ought to make sure that his or her name is on the list of registered voters in the county clerk's office. If you voted at the last election and have not moved since your name is still on the list. The last day of registration is Tuesday, April 19.

300 Dogs Licenses

Three hundred dog licenses have been issued in Coos county to date, the deputy assessors turning in that number. The time is getting short for getting a license without paying an additional fine. April 1 is the dead line.

Allan A. Hall to Practice Law Here --- Comes from Tillamook and Salem

Allan A. Hall, (he says he is Scotch as the last "a" in his first name indicates, but mixed with English as the double "l" proves), opened an office for the practice of law in the First National Bank building last week. He has an office adjoining that of James Watson, they use the library jointly, but the association is not a partnership.

Mr. Hall comes here from Salem, where he practiced for three years, following his removal from Tillamook. He was an attorney in the north coast town for 15 years; for eight of them was deputy district attorney of Tillamook county, was city attorney of Tillamook for ten years besides serving as city attorney for several of the smaller towns outside Tillamook.

He was attorney for the labor unions in that district and so justly did the employers treat their employees that he and the operators' attorney were able to work out harmonious action between the two for

General Curtailment at Smith Plant April 1

Plywood Office to Be Closed and Plant May Be Down -- No Hope of Fir Mill Operation

In an interview with Geo. A. Ulett, manager of the Smith Wood-Products plant, here this morning, the Sentinel editor secured the following information which is of the greatest interest to every resident of Coquille as well as of all the employees:

Due to the increasing business depression and the prevailing low prices of lumber, the Smith Wood-Products, Inc., have found it necessary to curtail their production and reduce expenses to meet these conditions.

The Plywood office will be discontinued as of April 1, 1938. The main as Mr. Lung's assistant. The work formerly done in this office will now be handled in the main office. The main office force will be reduced by two persons.

The entire permanent force of the plant including the management, superintendence, all clerical forces, sales office, etc., will take a ten per cent cut in wages and salaries on April 1st.

Mr. Ulett states that if the sawmill employees had accepted a ten per cent reduction, it would have been possible to have taken on some low-priced business that probably would have kept both sawmills operating steadily for the next three months, but as the men refused to accept the cut and the prices at which business was offered were so low, that the company could not operate except at a tremendous loss. It is necessary to close the fir mill down indefinitely and the other departments will probably run on a very limited schedule. Plans are being made to sell the fir logs now on hand and when these logs are sold there will be no possibility of the fir mill starting up before the middle of the summer.

The Plywood employees expect to vote on a wage reduction next Sunday. If they agree to this reduction there is great possibility that this department will run continuously. The demand for battery separators and Venetian Blind stock has greatly diminished in the past two months and many substitute woods are being used for venetian blinds. The only possibility of retaining some of this market is to put the Port Orford cedar plants in a position where by decreased costs they can make lower prices in an attempt to hold some of the business for this district.

We believe that the question that was not put up fairly to the men is simply this: Would it be better for the employees to take a ten per cent reduction in wages and work steadily for the next three months or would it be better for most of them to be out of work entirely for the sake of holding the wage up for the few who can obtain employment. We understand that the cut was to be a temporary one depending on business conditions at the end of three months.

Mrs. T. De La Rhue left for Portland last Wednesday for a few days' visit with her brother, Dr. Nagus, a dentist in that city. She returned to Coquille Sunday.

We understand that the cut was to be a temporary one depending on business conditions at the end of three months.

Mrs. T. De La Rhue left for Portland last Wednesday for a few days' visit with her brother, Dr. Nagus, a dentist in that city. She returned to Coquille Sunday.

Allan A. Hall to Practice Law Here --- Comes from Tillamook and Salem

Allan A. Hall, (he says he is Scotch as the last "a" in his first name indicates, but mixed with English as the double "l" proves), opened an office for the practice of law in the First National Bank building last week. He has an office adjoining that of James Watson, they use the library jointly, but the association is not a partnership.

Mr. Hall comes here from Salem, where he practiced for three years, following his removal from Tillamook. He was an attorney in the north coast town for 15 years; for eight of them was deputy district attorney of Tillamook county, was city attorney of Tillamook for ten years besides serving as city attorney for several of the smaller towns outside Tillamook.

He was attorney for the labor unions in that district and so justly did the employers treat their employees that he and the operators' attorney were able to work out harmonious action between the two for