

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 46.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1938.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

Oregon Historical Society  
Auditorium

## Chamber Plans For Yuletide Decorations

President Claterbos at the Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday noon appointed D. E. Rackleff, R. L. Stewart, J. L. Smith and O. L. Wood as the Christmas decoration committee for this year, and they were authorized to spend up to \$125 this year.

It was decided to offer prizes the same as last year—\$10 for first prize and \$5 for second, in each class—business houses and residences.

The committee announces that business houses will be judged the evening of Monday, the 19th, and residences on Christmas eve, which is Saturday evening.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce is co-operating by furnishing and hanging 40 or 50 cedar wreaths and the five stars will be placed on Front and Taylor streets.

The Boy Scouts have been engaged to procure, set up and maintain the 130 to 150 trees which will line the streets in the business section.

## Class Of Fifteen Confirmed Wed. Eve.

The sacrament of confirmation was administered by Bishop B. D. Dagwell at St. James' Episcopal Church last Wednesday evening at eight o'clock to a class of fifteen who had been prepared for the occasion under the instruction of the vicar, Rev. Geo. R. Turney. The class consisted of Mrs. Geo. Bryant, Mrs. A. N. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Grimes, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Lorenz, Miss Bess Maury, Miss Hazel Moffet, Mrs. Clarence Oalka, Mrs. Hal Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Pook, Mrs. Carl Rietman, Miss Catherine Trendell, and Mrs. Joe Gibson, of Bandon.

## Junior Chamber To Conduct Gymnasium Classes For Group

Robert Fisher was appointed by the Coquille Junior Chamber of Commerce to investigate the possibility of securing the use of one of the local gymnasiums one night a week for the purpose of having members engage in an athletic class. Considerable enthusiasm was evinced by the group over the possibility and it is expected that a regular class will be conducted.

Howard Hicks was appointed by Don Farr, president, to contact the Coquille Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of offering support and co-operation in the decoration of Coquille for the Christmas holiday trading season.

It was decided by a vote of the majority of the members that the promotion planned by the group be dropped this year due to too many conflicts.

Marlin Brandon, chairman of the tennis court committee, reported that the project had been forwarded to the WPA in Washington, D. C., and a favorable approval is expected so that it can be started next spring early. Over \$500 has been secured through drives and from other funds to defray the local share of the construction cost.

## Logger Upsets Coquille Laundry Truck

A peculiar accident was that Monday afternoon when a logging truck partially upset the Coquille Laundry truck which was parked in front of the Belle Knife hospital. The driver of the logger had double parked, but when another heavy truck went by it jarred the logger's brakes loose. The driver of the passing truck jumped out and attempted to stop the logger but the trailer had swung around and caught the laundry truck midships and tilted it up at a 45-degree angle, where it held it. The laundry delivery boy drove it away, although the body was damaged by the collision.

## Fell From Ocean Cliff

Orville Roedy, 18-year old youth of this city, was brought to the Coquille Hospital last Friday evening suffering from bruises and a fractured heel bone which he suffered when he fell from a cliff on Coos Bay, below Empire, where he and companions were fishing. Their report was that he fell and rolled about 80 feet.

## Rural Acreage Plan To Be Discussed At Session December 2

P. M. Brandt, chief of the Oregon State college division of animal industry, will be one of the principal speakers at the Coos county land development meeting to be held Friday, December 2nd, at the Coos county court house. J. C. Moore, land planning specialist for the state bureau of agricultural economics, will also be present for a talk.

At the meeting Friday, permanent formation of a Coos county land committee for the study and promotion of development of rural acreage will be made. The meeting is being called by the land use committee of the agricultural and rural home life conference held last January.

Chairman E. L. Detlefsen, of this city, has issued invitations to officers of the Coos Livestock association, county court, Pomona grange, Coos agricultural council and the county land committee as well as all farmers, dairymen and grange members of this vicinity.

It is believed that a constructive and improved program for using land in Coos county can be derived from the plans already outlined and the goal toward which the organization is working.

## Each Claimed The Other In The Wrong

A minor wreck, meaning no one was injured, occurred on the highway here, corner of Fifth street, about eight o'clock Tuesday morning, when a Chevrolet sedan, occupied by Arnold and Gary Ellison, hit the Ford sedan of L. L. Linn, of Berkeley, Calif., as it turned to the left to go up Fifth. Linn says he signaled for a turn but the Ellison boys did not see it. They say that Arnold, who was driving, hooked to pass, and that they were going about 25, but Linn says he did not hear it.

The Ford was not overturned but was turned clear around with its rear against the bank. Linn made loud talk about prosecuting, to the state police officer, but did not wait to do it and left for home that day.

## Severe Storms The Past Two Nights

The severest storm of the winter so far was that Tuesday night, with wind of gale proportions and a heavy rainfall.

The wind took out a transformer pole of the Mt. States Power Co. near the Standard Oil sub station at Myrtle Point. In its fall it took down two other poles, killing the entire system from North Bend to Powers.

A crew of fifteen men, from Coquille and Marshfield, was soon assembled and the break was repaired before daylight.

The above, written yesterday, must be modified as to Tuesday night's storm being the worst this winter. Last night's storm, between midnight and early morning, was even more severe, with the "unusual" thunder and lightning reaching a peak seldom heard or seen here.

The storm both nights at Powers reached hurricane proportions. Tuesday night the upstairs windows of the bank building were blown in, and last night the roof of the boarded-up Collier Hotel was blown off, the semaphore block signals of the railroad were torn loose and the roof of the round house damaged.

## Twins Born Here

Twins were born at the Coquille Hospital last Saturday, the parents being Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Snyder, who have just moved in to Coquille from Fairview. They have been named Barbara Lee, who weighed six pounds, thirteen ounces, and Robert Wesley, weighing seven pounds, ten ounces.

## Jury Dismissed

Judge Brand announced yesterday that circuit court motion day would be held on Saturday of this week.

The James murder case was the last criminal case on the October docket and all but one of the civil cases have either been heard or settled out of court. The jury for the October term has been dismissed.

## Jury Finds J. L. James Not Guilty 2nd Degree Murder

His Claim Of Self Defense Successful -- Jury Was Out Six Hours Before Reporting

"Not guilty" was the verdict brought in by the jury at 9:30 last night, which freed J. L. James from the second degree murder charge on which he had been indicted. The jury received the case at 3:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon and were out 15 minutes over six hours.

The jury consisted of A. R. Davenport, W. E. Cross, Lillie L. Lyster, Chas. Powers, Edward L. Cox, F. E. Southmayd, Ethel Meyers, John Thorwald, Alpha Johannsen, Laird Thiering, C. G. Gooney and J. E. Walstrom.

The crime for which Mr. James was tried was that of stabbing with a pocketknife, H. E. Henderson, at Coosdo, on the first of last July. The man died at the Coquille Hospital the next morning.

Evidence at the trial tended to show the same as was indicated by officers last July, that Henderson and a young man named Abbott had taken James in a car, after a drinking party at Coosdo, up the road east from there. The defendant had \$25 in his purse which the two had asked to see and when their intention became apparent, James, who is not much more than half the size that the dead man was, protected himself with dire results to Henderson, after the latter had struck the defendant several times and dragged him from the car.

James did not deny using his knife on Henderson, his plea of not guilty being based on that of self defense. The trial got under way Monday afternoon after the jury had been secured, and was concluded in much quicker time than cases of this nature usually are.

## C. of C. Opposes Gas Tax Diversion

The highway committee of the Coquille Chamber of Commerce was instructed by the directors at the Tuesday noon session to contact the members of the Coquille city council and ask that body to protest to the League of Oregon Cities that organization's propaganda and attempt to secure at the next session of the legislature a diversion of any portion of gasoline taxes to the cities of the state. They are also to get the cities of Marshfield, North Bend, Myrtle Point, and Bandon to oppose the league's proposals.

It was pointed out that outside of Portland, Salem and Eugene every city or town in the state would lose more than its share of the gas tax would amount to, due to the fact that the state highway department now keeps the city streets on which highways are located in repair, which the commission would not do if the cities received a share of the tax.

It is not desired to knock the University of Oregon proposals to work for the good of the state—and this League of Oregon Cities is fostered by university personnel—but those professors are certainly doing the coast section of Oregon a dis-service in attempting to thus hamper the state highway department's road program.

## Grand Jury Drawn Last Evening

The grand jury for the February term of court was drawn last night after the petit jury had brought in its verdict in the James case. Those who will serve are J. E. Walstrom, foreman, Lillie L. Lyster, C. O. Gooney, John Thorwald, Laird Thiering, Alpha Johannsen and Ethel Meyers.

## BAND PRACTICE CHANGES

J. A. Hannan, leader of the Coquille city band announces that regular practice for this organization will be held every Thursday evening beginning Dec. 7.

The practice has been held on Monday of each week heretofore but this change was made to accommodate the local basketball enthusiasts who desired the gymnasium on that evening.

Mrs. Jos. Donaldson returned Sunday from a two weeks' visit with her brother in Redlands, Calif.

## Scotchman Has Hiked 31,000 Miles In Five Years--Here Monday

Sergeant J. Scott Was Given Six Months To Live Five Years Ago--Still Hale And Hearty

A Scotch Highland laddie, clad in kilts and carrying a 60-pound knapsack on his back, stopped in Coquille for a short time Monday afternoon. He is not a world traveler, but he has hiked the circumference of the globe at the equator—25,000 miles—through Africa and already 6,000 miles in the United States, in the past five years. He started his pilgrimages in October, 1933, after the doctors had given him six months to live.

His name is Sergeant J. Scott, of Greenock, Scotland. During the world war, as a member of the South African Infantry, he was gassed and the ensuing affliction is what the doctors said would end his life. He is 55 years of age and is now a husky specimen of manhood.

Sergeant Scott landed in New York and went south and across the southern border on his U. S. hike and left San Francisco, Oct. 31. He is going up to Vancouver, back to New York and then sail for home.

His average hike is 20 miles a day and wears a pedometer to register his mileage. He never rides and now has on his twenty-fifth pair of heavy shoes.

He makes his way by broadcasting and giving talks before organizations and has an unlimited fund of experiences to relate. He commented most favorably on the hospitality accorded him on this coast.

## New Marriage Law Now In Effect

The new marriage law, adopted by the people at the Nov. 8 election went into effect at 8:00 a. m. this morning when Gov. Martin signed the law, according to advices received by County Clerk Oddy from Secretary of State Snell.

The new law requires the physical examination of both parties to the marriage where the old law required it of the man only. Blood tests, and strict examination for venereal disease, tuberculosis and several other contagious or infectious diseases are required to be made by the examining physician whose fee for that service is set at not to exceed \$5.

Including the marriage license fee of \$3, the cost of getting married jumps from \$8 to \$13 without considering the preacher's fee or flowers for the bride.

## Coos County Corn Entered In State Show

Reminiscent of Coquille's first corn show, held more than two decades ago, was the display of ear corn in the First National Bank lobby here this week. Not only was it a reminder but the eleven 12-ear displays were nearly as many as the then county agent, J. L. Smith, was able to assemble for Coquille's first show.

The displays this week came from McKinley, Dora, Myrtle Point, Broad-bend, Bridge and Remote and were excellent specimens.

They were shipped Wednesday to the Oregon State Corn Show which opens in Portland Saturday with the First National there as the sponsoring agency.

At the chamber of commerce session Tuesday noon, Mr. Smith commended the new president, Harry Claterbos, on his co-operation with County Agent Jenkins, in going right to bat with a corn show.

## \$20.00 PRIZE THIS WEEK AT DANCE FOR GUESSING

According to Fred Bull, the winner of the guessing contest of the local Saturday night dance will receive \$20.00 this week. So far no one has been able to guess the correct name for all eight dance tunes played during the contest and now the fourth week of competition, without awarding a prize, brings the prize up to \$20.00. Come out to the dance, Fred says, and see if you can't win the cash.

Warranty and bargain and Sale Deeds for sale at The Sentinel office.

## Coquille Merchants Plan For Christmas--Big Year Expected

Following the Thanksgiving holiday last week, all evidence of turkey gobbler promotion was all gone in Coquille and many stores blossomed out Monday morning of this week in bright red and green colors for the Christmas holiday season.

With the Christmas trade actually upon us, many merchants are now in the midst of Christmas decoration and promotion that will thoroughly liven the people of this vicinity to the spirit of the season.

Feeling that Coquille is the best place in which to trade the merchants aim to show the public that they are capable of selling them everything at the price lowest.

J. C. Penney company was the first store in town to have its front display windows ready. Many delightful gift articles are shown there for the public under the direction of Charles Porter, who is in charge of all artistry there. Yuletide decorations are also hung through-out the store.

Maynard Bond has also started his Christmas art work in Bond's Market where the exact effect of his plan cannot be determined until he progresses further.

Stuart Norton has just started stringing his wreaths and streamers in his store, Norton Music and Stationery, and he has already received the major portion of his Christmas goods, a large part of which are greeting cards. He also takes orders for special cards.

Bigger & Gunderson Furniture on Front street has stocked up on all General Electric accessories and other goods are being shipped daily so that this firm can handle virtually anything in the way of Christmas gifts for the home, or for the individual.

Art Hooton, proprietor of Hooton Electric Shop, is going in big for electrical appliances this year. He will have the largest stock from which to choose in the history of his business and possibly the largest, most complete in town. One cannot go amiss in visiting this store when thinking of practical gifts.

Slater's Variety store is still receiving stock. Although many of the items sold in this business house are small and numerous, one can find plenty of things to choose and there surely are unlimited supplies of Christmas decorations for the home.

While plans for decorating the city streets are already underway and will be completed in just a short time, it appears now that Coquille will have the best year in its history for the holiday season. Every merchant expects it and conditions indicate it. The plans and methods of Yuletide promotion of other merchants will be told next week.

## Trespasser Pleads Not Guilty

Robert Payne, of Marshfield, was arrested this week charged with trespassing on the Russ lands which the Fat Elk Duck Club has leased for hunting privileges. A plea of not guilty was entered in Justice Barton's court but trial of the case will await the return of his attorney, Marvin Skipworth, from Corvallis.

Lee Johnson, of Coquille, appeared in justice court here, charged with the wanton destruction of personal property, on Tuesday. After hearing the evidence, Justice Barton dismissed the case. Neighbors of a man near Myrtle Point said, they had seen Johnson in that neighborhood with a gun, and had heard shots a quarter of a mile away. When the complainant missed a couple of chickens he filed the charge against Johnson, but there was no evidence to show that he was responsible for the hens' disappearance.

Virgil R. Chilson, of Port Orford, was fined \$5 yesterday for driving a car without an operator's license.

William Brandt, of Marshfield, was given a five dollars suspended fine for driving a car with a void foreign license. He had recently come up from California and had been at work over there only a few days. The law provides that when a man goes to work he must secure an Oregon license for his automobile.

The Past Noble Grands will hold their Christmas party and exchange at the home of Miss Ida Oerding this Friday evening.

## First Christmas Seal Purchasers Here

To Mr. Frank Schram goes the honor of being the first purchaser for the 1938 Christmas seals. Mr. Schram has been a resident of Coos county for twenty-three years and for the past nine years he has been employed as timekeeper for the Oregon State Highway commission. Mr. Schram is also fire chief for the Coquille fire department and is a member of the American Legion.

Names of other early purchasers of Christmas seals in Coquille were also announced by Mrs. J. Eric Tucker, local Christmas Seal chairman. They are as follows: Charles Stauff, Marion R. Clayton, Fred McNelly, L. C. Sherwood, Anna Rooney and Mrs. Lena Rover.

"Buy Christmas Seals Now and Use Them Early" is the request of the local committee, who expressed the hope that the majority of the people to whom seals are sent will buy them. Some people may wish more than the number sent them, and the committee will be glad to send additional sheets. Those who are not able to buy all or part of the seals they receive are asked to return the unwanted number to headquarters. The method of selling Christmas seals through the mail simplifies their distribution and purchase. The addressed return envelope enables the purchase of seals with almost no trouble at all.

"The need for a successful seal sale is apparent as we study the health work we hope to undertake next year. The public has never failed to cooperate. We are sure it will not fail this year."

## Address On China Mon., Pioneer Church

The public is invited to hear Miss Helen Whitaker speak on the Chinese situation on next Monday, December 5, at 8:00 p. m. Her subject is "Behind the Lines During the First Year of the War in China." This opportunity to hear her is being provided by the Business and Professional Women's club of Coquille at the auditorium of the Pioneer Church. There is no admission, offering or solicitation.

Miss Whitaker has spent 11 of the last 12 years in China as a missionary teaching in a Chinese school at Changshu. She is now visiting her mother, Mrs. Belle Whitaker of Myrtle Point while on a leave of absence. Prior to going to China, Miss Whitaker taught in the Myrtle Point-union high school.

Those who have heard her speak state that she has a fine personality and gives a splendid address. She will have on display some articles from China. Since the part of China in which she worked is surrounded by Japanese armies now, her address will be of especial interest. At the close of the address an opportunity will be given for all who desire to remain to ask her questions.

Don't fail to hear her.

## Boy Scout Camps Held Dec. 26-Jan. 1

Scout winter camps for the Willamette area are to be held at Summit Lodge on Odell lake in two periods this year, Dec. 26-29 and Dec. 29-Jan. 1, and any Coquille scout desirous of attending should register at once as only 40 boys can be accommodated at each. The total cost for the period, including transportation from Eugene, will be \$5.85 for one period or \$9.45 for both. Scouts must provide their own transportation from here to Eugene and be there ready to leave the S. P. depot at 12 o'clock noon on Dec. 26 or on Dec. 29.

## PRO-AMERICA SATURDAY

There will be a Pro-America meeting on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. in the Coquille City Hall. This is an important meeting on "land taxation in Coos county," and all members and those interested are urged to attend. George H. Jenkins will be the speaker for the day.

This will be the last meeting until after the first of the year.

Mrs. E. L. Vinton and son, Dick, came down from Portland Wednesday evening to spend the Thanksgiving vacation at the C. A. and J. S. Barton homes. They were accompanied from Eugene by Miss Anne Barton, student at the University of Oregon.