

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

VOL. XXXVI. NO. 47.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1940.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

## George T. Moulton Was Valley's Eldest Pioneer

For 74 years, nine months and three days, George T. Moulton was a resident of the Coquille valley and during that three-quarters of a century his place of residence was not more than seven miles from the place where he was born. And all except the first six years of his life was spent in what is now Coquille, coming with his parents to live in a cabin alongside the grocery store which was on the river bank back of what is now the Coquille Bowling Alley, when those two buildings were the only one in this section. A pioneer of the days when Indians were the principal inhabitants of the Coquille valley, he saw the gradual elimination of the wilderness and the gradual building of a town until it became a small city.

Mr. Moulton passed away at his home on Heath street at five o'clock last Friday morning after lying in a coma from Monday on, the only movement perceptible being his greatly accelerated breathing.

The body lay in state at the Gano Funeral Home for 24 hours preceding the funeral service which were held at the Pioneer church at 2 p. m. on Sunday, his pastor, Rev. H. L. Graybeal, assisted by Rev. W. S. Smith and Rev. G. A. Gray, officiating.

The church was filled to capacity with friends from all over this part of the county who paid this last tribute to one they admired and respected.

Pallbearers who performed the last human service for their friend were L. H. Hazard, F. G. Leslie, Jno. W. Leneve, O. C. Sanford, C. C. Farr and Stanley Fitzgerald. Interment was in the Odd Fellows cemetery.

George Tildon Moulton was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Moulton and was born Feb. 28, 1866, on a farm just below what is now Riverton but on this side of the Coquille river. His father was a black and miner who came up from California to work at the Lane mine at Whiskey Run. He later took over the store on the river bank here which cousins of S. M. Nosler's had conducted and moved up here in 1872. The elder Mr. Moulton died in 1908, a year and a half after the passing of his wife.

Mrs. Lulu M. Nosler, sister of the deceased, is the only surviving near relative. Geo. Steward, of the North Bank road is a half-nephew, and there are surviving cousins in the east.

George, or "Tilt," Moulton, as he was known in earlier days was station agent in Coquille for the Coos Bay, Roseburg & Eastern Railway and Navigation Co., before the railroad from here to Coos Bay became a part of the Southern Pacific system. At that time the railroad ran along what is now Front street and the depot was located where the Coquille Wood Co. office now stands.

After leaving the railroad employ, Mr. Moulton for many years engaged in the brokerage business, buying and selling furs, hides and cascara bark. He also was an insurance company representative here. Due to failing health he retired from active business three years ago, devoting his time since to looking after his investments.

Mr. Moulton had never married. He had been a member of Coquille Odd Fellows lodge for 40 years, of Chadwick Masonic lodge nearly as long, for many years was financial secretary of the Woodmen of the World here, and was a member of the Pioneer Methodist church, serving for some time on its official board.

Probably no one had a wider acquaintance all over Coos county and his memory for faces and names was remarkable.

A good man has gone to his reward, and his kindly smile and cheery greeting will be missed by thousands who called him their friend.

## Christmas Basket Dance December 7

The Charity dance in the Community Building, this coming Saturday evening, Dec. 7, is being sponsored by most of the civic and fraternal organizations in Coquille. The proceeds will be used to defray the cost of baskets, which the committee in charge will distribute at Christmas time. "Shady" and his dance band will furnish the music for the dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Larson plan to leave Friday for St. Helens to spend several days visiting relatives.

## City's Condition Told In Report

City Treasurer Coughell's monthly report to the city council Monday evening was accompanied by a statement of the city's assets and liabilities which shows that the surplus of assets over liabilities is \$167,157.29 as of last Saturday. The assets total \$305,353.23, and the liabilities \$138,195.94.

The cash on hand in the bank totaled \$11,351.61, to which is added Coos county warrants of \$120.95, city improvement bonds of \$897.90, and an office cash fund of \$50.

Of the \$41,577.18 delinquent uncollected tax, \$20,000 is deducted as uncollectible, leaving an asset of \$21,577.18. Of course, the \$20,000 is an estimate only as are the values placed on city-owned property, \$200,000 for the water system, real estate and buildings \$24,900, the fire department equipment \$1500, furniture and fixtures \$1,000. Real estate contracts, funds advanced for improvement projects, bonded and unbonded liens and acquired properties make up the rest of the \$305,353.

On the liabilities side, besides the overdrafts, overpayment of bonded liens and the partial payments account, there are \$193.16 of warrants outstanding, and \$123,844.42 of outstanding bonds. Of this total \$94,000 are in the two water bonds series, \$15,000 in general funding and \$14,844.42 in improvement bonds.

Another indication of the careful management of city affairs was the statement by Mayor Milne that the city has spent \$9,320 less than the budget for the first ten months of this year.

## Buzz Holmstrom Found Real Winter Weather

Haldane Holmstrom returned to his home here last Saturday evening after an absence of 13 months and says for the past few weeks, when he knew he was coming home, that his homesickness was almost unbearable.

"Buzz" had never experienced any real winter weather before so last winter he took a job in an open pit mine about 30 miles from Salt Lake City and he found it cold enough to satisfy his desire for low temperature. The mine is on a copper mountain, a low grade two per cent ore, and the mountain is being literally shoveled into cars and transported to the smelter.

Since leaving the mine last spring, Haldane has been with the Reclamation Service on Green river in Colorado where it is planned to build a dam in the Dinosaur National Park. And speaking of dinosaurs, he says that bones and skeletons of these prehistoric critters, which are supposed to have been alive millions of years ago, are encountered all over the park, both on top of the ground, with other huge bones buried beneath the surface. Some of the skeletons, all of them are petrified, of course, are practically complete, with an occasional break in the 30 feet long vertebrae.

Haldane's last job was the operation of a boat on the river for two miles between the point the men could be transported to in cars and the proposed dam site.

For the past few weeks the river has been full of ice and in order to make progress down or up stream the crew would have to keep the hull of the vessel free by chipping the ice off and the oar blades would be so ice-encumbered that they resembled logs.

"Buzz" expects to remain here for the winter, enjoying home cooking.

## Howard Kyle To Join Navy

Howard Kyle, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Kyle of this city, left today for San Diego, where he will enter the Navy, having signed up last week in Marshfield. Howard goes in under the new regulations allowing enlistments at 17 years of age.

## Powers J. of P. District Abolished

There being so little need for a justice of the peace and constable district at Powers—No. 11—the county court last Friday approved an order abolishing the district and placed that section in the Myrtle Point district, No. 5.

## R. L. Stewart To Head C. of C. For Coming Year

Warren C. Cailey, vice president of the First National Bank of Portland, shared with the Cornfield Canaries the honors at the Chamber of Commerce banquet and annual election held in the hotel dining room Tuesday evening. Mr. Cailey gave a very interesting and thought-provoking address on the subject of "Public Relations," which was listened to with flattering attention by the sixty ladies and gentlemen assembled.

Not any less interesting was the motion picture, with talkie accompaniment shown by Supt. B. W. Dunn. "The story of your town is the story of America" was the title of the picture and the dialogue brought out the facts that only by the co-operation of all—employer, employee, business man, farmer, professional man and housewives—has the greatness of American communities been achieved.

Introduced as the Cornfield Canaries—their original title some twenty-odd years ago was "Cornfield Canaries," but the corpulence of a couple of the song birds caused the change in designation—the quartet composed of O. T. Gant, J. L. Smith, F. G. Leslie and E. D. Webb, created as much enthusiasm Tuesday evening as it did in the heyday of the Coquille Corn Show. To some of their old-time favorites they had added a few not heard from them before, and the deafening encores with which each effort was received proved the Canaries are just as popular today as they ever were.

Mrs. Woodyard presided at the piano and led the group in singing "God Bless America."

Frank A. Pook and O. L. Wood were appointed as tellers for the election by President Don Gillespie, who thanked the chamber for the co-operation given him by the chamber members during his incumbency of the office.

The vote, with nearly 50 members taking part, resulted in the election of R. L. Stewart as president, O. L. Wood as vice-president, and C. M. Howard as treasurer. To insure he would be defeated for the presidency, Dr. Ralph F. Milne passed around the cigars to all those who would agree to vote for Mr. Stewart.

The vote for 27 directors of the chamber was extremely close, the count as made by the tellers and the chamber's secretary, Mrs. J. E. Norton, showing the following to have been elected:

Dr. Ralph Milne, Andy Anderson, J. L. Stevens, J. A. Lamb, Geo. A. Ulett, Geo. Witters, H. A. Young, Lane Compton, J. E. Norton, Geo. Jenkins, Dr. T. De La Rue, Don Gillespie, J. L. Smith, R. A. Jeub, Lloyd Claver, B. W. Dunn, Tallant Greenough, Geo. Oerding, Dr. J. D. Rankin, Wm. Ulett, Glen Claver, George Taylor, Drue Cunningham, Muri Pettit, M. O. Hawkins, Dave Biegger, A. N. Gould.

Straight and honest thinking by society, business, labor, government officials and every section of this complex life in the United States are the greatest need of this democracy, was one of Mr. Cailey's conclusions, accompanied by the statement that nearly all are doing this straight forward thinking and that the public relations attitude of business, large and small, is doing more to create confidence among the people of this country than was ever accomplished before. The interpretation of an enterprise to the public is the most necessary policy for small business that it may grow larger and for a large corporation that it may expand to its limit of usefulness.

Two or three humorous but pointed stories were interwoven in his talk and in the course of it he referred to the fact that it required about \$20 to kill a man in Caesar's wars, \$20,000 for each soldier sacrificed in the first world war and \$50,000 for each man who has lost his life in the present eastern hemisphere conflict.

## A Spot Which Needs Attention

J. A. Hannon's car in which he delivers morning papers is the third car to have suffered a broken pan at the intersection of the drive on Sherwood Highway with the Henry street paving. This occurred last Sunday morning, and is the result of the earth sinking away at the end of the pavement where it meets the dirt road.

Mrs. O. C. Sanford returned Friday from a brief trip to Portland.

## Grand Council Fire Held Here Last Evening

By soft candlelight, fifty of Coquille's Camp Fire Girls participated in a Grand Council Fire at the Coquille High school auditorium last night. In the Camp Fire work these Council Fires are a very important part in the girl's life. This Council Fire was particularly outstanding because of the presence of Miss E. DeMott, one of the National Camp Fire executives, at present stationed in Portland. Her wonderful talk on the Camp Fire work and her displays of work done by girls in other parts of the United States, was an inspiration to everyone present.

The groups represented at this Council Fire were the Fanda group with Mrs. Meyers as guardian; Aowakiya group, with Mrs. Wardrip as guardian; Junita Wardrip, member of the Hospotchi group, and the Coquille group with Cherie Mae Hartwell as guardian. Miss Bessie Christensen was pianist. Mrs. Bonnie Walker, Mrs. Idyll Goddard, Miss Jean Polson and Mrs. Estelle Harrison planned the greater part of the program.

Coquille should, indeed, be proud of such an excellent organization as the Camp Fire Girls. We hear a great deal about the Boy Scouts but don't forget that we have one of the youngest and one of the finest Camp Fire organizations in the state.

There were two girls who received the honors of the "Woodgatherers" rank; Nadine Ashworth and Geraldine Oerding.

A large group of thirty-two girls received the awards of advancement to the "Trailseekers" rank. Their names are: Carol Kronsteiner, Harriet Walker, Mary Ann Walker, Louise Terry, Norma Terry, Norma Helvi, Roberta Medley, Lucille Morse, Betty Lee Renfro, Shirley Van Fleet, Nancy Ann Haga, Velma Coy, Shirley Hamilton, Versie Willis, Donna Lee Landrum, Helen Hickam, Joyce Benham, Marianne Rackleff, Eulia McCracken, Anne Harrison, Anita Martindale, Carol Jean Gray, Donna Mae Howe, Nancy Grant, Joann Savage, Alene Hunt, Rose Marie Peart, Sally Bonney, Betty Dalton, Bonnie Zwicker, Dorothy Wersh, Dorothy Hughes, and Lenora Warnstaff.

## Sixes To Powers Road Proposed

Mayor Gilbert Gable, C. W. Noyes, Ed Divilbiss and Archie McLeod were here from Port Orford Monday to present to the county court a petition which Mr. Noyes stated contained between 500 and 600 names, asking for a road across the mountain from the end of the Sixes road to Powers, a distance of 12 to 14 miles. The same petition was presented to the Curry county court on Tuesday.

All that the courts of the counties are asked to do is to maintain the road, which will be used for transporting timber, minerals and dairy and farm stuff. The plan as approved by the forest service headquarters at Grants Pass is that the actual road building shall be done by the CCC boys, under the supervision of the forest service.

## Bill Walker Now Sole Proprietor

A change in the ownership and management of the Tip Top confectionery became effective last Sunday when Wm. G. Walker bought the interest of Alan Bailey, his partner for several years in the place. Mr. Walker will continue to operate the Tip Top on the same high plane of service which has characterized it under the partnership.

Mr. Bailey intends going to Port Orford, where he will be associated with Mrs. Bailey's father in business.

## Mrs. Schram Suffers Painful Injury

Mrs. Frank Schram suffered a serious and painful accident last week when she fell in a store downtown. She was unable to see for a week of her eyes. For almost a week, her face was paralyzed. Though the paralysis is gradually leaving, Mrs. Schram must spend two more weeks lying flat on her back. She cannot read or do any sort of work to break the monotony of her convalescence.

## Council Plans On Adjusting Rates

With Mayor Milne and all councilmen except Everett Seeley present for the session of the city dads Monday evening, a two hour session was held.

The residents of Kelley street, a block long at the extreme northeast corner of the city, had a petition on file asking for a gravel improvement. The city engineer will check on the cost and the property included on the petition which will have to pay for it.

At the suggestion of the chairman of the street committee, Everett Seeley, the council voted to have stop signs installed on Third street, on either side of Henry. This is at the northeast court house block corner where collisions have often happened in the past.

A contract for the city's supply of chlorine for its 1941 use, at 9 cents a pound, for Tacoma, was made with the Hooker Chemical Co.

A dance hall license was granted Pat Hayes for the basement of the Machon building. He has given up using the Community Building for dances.

A class B package and retail beer license application of Ora Allen for the Rex Tavern was approved.

An ordinance was adopted levying the assessments for the payment of the Heath street graveling improvement between Fifth and Sixth.

An amendment to the city's plumbing ordinance was adopted as was another authorizing the completion of the street improvement on Hall street and the building of the sidewalk in front of Le Roy's Barber & Beauty Shop. A call for bids for construction of the sidewalk was also ordered. When contemplated a couple of years ago it was to have been a W. P. A. job but there is nothing of that kind possible here now and the work will be built either under contract or by day labor under the supervision of the engineer.

The leasing of the Community Building to J. W. Ryan for a skating rink was referred to the finance committee to arrange terms and payments for the lease.

There was some discussion, with no action taken, on a revision of the ordinance which fixes the rates for the use of water. The rate is not to be lowered for home owners but apartments and auto courts, where the tenancy is fairly permanent, may find the monthly rate a little higher. When the new rates are established the Sentinel will present them in full.

The property owners on North Willard street, on Spurgeon Hill near the Odd Fellows cemetery were in attendance at the meeting to complain about the fish pond which exists in front of their properties, or rather to ask if the lake is to be kept there that it be stocked with fish.

Some years ago the city put in a culvert there to arrange for the run-off there, but the property owners over whose land the run-off would flow have kept the end of the culvert plugged with rock and mud to the detriment of all those who live there or anyone who wants to use the street, just south of the dead end.

The city engineer and the water superintendent were instructed to try and work out a plan which would relieve the water congestion, without damaging any property.

## Rotarians To Have Christmas Party

"Your America," a patriotic film, was shown at the Rotary Club luncheon at the hotel on Wednesday. The film was one obtained by the high school and George Folsom was the operator.

It was decided to hold the annual Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 18, and Stuart Norton was named to assist the program chairman in making arrangements for the affair.

Rotarian Wm. Lyons, of Eugene, was present as a guest.

## Junior Women To Present Playlet For Woman's Club

The Junior Women's Club will present a playlet at the next meeting of the Coquille Woman's Club, Tuesday afternoon, December 10. This will be the Christmas program with special music and carols. All members of the senior club are urged to attend and welcome the junior club.

## Council's Reply To Budget Committee's Comments Last Week

In view of the comment by the so-called First Coquille Budget Committee, which appeared in last issue of the Coquille Valley Sentinel purporting to set forth the facts involved in the preparation of what was therein called "the Coquille City Budget recently rejected by the Council" we feel that the entire picture of the situation should be presented to the people. We do this in all due respect to the signers and approvers of last week's comment since they have indicated that they have stated their position "as clearly as they know."

The main, but not only, point of real controversy involved the budgeting of an item of \$3,000.00 for a "Fire Equipment Sinking Fund," which fund was established by an ordinance making it possible to accumulate funds over a three-year period which could be used for the purchase of fire fighting equipment, the purchase of a truck equipped with a pumper being the intention of the council. This ordinance was adopted pursuant to a law passed by the state legislature in 1939, for the purpose of saving cities the expense of a bond issue in obtaining fire-fighting equipment. The adoption of this ordinance was essential to the creation of such a fund.

It has been intimated that since this ordinance was passed by the council the night before the meeting with the aforementioned committee that it was done for the purpose of double crossing the committee. For some time considerable pressure had been brought on the council to provide a pumper and the mayor and council gave a lot of time and thought to the matter and to the best method of obtaining a pumper. During the few weeks immediately prior to this meeting the purchase of this equipment had been asked by the Chamber of Commerce, a committee appearing before the council to make the request, and strongly urged by the fire (Continued on Page Ten)

## County Budget To Be 18.9 Mills

The Coos county budget, as adopted by the county court at the public hearing last Friday, means a 1941 tax levy of 18.9 mills for county purposes which is three mills lower than the 1940 rate.

Total expenditures as approved Friday were set at \$668,419.47 of which \$464,236.89 will be raised by the 18.9 mills levy.

The application of three lady members of the Coos county health association that the pay for the county health unit be raised, was denied by the county court.

The elimination of \$7,000 originally budgeted for state taxes, before it was known there would be no state tax in 1941, accounted for the drop of one-tenth of a mill in the rate. There were also a few other changes in the budget proposal as printed in the Sentinel a month ago.

## Episcopalians Have Get-Together Dinner

Members of St. James parish held their first dinner of the winter season Wednesday at Guild hall. Tables were decorated with ivy, red apples and tall red candles. As is always the case, when the Episcopalians hold a potluck, it was a "grand dinner."

Those present were Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Guilbert and Beth, Messrs. and Mesdames J. S. Barton and Ben, H. N. Lorenz, L. L. Bonney and Sally, John Martin and Bruce, Julius Ruble and Laura Emily, C. Vernon Smith, Frank Pook, Charles Selbig, Charles Stauff, C. E. Schroeder, Lee Hand, Mesdames A. J. Sherwood, E. W. Lorenz, Ida Owen, Martha Gratke, Annie Robinson, James Watson, W. N. Briner, and Messrs. Harry Slack, Judy and Harry, Jr., V. R. Wilson, the Misses Siegra Young, Mary Margaret Gedney, Anne Barton, Georgia Briner and Ann Harrison.

Mrs. Lee Hand is chairman of the potluck dinner for members of the American Legion and the Auxiliary Monday at 6:30 at the Legion hall.

The Holy Name Altar society will hold a tea towel, apron and food sale Saturday at Thrift's Grocery.