

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

VOL. XXXVII, NO. 2

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1941

SEASIDE YEAR

Blood Test Brings Conviction—Other Criminal Cases

William Perry Christianson, of North Bend, indicted by the grand jury for driving while intoxicated, was found guilty by the petit jury last Friday. He was fined \$100 and sentenced to six months in jail, the sentence being suspended when he paid his fine, as he did.

Immediately after his arrest Christianson had been given the blood test for alcoholic content and the state police physician, Dr. Jos. Beaman, was here as a witness on that angle of the case. His testimony convinced the jury.

It is expected that some time such a case will be appealed to the supreme court so that the highest tribunal's decision will establish the legality of this method of testing for drunkenness.

Wilbert Lawrence Gibson, who with his father was indicted for larceny from a warehouse, admitted his guilt. He was given his freedom during good behavior. His father had previously been sentenced to the pen.

Ray DeMerritt, salesman for the Tower motor company at Marshfield who had been indicted for embezzlement of funds belonging to his employer, pleaded guilty last Friday and was sentenced to a year in the pen.

Yesterday J. D. Woolms pleaded guilty to giving a fictitious check. Pronouncing sentence was postponed by Judge Brand until next Monday.

Wm. L. Snyder pleaded guilty Friday to operating a car while drunk and was sentenced to a year in jail.

Mrs. Hartwell Declined Election

Mrs. C. M. Hartwell, director of the Oregon State and Missions Association, reports that the only by-law passed at the state meeting Saturday at Salem which will affect the Coquille unit is one which permits the unit to send three delegates in addition to a director to vote upon matters affecting the state body.

The meeting was attended by 175 members of units within the state. Though Mrs. Hartwell was nominated to serve as secretary-treasurer of the state association, she was unable to accept the nomination because of the weight of duties in connection with her silver fox farm.

Representatives of the Coquille unit who attended the meeting were B. T. Héppler, Mrs. C. M. Hartwell, Mrs. Al Crawford, Miss Hartwell and Miss Cherie Mae Hartwell.

\$70 Netted For Riverton Cafeteria

Proceeds from the Riverton Woman's club entertainment Friday evening amounted to \$70, enough to accomplish all the improvements planned for the cafeteria. The three plays presented by the Bear Creek, Randolph and Riverton groups were performed for a record-breaking crowd.

Intermission numbers included a group of four songs by the Primary department given under the direction of Marcella Rawe. Mrs. Norris Kemp, accompanied by Mrs. Lester Clausen, played two trumpet solos.

Music for dancing was furnished by Mittie Edgmon, pianist, Roy Detillion, violin, and John Smith, guitar. The three musicians donated their services for the evening.

City Will Save \$925 In Interest

Acting on instructions from the city council City Treasurer Caughell will next month call another of the city's six per cent improvement bonds before it is due, with a consequent saving of interest over the eight years' period before maturity, of \$924.96. The bond, which was issued in 1927, would mature in 1949.

Three Fire Alarms In February, One A False Alarm

The fire department report, submitted to the city council Monday evening, showed that there were three alarms during February, one of them false and that the property endangered was worth \$4,000, but with practically no loss.

Grand Jury To Meet Tomorrow

The grand jury dismissed last week was summoned yesterday to report again for duty tomorrow morning and the petit jury was excused yesterday until tomorrow morning.

Both summons followed the dismissal of the larceny charge against Archie Raser, John Raser, Joe Ravito and Henry Pierce, of Portland, who had been indicted for larceny from a tavern in Empire.

Their crime had been that of so manipulating a punch board that they won the money contingent upon successful play.

In dismissing the charge at 2:30 yesterday afternoon, Judge Brand ordered them held and instructed the grand jury be called back for a further examination into their actions. He intimated that they were guilty of obtaining money under false pretenses, rather than by larceny.

Jury Gave A Just Verdict

The jury which heard the case of Sarah Stephens, administratrix of the estate of Adolph Aslackson, deceased, vs. Lawrence and Esther Hatcher, found for the defendants on Tuesday, after having been out less than an hour.

She was suing for \$2500 for the death of her brother who was killed when he stepped in front of the defendant's car at North Bend a few years ago. The defense was able to prove that the victim was intoxicated at the time and was carrying a bottle of liquor.

To Set Flag Pole At Park

The court house flag pole, which blew over in that storm a few weeks ago is to be painted, hauled out to Athletic Park by the Mt. States Power Co. crew and set up at the south end of the grandstand.

It will be done as a Lion Club project, B. W. Dunn and J. L. Smith being the committee which secured permission from the county court to make this use of the pole.

Joint F. O. E. Meet At Bay, March 10

E. W. Bigelow, northwest representative of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and D. D. Gillespie, of Roseburg, state F. O. E. president, will be present for a joint meeting of the Coquille and Marshfield F. O. E. lodges in the Eagles hall at Marshfield next Monday evening, March 10. Next Thursday evening, March 13, is social night of the Coquille Eagles and everybody is invited to be present.

Joint Meeting Of Woman's Club Next Monday Evening

A joint meeting of the Coquille Woman's Club and the Junior Woman's Club will be held in Guild Hall next Monday evening, March 10. There will be a short business meeting of the senior club at 7:45. The musical portion of the program will be under the direction of Thos. Cauthers, C. H. S. band instructor.

Ninety Used Cars Sold In February

February is a short month but that meant nothing to the Southwestern Motors sales force who stepped out during the 28 days and sold 90 used cars, an average of a fraction over three per day, Sundays included.

Mrs. Mack Buys Dockery's

Mrs. Carl Mack last week took possession of Dockery's ice cream parlor on Front street after completing a deal with Oliver L. Crumb, administrator of the estate of his sister, Mrs. Dockery, who has been operating the place since Mrs. Dockery's death.

California Weather Here

The common salutation here during the stormy weather of a few days ago was, "How do you like our California weather." It's really funny how quickly everyone grabbed the chance to razz the "native son" state.

Spring Is Here—Keep Dogs Up

And again the dogs are causing trouble in the flower gardens as well as the newly made vegetable gardens, so it will be up to you, and you, and you, to keep that dog of yours from running at large; that is if you have any regard for your neighbors' gardens, but if you have no regard for your neighbors' gardens and allow your dog to run at large, thereby destroying their gardens, you may wake up some morning to find your dog and possibly yourself in very poor standing in your neighborhood.

The council and the mayor have advised that if the dogs are annoying you, to make formal complaint before the city recorder, giving the name of the owner or owners of the dogs, and they will be fined accordingly, and it might be well to add that damages may be collected from the owner of the dog or dogs causing the damage.

At any rate, why not keep that dog up and thereby save trouble not only for yourself but your neighbors as well. Let us all contribute to a more peaceful and beautified city. Why not?

And say! The chickens are just as bad; keep them up also.

The above can be considered official for it was handed to the Sentinel by one of the city's official family.

This writer wants to add that besides the destruction mentioned dogs are destructive of lawns when they get in and scratch the grass out by the roots.

Another canine nuisance is the cur which keeps a whole neighborhood awake with his barking all night. People who keep such annoyances have little regard for their neighbors.

"Hi Y" Being Formed At C.H.S.

A group of boys met in the high school yesterday afternoon and formed a Hi Y organization and will request a charter from the national organization with which 6500 local chapters are affiliated.

The Hi Y is connected with the Y. M. C. A., is a Christian organization and one which stands for the better and higher things of life among its members.

Those who signed for membership yesterday were Sterling Gruenwald, who is the temporary chairman; Jerry Butler, Don Whereat, Louis Gilbert, Jack Newton, Orton Standley, Duane Terry, Howard Moy and Harold Winegar. Principal Clarence Oaika is to be adviser for the chapter.

California Couple Secures License

Just as we go to press it is learned that a couple from California—David Dillon from Freshwater and Myrtle Webber from Clam Beach, both in Humboldt county—secured a marriage license here this morning and expected to be married here before leaving for home this afternoon.

Minor Mention

Mrs. George W. Bryant has recently purchased the restaurant and camp at Yachats. The restaurant is on the left side of the highway going north and is used by the Greyhound bus lines as a luncheon stop.

Word received from the Bosworth-Wood families at Detroit where they went last week to take deliveries on cars, indicate that they found some snow and rather chilly weather at the auto metropolises.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hopkins, of Eugene, were here Saturday to call for their daughter, Miss Jackie, who has been visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bosserman.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ruble and Miss. were here Saturday to call on where they will visit relatives for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. James Briabin today moved to Ferndale, California, where they plan to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kauffman of Astoria were weekend visitors at the Elwood Wylie home. Accompanying them on their return trip to Astoria were Dorothy and Mollie Werab.

A Circulating Smoke System

That seven o'clock Sunday morning fire alarm was one for the books, a really "Believe it or not."

The alarm came from the Dr. G. E. Stark home on Knowlton Heights where the house was filling with smoke, without any visible fire to cause it.

When the department arrived, and the fire boys could find no blaze, they began to check and found the following reason:

The chimney is a divided affair, one-half being from the furnace where there was a fire and the other half from the fire place. The atmosphere was heavy and the wind just right so that the smoke as it emerged from the furnace half of the chimney seemed to bend over as a column and be sucked down the fire-place half.

An open window in the bathroom and an air vent in the door leading to the bathroom caused enough suction to draw the up-rising smoke out of the air and down the fireplace from where it spread all over the house.

Scout Pictures Shown At Rotary

Lloyd Miller, a travelling scout executive, presented a series of films on scout and sea scout activities at the weekly luncheon of the Rotary club yesterday. Merrill Totler, of the local scouts, gave a detailed report of the program for scouts at the Lucky Boy camp on Blue River east of Eugene, which he attended last year and George Folsom operated the movie machine. The pictures were in color and showed the camp site and activities of the boys at the Blue River camp and also the trip of the sea scouts from Portland and Astoria on their cruise to British Columbia, as well as the part taken by the boys in the regatta at Astoria last year.

Don Farr, who introduced the guest entertainer, also told about plans for an employment agency that has been established to enable the boys from this locality to earn money to attend one of the various camps this summer. Rotarian guests present were Dr. "Deke" Richmond, of Eugene, and Ed Cliff, of Grants Pass, who had as his guest Les Colville, who is president of the Lions club at Grants Pass. Both the latter are connected with the U. S. Forestry Service.

Pacific Fir Company Ready To Operate

George H. Chaney has been named as president of the Pacific Fir Lumber Co., which was formerly the Waterford Lumber Co. at Marshfield, which plans to begin operations Mar. 17. It is a planer plant for finishing lumber which is cut and shipped to the plant by smaller mills of the county.

A. O. Walker of this city is secretary of the company and V. A. Dimnick is manager.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.90.

C. of C. Approves Com. Bldg. Repair

Every seat was taken in the dining room of the hotel when the Chamber of Commerce met Tuesday noon, 25 being present.

The committee in charge of the survey of the city and outside districts as to the public's wishes in the matter of keeping Coquille stores open until eight o'clock on Saturday evenings, stated that it was hoped to have a report ready for next Tuesday, after all the postal card returns had been assembled and tabulated.

L. W. Claver, for the publicity committee, reported on the program for getting out stationery, with local valley scenes on the reverse of the chamber's letter head, which it was hoped would also be used by all business houses in Coquille.

There was talk on the need for improvement of the Community building, such as is being considered by the city council, a new floor, ceiling of the interior, painting, etc., so that Coquille will have a suitable place for the holding of large meetings, conventions and the like. It was pointed out that the Community Building never had been self-supporting, but that it was needed as a publicly-supported building just as is the city hall.

The secretary was instructed to invite other chambers in the county to send a delegate each to the next meeting of the State Game Commission, March 15, when it is hoped the commission can be induced to make arrangements for a fish hatchery in Coos county. A. N. Gould, one of the chamber's fish and game committee members, said he expected to attend the meeting on the 15th. "What's the use of advertising this as a fishing section," he queried, "if we do not propagate enough fish here to stock the streams?"

Judge Peterson Married Yesterday

Judge E. L. Peterson left Monday for Salem where he is opposing a bill which would impose a 12 per cent sales tax on public utility gross sales, but would also relieve the utilities of their present ad valorem tax. The bill provides that the utility must pay the 12 per cent itself, and R. L. Stewart, local manager of the Mt. States Power Co., says the effect of the bill would mean a revision downward of the company's rates in this section.

The judge was also interested in legislation which would allow county courts to sell gravel at low cost and permit use of county equipment for the improvement of streets adjacent to county roads.

Another matter to which the judge was giving serious thought when he left was that of his marriage yesterday to Miss Gladys Haberlach, in Portland.

Coquille Water Is Still A1

Coquille's pure water supply is still a reason for congratulation by everyone. Every weekly sample sent out to the state board of health's testing laboratory during February, resulted in the same report—"A" condition and no bacteria count.

The water department is not using nearly so much chlorine as was formerly used to keep the water in "A" condition, so there is no taste to the city's supply and it is pure.

Rainfall To Date Is 44.5 Inches

Rainfall in February was considerably less than it was for the same month last year, being slightly under four and one-half inches. This brings the total for the weather fiscal year, which starts Sept. 1, at 44.5 inches.

Sixth Column Card-Party At Hotel This Evening, Mar. 6

The Sixth Column card party is to be held in the Coquille Hotel this evening (Thursday) evening. The proceeds will be used to purchase a flag, a Sixth Column banner, and uniforms. Tickets will be on sale at the door.

At the regular meeting of the Coquille Carpenters Local No. 1094, held Monday this week, H. M. Ross, E. L. Perrott and B. F. Atkinson were elected as delegates to the Oregon State Council of Carpenters convention which will be held in Portland, April 9.

City Will Investigate Before Buying A Pumper For Dept.

David E. Biegger was present for his first attendance at a meeting of the city council since his election as councilman last November, he having missed three meetings this year because of his absence in the east.

As chairman of the street committee, Mr. Biegger reported the committee's recommendation that Henry Street from the bridge to Seventh, Center from Seventh to Tenth and Knowlton Avenue from the bridge on Beach east, be placed in a restricted parking program, one side of the street only being permitted for parking. After some discussion, the committee was asked to suggest other narrow streets where parking should be allowed on one side only and when the list is furnished the city attorney, he will prepare an ordinance covering the recommendations.

The street committee also recommended the spreading of more gravel on Fourth, from the Henry Street bridge to Division Street, and that a larger culvert be placed at the foot of the hill where the creek crosses Fourth Street. Also that the holes in Drake Street be filled. It was reported that the property owners on Drake, north from Fourth on Spurgeon Hill, are going to ask for an improvement of those three blocks.

The specifications for a pumper for the fire department, as prepared by Chief Snyder, were read and the mayor's suggestion that the fire committee of the council should visit other like size communities and investigate pumper costs, etc., at city expense, was favorably acted upon.

In paying his \$25 a month rental for use of the Community Building as a skating rink during March, J. W. Bryan asked if he could continue in the business there after a new floor is laid. In the absence of the finance committee chairman—G. L. Wood—no reply could be given Mr. Bryan.

A restaurant license was granted Wm. G. Walker for the Tip Top and the marshal was instructed to mount up the semi-annual payments of those places running card games in the city, or shut down on the games.

The request by Mrs. Bonnie Walker for vacation of Myrtle Street between Second and Third, was granted by ordinance. She owns the property on either side of the street, which is a gulch and incapable of use as a street, except by bridge. It is the last street on the eastern edge of the city.

The request of Geo. A. Blatt for vacation of Maple Street between First and Second, was laid on the table. One property owner there had not signed the petition for the vacation and ingress to or egress from his lot would not have been possible had the street been closed.

The city, which owns and keeps up the tennis court in Athletic Park, voted to buy a \$7.15 wholesale prize net, which was offered by Ted Fox and instructed that the lines on the cement court be painted again this year, white.

The application of Mrs. Jack Dolan and Mrs. Hazel McKibbin for use of the shed portion of the Community Building as a target range, more than one evening a week, was not acted upon Monday evening. The 5th Column which they were representing does not have much funds and they felt that \$100 a week was all they could afford. Their reason for asking for more evenings was to enable a larger number of those who may enlist or be drafted, to get experience in the handling of fire arms.

Lloyd Swinney, for the fire department, asked that a loading zone for trucks be established in each block of the business district as a relief from the double parking menace in time of fire. He reported that the plan was working well in Merrillfield and that every automobile which parked in the prohibited zone was marked with a ticket and a fine collected from the owner.

Another request he voiced for the department was that the alley from Second Street east to the A. G. Walker place be opened again and that planks be laid to allow use of that alley again. The city has the planks from a former bridge stored and after S. V. Eggerman had stated that two men could lay the plank in a day or two, the council voted to have the work done.

Mrs. Lida Rogers of Lenora is spending this week with Mrs. Clara Wheeler.