

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

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COQUILLE COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1943.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

A.W.S. Is A Vital Part Of Pacific Coast Protection

This is the tag-end of the Aircraft Warning Service week and the Sentinel wants to pay tribute to those of the Coquille station who have amassed a lot of hours of service on the watch towers. These are reported by Chief Air Warden Fred Bull, for the Coquille tower, and we only regret that more of the stations have not made similar reports.

Following is the list of those who have already put in 500 or more hours on duty:

Earl Benham
Jim Bunch
Gerald Ulett
Jack Axtell
Sherman Gregory
Ernest Whereat
Guy Kelley
E. Erickson
E. Briner
Dr. T. De La Rhue
George Brooks
Grant Wilcox
Gordon Hamilton
Robert Harris

Those in the 100-hour observer class are:

Jack Cooper
Jack Page
Ted Bennett
George Adams
Carl Mathews
Floyd Jarvis
Kenneth Lawrence
Earl Livingston
Van A. Spores
Leonard Homenyck
Wayne Goodman
Glen Hutton
C. C. Kidd
E. M. Hannevold

Some of the posts are keeping a private log or diary of the post, and each set of observers jot down little items of interest to the community in which the post is situated. They do say that these diaries are mighty interesting reading and the latest dope on all the observers is available for perusal during the long watches when planes are few.

We salute these observers and sincerely hope that more and more people will see the need of the AWS for observers and contact the chief observer in their area. Take your place in this vital volunteer work for the United States Army Air Force who even now are carrying the war to the people who started the whole thing.

Attention is called to the local business houses which are commending these watchers with paid advertising in this issue.

None Seriously Hurt In This Accident

The Cooper Gardens truck was considerably damaged Sunday noon but none of the three riding in it were injured except Mr. and Mrs. Archie Train's daughter who suffered a forehead cut.

A friend was driving the truck with flowers down from Myrtle Point for the Gouthier funeral here, for Miss Lois Fenn. At the bottom of the grade this side of the Norway school house an empty logging truck met the Cooper truck and on the flat at the bottom the logging trailer skidded and one of the rolls caught the truck just in front of the windshield, knocking the car off the pavement and into the ditch.

Names of 4th Prize Winners Wanted

Secretary C. G. Caughell reported at the Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday noon that one prize awarded at the Fourth of July celebration parade had not yet been paid because he could find no one who knew the names of the youngsters who prepared and showed the exhibit.

The entry was the Victory Garden presentation by children. If they will apply to Mr. Caughell they will receive the prize money.

Roxy Fountain Lunch To Reopen Wednesday, August 11

The reopening of the Roxy Fountain Lunch, under the ownership and management of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Bailey, is scheduled for next Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 11:00 a. m. They plan to make a speciality of merchants' lunches at noon and also light meals in the evening prior to the 7:15 show.

Three Men Qualify Here For Army Aviation Cadets

Of the seven who took the mental and physical examinations at the city hall here last Friday for enlistment as Army Aviation Cadets, three were successful, Major Eric K. Shilling reported, and they will go to Portland later this month for their final physical at the air base in Portland.

The three who passed were: Ludwig G. Scharfer, 186 South Coulter, Coquille; Ernest E. Benham, McKinley route, and Joseph E. Bosco, Bullards route.

Major Shilling says the exams are no pushover, in fact they are quite stiff, and that it takes a young man of keen intelligence to qualify. Those who failed in the mental test here Friday are eligible to try again in 30 days.

And he added that the Army is in need of flyers—pilots, bombers, gunners, etc. Major Shilling said the percentage of those who qualified here last Friday is just about the same as have been accepted elsewhere.

Guy Stem Saw Action In The South Pacific

Guy Stem, Jr., who had been in the Navy since May 18, 1942, and eight months of that time out of continental United States, returned home last Friday on a 30-day leave and expects to return to Alameda, where his vessel is docked, on the 16th of this month.

Guy met his parents, Dr. and Mrs. C. G. Stem, at Eureka, Calif., where his sister, Mrs. Amanda Sutton, resides and, after a few days there, he and his mother came home while the doctor went on to Berkeley, Calif., to attend a week's clinic.

Guy is wearing four pins awarded by the Navy for engagements with the enemy that he has been in. He landed on one island in the south Pacific, under enemy fire, and has had a lot of experiences which would make interesting reading if they could be told. He was in the Guadalcanal zone for eight months but came through without a scratch.

While gone Dr. Stem also visited his mother in Santa Cruz and his sister in San Francisco. He returned to Coquille Tuesday evening but does not expect to be back in his office for treatment of patients until Aug. 26.

How Jap Rumor Started Last Week

The following is a fair illustration of how rumors grow by word of mouth:

At an early hour Tuesday morning of last week an incorrectly coded message was delivered to the Civilian Defense head for this district that four Japs had landed on the beach near Floras lake, south of Bandon. Although the error was corrected within three hours—by five o'clock Tuesday morning—the report had spread all over Oregon and latest heard was that there were 35 Japs in the party, all of whom had been captured.

But the resulting activity that early hour last week proved that the Civilian Defense and all units charged with the defense of the Pacific coast are on the job.

Looks To Be The Same Ben Fisher

Ben Fisher, who was in Coquille and addressed the Rotary Club here yesterday noon, looks very much the same as he did when he was district attorney some 20 years ago, except that he is a little more full in the face.

When he went to Washington, D. C., thirteen years ago, it was to become an attorney for the Radio Commission but for the past six or seven years he has engaged in private practice, specializing in radio cases. He says there is more money in that than in engaging in practice which requires attendance in court.

He and his family intend leaving Marshfield on Saturday to return to the nation's capital.

F.O.E. Dance To Be Held At Gravelford Saturday

The Coquille Eagles will give another of their popular dances this coming Saturday evening, Aug. 7. This one will be held at Gravelford and everyone is invited to attend and dance to good music.

Greyhound Bus Completely Destroyed By Fire, 16½ Miles From Coquille, Last Evening Shortly After Driver And Forty Passengers Had Been Rescued

A Greyhound bus, totally destroyed by fire in the canyon, seven and one-half miles above Myrtle Point, late yesterday afternoon, is a mass of twisted metal wreckage, on the river side of the highway, but none of the 40 passengers coming this way from Roseburg were seriously hurt, although four are in the Mast Hospital at Myrtle Point this morning receiving treatment for cuts and bruises when the bus rolled over and came to rest in the berry vines with its wheels sticking up at an angle of 45 degrees.

The accident was the result of another truck accident earlier in the afternoon. Wm. Howard Stumbaugh, of Myrtle Point, was driving a truck load of logs up the highway toward Camas Valley and at that point a spring hanger on the truck broke, throwing the truck out of control and it crashed against the bank. The impact caused the log chains to break and logs were scattered all over the highway.

Just at that moment Richie B. Francis, of Marshfield, who was driving out to Medford for induction into the Army, was passing and one of the logs caught the front of his car, badly damaging it, but not injuring the occupants of the car.

Men from the highway crew were endeavoring to get the logs off the highway when the bus from the south came along. The driver, V. O. Danielson, saw a clear spot to drive through by crossing over to the river side of the highway, the obstructing logs were not within three feet of the yellow line on his original half of the pavement and the other half was entirely clear. However, he got out a little too far on the soft shoulder and the bus turned over on its

Grover Gouthier Buried Sunday

Grover C. Gouthier, of the Johnson Mill section and who had been afflicted with heart trouble a week or more previously, passed away at the hospital last Thursday and funeral services were held at Schroeder Bros. Mortuaries here at two o'clock Sunday afternoon. Rev. Chas. G. Brown officiated and the pall bearers who bore the body to rest in the Norway cemetery were Theo. L. Clinton, Noble, Philip and Adrian Stanley, Roy Rhule and John Harding.

Mr. Gouthier was born Jan. 5, 1888, at Petrolia, Calif., and was six months and 24 days past 55 years of age. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gouthier and while a small boy came with them to Fishtrap, where they passed away several years ago. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Goff, was born in a prairie schooner in which her parents came from the east, somewhere in the Oregon territory.

His survivors by his wife, Addie Newton Gouthier; two sisters, Mrs. Elsie Bryant of Miami, Florida, and Mrs. Delia O'Neil, of Mill Valley, Calif., and two brothers, Steven Gouthier, of Eureka, Calif., and Lester Gouthier, who resides in Oregon.

The deceased formerly lived in the McKinley section but in recent years has been a log scaler for Smith Wood-Products, Inc. He was well known all over south Coos county and popular with all who knew him.

The Gurneys Left Here Two Years Ago

The B. W. Gurneys, whose day-old baby was kidnapped from the Albany General Hospital around midnight Monday, were formerly Coquille residents but left here a couple of years ago. They lived on East First street and he was employed in the plywood plant.

No trace of the baby nor the kidnaper has yet been found, according to the latest reports.

Sonotone Clinic At Hotel Here Thursday, Aug. 12

A hearing aid, from Portland, will be at the Coquille Hotel next Thursday, August 12, for a clinic to which anyone who is bothered with hearing is invited to come. He can tell in 20 minutes how much your hearing can be benefited.

side and with its wheels in the air.

R. J. Gouvion, who was on his way to Coquille from Los Angeles to buy a tract of land near Bandon from Geo. E. Oerding, was sitting near the rear of the bus. When it stopped its careening flight and someone got off his head, he helped get passengers out through the holes that had been chopped in the bus body. And he adds gasoline was spraying in all directions from the punctured tanks.

Passengers, many of whom were young people, were loaded into the highway trucks and other passing cars and started for Myrtle Point.

Soren Bus, of the Southwestern Motors here, who had been called to get and bring in the Francis car, said the last of the passengers and the bus driver were just leaving as he arrived and he had not been there more than five minutes when the bus took fire.

The truck driver, Stumbaugh, had left his truck against the bank, waiting for the state police to come and check on his accident before moving his truck, but the fierce blaze of the burning bus compelled him to move it before the officers arrived.

The passengers on the bus who could not escape because the windows and doors were jammed until holes had been cut for their escape, were fearful the whole time that the fire would start, but the conflagration was like a delayed-action bomb and all have reason to thank God that their injuries were no more serious.

Some of the baggage was recovered but some of it was destroyed by the fire.

Report On Local Red Cross Work

Coquille Red Cross held a meeting on Tuesday at 2:00 p. m. in American Legion Hall, presided over by Mrs. Bard Kesner, production chairman, in the absence of Mrs. J. A. Berg, general chairman, who was called out of town very suddenly.

Although the attendance was small new ladies are generously responding and production is increasing steadily. Since July 8, 191 completed articles have been sent to Coos county Red Cross headquarters in Marshfield. This is exclusive of knitting and surgical dressings.

Mrs. Phil Alborn, phone 94J, reports that she has more yarn for knitting toe sox and bed sox; also printed instruction for this work.

Mrs. Kesner, 139 W. Second, phone 163M, will continue to have on hand at her home cut-out materials and samples for home sewing.

There is an urgent need for clean wool that can be cut into 4x4 inch squares for afghans; also for old heavy sports or overcoats for making service men's bedside slippers. Scraps of yarn of any color or weight is also wanted for single crocheting around wool squares.

To those women who do not sew or knit or are working outside their homes, yet desire to help in some manner, material for card or game table covers for service men's centers is suggested. These covers require square 36x36 inches of sateen or other suitable material in fairly dark shades; one-half inch roll of cotton tape and a spool of rayon thread to match the material used. More large safety pins and large-eyed needles are also needed for equipping the sewing kits that are being made.

The Unit wishes to thank Mrs. Ted Bennett and Mrs. Wilson, of Heath St., for offers of ironing boards for the work room it is hoped to have ready soon; also Mrs. Jack Scorbey for a box of wool material promised.

Elwyn Nosler Expected Home This Evening From Oakland

Elwyn Nosler, who was quite seriously burned in the Naval hospital kitchen where he is stationed at Oakland, on July 11, is expected to arrive in Coquille this evening on a leave of indefinite length, for a visit with his wife, who is employed in the county highway shops office; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Nosler, and other relatives here.

Council In Session For An Hour Monday Evening

A short session of the city council was held Monday evening with Mayor Wood and all councilmen, except Dr. G. E. Stark, present.

Coos county, which has title to Lot 11, Block 23, in Elliott's addition, a vacant lot next to the S. D. Pulford home, had previously reported an offer of \$150 for the lot, against which the city has claims for improvement liens. To protect those liens the council had purchased the lot and then sold it to the bidder for \$150 and a resolution adopted authorized the mayor and recorder to execute a quit claim deed for the property.

The appointment of J. O. Beagle as city police officer was confirmed by the council.

The fire department is preparing to have a steel water tank, seven feet long, by 18 by 36 inches, installed on the International fire truck, the Isler Sheet Metal Works offering to furnish and install the tank for \$246.

Rod Creager's request that the parking space between Thornton's Tire Service and the Pacific Feed & Seed Co. store be marked "no parking" was referred to the street committee. The reason for his request is that logging trucks, upward of 50 feet long, can not draw up to the pumps for gas if there is a car parked on that spot.

Mrs. Grace Hall, one of the owners of the Watson House, reported that the sidewalk on the south side of the rooming house was in a dangerous condition and wanted to know if the city could help with a retaining wall to prevent the ground from caving in under the walk. The matter was referred to the city engineer who is to investigate what is needed there and report at the next meeting.

County Budget Hearing August 27

Public hearing on the Coos county budget for the July 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, fiscal year has been set by the county court to be held in the county court room at 10:00 a. m. on Friday, Aug. 27. Any taxpayer may attend the meeting and express his opinion on any item in the budget at that time.

The proposed budget of \$769,199.24 is divided among the following five items—general fund, \$493,245; county school fund, \$77,440; general road fund \$128,814; bridge fund, \$18,200; market road fund \$51,500.

Revenue from all other sources for the year are estimated at \$412,211.19, leaving \$356,988.05 to be raised by taxation. As was stated in these columns three weeks ago, the tax rate for county purposes will be about 14.7 mills.

Three Coquille Homes Sold

Fred Bull this morning reports the changes of three pieces of property in Coquille. One of them, the O. L. Thorp house, at 608 East Ninth, was purchased by his sister, Mrs. Mary B. Cross, who arrived here this morning from Shelton, Wash., to make her home.

Mr. Bull this week completed a deal for the purchase of the E. D. Webb brick house on Hall street, south of the Roxy Theatre, and has sold the home in which he has been living, at 425 North Henry, to Mr. and Mrs. Pribble, who will occupy it.

Good Price Paid For Pen Of Three Rabbits

Herb Wood is going in for rabbits in a big way. Not that he has many as yet but the three pure-bred New Zealand Gold Seal Whites he did purchase have cost him \$56.75 delivered in Coquille. In preparation for the buck and two does with which he is starting his pens, he has built self-cleaning hutches for housing the animals and they are painted white. It is well known that most rabbit diseases originate in filth and Mr. Wood has made sure his stock will not be thus contaminated.

We will watch his rabbit venture, which will include the sale of furs as well as of breeding stock, and possibly meat, with interest.

Chas. Roberts, jailer at the court house sky parlor, left Sunday on a 30-day vacation which he will spend in prospecting on Copper mountain.

Coos & Curry Counties Pioneer Assn. Now Has 128 Members

The Coos and Curry Counties Pioneer Association is planning to start a museum and collection of articles of historical or early Oregon origin, and this was the primary purpose of incorporating and charging a membership fee of \$1.00—to raise funds for meeting expenses.

Those interested in early Oregon history and the collection of museum pieces are urged to hand their names and dollar to either President Chas. Stauff or Secretary Inez R. Chase, without waiting to be approached and solicited for a membership. Mr. Stauff has, however, appointed chairmen in each community to solicit membership. At the present time there are 128 who have responded to the invitation to become members and this number should be doubled or trebled. Since our last issue the following have become members of the association:

Dr. J. R. Bunch, Louise M. Bunch, J. S. Barton, Michael Brewer, Mabel E. Hazard, J. A. Lamb, Lans Leneve, John C. Merchant, J. W. Martin, V. R. McCurdy, Clarence Osika, M. F. Pettit, P. H. Peterson, J. L. Stevens, Mrs. J. L. Stevens, Agnes Schroeder, George Kronenberg, Ned C. Kelly, M. D. Sherrard, S. F. Stevens, O. T. Gant.

A silver pin found in the grove after the annual picnic on July 25 can be secured by applying to either the president or the secretary.

Location For The Museum Is Needed

J. P. Beyers was present Tuesday noon at the Coquille Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting in the hotel Tuesday noon, to talk about the museum which the Coos & Curry Pioneer's Association hopes to get started soon. He has been appointed a committee of one to find a location for such a museum where relics, pictures, etc., from southwestern Oregon can be collected the preserved.

As he suggested, the nicest sort of a building for such a purpose would be a log building back of the Community Building in Myrtle Park, but that idea is out for the duration. Another idea he suggested was that wall cases or cabinets, with glass front doors, be built and placed around the walls of the southeast room in the Community Building, the room that is not yet finished. Such cases would be but 12 or 14 inches deep and there are many items of historical interest in the two counties which could not be put into such cabinets.

Another idea was to rent a room, is a small rental could handle it and use it until suitable quarters could be provided after the war.

The main thing right now is to get the collection of relics started before more of them have been lost and destroyed. As A. G. Beals, who told of the Tillamook museum here last week, said, "The important thing is to get a museum started; it grows rapidly as more people learn of it and see what has been accomplished." He said the Tillamook museum had added about 5,000 items in the past six months.

To assist Mr. Beyers in securing a suitable temporary location for a museum, Pres. Geo. Oerding appointed a committee consisting of O. L. Wood, Phil Alborn and R. L. Stewart.

New State Police Officer On The Job Here Aug. 1

A change in the personnel in the local state police office took place on the first of the month when Kenneth C. Talley was transferred here from Salem. He replaces Paul T. Riensche, who was transferred to the Salem headquarters.

Fees Paid In County Clerk's Office In July

Total fee receipts in County Clerk Oddy's office amounted to \$1,029.30, of which \$463 was for recording, \$368 for circuit court, \$57.50 for county and probate court, \$47 for marriage license and \$89.80 for miscellaneous items.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Hickenbottom were Coquille visitors the past weekend. He was formerly employed in the plant here but they now reside near Creswell in the Willamette valley where they have a 3,000 bird chicken ranch.