

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XXXIX. NO. 44.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1943.

50.00 THE YEAR

Well On Davis Slough Was Down 1500 Feet Sunday

"Better than 1500 feet down" was the report made to J. E. Axtell and the Sentinel scribe, who accompanied him last Sunday on a visit to the well being drilled on the Dobbys acreage, two miles up the Davis Slough road from Highway 101.

More than that was not vouchsafed by any of the men on the job. "It's a tight well" was the statement by those in charge, meaning that any report of oil or gas showings will be made to the Phillips Petroleum Corporation at Bartlesville, Okla., before any news is released for publication.

However, an observation of the site; the sump where the drilled out earth is dumped and the liquid mud which circulates down through the hole up and around and down again, and which can be seen by anyone who cares to visit the well, showed no trace of oil as yet. Nor was there any word from anyone there as to whether gas pockets had been encountered.

Whether the rock capping, through which the bit on the rotary drill has been boring for some distance, is the covering for a subterranean lake of petroleum, can only be surmised. It could be.

It is most probable that by this time the shaft is down more than a quarter of the 6500 feet which the contract calls for, if it is necessary to go that deep.

Everything on the location, the two huge 750 h. p. gas engines, the steel rigging, the concrete base for the derrick, the housing and office buildings, go to prove that this is to be a thorough test, on the Westport Arch, to learn whether the geological formations at the surface, which indicate petroleum, are the real thing or just shadow without substance.

The investment, including the road improvement up the slough, the 6500 feet of casing on the ground, and all the other stuff moved in there the past two weeks, probably runs to quite a little higher figure than the \$100,000 mentioned in these columns last week.

Mr. Ditmore, the head driller, who is on call during any of the three 8-hour shifts a day, spoke quite freely of the operation, but not on any of the taboo subjects.

Mr. Utterback, the geologist on the job, was more reserved in his comments, but gave the impression that he could give an account of what each 100 feet of tailings mean, if he so desired.

No one is denied the privilege of visiting the operation; the road which was used to haul in all the heavy equipment, is in very fair condition, and more and more will Coos county people want to see the beginnings of what may result in the biggest natural resources development ever to occur in Oregon. Coos county cannot show any more interest in the project than many of the other big oil corporations are showing by having representatives in the county at this time.

Plan A V. F. W. Unit In Coquille

A meeting will be held in Union Hall on East Second street starting at 1:00 p. m. Sunday, Nov. 21, and there will be some one there until 7:00 p. m. to interview prospective members, with the intention of forming a Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States unit in Coquille. Comrade McGuffin, of the State Department, will be present and will be glad to answer questions in regard to Veterans' welfare.

All ex-service men will be welcome and the attendance of those who have served in this conflict is especially desired.

Let's Have More Service Men's Items

Everyone is interested in learning where boys in the service are located, what they are doing and when they are able to get home on leave or furlough.

The Sentinel is therefore making a special appeal to any and all parents, or friends, or to the boys themselves, to let the Sentinel know when they are home on a visit, or any item connected with their service life, which would be of interest to the general public.

Baby And Home Lost At Green Acres

Beverly, the 21 months old baby girl of Mr. and Mrs. Fay Ocheltree, was burned to death last Wednesday when their home was destroyed by fire of an unknown origin, at Green Acres, which is just off the highway this side of Delmar.

Mrs. Ocheltree had put Beverly and her baby sister, Sandra in a crib before going up the hill to the mail box on the highway, only about 200 feet from the house, but hidden by the brow of the hill. She had to wait some time for the mail carrier to come along and when she started down and reached her gate, she saw the house was ablaze. Rushing in she just had time to grab Sandra before the flames prevented her going back in.

She immediately phoned for the Marshfield Fire Department and to Mr. Ocheltree, who is employed at the Millington mill, and both arrived at the same time but too late to save anything.

Sandra was brought to the Belle Knife Hospital for treatment of her burns, which were not severe, and she is now recovering nicely.

The funeral services for Beverly were held at the graveside in Masonic cemetery here at two o'clock Friday, under the auspices of Schroeder Bros., with Liston Parrish officiating.

Mrs. Ocheltree, who before her marriage was Winona Brown and attended high school at Myrtle Point, said Tuesday that the sympathy and kindness of their friends, and of others whom she barely knew, was almost overwhelming and that they appreciated it more than they could tell.

Edgar W. Smith Talks To Rotary

Edgar W. Smith, of Portland, member of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, was the guest speaker at the noon meeting of the Rotary Club in the I.O.O.F. dining room on Wednesday.

Taking as his subject, "Education, The War and Peace," Mr. Smith gave an instructive and inspirational talk on the phases of education in the conduct of the war and the part it must take in determining the construction of the peace after the war is won.

Showing a thorough mastery of his subject, Mr. Smith held the close attention of his audience throughout the entire time of his address.

Two new members were introduced by J. Arthur Berg, Kennett Lawrence and Leo J. Cary.

Rotarian guests present were J. E. "Deke" Richmond, of Eugene, H. C. Obie of Grants Pass and John D. Carl, of Myrtle Point.

Other guests were Geo. Oerding, Burton Dunn, Lloyd Claver and Wes Travis, all of Coquille.

Robert Greene, who received some attention last week when he was initiated into the New Fathers' Club, had a birthday of his own this week and received a copy of the Rotary book.

Chas. Oerding Is Back Again On The Pacific Coast

Mrs. Chas. E. Oerding returned from Seattle Tuesday evening after a week's visit with her husband, who recently returned to his work at the Naval Air Station there after completing his six weeks' special training at the Briggs Manufacturing Co. school in Detroit. He is really very proud of his diploma from the school and glad to have had the opportunity to earn it, but more than happy to be back in the Pacific Northwest again. On her return home, Mrs. Oerding spent Monday in Portland with their daughter, Jane.

Union Thanksgiving Services

The annual Union Thanksgiving service of the local churches, as sponsored by the local Ministerial Association, will be held at the Baptist Church on Wednesday, Nov. 24, at 7:30 p. m. Liston Parrish, of the local Church of Christ, will bring the message. This meeting is for all the townspeople, regardless of whether they go to church regularly or not. We all have much to be thankful for.

Thanksgiving Service at Church Of Christ, Scientist, Nov. 25

The annual Thanksgiving service of the Coquille Church of Christ, Scientist, will be held in the church, corner of Third and Hall, at 11 a. m., next Thursday morning, Nov. 25. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Community Building Furnace Has Been Approved

It was announced by Mayor Wood at the council session Monday evening that the League of Oregon Cities will hold its annual regional conference in Coquille on Wednesday, Dec. 1. Last year the meeting was held in Marshfield and there are 13 cities in southwestern Oregon which participate in the conference. The Rebekah lodge will serve a 6:30 dinner for the representatives in Odd Fellows hall.

A letter from City Engineer Gearhart, in regard to the petition for vacation of a portion of Fairview street on Knowlton Heights, stated that the portions asked to be vacated could not be used for street purposes, being on a steep side hill, but that the county owned two or three lots along the street there and that it might object to the vacation. This brought a statement from Councilman Geo. Burr that the petition signers expected to purchase those county-owned lots for what the county had against them for delinquent taxes.

Mr. Burr also reported that the management at the Western Condensing Co. has been doing everything possible to control the ashes and dirt from the plant which were recently complained about, and that a shut-down would occur soon so that remodeling and further improvement of facilities and conditions there could be effected.

The light committee of the council was asked to investigate the need of additional street lighting, to the city limits from the turn of the highway south at the intersection of Front and Hall streets, and was given authority to have them installed if they found additional lights were necessary. The request for the lights was made by Smith plant employees who work on night shifts.

Wayne Smith, representing the Lions Club which organization has in mind the landscaping and beautifying of the space in front of the Community Building, asked the council if a part-time caretaker for the building could be named at once. There are many things about the building, following each dance there, which need to be taken care of, and it was stated that the building was beginning to deteriorate before it had been finished even. Geo. B. Adams was suggested as a good man for the appointment.

Mayor Wood then told the council that the W. P. B. had approved the city's application for a heating plant for the Community Building and stated that the contractor had already ordered the furnace in the east. He has the pipe, fittings, etc., and the installation will be made as soon as the furnace arrives.

Police Chief Creager reported to the council that the old curfew ordinance and amendments were somewhat conflicting in its provisions as to time and City Attorney Berg was requested to investigate and bring in for adoption a clarifying amendment which would give the police ample power to keep youngsters off the streets at night.

Buy Large Tract In Douglas County

Officials of the Smith Wood-Products, Inc.—Ralph L. Smith of Kansas City, Geo. A. Ulett of Coquille, and Fred Ingham, of Seattle—last week purchased 11,000 acres of fir timber in Douglas county, the purchase being of the land and not just the timber. While the purchase was made by them as individuals and not for the company, it shows that Smith Wood-Products is looking ahead to a continuance of their operations in southwestern Oregon.

Chamber of Commerce To Meet In Hotel Next Tuesday

The Coquille Chamber of Commerce, which had postponed its first of the month meeting in November, because there was no place in the city where a group dinner meeting could be held, will hold this month's meeting next Tuesday, Nov. 23, in the hotel Coffee Shop, which is being reopened this week.

Rev. Mark Nickerson, a retired Methodist minister who is nearly 90 years of age, came down from Portland last week to be cared for at the Timmons' Rest Home here. He is the father of Mrs. Pugh at Port Orford.

Coos Bay Merger Defeated Tuesday

As was predicted in these columns a few weeks ago, the city of North Bend took care of the selfish attempt to destroy that city's identity at Tuesday's special election on the consolidation by voting about 6 to 1 against the proposal.

The theory of consolidation of cities, as near one another as North Bend and Marshfield are, is good but the people at the south end of the highway bridge are to be congratulated, in this case, that they could see the private interest which was to be most served by the joining and which was the one that brought the issue up in the first place.

In North Bend the vote stood 1079 for the consolidation to 182 for.

The majority of one against, the resulting 11 to 12 against, in the territory between the two cities which would have been included in the city of Coos Bay had the merger carried, was enough to defeat the consolidation, but there would probably have been found some technicality to overcome that adverse majority of one had North Bend favored the merger.

The vote in Marshfield was 775 for to 184 against, about 5 to 1 in favor.

That the attempt to merge the two cities will come up again some time is a foregone conclusion but it will not be until after war.

Mrs. Menning To Operate Coffee Shop

The Coquille Hotel Coffee Shop, which has been closed for the past few weeks, will be re-opened tomorrow (Friday) morning. It will be operated by Mrs. Gertrude Menning, who recently sold the Town Cafe and who has leased the coffee shop from Mr. and Mrs. Life Compton.

Hal Cardwell, who was chef until recently in the coffee shop, is expected back from San Francisco so that this needed addition to Coquille's public eating houses will be ready to serve meals tomorrow morning.

Wilda M. Van Meter Now In Africa

Private Wilda Mae Van Meter, daughter of Mrs. Eldie A. Dolan of 190 North Beach street, Coquille, and a member of a Women's Army Corps company which arrived at a city in North Africa early in September to work with the Army, has been assigned as a stenographer in a Signal Section.

Private Van Meter, a notary public, has had secretarial and managerial experience in an insurance office. She was a member of the Women's Transportation Corps and a Red Cross First Aid instructor before she joined the WAC last April.

She is the third member of her immediate family to serve in her country's uniform. A brother, Sergeant Charles A. Van Meter, is stationed at Fort Stevens, Oregon, and a second brother, Private John A. Van Meter, is overseas.

Court Of Honor This Evening

A Boy Scout Court of Honor will be held in the Coquille City Hall at 8:00 o'clock tonight.

Advancement in rank and the presentation of merit badges to members of troops 14 and 63 who are ready for advancement will be the principal business of the meeting according to Burton W. Dunn, local school superintendent, who will preside as chairman of the court.

J. E. Axtell Named To Head State Title Ass'n.

Jos. E. Axtell returned Sunday evening from Portland, where he had attended the Oregon Title Association. Mr. Axtell was honored by the state organization of Titlemen by being elected to the office of president of the association for the coming year. The office carries no salary but it does show the high esteem in which Mr. Axtell is held by the men in his line of business over the state.

Pioneer Church To Observe Homecoming Day, Nov. 21

The Homecoming observance of Pioneer Methodist church, with a potluck dinner in Pioneer Hall after the 11 o'clock services will take place this coming Sunday, Nov. 21, as previously announced in letters sent to members of the congregation.

The Grim Reaper Has Called Many Coquille People The Past Week

MRS. F. G. LESLIE

Funeral services are to be held at two o'clock Saturday afternoon, at the Pioneer Methodist church, Rev. Chas. G. Brown officiating, for Mrs. F. G. Leslie, wife of Coquille's city recorder, who passed away at her home here on Beach street at 5:30 Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Leslie had suffered with a heart ailment for the past two or three years but it has only been the past six weeks that her condition became alarming.

Born Hettie-Lenore Wood, March 30, 1870, at Clayton, Illinois, she was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse D. Wood, he being postmaster there for many years.

The family moved to Benkelman, Nebraska, in the 1880's and it was there she met and married F. G. Leslie, Feb. 2, 1893.

Soon thereafter the happy couple moved to Colorado, where they resided at Grand Junction for 12 years, and then after five years in Sacramento they came to Coquille in 1912, where Mr. Leslie was stationed as a grocery salesman before becoming city recorder after the death of John S. Lawrence.

Mrs. Leslie in her early years gave herself to the Lord and has been a noble Christian, one who lived according to the teachings of Jesus Christ for many years. She was a devout member of Pioneer M. E. church here. She was also a member of Beulah Chapter, No. 6, O. E. S., and of the Neighbors of Woodcraft.

Besides her husband she leaves to mourn her passing, her two sons, Earl E. Leslie, of Coquille, and Keith L. Leslie, formerly of Coquille, but now living in Oswego, Ore. He came back here last Friday when advised that the end was near.

Another son, Julian, passed away in 1936.

Also surviving are four grandchildren: Mrs. Barbara Clasterbos, Kay, Keith, Jr. and John Leslie; one great grand son; one brother, Chas. E. Wood, of Hilland Mills, N. Y., and three sisters—Mrs. Clara Sage, of Grand Junction, Colo., Mrs. Ruth Burgin, of Pando, Colo., and Mrs. Estelle Gray, of Glendale, Calif.

The sympathy of the entire community and of all who know them, and who knew the myriad sterling qualities of Mrs. Leslie, goes out in full measure to her surviving loved ones.

Claude Savage Buried Monday

J. C. Savage, publisher of the Coquille Valley Sentinel from 1908 until Jan., 1913, passed away last Thursday morning after an illness of six months, although he had been in poor health for several years.

Interment was in the Odd Fellows cemetery, following the services at the Gano Funeral Home at two o'clock on Monday.

Rev. G. A. Gray officiated at the service, the theme of his discourse being, "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother," and he paid especial tribute to the deceased's daughter, Mrs. Betty Payne, who had remained here while her father was ill and not joining her husband in the east, until this week, because of Mr. Savage's condition.

Pall bearers were old friends of many year's standing—O. C. Sanford, J. S. Barton, J. P. Beyers, Frank Duhney, A. H. Grimes and H. A. Young.

Jay Claude Savage was born in Cass county, Mich., Nov. 5, 1875, the son of George and Laura Ann Sheffield Savage. He came to Oregon in 1892, and not long after the turn of the century came to Coquille, where he was married and purchased the Coquille Valley Sentinel. He published the paper until 1913 when he sold it to Lew A. Cates, who retained ownership for just a year before selling it to H. W. Young, father of the present publishers.

For 15 years he was a printer on the San Francisco Chronicle but returned to Coos county about 18 months ago.

Besides his daughter, Betty, he is survived by two sons, Patrick D., who lives in Portland, and Lieut. Calvin J. Savage, of the U. S. Army; also by a brother, Harry L. Savage, who resides in Florida.

Rain has been a minus quantity for the past week or ten days until this morning.

JOHN EDWARD QUICK

Jonathan Edward Quick, a Coquille valley pioneer who came here 69 years ago, in 1874, with his parents, passed away at his home on Henry street last Thursday morning. He had not been in good health for the past year or two but he was confined to his bed less than two weeks.

The funeral services, with Rev. Menno Rempel officiating, were held at Schroeder Bros.' chapel here at two o'clock Saturday afternoon. At the burial plot in the Masonic cemetery the burial service of the Masonic lodge was read.

John Quick, affectionately known as "Uncle John" by the young people, was born in Kansas, June 19, 1863, and was four months and 22 days past 80 years of age at passing. He had never married but his kind and gentle disposition brought an affection and high regard for him by all who knew him. He dedicated his life to his Creator at an early age and was one of the charter members of the Coquille Emanuel Baptist church. He had been a member of Chadwick Lodge, No. 68, A. F. & A. M. for more than 50 years.

The family, when it came to Oregon, lived on Lampa creek for a time but after he came up the river to Coquille he engaged in the mercantile business from which he retired a few years ago.

His passing is mourned by all who knew him as well as by the members of his surviving family, who are: Mrs. Flora E. Dunne and Mrs. Clara Wheeler, both of Coquille; Mrs. Ida A. Levine, Eureka, Calif.; sisters; Thos. L. Wheeler, of Sweet Home, Ore.; Chas. E. Levine, of Hanford, Wash.; Clyde R. Levine, of Alpine, Ore.; nephews; Mrs. Mary L. Reynolds, of Eureka, Calif., niece, and by two grand nieces and one grand nephew.

Those from out of town who were here for the service Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Levine, Mrs. Mary L. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Levine and son, John; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde R. Levine, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wheeler.

John Quick was a good man, one of God's noblemen, and his sterling and endearing qualities will never be forgotten by those who had the privilege of knowing him. He practiced the religion he professed and was ever ready to do any kind act he could, or help those in distress.

Mrs. Keltner's Body Taken To Arcata

Mrs. Nellie Calista Keltner, mother of Mrs. Hugh MacMahon of this city, passed away here last Friday and the body was sent by Schroeder Bros., on Saturday, to Arcata, Calif., where funeral services were held and interment took place.

Mrs. Keltner was born Oct. 28, 1869, near Grand Rapids, Mich., and was 14 days past 74 years of age. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Grovensteen.

Besides two sisters who reside in the east, she is survived by the following children—Lynn F. Keltner, Manteca, Calif.; Lloyd and Clifford Keltner, Eureka, Calif.; Mrs. John Hayes, Stockton, Calif.; Leo and John Keltner, of Arcata; Wayne Keltner, who is in the service and stationed in Ohio, and Mrs. MacMahon.

Baptist Evangelistic Campaign Revival Meetings Start Sun.

The Rev. Neil J. Barnes, well known minister of the Marshfield Baptist Church, and for his Sunday morning and evening broadcasts, will begin at the local Baptist Church a series of revival meetings on Sunday evening at eight o'clock. Every member of the church is particularly urged to attend and, of course, to all friends and all interested, a most hearty invitation is extended.

Sentinel To Be Published On Wednesday Next Week

Again next Thursday a holiday forces the Sentinel to publish a day early, for the second time this month and correspondents, advertisers and those having news items are requested to bear this fact in mind and let us have their items a day earlier than usual.

Trespass Notices, printed on cloth, for sale at this office.