

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

THE PAPER THAT'S LIKE A LETTER FROM HOME

VOL. XL NO. 13.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1944.

\$2.00 THE YEAR

Charles L. Willey Buried Here Sunday Afternoon

Funeral services were held here last Sunday at 2:30 p. m. for Charles L. Willey, a former Coquille business man who had passed away in Seattle last Thursday evening. Rev. Chas. G. Brown, pastor of the Pioneer church of which Mr. Willey was a member when he resided here, officiated at the services in the Schroeder chapel, and interment was in the family plot in the Masonic cemetery.

Pall bearers for their old friend were L. H. Hazard, R. H. Mast, O. C. Sanford, Harold A. McCue, J. S. Barton and D. L. Cruckshank.

Since leaving Coquille several years ago the deceased had divided his time between the homes of his daughters in Portland. Mrs. Edith Miller and Mrs. Elva Roberts, until he had gone to Seattle a month before, to spend his remaining days with his other daughter, Mrs. June Walker.

Charles Leon Willey was born in Springfield, Illinois, Sept. 9, 1865, and was 78 years, six months and 27 days of age at passing.

On November 26, 1890, he was united in marriage to Miss Ella Pearl Clark in Peoria, Illinois, and after the turn of the century they came to Oregon. Mrs. Willey passed away in Portland in 1937.

Of the six children born to them, one—Mae—was a victim of the East Fork in Brewster valley when she was drowned while swimming in 1914 at the age of 16 years.

Mr. Willey was a plumber by occupation, and conducted a plumbing shop here for many years. He was one of the town's most popular citizens, was well liked by everyone who knew him, was a true Christian gentleman whose faith in his God never wavered. He served one or more terms as a Coquille city councilman.

Mr. Willey, who was born the same year that Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, was a great admirer of the martyred president, and his death at 8:20 last Thursday evening was at the same moment of the day that Lincoln was shot.

Mr. Willey was the last person ever to see the face of Lincoln, 30 years after the latter's death. For some reason it was thought necessary to disinter the body and open the casket and Mr. Willey was the one who sealed it before its final reburial.

He had not been at all well for the past few years and death came as a welcome release from suffering and he was ready to meet his Creator.

George E. Oerding Sells State Police Officer's Home

The home and nearly an acre of land, located on Sanford Heights west of Coquille and owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Stromquist, he being an Oregon State Police officer, was sold by George E. Oerding, a Coquille realtor, to Mr. and Mrs. Vener Johnson, a Coquille logger. The new owner will take possession immediately. The Stromquists have moved to town, having purchased the Tyrrell home on Second street.

Another deal made by Mr. Oerding was the sale of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert James' property, located at 325 E. 8th St., to Elsie Jennings, who bought the property for investment and Mr. and Mrs. James have moved to the apartment in the rear of their Henry street grocery store.

Mrs. H. A. Niergarth Dies In Canada

Mrs. J. R. Bunch has received word from H. A. Niergarth, who left here five or six years ago and has been living in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, since that Mrs. Niergarth passed away there in March. She had been in poor health for some time.

April 18 The Final Day For Registering Before Primary

Those wishing to vote at the Primary election in May, and whose names are not already written on the records in the county clerk's office, are reminded that April 18 is the last date for registering for that election.

March Tax Turnover Made Last Thursday

The tax department last Thursday afternoon turned over to County Treasurer Staff the tax moneys collected during March, a total of \$35,717.83.

Kline Employees Organize For Safety

In line with the trend to conserve man hours in vital production for the war effort, a group of department heads under the sponsorship of Weldon Kline, of Kline Logging Co., held a dinner on April 8 at the Coquille Coffee Shop. The object of the meeting was to outline a program of accident prevention and to promote the idea of "Safety at all Times" in the operation.

Meetings will be held once a month in the future at which times the ideas put forth by the employees and the representatives of each department will be discussed and acted upon. The safety idea will, of course, be pushed at all times.

Mr. Baker, safety engineer for R. F. Owen Co. of Portland, presided and will visit the operation regularly to check on progress and give his ideas, of which he has many, for he is well qualified in his field.

A permanent safety committee was organized by the employees at this meeting. William Earls was elected chairman and N. W. Boles, secretary.

35 At Easter Morning Breakfast

Stan Sherwood inaugurated a custom last Sunday morning which those present all hoped would be continued in the future, that of an Easter morning breakfast.

Mr. Sherwood invited 35 Lions, Rotarians and a few others for a ham and egg breakfast at the Coquille Hotel Coffee Shop and all his invitations were accepted.

Before the group broke up at 10 o'clock Stan had made the statement of his desire to see such a custom started in Coquille and R. A. Jeub had expressed the breakfasters' appreciation and enjoyment of the excellent meal served by the Coffee Shop management.

Musical provided the entertaining feature and with Wayne Smith at the piano and D. E. Backlett leading the singing, except for one, "Home on the Range," led by Dick Connors, the group sang, "Onward Christian Soldiers," and several other appropriate songs, including the one Lloyd Claver suggested for the benefit of Oscar Larson, "Massa's in de Cold, Cold Ground."

New Officers For Rotary Club

Officers elected at a meeting of the new directors last week were announced at the regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club at the hotel on Wednesday.

They are J. S. Barton, president; Robt. L. Greene, vice president, and Hode Caughell was re-elected secretary and treasurer. Tom Stevens was appointed sergeant at arms.

Attention was called to the annual dinner dance to be held at L.O.O.F. hall on Saturday evening, April 22.

Conrad Phillips of the local plywood plant was a guest and told of a sort of a hobby he has been engaged in for the past year or so. His job at the plant is loading the plywood on cars and one day he wrote his name, "Connie" Phillips and address on the inside of one of the cars and soon he began to get letters from various parts of the country, from men assuming that he was a girl.

Since then he has written his name on sheets of plywood and he has received several hundred letters, among them several proposals.

Rotarian guests present were Judge Dal M. King, Al Powrie, R. C. Bowers, Jess Clinton and John D. Carl, all of Myrtle Point.

Other guests were John W. Walker of the state liquor commission at Salem and Lloyd Wood of Seattle.

C. H. S. Senior Class To Present Class Play April 20

The senior class has chosen the play, "Pride and Prejudice," a dramatic comedy, to be presented April 20th.

The play, "Pride and Prejudice," by Jane Kendall, was taken from the book of the same name by our first great woman novelist, Jane Austen. A motion picture has also been made, entitled "Pride and Prejudice."

The Rev. Robt. L. Greene of St. James church will leave for Portland, Sunday, to attend the annual Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church. He will remain in Portland for several days, in order to be with his grandmother who is seriously ill. Mr. Greene will be back on Friday.

Distinguished Flying Cross Awarded To Dick Sherrill

It is probably the universal custom to listen with more or less bored attention to the recital by news broadcasters of men receiving medals and decorations on the various war fronts, names one never heard of before, until suddenly the name of a local boy is mentioned, when interest becomes intense.

Such was our experience last night when the announcer gave the name of "Richard Sherrill of Coquille" as being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Dick is a Marshfield boy, bomber pilot in the Pacific, but his wife, the former Markie Smith, is one of the office force in the Coquille ration office.

The citation, which named several other fliers, read: "For heroism in flight and exceptional and outstanding accomplishment in the face of great danger above and beyond the line of duty."

"These operations consisted of over 50 missions, including dropping supplies and transporting troops to advanced position. These flights involved flying at low altitudes over mountainous terrain under adverse weather conditions in a transport airplane and often necessitated landing within a few miles of enemy bases."

Accident Victim A Zwicker Grandson

Mrs. Fred Zwicker returned last Friday from Portland, where she was called earlier in the week by her daughter, Mrs. Naomi Relling, whose five-year old son was killed by a hit and run driver, last week as he was in a marked crosswalk at Fourth and Sherman streets. The driver, Ross Greer, 45, who lives near Milwaukie, was chased by an officer who finally had to drive his car head-on into hers before she would stop. Her son had dragged the boy for 50 feet before the body dropped to the ground.

She has been charged with six traffic violations, including driving while drunk, and is held in lieu of \$7500 bail.

Mrs. Relling drove down here with her mother and left her two-year old son with his grandmother. The boy's father was killed in Albany 22 months ago when the knife with which he was cutting meat slipped and severed a main artery of his stomach.

34 Inches of Rain Since September 1

The reading of the precipitation gauge at nine o'clock this morning, showed that the rainfall for the preceding 24 hours was .29 of an inch. This makes the total rainfall since last Sept. 1 stand at 34 inches, which is but little more than half the usual annual precipitation for Coos county and there are less than three months left in the probable rainy season.

The fairly large hail stones which fell here Tuesday afternoon were not as large as have been seen locally but they were good size.

At that, Coos county is much better off than the middlewest where cyclones, floods and wind have caused many deaths and much property damage.

Coquille Boys Meet In Asia

In a letter from George Tracy Leach to his uncle, Jack Leach here, the Coquille young man who is with the Army somewhere in Asia, said that he had recently encountered Harry Gisholt, whose home is here, and that the latter is now a master sergeant.

The day they met George Tracy had just received his copy of the Sentinel, but it was a November issue, indicating that he is pretty far back from the coast where mail is slow in reaching them.

Bandon Junior Women To Give Benefit Dance Saturday Evening

The Bandon Junior Women's Club is sponsoring a second benefit dance for the Leep Memorial hospital Saturday evening, April 15, at the Bandon high school gymnasium, to raise the \$77 the club needs to complete the purchase of the \$175 refrigerator they are buying for the hospital. The music will be by Bum Gartin's popular orchestra.

Couldn't Let Well Enough Alone

Patrick James O'Neill, sentenced by Judge King on Feb. 15, for entering and stealing from the Cook Service Station at Four Mile, along with Vern Ralph Kuehl—two boys from Astoria—to three years in the pen and then practically paroled for three months, was taken to the pen on Wednesday by Sheriff Howell, who was accompanied by S. H. Dossted. O'Neill was sentenced again on Tuesday by Judge King to four years in the pen after he had signed a written confession that he had stolen from various offices in the court house.

As he was to be paroled in May, O'Neill had been treated as a trusty around the court house and had helped in the janitor work in the buildings there, and later had been allowed by the sheriff to take a job at the plant, and sleep in the jail.

After numerous pens, pencils and other items had been reported as stolen, Sheriff Howell began looking for O'Neill and found him eating a final meal at a local restaurant, with his bag packed and all ready to leave. As he has done in so many cases the sheriff was able to induce the young fellow to confess and the stolen articles were recovered.

State Officers To Visit Eagles Here

The Coquille Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles will receive a visit from State Trustee Wally Rapps and District Director Roy Ellis at their regular meeting Friday, April 14. The officers of the local Aerie are arranging for a large attendance and urge every Eagle member who can possibly attend to turn out for this meeting to welcome these officers of the State Aerie.

Being the regular monthly social evening of the organization, entertainment is being arranged and a free luncheon prepared for all who are in attendance.

Even Albarn, president of the Lodge, also has announced that Dr. Cykler, of Riverport, will address a joint meeting of the Eagle Lodge and the Ladies Auxiliary at the regular monthly social evening on May 12.

Court of Honor This Evening

A Court of Honor will be held for the Scouts of Coquille at the Washington School auditorium this Thursday evening at eight o'clock. At that time a large number of boys will be presented with badges they have earned in the past two months.

Burton Dunn, chairman of advancement, will be in charge of the meeting and an interesting program has been arranged. An opening ceremony will be conducted by Troop 63 and several members of Troop 14 will present a musical number. Mayor O. L. Wood will address the boys and their guests.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend and a feature of the evening is to be a contest between the two Troops based on the number of parents and guests they have present. The winning Troop is to receive a set of signal flags as a prize.

May Festival Queen Chosen

Winifred Van Fleet was announced at the Coquille High assembly last Friday as being the choice of the student body for Queen of Coquille's Annual May Festival, which will be held in the Community Building next month.

Princesses chosen for the balance of the royal court were Maxine Whereat, Claudia Varney, Louise Butler, Jeanne Boyle, Gwen Rogers and Glenda Richardson.

Three Coquille Patients Doing Well In Mast Hospital

Postmaster M. O. Hawkins will have to be off duty for a couple of weeks or more as Tuesday morning he underwent a hernia operation at the Myrtle Point Hospital, Dr. J. D. Rankin officiating. He was resting very easily after the ordeal, Mrs. Hawkins reported.

Another operation there by Dr. Rankin was a major one for Mrs. R. L. Stewart last Wednesday. She is recovering nicely and can be brought home next week.

Another of the doctor's patients, N. C. Kelley, has been undergoing treatment up there since Thursday evening. He is also improving.

Legion Seeking War II Members

Coquille Post No. 36 had one of its outstanding meetings of the year Monday from the standpoint of new interest suggestions and what might be accomplished if some of the suggestions are put into practice.

The Post's committee on Americanization reports that the program is getting under way but there is still much to be done before results will be noticed. The committee members are scheduled to have a meeting at an early date to decide more definitely what must be done first to show the best results.

The committee in charge of Legion affairs reports that the petitions circulated for the signature of names supporting the passage of the Legion's omnibus bill met with wonderful support from business men and others and the petitions were sent to Washington, D. C., together with telegrams.

The Adjutant was instructed to write to National Headquarters to find the cost per hundred of copies of the National Flag Code, which are to be used in connection with the "Respect to the Flag" campaign being planned.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Commander contact District Vice Commander Stotts, suggesting that the Legion Posts along the coast in the fourth district consolidate on a gigantic radio program over KOOS in connection with the "Respect to our United States Flag" campaign. The object of this program is to make the people in the district more conscious of the American Flag—"Old Glory." It has been noticed on too many occasions that the proper respect has not been shown toward the flag.

It was agreed that the Adjutant be instructed to call a special meeting of Coquille Post No. 36 for the purpose of arranging a ceremony of initiation for the new members of World War II who are joining the Post, and it was suggested that Judge Dal M. King be invited to be guest speaker for the occasion.

William J. B. Head was appointed a member of the committee to contact World War II veterans in regard to joining the Legion. Comrade Head succeeds L. E. Bishop, who has moved away.

The committee to choose the honor student and to present the award is to be composed of Claire Gray, chairman; George Ranson and William Head.

After the house committee made a careful check and report on the Post's arsenal, it was noted that the condition of our guns is very bad; they are rusty and dirty and many of the slings are missing. It was decided that the members present, who would, should take a gun home with them and clean it up and return it on or before the next meeting.

It was suggested that a program of some special interest be presented at each meeting. The details of such a program are to be worked out in the immediate future and put into action.

The old, worn-out members of the Post are hedging. They are very anxious to get into the post as many of the new men from War No. Two as possible and to shift the burden of Post labor over on to younger shoulders, who evidently will do a far better job running the Post than the old fellows are doing.

By Roy C. Morley.

Bob Jarger On SeaBees Publication Staff In Pacific

Two issues of "Shore Lines," a clever paper gotten out by the SeaBees and published on Island X, "somewhere in the Pacific," were received this week by a friend of Bob Jarger from him. Bob is on the editorial staff. His address is 39th Naval Constr. Bn., Fleet Post Office, San Francisco.

Twin Bull Calves Show Up On Fairview Ranch

Mrs. Cortland Ellis, who was in from Fairview on Tuesday, said that she was greatly surprised one day recently when she found one of their cows, which she had not seen for several days, nursing twin bull calves. They had been farming for 18 years and this is the first time twins ever appeared on their ranch.

Mrs. Betty Payne resumed her position in the Gregg Hardware store Monday morning. She returned last Thursday from North Carolina, where she had been with her husband since last November. He expects to be sent overseas in the near future.

Ralph Moore Talks To Woman's Club About Measures

At the regular April meeting of the Coquille Woman's Club held last Tuesday at the Parish Hall the following new officers were elected: president, Mrs. R. E. Boober; first vice president, Mrs. A. J. Moore; second vice president, Mrs. F. A. Robb; recording secretary, Mrs. P. W. Albarn; corresponding secretary, Mrs. John Purkey; and treasurer, Mrs. W. H. Barrow. Installation of the new officers will be at the May luncheon, which will be held at the Coquille Hotel, the date to be announced later. This plan is a change from the original one to hold a potluck luncheon.

Hon. Ralph Moore, of Bandon, state representative from Coos county, addressed members and friends of the club on the subject of legislation. The Bank Stock bill received special attention from the speaker. Mr. Moore is a champion of State Banks, which he believes are closer to the people and helpful in financing small operations, which fact will be of value at the close of the war when small business, through such help, can go on high gear. The National Banks are important in financing large operations and those of proven returns. Double liability for the National Banks was withdrawn in 1929.

Mr. Moore states this amendment should be passed and he believes it would have when it was up before if people had understood. The amendment contains a new clause this time which excepts cases where banks shall have provided security through membership in the federal deposit insurance corporation or other instrumentality. His advice is to vote "yes" on the bill.

It was not the speaker's intention to tell the group how to vote, he said, but added it is the duty of representatives to explain the bills to the people. His talk was most helpful and did much to clarify the many measures. The Burke Wine bill he said was written when a bill of resentment swept the Willamette Valley because of the great number of drunken young men seen standing in public doorways, etc. Briefly, the bill asks that all liquors in excess of 14 per cent alcohol be taken out of the grocery stores and placed in state liquor stores. It will be up to the feeling of the people to decide this, he said.

No recommendation was made on House Bill, No. III, which is an enabling bill and opens the door for a county manager. The Veterans Education Aid Bill is dangerous, as it is now written, because of the clause, "or credited private schools." (Continued on page eight)

Geo. H. Chaney To Seek State Senator Nomination

Geo. H. Chaney, who served as state senator for the 8th district—Coos and Curry counties—prior to the present term of Wm. E. Walsh, last week at Salem filed a petition asking that his name appear on next month's democratic primary ballot for the same office. There being no other candidates in either party it insures that Mr. Walsh and Mr. Chaney will oppose one another again at the November election.

Plans For Play Center Progressing

In answer to inquiries regarding the progress with plans for the Child Care and Play Center, it may be said the survey now contains the names of forty women.

A letter from Sam Lehman, head of the Federal Employment Agency in Marshfield, states the field representative from the Portland office of Federal Works office, will be in Coquille next week. Mr. Lehman's letter, with one from the field representative, and a budget form to be studied to use with an application for establishment of the Center are now in the hands of Mayor Wood.

H. Z. Young, who had been employed in the Coos county highway department since he returned from Seward, Alaska, last August, left Monday for Chattaroy, Wash., just north of Spokane, where he will take over the operation of his father's farm. Mrs. Young, who is secretary in Drs. Richmond & Stark's office, will remain here until the first of June when Mr. Young expects to come down and take her and their child and their household goods up to the farm where he was born and raised.