

Coquille Valley Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON

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Dedicated to the Development of Coquille Valley

An Independent Paper

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George Bundy Wasson

George Bundy Wasson who died Saturday would have been happy, if by some strange vision, he could have known he would die on the hills and near the beaches he loved so well. For it was characteristic of this pioneer American, a member of the KOOS tribe, and a leader of his people, that he would be out in the field in search of new horizons. He passed away while in the company of Dr. Warren Smith, University of Oregon geologist, while they were investigating mineral deposits.

We first met George Wasson nearly two years ago when a twinkling brown-eyed man of vibrant voice and good diction stopped in the office. And we got to know and respect this man who was then continuing a fight for the rights of the Western Indian. Through him, too, we learned much of the history of Southwestern Oregon.

His was a penetrating intelligence and a kindly attitude. Educated at Chemawa and Carlisle, George Wasson's life was one devoted to the land he loved so well.

A New Roseburg Highway

It strikes us that it is high-time to wake up in this end of Coos county and take notice of the talk around Coos Bay on a new highway up and out of Coos Bay to Roseburg. You can stop and visit with most anyone in Coos Bay and learn that the movement to build a new highway on the old wagon road across through Sumner is gaining ground among Coos Bay backers.

According to reliable sources the Hon. Ralph Moore, chairman of the governor's interim highway planning group, is in favor of the proposed route.

The new highway, say Coos Bay citizens, would give the bay the outpourings of the rich Umpqua and Rogue valley area. It would be a natural tie-in with harbor improvements to make Coos Bay a great seaport. And say, they, it would be a fast highway. (As if there weren't enough people in a hurry to get killed by cars.)

We have no fight with Coos Bay—though we think the port is actually half North Bend's—but we do feel that the proposal to construct a new highway at a fabulous cost and to all but abandon the present highway through Myrtle Point and Camas valley is silly and selfish.

The governor's committee could well spend some study on how much it would cost to make a straighter highway on the present road.

It's about time to look around before we wake up and find Coquille and Myrtle Point deadends, for Coos Bay doesn't have pirates for nothing.

A Good Show

The members of the Myrtle Point Saddle club are to be given a big hand for their swell Rodeo and dances the past week-end in Myrtle Point. Unfortunately they had the man-made element of the Coos Bay Pirates' Regatta dates and the rain on Sunday to buck, from all reports the Rodeo came out in the black, and the dances were packed and successful. Many a Coquille citizen found himself tense and excited after the Rodeo, and well-pleased with his money's worth.

Somewhere we heard that the County Court would sell the land around Sunset Beach to a resort operator, if he would come forward, who was well-heeled and would make real improvements. Basking in the sun last week-end—while there was sun—we were struck by the fact that Sunset Beach could well become one of the outstanding resorts on the Oregon coast. There were lots of youngsters in the safe bay, swimming, and many parents on the sands.

The setting aside of surplus to build a new wing to the Hall of Records at the court house is a wise move. A fire could have disastrous and long-reaching effects on every citizen. Besides being cramped, workers are forced to take much longer to accomplish a given task than they would in a newer office.

Dilemmas aren't at all new to most American manufacturers, but hardgoods manufacturers are busy toying with their latest—what to do about the price of steel that goes into cars, refrigerators, stoves, etc. Shall they pass on the boost to the consumer in the face of growing sales resistance, or shall they assume the new steel boost and trim their profits. It appears that a little of each will take place.

Active club members in Southwestern Oregon are pretty proud these days of their records. In Grants Pass the Active club sponsors a big Gladioli celebration that draws thousands of people to that town; at Bandon the Active club is running the Boy Scout work; and in Coquille the Active club maintains a junior gym and is sponsoring the Community Swimming program with nearly a 100 youngsters. For a new club composed of young men, the Activians are really active.

If you have paper . . . don't throw it away . . . call the Fred Bull Insurance office and Boy Scouts will pick it up. The scarcity of newsprint still persists, and you can do a good turn for both the Scouts and for the nation by saving paper.

It has happened again . . . a downtown store employee didn't know where Taylor street was. When will Coquille have marked streets . . . and streets familiar to all its residents?

After riding over a portion of highway 101, the Coast highway, and getting car sick, sitting even in the front seat, we wonder why the highway association encourages travel over this highway.

—From Cottage Grove Sentinel

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, August 5, 1927)

Mrs. John S. Lawrence of this city passed away in Wesley Hospital at Marshfield a little after five o'clock this morning.

The practice of driving automobiles on the beach at Bandon must be discontinued according to an order made by the county court this week.

Unanimous commendation is being expressed this week over the installation of six stop signs in Coquille, and if there are any who object they are not telling it.

Here's a real boost for canary grass. The three carloads of beef cattle—77 head—which H. E. Hess shipped to Portland a week ago topped the market. And it was on a breaking market, too.

Charles Edward Levine and Miss Della Rutledge of Powers were married at the home of his uncle, John E. Quick, Wednesday evening, August 1st; Rev. David E. Baker, Baptist minister, officiating.

The demolition of the Collier building on Front street, next to Bandon's confectionery, leaves another opening through to the railroad on the south side of that street. It was re-

moved at request of the fire department and as a measure of fire hazard reduction.

Assessor J. P. Beyers says that the county cruise of timber which has been going on for the past year will add nearly a million to the assessed valuation of the county and that the new improvements made in the past year and the re-valuations will add nearly a million and a half more.

The quality of lettuce being shipped from Coquille by W. J. Hanna this year is proof that the Coquille valley is well adapted to its culture. At the present time from 75 to 85 crates a day are being shipped out by trucks, all of it going to Willamette, Rogue and Umpqua valley points, and the dealers are all anxious to get it.

Does advertising pay? In hard cash? Any newspaper man, or anyone connected with the advertising game, naturally is convinced that it does. But here is a man who pays the bills for an extensive advertising campaign who is positive that it does. We refer to A. O. Walker of the Coquille Service Station who began a year's advertising campaign of tires a few months ago. In June this year their tire sales were \$1400 more than they were in June last year. This, too, in the face of a slump in the tire business all over the country.

The State Board of Health can not possibly effect an adequate health program of itself, nor does it aspire to. Its duty is to lead and to suggest with sparing use of police power. Its effectiveness depends solely upon the intelligence of the public in recognizing the importance of and giving whole-hearted support to essential health administration. The Board admits past short-comings in administration resulting from an approach as an M. D. rather than an economist. Steps have been taken to insure a practical, sympathetic, scientific administration with intent to help rather than hinder. The public should approve this constructive program and cooperate in enforcement measures designed for the good of all.

Timely Topics

By HON. R. T. MOORE

A characteristic American trait is the irresistible urge to pass a regulatory law when social or moral defect in the body politic needs correcting. Although Americans are listed among the least law-abiding they hold to a child-like faith in the efficacy of statutory law to cure social ills. Blame for the almost inevitable failure of statutes to bring the desired results is usually placed in the current political administration and voters are quick to record disapproval at the polls. Politicians have therefore long resorted to passage of statutory law not with altogether sincere intent to correct but with main intent to quiet dissatisfied voters. The technique is similar to that the bee-hive workers who quiet the bees with smoke in order to safely remove the honey.

This is not intended to indict politicians as such but to point out how they often wisely avoid impulsive, capricious action to gain time for comprehensive study. Much sound constructive regulation in the public interest has come from subsequent amendment to statutes originally designed more for political than for economic purposes. In such cases the interval for testing the law has been invaluable.

A state function that could be classed in the above category is the Oregon State Board of Health. Once a more or less side-issue of state government this department has been thrust into the lime-light of a primary service by the passage of social legislation, federal and state. The vastly increased public responsibility for the care of the disabled and the needy imposes a major tax obligation. The health of the people becomes the serious concern of Oregon's taxpayers. It follows that careful scrutiny of industrial workers' job environment and close attention to public hygiene in and out of the home is now an integral part of modern state government.

Pursuant to the above theory the Board of Health has tried hard to meet its assignments but has run into stiff opposition from those who either misunderstand its function or refuse to concede their individual responsibility for cooperation in establishment of an effective health program. The intimate nature of health matters militates against full cooperation because of the absolute necessity for at least a casual scrutiny of pertinent private affairs. Enforcement is a delicate diplomatic problem that sears the souls of the able personnel in Board of Health. It seems that even the most salutary efforts to be helpful in bringing benefits of healthful practices to all are promptly made targets for abuse and innuendo.

Good health is certainly of greater importance today than ever in our history, from the economic standpoint. The keying-up of industrial production standards forced by high wages and the social security program tends to shorten the industrial life of the worker and to put a premium on ability to remain on the job. Shortening the work-life reduces allowable time-loss due to sickness which the workers can afford to experience if he is to acquire old-age independence for himself and family. To fully rely on our social security program for such sustenance would be to destroy the freedom of the worker and make him serf of the state. The social security must be held to insure rather than sustain old-age subsistence if we are to remain a free people.

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have some responsibility, though it may be done with difficulty. For this reason it is better for those suffering and in ill health to be able to do for themselves and to prepare the food the way they like it and what agrees best with them.

The shut-in should have a telephone for emergency and vital calls.

Also a radio for musical and educational programs, and to keep in touch with happenings given by news reporters.

To have freedom, peace, comfort and privacy is something necessary to human happiness. We are entitled to that.

—Miss Lelia G. Miller.

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