

Coquille Valley Sentinel

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Congressional Antics

For the first time in nearly a hundred years Congress has been called back into session in the summer of an election year. And it was a Democrat who all but had his crying wails in the ring with him, President Harry Truman who did it this time.

This week may be the start of congressional antics that will make front page news in every land, and needless to say, in the land of the Soviet Bear. If the news is that of bickering, partisan politics, and stupid childishness, then it will be a poor kind of news to make.

President Truman has decided on his attack, and it is a direct front one. He would place the burden of inflation in the laps of Congress, feeling quite sure that Congress can do nothing about it.

The Democrats are basing their 1948 campaign on full employment, prosperity, lots of money flowing in the land. To be elected this fall, they must maintain the status quo. On the other hand, the Republicans would not be too unhappy if a minor recession should settle in this summer and later fall. It would give them an added strength in their fight for the spoils of victory.

Those of us who heard Harry Truman being shouted on at the Democratic national convention by the "Pour it on, Harry," were surprised at the new President Truman who was out there slugging, and seemingly having the time of his life. It was a new role for the former senator from Missouri who had been a gentle sort of a president before his hecklers started sending him back home.

The people of this great country hope that Congress will conduct itself with dignity this season. That they will sincerely study present problems of which there are many.

Our role in world politics is just as much at stake in Congress today as in Berlin with the state department.

What, No Water

"It does me little good," the gentle little old lady said today as she brought in a nice bouquet of gladiolus, "to have a green thumb." One of the old-timers in Coquille, this gentle gardener had been noted in the years past for her lovely flowers and for her prolific garden of vegetables.

And the reason she was unhappy was the fact that this summer again, the water shortage in the city was forcing her to see her flowers and garden dry up.

Coquille verging on the 5,000 population mark is in the strange position of being a growing city in a developing Northwest yet at the same time persisting in being a city without adequate water reserves to carry its population through the summer months without hardship.

Coquille which is the logical hub of a great timber and agricultural area is in the spot to enjoy steady growth of new industries. Yet, it is also discouraging the new industries by being unable to make any definite prom-

ises of when and how there might be adequate water reserves in the next year or the year after that.

Coquille with an active Chamber of Commerce which is wholeheartedly backed by the majority of businessmen is in the strange position of enticing industries to Coquille and inviting newcomers, yet not being able to give them green lawns, green gardens, and lots of nice cold water to drink.

It is our firm belief that definite planning now, not next year, could show the citizens of Coquille what has to be done to get lots of water here for Coquille. Definite planning could set costs, paint the picture. With bonding issues coming up for all types of state, county, municipal, school projects, Coquille can ill afford to be left high and dry—without adequate water.

The Younger Generation

Every conscientious parent will want to vote in favor of the serial bond levy of District 8-C at Washington grammar school on Friday, August 6th when a new elementary building of six rooms will be at stake.

The serial levy which we regard as a sensible arrangement would provide for \$45,000 a year for three years to finance the modern small building. Site of construction would be the present land owned in the high school football field tract. The building would be modern in every respect. And it would be the first step of a series of units which in time would constitute a modern high school building.

With present costs what they are, we think the school board has done a good job of planning on how to solve the problem of overcrowding that is present right now in the Washington and Lincoln schools.

And the situation will not get any better. The school census taken in Coquille last fall went beyond the required ages down to the infant class and found that for the next six years at least, Coquille's schools can expect a growing influx of first graders. This means that more room must be made to accommodate the six year olds, and even today there is not enough room.

We feel that the \$135,000 three year levy is a reasonable demand from the Coquille citizens. We feel that the need is evident, and that in the view of higher costs for building next year, now is the time to go ahead.

Congratulations are in order to a lot of parents in Coquille. Those parents getting the congratulations are the fathers and mothers of the Coquille Junior Legion baseball players. We've never seen a cleaner, healthier, happier lot of ball players in our life than we did last Saturday, and any guy who says the younger generation is getting soft is nuts. Coquille's Junior Legion are a darn sight better than we ever were in our generation.

Inflation is still evident and heavy shopping days in the Northwest shows that a lot of people are secretly worried about higher prices. Whatever buyers' strike that occurred for a while, it is now gone. Credit is high on the list of stores, but the people are comparatively solvent and no danger signals appear in sight. Coquille had one of its heaviest retail sales days in history on Saturday, believe it or not.

Bluebacks are in the Coquille, but try to get them. They just aren't taking anything, and no less an authority than Jack Bowen so says. He tried. Anyway a sure sign of the coming fall to us has become the Bluebacks of the Coquille and the put-put of boats in a balmy evening.

It's an odd fact that people will kick about the price of a car, but yet go out and pay a gray-market price of many hundred dollars over what the dealer is selling a new car for. Fords command a thousand dollars premium for re-sale while other cars are also higher on the second hand lot. To our mind the actions of the automobile manufacturers in not boosting prices to what the market is willing to pay is a refutation that big business is gouging. And the record of most car dealers in delivering to bona fide customers and not used-car dealers is a fine tribute to the ethics of one of America's greatest economic forces.

In Houston, Texas, patrons of a supermarket can sit in an easy chair and pluck their groceries from a moving belt, all the while listening to soft music and sipping an ice cold drink. Things are getting tough all over.

In the Coquille valley from Johnson's mill down below Parkersburg.

Lynn A. Parr, superintendent of Coquille schools, informed the Chamber of Commerce members that he had been in conference with McKinley residents the past week, and found a desire there to join Coquille in a union high school district.

Ralph L. Smith, of Kansas City, one of the most prominent lumber brokers in the middle west, was a Coquille visitor yesterday. He is a purchaser of lumber from the Oerding mill here. The Oerding mill is now running two shifts with a crew of twelve men on the night shift.

The State Fish commission tank truck arrived here at five o'clock Wednesday morning with 20,000 Eastern brook trout. Three thousand of them were taken by Bert Gould to the East Fork, above the Kanu Klub grounds for planting, and 17,000 were placed in the river here. The fry were three-inch



fish and were brought from the hatchery on Roaring river, east of Albany.

The state highway department's magnet for cleaning Oregon highways of metal stopped a few moments in Coquille Tuesday morning and was inspected by a curious crowd. This truck has been in use since the first of April and 75 pounds is the heaviest load it has picked up in two hours.

There were 17 present for the open Chamber of Commerce meeting at the hotel Wednesday evening and many matters were discussed. One of them was the matter of a resolution to the State Highway commission asking that the \$3,000,000 of authorized bonds for the completion of the Roosevelt Highway be issued at once. J. E. Norton spoke in favor of the resolution, declaring that the governor and members of the highway commission had pledged themselves to the early completion of the coast road. Other main highways, started since the Roosevelt, are now finished, oiled and in perfect shape, while along the coast we are still waiting. Another matter discussed was the Land Settlement program of the state chamber. Lyman Carrier requested local assistance in getting land and farms listed for sale, especially those partially developed or not at all.

4th Opportunity Days Set Aug. 21

The 4th Opportunity Days Saturday featuring the best specials in Coos county will be held on Saturday, August 21, it was announced today by Fred Lorenz, chairman of the Retail Trades committee.

Response to Coquille's Opportunity Days promotion has been favorable with many people taking advantage of the 64 participating merchants' specials.

A free Saturday afternoon movie is shown every Saturday for the children of the area at the Liberty theatre. Tickets are available at every participating store.

News Views

By DAVE BIEGGER

Supersonic flight is almost as fascinating as a photograph of yourself, but it's still got more rough spots than a gherkin. For instance, pilots are concerned about how they're going to bail out of a crate going faster than the speed of sound. If they just leap, as they would from a regular plane, the wind-impact would be tougher than riding a buzz saw. Test pilots are talking about a sealed safety chamber which lifts right out of the plane, and let's them parachute down as undisturbed as a lollipop in cellophane. In the midst of inflation it's interesting to hear of someone who is concerned with coming down.

J. W. Steele in Mexico City was offered a job as sales manager in Guatemala... selling skis, snowshoes and sleds. And you think you've got a tough job! Personally we'd rather stick to the job we do best and enjoy doing. That's taking care of YOU at the BIEGGER FURNITURE COMPANY, 460 West Front Street, where you get "Only the Best." Stop in and see our fine line of Montes living room furniture. Phone 262.

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Coquille

PARAGRAPHS OF THE PAST

From The Sentinel Files of 20 Years Ago

(Taken from The Sentinel of hours for irrigation can be allowed.
Friday, July 27, 1928)

Dissatisfaction has been expressed in Coos county the past week with the mail schedule.

Z. G. Pauze entered upon his duties as manager of Brunn's shoe store here last Saturday morning.

J. E. Quick is advertising a close-out sale of his stock of furniture, hardware, etc. Mr. Quick hopes to dispose of his entire stock and quit business.

Sprinkling hours were fixed as between 5 and 8 p. m. this week. With the dry season more than half gone and a plentiful supply in the lake at the head of Rink creek it was decided that longer

Four Boy Scouts, Frederick Fuhrman, Tom Stevens, Donald Farr and John Unsoeld, left this morning to attend a camping trip at the Three Sisters camp.

Additions to the Coquille schools teaching force are W. E. Thompson, Wade Arstall, Miss Laneta Carpenter, Mrs. Florence Ferguson and Miss Patricia Buckley.

There have recently come to the attention of the State Board of Health several cases of undulant fever, a disease hitherto, or at least unrecognized, in this state.

Gene M. Simpson, superintendent of state game farms, arrived with a truck load of 400 Chinese pheasants which were liberated