

Coquille Valley Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON AUGUST 19, 1948.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
1948
Active Member

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON'S LARGEST WEEKLY

An Independent Paper Dedicated to the
Development of Southwestern Oregon

Entered at the post office at Coquille, Oregon,
as 2nd-class matter under Act of Congress of
March 3, 1879.

Ralph P. Stuller M. D. Grimes
Publishers

Ralph P. Stuller Editor
W. C. Pritchard Advertising Manager
Ellen Nesbitt Society Editor
W. H. Ortmann Mechanical Supt.
M. D. Grimes Linotype Operator
Leo Call Pressman

Member
OREGON NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

It Can Be Done

Coquille will have nearly five miles of new modern four-lane highway come the fall of 1949. That's the gist of the letting of bids on the most dangerous stretch of the Coquille-Coos Bay highway last Tuesday in Portland. This should allay the spirit of depression that settled over many an old timer who told us that it couldn't be done. They even questioned the fact that Ben Chandler of Coos Bay would help much.

But it has been done. Credit for the fight which has resulted in the new highway project rightfully goes to Ben Chandler, Ralph T. Moore, Harrison "Red" Hornish of the Coos Bay Times, and to George Burr, Clarence Osika, and others of Coquille who all led a fight to keep the highway question a hot one.

They're Champions

Baseball came back this year, and with its coming to Coquille brought a Southwestern Oregon championship to the city. Coached by Bill Fortier, pioneer veteran of baseball, the Coquille nine this year showed an increasingly large number of fans that baseball was a long way from being dead.

Top form was shown in practically all the games by the local nine.

We compliment the Coquille Loggers, Bill Fortier, and Bill's able assistant, Jess Barton, on the reviving of a grand old American sport for Coquille.

Magic Crystal Gazing

The old game of looking into the crystal ball and coming out with predictions of things to come is on again. As recently as Monday morning, the Oregonian's economic "Monday morning blues crying columnist" said businessmen across the nation were depressed, that inventories were piling up, that warehouses were getting full, and that profits were shrinking.

We seem to remember that just about a year ago the same man, the same place, and the same story was being written.

And it had a lot of influence on keeping many merchants from big purchases. Those who were cautious found out that when the replacement time came they were paying much more in early 1948, than they would have paid in late 1947.

This time we wonder what will happen. If straws in the wind can be studied, and some people feel that they can, it certainly appears that the mounting inflation is steadily killing off some of the goslings of the golden geese. There is a steady but almost imperceptible group of Americans being priced out of the market on the higher cost, luxury items.

A minor sort of depression has hit the emporiums of fur coats, \$1,000 bedroom sets, cocktail lounges, race tracks, and vacation resorts.

Facts and figures show that countrywide,

tourists are sleeping in forest camps, using cheaper motels, pricing hotel rooms before stopping, and checking their restaurant menus carefully.

A \$2.50 steak in Tulsa is rejected in favor of a \$1.35 ground round. Twenty dollar sport shirts are given the go-by for a \$2.50 striped T shirt.

Used cars in the East and Middle West are not moving at the high prices they were two months ago.

There may be something to the murky clouds that shadow the crystal ball. However, it's not as bad as it looks.

Prices shot to too high a peak. And if you subscribe to the favorite Americanism of "free enterprise, uncontrolled, unchecked, unfettered" then you should be happy. You got your OPA off. Prices left wages far behind. You got your wage ceilings lifted. Wages took a boom, and prices were raised again. As long as there was a demand for any and all kinds of goods, prices were kept high.

Now we are seeing a gradual reduction by many of the major companies, in the prices on their items. It will continue to reflect this tendency. Nationally famous companies and manufacturers are designing their products for both utility and beauty. And they are in the market to sell.

There still exists a healthy demand in the nation. Given a fair value for the dollar, the American people will continue to buy.

The only "wolf" you hear of is that of the diminishing of the "law of scarcity" which America capital has been hopefully guarding. Unless a war should come, America will find itself settling onto an even keel of healthy economic conditions. Don't sell the future short. You're nuts if you expected a boom forever.

Our Friendly Butcher

There's no more kindly gentleman for the most part than the man who cuts you off a good and tasty steak—when you have the price and the inclination to pay it. And in this time of telephone boycotts by the smart set of junior matrons, we hasten to his side and say, "Pal, we're right there with you."

Meatless weeks, boycotts on butchers, and telephone calls are no more than the excitable whimsies of a lot of nice gals who whether it's forming a new PTA or conducting a bond drive, have to have something to give them a good cause.

And just why they picked on the hapless butcher is more than we can tell you.

Meat is high but the government aids the high price. T-bones are dear, but haven't they always been whether it's a Roosevelt dollar or a Truman dollar? And there are more than sirloins and t-bones on a beef. You might try ox-tail, brisket, the neck, or some of the other pieces that don't cost up near the dollar mark.

We're glad that there's no particular boycotting of the butcher in Coquille, for he's a good guy, and he's no different than the man who sells you shingles, a shirt, or a piece of furniture. He buys, he has to sell at a fair profit.

The high cost of meat is the high cost of living in a boom.

No one can help but feel the misty warmth these mornings that presage fall and the coming of duck and deer season.

How popular fishing news is was demonstrated last week when an irate angler informed us that the reason he didn't catch any salmon was because The Sentinel had failed to tell him where to go when we inadvertently left out the fishing news last week. We think it's a new kind of excuse, but we're flattered anyway.

Some people still insist on calling the Coos county fair, the Myrtle Point fair, which it really isn't. You'll be surprised at the number of exhibits down there this year. Plan to attend.

Progress continues to mark Coquille and newcomers are impressed by the signs of building.

Projected plans of the Riverside Lumber company to build nine new houses for re-sale may do much toward easing the housing shortage.

uel Robinson who settled on Fishtrap in 1873, six miles out from Coquille.

Guy Kelley suffered a badly crushed foot and ankle at Camp No. 3 Wednesday afternoon.

Refrigerator, cold storage, counters, etc., are being installed by Marc Shelley in the middle room of the new Shelley building where he will next week open an up-to-date butcher shop.

Mrs. J. W. McGuffin returned to Coquille Tuesday, having sold her restaurant, Ma's Kitchen, in Bandon, to Mrs. Grace Donaldson, of this city.

Last Saturday morning at 10:30, Miss Jessie May DeLong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. DeLong of this city, was united in marriage to Jeremiah J. Geaney at the home of Father LeMiller, in Bandon. Miss Myrtle DeLong, the bride's sister, and Charles Cunningham of this city were the witnesses of the happy event.

LOW MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE !



Employment Picture Good During July

Industry separation rates are up over 10 per cent. In-migration continuing high, and increased demand for labor from both new and established employers combined to create a favorable market for job hunters during the month of July.

More job openings were on file than at any previous time this year, with a sizeable number yet to be filled on August 1. Four hundred and twenty-six applicants were referred to these openings, with a placement percentage of 82 per cent. Unemployment of veterans was reduced, with the referral of 177. Agricultural placements were 11, most on dairy farms in the immediate vicinity.

The number applying for work declined as a total, although the percentage of women applicants rose steadily—the result of both layoffs in seafood processing plants, and newcomers seeking jobs to supplement the family income.

The logging and sawmilling industries continued to absorb the majority of placements in the manufacturing field, with the demand for construction workers in private and commercial building reaching new heights. The latter, together with the retail and wholesale trades, contributed the largest amount of increase in the rise of total employment among local firms.

Unemployment, in line with the trend, fell to a low for the year of

an estimated 280. If openings could be developed for the 160 women represented in the above total, the remaining figure would represent the basic unemployment of this area, composed of "fringe" workers, unemployables, and that part of the population between jobs as a result of normal turnover.

Unemployment outlook for the future depends on continued employment opportunity. The ever-present shortage of dwellings detracts from the possibility of bringing workers in from other parts of the state, while present floating population is not conducive to employment stability.

Lions To Talk Stand

The school board voted to allow the Lions club to discuss the proposition of placing the Lion-burger stand on the football field at the high school with the high school student body.

To Visit Relatives—Dave Douglas and Herb West left Monday to visit relatives in Eugene.

News Views



By DAVE BIEGGER

For years, the Vice-President has been as inconspicuous as dandruff on a sheep dog, but suddenly the job is getting more attention than Adolph Menjou's moustache. His Washington home has always been wherever he hung his hat, but now there's a movement on foot to provide him with a 2½ million dollar cottage, a White House, "junior grade." Maybe the figure's high, but it seems our V-P should rate more than he has in the past. Any good team gives the second string plenty of experience before it gets into the game. The Vice-President ought to be the second most important man in the United States, and not just a question on a quiz program.

Our hats are off to the cooks and all the committees of the Elks Summer Picnic who prepared dinner for nearly 2,000 Elks and their families. They did a lot of work, and got some glory, but not nearly enough for all the work they did. Everything was good . . . and plenty of it for the first 1650 which was many more than ordinarily attend such an affair.

In Paris, Henri Beauderoux was fined \$3,000,000 for selling lipsticks to Germans during the occupation. I suppose he was caught red-handed. You can keep your budget "out of the red" by patronizing the BIEGGER FURNITURE COMPANY, 460 West Front Street! For those students who will be starting to colleges soon, we've a fine selection of Multnomah Luggage, in all sizes. Come in and choose what you need . . . you'll always get Bigger Values at Biegger's! Phone: 262.

ELECTRICITY

The Underwriter

by
EARL CARROLL

Electricity daily performs for us a thousand chores; it lights our homes, operates flat irons, toasters, washing-machines and many other appliances; it operates motors of every description; it makes possible the telephone, the radio, the X-Ray, even the automobile. All this is done without danger to the user, and accordingly electricity is accepted as a commonplace utility. Yet this same force can cause fires; it can kill people and destroy property. It does its work safely only because in our homes and in industry it is under control.

The thousands of different electrical parts and devices in use today are not made exactly the way hundreds of different manufacturers think they should be made, they are not installed in any fashion that workmen in different localities may wish to install them. They are made to measure up to entirely definite minimum standards, and installed in a fashion which is quite uniform throughout all states, and which experience has proved safe and practical.

All this did not just happen that way. Merchants with a reputation to protect will sell only merchandise which is "Approved by Underwriters," which guarantees that the quality is up to the minimum set up by the Underwriters. The Underwriters are a set of laboratories supported jointly by manufacturers, insurance companies, and other interested parties. Manufacturers submit samples of their products to the Underwriters and if they come up to the minimum required, the merchandise is then "Listed by Underwriters" or "Approved by Underwriters." Thereafter the Underwriters test regularly sample secured from factories as well as bought in stores, and as long as the merchandise continues to come up to the minimum standards, it continues to be approved.

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Coquille

PARAGRAPHS OF THE PAST

From The Sentinel Files of 20 Years Ago

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, August 17, 1928)

The water committee of the city council has this week secured an option on a one acre tract from Mrs. Hattie Bledsoe where it is planned to sink a test hole for water. If water is secured the city will purchase the land.

Arthur W. Powell was arrested by prohibition officers Wednesday morning for making moonshine on a ranch three miles southeast of Bandon. He was caught in the act while his companion, Fred Crooks, was asleep at the entrance to the pit. When taken before Justice F. L. Young of Bandon Powell was fined \$1200 and sentenced to six months in jail for possession of a still, and \$500 and three months

for possession of mash. Crooks got a meager \$750 and three months for still possession, and \$500 and three months for mash possession. In fifteen days this month the officers have captured nine stills. The captured "shine was a much larger quantity than the officers usually find around a still.

The Coquille Volunteer Fire Department has plans made for the first street dance to be held in Coquille this year. It will be given Saturday of next week, Aug. 25.

There were 150 relatives present at the fourteenth annual reunion of the Robinson family at the old home place on Fishtrap last Sunday, besides 35 who were unable to be there in person. They were the descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Sam-