

Coquille Valley Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON. JUNE 21, 1931.



Subscription Price \$3.00 Per Year in Coos County; \$4.00 Outside County.

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

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Be Alive On The Fifth!

(From National Safety Council)

Independence comes high. Many Americans bought it with the price of their lives in the Revolution and many more have died

since to preserve it. It is written into the American people.

Americans will never question the value of independence, but it is time for all of us to weigh the price we pay each year to celebrate it.

Last year, when the Fourth of July provided a four-day week end holiday for many persons, the accident death toll hit an all-time high of 793. Traffic accidents alone took 491 lives. Other miscellaneous accidents, such as drowning and fire, claimed 302.

The calendar will save lives this year, since the Fourth falls in mid-week, bringing only a one-day holiday for most persons. But even so this annual celebration of our national independence will bring tragedy and death to many Americans.

The traffic accident death toll already is up ten per cent this year. Add to that the heavy travel and recreational activity of a holiday and the Fourth remains on the nation's danger day list.

Since the invention of the automobile, the number of Americans killed in traffic accidents is nearly twice the number of patriots killed in all the nation's wars.

The Constitution guarantees every man liberty and independence. In America no one questions anyone's right to go wherever he please to celebrate Independence day, or any other holiday, but level-headed Americans are questioning the right of a minority to endanger the lives of the majority.

The police alone cannot curb accidents without the wholehearted support of the nation's motorists—the very people whose lives are at stake.

There is much talk today about preserving the American way of life. If we are to preserve American lives we must set up voluntary controls over carelessness.

public opinion against its foreign and domestic policies—against the public resentment over the firing of General MacArthur. The back-fire consists of something they call the "China Lobby." There might be such an organization. If so, it is supposed, according to administration spokesmen, to have used sinister or other influence in behalf of Nationalist China. If there is such an outfit I have never heard of it except from administration sources, and it surely has been a complete flop in its activities judging from the present pitiful condition of the Nationalist government.

Referring to the so-called China Lobby the following was stated by one of the back-fire builders: "It is alleged that from 1946 to 1949 the Central News Agency, a wholly owned instrument of the Nationalist Government, spent in the neighborhood of \$654,000,000 to influence American public opinion."

Now just think how absurd that statement is. The sum six hundred and fifty million dollars equals many times the total amount expended by all the news agencies in America which operate on a complete nation-wide basis. I mean several times more than the combined cost of operating the United Press, Associated Press, International News, Trans-radio Press, etc.

Well, enough on the subject of back-fires but it is my guess that when you hear or read about something called the China Lobby, that's what it is, a back-fire—set for the purpose of slowing down the big blaze of public opinion which is about to consume the administration people.

The final draft of nearly every important piece of legislation is written in that way. Inasmuch as the conference is limited to the principles contained in either the House bill or the Senate bill or both, it is usual practice for both Houses to accept a conference report.

The final or conference draft of the UMT-Draft bill is basically the House bill rather than the Senate bill. The House version of the most important features of the bill was accepted by the Senate. Perhaps the two most controversial and most discussed details of the two bills was the draft age limit and the method of starting UMT. The House 18½ age limit for selections was approved as was the House procedure for establishing a commission to work out the details of a UMT plan.

It should be noted that this legislation does not actually set up a system of UMT. It merely provides for the establishment of such a program. The Congress must act once more—on the report of the UMT commission—before any training program is started.

The people of Gold Beach and the lower Rogue river country recently sent a group of very able representatives back here to Washington to appear before the Board of Army Engineers in behalf of the proposed harbor development at Gold Beach. The delegation was headed by Earl Foster of Gold Beach and included the able and distinguished attorney John C. Kendall of Portland (former circuit judge for Coos county), and engineering consultant Don Gurnee. I attended the hearing and was greatly impressed by the excellence of the presentation—both oral and written. It seemed to me the Board could not fail to approve the project after hearing and reading such overwhelming evidence of need and benefits. For example, it was shown that the government itself will lose more than half the entire cost of the project every ten years by not harvesting the allowable cuts on its timber acreage. That timber, if not used, will simply rot back into the soil. Little or no harvesting of Forest Service timber is being done now because of the lack of transportation. The Board will give a decision on the project at its July meeting.

It takes a long time to get such a project to the construction stage. In 1948 the first hearing was held on this project. The District Engineer made a favorable report in 1949 which was approved by the Division Engineer and sent to Washington for Board approval. The Board made a study and came up with the statement that it was "unconvinced." Hence the hearing was called. Next step will be authorization of the project by Congress. After that it will be eligible for appropriations. All of these steps take a lot of time, but if the Board of Army Engineers gives its approval I think we will eventually have a small but exceedingly valuable harbor at Gold Beach.

The appropriations bill carrying funds for work on rivers and harbors was passed by the House. Although the total requested by the Bureau of the Budget was cut more than twenty per cent, the funds allowed for work on the two big dams in the Willamette Valley flood control project—Detroit and Lookout Point—totalled \$15,000,000 each, which will allow work on both those important dams to proceed toward completion for the earliest flood protection and production of much needed power in the Willamette Valley.

The bill which is generally referred to as the Universal Military Training and Selective Service bill has been finally approved. The last action in the long legislative procedure of making a law is the approval of the report of House and Senate conferees.

A bill is often drastically amended by one House after it has been passed by the other. A conference committee composed of ranking members from the proper legislative committees of both House and Senate meets and adjusts the differences between the two bodies.

VISITING IN CITY

FROM WASHINGTON HOME

Mrs. W. E. Tice and two daughters, Judy and Sally, are visiting in Coquille at the home of Mrs. Tice's mother, Mrs. Zoe Fugelson on Sanford Heights. Mrs. Tice who lives in Pe Ell, Wn., will spend two weeks here.

ALBORN VISITS HERE

Mr. and Mrs. Evan Alborn were visitors to Coquille this week on their way back to California. They have been in Newport where Mr. Alborn will return to build two houses, one for himself and one for his son Phil who is in the Oregon State police at Newport.

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PARAGRAPHS OF THE PAST

From The Sentinel Files of 20 Years Ago

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, June 19, 1931)

The fifth annual flower show sponsored by the Coquille Flower Lovers club was held in the Community building last Friday. Mayor Berg opened the show. He spoke of the disappointment it was to the city council that the people did not use the city water to keep their lawns and parkings green. He told of the gallons of surplus water and said the average family did not use the minimum of 40000 gallons allowed them for \$1.50. Mrs. J. H. McCloskey was high score winner of the show, carrying off 16 ribbons.

Coos county, like all other counties in the state, is going to be hit by the law passed by the last legislature requiring that payment of \$40 per month be made to the state for insane and feeble-minded persons sent to the asylums and \$60 per month for those going to the tubercular hospitals. Relatives are required to meet the bills if possible.

Oiling of the highway between Riverton and Bandon started this morning and, with fair weather, will be completed in twenty days.

The largest attendance at a school meeting of Coquille District No. 8 in a decade was that at the high school Monday evening when 228 votes were recorded for director to serve a three-year term. Lyman Carrier received 145 and his nearest contestant 82. For clerk Keith Leslie won out in a field of four. A showing of hands showed the meeting as overwhelming

ly in favor of the employment of a music teacher. In a talk before the election Chris Terres expressed the opinion that the taxpayers should be given as much consideration as the children. Mr. Carrier stated that it was expected to have the district on a cash basis in 1933. District Clerk H. S. Norton reported the census for the district showed 429 boys and 435 girls.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Daily of spending their honeymoon here the past week. Mrs. Daily was formerly Miss Agnes Whetstone for many years an employee at the local telephone exchange.

Paul McElwaine of the Southwestern Motors, returned Wednesday from Portland where he attended a meeting of the Oregon Chevrolet dealers. The reports for Chevrolet sales in Oregon showed an increase of 15 per cent over last year.

Coquille students returning home from college the past week were Barbara Richmond, Gertrude Mehl, Clarence Barton, Virginia Miller, Jean Young, Gretchen Mehl and Pauline Ellingsen.

St. James' Episcopal church was the scene of a very pretty wedding Monday morning when Miss Adrienne Hazard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Hazard, became the bride of Frederick Morrison Sercombe, of Portland. Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner, assisted by Rev. W. E. Couper of Marshfield, performed the ceremony. Mrs. Luckey L. Bonney was matron of honor.

Letter To The Editor

Gentlemen, Please accept the thanks of the Coquille Soroptimist club for your valuable assistance during our 1930-31 club year.

We especially appreciate the fine publicity for the March of Dimes, for which our president, Mae Barton, was county chairman.

I also want to say a word of praise for Ellen Nesbitt, who is also so nice, so appreciative and so accurate. Many thanks.

Clara A. Stauff, Publicity chairman.



BY HON. HARRIS ELLSWORTH

In our heavily wooded country there is a method of fighting forest fires which is sometimes used in desperation. It is called "back-firing." Fires are not only fanned by the wind but generates their own wind which speeds them along. The back-fire technique is to go into the green timber a quarter of a mile or so ahead of the running fire and set a series of small fires across the path. When the big blaze reaches the line of small fires its momentum may be broken and the fire brought under control. If the back-fire plan fails to work and the fire sweeps on, no harm is done since it would have gone ahead anyway.

So the Administration has set up a "back-fire" against the sweep of

The House is about to begin consideration of the new tax bill. It will come to the floor under what we call a closed rule. That means no amendments can be made on the floor. It will merely be debated and then the vote will be for it or against it—as is, just as the committee brings it to the floor. I do not like that procedure but must admit that when the end product is considered the people will get a better tax bill if we take the one worked out by the committee of experts instead of trying to write it on the floor with amendments.

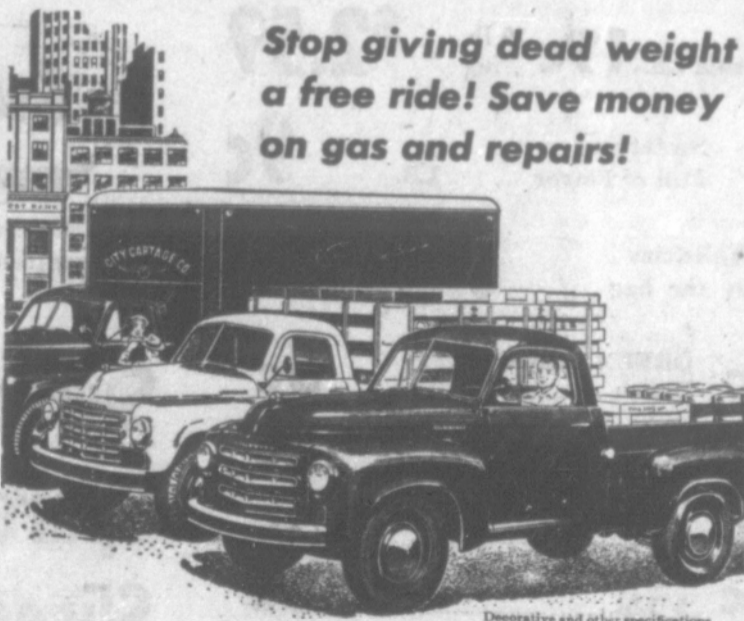
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FROM THE OREGON PRESS

REDMOND SPOKESMAN — Eggs are scarce in the Redmond area—as scarce as the proverbial teeth of the hens that lay them. Local buyers report inability to buy enough to fill the demand and late shoppers usually find the grocery stores out of eggs.

HEADLIGHT - HERALD, Tillamook—M. W. Slankard is Tillamook's new city manager. He assumed his duties June 1, filling the vacancy left by the death on May 1 of City Manager Jack Tabor. Slankard was city manager of Roseburg for four years before coming to Tillamook.

NORTH BEND NEWS — The budget for the North Bend-Coos Bay water board has been tabled for further study by board members and the water department manager. Councilmen objected to

passing it on short notice. The North Bend council also killed Bay Heat, Inc.'s bid for an exclusive 20-year franchise.

ITEMIZER-OBSERVER, Dallas—An 8000-ton crop of green prunes is predicted for Polk county, according to Frank Neufeld, president of the Polk county Prune Growers association. Many orchards in the Dallas area are unusually well laden with prunes.

WESTERN WORLD, Bandon—Port officials are looking for the person or persons responsible for shooting out lights on the south jetty. The lights are part of the mouth of the Coquille river and without them night shipping is endangered. Prosecution will be turned over to the federal government

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