

# Forest conservation; a world war ... 1941-1959

1941

Oregon's legislature passed the nation's first forest conservation act. "The law was written, proposed and fostered by loggers and lumbermen" to "control the irresponsible minority" of their fellow loggers who practiced clear-cutting. Coquille's largest log drive sent out 33 million board feet down the river.

1942

Approximately 3,250 Japanese were ordered to evacuate the Pacific Coast area, bringing the total at that time to 81,000 under evacuation orders or in "reception centers." Coquille lost its first WWII soldier, 23-year-old Clynard Holverstott. Men at home formed a "guerrilla band" to defend their families and community in case of invasion. The second Coquille Community Building was erected by residents, with the aid of Smith-Wood Products.

1943

World War II dominated the news. "Dim-out" requirements for Coquille were finally lifted, allowing residents to leave lights on in their homes at night. Myrtle Point and Coquille high school boys egged Jehovah's Witnesses, angered by the sect's refusal to salute the American flag. Officials ordered the Witnesses to leave town each time.

1944

Phillips Petroleum Corporation drilled nearly 7,000 feet on the Davis Slough, hoping to find a sufficient quantity of gas or oil to set up operations there. They gave up on that site.

1945

World War II soldiers returned home to Coquille at the end of the war. The V.F.W. formed a committee to aid the soldiers in finding jobs.

1946

The last log drive on the Coquille river was conducted by Coos Bay Lumber Company. A prediction was made that the cranberry industry would have a good future in Coos-Curry counties.

1947

Coquille Valley Broadcasters get a construction permit and receive FCC approval for the call letters KOKE. Governor Earl Snell was killed in a plane crash near Bly, Oregon. Also killed were the Governor's "second in succession" Marshall Cornett and Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell. Bandon holds first Cranberry Festival.



"Salmon in Coquille River" was written on the back of this undated photograph.

1948

City council drew up an ordinance to put parking meters downtown as an alternative to one-way streets as a measure to control parking and traffic congestion downtown. G.O.P. Presidential candidate Thomas E. Dewey spoke in Coquille. Bids were let to begin construction of a four-lane highway from Coquille to Coos Bay.

1949

KWRO went on the air for the first time featuring "classical, wild west and woolly old-time favorites."

1950

Population of Coquille climbs to 3,523; Myrtle Point reports 2,033; and county total swells to 42,265.

1951

Riverside Lumber company's mill in Fairview burned to the ground. Contract awarded to A.T. Fox to build new water plant in Coquille for \$267,200.79. A film called "Life in Coquille" was made of residents at work and play by Real Life Productions of Hollywood. City's first one-way streets implemented.

1952

An all-night fire destroys the Coquille Community building; surrounding buildings were saved.

1953

Flooding from the Coquille River puts 164 families out their homes in the Coquille valley. City council voted to add fluoride to city water. The courthouse constructed in 1898 was demolished to make way for new courthouse.

1957

Building permit issued for new Safeway store on N. Adams and E. First streets. Sentinel named by the Louisiana Press Association as one of the top 100 weekly papers in the nation.

1958

Safeway holds grand opening.

1959

Petitions circulated Coquille to do away with having a city manager. Citizens believed only a city engineer was needed. Chamber of Commerce gets new western style building.

## Tires LES SCHWAB 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Today the Les Schwab name is known in over 350 locations across 8 western states, including Alaska. But 50 years ago, he was just starting to make a mark in the little town of Prineville, Oregon. In 1951, at the age of 33, Schwab borrowed \$11,000 from his brother-in-law, sold the family home and borrowed on his life insurance to get the money to buy a 1,400 square foot garage with no indoor plumbing, and on January 1st, 1952, Schwab opened his first of many stores. It's easy to see why Les Schwab Tire Centers are called "everyone's tire store." Whether a customer needs emergency flat repair, snow chains, a boat trailer tire, a spare, brake or alignment service, each center's "service masters" are equipped to do the job right. So, wherever your location, whatever your need, stop by and see us today, chances are we have what you're looking for!

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