

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AND THE COQUILLE HERALD

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\$1.50 THE YEAR.

THE WAR MEETING

Stirring Addresses Made by Three Canadian Officers Friday Night.

The war meeting here last Friday night addressed by three Canadian officers was an inspiring one. Long before the time set for the meeting every seat, except those reserved for the old soldiers and the excursionists from down the river, was filled; and when the crowd of 250 that came up on the Dispatch had reached the hall there were 300 or 400 standing in addition to the 800 for whom seats had been provided. Charles Hall, of Marshfield, who occupied a seat on the platform, said it was the largest assemblage he had ever seen under one roof in Coos county.

When the uniformed, invalided veterans from the country north of ours came in, they were accorded a hearty greeting and every one looked on with interest and sympathy while Major Edwards' overcoat was removed by one of his companions, his artificial hands being unequal to that task. National airs by the Coquille Band gave the meeting the initial kick it needed.

Bruce Dennis, who was in charge of the party, as state chairman of the Council of National Defense, introduced the chairman of the meeting, A. J. Sherwood, both making brief patriotic talks.

The first of the visitors introduced was Captain E. G. Cook, of the Fifth Canadian Infantry Battalion. Capt. Cook was evidently a man of deeds, rather than of words and he spoke slowly; but the war stories he had to tell held the closest attention of everyone present. Every word went home and as we listened to him we could see the quick answer the Canadians made to the call for troops and the way his regiment filled the breach at the first battle of Ypres, where a thin fringe of fighting men held a hundred thousand Germans at bay and destroyed their confident hope of breaking through to the coast of France at Dunkirk.

He described the first gas attack made by the Germans and the way it took the breath from the men who inhaled it and subjected them to an agonizing death. Then came the gas masks provided to withstand it and the constant insistence needed from the officers to keep the men from neglecting to have them always at hand. In this connection he told an amusing story of a Canadian soldier, who was almost incorrigible in this respect. They had not only the Germans to fight but the vermin also and this fellow when using formaldehyde to kill the lice got one of the little fellows on his finger and thus addressed him before snuffing him out, "Why haven't you got your helmet on, you little blighter."

Capt. Cook also told about the way the Germans reversed the bullets in their guns and fired them butt end foremost to make as horrible a wound as possible. Having stopped one of them himself and having been gassed and shot through the stomach, the narrator knew all about the hell of war, though he said practically nothing about his own sufferings.

The Captain was followed by Major F. B. Edwards, both of whose hands were blown off by an explosion in the trenches, and it was interesting to note the optimism and good humor, the cheerful view of life that he took, notwithstanding a calamity that might well have made him a misanthrope. He told how the English and Canadians had gone into the war to see it through and felt sure that the men and women he saw before him would be no less determined to secure a just and lasting peace.

The Major came nearer speaking the American language than either of his companions, though there was still a little burr in his speech.

The concluding speaker was Lieutenant-Colonel McMillan, who before the war had become familiar with this country in a business way and who told us just what we must expect in the war and how we would have to put every ounce of strength we were capable of exacting into the war to help win it.

These speeches were each and all an inspiration, especially in the indomitable determination to win the war at all costs they voiced for the fighting men of the British nation at the front. They didn't rant nor roar nor tear a passion to tatters, but calmly and convincingly gave us

first hand information about life in the trenches, what their nation had experienced and its grim determination to carry on, and exhorted us to brace ourselves for the same experiences.

The Farmers' Union Store.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers' Union Store here was held on Tuesday. The annual report showed over \$70,000 of business done by the store last year. The by-laws were amended to make them conform to the state law and provide for the election of one-third of the Board of Directors each year. R. H. Burns and C. E. McCurdy were elected as directors for two years and M. O. Hawkins and George Henninger as directors for three years. The directors then met and elected the following officers for 1917:

W. L. Kistner, president.
M. O. Hawkins, vice president.
C. E. McCurdy, treasurer.
B. H. Burns, manager.
W. C. Chase, secretary and book-keeper.

STOPS FIRES IN THE EAST

Today, in all of the United States east of the Mississippi river and the two states of Minnesota and Louisiana west of it, Fuel Administrator Garfield has proclaimed the beginning of a 5-days' holiday in which coal cannot be used for manufacturing or any but the most imperative business purposes, among which the railroads are included. All the big establishments, arc affected, including the munition works, which have more "shot and shell on hand than there are ships to carry over. These 5 holidays are to be followed by one each Monday for 10 weeks. By this means, it is said, thirty millions of tons of coal can be saved, and the people can have more fuel in their homes.

Balcons as well as churches are to come under this order and most retail stores will have to close on those days, until warmer weather comes.

Even the newspapers are to have the lid put on and will only be permitted to get out small holiday editions. Daily papers must cut down to 16 pages, weeklies cannot print more than 12 and the magazine limit is 100. There are, of course, great protests against this order, which was only announced two days before it went into effect. The theaters are begging to be allowed to run on the Monday holidays and to keep their doors shut Tuesday, in the belief that they will draw much bigger crowds when most other places are closed and most of the working people are taking an enforced holiday.

To those of us who remember the Civil war days, these meatless and wheatless and fuelless days are a novel experience, as nothing of the kind was ever demanded while the war for the Union was in progress. But a world war, involving a thousand million people is an altogether different matter from one in which only 30 odd millions of people were interested. The expense was proportionally small then, too. It is given out by Washington officials that the 30 billions of dollars the present congress will appropriate in two years is 9 billions more than all the expenses of our national government from its foundation until February, 1917.

Championship Game Tonight.

The first scheduled championship game of the basket ball season here will be played this evening at Mascenic Hall between Marshfield and Coquille high schools. The Marshfield five is an unknown quantity this year, being composed of new men, while Coquille has several veterans of two or three years in her line up, which should overbalance the advantage of size which the Bay city has heretofore enjoyed.

Last Friday evening the Myrtle Point team handed out a 34 to 18 case to the local quintet on the Myrtle Point floor.

The most severe storm of the winter was that of Sunday night. Rain and hail beat down as they seldom do in this section and the wind shook houses in a dangerous way to nervous people. There was also considerable lightning accompanying the storm. The river which was already out of its banks rose a foot or two as the result of the downpour which was general all over the coast country.

FARMERS' WEEK

Thirty Coos County People Go Out—County Bags All the Big Prizes.

About 35 people from Coos county went out the first of the year to attend the winter short course at O. A. C. known as Farmers' Week. County Agent J. L. Smith, who went with them remained over for the second week to attend the convention of county agents. He returned last Sunday and furnishes us the following list of those in attendance:

Coquille—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brennan, Mrs. B. H. Burns, Messrs. Novis Landreth, Geo. Henninger, Wallace Henninger, Robt. Holverson, Geo. Robison, Jas. Robison.
Arago—Olof Aasen.
Myrtle Point—Wm. Weekly, S. S. Read, C. H. Bryant, J. C. Whittington.

Nedway—Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Trigg.
Parkerburg—Mr. and Mrs. Chris Danielson.

Bullards—C. D. Jarman, Fred O'Rourke.
Bridge—Ed E. Weekly, Edwin Weekly.

Bancroft—L. W. Lund.

Broadbent—Robt. Carman.

Marshfield—Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Landreth, Messrs. Julius Kruse, and W. C. Feringer.

North Bend—L. O. Kjelland.

There were about 1250 people who attended the Farmers' Week course, and in connection with it there was an exhibition of corn and potatoes in which Coos county, according to her habit, came out with the highest honor.

The sweetstake prize for the best 10 ears of corn of any variety was won by L. E. Jennings, of Remote, with an exhibit of the Iowa silver-mines.

Potatoes were exhibited in peck lots and there were divisions—the round and the long types, and Coos exhibited won in each.

The first prize for the round type was won by the Carmen No. 3, shown by Aasen Bros., of Arago.

The first prize in the long types was won by C. A. Pettinelli, of Coquille, with his Burbanks.

The second prize in the round varieties was won by the Sir Walter Raleigh shown by J. N. Gearhart, of Dora, the rest of the state got what was left.

Nearly all the big counties of the state, including Marion, Linn, Lane, Douglas, Josephine, Polk, Yamhill, Multnomah, and Benton were represented in the corn exhibit but none were able to keep up with Coos' gait.

At the county agents' banquet, one entire table was filled with Coos county people. There was also a Hoover banquet at the gymnasium at which 800 people set down to a meatless, wheatless and sugarless dinner for which the charge was 35 cents per plate. Vetch was served as beans and various silage plants in other styles.

A large number of farm tractors were shown in a big parade and they also took part in a plowing demonstration.

The students had an agricultural fair in the armory lasting two nights. In this there was keen competition between six or seven departments of the college.

One of the most interesting contests, though, was the milking test in which four girls set out to milk the same number of cows. Time was called in five minutes and the milk was then weighed to determine which was the swiftest milker.

The Coos county people who attended were very enthusiastic about the course, one of them asserting that what he learned the first day paid him well for going up there.

There were 21 county agents present at the convention, and 26 counties will have agricultural agents this year.

Postponed Until February.

Judge Watson informs us that owing to the absence of the State Highway Commission in California now, it will not be possible for the Coos County court and committees to meet with the Commission next Monday as had been intended, to discuss the questions of the sort of paving to be used on the Myrtle Point-Marshfield road and the improvement of the Myrtle Point-Roseburg highway. The Judge thinks, however, that arrangements can be made for a meeting at Portland about February 1.

GIRLS GO ASTRAY

Mrs. Clara Upton Brings Five of Them into Judge Watson's Court.

Judge Watson has had a series of juvenile court cases before him this week, involving delinquency on the part of girls 16 years of age, and younger. These cases were brought to the attention of the court by Mrs. Clara Upton, of the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society of Portland, who is a state official commissioned by Gov. Withycombe. It is a work in which she ought to have had the earnest support of every man and woman who believes in decency and wants to stop the debauching of young girls, but in which she has been antagonized and slurred by those from whom better things were to have been expected. Had there been such co-operation it might have been possible to secure the punishment of the men who contributed to the delinquency of these girls and to have put the fear of the heavy hand of the law into the hearts of others who might be tempted to repeat such deeds. As it is, all the excuse given for failing to support Mrs. Upton in this crusade is that, however bad conditions may be in Coos county they are far worse in Portland and Astoria, and that the rottenness down here ought not to be exposed and a house-cleaning made until those cities have been fumigated. It's the same old argument that we are justified in sinning because others do worse.

The Sentinel may be weakly squeamish in refraining from publishing the names of the wayward girls who have been before Judge Watson this week, but hopes, even against hope, that something may yet be done to reform them and doesn't want to put a straw in their way if they can be induced to return to a decent life. The fact that their names have been published elsewhere makes no difference to us in this matter.

The first case on Monday was that of a 16-year old girl from Powers. Her hearing was adjourned until next Monday.

The next case was that of a 16-year old girl from Bandon suffering from a serious physical deformity, which it is hoped an operation may at least mitigate. The court will provide the means for such an operation in her case. She was remanded to the custody of her mother, who is in very poor health and separated from her father, and who greatly needs her help.

On Tuesday two more cases were heard, two sisters living up one of the forks of the Coquille, one 15, and the other 13, having been the victims of lecherous scoundrels. Judge Watson committed them to the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, and they were taken out by Mrs. Upton, the manager of that institution, when she went north day before yesterday.

Another girl, only 14 years old, from the forks of the Coquille, had a hearing the same day and was remanded to the custody of her parents.

These cases had all been under the cognizance of the court for some time, but no evidence to warrant action was obtained until Mrs. Upton got busy and secured it.

Boys Get Off Easy.

Five boys were up before Recorder Lawrence yesterday on a charge of breaking two globes among the cluster lights around the court house. One of the boys confessed having thrown a ball of mud with a sling shot that brought one down, unintentionally, he said. Another had climbed a lamp post and broken one with his elbow. After a fatherly lecture by F. E. McKenna, of the Power company, and the Recorder, the boys were released on their promise to refrain from climbing the lamp posts or damaging the light fixtures in the future.

Landed in Wireless Division.

Paul Lamson, enlisted in the Navy at the postoffice here last week, and went at once to Mare's Island, writes home that he has been assigned to the Radio Electrical or Wireless division. He is under draft age, but had devoted a good deal of attention to wireless telegraphy, and the knowledge he had attained along that line enabled him to secure a much better position than he otherwise would.

County Agent Smith Our Mascot

As a prize winner at all the fairs in which she has been represented during the past year, Coos county stands in a class by herself. She has taken the front seat on every opportunity. And the credit is due in large measure to County Agent J. L. Smith, who has been the right man at the right place and the right time—in collecting and preparing the exhibits, in installing them at the state fair at Salem, at the corn and potato show here in Coquille, at the Western Oregon Corn Show at Eugene, and at the Farmers' Week exhibition at Corvallis.

More Road Patrolmen.

County Commissioner Archie Philip states that in addition to the patrolmen for the road districts in his half of the county whom the Sentinel named last week he has appointed the following: for the Fairview district, Geo. Benham; McKinley district, Arthur Brown; Sumner district, W. B. Farrin; Templeton district, J. T. Davis and Preston Munson.

DREDGE THE RIVER AGAIN

The dredge Oregon has been secured for work on the lower Coquille the coming season, Port Commissioner Norton informs. The annual maintenance fund of \$6,000 allotted by the federal government for the Coquille waterway has not been expended for the past two years, owing to the impossibility of getting a dredge down here to do the small amount of work for which funds have been available. Now, however, the amount of work to be done here and the approximately \$18,000 on hand, together with the work ready for her at Coos Bay, will make it worth while for the Oregon to come to Coos county, and she is expected at Bandon early in the season. The first work to be done will be on the shoal between Bullards and Bandon, where the sand from the ocean is constantly driven across the low spit, only about 80 rods in width, and has repeatedly shoaled the river where a 10-foot depth of water and a channel 200 or 300 feet in width is almost imperative. After that shoal has been cut out again, the dredge will be set at work just above the lighthouse, near the mouth of the river. The only way, it seems, that navigation can be maintained on the Coquille river is to keep digging for it.

Big Timber Deal Probable.

A Coos Bay paper published a couple of days ago as a fact accomplished a big timber deal that is still hanging fire. That is the sale of the timber on 2500 acres of the Southern Oregon lands in the South Slough section by the Menasha Woodware company. This tract contains a great deal of fine spruce and Port Orford cedar needed for aeroplane stock. It is the original growth, too, that territory not having been burned over in the big fire that swept this country clean some sixty odd years ago.

Valley Becomes a Big Lake.

The valley here has been almost a solid lake of water all the week, the floods being highest on Monday and again yesterday, however. Only a strip of land on the river bank has been showing up. The downpour of Sunday night was doubtless the biggest factor in this inundation, which is often compared to the annual overflow of the Nile and, of course, promotes the fertility of the lands in the river bottom.

December Biggest Month.

L. W. France, the S. P. agent here, tells us that December, 1917, all records were broken by the receipts at the station here. The amount of business done was over \$4,000. The force has been largely increased during the past year, owing to the growing business, five or six people being employed where two used to do it all.

Dr. Richmond's Big Job.

Dr. J. A. Richmond, of the local draft board, began a considerable of a chore Tuesday when he examined the first of the 500 men in class 1, who will have to come before him to be judged as to their physical fitness for army life. He has several strenuous weeks of that sort of work before him now.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.00.

NEW LAND VALUES

The Board for Revising Real Estate Values Will Soon Be at Work.

The work of preparing the data for the new assessment board to work with is now in progress at the Assessor's office and Mr. Selander informs us that it will be completed and that the board will begin its field work in about two weeks.

The cities will be surveyed first, and the lands not in town lots left until the weather is a little more pleasant.

The board consists of Mr. A. A. Selander, of the assessor's office, and Dennis McCarthy, who made the timber cruise of the county a few years ago. With them H. J. Kimball, of Marshfield, will be associated in the north end of the county and J. A. Collier, of this city, at the south end.

This board, or these boards, will inspect all the tillable land of the county and make a plat of each tract of such land on the rolls, showing which position it holds among the ten classifications, ranging from tide flats to the most hilly land that is plowed. These plats will furnish a basis for action by the assessor in placing a value upon it, something which that office has never before had—a showing as to exactly how many acres of bottom land and how many of upland compose each tillable tract on the rolls. Heretofore, under the methods of assessing which have been practised by the deputies, this has been largely a matter of guess work, and when a sale has resulted in the division of a tract, there has been no exact information as to the character of the land contained in each portion. More than this, in many cases of two tracts of land lying side by side and of exactly the same character, one has been credited with twice as much first class land as the other. Then, too, it has been the habit to allow the landholder to say his land is about the same as last year and put it down that way, no matter how much land he has cleared and brought under cultivation during the year, or how many other improvements he has made. This practice will be changed now and old assessments will have nothing to do with new valuations.

As to the non-tillable lands, it is not the intention of the board to visit the high, hilly and rocky sections, but there are twenty different classifications of such lands, varying from perhaps as much as a thousand dollars an acre, where they lie contiguous to the larger cities, to absolute zero, where the hills get high enough and rocky enough.

Mr. Selander estimates that the work of the new board will require at least six months to complete, and, of course, the data obtained will not in all cases be available for the assessor in making the 1918 figures for the tax rolls.

Honor Service Sunday.

In honor of the men, who have enlisted from families connected with the Presbyterian church here, there will be a special service next Sunday evening. An address will be made by Hon. C. E. Barrow, and there will be special music of a patriotic nature by the quartette and choir. Everybody is invited to attend.

Fred W. Davis, the lumberjack Sky Pilot, will preach at this church Sunday evening at 7:30. He is going to start for France shortly to look after the welfare of the 15,000 enlisted lumbermen who have gone across. Everybody is invited to come out and hear him.

Our City Reservoir.

The two city reservoirs on the hill east of town have a capacity of 480,000 gallons of water. The work of recentering them and stopping the leaks was begun so late in the fall that only one of them was fully repaired. In the summer, when everyone is irrigating, the city will exhaust one of the reservoirs each day, using a quarter of a million gallons. At this time Superintendent Epperson estimates the consumption at 80,000 gallons a day, so that the two reservoirs full would run us a week and a day.

Owners of dogs are requested to take notice that the time to pay their tax and get new licenses has arrived. This tax is payable to the recorder at the city hall.