

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

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\$1.50 THE YEAR.

## THE BRIDGE CASE

### What to Do About the Hall-Front Street Bridge Yet Undecided.

Ever since the present publisher of the Sentinel came to Coquille the city council has taken preliminary action which caused the announcement that "Hall street is to be improved," to appear in these columns. Therefore no prediction is made now, but it would not be surprising if that much needed Hall street bridge was constructed this year.

Last month the council authorized the street committee to order the repair of the bridge on the city engineer's report that it could be fixed up for several years' use at an expense of \$275.

However, when the proposition was put up to the property owners that the city would split 50-50 with them on the expense, Councilmen Barrow and Gardner objected. The former were willing to spend from \$150 to \$250, with the city putting up a like amount, to postpone the improvement a few years, but the two councilmen protested against any street improvement being made at the expense of the general fund.

When Councilman Mansell reported the split in the Street committee over this point Monday the City Engineer gave the gist of a conversation he had had with Roadmaster Murdock concerning that bridge. The streets of Coquille form a link in the Coast Highway, some of which may be paved this year, and Mr. Murdock stated that 12 to 14 ton rollers would have to be taken across this bridge in the pursuance of the work. That it would not stand up under such a weight is evident. He even hinted pretty strongly that failure to have a substantial bridge at this point might interfere with any state work on the Marshfield-Coquille-Myrtle Point road.

Councilman Hawkins reported that Robert Train, who owns the building at the southwest corner of Hall and Front streets, had told him that he would not oppose the improvement if the council desired to make it this year. Other property owners also favor it.

In view of the effect the lack of a bridge might have on the state road work the councilmen felt that they should order an improvement on Hall if possible and consequently invited all taxpayers affected to meet with them at an adjourned session Thursday evening.

Last evening only one property owner was present to voice a protest against any new improvement while material is so high, and after several of the councilmen had stated their positions it was decided to make another attempt to get all those affected by the proposed improvement to attend the next regular meeting, March 4, and tell the council what they desired done this year.

The consensus of opinion was that the property owners' wishes should be followed if possible. If they were not willing to either have a new bridge or stand the expense of repairing the old one the council will do what it deems best. Something has to be done with the present structure which has been condemned by the county highway department and other engineers.

### Barrow for Legislature.

The friends of Hon. C. R. Barrow are urging him to become a candidate for Representative from Coos county in the next legislature and he has the matter under advisement. Mr. Barrow made a fine record when a member of the legislature three years ago which will win him support should he decide to get in again this year. Reports from the Bay are that Hon. A. K. Peck is undecided yet whether to become a candidate this year or not.

### The Four-Minute Men.

The four-minute men who will speak at the Scenic next week are: J. J. Stanley, Monday night, Feb. 25. J. L. Smith, Wednesday night, Feb. 27. Rev. B. B. Paul, Thursday night, Feb. 28. Rev. S. G. Rogers, Friday night, March 1. C. R. Barrow, Saturday night, March 2.

### Grand Jury Indicts Eight.

The grand jury reported yesterday on eleven cases it had been considering. Eight indictments were found, six of which have not yet been made public.

Frank Raney was indicted for an attempt to kill at Powers last summer under extraordinary circumstances, as the story is told. His bail was fixed at \$3,000.

Jeremiah Friel, of Eastside, was indicted for assault with a dangerous weapon on O. W. Huddleston in a boathouse, and his bail was fixed at \$1,000.

The three cases dismissed were those against N. B. Clarke for attempted rape and Don Burr and John Doe Burr, of this city, for assault with a deadly weapon in the restaurant case we told about last week.

The grand jury adjourned until next Tuesday.

### Jenson and His Pictures.

Lieut. Jenson, of the Signal Corps, will be here Monday evening to show the pictures with which the government is attempting to stimulate interest in spruce production. The meeting will be held in Masonic Hall under the auspices of the Loggers and Lumbermen's Legion of Honor and will be free to all who can gain admittance.

## IS COQUILLE AT THE TOP?

Wednesday afternoon Prof. J. C. Almack received word from State Superintendent of Schools Churchill that the number of pupils in the state who had become members of the Rainbow regiment by selling over \$50 worth of Thrift Stamps was 275. With 23 of that number in the schools here it appears that Coquille must stand pretty close to the head of the list, having 10 per cent of the whole number in the state.

Mr. Almack says that an effort is now being made to increase the local membership to 50 before the full thousand in the state regiment is secured. With the interest and enthusiasm shown by the children here there is little question that the aim will be realized.

The total amount of Baby Bonds and Thrift Stamps sold in the Coquille district up to yesterday was approximately \$5000. At that rate there is no doubt of the entire \$72,000 worth being sold this year. It was not until February 1 that any organized effort to sell stamps became effective.

Bulletins received from Washington by Postmaster Jno. Leneve state that the daily sales of stamps and bonds has now reached the \$11,000,000 mark and is still growing. The returns come from the Philippines, Hawaii, Alaska and Cuba, as well as from all sections of the United States.

The campaign of education being conducted by Leo J. Cary, chairman for the Coquille district, is progressing splendidly. Ten to a dozen speakers have been attending each of the school house meetings and Mr. Cary reports that no one refuses to help in this work, even though he never made a public speech before in his life.

Next week the local committee for canvassing Coquille will get into the field and no one will be missed nor fail to have an opportunity to loan their mite to the government to assist in the war for democracy.

### Will Repeat "Farm Folks."

The Methodist ladies in view of the large number of people who were not able to be present when they put "Farm Folks" on the boards at Masonic Hall three weeks ago and the inclement weather on that occasion have decided to repeat it at the same place on Saturday of next week. We are sure that many of those who enjoyed it before will be glad to see it again then—and that many others who only heard of it then will be there to see the fun next time.

### New Road to Shipyard.

The County Court on Wednesday decided to build a road at Bunker Hill about 600 feet in length to connect the Coquille-Marshfield road with the Coos Bay Shipbuilding yards.

It is estimated the road will cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000. Some arrangement whereby the shipbuilding company would meet part of the expense may be reached, but the county will probably stand good for the major part.

## \$5,000 OFFERED

### County Willing to Pay That For the City's Water Front Tract.

Before Mayor Johnson called the council to order last Monday evening he stated to the aldermen that the county was willing to pay \$5,000 for the city's water front extending from the high dock to Ferry street but that they couldn't see a \$6,000 price. Furthermore, he gave as his opinion that it was a good proposition for the city because the property would be preserved to the public under county ownership, with the city of Coquille putting up \$1000 and the county \$5,000 the total being the price originally paid Mr. Collier by the city. If the tract was sold to private parties for \$6,000 the city would be out the interest for several years and the purpose of the original purchase defeated.

Only four of the councilmen were present but each one expressed the opinion that if the waterfront was a personal matter he would consider the price offered a fair one. Mr. Mansell said that when the citizens of Coquille voted to buy the waterfront some of them had visions of six to ten thousand ton ocean steamers discharging freight at the docks here after the creek had been dredged, but that not in a hundred years would that sight be seen here. Personally he favored selling but didn't know what the taxpayers would say about it.

Councilmen Hawkins, Lorenz and Gardner also favored the sale if the city was protected in the matter of bridge right-of-way over the property and the deed contained a clause giving the city the first option should the county ever desire to sell.

It was left with the mayor to ascertain if all the city's requirements would be granted by the county court, and the matter will come up again when the entire council is present.

### Justice Shuster's Shortage.

The investigation instituted by the County Court and carried into effect by W. H. Wann, public accountant, reveals that Justice A. E. Shuster of North Bend, owes the county a total of \$774.95. Of this sum is \$110 which Mr. Shuster told Mr. Wann was remitted direct to the state treasurer, but upon investigation Treasurer Kay says was never received.

The County Court has asked County Treasurer Dimmick to make a formal application to Shuster for settlement, which is the only course under the statute. Shuster has informed the Court that if they will give him ten days he will settle the shortage, which the Court has agreed to do. The treasurer has made the demand and has Shuster's signature of the service in his office.

It seems that under the law he is not liable to prosecution unless he fails to remit to the treasurer after being officially notified.

### Nobody Becomes a Citizen.

Every naturalization case before the Circuit Court here yesterday fell down. Only three candidates for citizenship appeared. Of these N. C. Larson, of Powers, had no certificate of arrival in United States. John Nestor Lynde, of Bandon, had only one witness and will be given a chance to come with another next week. Percival H. McDonald, of North Bend, had a witness who, according to instructions received from the Department of Labor, was not qualified.

The papers furnished by Fred Stone, of Coos River, were too old, and he has to begin again. In fact with the single exception noted above, all the cases were dismissed. There is only one German enemy alien on the list. They all have to wait until the war is over.

### Mysterious Lights on the Hills.

Mysterious lights on the hill east of town caused a good deal of speculation last Sunday night. Officers Miller, Jackson and Epperson went up the hill to investigate about nine o'clock that evening and found a pitchy knot and an empty kerosene can close at hand. Other parties saw a similar light on another point down the river. Still others saw two lights on the hill here Saturday night. Many thought they were signals lighted by pro-German conspirators.

The yellow daffodils are "carrying on" here now.

## NO MAN'S LAND

### Matt Kerrigan the First Man From Coos County to Go Over the Top.

Matt Kerrigan, of this city, is in receipt of the following letter from his son, Matt, written on New Year's day. This is the first letter we have had from any of our Coquille boys telling of "going over the top" and experiences in No Man's land. As Matt went out from here with Harry Oerding, "Curly" Larson and J. P. Michels, July 22, it appears that it took only five months from leaving here for the boys to receive their training, go over the pond and get into service in the front line trenches:

Dear Father: As this is the beginning of a new year I will write you a Happy New Year and hope you have many more of them and have no cause for sorrow throughout the year.

Most of us got a day off today but the whole company had their pictures taken out in about six inches of snow and if they turn out good I will try and send you one of them.

You know I am with a new outfit now and none of the home boys are with me but I like the new company pretty well. Lots of hard work and very little time to ourselves but the only thing that bothers me much is the cold weather.

Our company has been up to the front and so that is over for the first experience. We are not billeted right at the front now.

A fellow's first experiences are apt to be lasting as I know I will always remember my first trip out in "no man's land." When the fellows are first given the order to get ready for a trip out to no man's land, they are on edge and are apt to swear at almost anything and then when we get started there isn't a word said all the way up there, as it seems everybody is thinking pretty soberly; then after we get over the top and get started at work the tension seems to relax and the boys all become themselves and joke as usual.

While up there and at work the Fritzies send up bombs that light up the whole territory for about three minutes and if they see a group of men working, their artillery commences throwing shells at us. If we see their rockets start up we either fall flat or else stand perfectly still until it gets dark again when we resume work. Fritzies' flares act on the same principle as a sky rocket and if we happen to be looking we can see them go up. The light seems to be held up in the air by a parachute. A good many of the shells pass over our heads, back and forth, as each side is searching out the battery of the other. Believe me a fellow can hear them going past.

Then when they shell us a fellow tries to get his whole body hid under his steel hat or helmet as it is called. We also have a couple of gas masks to wear in case they try to give us a taste of that, and believe me they sure use enough of the stuff under favorable conditions. They use it in the form of hand grenades, bombs and shells from their big guns that hold as much as fifteen gallons and then they use it in the form of gas clouds or banks where they shoot it in streams from their tanks in the trenches and the wind carries it over. When it first starts a person can see it in the form of a vapor but only for a moment and then it becomes invisible, or nearly so, and can only be detected by smell and a person don't want to take to big a smell or make a hog of himself, as the saying is, or it is curtains for him, as it is very deadly. The Boches have about half a dozen different kinds of gas that kill instantly or nearly so. If gas is detected we put on our gas mask and keep it on till told to remove it by somebody that is in authority. It is quite a job to get used to wearing it a first.

Say, when you hear anybody denying the atrocities and cruelties of the Boche please call them a liar with my compliments. As an example: a large bunch of them captured one of our sentries from the 16th Infantry and after capturing him they cut his throat from ear to ear. That is just one instance of their damned culture.

One of our men was injured by a high explosive shell up at the front and a corporal from C company was killed and a few others wounded, but such is the fortune of war. I haven't heard from home for about two months now and we get very little

news here. Uncle Samuel hasn't got started in this war but when he does watch our smoke as Kaiser Bill will surely have to wake up and realize we mean business with a capital B.

All the fellows wish it was over but there isn't one that wants to return till Uncle Sam is through to his own satisfaction. I am becoming pretty efficient at rolling my own cigarettes now but it came pretty slow at first after being used to smoking nothing but cigars and my pipe back there in my office.

Tell Fred and family I sent my best wishes for the holidays and also give all my friends my holiday greetings for me as I can't do it myself.

### 500 Subject to Draft.

Eighty men were examined here Monday and Tuesday for military service by Dr. Richmond. This finished the examination under the revised rules except for ten men who will come next Friday. It will probably take a week longer to complete the classification of the questionnaires into a card index.

Hugh Harlocker, the clerk of the local board, thinks there are about 500 men in Class 1, who are liable to be called to the colors on the next draft.

## IGNORANCE NO EXCUSE

There are two "deer" cases on the criminal docket, at the February term of the Circuit Court here opening next Monday, in which the defendants are Palmer Endicott, Otto Magill and Milton Epperson, of Myrtle Point. The first is for killing deer out of season, that is, after Gov. Withycombe had proclaimed the season closed on account of drouth and, as the defendants claim, before they had been apprised of it. This is an important test case, which hunters are waiting for with a great deal of interest. The lawyers say that the moment the governor signed the proclamation, it became effective and that ignorance of its having been issued cuts no ice as a defense.

The other suit against these defendants is for mutilating the carcass of a doe to disguise it. Game Warden Thomas has the "corpus delicti" in these cases in cold storage and says the state is safe as venison is going up all the time.

The state has another "out of season" case of the same kind against Glenn Roselle and Georgianna Roselle, but as the hunting was done five days after the proclamation was issued their excuse doesn't look so good. There are two cases against these parties, too, both for "unlawfully killing deer."

### Invest Surplus in Baby Bonds.

The Lyceum course committee at the closing entertainment of this year's course at the Scenic next Tuesday will announce that they are about \$150 to the good as a result of the very liberal patronage the people of Coquille have bestowed upon these entertainments for the season of 1917-18. A part of this sum was however, carried over from last season. The question whether to expend that amount in securing an additional entertainment for ticket holders, or investing it in Baby Bonds to carry over as a nest egg for next season's course has been up for debate, and will be decided by those who underwrite the Lyceum this season by guaranteeing the sale of the required number of tickets.

At the Commercial Club Wednesday evening the committee having this matter in charge decided to invest the money in Baby bonds and keep it for a nest egg.

### Thomas in Race for Sheriff.

J. M. Thomas was a caller Wednesday afternoon. He says he is going to be in the campaign for the democratic nomination for sheriff with both feet; and that if he wins there he will burn his bridges behind him by resigning the office he has held so long and filled so well as Deputy State Game Warden.

### Yoakam for Commissioner.

John Yoakam, one of our oldest and best known settlers, who lives about five miles west of here on the Marshfield road, is said to have decided to become a candidate for county commissioner at the republican primaries in May.

Call on us for Stationery.

## WILL MAKE RACE

### Louis J. Simpson's Platform as a Candidate for Governor of Oregon.

In announcing myself as a candidate for nomination for governor on the Republican ticket at the primary election to be held on May 17, 1918, I desire to appeal to the voters of Oregon as individuals, who, as such, are well qualified to judge the issues of the day and will vote as their judgment shall direct.

I am a republican and believe in the principles of the Republican party, and above everything I am an American and believe in the principles of my country. I am not a member of, nor affiliated with any particular faction or part of the Republican party; nor am I pledged to support any of the candidates for office at the coming primary election. I pledge the people of Oregon that, in conducting my campaign I will not support any particular candidate for office in preference to the other candidate for the same office; that I will not promise appointment to office or political patronage to anyone; that if nominated and elected I shall enter office with neither promise nor pledge to redeem, except those which I give to the people themselves; reserving the right to make such appointments and to conduct the office



with whatever unprejudiced independence the best interests of the people of Oregon and the development, peace and welfare of the state shall demand. If the voters decide that they do not desire that I be their candidate I will give my undivided support to the Republican candidate of their choice.

I shall, as far as possible, make a personal campaign, with the object of meeting as many individuals as time will permit, and shall endeavor to establish and maintain a close personal relationship with the people of the state, so that I may the better know and understand their needs and requirements.

In the present struggle for world peace, democracy and the very existence of the nation itself, the first solemn obligation of every man, woman and child is to the land of their birth or adoption. Faithful to that obligation Oregon is proud of its contribution in men, money, food, lumber and ships. The entire wealth and all of the resources of the state have been placed at the disposal of the Government, and if nominated and elected, I shall accord the nation and the administration that full and complete measure of support and assistance which its patriotic citizenship has already exacted.

The people of Oregon have placed upon the state books certain laws which, if nominated and elected, I shall, with all the power and authority of governor, rigidly and uncompromisingly enforce. The spirit of the times and the vital importance of state-wide prosecution of the Government's war activities require that law and order shall prevail. I shall consider it my sacred duty to preserve such a condition.

I favor the establishment of a national, universal eight hour day for all classes of labor except for agriculture, the very nature of which makes it impossible to restrict the working hours to any set number.

I am firmly convinced that the progress, prosperity and development of Oregon demands that all lines of business, with due consideration of the absolute necessity of practicing most rigid economy, be maintained as near-

(Continued on third page.)