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COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1918.

\$1.50 THE YEAR.

COUNTY MATTERS

Bridges and Road Work Are Still at the Front in the Court

In the matter of the Ladd & Harris contract for building bridges north of the Bay the completion of contract will be advertised next week and the warrants for the contract price of the work will be issued at the May term of the court.

Then the County Clerk will be instructed not to deliver those warrants to either the Security Co. or the First National Bank, to both of whom they have been assigned, until those parties agree or until it has been legally determined which party has the better claim to them.

The bid of J. D. Bennett for the building of the Fox bridge near Lee was for \$5,000, where the engineer's estimate was about \$3,800. The bid was rejected and unless Mr. Bennett modifies it there will be another advertisement for bids.

The contract for the highway crossing of the Southern Pacific at Overland with a concrete viaduct was awarded to Ostlund & Payne, of Marshfield at \$8,467.90. The court is still endeavoring to induce the railroad to agree to pay one half this amount according to their former agreement.

Two small contracts on the Coos Bay North section of the Coast Highway were awarded to Ira G. Peacock and John Hakason, on a force account basis.

It was decided to advertise for bids on the Coos City bridge. This includes a draw span of 170 feet and a total length of 300 feet, the approach to be built at the ends totalling 532 feet more. The railroad company suggests that an overhead crossing will be required at the west end of the approach on that side within five years and should be provided for in the present plans.

It was ordered that three more dump wagons be purchased to make two four-wagon trains for the Holt Caterpillar engine. These wagons will cost \$888 each f. o. b. Coquille. This will enable one train to be loaded at the gravel pits on the Sixes while another train is being hauled up the road. A small steam engine will be used for yard purposes which will haul the loaded wagons up from the creek two at a time.

It is planned to get the present outfit down to the Sixes today. The court decided to raise the wages on county road work 50 cents per day and pay \$3.50 for common labor, \$4.00 for foremen and \$3.50 a day for teams with the same to drivers. A foreman with a team will receive \$7.50.

William Colquist was employed to take charge of the work on the Marshfield road at Bunker Hill where a tramway is to be built over the roadway for the Libbey coal mine purposes.

Coquille's War Board.

The Coquille District War Board organized as a permanent body for the duration of the war at the city hall Wednesday evening. The seven bodies which elected representatives and those elected to serve were as follows:

Honor Guard—Mrs. Eva Currie.
Red Cross—O. C. Sanford.
Third Liberty Loan Committee—L. H. Hazard.
War Savings Stamps Committee—L. J. Cary.
National Council of Defense—J. E. Norton.
Patriotic Service League—Jas. Watson.

Home Guard—H. A. Young.
The organization was effected by the election of J. E. Norton, chairman; L. J. Cary, vice-chairman; L. H. Hazard, treasurer; and Miss Eva Currie, secretary.

The new Liberty Temple, when completed, will be headquarters for the board, and to them hereafter will be assigned the conduct of every government and war activity which may come up.

The team captains and field workers working with this board will be practically the same as were appointed for the War Savings Stamps campaign, both in the rural districts and in town, and they are enlisted for the war.

It will greatly facilitate and expedite the campaigns and drives which are to be part of our every-day life till the menace of Hun barbarism is finally obliterated.

Mayor Proclaims Holiday.

Our Country is now closing its first year in the Great War; how fitting, therefore, it is that we show our loyalty to our beloved President and to our Boys, who are giving their all, by fittingly memorializing our advent into the war for democracy, and to demonstrate our willingness to continue to support this righteous cause by every means in our power.

Therefore, I, E. E. Johnson, Mayor of the city of Coquille, Oregon, do hereby proclaim as a public holiday, Saturday, April 6, 1918, between the hours 1:30 p. m. to 4 p. m. and hereby call upon all business houses to close during such hours, that all our citizens may unite in this patriotic demonstration.

Dated this 4th day of April, A. D., 1918.

E. E. Johnson,
Mayor of the City of Coquille, Oregon.

To Raise 100 Foot Flag Pole.

Yesterday Allen Belieu and Wm. Brown felled the tree which will be raised as a flagpole sometime before the parade tomorrow. It towers 100 feet in the air and from it will fly a 10x20 foot flag furnished by the city. The Oregon Power Co. and the Telephone Co. donated the services of their crews to set the pole.

LAUNDRY HAS BEEN SOLD

One of the biggest changes that has taken place in Coquille business circles for some time is the sale of the Coquille Laundry last Monday, ex-Mayor A. T. Morrison having disposed of it to D. Hurley, of Albany, Oregon, Mr. Morrison still retaining the ice business which he has been running for years in connection with the laundry.

The sale was negotiated by A. L. Simpson, special agent for the Pacific Building and Loan Association of Tacoma.

Mr. Simpson was engaged in the laundry business for 20 years prior to taking up his present line of labor and will assist Mr. Hurley in the management of the laundry in addition to looking after the interests of the Building and Loan Association in this territory.

Mr. Morrison, of course, has no thought of leaving Coquille but will continue with his ice business as before, as well as the handling of fish caught on the river which he recently undertook and which has developed into a considerable industry during the past year. In addition to that he informs us that he will also undertake the purchase and sale of beef and mutton, furnishing to the ranchers of the valley a cash market at any time for their stock when they have one or more animals for sale.

He is now enlarging his facilities for these new lines by purchasing from the city the river front property lying immediately back of the large building he now uses both for the laundry and upstairs for a residence.

Repairing Hardware Home.

J. A. Collier began Tuesday the repair of his building occupied by the Coquille Hardware Co. Monday evening he applied to the city council for permission to cover the north and east side of the burned section with corrugated iron and repair the glass front on the west. As the cost of the repair would not exceed 30 per cent of the value of the building the council left it with the fire committee which Tuesday granted the permit. The roof of the warehouse will be flat and covered with roofing paper. To this kind of construction is attributed the reason that the fire was stopped in the rear of that building and the possible loss of the entire north side of Front street was averted, because the volunteers had a chance to get up there and work in a protected place.

The building will be safer from fire after the repairs are made than it ever was before.

The ladies of the Red Cross will serve a 50 cent dinner in W. O. W. hall at noon tomorrow and if all the provisions are not eaten then will serve supper at the same place in the evening.

The hour for the Liberty parade tomorrow has been changed from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. in order that the mills may close and every one in Coquille and vicinity may be in line.

Is your war garden planted?

THE DEMON HUN AT THE DOOR

He is at the door "over there."

Do you want him at your door over here—to ravage, murder and take possession?

Uncle Sam—the boys on the firing line—the Spirit of American Liberty—stand between you and immediate danger.

What are you doing to help keep them there?

Will you fight in the trenches at close range, or fight at long range behind the lines by lending your money to Uncle Sam to hold up the hands of those who can actually wield a bayonet for you?

The issue is squarely before you. A choice between the two is necessary. Will you evade, dodge, wiggle and twist—or, will you assert your backbone and STAND UP LIKE A MAN?

How pitiable paltry dollars appear in the balance between American Freedom and German Bondage.

You are not asked to give. You are simply asked to INVEST AT A GUARANTEED PROFIT.

What if it does mean the insignificant sacrifice of giving up the glitter of a passing pleasure? Hundreds of thousands of others are voluntarily sacrificing their lives.

The fateful hour for you—for your country—the time to submit or conquer—is here.

Will you jeopardize your liberty by failing to do your duty? He who hesitates is most assuredly lost.

All that your forefathers fought and died for is lost. All that the patriots of '65 fought for is lost.

This is your great opportunity. Use it and Take Your Place as a Real American.

INVEST OR GO UNDER!

Executive Committee for Coquille District of Third Liberty Loan.

L. H. Hazard
J. E. Norton
L. J. Cary
R. A. Wernich
H. A. Young.

TO HAVE THEATRE TO HEAD SCHOOLS

C. A. Machon Buys a Site and Will Erect a Concrete Building at Once.

A concrete, fire-proof theatre is what C. A. Machon promises the people of Coquille in the next three months. Yesterday he purchased of Arthur Ellingsen, through the Wm. Oddy agency, the lots at the corner of Second and Willard streets, formerly occupied by Quick's second hand store and the Scenic. The size of the tract is 75x100.

On the corner lot 50x100 he will build a modern first-class theatre, which will also be adapted for use as a motion picture house, with a seating capacity of 600.

The building will be one story, concrete walls, fireproof brick front and a 2 1/2 inch concrete roof.

A stage of sufficient width to accommodate any show which may desire to visit Coquille and 20 feet deep, orchestra pit, a 20-foot lobby, dressing rooms downstairs and comfortable opera chairs are some of the leading features contemplated. The building will be heated by hot water from a heating plant in the basement.

This morning Mr. Machon went over to the Bay to inspect the Noble theatre there and on his return will be accompanied by W. J. Longston, who will figure on the contract.

Mr. Machon has already had two offers to lease the building for a term of years, but has not yet decided who will run the house. He is in hopes of having it ready for occupancy within 90 days.

Whale of a Mortgage.

F. E. McKenna and A. L. Martin, of the Oregon Power company, were over here Tuesday. Among other things they filed for the company one of the biggest trust deeds ever recorded in the county. The filing fee for this deed amounted to \$73.60.

County Superintendent Baker Accepts Position in City Schools.

County Superintendent Raymond E. Baker is to be the superintendent of the Coquille city schools for the next two years. This was decided by the school board at their last meeting, contingent on Mr. Baker's acceptance and Wednesday evening he notified H. O. Anderson that he would take the position. It only awaits now the formal vote of the board at their next meeting.

Coquille is to be congratulated on securing a man of Mr. Baker's known ability in educational lines to head our schools for the next two years; and that the board has chosen wisely will be the verdict of all who are interested in the welfare of our children and their school life.

J. C. Almack has demonstrated his eminent fitness for the position he has held the past year and it was with regret that the board learned of his decision to return to Eugene where he has accepted a position at the same salary he received here and where he will at the same time be able to finish his post graduate course at the state university.

Mr. Baker's salary will be the same as Mr. Almack's, \$1,600 a year.

The present lady teachers have all been tendered their positions for another year at an increase in salary, and to date, with the exception of Mrs. Chase, all have filed their acceptance in writing. Their names and salaries for next year are as follows:

Miss Ada May Newell.....\$90
Miss Mabel Bay.....85
Mrs. Inez Chase.....85
Miss Emma Kennedy.....80
Miss May Allen.....75
Mrs. Catherine Dungey.....75
Miss Joan Fitzgerald.....75
Mrs. Martha Mulkey.....75
Miss Winifred Spencer.....75

Miss Elizabeth Griffin..... 75
Miss Gladys E. Treadgold..... 75

In dispensing with the position of principal of the high school, which has been filled so efficiently by J. W. Noblet for the past two years, the board has effected a saving which will permit the raise in salaries mentioned without increasing the school taxes a dollar. To do this the high school will be conducted on the former two-session a day plan, reducing the number of instructors in the high school from five to four. Mr. Baker, Miss Newell, Miss Bay and one teacher yet to be selected will comprise the high school faculty.

Mr. Douglas, it is reported, intends to enlist and enter the ordnance branch of the U. S. service.

Water Front Transferred.

The city council met in a special called session at 9 o'clock this morning and took the final steps to provide for the transfer of the water front property between the laundry and Ferry street to Coos county. As soon as the engineers get the metes and bounds of this property platted the deed will be drawn, and it is hoped to have the whole transaction closed at the present term of the County Court.

POOL HALLS NOT CLOSED

The proposal to close all pool and card rooms except between the hours of 5 and 11 p. m. on week days, as a war measure, did not come to a vote at the council meeting Monday evening. The ordinance had been prepared by City Attorney Stanley and was brought up by Chairman Barrow, of the ordinance committee.

Councilman Lorenz voiced the plea of the billiard hall proprietors that if they were closed during week days they should be allowed to remain open Sunday.

"Nothing doing," was the instant response of Mayor Johnson to this proposal, "at least that is my opinion," he added.

Councilman Mansell was the next speaker and he thought the ordinance was getting at the innocent party—meaning the proprietors—while the aim was to get the loafers to spend their time profitably in producing something.

Mr. Lorenz, along the same line, suggested the necessity of a vagrancy ordinance, under whose provisions the loafers, with no visible means of support, could be forced to work—if only on the rock pile.

Councilman Hawkins and Barrow, were both emphatic and explicit in stating their positions. Such closing ordinances are being adopted all over the country, in some states it being legislative statute, and entirely disregarding any private opinion they might hold as to the necessity of billiard halls, they thought the temptation to loaf during working hours should be removed. Mr. Hawkins also favored the enactment of a vagrancy ordinance.

With the four councilmen standing two and two on the question of Sunday closing, the other two members were asked for their opinions. Both Mr. Miller and Mr. Gardner then stated their positions that if the pool rooms were closed during week days they should be allowed to run Sunday, and Mr. Gardner moved to introduce the ordinance permitting them that privilege on the first day of the week.

A hand grenade by Mayor Johnson that he would veto any such ordinance, supported by sharpshooting by Hawkins and Barrow that they would never vote for it, acted as an effectual barrage in killing the motion and it didn't even come to a vote.

Whether the attempt to close these places during working hours is also ended remains to be seen.

For the Red Cross.

Geo. Lester, of the Roy district, made an offer to the Red Cross this week which was quickly accepted. He will bring in a saddle horse and a two-year old colt Saturday to be auctioned off and will give half the proceeds to the local Red Cross. Nick Johnson has promised to cry the sale. The older animal is gentle, well broken and has been ridden much by Mrs. Lester. The colt has not yet been broken. Here's a chance to aid this patriotic organization and get value received for your money.

How about that war garden. The sooner it is planted the better now.

STARTS NEW FIRE

Cigarette Stub on Mossy Roof Monday Night Did the Kindling Act.

"Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth," says the Good Book, and we came very near seeing another startling exemplification of that aphorism Wednesday evening.

Back of Geo. A. Robinson's store stands a shed only about four feet away from the Baxter House, which was saved as a brand from the burning that memorable Sunday morning less than three weeks ago. At 6:20 Wednesday evening happening to look out of his back window Mr. Robinson saw fire on the roof of this moss grown relic of the early days. He immediately ran out there accompanied by his wife, Miss Myrtle DeLong and Ray P. Miller, a traveling man, who was in the store at the time. Attorney S. D. Pulford's attention was attracted by the fire which was visible from his office window. A step ladder was brought from the store which Mr. Pulford climbed while the others brought water to him in buckets and in a little while the blaze was stopped on the outside. It was on the under side of the shingles, though, and Mr. Robinson went inside with a pole and poked a hole through the roof to permit the water to reach it. This shed is about 12x16 and the moss on the roof was dry enough to catch easily.

Had this fire started later in the evening, after the store had been closed, it might very easily have attained such headway as to have wiped out most of the business section of the city in an hour or two, with the strong north wind that was blowing then.

The cause of this fire is no mystery. Mr. Pulford found at the lower edge of the hole a few inches across that the fire burned in the roof there, a stub of a Columbia cigarette a little over half an inch in length, while two or three more such stubs were in evidence on the narrow strip of ground between the shed and the hotel. The brand is mentioned because it is one which holds fire longer than most cigarettes.

The supposition, of course, was that some one smoking in an upper room of the Baxter had carelessly thrown out that insignificant firebrand.

It was later learned that Commissioners Armstrong and Philip and Roadmaster Sawyer were in such a room discussing some matters in connection with the county road work and Mr. Philip, who was smoking cigarettes, had tossed one cigarette stump after another out of the open window until attention was attracted to the fire on the roof below.

In view of such a near calamity one feels almost like suggesting that the use of cigarettes should be prohibited in such a tinder box section as the business part of Coquille now furnishes. Certainly it is not too much to ask that all who do use them shall take the utmost care in disposing of them and that those who don't shall also be on guard where they are being used and see that nothing is done to start a fire.

Another suggestion is that the building inspector shall see to it that every roof on which moss is growing shall be thoroughly cleaned off at once, so as to diminish the danger during the coming season.

Another thing. Although the Baxter has escaped all dangers for about a quarter of a century it is certainly to be hoped that ere long it will be replaced by such a modern fire proof structure as there has been so much talk of building for many years.

A Good Start in the Race.

The Coquille district's quota of the Third Liberty Loan is about \$40,000. An honor flag is to be awarded every community in Oregon as soon as the quota assigned to it is subscribed. A list will be made of these communities in the order in which they come across with their quota filled. Read about it on the Fifth page of this paper. The competition begins at 9 o'clock tomorrow. The sooner you make your subscription the farther up this honor list Coquille will be likely to stand.

Volunteers at the First National Bank before the opening of the drive have already expressed their intention to take between \$4,500 and \$5,000 of these bonds, which is more than ten per cent of our quota. Let's make Saturday a big day and subscriber at least half of the \$40,000 then.