

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AND THE COQUILLE HERALD  
COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1919.

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\$1.50 THE YEAR.

## HOW ABOUT MAIL?

### We Are Asked to Support Demand That We May Not Approve

Under date of Dec. 26, the Coquille Commercial Club is in receipt of a letter from Charles Hall, president of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce, in regard to a proposed change in the railway schedule at the Bay, for which it is hoped to secure the support of the commercial bodies of the Coquille valley.

This proposal is to add to the service a night train between Marshfield and Eugene to connect with a through train on the main line. It is proposed that this train, consisting of Pullman sleepers and a mail coach, shall leave Marshfield, going north at 8 o'clock in the evening and arrive at Portland at 7:30 in the morning. Returning these sleepers and the mail car would leave Portland at 8:00 in the evening and arrive at Marshfield at 6:30 in the morning.

The Marshfield people say that they do not wish the present schedule disturbed in any way. Of course, if that is the case the additional train from the Bay would certainly prove no disadvantage to the Coquille valley. But we note that a mail car is asked for on this train. If that means that our through mail to Portland on the present day train to Eugene and connecting beyond is to be discontinued, we have the most strenuous objections to the proposed new schedule. We certainly question whether the postoffice department will be willing to run two daily mail cars from Portland, one in the morning and the other at night down to Coos Bay. That is a point we want to see cleared up before we can advocate any change. If our one daily eastern mail is to leave Portland at 9 o'clock in the evening and get down to Marshfield at 6:30 in the morning, it will not reach Coquille until half past ten the following morning; and instead of getting the Portland dailies and our business letters at four o'clock in the afternoon as we do now they will not be distributed here much before noon the following day, and our mail service will be much the same as when we were served from Roseburg by stage. If the adding of a mail car to the proposed night train would not mean inferior mail service in the valley we will have no kick coming, if it does mean delayed mail service and bringing in the mail of the day by slow freight towards noon, we certainly shall be heard very vigorously in relation to it.

Meantime our private opinion is that the Bay people are asking what the S. P. will not be ready to grant.

## Troops Get Off Safely

The wounded and the well on the grounded Government transport Northern Pacific at Fire Island were being transferred to the shore in life boats yesterday and it was expected all would be taken off before night. One life boat loaded with troops from the transport was capsized by a heavy surf throwing 15 soldiers and life savers into the water. All were saved. One soldier and three life savers were caught under the boat. Life guards ashore rushed into the surf and after rescuing the others, dragged the boat ashore where the four unconscious men were revived.

As soon as they landed the soldiers were taken immediately across the narrow sand spit, called Fire Island, to a flotilla of small boats to carry them four miles across the shallow bay to the towns of Slip and Babylon on the south shore of Long Island. Meantime the life boats and the coast guard boat, returned for more troops.

## More Work For Red Cross

The ladies who sew at Red Cross headquarters in the Liberty Temple are requested to take notice that work will be resumed next week, beginning Monday afternoon. About 25 convalescent robes, the material for which has been at hand for over a month, are urgently needed at camp and cantonments in this country. There is also great need for refugee garments in Europe, the report being that thousands will freeze to death during the next 60 days unless clothing is sent from America. The Red Cross will furnish this clothing as rapidly as it can be made.

## The Blue Crosses This Week

This week we put a blue cross next the date on the label of all subscribers whose time is out the first of January. It was the intention to do this last week, but as the mails would not wait for the paper the question was whether to miss them and in many cases have the Sentinel reach the subscribers on Monday or Tuesday instead of on Saturday, and we decided to get the paper out on time and let the blue crosses wait a week. A good many have paid for the new year, meanwhile, so we will have fewer crosses to mark this week and as we have one more day in which to get up the paper you may look for the cross this time without fail.

## Big Motor at the Sitka

Tuesday night the big 150-horse power motor was installed at the Sitka mill which will relieve the big engine of about a third of its work. The new motor will furnish the power for the conveyors, slashers and trimmers. The new planing machine is now in operation and the new sheds, docks, etc., cover a considerable of the water front and extend out over the boom.

## NO TRACE OF MURDERER

Sheriff Gage says there is nothing at all in the story that Julius Brache, the man murdered at the Bay the night before Christmas, had just received a shipment of 36 cases of whiskey.

As to the identity of the murderer, suspicion is directed to a man who had lived at Bunker Hill and is said to have been a partner with the murdered man in the bootlegging business. But after going very thoroughly into the matter and spending several days in making an investigation, it was found impossible to identify this partner of Brache's, or to learn his name or find where he had lived. Plenty of people probably knew the facts, but both the jitney drivers who took part peddling the booze or bringing customers to the bootleggers, and those who patronized them, were as close mouthed as possible, and nothing could be learned from them.

This very silent partner of Brache, however, disappeared immediately after the murder and no traces of him were found. He has, of course, had time to go to San Francisco and sail for some seaport on the other side of the world before the officers could obtain any clue or any satisfactory description of him; and it may very likely be that the case will prove to be one of those mysterious crimes whose perpetrators are never discovered.

## Saw Fleet Surrendered

Orris Knapp, of the U. S. Navy, was a caller yesterday afternoon in company with his aunt, Mrs. Ida K. Owen. He was one of the first of the Curry county boys to enlist for sea service, having joined the colors May 21, 1917, a little over a month after war was declared. Following his example seventeen more young men went into the navy from Curry county, most of them, like him, from the Port Orford neighborhood. The young man was on the American flag ship, New York, when the German fleet surrendered and had a fine opportunity to witness that historic event. Later his ship returned to New York and he was given a furlough of 21 days, leaving him but a few days at home after crossing the continent twice. He started west the day after Christmas and will have to report there for duty on the 17th.

## Sheriff Brings In Forger

Sheriff Gage went out Wednesday morning to get R. M. Weakley, who is accused of passing forged checks at Myrtle Point. Weakley had gone to Eugene. He met the southbound train at Gardiner, where a Lane county official turned Weakley over to him, and the sheriff brought him down here and placed him in jail. The accused is a son of Lee Weakley and Mr. Gage says he admitted forging a \$3 check in the name of Bert Allen. He is also accused of forging another check for \$21.

C. W. Gilman this week purchased the front street confectionery and news stand of C. A. Machon. For the present Mr. Gilman intends to make no change in the stock or conduct of the business but eventually he will branch out and add other lines.

## WHAT AILED THEM

### Reason "Prominent" Ranchers at Tenmile Make a Roar

Three taxpayers in the Tenmile country have been writing letters to the Coos Bay Times severely criticizing the conduct of the county court and demanding a change in the administration of county affairs. They are S. Jumper, V. H. Sargeant, and W. J. Cole. The Times designates them as "prominent ranchers."

In addition to the letters to the press Cole and Sargeant, who were respectively chairman and secretary of the road meeting held in November in District No. 2, accompanied their report of the proceedings of the meeting with a letter to the court in which they recited that the meeting had refused to approve the special 10-mill road levy. They further resolved, as these men reported in the letter to the court to "adjourn indefinitely," alleging that it was "futile to tax themselves any more during the present regime."

In their letters to the press the three men mentioned complained that the court was squandering the funds wrung from them by taxation, or words to that effect.

The facts in this case make these statements and claims especially interesting.

S. Jumper is assessed for \$150 for three cattle and one dog and pays the county taxes to the amount of \$1.31.

V. H. Sargeant pays taxes on a \$50 valuation on six sheep only. He puts up \$1.07.

W. J. Cole has a total assessment of \$1165, of which \$940 is for real estate and \$225 for three head of cattle and twelve sheep. He pays \$24.80 in taxes.

These three men on the other hand drew from the county treasury for work they did on the roads during the two years, 1917 and 1918, the sum of \$1061.

That would look as if the tax money of theirs the county court had squandered had come back to them many fold. Why then their kick?

Well, Sargeant was an agitator, something along I. W. W. lines, and he was fired. Hence his wail against the reckless manner in which the county court had squandered his \$1.07 taxes by paying him several hundred dollars for making a nuisance of himself on the highway.

Cole not only worked on the road himself but his wife ran a cook camp for the force at work there and managed to fatten five hogs on the garbage thrown out at that camp. Finally the officials caught on and the work camp cook house was taken from the Coles and placed in other hands. Then the money paid for meals began to make the cook house self-supporting.

So all that appears to have ailed these men was that they had been yanked away from the public test. We have often noticed that men who pay little or nothing in taxes make the biggest howl about them—but there is usually a reason.

## Coldest Ever at Powers

Never before at Powers has the weather been as cold in the history of the loggers' metropolis as on the past three nights. Sixteen degrees above zero was registered each night, A. H. Powers tells the Coos Bay Times.

Pipes of one and a half to two inch diameter which take water to the donkey engines at camps 7 and 8, the Eden ridge camp and the construction camp froze and broke and as a result the four camps could not operate. The value of the pipes which the cold has ruined were, according to one estimate, \$5,000 but Mr. Powers says that is exaggerated. There is snow several inches deep at the Eden ridge camp.

## Two Coquille Men in List

Ninety-four men from neutral nations living in Oregon cancelled their first citizenship papers and renounced their privilege of ever becoming American citizens during the war. They were willing to enjoy the benefit of American citizenship, but balked at the paying the cost of military service.

Among the 94 were two who were residents of Coquille, or its vicinity, John Frank Nouman and Hans Christian Christenson.

## COURT BUSINESS

### Ferry and Printing Contracts Are Let—Quarantine at the Bay

The only change the county court made in the budget was to cut off \$300 from the appropriation for a county club leader for industrial school work and add that amount to the county road fund. The club leader work will be handled through the office of the county agent, J. L. Smith.

The personnel of the board was not changed for this term. John Yoakam, the newly elected commissioner, will take his seat next Monday, the law providing that the term of county commissioners shall begin on the first Monday in January.

The board has been busy so far in auditing the December bills and examining the bids for county work during the coming year. The following contracts have been awarded:

For treating the sick at the Infirmary and the county jail, to Dr. James Richmond, who is to receive \$3.50 for visits to the Infirmary and \$1.50 for visits to the jail.

For treating the indigent at the Bay the award was made to Dr. H. M. Shaw at \$50 per month.

The contract for running the Coquille ferry was awarded to R. E. Richardson at \$225 per month, he to furnish everything except the scow.

The Riverton ferry contract was awarded to Melvin Hayter at \$45 per month.

Bullards ferry went to Cassius Goodman at \$180 per month, the county furnishing the scow.

The contract for supplies for the County Infirmary here was awarded to the Coquille Valley Mercantile Co. The printing of the proceedings of the County Court—list of bills allowed—was awarded to the Coos Bay Times and Marshfield Record at the legal rate.

The printing of the officers' reports, notices, budget, etc., was awarded to the Coquille Valley Sentinel.

An allowance of \$25 a month was made to Ed Vandecar, of Eastside, from the indigent fund.

An allowance of \$25 a month from the same fund was made to E. B. Hasaker, who may be sent back to Lane county.

W. J. Murphy, representing the L. L. L. appeared before the court asking that arrangements be made for establishing a quarantine in Bunker Hill and other suburbs of Marshfield. P. W. Goodman, constable in that district, was authorized to establish quarantine in case of the influenza or contagious disease and Dr. James Richmond deputized Dr. Shaw to act in his stead as county health officer at the Bay.

## Road Will Be 18 Feet Wide

The County Court is in receipt of the following communication from the State Highway Commission:

Gentlemen: I am pleased to advise you of the recent action of the Highway Commission in appropriating from funds available in 1919 a sufficient sum to provide for paving of the Coast Highway between Marshfield and Coquille, beginning at the end of the present pavement and extending 12½ miles south.

This appropriation is made from the \$6,000,000 bonding act and provides for a 14-foot pavement with a 2-foot crushed rock or gravel shoulder on each side.

It is probable that proposals will be asked in the early spring in order to complete this improvement in a single working season. Respectfully yours, State Highway Commission, by Roy A. Klein, secretary.

The Sentinel is glad to learn from this letter that the earlier reports about a 12½-foot paving for this road were erroneous and to know that the pavement is to be 14 feet in width with a two foot rock shoulder on each side, making a width of 18 feet in all, and affording ample space for cars to meet and pass.

## Dances Still Under the Ban

The ban has been lifted here; and the churches will all hold their usual services Sunday; but the school board thinks there are still too many sick with the influenza to open the schools next Monday. No time has yet been set for opening them, though it may be Monday, Jan. 13, if conditions improve.

## Recall Killed Again

While Attorney General Brown still holds to his opinion that names may be added to a recall petition after it has been filed with the county clerk, he also says that the petition filed last year against Commissioner Archie Philip is dead, and cannot be withdrawn and refilled or used as a basis for further proceedings. Whether it will be possible to get signers to a new petition no one can tell until the attempt has been made, but since last fall's election the number of names required will be much less than at the time the petitions were circulated last summer.

## Simpson Buys the Laundry.

Wednesday a change became effective at the Coquille Laundry when A. L. Simpson took over the management of that business, having purchased it from D. Hurley, who bought it from Mr. Morrison last spring. Mr. Simpson has been connected with the laundry ever since Mr. Hurley has been its proprietor and needs no recommendations as to the conduct of that institution. He is a practical laundryman having operated large laundries in the Willamette valley. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley left Wednesday for their former home at Albany.

## SITKA MEN LEFT SUNDAY

Last Sunday morning in rain and sleet a big crowd gathered at the depot here to bid good bye and God speed to the soldiers from the Sitka mill, with a few from Prosper making 86 in all. They lined up on the main railroad track facing south some time before the train from Powers came in and gave three rousing cheers for Mr. Wernick, their employer for so long, and three more for the Sitka Spruce company. These were called for by one of the officers of the company, but then the men volunteered "three cheers for Coquille," which were given with hearty good will. For some reason the next call which was for "three cheers for home" did not elicit an enthusiastic a response, though the boys were no doubt doing a heap of thinking about that end of the trip.

While they were thus lined up the Honor Guard girls, who had provided lunch, papers and magazines for the trip, went down the line and gave each man a package of cigarettes.

The train remained here about twenty minutes to take on the baggage for the boys and the crowd that came to the depot braved the showers to say a last goodbye and to cheer them as it pulled out. They crowded every window on this side of the train and responded to the farewells with enthusiasm. Many of them, we are sure, regretted to leave, and many of them will be greatly missed by the friends they have made during their stay here.

They will carry back to their homes scattered all over the eastern, southern and central states vivid impressions of the Pacific northwest and will spread first hand stories of this country among thousands of their friends and acquaintances. We are certainly glad that they came here and learned to know us and the Coquille country.

## Sure Enough Winter

It has been real winter to a greater degree than is often experienced on this coast for the past few weeks. Yesterday morning the thermometer dropped to about twenty above zero, the ice on the pools thickening, and the whole outdoors was white with hoar frost as it has been for many mornings. The earth, too, was in most places frozen enough to bear a man's weight, which is about as stiff as it ever gets here. Farmers and ranchers are glad to see a stiff enough freeze to kill the bugs which usually remain chigger all winter and ready to begin operations in the early spring. With but few plastered houses and less protection than where the winters are more frigid, everybody is hoping for the chinook and a warm rain that usually comes before the cold lasts as long as it has at this holiday season. Still the new lawns appear as green as ever when the sun scatters the hoar frost. In the shade it has been in evidence all day.

## They Began New Terms

County Clerk Oddy, Sheriff Gage, Treasurer Dimmick, Surveyor McCullagh and Coroner Wilson will each begin a new term next Monday. Commissioner elect John Yoakam will be the only new man at the wheel then.

## WILL TAKE YEAR

### Valuation Board's Work Only About Half Completed in 1918

Assessor Beyers says that while the new valuations of property made by the assessment board in this county last year were taken into account in making all assessments on which the taxes for 1918, were based, not much more than half the work of that board has been completed. He believes it will take most, if not all of the present year to complete their work. Comparatively little beyond the town properties was reached last year. The work ahead is a complete reclassification of all ranch lands and all other lands burned over, logged off, etc. They will not make any valuation of timber, as that was covered by Dennis McCarthy's cruise from five to eight years ago. But all lands that have been logged off since the cruise will be revalued, and the amount of such lands has been increasing very rapidly during the last year or two.

The standard minimum for these logged off lands is \$3 per acre, none being assessed for less than that even if it be all rocks and tilted perpendicular at that.

Mr. Beyers mentions timber lands even which are taxed so high that the owners contemplate ceasing to pay taxes and leaving their holdings for the county to acquire tax title. This is the case of the Central Pacific Railroad company's timber adjoining Marshfield on the southwest. There the Southern Pacific is not only paying taxes on the estimated value of the timber but on a land valuation of nearly \$100 an acre, on account of its nearness to the city. This brings the tax actually paid by the company up to \$7 an acre per year, and their tax expert recommends that they throw no more good money into that rathole.

The people of this county, and especially the county court, have got to take cognizance of the fact that for every acre of timber felled and sold the actual wealth of the county grows less, and that the decrease in taxes from this source must be reckoned with from this time on. That will mean that either the actual amount of taxes levied must grow less or that other property in the county which cannot be shipped out will have to pay a larger proportion of the taxes from year to year.

## Miss Amy Cardiff New Nurse

Miss Jane Allen, who came here last summer to make a health survey of this county and arouse public interest in the employment of a county nurse, is making her final round this week accompanied by her successor in the work, Miss Amy Cardiff. They were callers at this office on Tuesday. Miss Allen is a wonderfully efficient little woman, and has made a great many friends in Coos county, who will regret to see her leave; but she is a pioneer in the public nurse movement and goes to other fields to arouse an interest as she did here. We understand that Coos is the second county in Oregon to get in line in this work, Jackson being the first.

## Kennett and Perry Lawrence

Yesterday Recorder Lawrence received a telegram from his son, Kennett, who has returned from overseas and landed at Newport News on New Year's day. He said he was feeling fine. Both he and his brother, Perry, contracted rheumatism in France. Mr. Lawrence talked with Perry over the long distance to Portland on New Year's. He was on his way to Camp Lewis for demobilization and said he was feeling well and a physician at San Francisco told him he would come out all right though his joints were still somewhat swollen.

## R. E. Nicolai Very Ill

R. E. Nicolai of the Sitka Spruce company here, returned from Portland last Saturday afternoon and became ill almost immediately with the influenza and went to the Coquille hospital. He has been there ever since and for the past two days his friends have had reason to be a good deal alarmed about his case. This morning Dr. Hamilton says his condition is very serious, though he does not anticipate fatal results.

Yesterday thirteen homes were under influenza quarantine at Marshfield.