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THE BERRY DRIVE

Some People Don't Understand What We Must Do to Secure Factory

The Commercial Club is fully alive to the possibility of the berry industry in this valley and it is the subject to which they gave the most consideration Wednesday evening. One thing they did was to endorse the efforts being made by W. O. Bradley to secure the requisite contracts for 250 acres of berries, at least half of which must be red raspberries. Mr. Bradley reported that he had signed up about fifty acres during the past week, but there are any number of men who have not signed who signify their intention to set out up to 15 or 20 acres if the plant is located here and they are assured a market for their product. While this intention listens fine it does not help in the present need, for without contracts for 250 acres down in black and white, Mr. Bradley will not be in a position to talk effectively to the manufacturers. Evidence of this is shown at Marshfield where the Phez company was to have had a representative last Monday, but he did not show up because they were shy on acreage.

The Phez people want to come in here but it would be a losing game to build a plant before they had sufficient production guaranteed, and the system which Mr. Bradley is working is the only one by which this industry with such wonderful opportunities can be developed. There are thousands of acres in the Coquille district which are not utilized for dairying or anything else, and which, with the proper preparation, would turn out a regular gold mine, taking rank ahead of dairying or lumber.

There is only a limited section of this country where the loganberry can be successfully cultivated—the Pacific northwest—and the Coquille valley is one of the most favored for that purpose.

In order that the ranchers and farmers may secure first hand information as to cost of planting, production, etc., of raspberries and loganberries the club has invited Senator Alex. LaFollette, of Marion county, who has had 21 years' experience in berry culture, to address the people of this section at a big smoker to be held in Lamb's Grove next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. Everyone who is interested, or anyone who can set out one or more acres of berries, is especially invited to attend this meeting. The smokers will be provided by the club.

Another thing done by the club was the recommendation that after a reasonable time the Liberty Temple be sold to the best advantage and removed from its present location.

C. W. Endicott was named to succeed H. O. Anderson on the Lyceum committee with J. J. Stanley and R. E. Baker.

The club extended a vote of thanks and appreciation to J. E. Norton for his efficient and faithful service as president of the Commercial Club and for his many and varied public activities during the period of the war. It was a tardy recognition of Mr. Norton's invaluable assistance, especially during the war when he served on the executive committee of every drive and campaign in this section.

The committee appointed to arrange for next Wednesday evening's big meeting was J. A. Lamb, Frank Burkholder, W. C. Chase, L. W. Oddy and Ed Ellingsen.

Turnbull Goes to Tillamook

L. W. Turnbull, former high school principal in our city schools and for the last four years superintendent of the Bandon schools, has accepted an appointment as superintendent of the Tillamook schools, at a salary of \$2,200 a year. In the high school there ten teachers are employed, including special instructors in domestic science, manual training and music, so that the change is a decided promotion for Mr. Turnbull.

Teachers' Examination

Notice is hereby given that the County Superintendent of Coos County, Oregon will hold the regular examination of applicants for State Certificates at the High School building in Coquille commencing Wednesday, June 25, 1919, at 9:00 o'clock A. M., and continuing until Saturday, June 28, 1919, at 4 o'clock P. M.

C. E. Mulkey,
County Superintendent.

Important Meeting Tonight

At the Court House to-night the Commercial Club has arranged for a meeting to be addressed by Mr. Barrows, who is sent down here by the O. A. C. people to explain the vocational schools which the federal government in conjunction with the state is now establishing under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes act. One of these schools is to be established in Coos county, which will most probably be devoted to agriculture, if some locality will furnish the equipment. The Federal government provides for and pays the teachers. Bandon and Myrtle Point are candidates for the honor; but at the county seat and in the center of the principal agricultural section of the county would seem to be the most suitable location. Our people can no doubt secure this vocational school if they go after it in dead earnest.

Simpson and Hall To Capital

L. J. Simpson and Charles Hall will soon be in Washington showing the members of the House and Senate why Uncle Sam should go 50-50 with Oregon in building the Roosevelt highway. Here's hoping they will win again, as Mr. Simpson did at Salem when the state appropriation seemed like a forlorn hope.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB MEETS

The Women's Club wishes to thank all those who participated in Saturday night's School parade including the members of the Coquille Band, the teachers and their helpers, the High School and grade students, not forgetting the little ones with their prettily trimmed perambulators, and for those loaning cars and the drivers who assisted.

They also wish to thank all the speakers who took part in the program, Mr. Leslie for the leading of the singing, and Mr. Baxter for the use of the piano and the porch.

To say who made voters realize we must have a good school house at once, we extend our most hearty thanks.

Do you think the Woman's Club has finished its work in Coquille? It does not. Over thirty were at the meeting Tuesday evening and as keen interest was shown as was ever shown before the school meeting. Among things discussed was the sort of buildings the school needed and number of buildings, what should be done with the old building, etc., and the pros and cons of the unit system.

The sentiment of the meeting seemed to be that the city must build for the needs of the pupils and must raise the amount in bonds that will give results in efficiency and health.

Every mother of Coquille and vicinity is asked to attend these meetings and be free to express her opinions.

Dr. Wilhite Goes to Kansas City

After a few months' practice in Coquille, Dr. G. O. Wilhite, accompanied by his wife and her mother, Mrs. Pierce, left this morning for Kansas City, Mo., where he has just been named as pathologist and assistant to the Surgeon at the Swedish Hospital. The position pays \$4,000 a year besides a good practice, and the doctor feels it is an opportunity he cannot afford to pass up. He regrets leaving Coquille, but says that with Dr. G. E. Low returning here next month the field is not large enough to support four doctors, and that he feels the people of this section owe considerable to Dr. Low for the sacrifice he made when he entered the service twenty months ago. Coquille loses a fine physician when Dr. Wilhite leaves, but everyone congratulates him on his increased opportunities to rise in his profession.

Public Health Nurse Meeting

Miss Jane Allen, the first Public Health Nurse in Coos county, was a caller this morning accompanied by Miss Helen Cantine, of Portland and Mrs. R. H. Corey, of Marshfield, and daughter. They had come over by this morning's train to attend a meeting of the Public Health committee at the city hall at one o'clock this afternoon. Miss Cecil Schreyer, the new county nurse, Mrs. F. G. Drake, of Myrtle Point, and Miss F. Amelia Henry, of Bandon, will also be here to attend the meeting. Coquille is represented by Mrs. Virginia Lamb, the vice president; while Mrs. W. C. Chase will act for Mrs. C. J. Fuhrman, who is in the east.

MEET OUT DOORS A SIX-INCH MAIN

Over 400 Voters Attend the School Meeting and It Overflows

Due to the activity of the Women's Club, the change in the law allowing all citizens over 21 years of age to vote and the general feeling that better school accommodations for our children are imperatively demanded here in Coquille, there were 430 votes cast at the annual school meeting here in Coquille Monday evening, instead of only 45 as a year ago.

People began coming almost an hour before the time set for the meeting and by the time Chairman True made the call to order almost every single seat in the High School auditorium was carrying double and all standing room was occupied while the big hall was also crowded. Though the failure to make a call for the meeting in the Sentinel as required by law rendered it inadvisable to attempt any other business except the election of the directors and clerk, which the law explicitly specifies shall be done at the annual meeting on the third Monday in June, that furnished interest enough for a whole evening's entertainment.

Indeed, after tellers had been appointed to collect and count the vote the suggestion was made that people outside in the hallway could hear nothing of the proceedings and it was at once voted to adjourn to the yard in front of the building, there being ample sunlight there for the business in hand, and the rest of the meeting was conducted under the open sky as the day waned and twilight began to fall. In the aftermath with Venus beaming alone in the western sky the scene was a unique one, emphasizing as it did the need for a larger assembly room for the district than the old building furnishes.

When nominations for a director to fill the two year vacancy caused by H. O. Anderson's removal a late comer who had not heard the reading of the notification by County Superintendent Mulkey that a vacancy existed which the meeting was required to fill, secured the re-reading of the document. The suggestion that, owing to failure to publish the required notice, the meeting should pass up the election of directors until there was a legally called meeting, did not take with the voters present; City Superintendent Baker calling attention to Judge Coke's decision in the Eastside case, in which it was plainly stated that the election of directors should take place on the date the statute sets for the annual meeting, notwithstanding any informalities in the call.

So the business went on, C. W. Endicott being placed in nomination by M. O. Hawkins and A. T. Morrison by H. A. Young. Each nomination was greeted by hearty applause.

Six tellers were appointed by the chairman for this election. Mr. Sinclair's motion that both directors be chosen on one ballot was withdrawn when Mr. Sanford explained that such action must cause confusion, and doubt as to its legality. The tellers named were: O. C. Sanford, J. E. Norton, H. A. Young, W. C. Chase, A. B. These men took their position on the big doorstep in front of the school house and the voters were directed to pass between them as they dropped their ballots in the hats. The procession moved from left to right as do the hands of a clock and with a double file, the scraps of paper which "fulfill the freeman's will as lightning does the will of God," were dropping at the rate of seventy-five a minute; and as they speeded up there is no doubt there were a hundred votes a minute being cast at "the height of the season."

When all had voted the tellers went back to count, which required several times as long as to cast the ballots, and nominations for director for the full term to succeed F. C. True were called for. J. E. Norton presented the name of Edwin Ellingsen, whose services as contractor and builder would prove so timely for the district if new school houses were to be built, and E. H. Kern named F. C. True to be his own successor.

The tellers this time were Ralph Nosler, Walter Oeding, Clarence Tuttle and Ray Jeub, and the voters again filed across the doorstep with as much alacrity as before.

Nominations for school clerk were next in order and Mrs. D. D. Pierce,

(Continued on third page.)

City Will Provide For Future By Laying a Big One on First Street

A special meeting of the city council was held Tuesday evening at which all members except Councilman Skeels were present.

One of the reasons for calling the meeting was the necessity for a prompt decision as to the water pipe to be laid on Hall and First streets before the paving is put down. Mr. Moon will be ready soon to begin work on his sewer and paving contracts, and Mr. Lamb, chairman of the water committee, had received word from all the large dealers in pipe that there was no 6-inch pipe on the coast except galvanized, and the price on that is \$70 a hundred higher than is the price of Mathewson, which the city had intended to use, \$91.20 being the quotation on the latter and \$162 on the galvanized. There was some talk of putting in a 4-inch pipe from the hospital corner to the theatre but inasmuch as the city is building for the future as well as for its present needs it was decided to instruct the water committee to get the six-inch pipe, even if it did cost more, and make a permanent job of it. That a four-inch pipe would not satisfy the demand when First street was built up solidly with such structures as the postoffice building, the Laird, the First National Bank and the Machon buildings was evident and the council wisely decided that a larger expenditure now would save considerable money for rebuilding the water line in the future.

The other important matter considered was the Taylor street fill. A remonstrance has been prepared to stop this important link in the Roosevelt Highway because some of the property owners did not know what the improvement would cost them. This fill will be worth many times to this city what it will cost and any move toward blocking the council's program is to be regretted. The people living on the Marshfield road will get a paved street in front of their places for a small fraction of what most of the improved streets in town cost, and it does not require a very broad vision to see what this road will mean to Coquille.

But the city administration has intended all along to pay a part of the cost of this improvement out of the general fund and so they voted Tuesday evening that if the improvement was made the city should bear a third of the expense. It hinges to a certain extent, too, on the new county court's attitude toward building the bridge at Coquille next year, and the council will endeavor to ascertain the court's intention in this matter at their next session, July 2.

The city engineer was instructed to prepare figures based on his estimate of the cost of the fill, showing what the assessment per front foot of the improvement district would be. Also the time for filing a remonstrance was extended until next Monday in order that all the property owners affected might ascertain what amount would be taxed against them.

In order to settle disputes as to the charges for water service the council adopted a resolution fixing rates as follows:

The laundry and the ice plant are to pay \$15 each per month, or if they prefer they can have the water used put through a meter.

The residents using city water outside the corporate limits are to pay a minimum of \$1.50 per month for domestic purposes with the regular rate in addition for bath, toilet and other extras.

Where two families conduct separate establishments under one roof they shall each pay the regular rate for domestic purposes.

On water meters, between May 1 and December 1 of each year the rate will be \$3 per month.

W. C. Chase was appointed and confirmed as fire chief to succeed H. O. Anderson.

Mayor Joranson reported that Water Superintendent Goodman had tendered his resignation verbally to take effect July 1, and announced that S. V. Epperson would be Mr. Goodman's successor, subject to the council's confirmation. There was no objection and Mr. Epperson has signified his intention to accept the appointment.

Adjournment was taken until 8 o'clock next Monday evening when the Taylor street matter will again

come up for consideration.

Power Co. Must Have Sawdust

The Bay papers bring the news that the Mountain States Powers company is finding the operation of its plant with fuel oil so extremely expensive that it will stake the C. A. Smith company for needed repairs sufficient to set at least one side of their big mill in operation and secure sawdust fuel again. Eight new boilers will be required to do this at an expense of about \$15,000. We have been in the habit of thinking of sawdust as an almost useless by-product of a lumber mill, to be got rid of with as little expense as possible; and here we find one of the biggest mills in the world going into commission again solely on account of the demand for sawdust. The mill, of course, is shut down on account of litigation over the property, and no one interested in that is willing to put up the money to run while its status is unsettled. So the Byllesby corporation will stake it for a few thousands in order to get the cheap fuel and supply its patrons with juice at a profit instead of a loss.

The residence of H. K. Fredenburg on Hall's Creek was burned to the ground, with nearly all its contents on Sunday night, June 8.

BERRIES FEED THE BIRDS

Our city is now suffering from the depredations of a gang of thieves, who are also carrying on their operations in the adjacent country. It has come to such a pass that the looters are being shot by the scores, notwithstanding any laws that may exist for their protection, and there seems to be little doubt that the most drastic measures will have to be taken for the extermination of the gang.

The Sentinel has always stood for protecting our song birds, taking the stand that the vegetables and fruit they took were no more than a fair recompense for what they were doing in destroying grubs and worms and other garden pests. But it is a condition rather than a theory which confronts us now, and the marauding of the birds must be stopped if we are to have any fruit left for ourselves. Last year our nearest neighbor, Dad Woodford, called our attention to a loaded cherry tree in his yard that had been stripped in a single day. No it was not pilfering boys, for the pits had been left by the feathered bipeds. This year the birds have taken more than three quarters of our currants and the rest had to be picked before they were ripe in order to save that moiety. A heavily loaded bush not ten feet from our windows was stripped bare, where a fence afforded a secure perch for the little thieves. Strawberries, too, are the object of their raids, and it is getting evident that we must restrict the output of birds if we are to get any berries. We missed the splendid chorus that used to greet us at dawn in Kansas, when we came to Oregon, and even now the warblers seem to be comparatively inconspicuous when it comes to singing, but that is perhaps because they can't leave the berry patches and cherry trees long enough to give us a grand opera chorus at daybreak.

Seriously we have come to cultivate fruit mostly for the birds, if we don't take some measures to curtail their ravages. Their are some of Plato's "featherless bipeds," too, who are doing something in the thieving line. Not long ago the Burkholder home on Taylor street was entered and stripped of all its eatables, and two of Mr. Sherwood's three mole traps have disappeared. Coquille has been for the most part free from the depredations of sneak thieves, since we have known it, but there are some prowlers, who need to be peppered with buckshot or beans now.

He Spends a Year in Paris

After a year's service in France Hugh Harlocker arrived in Coquille last Sunday afternoon. Much of the time he was on duty in Paris and practically all his time since the signing of the armistice was spent there. He was there when President Wilson first arrived in France and witnessed the huge demonstration in his honor. He was discharged very quickly after arriving in the United States, reaching Camp Lewis five days after landing at New York. Hugh is looking fine and says Coquille looks good to him.

Calling Cards, 100 for \$1.00.

WILL ARBITRATE

Gov. West Offers to Settle His Claim Against Coos County in That Way

Referring to the action taken last week by the new County Court in relation to Governor West's claim in the matter of his services in promoting the payment of taxes on the former Southern Oregon company's lands by the U. S. Government, under date of June 16, Mr. West has sent the following reply to the court without waiting to receive an official copy of the court's resolution:

To the Honorable County Court of Coos County, Coquille, Oregon.

Gentlemen: Being advised through the columns of the Coquille Valley Sentinel as to the action recently taken by your Honorable Court with reference to my fee for services rendered in connection with the claim of your County for taxes against the Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant and believing that it would be plainly to the interest of all concerned to have this matter adjusted without litigation and its accompanying expense, I would respectfully suggest the following method of settlement:

1. Submit the matter to Judge Coke of your County, or
2. Submit it to three citizens of the State, not more than one of whom shall be a resident of Coos County, to be named by Judge Coke, or
3. Submit it to three citizens of the State—one to be named by your Honorable Court, one by the writer, and these two to select the third.

Should either of these propositions be adopted, I will accept as final any award made thereunder. It is to be distinctly understood, however, that if neither of these propositions be adopted nothing in this letter is to be construed as a waiver of any rights growing out of any order of your Court, and the findings of Judge Watson, with reference to my employment and fee.

Trusting that this suggestion will meet with your approval, and that I will be advised at an early date as to what action you have taken with reference thereto, I am respectfully yours, (Signed) Oswald West.

Sweet Bros.' Safe Blown Open

The store of Sweet Bros., at Langicis, was robbed by burglars last Tuesday night. The proprietors are W. J. and A. P. Sweet, sons of J. B. Sweet, of this city. They blew open the postoffice safe and got \$350 in cash and one \$50 Liberty Bond. They also took \$13.50 from the money drawer of the store but overlooked an envelope containing \$250 in Liberty Bonds and another with \$120 in currency. Mr. D. P. Plymale, who lodged near the store, heard a car stop there late at night, but that is the only clue to the robbers.

Won't Deliver Messages

We are feeling the effects of the wire strike here when the telegraph operator at the depot refuses to deliver commercial messages and people who have sent messages asking their friends to meet them at the train are found sitting on the porch when their hosts return from a Sunday hike. To inconvenience the general public seems to be the trump card on the part of the strikers, though it causes the innocent to suffer for the guilty.

Fountain Built For All Time

J. D. Graham yesterday completed the concrete drinking fountain and water trough which the Commercial Club ordered installed at the south end of the parking in Willard street. It is made of reinforced concrete and will last for generations. It is attractive in appearance and fills a long felt want in Coquille. The middle section is covered and locked to prevent molestation by mischievous boys of the automatic float and valves.

Old Pavement Torn Up

The work of tearing up the old plank on First street from the Machon Theatre to Hamilton's Hospital, which has so long been a nuisance and an eyesore, was begun last Saturday and most of it has already been purified by fire. After the laying of the new water main and sewer through that street, the contractors, Moon & Co., will proceed to pave it.