

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AND THE COQUILLE HERALD

VOL. XIV. NO. 28.

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1919.

\$1.50 THE YEAR.

LOST HIS BRIDE

Jan. Molony Hunted All Over Town for His Bride—Were Finally Married

A wedding with some unexpected frills occurred here Tuesday afternoon when Miss Virginia Clarke and Jan. Molony, both of Marshfield, were united in marriage by Rev. Jas. E. Conder.

Accompanied by Miss Lillian Seaman, the bride and groom to be were driven over from the Bay by Theo. James in his car. As both the men are Elks the local branch of the order had decided to give them a royal reception, so while Molony and James went for the license and the minister, leaving the ladies at the hotel, Chas. Harlocker and Ben Currie call at the hotel and tell the young ladies that the ceremony will be performed at the Currie home and that they will escort them thither. Arrived there they find the groom has not put in an appearance and they sit down to wait. Two or three other Elks show up and join the party, but Miss Clarke gets very anxious before Mr. Molony finally arrives.

After securing the license and the minister, James and Molony rush back to the hotel only to find the bride is gone. A good half hour is spent looking for them, a call at the depot to see if the ladies are taking the train to Marshfield, a run out to May or Johnson's home and up to Chas. Harlocker's, and finally at James' suggestion down to Ben Currie's. Each time the car stopped and Molony ran in to see if Miss Clarke was there. Mr. Conder got out also and followed him to the door, prepared to tie the knot on the spot. Finally arriving at Currie's the happy pair were united and both recommended Mr. Conder to prospective brides and grooms as one who is on the job every minute.

After the ceremony the couple were given a free ride in one of Fred Slagle's big trucks with sufficient clatter of iron pipes to call everyone's attention to the newly weds. The jass men of town here they were speeding out of town for Marshfield with a "Just Married" sign on the rear of the auto, but a telephone call to the bay notified their friends there to be on the lookout for them.

Trip to Yellowstone Park

Jas. Laird and wife returned Wednesday from a month's trip in their car to Yellowstone park. They were accompanied by Misses Emma Kennedy and Winifred Spencer and P. W. Laird and family, of Myrtle Point in their car. The party travelled 3600 miles and were on the move every day but four, spending four and one-half days in the park. They found some hot weather, especially in the Bitter Root valley in Montana, where the thermometer showed 108 degrees. Mr. Laird says that everywhere along the routes they travelled the parks were fitted up for the accommodation of tourists and where every convenience was provided to make their stay pleasant instead of allowing them to shift for themselves. Coquille will do well to take note of how autoists are treated elsewhere when the Roosevelt Highway is finished.

Coquille People to Crater Lake

Tuesday morning quite a number of Coquille people started for a trip to Crater Lake, intending to go on down into California, after having gazed upon its placid surface, and then over the mountains into California down to the coast, and home again by way of Crescent City and Gold Beach. Among them were Miss May Lund, county supervisor of schools, who drove her own car, her sisters, Della and Flossie, Miss Clara Nelson and Emmett A. Oursler, of Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Schroeder and their daughters, Rosanna and Ruth, Miss Eva Schroeder and Judge Watson; Max Dement, of Myrtle Point, and family. Though not able to get off on time, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Harden also expect to overtake the party.

Pacific Fleet Arrives

Yesterday at San Diego the greatest naval pageant in the history of the Pacific coast was witnessed by thousands when the Pacific fleet under Admiral Hugh Rodman passed in battle formation before Sec. of the Navy Daniels. The fleet travelled the 5,000 miles from Hampton Roads, Va., in nineteen days. An effort is being made to have Coos Bay named as the base for some of the smaller vessels of the fleet.

The Howards Here on a Visit

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Howard, of Eugene, came in Sunday afternoon to spend a few days with their many friends here, by whom they were very cordially welcomed. Mr. Howard, in addition to his school duties, is doing some historical work for the state university, his subject being the development of secondary schools, (academies, high schools and the like) in pioneer days. The state university, he says, is specializing in historical work and will try to interest high school pupils in gathering materials for pioneer history in their own localities. Mr. and Mrs. Howard went down yesterday to spend a part of their vacation at the beach. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lyons, who will spend the balance of their vacation there, and E. E. Johnson and family.

Bridge Is Needed Badly

M. O. Hooton on Wednesday finished the building of a 10x14 house for Ferryman Kidd to replace the structure destroyed by fire a few months ago. Some idea of the strenuous life the ferryman now leads may be gathered when it is stated that on one Sunday last month 300 cars passed over the ferry. That bridge can't be built any too soon.

TWO KINDS OF CANARY GRASS

Whether Reed's Canary and French Canary grass are the same or entirely different varieties of the species is a problem on which D. C. Krantz, of Arago, thinks he can shed some light. He has received from a correspondent at Ada who is in the market for Canary grass seed some samples of the seed of what his correspondent calls Reed's canary grass. The seeds are much like those of the French canary grass Mr. Krantz is growing in shape, though there are probably differences in texture that could be detected by a good glass. But the bright yellow color of the Reed's canary grass is in such marked contrast with the dark olive color of Mr. K.'s French canary, that there can be no question about their being different varieties of grass.

Mr. Krantz brought in a sample of his grass: "from a field that was cut June 26, so that it has been growing just 41 days—and it measures over 58 inches in height and has headed out and is turning purple. A crop in six weeks would be a good record for alfalfa."

Mr. Krantz says that his cattle in clover up to their knees leave it to browse on the French canary. As to the dictum of the agronomists of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., he has this to say; his cattle in July fed on canary grass raised one point in butter fat, while his neighbors' herds fell off.

School Board Met Last Night

The school board for district No. 8 met at the city hall last evening and spent considerable time examining the plans of school houses prepared by the two architects in attendance. No decision was reached but another meeting will be held tomorrow evening to make a selection.

A contract was awarded Willey & Son to do some necessary plumbing at the high school building to the amount of \$93.

Miss Harriett Sweet was released from her former contract and then elected teacher of the eighth grade at a salary of \$95 per month.

Miss Clara Ireland and Miss Forest Snyder, of Cotaage Grove, were elected grade teachers at a salary of \$85 per month.

Balance Same as for Last Report

County Treasurer Dimmick's semi-annual report appears elsewhere in this issue. He began the new year with \$63,022.65 on hand and has since taken in \$388,905.52. During the same time he has paid out \$388,011.64 and now has on hand \$63,926.53, having a little more than held his own during that time. If, as is confidently expected, the Southern Oregon taxes are paid during the last half of the year, his business both in receipts and expenditures will be much greater than that for the first six months. In that case the figures will pass the million mark both going and coming.

The Coos Bay Business Men's Association is suing W. B. Berger and Edna Berger, his wife for \$103.35, of which \$89.70 is said to be due the Farmers Union Store of this city.

BOY OF 14 ACCUSED SEEKING A MOTIVE

Harold Howell, of Near Bandon, Held for the Murder of Lillian Leuthold

Last Saturday morning two proper boys, Carroll Warden, aged 18, and Harold Howell, aged 14, were arraigned before Judge Wade in the county court room charged with the murder of Lillian Leuthold, and Monday set as the day for them to plead. At Monday's preliminary after about a dozen witnesses had been examined the older boy was freed and the younger one held to the grand jury for the crime. They had been brought up here, one Friday night and the other Saturday morning, so that they could not confer with each other as to the answer they were to make to the charge.

Warden was brought in first—a round-faced, rosy cheeked young man with dark, bushy hair—looking the personification of good health and good nature. He was evidently full of animal spirits and one of the last persons in the world to be picked out as a criminal. His father, Joseph Warden, was with him to speak for him, and the boy said absolutely nothing while he was before the judge. The writer watched him closely as the complaint sworn to by John Leuthold charging him with murder was read to him. Not a muscle quivered; there was not the slightest indication of nervousness or anxiety, such as any one confronted with such a charge is supposed to feel at least.

But when the judge read the words, "shot her with a leaden bullet," while he did not move or display any other symptom of emotion, "his eyelids twitched upward and dropped again. Just why those words should surprise him into such a gesture we could not understand and one could but wonder what was the thought that flashed through his brain and caused that quick questioning movement of the muscles. Could it have been because he remembered that the rifle his young chum owned carried an unjacketed leaden ball?

At the close of the preliminary Monday District Attorney Hall advised the court that he had investigated young Warden's case thoroughly and that he had no evidence on which to hold the boy. Warden swore on the stand that after four o'clock that Sunday afternoon he played cards with Howell until the latter started for home between five and ten minutes before six. The matter was not further referred to in the testimony but Warden's gun could not have carried the fatal shot, and the District Attorney had satisfied himself as to his whereabouts when the shooting occurred.

The other boy arraigned on Saturday was a different looking lad altogether, with brown hair and sallow complexion. The first thought one had of him was that his face was an odd one for a boy of fourteen. But he did not betray himself by any indications of nervousness. When informed that he would be in charge of the Sheriff until Monday he expressed a desire to see his folks, mentioning his mother especially. But he began then to talk and to tell where he was at the time of the murder. The expression with which he began was, "It's all a mistake," and he appeared very anxious to impress his story of his whereabouts that Sunday evening upon Judge Wade, as if that was especially important, until the judge told him to wait until the proper time to make a statement. Further studying this boy to find something that would mark him as different from other boys, we noticed but one marked peculiarity—the upper lobes of his ears were thickened and bulging, standing out at right angles to the side of his head, instead of flat upon it, as most ears are. Whether this was any index to his character we could not say.

Ten witnesses were introduced by the state, whose testimony as far as it appears of especial pertinence we shall refer to later. C. F. McKnight, who appeared for Howell, then moved that the charge against his client be dismissed, claiming that there was not a scintilla of evidence on which to base it.

"The motion is denied," responded Judge Wade but he went on to say he wanted to hear one more witness, Samuel Whetstone, gunsmith of this city, before closing the case. Mr. Whetstone was placed on the stand

(Continued on third page.)

The Probable Reason Which Impelled a Boy to Murder a Young Girl

The reporters, who have been writing up the investigation of the Leuthold murder case seem to be puzzled to find any motive which could have impelled Harold Howell, the 14-year-old boy, who is held for the crime, to have committed it. If he committed it there seems to be only one possible motive to assign. If he met Lillian Leuthold on her way home between 5 and 6 on the Sunday afternoon of the tragedy he probably seized her and proposed improper relations. When he met with the rebuff, he certainly did, he was not only angered but he began to think about how he would stand at home and with the members of his family and hers if she told the story of his attempted assault. He had but little time to think in an instant he decided to use that gun on the theory that dead girls tell no tales—a decision that indicates something abnormal about the young man. All this on the theory that the officers have found the murderer; and it only remains to find a motive for the crime. We are not attempting to prejudice his case, but if he is guilty to suggest something that could have led him to commit the crime. We are not supposing much of a struggle between the boy and the girl, for in a struggle she probably would have been nearly enough to have prevented him from accomplishing his purpose.

Having said this much on the theory that the Howell boy committed the murder we may mention one rumor we have heard in connection with the tragedy which militates against that theory. While the murdered girl was being dragged towards the hiding place amid the jungle by the roadside in which her body was found, it is said that there were two or three rats, each one marked by a pool of blood, which would indicate that the murderer was a person of slender physique and was taxing his strength to the utmost. That would, of course, agree with the theory that the murderer was a mere boy. But again it is said that the person who moved that body from the roadway pulled it up on a log and then threw it by an effort away into the thicket where it was hidden, swinging it clear above the undergrowth of weeds and bushes, so that they were not trampled at all. This statement, if correct, would certainly imply that Harold Howell was not the person who tried to hide her body after murdering Lillian Leuthold.

Sheriff Gage says, though this statement was not made when he was on the witness stand, that it is true that the clothes young Howell wore on the day of the murder have not been seen since.

We have also just learned that complaint has been made to the sheriff's office that young Howell has been accosting girls passing on the street from the windows of the jail. That he is not a normal but an abnormal boy is beginning to be the opinion of those who are learning what there is to know about him.

Insane Man From Bay

Last Friday afternoon Fred Miller, a night foreman at the Bunker Hill mill, who is said to have been at one time a prominent attorney in Mississippi, was brought over here in handcuffs by Constable Goodman, of Marshfield, because he had become violently insane. He was accompanied by his fiancée, Mrs. Genevieve Williams, whom he had just received a license to wed, which made the occurrence especially sad one. He was so violent that Dr. Houseworth had to resort to opiates to make him tractable. It is hoped that the attack will be temporary, however, and that a short sojourn at the state hospital will result in his restoration to health.

Stanley Clears His Client

J. J. Stanley, attorney for Carroll Warden, the case against whom was dismissed by Judge Wade last Saturday for complicity in the murder of Lillian Leuthold, should be given all the credit for clearing the young man, as he worked hard on the case last week and brought to light sufficient evidence to convince District Attorney Hall that his client was in no wise implicated, and Mr. Hall moved that the case be dismissed.

County Court Session

Most of the county court's attention on Wednesday and Thursday was devoted to auditing and passing on bills.

In the matter of the appeal of Wm. Grimes and D. T. Flynn, separately, and Wm. Grimes and L. F. Price jointly for a reduction of assessment, the district attorney was instructed to enter into a stipulation by which last year's assessment will be reduced to 80 per cent of the original figure. The case is over two Marshfield lots assessed at \$11,000 and \$20,000 respectively and as this year's assessment was cut to 80 per cent the district attorney advised that last year's figures should be made the same as this. The reduction applies only to the lots and not to the improvements thereon.

A widow's pension of \$17.50 per month was allowed Mrs. Daisy J. Fredericks, widow of the late I. C. Fredericks.

The option given to the Nestles people is elsewhere noted.

The court decided on the Larson slough road, which has been a bone of contention for two years, that it should be a dyke road and run up the south side of the slough for the whole distance and not cross it twice as Archie Philip has asked.

The court adjourned last evening until Monday noon.

WILL BUILD WAREHOUSE

Yesterday the Nestles Condensary company of Bandon, through its manager, E. E. Oakes, made a deal with the county by which it secures a 60-day option for 125 feet of river front, between the river and the S. P. right-of-way, just east of Ferry street in this city. The price paid is \$3,250. When the city sold that property to Coos county last year a provision was inserted in the deed that should the county ever desire to dispose of any of the tract the city of Coquille should have a prior right to repurchase over any other buyer. So to enable the county to give a clear title to the property the city council met yesterday afternoon and waived any and all right the city might have.

It is the intention of the Nestles people to erect a warehouse at this point as a receiving and shipping station. All shipments to the Bandon plant will pass through this warehouse and their finished product will likewise be loaded on the cars here. It will also be used as a receiving station for milk for this section.

The cans in which the condensary milk is put up come loose in the car and it will be in this warehouse that the boxes will be put together and the empty cans placed therein before being taken down river to the condensary. It was stated three or four men will be required the year round to handle the company's business at this point.

They Moved It Several Times

Looking today at the men plowing up and carting away the surface earth on First street, we wonder again why that dirt has been moved so many times to no purpose, as it must be taken away at last. Why not have taken it away in the first place and then have had that much less to move in digging for water mains and sewer mains and the multitudinous laterals? We have been observing this sort of work for many years, and it seems to us exactly like filling up a hole to dig it out again. Why so carefully roll the surface, either only to plow it up and cart it off the next day. But men are always settling things to unsettle them forthwith, despite the fact that "nothing is ever settled until it is settled right."

Has Another Jack Phenegar

Hark Dunham thinks he got hold of another Jack Phenegar in the Wilson boy here whom he recently took to the St. Mary's home at Portland. John had hardly more than got there before he and another boy ran away. They were captured but John ran away again taking three other boys with him and is still at large. By Wednesday morning's mail Hark received the commitment papers for the boy with a letter stating they will have nothing more to do with him. It looks as if it was John for the reform school when the officers get hold of him again. He is a son of the late Jeff Wilson, of this city, and had grown entirely beyond his mother's control.

Send the Sentinel to eastern friends

THE TEMPLE TO GO

Council Votes for Its Removal—Make a Start on More Street Work

At the council meeting Tuesday evening Mrs. L. P. Branstetter, in the name of the Woman's Club, presented to the officials the recommendations which the ladies had adopted at their last meeting. These suggestions included the urgent need of a rest room in Coquille, the desire that the city purchase the Lamb grove, that the power and telephone poles be kept painted as required by the ordinances, and that a city clean up policy be maintained, which will insure that every property owner keeps the grass and weeds cut in front of and around his premises.

As to the Liberty Temple Mrs. Branstetter said that considering the objections there had been expressed against converting that building into a rest room, the ladies were willing to acquiesce in any move the city made towards its removal. This put it up to the council for prompt action and on motion by Councilman Skeels the removal of the building within 90 days was ordered.

The marshal was instructed to enforce the ordinance requiring that weeds and grass be kept cut, and also to see that the debris left by the builder of the drinking fountain on Willard street be removed.

Several Hall street property owners were present to request that the improvement on that street between Second and the gulch and on Third between Elliott and Taylor be postponed until next spring, the lateness of the season before work could commence there rendering it almost certain that they would have to wade through the mud all winter. The council agreed to the postponement but decided to declare their intention at once of making the improvement in order that earth in Third street might be used in making the Taylor street fill. The estimated cost of improving those four blocks is \$2,272.

Moon & Co. were issued warrants for the construction of the Hall and First street sewer in the amount of \$1841.20.

Councilman McLeod reported that Geo. A. Robinson was willing to put in the bridge for his full half of the streets on Front street just east of the present pavement if the city would pay for the additional intersection. As this would make a vast difference in the appearance of that section as well as make it safer for pedestrians and autoists, the council expressed themselves as willing if Robert Train could be induced to completely bridge his side of the street. At a late hour last evening Mr. Train had not consented, but with a sidewalk to be built as the alternative for failing to extend the bridge to his property line, leaving a ten foot gap in front of his place, it is probable that he will agree to the plans for a bridge the full width of the street on Front.

The council will meet again next Monday to open the bids for the Taylor street improvement and also to pass on the petition of Arthur Ellingson for the narrowing of Henry street between First and Second from 98 to 50 feet.

For Standard High Schools

The school district in which Lakeside is located will vote on the 27th of this month on the proposition to establish a standard high school at that place. As 82 out of the 40 voters in the district petitioned for the election there seems to be little doubt that the matter will be approved by the voters.

On August 29th the voters of the consolidated River-ton, Sunnyside and Lampa school districts will vote on a similar proposition. A \$3,000 addition to the school building at River-ton is also contemplated.

Leases His Norway Ranch

M. M. Schmidt this week leased his ranch a mile this side of Norway to Jos. Stelling, from Humboldt county, California, the latter taking immediate possession. At the same time Mr. Schmidt bought the Jas. W. Clinton place, adjoining his, of 20 acres for \$3,000. This is pretty nearly the high water mark for land in that section.

The Geo. W. Elder which formerly ran between Portland, Coos Bay and San Francisco, has been sold to South American interests.