

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AND THE COQUILLE HERALD

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\$2.00 PER YEAR.

OLSON A SUICIDE

Takes Strychnine and Dies in His Room—No Reason Given for the Act.

Albert J. Olson, a young man about 21 years of age, put an end to his own life at the Brewster Apartments here Wednesday afternoon by taking a dose of strychnine.

He left no statement as to the cause of the act, though there was perhaps a reference to his intention in his remark to Mrs. McLeod as he went up to his room that he was going to bed and would not get up again that night.

He has been in this vicinity most of the time for a year past and had recently been at work on the new Smith-Powers logging road north of town, but found the work too heavy for him, and had been for about a week working in the Donaldson restaurant for his board. A. B. Donaldson says he had slept with him for the three previous nights without noticing anything unusual about him.

He was, however, subject to epileptic attacks and that is perhaps a reason for the desire to end his life. He was talking, too, of sending for his wife and was complaining of the difficulty of making a living. But this was not his first attempt to commit suicide. While staying in Portland with his mother and other members of the family last Christmas he blew out the gas on retiring, and came very near passing in his checks then.

Yesterday morning he was at the restaurant but after dinner went to Knowlton's Drug Store and asked for strychnine. The reason he gave for buying it was that he wanted to poison rats. It was suggested to him that there were better things than strychnine to use for that purpose, but he said he had a new scheme to kill rats in a special way and nothing else would do.

So he bought a 100 grain bottle, went up to his room and put the whole of its contents in a glass of water, but only managed to swallow a part of it.

Then he began to threaten about and made such a noise that it attracted the attention of Mrs. McLeod as she was passing his door. She tried the door and found it locked, and then Earl Nesler, who rooms there, broke open the door when it was found that he was vomiting. Dr. Hamilton was summoned, but he only gasped once after the doctor came, so there was nothing to do but to remove his remains to the Undertaking Parlor.

Olson's mother died of the flu in Portland Feb. 21st. She once lived on a farm near Port Orford, and had been more recently cooking in a logging camp near Mt. Hood. His father is still living but had been divorced from his mother.

He has a brother named Henry, who is working in a logging camp near Aberdeen, Wash., and a sister 14 years old who is working in a factory in Portland, a brother Fred, who is one of the life saving crew at the Bay, and a sister living in California.

Justice Stanley notified his brother, Fred, at Empire, and he said he would come over on the afternoon train but for some reason failed to arrive.

March True to Form

March which came in so amiably has been true to form, as usual, and showed very lionlike qualities during its last days. Monday was, it is true, very bland and spring-like and seemed to promise rapid growth of garden sage; but Tuesday gave us a bitterly cold rain making it one of the most uncomfortable days of the winter, which was followed that evening by a snowfall that whitened every roof, and later by enough more to cover the ground an inch in depth. While it disappeared during the morning, it took all the warmth in the air to do the work and left it chilly indeed.

Clothing to Be Lower

The government reports indicate that the crest of the wave of the high cost of clothing has been passed—not that prices are noticeably lower now but that there is less disposition to buy the highest priced articles regardless of cost. If the people of this country would all with one accord stop buying anything in the clothing line except absolute necessities for the next ninety days, and everybody would make his old suit last that much longer, prices in that line would fall so far and so hard as to be heard around the world.

River Commerce in 1915

The following statistics of the commerce of the Coquille river are furnished the Sentinel by Port Commodore J. E. Norton:

Outward Tonnage.
Lumber, 23,603,000 feet, weighing 124,207,724 pounds, or 67,454 tons, consisting of the following items:

Sawed Lumber, 21,505,000 feet, weighing 124,412,000 pounds.

11,330 Berry Baskets, containing 161,700 feet of lumber, weighing 209,500 lbs.

46 Piles, containing 20,700 feet and weighing 109,500 lbs.

322 Poles, containing 149,400 feet and weighing 672,900 lbs.

5,425 Railroad Ties 6x8, containing 289,920 feet of lumber and weighing 1,079,450 lbs.

59,225 Railroad Ties 7x8, containing 1,151,221 feet of lumber and weighing 4,605,293 lbs.

There was also shipped 1,229,176 pounds of cheese, making 794 tons and 77,579 pounds of butter, making 18 tons; and 235 tons of miscellaneous merchandise.

The total outgoing shipments amounted to 67,887 tons.

Inward Tonnage.
Miscellaneous merchandise, 5,602 tons.

Total tonnage, outward and inward, 73,551.

Passenger Traffic.
Outward, 153.

Inward, 238.

Total Passengers, 391.

NEW CLUB IS FORMED

Sixteen of the 25 or 40 business men who had signified their willingness to form a business men's club and take over the equipment of the defunct Ko-Kee Club, met at the club rooms last night and effected an organization. Temporary officers were elected, and committees on by-laws, house rules, soliciting of charter members, and repairs were appointed.

The meeting was enthusiastically in favor of maintaining such a club, with a strict rule concerning the introduction of visitors. In order that there should be no deficit in the operation and maintenance of the club the initiation fee was fixed at \$15, and dues at \$2.00 per month.

Three names were suggested, "The Illabes," "Coquille Business Men's Club," and "The Tillicum Club," but choice of a name was deferred until next Thursday evening when another meeting will be held to elect permanent officers, adopt by-laws and regulations and receive reports of committees.

Blackberries and Thistles

B. Bartlett of Myrtle Point called Wednesday to renew his subscription for the Sentinel. Speaking of the blackberry crop he says he has some plants of the Corey thornless berry, which has the same fine flavor as our early native berries but produces a much larger fruit, which will be in bearing this year. They are the variety found growing wild in the mountains in California and certainly well worth cultivating.

Mr. Corey has a word to say about the rapid spread of the Canada thistle, especially in the river bottoms of this county. Those who know the habits of this pest, the ease with which its downy seeds are spread by winds and floods and the extreme difficulty of eradicating it when it once gets a foothold, will agree with him that concerted action should be taken to keep it from getting possession of our best land. He thinks it was brought here from Humboldt county, California, and tells of a dozen localities in which it is spreading rapidly. Some counties in Oregon have made this thistle the subject of drastic laws to prevent its spread and he wants to bring the matter to the attention of our county court.

In Jail for Forgery

L. L. Billings, of Myrtle Point, who was arrested in 1917 for forgery but discharged to join the army, has been rearrested and was brought down here and placed in jail by Marshal Reddell. He agreed, when he enlisted, to make good the \$147 worth of forged checks which B. C. Shull had cashed, but failed to do so and was re-indicted in October. Billings had forged Shull's name, but Shull, thinking they had been drawn by his son, told the bank to pay the first one, and after that the bank paid five or six more; so Shull was left holding the sack when his son came home and said he had signed no checks.

TO GIVE \$2,167 EMPLOY PERHAM

Coquille More Than Tries the Sum Asked for Armenian Sufferers.

Liberty Theater was crowded Monday night when Samuel C. Lancaster, state chairman of the Armenian drive and J. J. Hansaker, its secretary, appeared to make an appeal for the Near East Relief Fund.

Mr. Lancaster, who is known as the "Father of the Columbia Highway," carried with him a big tripod on which was mounted an oval box containing a football which is to be given to the public school in Oregon which does most to relieve the suffering victims of Turkish misrule. He told how he could not refuse the appeal made to him to take charge of this drive, although he had to let important business go to enter this field. He also told how the Portland schools had contributed beyond all expectation to the fund.

Mr. Hansaker told in detail some of the horrors the Turks had inflicted on the Armenians, how men and children had been massacred and women had suffered worse than death. He also commented on the many views of scenes in Armenia thrown on the screen, and told how that people placed their hopes in America.

At the conclusion of Mr. Hansaker's talk subscription cards were circulated among the audience asking pledges to subscribe from \$1 a month up, after which hats were passed to collect cash contributions.

The result was \$1636.50 in subscriptions were pledged and \$78.51 cash contributions. This total of \$1,715.11 surpassed all expectations and showed that Coquille has a heart. How great a surprise it was to the officers of the drive can best be understood when it is stated that \$1,088 was the sum received the previous night at Marshfield—a city twice as large as Coquille and having much more than twice our wealth.

But this does not tell the whole story of Coquille's gifts—of which we do not boast because compared with the needs of those people any gift seems pitifully small—but \$482.52 had been subscribed before the meeting making a total of \$2,197.63. This is about half the amount asked of the entire county, besides which a considerable amount has been paid in at the banks since.

Gothro Gets \$3,000

The case of Geo. Gothro against the Southern Oregon company for commission on the sale of timber lands effected by him has been tried here this week for the third time, the jury having disagreed in each of the former trials. Gothro, who was in the employ of the Southern Oregon at a salary of \$100 a month, claimed that under his contract with the company he was entitled to a 5 per cent commission on sales of timber made by him. He asked \$5,000 on \$100,000 in sales and back of this is said to have similar claims amounting to \$17,000. The jury this morning gave him a verdict for something over \$3,000 on his \$5,000 suit.

New Cases in Circuit Court

March 27—A. McDonough and Lily McDonough, his wife, vs. Geo. Elliott, Mabel McCully, Mrs. Fay McCully, Ray McCully, Ralph McCully, Read McCully and Pearl McCully.

March 29—Marshfield Land company vs. Archie Madden.

March 30—Arthur J. Freeburg vs. Leona A. Freeburg. Suit for divorce.

March 31—Annie Sarah Hackwood, formerly Annie Sarah Cross, vs. Claude C. Moon, Marguerite Moon and S. K. Wiseman.

Storm Worst This Year

Last Tuesday was the worst day of the year, from a weather standpoint, for a public sale but the Henry Radabaugh sale at Norway was fairly attended and the stuff sold better than could have been expected under such adverse conditions. The highest price paid for cows was \$110, and one horse went for \$200.

Doing Much Concrete Work

J. L. Willey is doing the concrete work for the foundation of Arthur Ellington's residence, and recently finished the job of laying 800 feet of concrete flooring in John Assen's basement garage, and laying a concrete walk in front of the Ellington place.

Board Contracts With Him to Build New \$50,000 High School Here.

The Sentinel has before stated that the school board has notified A. E. Bybee & Co., of Albany, who made the low bid for the construction of the high school building here that they would not pay the additional amount beyond their bid which they asked on account of the rise in the cost of building materials, returned their check and released them from their contract.

Tourtelotte and Hummel, the Portland architects, have been apprised of this action and asked what arrangements can be made with them releasing them from their services as superintendents of construction.

At a meeting held Tuesday of this week, the school board, through its chairman, W. L. Kistner, and its clerk, O. C. Sanford, entered into an agreement with E. G. Perham to supervise the erection of the new school building, with the exception of the installation of the heating plant and the plumbing.

Under the terms of this agreement Mr. Perham is made the purchasing agent of the board, after all estimates have been submitted to and approved by them. He will also have full and complete control of the work of erecting the building, subject to the direction of the board.

Mr. Perham is to devote his whole time to this work while the building is in progress of erection; and is to receive as his compensation 12 1/2 per cent of the \$49,916.92 which is the estimated cost of the building including his fee. His fee is to be payable monthly on estimates approved by the board, but 25 per cent of the amount will be retained by the board until the completion of the building.

If the total cost, including Mr. Perham's fee, is less than the amount of the estimate he is to receive one-half the amount saved. If the total cost exceeds the estimate Mr. Perham is to pay one-half the excess.

It is stipulated that the building must not in any event cost more than the amount for which the district can legally obligate itself for its construction.

The board reserves the right to terminate this contract at any time by a pro rata settlement with Mr. Perham, on the amount so far expended.

Subject to the state school law, the board reserves the right to make any alterations it may see fit in plans and specifications.

It has not yet been decided whether the building shall be constructed of concrete, hollow tile or of brick.

Mr. Perham thinks the building can be finished by Sept. 1 of this year, so as to be ready for the opening of school next fall.

Caught at Last

Gordon Nelson of Preuss, who passed worthless checks in Bandon and Marshfield, on a Bandon Bank in which he had never deposited more than \$2.00, and got away to pursue the same game in other parts of the state, has at last come to grief. He was arrested in that city, and the following is the story of his apprehension as told by a Portland paper:

On a warrant charging the forging of a check for \$175 in the name of R. L. Herrick on the First National Bank of Medford, Gordon Nelson was arrested at the Fashion Garage, Tenth and Taylor streets, Sunday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Rexford. Nelson, who was arrested on a warrant under the name of "John Doe" Dunlevy, is said to be the son of the postmistress of Preuss, Ore. He is also accused of being implicated in bad check transactions at Marshfield.

Will Be Discharged Soon

Wm. Beaver, who was arrested at Bandon March 20 by G. C. Helfertine, as a deserter from the U. S. army, has been in jail here since that time. His time had expired and it is a question whether he is really a deserter. The army officers have been notified but pay no attention to the case, and the sheriff proposes to discharge him very soon.

Examiner From Capitol

The First National Bank here was checked up Wednesday by Charles Maxey, of Washington, D. C., from the Comptroller's office in the U. S. treasury, the district examiner being off duty on account of sickness.

Twelve Cents for Logan

Coquille Valley people who have signed up to plant loganberries to be paid for at the market price with a guaranteed minimum of about 8 cents a pound will be interested in the following press dispatch from Salem:

Twelve cents a pound for all loganberries grown in the Willamette valley was offered by the management of the Albany co-operative cannery, according to a telephone message received in Salem today. It also was stated that the Albany cannery would accept the entire Willamette valley crop of strawberries, gooseberries and other fruits.

The Salem plants have not yet made any offer for berries, but they are expected to meet the figure of all outside concerns which invade the local field.

Share Changed Hands

Yesterday was business deal which has been pending for some time here was consummated when John W. and Ray F. Miller purchased the stock of the Coquille Hardware company and took charge of the store. The partnership stands unchanged. The new managers are well known in Coquille where they have grown to manhood and have the best wishes of the community in taking charge of one of our leading business houses. They will retain the services of Wm. Pettys and William Oddy as clerks.

THIS WAS BOYS' WEEK

Dr. V. L. Hamilton reports the following additions to the census returns during the past week:

Wednesday, March 24, to Mr. and Mrs. Antony Biase, who live west of the city, a boy.

Friday, March 25, to Mr. and Mrs. Burton C. Burnett, of this city, a girl.

To Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Collins, who live on the Brametter place, a boy.

Sunday, March 22, to Mr. and Mrs. One Samwell, who live down the river, a boy.

Tuesday, March 30, to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd S. Conrad, a boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. Olaf T. Nelson, of Coquille, a boy.

If there is anything in the idea that the birth of more boys than girls is an indication of coming war, the ratio of five to one would seem to indicate danger ahead. We prefer, however, to think the stork is merely trying to restore the balance of the sexes which was so much upset by the world war.

Death of Mrs. Torrey

Monday noon of this week Mrs. Hannah Torrey passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. E. Shelley, in Knowlton Heights. She was almost 86 years of age and her death was due, not to any acute disease but to a gradual falling of the bodily powers. She was able however to be up and around until a couple of days before she died.

Mrs. Torrey was born in New York State and had lived at Kingman, Kansas, for thirty-five years, where she had for many years taken care of an invalid son. Upon his death about a year ago, she came to this city to live with Mrs. Shelley who was her only surviving child. During the past few years Mrs. Shelley had spent much time with her in Kansas. Mrs. Torrey's remains were taken to her old home in Kansas for interment. Mr. and Mrs. Marc Shelley, her grandchildren accompanying them. They left here Wednesday morning.

Card of Thanks

For the kindly assistance rendered during the illness and after the death of our mother; also for the beautiful floral offerings received, we take this means of returning our heartfelt thanks to our friends and neighbors.
H. E. Shelley and Wife.

Brought to Jail

Frank Sherman and Warren Eckles, who were arrested at North Bend last Monday for operating a still there, were brought over here Tuesday by the U. S. officials and placed in jail to await the arrival of a federal warrant.

The Next Number

J. C. Herbman will be here on April 9th on the Lyceum course. Mr. Herbman was here about four years ago and those who heard him then can vouch for his ability as a lecturer.

U. OF O. CONCERT

Orchestra Gives Fine Entertainment—Audience Enthusiastic in Applause.

Had the audience been comfortably warm at the University of Oregon Orchestra recital Tuesday evening they might have shown a greater appreciation of the efforts to entertain them, but we doubt it, for there was no lack of applause and the university students expressed themselves as being delighted with the manner in which their program was received.

It was a strictly instrumental concert with the exception of two tenor solos and an encore by Mr. Frank Jus, who has a voice of rare sweetness. The violoncello solos by Miss Lena Techner captivated the audience and called forth repeated demands for more of it, but she confined herself to bowing her thanks.

The state solos by Miss Beulah Clark were also well received and her renditions of "Allegretto" and "Tranquillo" showed constant practice and painstaking effort.

The orchestral numbers, under the direction of Mr. Rex Underwood, were all given with a unity and zest that stamps their director as a very capable man, and the music was especially pleasing and entertaining.

The stringed instrument quartette, Messrs. Underwood, Galley and Misses Potter and Techner, was another of the outstanding features from a Coquille point of view, which is always partial to the violin, and their numbers were hugely enjoyed as were the Few Minutes of Jazz by Herbert Becker on his slide trombone, assisted by Simpson, Deming, Joe, Byrne, Strohecker and Clark.

An earnest appeal by Mr. Ralph Hooper to the voters to work for and vote for the millage tax to be submitted at the primaries on May 21, was one of the very interesting features of the program. With an increase of 12 1/2 per cent in the number of students since 1915, the university's millage income has increased but 3.5 per cent and how to keep the institution going unless greater funds are forthcoming is a problem in which no one has found the answer. Mr. Hooper had an effective manner of delivery and address and he apparently carried conviction to his hearers.

After the program a very pleasant dance was given in Laird's Hall in the university students' honor by the local high school pupils.

The young ladies and gentlemen from the university were entertained by various citizens at their homes during their stay here. They left Wednesday afternoon for Myrtle Point and last evening appeared at the Bay. Coquille would be glad to again welcome this band of very able musicians.

Money Came Yesterday

The money for the \$54,000 school bonds of District No. 8 was received last night from the purchasers, Clark, Kendall & Co., of Portland, and is on deposit at the First National this morning. There were 54 bonds of \$1,000 each, carrying semi-annual interest coupons of \$27.50. They are dated March 20, 1920 and run for twenty years, coming due March 30, 1940. However after March 20, 1930, payment is optional with the district. They bear 5 1/2 per cent interest. The net amount received from the bonds was \$54,142.25, accrued interest and a \$28 premium being added and the lawyers' fee of \$100 for examining the proceedings being deducted.

Should Go East Awhile

Those people who complain about a three days' cold rain here the last of March ought to live for a few months in the east. There in six or eight states there were cyclones last Sunday with 100 deaths, a big toll of wounded and property losses of tens of millions. Weigh that against the discomfort of a January rain in early spring and you will understand how light our weather worries are.

Bridge Plans Approved

At a special meeting of the Commissioners of the Port of Bandon Wednesday the plans for a draw-bridge across the river at Coquille, which had been submitted by the county court, were approved and a permit for its erection was granted. At the same time a permit was granted for the extension of the wharf at Bulwark.