

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

AND THE COQUILLE HERALD

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON. FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1927

THE NEW COUNCIL

Holds First Meeting Monday—Mayor Hamilton Appoints Committees

It was a case of a short horse soon curried with the old council Monday evening. Mayor Johnson called to order and after the reading of the minutes put the motion that the council adjourn without date. He then stated that he wished to thank the members of the old board for their courtesy and kindness during his three and a half year incumbency of office and wished the new mayor and council a very successful administration.

The new mayor, Dr. V. L. Hamilton, said he desired to thank the old council for the very efficient way in which they had conducted the city's business. He then passed a box of excellent cigars around to everyone in the room.

Recorder J. S. Lawrence took this opportunity to state that all his relations with the old council had been very pleasant and he wished to thank them for their kindness, courtesy and assistance.

The fiscal offerings having all been passed, (none of the retiring members waited to tell how delighted they were to step down and out), Mayor Hamilton called to order and the new council all answered "present" to roll call, viz: Dr. C. W. Endicott, E. W. Gregg, A. O. Walker, Geo. S. Davis, Allan McLeod and W. H. Mansell.

Nominations for chairman being called for, Mr. McLeod nominated C. W. Endicott and the latter nominated W. H. Mansell. The latter declined the nomination, but the ballot was taken and resulted in five votes for Mansell and one for Endicott. The former was thereupon declared elected.

The mayor made the following appointments as officers, and the appointments were confirmed, with an accompanying resolution fixing the salaries at the same figures as were in vogue for December, 1926:

Day Marshal, B. L. Hollenbeck, \$125 per month, from general fund.
Night Marshal, A. P. Miller, \$125 per month, from general fund.
Water Superintendent, S. V. Epperson, \$125 per month, from water fund.

City Treasurer, O. C. Sanford, \$150 a year from general and \$100 a year from water fund.
City Attorney, J. J. Stapley, \$60 a month from general fund.

Fire Chief, Earl Nozler, \$5 a month from general fund.
Health Officer, Dr. Jas. Richmond, \$10 a year from general fund.

City Engineer and Street Commissioner, A. N. Gould.
The recorder's salary is divided as heretofore—\$75 from the general and \$50 from the water fund.

The six committee appointments were:
Ordinance — McLeod, Endicott, Gregg.
Water—Endicott, Gregg, Walker.
Streets—Mansell, Davis, Walker.
Fire—Gregg, McLeod, Mansell.
Lights—Davis, McLeod, Mansell.
Finance—Walker, Endicott, Davis.

The bond of J. S. Lawrence in the sum of \$1,000, with E. E. Johnson and M. O. Hawkins as sureties, was approved.

The bonds of the city treasurer at \$1,000 and of the marshals at \$500 each were made the same as heretofore.

The Coquille Valley Sentinel was designated as the official city paper.

City Treasurer Sanford reported that his annual report was on file with the recorder and had been approved by the finance committee of the old council. It was ordered published and appears elsewhere in this issue.

Councilman Mansell recommended that the marshals, water superintendent and fire chief file monthly reports concerning the business of their departments and the mayor stated that he would advise them that such reports would be required.

With the organization work thus completed the council then spent an hour or more discussing water and the best means of securing an adequate supply. Out of this discussion came a statement from most of the members that, with a view to stopping the waste of water, they favored the use of meters by every consumer of water at a rate which would yield about the same revenue to the water department as is now received. These meters would cost in the neighbor-

hood of \$10 each or about \$5000 to fill the city's requirements.

What to do to furnish more water for city use the council, of course, could not decide at their first meeting but they made arrangements to go up to the headwaters on Rink and Walker creeks next Sunday to acquaint themselves with the country and the possibilities of getting all the water that is now wasted from those streams.

Water Superintendent Epperson suggested that during the rainy season a large basin on Walker creek might be sluiced out and a storage dam, about 15 feet high, built which would hold hundreds of thousands of gallons of water for use during the summer months.

The possibility of laying a pipe line from the upper valley of Cunningham, above the poor farm, was also mentioned.

The advisability of securing the services of some practical water man who would examine all possible sources of supply, and one who would make an unbiased report, was favorably considered by the council and Mayor Hamilton has written to U. of O. and O. A. C., asking them to recommend such a man.

But whatever plan is worked out, it is practically certain that something will be done this spring to relieve our annual shortage of water in August and September.

D. O. K. K.'S FIRST DANCE

The first annual ball of the D. O. K. K., a Pythian auxiliary organization, took place at Goulds' Hall last Friday evening and was a complete success in every respect. Seven hundred invitations had been sent out, and the lodges of North Bend, Marshfield, Bandon and Myrtle Point were all represented, though owing to the interruption of traffic between here and the bay and the fact that the Norma left Bandon so early in the afternoon a great many who had planned to attend were unable to be present.

As it was, however, there were 175 couples on the floor at one time and after dancing through the program with 26 regular dances and six extras, the dancing was prolonged for another hour and a half and the crowd did not disperse until 2:30 in the morning.

The grand march at the opening was led by Mayor and Mrs. V. L. Hamilton, and from that time on the affair was so enjoyable that no one wanted to stop.

At the Woodmen Hall where the banquet was served, consisting of hot roast beef sandwiches, salads, cake and coffee, two cooks and three or four waiters were kept busy serving the crowd until 4:50 of the 500 present had been regaled.

And fifty or sixty more couples would have come over from the bay if there had been a late train, and 18 or 20 from Bandon. But there was a jolly bunch present as it was, and the managers ask us to express their hearty thanks to the Knights of Pythias and citizens who contributed to make the affair the grand success it was.

Was Fine Entertainment

The second number of the American Legion course at the Liberty Theatre last Tuesday evening, with Alice Louise Shrode as the attraction, is pronounced by those who heard her as the best lyric number ever given here. This little lady is a wonderful entertainer and she earned the warmest encomiums from her auditors. Although one of the most severe storms of the winter was raging that evening, the box office receipts amounted to \$35.

Weather Report for December

The December weather report for McKinley furnished by Postmaster H. L. Hansen is as follows:
Total precipitation, 17.86 inches.
Greatest in 24 hours, 1.95 inches.
Rainy days, 23.
Clear days, 1.
Cloudy days, 20.
Rainfall since Sept. 1, 45.20 inches.

Since Wednesday noon, when we had the first sunshine of the year, the rains have let up for the most part, though we had quite a shower last night; but this morning gave us clearing weather and northerly airs, for a brief respite between times, so that we see reason for hoping that January will be a drier month than any since August.

WE ARE SHUT IN FALL IN OLD WELL

No Through Trains Since Monday—Bad Breaks to Repair

The train service between here and Portland was interrupted on Tuesday and neither passengers nor mail have been able to get through since. That night the train got down here about 8:30, transfers having been made at a 180-foot slide that carried the track away at Betzen, four miles beyond Cushman. Wednesday there was another slide in that section and the track was blocked at Lakeside by fallen trees and more slides, so that the morning train north did not get beyond that point, but turned about and returned to this city.

Yesterday the morning train got as far as Reedsport, the logs across the track at Bufo having been removed. No trains have yet been over the stretch between the Umpqua and the Siuslaw, so that it is not yet known how many slides or windfalls there have been on that part of the road.

There is talk that it will be necessary to drive piling for the 180 feet of track at Betzen before it can be made safe for trains, so that it is altogether uncertain when traffic will be resumed on this line. We deem it very improbable that any train can get through for a couple of days; and meantime we are completely isolated from the outside world.

Was McDonald's Employer

Former Sheriff W. W. Gage, who attended the funeral of the late Jack McDonald at Marshfield last Tuesday, told the Times that he was one of the well known logging operator's first employers. After Mr. McDonald had worked in the woods and learned the business he was employed by Mr. Gage to take charge of a camp. Mr. Gage paid McDonald \$4 a day, which at that time, in the year 1903, was a big salary. Mr. Gage says he thinks he was the first man to pay \$4 a day for work in the woods of Coos county, and that McDonald was the first man he paid that large a salary to. Mr. Gage was a warm personal friend of Mr. McDonald in later years.

Moving to Anacortes

An old friend, Albert E. Bettys, of Fairview, who recently sold his 198 acre ranch there to Mrs. Hattie Bledsoe for \$10,000, says his wife is taking him up into Washington. He was in here Monday preparing to start for Anacortes, Washington, to look for a location to settle down and grow up with the country. He was altogether uncertain, however, how long they would stay there, and thought spring would very likely find them back in the Coquille valley. Mr. Bettys is one of the old settlers in the Fairview valley, or Burton's Prairie as it used to be known, having come there in 1874, and will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends.

By Motor Boat to Coaledo

The high water and interruption of railroad traffic this winter recalls the experience of still higher water and more complete interruption of railroad service eleven years ago in November, 1909. At that time for about a week J. C. Savage and J. Stewart Lyons carried the mail over to Coaledo in a motor boat, the entire track up to Green Point being under water. They followed the railroad track with the boat the signal arrows at the top of the switches being just at the surface of the water. The water was higher then than at any time since the log jam of 1899 just above this city.

Water Over Road Again

Though there have been no trains between here and Myrtle Point since the first of the week, the indications are now that the river which has been at the flood stage between here and there since Monday will go down and leave a clear track sooner than trains will get through from Portland. Meantime the Coos Bay Limited is limited to the stretch between Coquille and Reedsport, and railroad traffic is very much demoralised.

Death of Bandon Postmaster

R. E. L. Bedillion, postmaster at Bandon, died suddenly on Wednesday, suffering a relapse after a partial recovery from an attack of typhoid fever. He was a prominent citizen and formerly owner and manager of the Bandon Woollen Mills.

WAS IT A STILL?

Archle Philip and Son Are Accused of Moonshining at Ranch

The Coos Bay Times says that Archle Philip Jr., generally known as "Mike" Philip, was arrested last Friday at the Philip ranch on Kentic inlet on the charge of violating the liquor law. A gasoline stove, parts of what Constable Goodman and Special Deputy Bryant declare are a still, some mash and some liquor were brought in with him.

The officers also had a warrant for Archle Philip, former county commissioner, but he was not found at home. Mike Philip refused to enter a plea until he had consulted C. F. McKnight as his attorney. Mr. McKnight was at home ill. Justice Joehnk fixed his bail at \$50 and turned him over to Constable Goodman. Goodman gave him two hours freedom on his own recognisance to see McKnight.

Goodman and Bryant informed the court that considerable of the material had been dumped while they were gaining access to the Philip's house. However, they gathered part of it and an analysis of this is being made by J. Lee Brown, chemist. On Tuesday the case was continued until Thursday on account of Mrs. Philip's illness, she being wanted as a witness.

The case was on trial yesterday at Fireman's Hall with a big crowd in attendance. The following were the jurors who were trying the case: J. E. Cooley, Arthur Blanchard, Geo. W. Gage, Ansel Wood, Albert Abel and W. B. Curtis.

BOOZE FOR BATHING

Adolph Charpentier, a Frenchman, from Bunker Hill, was discharged from jail here December 24, after serving thirty days on a charge of making moonshine. He had been sentenced to both fine and imprisonment but was released on condition that he would pay \$15 on his fine this month and \$25 in February.

His case was a peculiar one and illustrates the hardships one is liable to encounter who violates the letter of the prohibition law without any intent to do anything wrong. He has a wife and five children, one of whom is simple minded and not strong in body. Though he was "caught with the goods" so far as moonshine was concerned, and regularly sentenced in Justice Joehnk's court, he claims that he had never sold any of the stuff and had not drank any liquor for thirteen years. What he wanted the booze for, as he tells it, was to bathe that crippled boy. If his story is true, clemency was well deserved in his case.

A pathetic incident in this connection was the letter that his little daughter wrote to one of the clerks at the court house, with hearty thanks for the gift of money given Turnkey Evland for Charpentier when he left on Christmas eve. Her thanks for the gift were profuse, as she told how much the gift had brightened the day of her father's return for them.

Innocent Man Pleas Guilty

It is, of course, impossible that any law so commonly violated as the prohibition law can be enforced without occasional mistakes and injustices. It's an old story we have to tell, yet worth recalling as illustrating that feature of law enforcement. Something over a year ago Peter Gioia and Albert Roth were arrested in this county and each sentenced to four months in jail and to pay a \$400 fine. They were caught with the goods, and according to our recollection, the automobile which Gioia was driving was confiscated. He deserves no sympathy and had coin enough to pay his fine and get out as soon as possible. But Roth, who also pleaded guilty was guilty of nothing more than of having been picked up on the road and taken a ride in Gioia's car. Being a foreigner, who knew little of our language, and without counsel, he knew nothing of his rights in the case and supposed that he was guilty of something when caught with the bootlegger, and suffered a long incarceration, though, he was guilty of no offense. As he pleaded guilty, no one can be blamed for his sentence, but the case illustrates the liability there is of error in the enforcement of the dry law, as well as other laws.

The Sheriff's Force

Sheriff Ellingsen has retained Miss Ada Wittman as clerk in the legal department of the sheriff's office and appointed S. A. Malchorn, of this city, as his first deputy. R. A. Jehb is also retained, and we were surprised on visiting the tax collection department yesterday to find that E. H. Mast had been promoted and come up from a position down stairs and was at work on the books there.

Will Be Mourners' Bench

They have rechristened that long bench on the west side of the lobby where people congregate who have business with the tax collector up in the second story of the concrete annex to the court house "The Mourners' Bench." If you can't guess why, you will understand when you go up there to pay those 1926 taxes, which are about 50 per cent higher for Coquille people than the 1919 levy.

Acetylene welding, brazing and machine work at Graham's Garage.