

# THE COQUILLE HERALD

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Devoted to the material and social upbuilding of the Coquille Valley particularly and of Coos County generally.

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## "THE LIMITLESS NERVE OF IT!"

A month ago the Herald published an article by A. S. Hammond which was frankly an argument that the county should throw off all penalties, costs and interest on the Kinney properties, and accept in settlement the net amount of the taxes due. Mr. Hammond states that the taxes, etc., charged up against the property at this time amount to about \$80,000 and that by the time the foreclosure proceeding could be completed this would amount to about \$120,000, or about twice the net amount of the taxes. He states F. B. Waite tried to raise the money to settle these taxes but was unable to do so. The inference given is that he could and would raise \$60,000 for the taxes alone. Mr. Waite has a mortgage on the property, and it is generally understood that he expects to take the property on the mortgage, leaving the scattering Kinney creditors to hold the sack.

To go into the history of the Kinney deals and the Kinney property would take a volume of immense size, and then it would be incomplete. There is probably only one man living who could furnish the correct data and he is not in a mental condition to furnish the story. To touch briefly, the property has been in litigation for years, and the titles are in a mess of which no man holds the solution. There are creditors in shoals. Many of them have legitimate claims. Many have stuffed claims. Up to this time the latter have seemed to stand the best chance. The property has been in such shape that no one could collect his dues by law. Many of those holding legitimate claims have become disgusted and discouraged and seem to be willing to lie down and lose their money, rather than possibly throw good money after bad. This state of mind on the part of those holding legitimate claims seems to be responsible for the present apathy which is enabling those who are suspected of scheming to take in the property for practically nothing to work their will unmolested. If the compromise for which Judge Hammond argues be made, it will enable Mr. Waite to get title by the foreclosure of his mortgage and own the property for an investment of actual cash amounting to a mere bagatelle in comparison with the value of the lands.

As to that value, there may be and is quite a difference of opinion. Judge Hammond says: "The lands against which these taxes are assessed are all wild and unimproved, sandhills and ravines, covered with brush and stumps and for the most part divided into blocks and lots—about 3000 parcels in all. It has practically no value except for speculative purposes. There is no present demand or market for it." No one can say that this is untrue as stated. Yet there are other facts that argue quite differently. The property is situated in the very heart of the Coos Bay peninsula. It is the center of the area on which the coming city must be built. Marshfield is on one side and North Bend on the other. Both are even now handicapped for growth by the intervention of the "Kinney property" where the line of their natural development lies. A city of 50,000 population would cover the whole area of the peninsula. The central activity of the high-priced business property of that city would inevitably be on the Kinney property. The speculative value given to the land by these facts is a very much alive proposition with nothing of the "wild cat" about it. The city of 50,000 will be built, and he would be rash indeed who would place that as the limit. The value of centrally located business property in a city of 50,000 is approximately the value that will be touched by lots on the Kinney property in the next few years. Judge Hammond states that if the County attempts to foreclose, many of these lots will sell for 10 cents each. He also says there is no demand for the property. The only reason there is no demand for the property is because a title cannot be given. Even with the title in doubt there has been a lively demand for the lots at times. With the bright prospects at this time and with a good title offered, the demand for lots on the Kinney properties would be immense. Nearly everyone who has faith in the future of Coos Bay would like to reap some of the benefit of rising values in real estate, and no safer investment could be made than on the Coos Bay peninsula.

The County ought not to abate one cent or one mill on the amount due. If Mr. Waite and his associates are to take in property that will make them millionaires, and shut out all other creditors, let them at least pay Coos County what is due for taxes and all interest and costs. The sublime nerve of the proposal that the county give them \$30,000 to \$60,000 as a gracious gift is staggering, to say the least.

"Patronize home industry." "Trade at home." What a fine lot of tabulated advice we are given, to be sure! Every merchant expects the newspaper to come out every few weeks with an article drawing attention to the evils of sending your money away to the mail order houses. In this connection, it is a curious thing how many merchants there are who seem to think that they are

"above the law" in this regard. When they have a little job of printing they send it away to Portland without a thought of giving the Herald or the Sentinel office a chance to do it. One business man makes it a practice to take orders for a line of printing in common use here that can be furnished by the Herald as cheaply, as well printed and much more promptly than by the Portland firm to which he sends it. Is it not about time that the rule be made to work both ways? We will suggest that the next time you get a bill or monthly statement from a local store you examine it and see if you find the name and address of a Portland firm of printers in small type between the lines of ruling. If you do, just ask the merchant why he does not buy his printing at home.

The Sentinel is still repeating the same old assertions which the Herald has proved to be untrue—that this paper "abused" the Sentinel for "standing up" for the McLeods, and that the Herald has shown a fondness for Cameron. Unable to make a showing before those who read the Herald, the Sentinel is evidently banking on the effect on its readers who do not see this paper. Well, we will let it go at that. If the Sentinel thinks it gains enough by such a course to overbalance what it loses in the eyes of the people who see both publications, it is welcome. Go to it.

The Herald "assumes to sit in judgment" on the Sentinel by exactly the same "authority" by which that paper sits in judgment on the Record or the Agitator. No paper can take on its own motion a position so high and sacred that this paper will stand in awe-struck and worshipful silence when it feels like criticizing. We have, aforesaid, pierced the hide of, and provoked weak replies from, editors who occupied positions so far above that of either the Coquille Valley Sentinel or the Coquille Herald, that we long ago lost our trembling fear of consequences in such cases. We not only "claim" but we "take" the right to criticize any paper or any individual on earth. We do NOT attempt to dictate how any other man shall run his paper. He can run it to suit his own peculiar ideas—and we will call attention to the peculiarities whenever the spirit moves us. He may "resent this as an impertinence," but that cuts no ice whatever. In the words of the poet, "This is a free country, sic transit gloria mundi tic dolereaux."

## Coos County

The Herald's Special Coos County News Service

### Arago Personals

Peterson Bros. have completed their grubbing for this fall.

Farmers are busy this week threshing and baling hay, and getting ready to fill silos.

There has been several nights of frost which damaged the late potatoes and corn.

Ellis Bros. will complete their logging this week.

Mrs. Barkdoll and family have moved to Marshfield.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Donaca, September 30, a son.

Mr. Minard has returned from Washington.

Mrs. Mathery, of Johnson's mill, was visiting her sister, Mrs. Donaca this week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle, a daughter.

Ellis Bros have a contract cutting wood for Mr. Tracy.

Mrs. Ellis, of Norway, has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Donaca.

Mr. Schrieffer, of Myrtle Point, put in two telephones at Arago, one being for Thomas Donaca and, the other for Mr. Tracy.

Mrs. Farrier's father, mother and sister were visiting her one day this week.

Mrs. DeLong is slowly improving after her long illness.

Mrs. Pinkston left here for Eugene where she will visit her son Gilbert.

Ed Myers and family took a trip to Bandon last Sunday in their car.

Sunday school begun last Sunday.

Hesey Root and family are visiting in Ashland. They will be gone about a week.

### East Fork Items

Lester Maze and Claud Kranz were hunting a couple of days last week. They got a fat two-pointer in the rough Seel creek country. It took them one day to get the deer and another day to pack him out.

Neva Harry turned his automobile into a freight wagon last Friday. He brought out from town a range in front of the back seat and three people riding in the front seat.

Last Tuesday morning, a trace of frost; Wednesday morning, a white, snappy, icy morning; Thursday, a black frost morning. Some corn fields look as though a fire had scorched them; others were not much singed; some gardens not

touched. Eighty or more rods away pumpkin vines were frozen stiff and the upper part of the pumpkins frozen. The days are beautiful.

Mark Weatherford is the man for Congress. If he is elected the First Congressional District will have something more than a corn cob without any pit in it.

R. A. EASTON

### Bridge Briefs

Mr. Pierce made a trip to Bandon last week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Ford expect their daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wilcutt, from Astoria next Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcutt expect to locate here.

We had some heavy frosts here last week.

Mrs. W. A. Roselle and son Lawrence came over from Broadbent the fore part of last week to look after their property and crops. They were guests in the Hufford home during their stay here.

R. A. Cribbins is painting the gymnasium, which was built last spring.

The coyotes have given us some noisy serenades these frosty nights. As many as three have been heard at once.

Geo. Brownson brought his four boys up from Port Orford last week and left them with their grandmother, Mrs. H. H. Brownson, so they can attend the Big Creek school.

The Parent-Teacher Circle met at the school house Friday afternoon.

Several slashings are being burned now, filling the atmosphere with smoke.

H. Hatcher returned from the State Fair last week.

Miss Nellie Knight, of Myrtle Point, visited at the the Culver home last week.

Fred Nosler, Mrs. O. A. Webster, Misses May Allen, Myrtle Cunningham, and Audrey Stannigar, of the Coquille Christian Endeavor Society came out to Bridge Friday evening and assisted in the organization of a C. E. society here.

### Riverton Briefs

The Board of the Riverton School has furnished lumber for the manual training class. The boys have each agreed to make different articles such as revolving book cases, broom holders, sleeve boards, coat and hat racks, etc. The boys have made a work bench out of old lumber which was donated, and a screw

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Champion 3 lb. tins \$1    Champion 5 lb. pails \$1.50  
Alta in Mason Jars 1 1-4 lbs. 50 cents

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## Busy Corner Grocery

Phone 691 and 541    Front and C Streets    Coquille, Ore.

## Coming! -- BIRCH the Optician

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## FUHRMAN'S PHARMACY

The Rexall Store

are needed at the other mill. The Millington mill is closed for the present but will resume operations soon.

An item of interest we forgot to mention in connection with the Perham road camp is that C. P. McDowell, a steam-shovel engineer, was formerly employed at Panama on the digging of the big canal and holds a medal from "Teddy" for having put out the most dirt in a given time of any man on the job. Mr. McDowell is drawing down a good salary and expects to hold the job till the work is done. He is an expert, both at handling and repairing steam shovels.

Evidently the advent of the railroad has not succeeded in throwing a scare into the denizens of the forest, for while talking to a lady within sight of the Smith mill, she looked up and beheld a deer quietly feeding among the cattle and horses across the bay. It seemed in no hurry but trotted about in search of the choicest bits of fodder. The day before one was killed along the track near this place.

Several persons expressed themselves on the Cameron case and it seems to be the unanimous opinion that, even if he failed to support his claims in court, there was enough of truth in his statements, and enough of cause for his criticisms to entitle him to a better treatment. To put county officers above criticism is to invite rascality many believe. The feeling is strong everywhere that the county funds are not being as carefully handled as they ought to be and such an attempt to repress criticism can only result in a determined effort on the part of the people to get at the real conditions. There is an awakening sense that these things need looking after and there are a few county officers who will do well to go slow if they expect re-election.

## "Going Up"

Supplies are high  
Machinery is high  
Overhead is high

But laundry prices have remained the same.

We have given the matter of laundering years of careful study. We have kept persistently at the task to produce work that was free from harsh methods. We have succeeded. Our washing process has recently been improved. Proper washing is the foundation upon which is built the art of successful Laundering. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. : : : : :

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