

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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It is an interesting study, to watch the course of events and to speculate as to just how much the American people will stand. It seems just now that they are in a fair way to be put to the ultimate test. Prices of everything that the ordinary citizen has to buy are mounting higher and higher, but if the income of the ordinary citizen under consideration is increasing no one seems to know anything about it. It is stated that back East in the munition factories men and boys are making fabulous wages, but out on this coast the man who earns his living with his hands or brain finds his income no larger, as his expenses increase. Throughout the country, except in a few Eastern cities, the conditions are the same. There is no pretense that the wage cost of the things on which the prices are being jumped has increased. Now, as a matter of fact, the European war is responsible for the rise in the prices of a few commodities. The rest of it is pure highway robbery. The big manufacturers and dealers see some capital receiving enormous returns and they want some of the pie themselves. They figure that the people can't tell the difference in a rise in the price of steel or copper which is caused by the war, or a rise in the price of colored bond letter paper which is caused by the cutting off of the supply of German dyes, and a rise in the price of something else with which the war has nothing whatever to do. So they raise the price and rake in the shekels, and we poor suckers have to stand for it. This is one development and illustration of the beauties of the system by which a few private individuals are permitted to control the supply of the things that the people must have, and the government—that is, the people as a whole—must not interfere for fear of "hurting business." It is a beautiful thing, when you get a good look at it. But you would better not look at it too closely. Just pronounce the magic anathema "Socialism", when any one tries to get you to think—and maybe your town will get a Carnegie library after awhile.

WATCH THE FLOP

Regarding the Smith-Powers application for a railroad franchise the Coquille Sentinel said on Dec. 15th that the company offered "practically nothing for a franchise worth untold thousands"; that the proposal "appears to us so objectionable as to be unworthy of consideration. No matter how large the inducements offered the county cannot afford to entertain it for a moment"; that "it would ruin for all time to come the scenic attractions of the highway (thunderous applause and laughter in the galleries), and we want to protest as earnestly as possible against the project"; that it "would be about as unjust and indefensible a proceeding as we can imagine"; that "there is not a single redeeming feature about the plan"; that "were there any reason to suppose that such a project would be consummated we have no doubt it would be enjoined by the courts." On Dec. 22nd our esteemed contemporary said: "The Sentinel sees no occasion to change or modify what it said last week in any way"; that "The compensation talked about . . . is pure moonshine." On Dec. 29th the Sentinel said that "nothing could give the good roads movement such a black eye"; again pronounced the compensation "moonshine"—and compared Al Powers with a bedbug.

The County Court has granted the franchise asked for by Smith-Powers with no change except a reduction in the price to be paid for gravel. Now watch the Sentinel or you may miss seeing a flop funnier than anything you ever saw in a Keystone comedy.

Strange, is it not, that those who have so fiercely opposed the granting of the Smith-Powers petition for a franchise along nine miles of county right of way, the county to be fully protected and liberally paid, have given no consideration to the fact that the asking was more a matter of courtesy to the people of Coos county than anything else; that the Smith-Powers people can condemn and take a right of way by the power of eminent domain and all the big and little fishes can't stop them? That looks now to the Herald like a very material fact to be weighed, and to at least offset all the tender consideration felt for the "scenery" along Isthmus slough. It should stop all criticism of the County Court, even from those who would not otherwise approve its action, for it is evident that the only wise course has been taken.

The residents of the section on the other side of the river who are more or less cut off by the river, to the bridging of which this city gives interest only by fits and starts, are considerably interested in the proposed railroad to which the county has just granted a franchise, for it is presumed that the road will give an outlet to that portion of the valley.

The Herald is accused of "extreme partisanship" in throwing "so many bouquets" at the Smith-Powers people and "only brickbats" at the S. P. All right; we will let it go at that and refuse to plead.

Coos County

The Herald's Special Coos County News Service

East Fork Items

(Herald's Special C. C. News Service)
Robert Ray, a young man whom the Abernathys raised and who has been living with them at Forest Grove for twelve years, and is now leaving the drug business with the Swanton Drug Co. of Marshfield, was visiting William Miller over Christmas.

Joe Laird of Myrtle Point, visited relatives in Brewster valley last week and took home a four horse load of spuds.

Wm. Bettys, of Coquille, spent Christmas in Brewster valley.

Joe Harry was visiting relatives in Brewster.

From December 1, 1915, to December 1, 1916, 125 hens paid net about \$60; that is they paid net providing you don't count the milk and vegetable and sunflower seed fed them; and don't count the hauling of \$219 worth of feed from Coquille twenty-one miles, and the hauling of eggs and chickens the same distance or further to Marshfield, and all the work that goes with taking care of hens; if you don't count any of these things the profit is net. These women who cut the price of winter eggs are going to cut something else—a chance to eat fresh eggs, and will have to eat the cold storage kind that have a better smell when frozen.

R. A. EASTON

Bridge Briefs

(Herald's Special C. C. News Service)
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Culver spent Christmas with Mrs. Culver's relatives at Myrtle Point.

Miss Della and Audrey Bryant are spending the holiday vacation with their parents here.

A good program was given by the Sunday School Sunday morning, then candy was distributed to the pupils. There was a nicely decorated tree.

Miss Alta Rookard has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. Chas. Warner at Bancroft, since school closed for the holidays.

Cap Miller expects to go to Powers this week to work in the logging camp.

Riverton Briefs

(Herald's Special C. C. News Service)
Miss Gertrude Simonsen who is attending the Marshfield High School this winter, spent her vacation with the home folks.

The Riverton school opened Tuesday following the week's holiday vacation.

A watch night meeting was held at the Riverton church. About twenty-five or thirty of the citizens spent the evening, visiting, giving an impromptu program, consisting of speeches, songs, ladies' quartets, audience singing, scripture quotations etc. About eleven o'clock a New Year's Eve lunch was spread. After all had enjoyed the lunch a short devotional service was conducted by the principal of the school, S. C. Sherill, who conducted a concert reading of the 103d psalm. Then followed the ringing out of the old year and the ringing in of the new.

Thelma Richardson, who is attending High School in Coquille, spent Christmas vacation at home.

Beaver Hill News

(Herald's Special C. C. News Service)
Ed Anderson who spent last summer in Alaska arrived to spend Christmas with his family at Beaver Hill.

Mr. Meek and family of Beaver Hill spent Christmas with relatives near Bandon.

Harry Kasmeyer was visiting with friends in Marshfield Christmas.

Mrs. Rosa Preuss is spending the week in Marshfield with friends.

Tom Harrison and family left Beaver Hill last week. They will make their future home in Marshfield.

Mrs. John Simpson and little daughter Doris, of Marshfield are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Heaton.

Dr. Mings was calling at Beaver Hill Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bunch and

SPRAY FROM THE SURF

By
Rory O'Moore

The Passing of a Failure

The old man sadly shuffles out
With trembling limbs and broken heart;
He leaves behind all worldly goods
To give the infant year his start.

He leaves the poverty and woe
That met him on his day of birth;
But increased by a hundred fold—
He ne'er has said "Be peace on Earth."

They gave him but a hell to have
And hold, upon his natal day;
To use his talents well he strove
By raising Mars to higher pay.

Not that he did not wish to pause;
He vainly, in his dotage, tried
To stay the hand of vicious hate—
He failed—and on his deathbed cried:

"Child, if you love your father, heed,
Your days are granted not for this;
Let brothers meet with open arms,
Not deal death-blows with mailed fists."

The infant turns a smiling face
All bright with love and innocence:
Once beamed the old man's face like
this—
Remains no trace of reverence.

baby returned to Beaver Hill Wednesday after spending the Christmas holidays at Sumner with relatives.

Good Lyceum Entertainment

The Lyndon-Gordon entertainment, the second of the Lyceum course, was held at the Scenic last evening. The attendance was large, the seating capacity of the house being practically exhausted. The announcement was made that the financial success of the lyceum course was now assured. As an artistic success the entertainment was all that could be asked and the audience was entertained in a very delightful manner for one hour and half. The young ladies are finished elocutionists and every number was pleasing within the limited range to which they confined their efforts. Nothing "heavy" was undertaken, all being of the light and entertaining order, "nagging" and "kidd" stuff being exceptionally well rendered and forming nearly the entire program.

Motors for Planing Mill

F. E. McKenna was at Myrtle Point Friday and delivered two electric motors to J. F. Whitaker, to be used in the planing mill which the latter is installing in the new building erected for the purpose at that place. Machinery is being brought to the new site, from Mr. Whitaker's Sugarloaf mill, but many additions and improvements will be made. Among these will be the two motors, one of 10 and one of 20 horsepower, which will be used on the resaw and planer. It is evident that electricity is rapidly supplanting other forms of power, in the Coquille valley, as elsewhere.

Dues Are Lowered

The dues of the Coos County Business Men's Association will be lowered from \$1.50 to \$1 per month, commencing with the first of the year, according to Secretary Wesley Seaman, who was in town Thursday on business for the association. Mr. Seaman went from here to Myrtle Point and Powers and from there to Bandon. He also stated that the new rating book for the association would be out and ready for distribution by the first of February. He was accompanied on his trip here by his sister, Miss Lillian Seaman. Miss Seaman returned to the Bay Thursday night.

Logan Kay Gets Ferry

The job of operating the ferry across the river here for the coming year was granted to Logan Kay by the County Court Saturday. A number of bids were received by the court and several of them were lower than the straight price asked by Mr. Kay. However, Mr. Kay agreed to operate the ferry, make all repairs, and to assume the responsibility for any accidents that might occur for \$135 per month and this was the bid accepted by the court.

Prefers Chamberlain's

"In the course of a conversation with Chamberlain Medicine Co.'s representative today, we had occasion to discuss in a general way the merits of their different preparations. At his suggestion I take pleasure in expressing my estimation of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I have a family of six children and have used this remedy in my home for years. I consider it the ONLY cough remedy on the market, as I have tried nearly all kinds."—Earl C. Ross, Publisher Hamilton County Republican-News, Syracuse, Kan.

F. W. Barker has moved his family to town from their farm on the Myrtle Point road, and they are now settled in the Lee Goodman house near the T bridge.

His Line.

A charming young member of a woman's literary club, who adds the distinction of being a bride to successful authorship, recently met a gushing stranger at a club reception.

"Oh, Mrs. Blank, I am so glad to meet you. I enjoy your stories so much, and your husband's too." Then adding as an afterthought, "He is literary, too, isn't he?"

"Thank heaven, no!" replied the bride. "He's in the coal business."—New York Press.

Prices that Can't be Matched

Walnuts, Soft Shell per lb. 17 1-2c, 22 1-2c
Extra Fancy Budded 30c

Mixed Candies 12 1-2c, 15c, 20c
Pop Corn per lb. 7 1-2c
Novel Oranges per doz. 30c and 40c
Jap Oranges per doz. 15c

White Laundry Soap 6 bars	25c	New Lot
Liberty Wheat Flakes, Large Pkg.	25c	M. J. Rice
Liberty Rolled Oats, Large Pkg.	25c	2 1-2 lb. Bags
Del Monte Catsup, Large Bottle	20c	5 lb. Bags
Park Brand Pineapple, Large Can	15c	10 lb. Bags
Hillsdale Brand Pineapple, No. 2 Cans 2 for 25c		25 lb. Bags
Large Jackets Syrup	\$2.40	Wheat per Sack
Shaker Salt	3 for 25c	Egg grain per Sack
Peanut Butter per lb.	15c	

On account of early frosts pickles in bulk are very scarce this winter. We were fortunate in securing a full line, including Dills, Sour, Sweet Plain and Sweet Mixed. These dills are exceptionally fine---Try them.

Busy Corner Grocery

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

GOOD AND BAD ROADS.

Old Conditions In United States Contrasted With New Ones.

Men who are not yet very old can remember when the United States was a country of bad roads, says U. S. E. Forman in St. Nicholas. Twenty-five years ago it was only in the neighborhood of towns and cities that the roads were good. With the coming of the bicycle, however, our roads in about 1800 began slowly to improve, and with the coming of the automobile a few years later they began to improve very rapidly. The movement for better roads has gained strength year by year, and today the time does not seem to be far distant when the United States will be a country of good roads. But an enormous amount of work will have to be done and a vast sum of money will have to be spent before our roads will be as good as they ought to be or as good as the roads of most European countries actually are. There are in this country nearly 2,500,000 miles of public roads. Of this total about 250,000 miles consists of improved, surfaced roads. So for every mile of good roads we have eight or nine miles of bad ones. In some of the states the proportion of improved roads is much greater than this. In Massachusetts more than half and in Indiana nearly half of the public roads are surfaced. Since one mile of good macadam road costs anywhere from \$3,000 to \$10,000 it will require billions of dollars to put all our roads in good condition. Yet, costly as good roads are, the people are meeting the expense in a free handed manner and are spending each year more than \$250,000,000 on roads. This is about half as much as is spent for public schools, but it is money well spent, for good roads are among the most valuable assets of a nation.

MILITARY HIGHWAY.

Florida and Georgia Cities Unite in a Road Preparedness Plan.

As a part of the preparedness plan of the national administration there is a movement on foot in Florida and Georgia cities for the establishment of a military highway between Atlanta, Ga., and Pensacola, Fla. The construction phase of this plan involves two distinct features—first, the utilization of convict labor from the United States penitentiary in Atlanta in constructing the highway, and second, the dedication by the several counties through which such a highway would run of such well constructed county trucks already on hand. In addition to this, it is likely that many counties would offer to assist in the construction of such a highway where it should cross their territories.

The advantage of such a highway, it is pointed out, would lie in the fact that this would be the most direct route between Atlanta, where Fort McPherson, a government army concentration point, is located, to Pensacola, a naval base of convenience both to the Atlantic ocean and to the Panama canal. It is argued that such a highway would permit of the quickest possible movement of mobile troops from the southern concentration point to naval transports bound for any section of the world.

While state convicts are being used in the construction of public highways in both Georgia and Florida, the employment of federal convicts would be a distinct departure from policies hitherto pursued by the government.

Nostrils.

Man is the only animal whose nostrils open downward. Even the highest apes' nostrils open to the front.

Are Your Sewers Clogged?

The bowels are the sewerage system of the body. You can well imagine the result when they are stopped up as is the case in constipation. As a purgative you will find Chamberlain's Tablets excellent. They are mild and gentle in their action. They also improve the digestion.

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