

THE COQUILLE HERALD

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MURDOCK'S CASE

The movement against County Roadmaster Murdock which was started at Myrtle Point has gained considerable headway in the past week, so much that the attention of the entire county is directed toward it. With this fact confronting the taxpayers of the county and the further fact that any controversy at this time will greatly endanger the successful working out of both present and future road plans for the county and also from the fact that any move against Murdock will be a direct blow at the Good Roads Association which was instrumental in obtaining his appointment, we have been requested to publish the following letter with certain explanations:

MULTNOMAH COUNTY
Office of the Roadmaster
Portland, Ore., May 25, 1916.

Mr. Chas. Hall,
Marshfield, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your telegram in which you request my opinion as to Mr. R. B. Murdock's ability to handle the grading of the roads amounting to \$400,000.00.

It is always rather hard to state whether or not an engineer can go through with a job of this magnitude with the least possible engineering cost and the most economical grades. All I can say is that Mr. Murdock came to me highly recommended and proved to be all that was said of him.

He was the Resident Engineer in Multnomah County in charge of Sections A, B & E of the Columbia River Highway, one of the most difficult sections which we paved last year and was very thorough in his work; in fact was the star resident engineer of our force. He afterwards had charge of several heavy grading jobs which he handled in a very efficient manner.

I recommended him to the Commissioners of Coos County because of his firmness in dealing with the contractors and his ability to get first-class work in the face of considerable difficulty. Mr. Murdock's ability and integrity cannot be questioned and he is a very hard worker.

If I had charge of so large a piece of work I would not hesitate to make Mr. Murdock a first assistant and should trust him in all details. If you are not entirely satisfied as to Mr. Murdock's ability I should ask him to submit all of his preliminary plans to you for your thorough investigation before the work is commenced, and you would then be able to judge as well as I as to whether they were economical and fitted to the necessities of this district.

I feel sure that there will be plenty of opposition to Mr. Murdock in your district from engineers who have lived in Oregon longer than he, and that there will be a great deal of criticism regardless of how he may handle his work. This criticism may or may not be just because there is a great difference of opinions among engineers as to how locations and grades shall be made. A great many people demand flat and straight grades while others, more familiar with the work, do not object to grades constantly changing as long as they do not exceed the maximum per cent decided upon, and as long as they are high enough to get the necessary drainage.

Mr. Murdock is a man who will probably insist upon sufficient engineering work before the contracts are let to lay out the most economical grades possible and to be built at the least possible expense. This will probably cause you some delay on account of the lateness of the season, but, as you know, will be justified in the long run.

As you have not asked me for my opinion as to the construction of highways, but as to the ability of Mr. Murdock, I will not discuss the question further, but will say to you that if you will get acquainted with this young man you will be able to judge him well enough to know whether or not he is competent to handle your work.

Very respectfully,
Herbert Nunn,
County Highway Engineer.

It will be seen by reading the above letter that Mr. Murdock not only had the full confidence of Mr. Nunn but that he was considered the best man on the Multnomah county job. It will also be noticed that Mr. Nunn prophesied just what is now happening in Coos county in that he says there will no doubt be much opposition to Mr. Murdock. But this has occurred with each and every man who has been employed by the county during the past eight years to the writer's personal knowledge.

In paragraph four of the above let-

FORESTRY NOTES.

What Our Forestry Department Is Accomplishing.

The National Forest Reservation Commission recently approved the purchase of 52,000 acres of land in the White Mountains and southern Appalachians, making the total amount the government has purchased or is acquiring under the Weeks Law practically one and a half million acres.

The Forest Service is erecting six new standard fire lookout stations in Oregon and Washington this year. Ready cut material for these buildings is now on its way to the summits of Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. McLaughlin, Wagner Butte, Rustler Peak, and Kiona Peak.

The thirteen tree nurseries maintained by the Forest Service have an annual output of ten million seedlings, which are used in reforestation work on the National Forests. This is sufficient to plant 15,000 acres, spacing the trees eight feet apart in each direction.

Nearly one-half the population of Oregon obtains its drinking water from the National Forests of the State.

Lightning caused 23 per cent of the fires on the National Forests of Oregon and Washington in 1916. Careless campers were responsible for almost as many.

The Secretary of Agriculture has approved co-operative road work plans on fifteen Forest road projects in the state of Oregon, which involves \$1,114,194 of Federal money. This is matched by a similar sum of state and county money.

The Forest Service has specially prepared photograph and wood specimen exhibits which are loaned to public schools and libraries on request.

Two Heavy Blows.

F. E. McKenna, manager of the local branch of the Oregon Power Company Sunday evening received a message apprising him of the death that morning of his father at the Chicago home. The blow came unexpectedly although he had received word last week that his father was seriously ill with pneumonia. The distance and time necessary to the trip precluded his attending the funeral services.

This is the second blow Mr. McKenna has received during the past week. Last week he received a message stating that his brother and family had all been badly injured in the Mare Island explosion and were in the hospital in a serious condition. A government message was received by him yesterday saying all are doing well. He expects a letter from his brother tonight or tomorrow.

Mr. McKenna has the heart-felt sympathy of many friends in this city and the entire county.

Marriage Licenses.

During the past seven days the following marriage licenses were issued by County Clerk Oddy:

July 10—A. D. Neil and Eva Haven, of Bandon.

July 10—Robert K. Paris and Fay Stevens, of Marshfield.

July 11—William Love Finney, of Berkeley, Cal., and Alice Lottie Harmschild, of Marshfield.

July 12—Charles L. Bowman and Ellen L. Allen, of Bandon.

July 12—W. H. Miller and Sylvia Josephine Kibby, of North Bend.

July 13—Wilbur F. Aber and Alma Myrtle Pointer, of Coquille.

July 14—Walter T. Phillips and Gladys A. Canterbury, of Bandon.

July 16—Mathew D. Coy and Genevieve Louise Brown, of Bandon.

ter will be found Mr. Nunn's opinion of Mr. Murdock as a manager and it is for this very characteristic that he is being attacked by the Myrtle Point contingent, namely, firmness with contractors, and ability to get first class work in the face of difficulties. As to his ability and integrity Mr. Nunn had no doubt at that time and it is not probable that he has been corrupted since coming to this county.

It will be well for the taxpayers to thoroughly digest this matter from all points of view before going too far in the present movement. The question of bettering the county's condition is the paramount one. The question of fighting a personal battle in this matter must be taken into consideration by all who are approached regarding it. There is little question that this eruption is the direct result of a personal or sectional controversy and should have no real effect on the county as a whole. Think well before you join the movement.

County Surveyor McCulloch was a business visitor to Marshfield yesterday.

FINAL FOOD CONSERVATION PLANS

Herbert Hoover Outlines Plans to Save United States and Europe from Want During the War

The food economics which Herbert Hoover, of the Food Administration, desires to see put into effect, are set forth in clear type on a small card in terms so definite and concise that all will know exactly what and how to save.

This Food Administration card will soon hang in every American kitchen and its directions should be followed with scrupulous care by the homemakers of the land. Already the appeal has met with a generous response. A million Food pledges have already been signed.

A reading of the suggestions printed below, shows that to follow them entails no real hardship. The rules are concise and simple. Less wheat, meat, milk, fats, sugar and fuel. More fruits, vegetables, foods that are not suitable to be sent to camps or firing lines. No limiting the food of growing children; not eating by anyone of more food than is needed. Buying food that is grown close to the home. Is any of this too hard?

THE FOOD RULES

Save the Wheat—One wheatless meal a day. Use corn, oatmeal, rye or barley bread and non-wheat breakfast foods. Order bread twenty-four hours in advance so your baker will not bake beyond his needs. Cut the loaf on the table and only as required. Use stale bread for cooking, toast, etc. Eat less cake and pastry.

Our wheat harvest is far below normal. If each person weekly saves one pound of wheat flour, that means 150,000,000 more bushels of wheat for the Allies to mix in their bread. This will help then to save Democracy.

Save the Meat—Beef, mutton or pork not more than once daily. Use fresh vegetables and fish. At the meat meal serve smaller portions, and steal instead of steaks. Make made-dishes of all left-overs. Do this and there will be meat enough for every one at a reasonable price.

We are today killing the dairy cows and female calves as the result of high prices. Therefore, eat less and eat no young meat. If we save an ounce of meat each day per person, we will have additional supply equal to 2,200,000 cattle.

Save the Milk—The children must have milk. Use every drop. Use buttermilk and sour milk for cooking

and making cottage cheese. Use less cream.

Save the Fats—We are the world's greatest fat wasters. Fat is food, butter is essential for the growth and health of children. Use butter on the table as usual but not in cooking. Other fats are as good. Reduce use of fried foods. Soap contains fats. Do not waste it. Make your own washing soap at home out of the saved fats.

Use one-third ounce less per day of animal fat and 373,000 tons will be saved yearly.

Save the Sugar—Sugar is scarcer. We use today three times as much per person as our Allies. So there may be enough for all at a reasonable price. Use less candy and sweet drinks. Do not stint use in putting up fruit and jams. They will save butter.

If every one in America will save one ounce of sugar daily, it means 1,100,000 tons for the year.

Save the Fuel—Coal comes from a distance and our railways are overburdened hauling war material. Help relieve them by burning fewer fires. Use wood when you can get it.

Use the Perishable Foods—Fruits and vegetables we eat in abundance. As a nation we eat too little green stuffs. Double their use and improve your health. Store potatoes and other roots properly and they will keep. Begin now to can or dry all surplus garden products.

Use Local Supplies—Patronize your local producer. Distance means money. Buy perishable food from the neighborhood nearest you and thus save transportation.

General Rules.

Buy less, serve smaller portions. Preach the "Gospel of the Clean Plate."

Don't eat a fourth meal. Don't limit the plain food of growing children.

Watch out for the wasters in the Community.

Full garbage pails in America mean empty dinner pails in America and Europe.

If the more fortunate of our people will avoid waste and eat no more than they need, the high cost of living problem of the less fortunate will be solved.

Herbert Hoover,
United States Food Commissioner.

New Radio Station.

The new radio station located at Englewood was opened yesterday after a year's time being spent in procuring the site, erecting the necessary buildings and securing apparatus. The station is one of the strongest on the Pacific coast and is being tested out by the operators.

For several months the station has been closely guarded by U. S. marines and only those who had business there were allowed within the enclosure placed about it. The station at Cape Blanco has been abandoned and operators B. O. Smetzer and L. M. Hill arrived yesterday to take charge of the operating. Two more men are expected within a few days and will relieve these men of part of the work.—Harbor.

Fees From Motor Vehicles.

Figures compiled by Secretary of State Olcott show that the fees received from motor vehicle registration since the first of the year total \$166,324—an increase of \$20,070 over the whole of last year.

The figures cover a period extending from January 1 to June 30, and the total is an increase of \$40,392 over the corresponding period of last year. During this period last year there were registered 29,158 automobiles, and this year 41,559. There was a decrease in the number of motorcycles, the total for the first six months of this year being 2954, last year the total was 3048. The total number of automobiles for all of last year was 33,917.

Prosper Shingle Mill Sold.

Last Saturday the Prosper Shingle Mill formerly run by C. McC. Johnson was sold by Sheriff Gage under judgments held by A. R. Seaman, of the Business Men's Association amounting to \$2400. The mill was bid in by Mr. Seaman for \$1800; and it is reported that it may be started soon again under Mr. Johnson's management. The sale did not include any real estate.

Lakesiders Protest.

A protest has been filed with the County court by residents of the Ten Mile lake district against the dumping of tree tops, old logs and refuse by the Buehner Lumber Co. and the McDonald & Vaughan Logging Co., who are conducting logging operations on the lake. People owning water front property claim their waterfront is being ruined by drift wood coming from the camps. The Southern Pacific Co. spent \$2,500 cleaning up the lake after building the railroad and the residents insist that the logging companies be made to clean up what is now in the lakes and be prevented from dumping in any more. A complaint will be filed with Game Warden Thomas and some action will be taken in the near future.—Harbor.

To Be Built at Coos City.

The long fight to prevent the construction of a bridge at Coos City on Isthmus Inlet, about four miles this side of Marshfield, has been given up, and last Monday morning at its regular meeting the Commission for the Port of Coos Bay approved of the project for an 80-foot drawbridge span at Coos City. Various interests at the Bay had opposed this project as long as there was a ghost of a show of being able to defeat it. These interests wanted a bridge at Eastside directly across from Marshfield instead, and though such a bridge may be built in the future its estimated cost would be half a million dollars, and there would have to be a good many more people on the Bay and a good deal more property there before it is seriously undertaken.

The Coos City bridge will connect the Coos Bay wagon road by an extension from Sumner over a low dike with the Coquille-Marshfield road and will accommodate many people who would never live to see an Eastside bridge built. It will, of course, render Marshfield much easier of access from the North fork and East fork and is not entirely in Coquille's

FIGURES WON'T LIE?

Are Made to Prove That War Will End During Present Year.

Among the favorite appeals to the superstitious temper of war-time, none is apt to be more unique than the prophetic combinations of dates and other significant figures with which the outcome or end of the conflict is variously pointed. Every war of modern times has produced such essays at mystical and symbolic arithmetic, and the present struggle is no exception. One of the most startling of these appears to have an American origin; at least it has been perfected by the Pittsburg Gazette. We herewith submit it to our readers as an example of clever mathematical juggling that may well mislead the superstitious:

President Wilson was born in 1856; took office in 1913; was in office 4 years; has lived 61 years; total 3834.

King of England was born in 1865; ascended throne in 1910; has reigned 7 years; has lived 52 years; total 3834.

President of France was born in 1853; took office in 1913; has been in office 4 years; has lived 59 years; total 3834.

King of Italy was born in 1869; ascended throne in 1900; has reigned 17 years; has lived 49 years; total 3834.

King of Belgium was born in 1875; ascended throne in 1909; has reigned 8 years; has lived 42 years; total 3834.

Emperor of Japan was born in 1879; ascended throne in 1912; has reigned 5 years; has lived 38 years; total 3834.

King of Serbia was born in 1844; ascended throne in 1903; has reigned 14 years; has lived 73 years; total 3834.

King of Montenegro was born in 1841; ascended throne in 1910; has reigned 7 years; has lived 76 years; total 3834.

King of Roumania was born in 1865; took office in 1914; has reigned 3 years; has lived 52 years; total 3834.

It might seem that the equal sum thus yielded, by adding the principal statistics about the presidents and monarchs engaged in the war against the Central Powers, was startling enough. But the wonder is heightened when we are told that this sum must be divided because two hemispheres are represented by these rulers, and that one-half of 3834 is 1917! The prediction based upon these figures may be anticipated. It is that the war will come to an end during the present year.

Yes, and to still further add to all this proof that the war will end—sometime, the writer was born in 1875, entered the newspaper business in 1890, has been in the business 27 years and is 41 years old; his son was born in 1914, learned to feed himself in 1914, has fed himself 3 years and is 3 years old. In each case the grand total is 3834 and as there are two of you divide this by two and the result is 1917 which, of course, proves that we have made no error in our computation and that the war will continue till one side or the other wins the victory.

Isn't it funny how people will fall for some of the things they cannot quite comprehend? I suppose the above story has been copied by hundreds of newspapers over this country and has been read by many thousands. Probably many of these have seen the solution but there is little doubt that the greater majority allow the wish to beget the thought that the war will end this year and accept these figures as absolute proof. I'll wager an old hat that the originator of this prophecy is still enjoying the joke, too.

interest in that respect. But for the accommodation of the travelling public and as a necessary part of a comprehensive system of highways there is no question that the improvement is one that ought to be made. If the bridge at Coos City could be completed before the Perham contract on this end of the Coquille-Marshfield road, there would be a large amount of travel from the valley to the Bay by way of Fairview and Sumner, but that is hardly probable.

Notice About Draft Numbers.

The following is published at the request of County Clerk Oddy:

Owing to numerous enquiries regarding the serial numbers which have been placed on the Registration cards on file in the County Clerk's office, will state that these numbers will be used in addition to the names in making the Draft.

In compliance with the War Regulations a list of all persons registered

OREGON IS FIRST

Oregon is making a record that is unique in the war. Everything the state has been called on to do, it has done promptly and efficiently.

Of all the states in the west, Oregon was the only one that did not support President Wilson for re-election last year. That politics and patriotism are two distinct things in Oregon, is shown by the fact that Oregon, the one western state which opposed Wilson, has given him more loyal and liberal support than the states that were friendly to the administration.

In order that Oregonians may keep their memories fresh, let them look over this record of war activities and loyalty to the government:

Oregon was the first state in the Union to mobilize its national guard when the call came in June, 1916, and it was the first state to report its guard ready to start for the Mexican border.

On the second call this year it was the first state to mobilize its guard.

Oregon was the first state in the Union to furnish its quota of enlistments for the United States navy in a special "drive." Because other states were slow, the drive had to be extended, and during the extension Oregon rolled up several hundred additional enlistments.

Oregon was the first state to supply its quota for the United States marine corps.

Oregon enlisted more men in the United States army and navy than any other Western state.

Oregon's infantry regiment, the 3rd Oregon, was the first infantry regiment in the country to report war strength.

Oregon's over subscription to Liberty Loan bonds was of greater percentage than that of any other Western state.

Oregon's contribution to the Red Cross fund was greater per capita than in other Western states, Portland alone subscribing double its allotment.

Oregon was the first state in the union which completed its food conservation program, having this finished before the National Council of Defense met to outline the general food program.

Oregon was the first state to complete war census machinery.

Oregon was the first state to complete and report for the war draft.

Oregon's draft registration was practically 100 per cent; in the entire state there were only 20 young men who did not register and of these there has only been one who can be classed as a shirker who deliberately refused to register.

Oregon has had less disturbances among aliens than any other state.

Of all the Pacific coast states, despite this record, Oregon has received least consideration or recognition from the government. Oregon has received some contracts for wooden ships, but because the government had to give the contracts. Los Angeles, on the edge of a desert and with no timber, has received about as many ship contracts, according to report.

Despite the enlistments and the great showing made by Oregon, it is not made a military center nor given a camp, while California has two army training camps, training camp for officers, airplane school, navy yard, and regular army posts, and Washington has American Lake cantonment, a navy yard, and many contracts for supplies.

together with the Serial Red Ink numbers has been offered to the Press and by watching the papers closely you will be able to ascertain your number.

However, the War Regulations provide that the County Clerk shall notify each person that is drawn, by mail, and advising him at what time to appear before the Local Board for examination, and if he is excused or discharged it will be necessary for him to secure a certificate of exemption or discharge from the Local Board; therefore all inquiries addressed to this office requesting their serial number, will be answered at the time prescribed by the Regulations requiring the Clerk to notify each person drawn.

The method and manner of making the draft will be prescribed by later regulations from the War Department which is not in the hands of the Local Board at this time. L. W. Oddy, Clerk of the Local Board, County of Coos, State of Oregon.

A. J. Sherwood was called to Marshfield on business yesterday.