

Bandon Recorder

Published weekly on Tuesdays by The Recorder Publishing Co., Inc.

Entered at the Post Office at Bandon, Oregon, as mail matter of the second class.

Make all checks payable and address all communications to the company.

Subscription price, \$1.50 per year, in advance.

CITY ELECTION

On June 16th the voters of Bandon will be called on to vote on six measures, which, as a class can be characterized as either giving the council more power, or increasing the taxing power of that body, or pertaining to a bond issue.

The second measure, which will be numbered 302 and 303 on the ticket, is the only exception to the rule and appears, in addition to embodying some of the provisions of the state law already in effect to afford some little relief from red tape, and may pass.

The remainder of the propositions submitted, will most likely, at least the greater part of them, be defeated. An exception may be the water bond issue. That measure provides that the council be given power to provide for a sinking fund to redeem the bonds, by voting a tax therefor, IN ADDITION TO OTHER TAXES LEVIED, and is apparently without limit as to the tax that may be levied for that purpose.

It is unfortunate that such a provision should have been made so indefinite. We need more good water. The health of our community depends upon it, not to say the security which more water would afford against fire. In fact a near emergency exists and it is with much indifference and half heart that we can advocate the passage of such measure, with omnibus provisions which it contains.

The purchase of the fire engine will be timely AFTER the installation of the said water system; hardly so now. The increase of the council's power to levy a tax from ten mills to fifteen mills is contrary to the theory of initiative and referendum government by the people and the effectiveness of such a measure will be hampered, if not rendered entirely nugatory by a new law passed along these lines by the last state legislature.

And then we are asked to vote \$40,000 worth of bonds to take up outstanding warrants which now bear six percent interest.

Our municipal paper is discredited and needs bolstering up; no question about that. But consider this fact: in 1908 the retiring city council left in the town treasury over \$2,000 in cash, and without a single dollar indebtedness. Seven short years ago! Since that time the city has received in cash and expended close to fifty thousand dollars as general fund account. That money has come and gone and we have run the city into debt in addition thereto, to the tune of forty thousand dollars.

At this time it devolves upon the voters of the city to say whether they will legalize unlimited indebtedness from time to time, under the name and form of BOND ISSUE or whether they will call a halt, take inventory and after reflection profit in the future by the extravagances of the past.

DOCTORED STATISTICS

The Coos Bay papers continue to advertise the amount of lumber purported to be all the amounts of lumber shipped from the various harbors of the Pacific coast from time to time, and then giving the number of feet of fir, spruce and redwood, showing Bandon credited with having shipped 203,000 feet for the past half month as against Coos Bay's eight and three quarter million feet. But they don't mention cedar. If they wish to minimize the output of this harbor, they should include in the list the amount of pine, oak, hickory, and mahogany shipped from this point, but if they will include the cedar, Port Orford which cedar—such as doesn't grow north of the Coquille valley, sawed and unsawed—then that is our specialty and microscopes are not needed to observe the quantity.

A FORGOTTEN LAW

In 1864 a law was passed requiring the resident agent or attorney of steam vessels, moved without the state, navigating waters within this state, or between any part within this state and ports outside this state, to pay to the county treasurer \$15 per quarter, 1890 the treasurer's receipt therefor in the county clerk's office, who will issue in the name of a license, which license shall be recorded by the clerk, and each month the clerk shall transmit to the secretary of state a certified

copy of such record. Any person who shall act as such agent without first having obtained the license prescribed shall forfeit and pay to the state of Oregon \$100 to be recovered as other fines and penalties.

The Coos county records fail to show a single resident agent in Coos county and the existence of such a law was apparently unknown in that office.

Most likely the next few weeks will reveal to that office a new source of revenue, judging by one of our citizens who has declared legal warfare by reason of such law.

This law is so old that gas boats were unknown when it was passed and there is a question whether it applies to any other than steam boats.

And our friends, the Republicans, have always contended, too, that Bryan was president, and was running things at Washington.

ONE YEAR AGO

One June 11th, 1914, occurred Bandon's near calamitous fire, involving a loss of nearly a quarter of a million dollars to Bandon's citizens. That event with local application was coincident with many other events, namely the closing of the lumber mills tributary to Bandon, the closing of the woolen mill, together with the general unfavorable conditions existing throughout the nation. The accumulation of these adverse conditions have not been pleasant to contemplate and the effects upon our city have not only been felt but are visibly apparent in our business section, water front and population. Yet the year, accompanied with the most adverse features in the history of Bandon is not without its progress.

First street has been paved as far as 1/2 m ground and cluster street lamps installed and the remaining portion of the street has been completely renewed with plank and piling. The Ellington concrete building, the First National bank building, while started more than one year ago may properly be added to the improvements of the year.

And, immediately, as a direct result of the fire, follows the Johnson fireproof building and also the assurance that the Buckingham-Biggs fireproof building will soon be built, all slowly but of a permanent nature, and with undisputable certainty.

The government is just beginning the expenditure of \$70,000 on our harbor, leaving more money and a better harbor. The Port commission is expending approximately \$20,000 on the inner harbor. Two years of county road levy and litigation have now ripened into the work of improving the township line road, and expending \$20,000 therefor; and with the resumption of operations of any one of our now idle mills, business would be practically normal.

The keynote of the past year has been curtailment of unnecessary expense and a permanency in building that insures stability in the future.

A BRAND NEW 1915 LAW

Oregon has a new law which provides in substance that each and every school house within the state is established as a civic center where citizens of the respective districts may engage in supervised recreational activities, and where they may meet and discuss from time to time as desired, any and all subjects and questions which in their judgement may appertain to the educational, political, economic, artistic and moral interests of the citizens of the respective communities in which they reside. Light, heat and janitor service shall be provided for out of the school fund, and the use of the building, property and grounds shall be free, except in cases where entertainments are given and an admission fee is charged. The management, direction and control of such civic center is vested in the board of directors of such school district.

Marshfield is going to celebrate on the third and fifth of July under the auspices of the Marshfield chamber of Commerce.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE PORT

Concerning the Port of Bandon and newspaper discussion between the Coquille Valley Sentinel and the Recorder, the Recorder proposes to be emphatically understood as desiring that the Port's money be expended where it will do most good to the district embraced within the territorial bounds of the Port. We are not proficient in engineering tactics and are willing to abide the decision of competent engineers as to where the expenditure of the Port's money will first bring results. If it should appear that the best results to the district could be served by expending the major portion of the funds on the upper river, then, standing primarily for the greatest good to the greatest number, we are wholeheartedly in favor of that project. If on the other hand, economy and good business demonstrate that the lower river should first be improved and the work up stream, we believe that the best plan is to improve and justly will support

that project. Between the Sentinel and the Recorder there can be no difference as to the objects to be attained, namely the best interest of the whole port, even if we should differ as to the methods to be pursued.

We have heretofore and do now venture an unskilled guess or opinion that the engineers and the commissioners of the port as a unit will recommend the heaviest work to be done on the lower river first, but do not advance the theory for more than a mere opinion as a means to an end.

But above all things we desire all parts of the district to be fairly represented with the single reservation "for the best interests of the port shall be first served."

We believe that the Sentinel and the Recorder are harmonious on this point and the discussion should end here.

Anent our Bandon contemporary, who unbidden and impudently butts in seeking to monopolize the situation, all we have to say is: How like a little, barking dog?

FIR MOUNT FACTS

Carl Mathews is building a chicken mansion nearly as large as some of the houses for people. He eventually intends chicken business in the future.

A dance was given by Mrs. A. D. Black to a few neighbors and friends. The room was decorated with crimson and white roses and also with ferns.

A dance was given by Mrs. C. Mathews to about thirty five guests Saturday night. A dainty lunch was served at midnight and dancing resumed until the "wee sma" hours of Sunday morning.

Mrs. Lee Neeley is busy picking strawberries.

Mrs. L. Pullen's little boy Ora has been quite sick with the croup.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hall and Mr. and Mrs. Forest Strong tried to spend a day on the beach recently and came back to the woods about half frozen.

Tom Buckle has gone up the river in the hopes of finding a better place to get work.

The Fir Mount Study club met at Mrs. Forest Strong's with only six members present as the ladies are far too busy in their gardens to care for South America just now.

Mrs. F. Strong gave a birthday dinner recently to her sister Mrs. Ray Hall. All parties said "a good time."

Walter Haek is busy cutting his hay crop.

Ray Hall and John Pesterfield are logging off the Pesterfield place near the Smith mill.

Mrs. Yarber and four sons have moved from south of Bandon to the Thacker place.

Prosper mill did not get its pay day on time this month on account of the indisposition of its manager.

The infant daughter of R. A. Felter has been quite sick but is reported as improving.

Mrs. T. Buckle paid a visit to a Bandon dentist Wednesday afternoon.

Frank Harding has peas higher than he can reach. Who says this hill land is no good.

The Ladies Aid Society met at Mrs. Ace Cornwell's.

A cooking club has started at Prosper. Each member takes something good to eat and the one voted the best cook gets a prize.

On Friday the Prosper reading club met at the church with a small attendance.

Mrs. Tom Buckle called on Mrs. Lee Neeley one day this week.

If Such There Be, Go Mark Him Well

Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said: "That editor has quite a head. I'm glad I take his paper. He got a raft of pift and sand, he prints the news of all the land, he boos the town to beat the band and that's the proper caper. He soaks the grafter in the neck, he saves the ship of state from wreck, he's Johnnie on the spot, by Heck, when things are in a jumble. He writes the adds that bring the dough, he chases all our gloom and woe, he tells us all we want to know and yet he is quite humble. He never gets a bit stuck-up, he's worked since Hector was a pup to earn his daily bite and sup and have a little over. I know we owe him many plunks, so let us shame the other shanks and furnish him with a couple in thanks wherewith to live in clover."

J. F. McClure, representative of the Daily Tide, of North Bend, was a visitor in Bandon Monday. He thinks enough for the important stand of the Tide in the community.

Miss Neeley is spending her vacation at her home in Portland.

MANY YEARS AGO.

(From the Recorder, June 15, 1905)

Six persons joined the Methodist church at a recent meeting.

James W. Mast, book keeper for the Prosper mill had gone to Portland to see the exposition.

Among the visitors to Bandon during the week were Sheriff S. Gallier of Coquille and Mrs. E. Lewin of North Bend.

The steamer Chico had a large consignment of railroad iron with which to build a railroad for the Cody company on Lampa creek.

Indian Charley was a visitor to town and he was likened to the moon inasmuch as he got full whenever the opportunity offered.

The Elizabeth took out a miscellaneous cargo consisting of lumber, hatchwood and shingles, a lot of broom handles, ten tons of butter, five tons of wool, a ton and a half of shittim bark and other freight.

Bandon was defeated at base ball by Coquille, score 10 to 7. Hughes and McKune pitched for Bandon and O'Neill caught. The four teams of the league were tied in their standing, each having won two and lost two.

(From the Recorder June 14, 1895)

James Mast was down from the North Fork for a visit in town.

The Good Templars met every Tuesday night in Swift's hall.

"Queens Carnival of Wonders" was scheduled for Bandon shortly.

A Methodist Episcopal church was to be built in Bandon during the summer.

D. J. Lowe of Parkersburg was planning to build a large barn on his farm.

The Hon. Binger Herman was to deliver the Fourth of July oration at Myrtle Point.

Landlord Thomas had made some improvements to the Tupper house by removing partitions.

Clarence Lowe was preparing to build a drug store building on the lot between Dyer's store and Yager's.

The library committee hoped to add to the library two or three of the new books which had the widest popularity.

A strawberry festival was scheduled in the school house on Bear Creek. Free transportation was offered to patrons by the steamer Dispatch.

A letter from W. H. Averill at Watsonville, Cal. stated that himself and family were about to move back to Bandon.

The Bandorille broke her shaft in coming over the bar and was planning to return to San Francisco by sail in order to make the necessary repairs.

Coquille defeated Bandon at base ball by the extraordinary score of 32 to 18. Smeer and Mehl and Emmitt and Williams officiated at the points for Bandon.

The stage between Roseburg and Myrtle Point had suffered a hold up. One drummer was relieved of \$50 and another saved \$100 by hiding his money under the seat.

The life saving crew were out for practice with the fire engine and demonstrated how speedily they could get a hose on top of the Tupper house with ladders and get the water to playing.

"Passe Partout" writing of a recent trip to Roseburg gave the following description: "I got aboard a four horse wagon, sometimes called a stage, at about 5 o'clock, a. m., June 5th. When the empty mail sacks were securely lashed down we started. The road through Myrtle Point was fairly good but became a trail as the Douglas county line was reached. Crossing the line the road developed into a canal. As the buckboard was fashioned in the shape of an Indian canoe we got along swimmingly. I hope the Douglas county court will pardon the pun as I feel as if the sea were quite rough on that trip and as the shores are quite rocky we came near shipwreck, buck-board wreck I mean, until finally we reached the Camas valley and some semblance of a road at about 2, p. m.

We lumped the distance from

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there to Olalla where we arrived at 6 o'clock and exchanged our canoe for a Concord coach and rocked the remainder of the distance, 17 miles, to Roseburg at 9, p. m. I tried to pull myself together Sunday morning but found that my movements would be slow for some time. I don't sit down much after that ride. My step has lost its elasticity and I don't feel limber at all, some way or other."

The county court at its recent session let W. E. Steinoff of Bandon, the contract for grading the new road around the hill to give an outlet toward Myrtle Point without going over the present, narrow and crooked road. The contract price was \$1,900. This project has been hanging fire for many moons and it seems that it will be delayed for still a few more, as a writ of review was filed today on behalf of the Mehl heirs, who are not satisfied with the compensation allowed them of \$565, and claim that they were not given the right notice pending action.—Coquille Herald.

The Smoke and the Scenery

The Portland Chamber of Commerce must be a brilliant aggregation of scintillating intellects. It is reported that 5,000 members of that body have "enthusiastically joined in a movement which is intended to keep Oregon's atmosphere clear of smoke during the season of 1915." It is stated that "last year thousands of tourists were disappointed. They came to Oregon expecting to see the splendid scenery so widely advertised and on their arrival found the brush heaps on fire from the Cascades to the Coast range, the atmosphere resembling a San Francisco fog. These tourists left in disgust." Now wasn't that a darned shame? what an inconsiderate lot of farmers and ranchers and pioneer settlers they must have over there in the Willamette valley that they would in-

terfere with Portland's tourist industry by obscuring the scenery with smoke merely for the sake of clearing up their land and getting more of it under cultivation. Portland ought to have the legislature pass a law making it a crime or at least a misdemeanor, for a farmer to burn his brush in the summer when passengers on the railroad want to look at the scenery. Let them burn their brush in the winter when the rain will keep the smoke from rising. Of course here in Coos it doesn't make so much difference, for we have few tourists and some of us even like the smell of the smoke from the brush piles, that indicates that more of our fertile acres are coming into use, more happy and contented cows giving cream and more happy and contented farmers coming and spending money with our merchants and newspaper men. In fact the Coos county chamber of commerce that would try to keep the farmers from burning brush at the only time of the year when it will burn would be considered—well you can supply the term for yourself.—Coquille Herald.

Pleasant Picnic Party

Mr. and Mrs. Hull, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Yeok and family, and a sister, Mrs. Brown from Bellingham, Wash., and Mrs. Glen and son, formed a picnic party Saturday. They went at 7 o'clock in the morning on the May up the river to Sunnyside where they camped for the day. They enjoyed the scenery and picked berries until noon when a camp fire was started and coffee made and a picnic dinner served under the trees. They started home at 5 o'clock in the afternoon and arrived in Bandon without anyone falling overboard.

Rev. W. S. Smith preached in the Presbyterian church at Coquille last Sunday morning.

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