

# MILLION ACRES OF OREGON LAND TO HAVE BENEFIT OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM

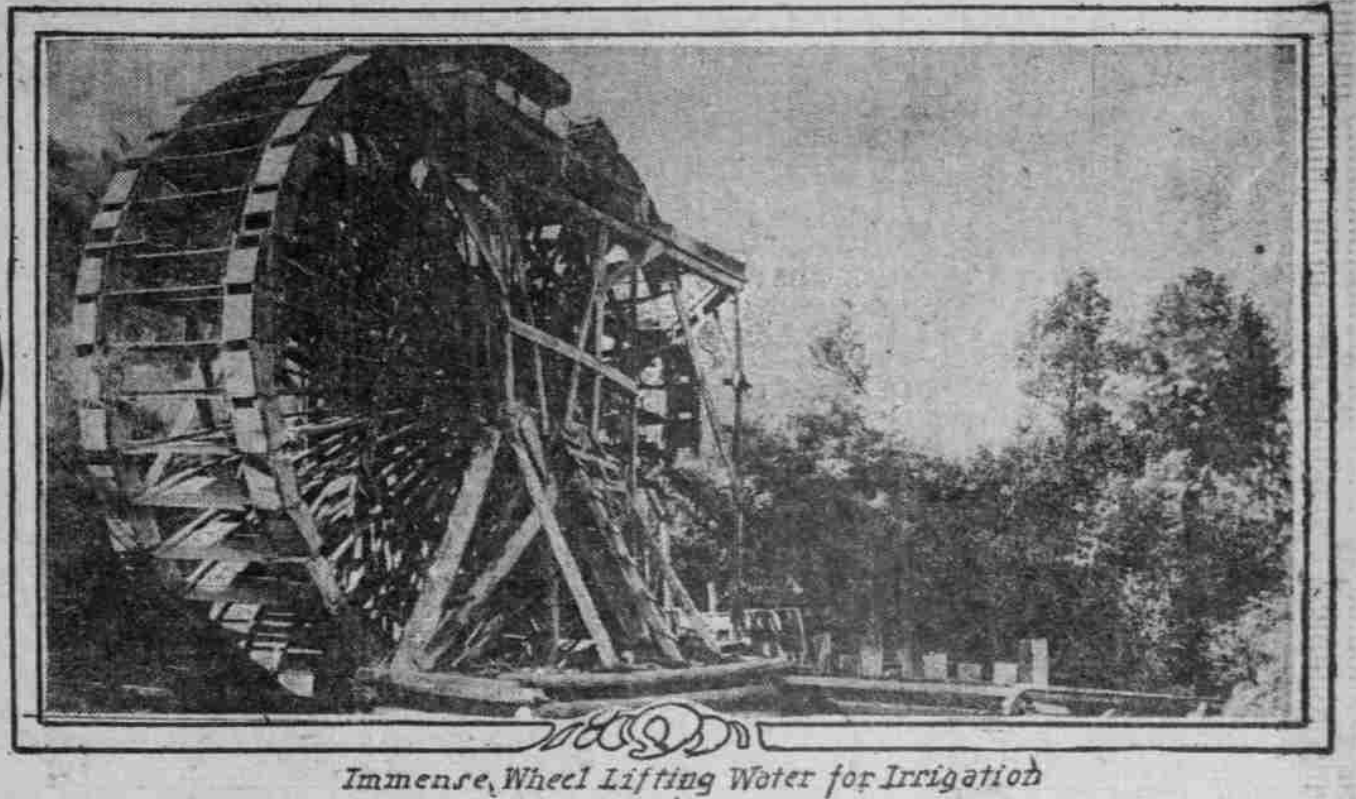
State Now Has 44 Full-Fledged Regulation Districts and Bonds in the Sum of \$13,800,000 Have Already Been Authorized—Special Laws Declared to Enhance Development of Various Projects Under New Plan



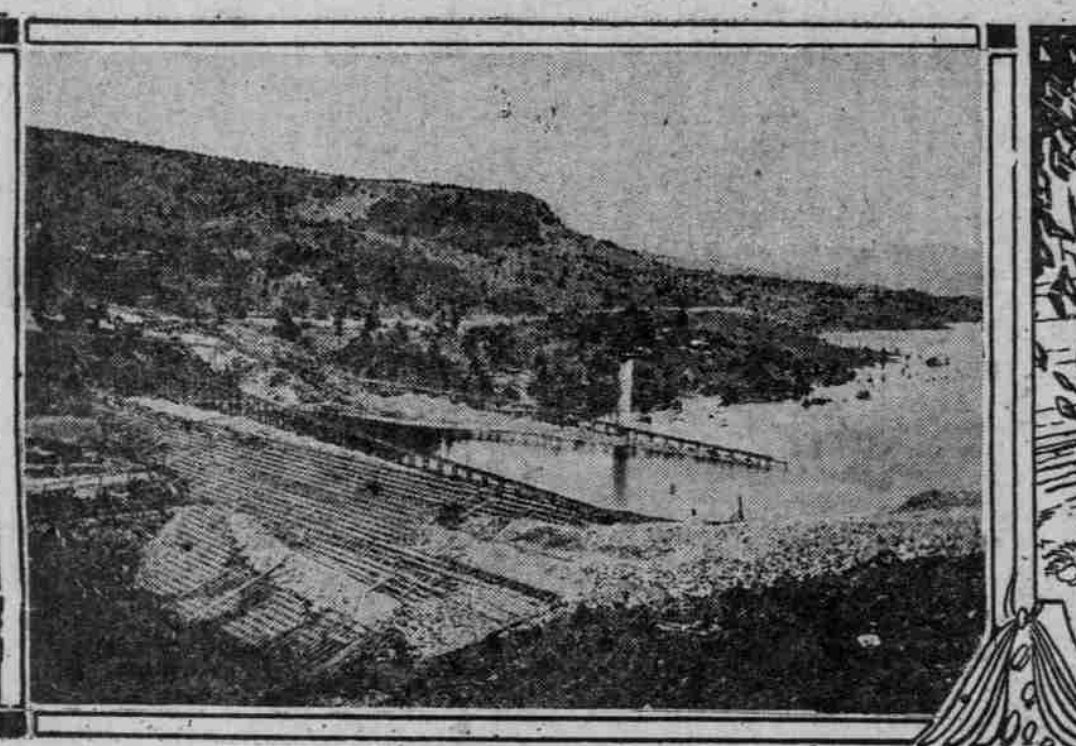
Headwaters of an Irrigation Stream



Produced by Irrigation.



Immense Wheel Lifting Water for Irrigation



Achoco Dam



A Canal on a U.S. Reclamation Service Project

**PROSPECTS** for irrigation development in Oregon were never brighter. In order to fully appreciate this fact we have but to recall the years that followed the bursting of the bubble in 1910, which closed forever, it is hoped, the exploitation period in irrigation development. Irrigation was practically at a standstill in this state for a number of years. In fact, it was not until the new irrigation district law was enacted by the 1917 legislature, that a real awakening in this enterprise occurred. This plan of reclamation placed irrigation on a sound business

basis and Oregon can today boast having the best irrigation district laws on the statute books of any state. Its enactment marked a new epoch in irrigation in Oregon. It may be said in passing that an irrigation district is a municipal organization of land owners, with the power of taxation and the authority to issue bonds. Funds are secured through the levy and collection of taxes and are disbursed through county officials in the same manner as county funds. An election is necessary to organize a district and also to authorize the issuance of bonds. Most irrigation districts act in close co-

operation with the state engineer's office and all important steps, including the plan of reclamation is subject to the supervision of this office. It may be said in general that practically all reclamation development, both drainage and irrigation, in the future will be under the district plan. The district law was supplemented at the last election by the adoption of a constitutional amendment under which the state may pay interest on irrigation district bonds for any one or more of the first five years after their issuance, provided that upon careful investigation by a commission composed of the attorney-general, superintendent of banks and the state

engineer, it appears to be the best interest of the state and the district. The same commission also examines the projects in connection with the certification of bonds, which certification makes the bonds legal investments for trust funds and other similar investments.

**Good Results Obtained.** Results count, and Oregon has certainly gotten results during the past three years. We now have 44 irrigation districts in the state, including approximately 1,000,000 acres of irrigable land. Of this area approximately 150,000 acres are now irrigated. Works have been constructed, or are being constructed, which will make possible the irrigation of 50,000 acres of additional land next season. Some of these lands which will be subject to irrigation in 1920 are in projects which have been constructed for some time and the lands thereunder not fully developed. However, a large percentage of these new lands are within the projects the works of which are now being completed. The irrigable land included in irrigation districts, the majority of which will be irrigated within the next few years, is approximately 1,000,000 acres, as shown by the last United States census.

**Projects Are Developed.** Irrigation districts have been organized in Josephine and Jackson counties west of the Cascade mountains, and in all counties east of the Cascade mountains except Wasco, Wheeler, Union, Sherman and Grant.

**Conservation Is Necessary.** Unfortunately the water is available for only a small per cent of the lands in the state to which the application of water would be beneficial. However, careful study and conservation of our resources will result in the irrigation of thousands of acres which would otherwise remain arid. Unfortunately for reclamation development in the popular mind, the city of Portland has not been regarded as directly interested in any reclamation programme that might be considered.

Not infrequently has the argument been advanced that while Portland has no land in her immediate vicinity, which would be affected by any reclamation programme that might be undertaken, yet she would be interested in the general development of the state. However, unless we are misinformed, one of the largest bodies of unimproved or partially improved land in the state, which is available for reclamation, lies almost at Portland's city limits. 50,000 acres of this land, which is situated along the Columbia river and generally designated as Sauvie's island, and other lands of similar character, comprising a body of land the soil of which must from the very nature of things be fertile in character, and which by the construction of proper dyking system and perhaps the application of some water during the dry season, would become one of Portland's greatest assets. Some progress is being made in the reclamation of lands in the vicinity of Portland as several drainage districts have been organized and this will undoubtedly stimulate larger developments.

Under the irrigation district plan or its supplementary statute, the drainage district law, exploitation has been made in every case the land owner themselves carrying out the reclamation programme. We have learned by past experience that there is no doubt that the cost of reclamation, if there is any, is less than the cost of the irrigation district plan provided and entitled to the advantage. We have irrigation for the irrigator and the irrigator for the farmer. This is why it is proving a success. It is a sound irrigation in Oregon to a sound irrigation in Oregon. We expect to see development along this line to go forward with unprecedented rapidity.

Oregon's wonderful natural resources, coupled with the fact that there is any water, this line has been retarded in the past, as a guarantee of great progress, now that we are in a position to take advantage of our opportunity.

## OREGON ASSISTS SERVICE MEN IN LOCATIONS

State Takes Lead, Through Settlement Commission, to Make Farming and Kindred Pursuits More Attractive and Pleasant—Unit No. 1 Is Established, With Returned Soldier as Buyer.

**By W. H. Crawford, Manager, Oregon Land Settlement Commission.**

ANY of the states as well as the federal government have been struggling for years with the problem of land settlement. The world war introduced the factor of the returned soldier. Very little has ever been accomplished in a practical way because of the magnitude of the problem and the inability of those interested to outline a good workable programme.

The federal government through the investigations of a commission endeavored to ascertain why people are abandoning the land and concentrating in cities. Economic reasons have been advanced as the cause, but persons who have been brought closely in touch with the subject are pretty well agreed that when comforts and conveniences found in city homes are provided for families living in the country, the tide of population may again be reversed.

It was with this thought in mind, coupled with the ambition to work out systematic methods of farm management that will place agriculture on the same basis as any other business, that the Oregon land settlement commission was created and started upon its work.

The commission has received approval from those who have given most study to the problems of how to make farm life attractive, but the highest commendation is that from wives who love the great outdoors of the farm, but shrink from the drudgery that has heretofore been thought a necessary part of its life. To be housed as well as the city dweller, with hot and cold water at kitchen sink and in the bathroom; electric lights, sanitary conveniences in and about the building, is to make the country alluring to the prospective settler. To sell an established, going business on the same basis that the city dweller can buy a home, is to enable the young people just starting down the pathway of family life to find their opportunity to be independent.

The Oregon land settlement commission is a duly incorporated state body with the following board of directors: Whitney L. Boise, chairman; Portland; Emery Olmstead, Portland; Charles Hall, Marshfield; G. H. Baker, Bend, and Robert N. Stanfield, Ontario.

**Legislature Takes Action.** The thirtieth legislative assembly of Oregon, in January, 1919, appropriated \$50,000 to cover the two-year period until the next session of the legislature in order to place into practical operation a plan of financing farm homes suggested to the legislature by a small group of citizens who had been making a close study of the matter for some time.

The plan is one intended to be copied or imitated in private transactions, thereby influencing agricultural development work far beyond the limitations of any possible state appropriation.

The commission has built, equipped, financed and sold its first farm home business unit, which is located in the heart of the Willamette valley 2 1/2 miles south of Independence. Additional units will be turned over rapidly as possible within the limitations of money available. At the next session of the legislature a complete financial statement will be submitted on the basis of which the

## MAKING LIFE SAFE IS HEALTH BOARD'S AIM

Conditions Making for Sturdier Citizenship Being Fostered—Collection of Vital Statistics, Tuberculosis Work and County Nurse Systems Receive Attention—Modern Crusade Introduced.

**By David N. Hoberg, State Health Officer.**

WITH this annual publication of the Oregonian, the state board of health is commencing its 17th year of service. From the beginning, the board of health now finds itself operating under health statutes of a far-reaching and comprehensive scope. Although at all times meagerly appropriated, it has kept abreast with national and standard methods for better sanitation, conservation of human life, and in the bookkeeping of those agencies affecting individuals and communities known as vital statistics.

The object of the state board of health may be concretely stated as that agency which makes life safe under the present mode of existence whereby pernicious habits and conditions are attendant to the modern form of civilization, such as commerce, industry, congested cities and post-war influences.

Sturdier citizenship, better living conditions and a reduction in disease and death rates are purchasable. The health laws passed by the 1919 legislature were based on an expected appropriation of \$25,000, but received only \$3,000 for their enactment. This means a reduction by two-thirds of the protection to life. It is safe to frankly make this statement of meager appropriation because the state of Oregon as a result of its health-giving climate and pure water supply is subjected and serves as an uncompensated by eastern and southern states.

**Possibilities Are Great.** The state board of health, given adequate appropriations, could take advantage of the potential possibilities of our salubrious climate and so reduce disease and death rates, and further the physical welfare of our people that Oregon would hold a place supreme in health matters and be the envy of all states. To hold such a place would be of inestimable value to Oregon both financially and industrially. Oregon is on the eve of an influx of tourists to view our scenic wonders and to enjoy our climate.

Although not subdivided into bureaus as is the case with standard organized boards of health, the Oregon board of health is equipped with a laboratory, a dispensary and a well-trained office personnel.

Senators Chamberlain and Kahn have secured a federal appropriation whereby \$14,829 is available for two years' expenditures for the control of venereal diseases, beginning July 1, 1918, and ending June 30, 1920. This has made possible the installation of a systematic effort in making venereal diseases a public health measure. The personnel secured through this federal appropriation, together with the facilities of the board of health, the Oregon Social Hygiene society and the Codars (a Portland municipal hospital for the isolation and treatment of venereal cases) makes possible the detection, treatment and isolation of venereally infected women. During the war it was established that to properly mobilize the army it was first necessary to control venereal diseases, and during the demobilization of the army, federal aid became necessary to continue wartime control measures.

**Collection of Vital Statistics.** The board of health now operates a system for the compilation of the records of births and deaths which is recognized by the federal census bureau by having Oregon placed in the federal registration area. Statistics collected in registration states are published as authentic in the government reports. Vital statistics bear the same relationship to the board of health that a bookkeeping and inventory system bears to a business enterprise.

**County Nurse System.** Given adequate appropriations, could take advantage of the potential possibilities of our salubrious climate and so reduce disease and death rates, and further the physical welfare of our people that Oregon would hold a place supreme in health matters and be the envy of all states. To hold such a place would be of inestimable value to Oregon both financially and industrially. Oregon is on the eve of an influx of tourists to view our scenic wonders and to enjoy our climate.

## State Library Is Reaching Farmers

Institution Has 600 Traveling Branches for Re loans, Making for Contentment.

THE Oregon state library has the largest mail order circulation of any library in the United States. During the biennium 125,000 books were shipped out. There were 11,300 mail order requests for books and 10,000 requests for traveling library fixed collections.

Books are deposited in 600 branch traveling libraries for reloaning. They are circulated through 75 public libraries, hundreds of schools and about 9000 readers who live too far from any of these stations to get books through them.

Through its traveling library system and loan collections, the state library has made it possible to send by mail, freight and express to small public libraries, schools, churches, debating teams, agricultural agents and to people in every isolated place in the state.

Through its continuous distribution of books the Oregon state library has become a highly valued and important institution and has served to make more contented and enlightened citizens of those residing on farms and in the sparsely settled districts and has placed the village and rural communities on a basis of equality with cities in the matter of book supply.

The modern health crusade has received its impetus and entirely financed by the association and has proved a most valuable aid in bettering the health of school children. Oregon is to be congratulated for participating in this new work, which is already international. To date there are 400 public health clubs and 1000 personal cleanliness and hygiene. The furthering of this work in the public order requests for traveling libraries are the most valuable for the welfare of school children.

This association was organized in 1915 and is financed entirely by means of annual Christmas sales of Red Cross seals. While the sole object of the association has been the suppression of tuberculosis, it has at all times had a keen recognition of physical welfare and the reduction of disease and death rates. A noteworthy accomplishment of the association is the establishment of the county public health nurse. Six counties now have secured legislation for the establishment of the county public health nurse, after which the county court takes over the work at public expense. Five additional counties are pledged to undertake this work.

The county nurse is active in both the home and the school. In the home she administers bedside care and gives instructions on health and prevention of disease, and through her school inspections makes known the occurrence of physical defects and contagious diseases. At all times the nurses are instructed to cooperate with physicians and public officials.

Inasmuch as the activities of the tuberculosis association are in line with those of the state board of health, the latter, through its bureau of public health, supervises the work of the nurses.

## MERIT OF GOODS IS WINNER

Oregon Industries of High Quality Finding Favor in Many New Places, Record Shows.

**By A. G. Clark, Manager Associated Industries of Oregon.**

OREGON is rapidly assuming her place in the list of industrial states by actually producing superior merchandise. There was a time when our manufacturers depended largely upon sentiment to secure support for their products; but that day has passed and it is now upon the basis of quality, service and price that Oregon makes its demand for an even break for her factories.

Food manufacturers here now find ready markets throughout the United States and many lines have invaded the export field and are meeting with splendid success.

In securing recognition in markets outside the state, Oregon manufacturers have successfully met the competition of other national dis-

## OREGON INDUSTRIES OF HIGH QUALITY FINDING FAVOR IN MANY NEW PLACES, RECORD SHOWS.

The Associated Industries of Oregon is supported by 250 manufacturers of Portland and Oregon and also secures financial aid from the Chamber of Commerce. It is officiated and directed by the following manufacturers: H. C. Hamilton, Portland; Rubber Mills, president; H. Frank, Blumensprung, Portland; first vice-president; W. J. Ball, Portland; second vice-president; R. B. Bain, Jr., Clatskanie; secretary; E. C. Barnhill, Astoria; J. W. Hogan, Yreka; Swift & Co., E. M. Irvine, Fleischer, Mayer & Co., E. N. Strong, Oregon Life Insurance company; J. A. Zehnbauer, Yreka Knitting company; J. A. Zehnbauer, Jansen company, and H. S. Gile, Fleischer company, Salem, Or.