

Paved County Road System Growth Told

There are enough miles of paved highways in Deschutes county, constructed by the county and the state of Oregon, to make a two-lane road from Bend almost to San Francisco.

This is a far cry from the road situation in the county in 1928 when George McAllister first went to work as a road department employee.

At that time, there were approximately 100 miles of market roads in Deschutes, with the remainder of the wagon trail type. The county then owned less than \$10,000 worth of equipment, most of which would be considered inadequate by present standards.

Five years after he went to work for the county, McAllister was named roadmaster, a position he still holds.

Budget Nears Half Million

In intervening years, the road picture has changed considerably. From a department with a handful of employees, it has grown to one with 30 to 35 regulars on the payroll, a \$13,500 monthly payroll, and a yearly budget nearing the half-million dollar mark.

There are 1331.9 miles of county roads in the Deschutes system at present, with work proceeding on improvement of various sections throughout element weather.

Of the total, 722.2 miles are unimproved, 313.2 miles are graded and drained, 60.5 miles have gravel and cinder base and 216 miles are of black top or asphalt.

For the 1956-57 fiscal year, the Deschutes county road department had a budget of \$452,836, moving it into the realm of big business.

No Property Tax Used

There was a remainder of \$50,367.62 at the close of the year, June 30, making expenditures for the recently-closed year \$402,468.38.

One of the nicest things about the Deschutes county road department is that the property owner spends not one cent of his assessed tax dollar to pay for road building, maintenance and improvement.

According to County Judge C. L. Allen, gasoline tax, forest sales and rentals and miscellaneous fines bring money into county coffers to maintain the department. In the last 15 years, it was necessary only once to have a road levy, which was for one mill.

In addition to the county system, there are 201.28 miles of state primary roads and 53.61 miles of state secondary highways within the boundaries of Deschutes county.

The county is currently working on a variety of Federal Aid, Secondary construction jobs and several others which will be independent of state and federal agencies.

1957 Blacktop Lengthens

McAllister estimates that by the end of the current calendar year, 26.30 more miles of black top highways will be in use.

Under the FAS program, which the county has utilized frequently in recent years, the county pays for all of the base work. When this is completed, the federal government pays 60 per cent of the remainder, and the state and the county split the other 40 per cent.

The road boss estimates that more than 200 miles of FAS and county highways have been constructed since the end of World War II.

One requirement for participation in the program with the state and federal governments is that the project must be tied at one



LAN ROAD PROGRAM — George McAllister, left, works with the three members of the Deschutes county court in administering the county road program. Seated are, from left, Judge C. L. Allen, Commissioner D. L. Penhollow and Commissioner Fred Shepard. (Bend Bulletin Photo)

Anglers Report Finest Fishing In 2 Reservoirs

Nationally recognized Wickiup reservoir offers some of Central Oregon's finest fishing for large brown trout. Fish weighing 20 pounds and more have been taken from Wickiup, a unit in Central Oregon's vast irrigation system.

Fishing for these lunkers is at its best in late summer, as the level of the reservoir drops under irrigation demands. Spin fishermen using lures that resemble chubs, bait fishermen, trollers — large browns have been taken by all of these.

Though objected to by some conservation-minded fishermen, a favorite lure is a dead chub, rigged so that a normal retrieve imparts lifelike motion. That these chubs must be dead is emphasized, for under Oregon law no live fish may be used for bait.

Favorite fishing spots are the long-submerged channels of the rivers and creeks emptying into Wickiup. Crane Prairie, Wickiup's upstream cousin and another irrigation reservoir, is most noted for its large rainbows. Recently, limit catches of—the silvery kokanee have been making an even bigger name for Crane Prairie.

Snag-infested, Crane Prairie is a menace to a fisherman's tackle box. Results, in the form of five-pound rainbows, are conceded to be worth it.

end to an existing FAS road, either primary or secondary.

Machinery Worth \$250,000

In 1955, 15.81 miles of state FAS roads were completed at a construction cost of \$80,632.28, with the county's share set at \$19,000. Projects included Ward, Arnold, White Rock Loop, Pinehurst, and Wilcocks.

During calendar year 1956, seven small bridges were constructed at various points with a total of \$11,974.78.

Gravel base was laid last year on a variety of projects, with a total of 35,000 cubic yards of the material used.

Total spent on road construction and upkeep for 1956 was \$238,710.40.

The roadmaster estimates that Deschutes county owns some \$350,000 worth of road equipment at present including two power graders, three bulldozers, a power shovel, one two-yard bucket loader, an air-compressor and 10 dump trucks.

Mule of Mystery Justifies Wife's Faith by Turning Up

Dynamite is dead. The much-branded mule which carried Perit Huntington almost daily to the post office in Sisters left the world this summer as quietly as he had arrived.

Dynamite is missed by Huntington and by the children of Sisters. The owner had no car and could not walk without pain on legs bowed by a progressive ailment. He loves children and timed his trip to the post office quite often so he could give three or four of them a lift toward school.

The sight of the 72-year-old rancher on Dynamite with children aboard fore and aft from the mane in front of him to the tail behind was a common one. For 50 miles around people told other people they ought to see it and many of them did.

Dynamite was a mule of mystery. He ambled into the orbit of the Huntington family in time of need. He was a realization of the faith of Mrs. Huntington that "something would turn up." This was about 16 years ago.

"Something Will Turn Up"

Perit had been suffering for some time. He went to Portland and a specialist told him it was TB or arthritis. He must not put his weight on his legs more than necessary. Perit said the doctor told him he would get bowlegged and

bowlegged if he did, and that is what happened.

When Perit returned to his small ranch on the edge of Sisters, he said Mrs. Huntington told him not to worry, something would "turn



PERIT HUNTINGTON
On mule of mystery

up." He didn't take any stock in that. "Turn up, turn up," he said in a scoffing tone as he related the circumstance.

One morning some time later

Reads Like Fish Story, But True

Land of the magic waters — that's Central Oregon to a fisherman.

Consider Wickiup, Crane Prairie, Big Lava, Elk, Cultus, Think of Deschutes, Metolius, Snow. . .

A fisherman needs to hear also rainbow, brook, mackinaw, kokanee, brown, the names of the trout inhabiting the waters of Central Oregon.

Fly fishermen, spinning enthusiast, bait dunker, they all catch trout (sometimes) in Central Oregon, land of the magic waters.

A strong horse with a special holster on the saddle for a No. 2 shovel was standard equipment for the old time ditch "walker" in Central Oregon.

Small yellow summer squash makes a tasty addition to tossed green salads. Select a young and tender squash.

turning off the sprinkler outside. She told him Dynamite was dead.

"He couldn't be," Perit retorted. "I heard him eating during the night." But it was true—Dynamite had passed on silently with a full stomach to whatever lay beyond. He died of old age, Perit said. The Huntington's children are grown or growing up. Perit will get his mail.

Slough Spells Goose Not Goo

Slough Camp — makes you think of a tent pitched beside a mud-hole, doesn't it?

That's what Slough Camp of upper Deschutes country might too, were it not for the surrounding forest, and the clear cool river that backs up in a space between two low hills south of Bend.

Halfway between Benham and Dillon falls on the upper Des-

chutes, Slough Camp offers some of the region's best early season duck and goose hunting. Bordered with small brush and reeds, the sloughs are favorite spots of local duck hunters. There are two sloughs actually, separated by a quarter-mile strip of high dry ground, where tents are pitched and the outdoorsman vacillates between the trout fishing and the duck hunting. Both are good.

Thank You, Central Oregon!

GROWTH IN SAVINGS

1951	\$1,930,723
1952	2,237,009
1953	2,462,076
1954	2,855,678
1955	3,244,769
1956	3,706,743
1957	3,812,855



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