

### South Oregon Views at Odds On Irrigation

#### Medford Benefits From Talent Project; GP Won't Tap Rogue

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Grants Pass and Medford are Southern Oregon cities, the central points in counties which share timber, agriculture and tourists as the principal resources. But there are sharp differences. One of these several differences is assurance now of enough irrigation water, says J. W. Forrester Jr., editor of the Pendleton East Oregonian, who studied the economy of a score of Oregon counties on a recent swing through the state.

**8,000 New Acres**  
This is the way he found the situation: In Jackson County, of which Medford is the county seat, the Talent irrigation project is putting supplementary water on land and work in progress on the project will bring water to 8,000 new acres and additional water to 11,000 more.

The county's water supply can be expanded beyond any agricultural needs now in sight. But in Josephine County, of which Grants Pass is the center, talk of tapping the Rogue River runs into the strongest kind of opposition from fishermen and other outdoors enthusiasts. Failure of the people of the area to agree has been offered in Washington, D. C., as the reason for rejecting past irrigation plans.

**Dairying, Hops Decline**  
In an interview with Frank Streeter, veteran Grants Pass newspaperman, Forrest was told that Josephine County dairymen have been decreasing in numbers since repeal of the state milk control law. Hop growing has declined in this county as in others. Even the growing of gladiolus bulbs has been falling off.

Jackson County agriculture has noted some falling off, too, especially in dairying and poultry raising. However the great fruit industry—nearly 2½ million boxes of pears harvested last year—represents an income of about 19 million dollars. The agricultural future looks good, and will be even brighter with added irrigation. In timber, Josephine County has seen curtailment of the small and medium-sized operator's work. Bate Lumber Co., with a sawmill and a plywood plant at Merlin, is the biggest of the operators in the county. A comparative newcomer there, Bate has been a heavy buyer of government timber.

**Timber Ahead of Cut**  
Jackson County has several relatively large operators and a few secondary processors, and—aside from the general slowdown now in lumber—has a promising outlook.

Full utilization of wood has made no appreciable strides in either of these counties but timber growth is exceeding the cut.

In the tourist trade, both counties are tops. Both have incomparable mountain scenery. Josephine County is magic for fishermen, its famed Rogue River attracting them from all parts of the country. Jackson County has both Crater Lake and Oregon Caves.

Both counties are havens for people in retirement—"a good place to live."

### WU Student Wins Speech Test at OSC

CORVALLIS (AP)—A Willamette University student won one speaking contest and placed third in another at an annual event on the Oregon State College campus Thursday night.

Lewis Bright won the 9th annual experimental speaking contest. A new system is tried each year in that contest. This year the speakers appeared on television, with the judges sitting in front of a television set at the other end of a closed circuit. Donna DeVries, University of Oregon, was second in the contest, and Jack Booth, Lewis and Clark College, third.

The 38th annual state Peace Oratorical Contest was won by Wayne Bryant, Northwest Christian College, of Eugene, with Diana Scott, University of Oregon, second, and Bright third.

Nine colleges were entered in the events, sponsored annually by the Intercollegiate Forensic Assn.

### Jaycees Cite BPA Official

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Junior Chamber of Commerce Thursday announced the selection of 10 "outstanding young men in government" as winners of the ninth annual Arthur S. Flemming awards.

The awards, consisting of plaques, are designed to recognize accomplishments, encourage high standards and to help attract qualified young men to federal service.

The recipients, selected from among 75 nominees, included Roger L. Conkling, 39, director of budget and management for the Bonneville Power Administration in Portland.

### Few Smelt Running

ASTORIA (AP)—The Smelt Cooperative at Clatskanie reported Friday that only a small quantity of smelt has been delivered to receiving stations here. Cold weather was blamed for the delay of the annual run.

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