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History of Road Connecting Portland With Valley As Told By County Agent

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Producing farm products annually worth, in their raw state on the farm, almost 10 million dollars; containing 4000 farms returning an annual gross cash income to their operators of more than four million dollars; supplying processing plants for farm and forest products; providing homes for a population of nearly 40,000 people, and located just west of Portland;—that is Washington County.

What local people have long known as Washington county did not always bear its present name. Some good many years ago all of what is now northwest Oregon and western Washington was known as Tuality. In the Indian language Tuality meant "lazy water." To those people familiar with the streams of this area, the use of the Indian name would indeed be descriptive.

Probably the early pioneers who came to Oregon over the old Barlow road by wagon or floated down the Columbia on flat boats little realized the extent of the future development of the Tualatin valley. Washington county comprises approximately 467,000 acres and includes the entire Tualatin river drainage area and a very small part of the Nehalem River valley in the northwest part of the county. With the total agricultural production worth probably ten million dollars annually on the farm, its productiveness has gone far beyond that of the period when its products first played an important part and were a factor in the early development of our nearby metropolitan area.

Along in the early 1850's, Oregon City, Oswego, Portland, Linnton, Burlington and St. Helens were all ambitious to become the business and population centers of the Oregon country. To accomplish this they were all striving for the products from the Tualatin plains.

At that time what is now Washington Street in Portland was known as Tuality Street. Portland business men sensed the importance of the farm products of this area in up-building Portland and subscribed sufficient money to build a plank road from the western terminus of Tuality Street up the canyon and over the hill to Tuality. This plank road so facilitated the movement of farm products that Portland virtually monopolized the marketing and handling of these things. Later on when northwestern Oregon was split up into several counties and the Tualatin valley was designated as Washington County, the name of Tuality Street in Portland was changed to Washington Street since it led over the hill to the rich productiveness of Washington County.

One-half the area of Washington County is in farms. The other half, originally timbered, has, for the most part, been stripped of its forest. Some of this has begun to grow more trees but all too frequently fire destroys the beginning of another forest cover. Citizens and property owners of Washington County have not been as diligent in protecting their long-time interests in the forest areas of the Tualatin drainage shed as they have been in developing its farming possibilities.

Of the 258,000 acres in farms, about half is in cultivated land. Twenty-five million dollar invested in the dairy industry accounts for a great part of the agricultural cash income. The total farm income from dairying varies as prices fluctuate. During the last few years the average annual income on the farm from dairy products probably totals somewhere near two and a quarter million dollars.

Grade "B" milk for the Portland market constitutes the larger part of the dairy production. More than 30 per cent of the Portland milk supply is produced on Washington county farms. Another large user of Washington county milk is the Carrington condenser at Hillsboro. This came into existence at a period in Washington county history when dairymen were in serious need of a market. The development of the Carnation business stimulated the development of the entire dairy industry in Washington County.

Production of feed for the twenty-three thousand head of cattle, over sixteen thousand of which are milk cows, requires a substantial part of the crop acreage. Red clover, oats and vetch, and alfalfa for hay annually occupies twenty-five to thirty thousand acres of land or nearly 20 per cent of the total cultivated land area of the county. Wheat, oats,

and barley are grown annually on another approximate thirty thousand acres. Most of this cereal production goes into feed for dairy cattle or for poultry, hogs and a few other miscellaneous livestock.

Small seeds, dairy products and horticultural crops in cans and packages have replaced grain and hay that were at one time the principal cash crops from local farms. In the 1890's, the little steamboats Yamhill and Onward probably carried wheat and other grain down the Tualatin river to Oswego lake—then known as Sucker lake. In 1940, small seeds from 20,000 Washington county acres move by truck and rail to and through Portland and thence to nearly every part of the United States.

Orchards, small fruit, cannery and miscellaneous crops take up the balance of the improved land acreage. Washington county is somewhat unique as to soil and topography. It is surrounded on the south, west, north and most of the east by a high range of hills. Unlike most of the Willamette Valley and western Oregon, there is good soil to the very top of these hills. Not less than 10,000 acres of land in the county is planted to orchards. At least 60 per cent of this orchard acreage is on these hill lands. Walnuts lead in the acreage of tree fruits totalling approximately 4500 acres. Twenty-seven hundred acres are planted to filberts, only about one-third of which are in bearing. Prunes occupy another 2700 acres.

In the case of filberts, many land owners and prospective land owners are puzzling over whether to plant filberts; wondering if the prospect of profitable income from the crop will be favorable the next few years. Probably the proper answer to inquiries of that kind is in the fact that regardless of the crop we grow it comes into competition with some other crop. Consequently, the orchard that is planted on good land that will grow a better than average orchard, should, with proper care, be able to hold its own for its owner even when production greatly increases.

Washington county farms average just over 50 acres in size. That is not too large. Where the farm is the entire source of income, it is only the exception where less than approximately 40 acres of cultivated land will support a family, according to the opinion of nearly any representative group of farmers. Too small size of many farms constitutes one of the most serious handicaps to successful farm operation in some areas. Some units too small to be economically independent in themselves may be a very desirable location for a family. However, these real small units cannot in themselves produce a sufficient income to support an average family. As part-time farms they may be justified when there is sufficient part-time employment in industry or business to take up the balance of the operator's time.

Without doubt, the outstanding reason for the high state of production of Washington county farms is due to the type of people operating these farm lands. These are a prideful people; proud of their homes, proud of the fact that they are on good land and proud that they know how to operate and maintain successful farm operations. Coupled with pride has been a staunch determination and a resourcefulness in using materials and opportunities.

Introduction of industries and processing plants to handle and market agricultural products has in every case marked the beginning of a period of development. This was true when the condenser of Hillsboro was established; it was again true when the Ray-Maling plant at Hillsboro began its operations. In the first case, the dairy industry was placed on a firm basis because of an assured market; in the second case, it meant an established market for first, the small fruit crops, and later, the stimuli that resulted in growing vegetable crops which replaced cereals for which the market had shrunk.

Production of small seeds is a development of recent years. The farmers out on the Tualatin plains between Hillsboro and Banks, who floated his wheat down Dairy Creek on a barge to the old mill at Centerville where it was ground into grit, now loads his Austrian peas and hairy vetch seed on a truck and start it on its way to Alabama, Mississippi, or some other southern state. There the cotton farmer



A main thoroughfare in Aloha



Looking East on Broadway Street, Beaverton



Street scene at Multnomah



One of Tigard's Modern Buildings

Cattle Club Reports Number Guernsey Sales

The American Guernsey Cattle club, Petersburg, N. H., reports the sale of a registered Guernsey cow by Lucy R. Scudder of Yakima, Wash., to Charles K. Hines of Beaverton, Ore. This animal is Scudder Ranch G. Cynthia Van 543402.

The sale of a registered Guernsey cow by J. F. Scott of Yakima, Wash., to Charles K. Hines of Beaverton, Ore. This animal is Bonneville Nectar 522110.

Sale of a registered Guernsey cow by Valley Gem Farms, Arlington, Wash., to Charles K. Hines of Beaverton, Ore. This animal is Valley Gem Gossip 553373.

A registered Guernsey cow by Zweigman Bros., Lynden, Wash., to Charles K. Hines of Beaverton, Ore. This animal is Rozelyn Beulah 619544.

Sale of a registered Guernsey cow by J. T. Richey, Boring, Oregon, to Charles K. Hines, of Beaverton, Oregon. This animal is Cascade Flute 564599.

Colored Photographs Have Fair Division

For the first time, the amateur photography exhibition at the state fair includes classifications for both black and white and colored photographs. Each of these major divisions contains these classes: Landscape and marine, figures or portraits, animals, flowers, architectural studies and genre. Entries close at 4 p. m. Saturday, August 31 and fair dates are September 2 through 8. Mrs. Chas. H. Rundell, Portland, is superintendent of the art department.

plants the seed grown on the Tualatin plains. The following spring he turns it under to help him grow more cotton.

Pioneering Into the Sunset—At the End Of the Trail—A Home

From the first covered wagon—even as today the greatest human urge that carried them onward and forward to progress development—was for a home, independence, happiness in that wonderful land of opportunity and future greatness—Oregon. The rich Tualatin Valley was their Paradise Regained—the pot of gold, at the end of the rainbow.

Today, as yesterday, The Tualatin Valley has given rich rewards to her people, and is a constantly growing Valley of Homes. This steady increase in population and home-building has undoubtedly constituted its one greatest development. 90 years of home-making—and during 74 years of this home-making, The Powers Furniture Co., Third and Yamhill, Portland's oldest and largest Home Furniture and Furnishings Store, has kept pace in serving these homes.

Now, in celebrating their 74 years of Service, Powers Furniture Co. wishes to extend and to acknowledge the 90 years of growth, progress and development in the Tualatin Valley, as an outstanding part of Oregon's history—which is as thrilling today in its fast moving drama of progress, as in the years that have gone.

This firm is proud of the part they have played in supplying home furnishings, with the attending comfort, pleasure and happiness it has given to the thousands of their customers—in the Tualatin Valley. Along with you, they speak with pride, of that pioneering vision of your earlier settlers: the determination, months of hard patient travel overcoming all hardships; and the years of making those homes. You, today, are doing your part in Pioneering a Greater Oregon—a greater, more prosperous Tualatin Valley—a Greater Home Land.

Better Times On Farms, Babson Says Domestic Demand Important War Factor

Chicago, Aug. 2—American farmers are lucky this year. Harvests in the United States and Canada will be good, while crops in most parts of the world will be under par. Prices will be only moderately higher, but farm income this fall may be the biggest since 1930. Goods that farmers must buy will not go up much so that profits should be reasonably good. Moreover, record government benefit checks will help many a farmer over the rough spots. Only dark cloud in the outlook is the tax threat.

As we swing by the mid-Summer mark, it is time to estimate how big crops will be, how prices will trend, how much money will find its way into farmers' pockets. Despite the fact that acreage planted this year was the fourth smallest since 1915, harvest totals will probably top the ten-year average on most important farm products. Winter and spring wheat harvests will just about hit the ten-year level, but America's major crop—corn—although smaller than in 1939, will be bigger than the average corn harvest of the past decade. The export prospects for these grain crops is pretty black and I cannot see any sharp increase in prices—particularly of wheat.

Tobacco War Casualty

Indications point to larger oats, barley, hay, and potato crops than either in 1939 or in the average year since 1930. In fact, the only sharp reduction will be in tobacco. Acreage planted to tobacco was only 70 per cent of the 1939 figure. This crop is one of our first war casualties—our big tobacco markets in Europe being virtually closed. Rice is benefitting from war, however, with this year's crop promising to hit a new record. Reports from Canada indicate a big wheat crop there, although bad weather from now on could change the Dominion picture radically.

The grain crops contribute only a small portion of total farm income. Dairy, poultry and livestock are all more important in dollars and cents. For the balance of 1940, the outlook for dairymen is moderately hopeful. Milk production registered a new all-time high in June, but even so prices are running above the 1939 figures. War is helping our prices for these commodities because the important dairy countries of Denmark, Holland, and Belgium are cut off from world trade. Biggest price factor, however, is greater consumer demand due to better business, more jobs, and higher payrolls right here in the good old U. S. A. This will be the strongest support for better farm produce prices of all kinds this fall.

Foods and Meats Up

"Eggs" have not had an easy time of it in recent months. Prices have been running a bit better than in 1939, but feed costs have also been higher. The outlook is for smaller egg production this year than last. Feed costs will be lower than in the first half, consumer buying will be higher—hence, moderately better profits for egg "ranchers." Poultry prospects are a mite rosier, too, with a smaller hatch and with fatter pay envelopes on Saturday noons. The cotton outlook is not favorable. The crop will be small, but the carry-over is terrific and our exports are practically shut off.

Cattle, sheep, and hogsmen recently have not fared so well as other types of farmers. Heavy slaughtering of hogs, loss of foreign markets for hog products, bigger shipments of lamb, have all been keeping prices of meat animals lower than a year ago. Conditions should reverse themselves before snow flies, however, as consumer demand increases and supplies particularly of hogs taper off. Vegetable prices have been running higher than a year ago, but they are now working lower as the new crops come to market. Supply of fruit will be smaller and prices in this particular group should continue to strengthen.

Government Checks Equal 15 percent

Farm income this fall will continue to be heavily bulwarked with government benefit payments. The percentage of total farm income from government payments have jumped from 5 per cent in 1938 to nearly 15 per cent so far this year. Altogether, Secretary Wallace has spent more than \$3,000,000 since 1932 to put farm prices back to where they ought to be. Prices are higher, but they are still far below the parity figure. Meanwhile, prices paid for things the farmer must buy have gone up almost as much as farm prices. As a nation, we have

mighty little to show for the mammoth sums spent for farm relief!

Whether the war will help the farmer or not remains to be seen. To date, its chief claim to such credit is the fact that prices are higher than a year ago. At the same time, the war has literally choked off our export markets for farm products on the Continent. The same has happened to our Continental markets for industrial goods, but our trade with South America is absorbing the industrial loss. South America, however, wants to export—not import—farm produce. England will buy more and more food-stuffs from us as the war continues. Otherwise, domestic buying power will continue to be the dictator on the majority of farm products prices.

Mid-Year Outlook Next Week

Next week, I am going to give readers my detailed forecasts for workers, employers, retailers, investors, and farmers in the second half of 1940. Briefly, for the farmer I predict increased demand for meat, eggs, fruits, moderately higher prices for most farm products, and better times for farmers between now and New Year's Day. In short, the loss in export markets should—with the exception of grains, cotton, and tobacco—be made up by increased domestic buying!

Junior Legion Baseball Tournament to be held August 10-11 at Hillsboro

The 1940 American Legion state baseball tournament will be held in the municipal hall park at Hillsboro on August 10 and 11 with four teams in the finals competition. Double-header games will be played each day.

With detailed plans for the two-day tournament already outlined by Legion committees under direction of Orange Phelps, sports enthusiast and former mayor of Hillsboro, success surpassing that of last year is predicted.

A banquet honoring visiting Legion officials and members of the four Junior Legion teams is planned for Friday evening, August 9, the night preceding the first game. Preliminary ceremonies introducing the game program each day at the ball park are set to start at 1:30 p. m. Arrangements have been made to feed, house and royally entertain the Legion Junior baseballers during their two-day stay in the tournament city.

Seating capacity at the ball park will be doubled this year with addition of almost 1000 bleacher seats to the permanent grandstands built last season. Leveling and turfing of the baseball diamond is also noted as an improvement since the 1939 tourney. Ample parking space adjacent to the park will await out-of-town cars.

The four teams to battle for the state championship title here will be winners of elimination games currently being played in Southern Oregon, Eastern Oregon, Portland and Willamette valley sections of the state.

Razed House Is Landmark

The house torn down on the McClure farm at Scholls was built 71 years ago by Charles Brooks, former owner of the McClure farm. Charles Brooks built many of the houses around Scholls. He was the only one at that time that could build a fireplace that wouldn't smoke. They found timbers for the porch with the natural curve to them. This house was built from the timber on the farm and Mr. Brooks hewed out the shakes for the house himself. Mr. Brooks has long since retired and lives in Newberg.

Happy is he who owns his charming, little home in the Tualatin Valley, and who enjoys the charm of the suburbs without sacrifices of comforts, and conveniences of the city. It is estimated that at least 80 per cent of the home owners in this area are those who work in Portland. These have anticipated beyond the years and made substantial plans for the tomorrow, by making investments in future contentment.

Educational advantages are excellent in this section. Standard high and grade schools are maintained at convenient points. One can reach the various colleges either by rail or motor car in a short time.