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AGRICULTURE'S BURDEN

The scope of Oregon agriculture is never more illustratively indicated than in the annual report of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station on agricultural progress through research.

The booklet, of some 140 pages, was released on May 27 and is available from Oregon State college or through the county extension office.

The basic problem of a population is food. With governmental census figures expected to reveal an increase of over 50% in Oregon's population in the last 10 years, the importance of providing for this basic problem becomes one of heightening importance.

Any state or nation, analyzing its food production problem, must rely to a great extent on research and technology to get the most of the resources available. The inroads of plant and animal diseases and parasites, as well as of wasteful farming practices reduces, in effect, the productivity of an area.

It is in this field that the significant results of research and scientific practices add to a state's or nation's wealth.

The Oregon Agricultural Experiment station is supported by agricultural industry groups, Federal, State and private financial aid. The U. S. Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Department of Interior participate in various phases of its work. The goal and the achievement of the station is constant improvement of agricultural knowledge and processes, whether on an industrial basis or for a diversified, one-family farm.

Fields in which agricultural research is recorded by the annual report include field, forage and seed crops; horticultural crops; soil and water conservation methods; livestock; dairy production and processing; poultry, wildlife and marine; home economics and general research.

Suppose you were a farmer whose livelihood was under threat of a plant disease, an insect or a wasteful soil practice. Without

the services of an agricultural experiment station whose research staff was as near at hand as your county agent, you might be reduced to abject poverty and the productivity of your land wiped away in one swoop.

The relationship of such an individual farmer to the state agriculture, however, is not of minor importance. For the problems of this way of life is proportionately the same, insofar as production is concerned.

The difficulties an individual encounters in producing from the soil are the same difficulties, many times magnified that harass a large-scale operation. Likewise, these troubles will yield to the same treatment.

It is in this fact that the far-reaching advantage of an agricultural experiment station contributes, through its research, to the strengthening of the nation. The individual farmer, heroically struggling for a livelihood through any or a combination of agricultural pursuits, is an important backbone of the American character. To offer him the services of scientific research, to encourage him by proper practices to get the most from his land, is to build for a better, stronger America.

Likewise, since the national and world demand for food is high, requiring production in quantity, findings developed by the experiment station complement research of varied industries, in agriculture. Through both means, the United States is better enabled to feed its own as well as meet commitments across the world.

Those not directly engaged in agriculture benefit from these research activities inasmuch as the quality of the meat, the milk, the vegetables and the bread we serve on our tables is being constantly improved, enriched for necessary food values and not advanced in price merely on account of its relatively greater value.

Agriculture bears its burden more surely and more effectively by the services of research which points the way to improved production and better soil management.

Historians Refute Indian Signals at Council Crest

OWNERSHIP OF LAND CHANGED MANY HANDS IN TRANSACTIONS LEADING TO AREA DEVELOPMENT

By Hervey S. Robinson

Any reader who has additional information on names, places or events covered by Mr. Robinson are invited to write the newspaper. In this way, a more complete historical series will be possible.

Address letters to Hervey S. Robinson, % Beaverton Enterprise, Beaverton, Oregon.

(Continued from last week)

Historians generally scout the idea that Council Crest received its name because the Indians held their councils there. Lewis A. McArthur, authority on Oregon geographic names, says, "The Indians may at one time have used the crest as a meeting place and signal station, because of its wide outlook, but there is no historic record of it."

As pointed out last week, the elevation that is now called Council Crest was known to old timers as Talbot Mountain. It was part of the John B. Talbot donation land claim. Miss Ella Talbot, who was born on her father's claim in 1853, relates the circumstances of its taking.

After her father had been over practically the whole Oregon country, looking for a location and found nothing that exactly suited him, he returned with his family to Portland, where a stray cow finally led him to a decision.

Miss Talbot says, "In those days we did not have milk wagons. Everybody owned his own cow. Our cow strayed away one day and father followed her clear up onto Council Crest. He liked the place so well that he looked it up and found that there was a whole donation land claim here untaken. So he and mother took their 640 acre claim here. The summit of Council Crest is about the center of their old claim."

"Why they call this Council Crest beats me. I hear people coming up here and explaining to visitors that this was called Council Crest because it was the council grounds of the Indians in early days, and they used to light their beacon fires here on top of the crest."

She declares that such people did not know what they were talking about. In all the time that I have lived here," she declared, "I never knew of an arrow head being found upon this place."

The Indians traveled in early days almost entirely upon the rivers. The valley was full of game and they did not have to go up

on the mountain to shoot deer and elk. As for the council fires and signals, an Indian would have to climb a tree 250 feet high and hold a torch, if he wanted another Indian to see it. This whole hill was solid timber when we came.

"In almost 60 years, I have seen but two Indians upon this hill. They were both squaws. The first one was picking wild blackberries, many years ago. A number of years later, I saw a squaw picking clover blossoms. I spoke to her in Chinook jargon and she answered me in good English. She told me that she was here as a witness in the federal court about the murder of an Indian at the Warm Springs reservation.

"I said that this whole place was solid timber when we came. Council Crest was, but in the big forest fire of 1847, some of the timber near what they now call 'Four Trees' was burned off."

The house which replaced the little log cabin on Talbot Mountain, in 1856, was still standing, a weather beaten old frame structure, on the right side of the entrance to Council Crest Park, in the spring of 1914, when Fred Lockley called to interview Miss Ella Talbot, whose home it was. The house had a fireplace in every room.

"In those days," said Miss Talbot, "the more wood you could burn, the sooner you could clear your farm so there never was a time when we did not have a big roaring fire going in every fireplace."

That same fall, Mr. Talbot sold 100 acres of his claim to W. A. Watson, for 10 dollars an acre. Watson was living five miles far

ther out and wanted a place nearer town where his children could go to school. He also sold 40 acres to Mr. Watson's brother-in-law, Robert Patton for the same price.

The latter tract, according to Miss Talbot, in an interview in 1914, was then named Greenway, divided into small residence sites and sold for \$2500 to \$4000 a lot, which was ten times as much for a lot as Talbot received for the whole forty acres. Patton Road is named in honor of Robert Patton.

L. C. then bought 120 acres from the Talbot claim, trading for it a place on the main stage road between McMinnville and Sheridan. This left Talbot with 60 acres of his original 320. He deeded this remainder to his wife. This with her original 320 acres gave her 380 acres, altogether.

Just after the Civil war, Mrs. Talbot sold 160 acres to J. P. Fort for \$10 an acre and took out the \$1600 in carpenter work. Mr. Fort built a house for Mrs. Talbot in Portland between Madison and Jefferson on Second street.

Mrs. Talbot kept her 200 acres. When the Portland cable road was projected, she proposed to take stock in it and pay for her stock in land. But they valued her land so low that she went to the Deukum bank, borrowed the money on her land and paid for her stock in cash.

The cable road went into the hands of the receiver! The hard times of 1892-3 came and the bank foreclosed on our place," said Miss Ella Talbot many years later, "obtaining a deficiency judgment for \$3,000." The bank itself was in a bad way and failed shortly afterward.

Eventually, Mrs. Talbot lost all her property under a foreclosure. But, before that happened she sold 10 acres to C. A. Beal for \$25 an acre. It was Mr. Beal who made the first improvements on Council Crest. He cleared the timber on the top of the hill, set out an orchard and built a house. He then

bought 20 acres more, which included practically all the Council Crest Park.

Mr. Beal mortgaged his 30 acres for \$1,000, which he invested in a newspaper, called the "Temperance Star." The Star set or failed to rise or was eclipsed, or something happened to it. Beal lost his 30 acres on Council Crest. The property passed successfully into the hands of James Steel and Graham Glass Sr. For a time it was known as Glass Hill, and later as Fairmount. The latter name is retained by the boulevard which encircles it today.

On July 11, 1898, delegates to the National Council of Congregational Churches met on the top of this hill. At the time the place had no suitable name and it was proposed at that gathering to give it one. After much discussion a delegate from Maine proposed the name Council Crest. It was approved and a report of the meeting was sent to the newspapers.

The name met with popular favor and was universally accepted. The visitors were enthusiastic over the view from this eminence. They declared that it could not be matched, in all its striking diversity anywhere upon this earth of ours.

"No city in all the world," said George W. Himes, "has a point so near from which so much can be seen."

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