

County Completes Soil Survey

An intensive soil survey and soil map of the north end of Morrow County has just been completed through the cooperation of several agencies. The survey started last year at the request of the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation District, the Port of Morrow and Morrow County. The area covered is from the Columbia River south to the east county line to the Butter Creek Jet, north and then west again between the Bowing project and Columbia river to the west boundary of the county.

In order to speed up the program the county this year contributed \$1500 towards the survey and mapping.

Soils Named

Soils are so named by landmarks close to where they are first tested and identified. Because soil mapping of the Columbia River started in Washington many soils carry Washington names. As the soil with a name characteristic is found elsewhere in any region, it is automatically given the name given at the original identifying spot.

There were four on last year's soil mapping team but this year Terry Dalling and Dale Ames teamed in Morrow County. They judge by surface appearances, road cuts and profiles as well as periodic test holes. Their 60" long auger is used in taking soil tests for soil characteristics then if they think necessary the team excavates a pit to get a soil profile and make a detailed description of its properties.

Soil Characteristics

There are three different particle sizes: silt, sand and clay. Loam is a textured name and is a combination of all three. Soil less than 20" is considered shallow, 20 to 40" moderately deep and 40 to 60 inches deep soil. In mapping the area, each soil is given a number series as Warden Soil is the 370 series then letters of the alphabet added to the numbers denote topography, the higher the letter the steeper the soil.

Soils are given the PH test which reveals if it is acid, alkaline or neutral. Much of the soil tested close to 7 in the mapping which is neutral; if it tests higher it is alkaline and less than 7, it is acid. Soil series give depth, texture, slope, color and PH test results.

Kind of Soil

Warden Soil found out on D. O. Nelson's potato ground is silt loam soil and was wind deposited. It is from 24 to 27 inches deep when lime (Calcium) is found. This is tested with Hydrochloric acid.

Rutville Soil is found on Ken Turners ranch. This is similar to Warden Soil but lime is hit at 40".

Taunton Soil is a fine sandy loam in the little basins. It is over a hard pan which poses an irrigating problem.

Much of the area mapped is Quincy Soil. It is a loamy fine sand all the way down. It has been checked to 6 feet. It usually tests neutral. It is excellent soil. When the surface is broken blowing is an extreme problem. According to Dale Bomer, local conservationist, a partial solution to this problem is a cover crop, crop residues on surface, strip cropping and mulch. Ideal for row crops of potatoes, carrots, sugar beets, onions, beans.

Ellis Soil, named for Ellis Butte



THIS SOILS MAP is a part of the Morrow County Soils Survey being made by the SCS. Numbers shown indicate a variety of soils found in the area. 161B is Quincy, loamy fine sand; 163A is Royal fine sand loam; 98 is dune sand; 926B is Taunton soil; 951A, 952B and 954C are Sagehill soils; 936B is Ellis soil, named for Ellis Butte. Shown here is an aerial photo.

In Morrow County, is gravelly loam 20 to 40" over hard pan. Gordon Soil is a silt loam. Morrow Soil is high in clay, a silty clay loam, moderately deep over Columbia River basalt. It holds moisture good.

Winchester Soil is coarse sand. Jay Huxon has his asparagus patch on Winchester soil. The water just sinks. The sand is deeper than 6 feet. Burbank Soil loamy fine sand 20" to 4 feet over gravel, ideal for irrigation. It is this type of soil where the watermelons grow so well up at Irrigon.

The team identified a new soil this year in Morrow County: Koehler Soil, a loamy fine sand 20" to 40" deep over hard pan. This is found on the bombing range.

Roboff Soil was found along the river west of Boardman to the county line. It is silt loam 20 to 40" deep over Columbia River Basalt.

The study is important in helping determine Land Use Planning and Zoning, the potential for irrigability, aids the assessor in making taxes more equitable, suitable building sites for the location of foundations and septic tanks, highway placement.

Who Did It?

George Green is the SCS party leader in the soil mapping for the Soil Conservation Service. Terry Dalling, one of the team graduated from Utah State in 1965 in Agronomy and this year was his second year to work on the soil mapping for Morrow County.

Dale Bomer, district conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service is hoping to eventually have the entire county mapped. He has worked closely with the team while they were in the county.

Bob Riddle Has Eye Checkup

Bob Riddle has received instruction from his doctor to be very careful and do nothing for two weeks. He underwent eye surgery several weeks ago as his eye was damaged while he was sharpening fence posts. On Monday his doctor found the eye worse with little hemorrhages possibly caused by cold wind.

Jack D. Anderson, a newcomer here from the Valley who works on the golf course, received a gash on his left leg Tuesday. He received 12 stitches to close the wound. He had bumped a bench grinder with his leg.

HOSPITAL NEWS

Week of April 9-15
Edith Nicholson of Ione was dismissed from Pioneer Memorial Hospital after medical care. Still patients at the hospital are: James Logan, Cecil Wave Jackson, Monument; A.C. Swanson, Ione and Charles Dennison, Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heimburger and family of Yakima, Wn. visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Heimburger over the weekend.

Irrigon Budget Kept Within 6% Limitation

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

IRRIGON—The operating budget for the City of Irrigon for the fiscal year 1970-1971 was approved at a recent meeting of the budget committee. Requirements for all departments, including reserve funds, total \$26,225. Of this amount \$1580 will be levied in taxes and will be within the 6% limitation. The balance will come from allocations of state revenues from gas and license tax and fees, and liquor and cigarette tax. Water service revenues from operation of the water system installed in 1968 will also account for a part of the revenues to meet these requirements.

The General Fund will operate on a budget of \$7561 and the Street fund has provided for the closing of several streets in June of 1971.

A hearing on the approved budget will be held Tuesday, May 12 in conjunction with the regular council meeting.

The April council meeting was concerned mainly with payment of bills and discussion of local problems. Garbage and trash dumping on roads bordering the city was noted. It has produced a very undesirable situation and area residents are cautioned that an ordinance is in effect prohibiting dumping of debris of all types. Recorder Ruth Coy was instructed to write letters to several Certified Public Accountants requesting them to submit proposals for auditing the city's books.

A motion was approved allowing the 3 services installed with construction funds to be paid for at \$100 instead of the \$150 fee to be imposed after construction. It further provided that others planning to use city water in the near future could have meters installed for \$100 by applying immediately and assuring the city they will hook up as soon as service is available. Since the construction account must be closed soon, May 10 is the latest date to which this offer can be extended.

Mayor Wilson has designated the morning of Saturday, April 25 as cleanup day and the city truck will pick up junk items and scrap that is piled out for loading. No garbage will be taken or tin cans that have not

particles which could attract rats. A call to 922-3352 indicating that you have items to be picked up will facilitate the project. No afternoon pickup will be made and that in the morning will be confined to inside the city limits.

Miss Flotilla 94 Named

Donna Pummel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Pummel of Irrigon, was named Miss Flotilla 94, at a dinner and meeting of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The blue ribbon was presented to her by Commander Burrell Cooley of Irrigon. The affair was at the A. C. Houghton Cafeteria, on April 15. Jackie Houston of Ione was first runner up, in competition for the title. Both girls gave a report on the activities of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Judging was done by Mayor Walter Peterson of Hermiston, Councilman LeRoy Gonsolly of Umatilla, and Mayor Chester Wilson of Irrigon.

Miss Pummel will compete with girls of other Auxiliary Flotillas of the Inland Empire area, of Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 9, on June 13, at Walla Walla for the title of Miss Coast Guard Auxiliary. She will represent Flotilla 94 in a number of events this summer including the hydroplane races, and will ride a float in the fair parade.

Seven members have been taking an instructors course, who will in turn be instructing others. Eight members are preparing to give courtesy motor boat examinations. A search and rescue course will be offered to members next month.

Flotilla 94 encompasses the territory from the mouth of the John Day River to the Washington State line and south to McKay Creek and Heppner. Auxiliary members come from Arlington, Ione, Umatilla, Hermiston, and Stanfield.

Attend Rally

A number of young people attended the C. A. Rally in Pendleton, Saturday evening. They were Sherry Partlow, Sharon Stewart, Pamela Schmeder, Peggy Hinkley accompanied by Mrs. Al Partlow. The meeting was at the First Assembly of God Church, where a program of Gospel music was given by the choir and orchestra from Bethany Bible College of Santa Cruz, Calif.

Pastor John Kenny and members of the Assembly of God attended the Hermiston Assembly Church on Sunday evening when the 35-voice choir and orchestra was here for a gospel music program. Evangelist Duane Parish was the guest speaker of the evening.

Brother Passes

The families who gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leon LeBlanc and Greta in Irrigon for the funeral of her brother Ernest Nelson, at Hermiston on April 15, were Leon Nelson, U. S. Navy; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Albright, Joan, Janet, and Mike, Umatilla; Ethel Ferger of Richland, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hovinkhoff of Irrigon; Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan Nelson of Rigby, Idaho; Royal Nelson of Idaho Falls, Doll Nelson of Bastrup, La.; Sibyl, Tom, and Peggy Miller of Olympia, Wash.; Kay and Mary Nelson of Okanogan, Wash.; Berry, Bertha, Baron, Brenda Robinson, of Hermiston.

Dinner was brought in by many friends and served by the Lion's Auxiliary. The family was very grateful and those traveling from a distance were especially touched by the thoughtfulness of the town and friends. Ernest was the first of nine brothers and sisters to pass away.

Home on Leave

Michael Linnell has completed 9 weeks of basic training at Fort Lewis, Wash., and is at home on leave for a week with his wife and small daughter. He will report to Fort Carson, Colo., where he will receive mechanical training.

Moving to M-F

Mrs. Wm. Graybeal was guest of honor at a surprise farewell party Wednesday evening, given by members of the Assembly of God Church. It was the second surprise of the day for her son, Jim Guerin, had arrived earlier, having driven from Missouri to visit her. Mrs. Graybeal is moving to Milton-Freewater to be near her husband, who has been in the Veterans Hospital in Walla Walla since January, when he fell and broke his hip.

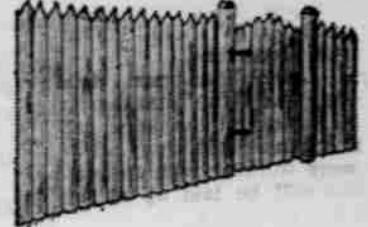
Mrs. Wm. Littrell traveled to Tacoma, to spend the weekend with her grandsons Steven, Chris and Jimmy Littrell.

National Library Week

This is National Library Week and posters displayed around town are originals designed by Jana Lee Scott. They were printed in those beautiful wild colors by a silk screen process by Tom Shear of the Heppner Schools art department. They were distributed by Mrs. Thomson's library science class. The theme this year: Reading is for everybody and books' friends would like to add Every Week.



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