

TEXT OF REPORT OF PROJECT COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE

To Board of Survey and Adjustments, Department of the Interior.

Report of Cooperative committee to Board of Survey and Adjustments, Department of the Interior, Hermiston, Oregon.

The Cooperative Committee for the Umatilla project begs to report that both the Hermiston and West Extension irrigation districts have expressed to this committee a desire to take over the operation and maintenance of all the land and works of their respective districts and to receive all the benefits prescribed by the Congressional Act of December 5th, 1924, and the representatives of said irrigation districts further state that in assuming the control of said works that the districts desire that they be given a free hand in the operation and control thereof, in so far as the law permits. On behalf of the respective districts it is requested that the water users have the right of repayment of the construction charges on the basis of 5 per cent of the crop returns as allowed by the Secretary under Sub-Section "F" and that prior to the beginning of such payments the water users on both divisions be given the benefit of the three-year term on construction payments.

Your attention is directed to the subject of crop statistics as taken annually on the project. In the opinion of the representatives of the irrigation districts they are too high an acre value. It is believed that under the methods of assembling this data it is not possible to secure accurate results and that the reports are mostly guesses and prone to exaggeration. A careful survey and adjustment is requested of the crop results as they are related to the production on the Umatilla project. To support the above statement we assert that due to the infertility of the soil, inability to control it after due preparation, and as the soils are not well adapted to diversification on account of the inability to withstand frequent cultivation owing to its lightness and susceptibility to wind erosion, except in small and scattered areas, the yields could not possibly equal the amounts credited to them upon the basis of the prices quoted on the records.

Umatilla Project Crop Yield			
East Division			
Year	Acreage	Total Val.	Av. Acre
1915	3603	\$104653	\$29
1916	3900	139801	36
1917	4822	270683	56
1918	5512	339976	62
1919	6440	486691	76
1920	7484	376927	50
1921	8271	236642	29
1922	8530	110270	36
1923	8324	270403	32
1924	8402	204902	24
	65288	2740948	42
West Division			
1917	724	40712	56
1918	1307	60558	46
1919	2308	146407	63
1920	2704	142472	52
1921	3339	107634	32
1922	3861	175577	45
1923	4029	157802	39
1924	4110	129777	32
	22882	961039	43

The reason for the deferment of the construction charges are as follows:

1. The cost of production on these lands exceeds the returns at this time.
2. It will afford an opportunity to improve uncultivated land and experiment on various types of crops.
3. To afford time for a change in general economic conditions. The water users are somewhat depressed and the discouraged with the results of the past few years, and it is hoped that advice and agricultural aid may be made available through the Department of Reclamation Economics to encourage the water users and instill a more healthy spirit of optimism.
4. To alleviate the indebtedness and high overhead.

Tables of indebtedness (Exhibit A) are attached hereto for the east and west divisions.

In connection with Sub-Section "G" as above stated, the representatives have indicated a willingness to take over the operation and maintenance contingent upon the district officers receiving authority to sign such an agreement from the water users in their respective districts.

It is understood by this committee that Sub-Section "H" is statutory. Note—Interest and penalties reduced one half.

The benefits to accrue to the two divisions of the Umatilla project under Sub-Section "I" do not amount to a large sum of money, but such

benefits as do accrue and are properly receivable, are desired by the respective divisions. Note—Rentals, land leases etc.

It is understood the Sub-Section J is also statutory.

With reference to the construction charges on the East Division the representatives of the Hermiston Irrigation District desire to call attention to the difference in the estimated cost and the actual cost of the irrigation works.

Matters of controversy between the water users and the Bureau of Reclamation are as follows:

East Division.
It was generally understood in the early days of this project that water would be placed on each legal subdivision (40 acre tracts) at an estimated cost of \$3.00 per acre. Originally a number of canals and laterals were constructed and later abandoned. A number of laterals were mortared and subsequently the mortar lining has deteriorated and rendered such lining useless, due to the use of poor material. Reconstruction of distributaries resulting in whole or in part of loss of the originally constructed works.

In connection with the above the representative of the Hermiston Irrigation District desires to call attention to the supplemental contract of May 1, 1921, involving \$780,000. It is believed that the representations of the service were clear and definite on the matter of the proper works for the irrigation system. Without reference to this point to the various items, the district representative feels that if the original agreement had been fulfilled there would have been no requirement for the supplemental contract and states that the expenditure of \$780,000 is a controversy subject to review, and requests a reduction either wholly or in part as the facts may warrant. The items are: "A" canal improvement, \$300,000; lateral distribution, \$280,000; betterments, \$200,000; total \$780,000.

The original project started with 20,440 acres of which 300 acres had a full vested right. The estimated cost was \$57 per acre. Public notice issued at \$60 per acre. Subsequent operations have reduced the area to 17,000 acres under contract of May 31, 1921 and has been reduced under the recent classification under the supervision of the local cooperative committee to approximately 13,200 acres. This is a clear case of a reduction of area as specified under Sub-Section "K" and the matter of pipe lines, laterals and storage capacity in excess of that now required is a matter of controversy. The result of the classification by this committee are attached to and made a part of this report.

Public notice issued December 27, 1907 in the east division and the charge announced was \$60 per acre, and first payment due in 1908. By 1912 many were in arrears and asked the department for an extension of time, and to further assist them, that the payments be on a graduated scale.

This was done by the Department in Public Notice issued March 2, 1912, but the price was increased to \$70 per acre to those accepting the new contract for the purpose of partially covering project losses when costs had exceeded the estimates. In 1914 the Extension Act was passed and had the effect of putting all the water users on the same basis and those water users who had accepted the \$70 rate (about 65 per cent) have subsequently felt that a grave injustice was done to them. The committee feels that this is a matter that should be adjusted.

The representative of the Hermiston Irrigation District does not take exception to the \$300,000 for improvements on canal "A" but on account of the incomplete distribution system and reconstruction required due to faulty work (such as mortar lining and abandonments), he believes that the district should be relieved of the \$280,000 that has been or is to be expended for the completion of the lateral system and the \$200,000 for betterments. In order to clarify the situation the district recognizes only the following obligations:

1. Approximately 13,200 acres upon a repayment basis of the \$60 primary charge for the water right. (\$792,000).
2. \$300,000 as a supplemental charge for Canal "A" improvements. A total of \$1,092,000.

West Division.

The representative of the West Extension Irrigation District desires to call attention to the expenditure on the main canal of the west division. The original plan of the service contemplated the building of a small reservoir near Irrigon. This canal would have been operated during the winter and in order to fill the reservoir also built on a capacity to accomplish this purpose. Subsequent investigations showed that the reservoir would be impracticable and this has resulted in an excess capacity for the main canal. The details are submitted in a memorandum by Engineer E. R. Crocker and attached hereto (Exhibit B); and the representative of the West Extension Irrigation District requested that the district be relieved of the extra charge involved.

The contract of April 6, 1920 with the West Extension irrigation district provides for \$90,000 supplemental charge. In so far as this relates to deferred operation and maintenance no controversy is raised, but regarding the sand sluice operations, the temporary sluicing devices, and additional deliveries to the vested right lands amounting to \$66,123, he feels that these charges are not a proper liability of the district.

The water supply for the East Division is considered ample in the opinion of the local committee, but on the West division where 11,300 acres are involved there is at present an inadequate supply of water. Approximately 8000 acres are under public notice, and of this amount about 5000 acres are under cultivation and being irrigated. This acreage cannot be greatly increased until an additional water supply is provided. The plans of the Bureau aim to provide the water through the return flow from the Stanfield and Westland irrigation districts when those projects receive a complete water supply by use of stored water from the McKay reservoir. It will require a period of several years before the adequacy of the water supply can be properly determined. Meanwhile the 3,300 acres should be withheld from public notice and the charges for them held in suspension. Both districts desire to go on record approving the building of McKay creek dam.

The maximum liability as specified in the contract for the West Extension irrigation district is based upon a charge of \$119 for the additional lands to receive water. This increased charge over the original \$92 water right is due primarily to increase in cost of labor and materials. As these lands are no better than those already under public notice, if as good, that when placed under public notice they may become a district burden in that the additional charge will make them unattractive.

The representative of the West Extension irrigation district wishes to express his opinion that the new lands (3300 acres) should come under public notice in due course of time at \$92 per acre providing for them.

Sub-Section "L" providing that in any adjustment of water charges as provided in this section all due and unpaid charges to the United States both on account of reconstruction and on account of operation and maintenance including interest and penalties have been added in each case to the total obligation of the water user and the new total.

(Continued on page 2)

COLORED SLIDES OF OREGON BIRDS

WILL BE FEATURE OF COMMUNITY CLUB PROGRAM TUESDAY

Interesting Meeting Expected With Paper By Mrs. Schilling. Arrangements Made to Have School See Pictures.

The regular meeting of the Community club will be held on Tuesday April 7, at 3 o'clock at the library. Besides a paper on "The Dawes Repayment Plan Applied to the Allies' Debt" by Mrs. H. M. Schilling, which alone should insure a good crowd, the committee has been fortunate in securing stereopticon slides of Oregon birds.

The slides are to be accompanied by an informal paper descriptive of these birds. Those who attended the last meeting and enjoyed the slides of wild flowers will realize the beauty and value of these attractive colored pictures. A large attendance is urged.

It has been arranged with Superintendent Day to have both the high school and the grades see these pictures before they be returned.

New Books at Library

A new lot of books has been received from the county library. Included are books for both children and adults. A few of the titles are as follows:

- Bachelor, Father Abraham.
- Davis, The Beauty of the Purple. Lansing, Wintergreen.
- Manfield, Sard Harker.
- Quick, Invisible Women.
- Sedgwick, Little French Girl.
- Sedgwick, Adrienne Toner.
- Wodehouse, Three Men and a Maid.
- Walpole, Three Old Ladies.
- Papini, Life of Christ.
- Van Loon, Story of Mankind.

Eugene—Laying of rails on Klamath Falls line to start at once.

Paisley—New gold fields discovered ten miles east of here.

LUNCHEON PARTY FOR BASKET BALL GIRLS

Miss Hill, High School Instructor and Athletic Coach Is Hostess At Enjoyable Affair.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Haneline was the scene for a very delightful luncheon party on March 28, given by Miss Ellen Hill, a high school instructor and girls' athletic coach. The occasion was in honor of the basket ball squad. The brand of ball the girls were called to play was slightly different than the one laid down by the athletic association. As the first whistle blew the girls found their places and behold! The table, a veritable basket ball court laid out in purple with golden daffodils for centerpiece, representing the school colors. And a miniature basket ball and basket faced each girl. They were called to play with many balls instead of but one. Balls of various sizes and colors. As the second whistle blew for time out a maid appeared and prepared for the second quarter of the game. Thus the game proceeded until at the end of the fourth quarter the girls were heard counting up their scores amid much laughter and merriment. The afternoon passed all too quickly and the ten girls who worked so faithfully all through the basket ball season felt well repaid for their efforts by the splendid hospitality of their coach and adviser. The departing girls declared Miss Hill the best ever.

REAL ESTATE DEAL INVOLVES LARGE SUM

Encos D. Martin, the new water master, has become owner of the Frank E. Forman properties near town. Through the deal he gets 20 acres on south hill, ten acres a mile west of town and forty acres under the Western Land canal. All is improved. Mr. and Mrs. Forman leave this week for Rupert, Idaho, to take possession of the farm formerly owned by Mr. Martin. Mr. Martin and his family will move to the South Hill place when vacated by the Formans. The deal involved consideration of about \$10,000.

LAST MEETING OF P.-T. ASSOCIATION

EXCELLENT PROGRAM HAS BEEN PREPARED

Meeting Will Be Held in High School Auditorium Thursday Evening, April 9, at 8:00.

The regular monthly meeting of the Parent-Teacher association will be held in the high school auditorium Thursday evening, April 9. This will be the last meeting of the year and special efforts are being made to make it the biggest and best meeting of the year. It is hoped that all the parents will attend.

The following program will be given:

- Piano Solo.....Rita Loudermilk
- Vocal Solo.....Miss Compton
- Reading.....Howard Reid
- Violin Solo.....Mr. Hamm
- Selections from Seventh Grade.
- Vocal Solo.....Mr. Martin
- Selections.....Irrigated City Quartet
- Barnett, Crowder, Waterman, Martin
- Vocal Solo.....Miss Compton

To interest the fathers of the community in the work of the association a paper written by Samuel Butler of the University of Chicago entitled "Some Things the Parent Club May Mean to Father," will be read.

TILLAMOOK COW TESTING SHOWS PRODUCTION GAIN

Tillamook cow testing association No. 1 finished the year 1924-25 with 1475 cows that averaged 8166 pounds of milk with 370.52 pounds of butterfat, says W. D. Pine, county agent. This association is reorganizing to enter its thirteenth year.

The herd of 11 registered Guernseys owned by Homer Mason led all pure breeds with an average of 456.69 pounds of fat. The 24 grade Jerseys of D. Fitzpatrick headed grade herds with over 20 cows, crowding the Mason herd with an average of 456.58 pounds of fat. Mr. Fitzpatrick was one of the organizers of the association and has always been a member and active worker. He has used a pure bred Jersey bull for many years. The record of his herd from year to year has shown a consistent increase in average production—due, he says to consistent culling out, use of good pure bred sire and good care. His record is as follows:

1917-1918	23	289.0
1921-1922	27	382.0
1923-1924	19	421.8
1924-1925	24	456.58

During the testing year just closed 115 bulls were sent to the butcher by association members and 109 cows purchased. Performance of individual cows show the high standard attained in Tillamook county.

Linnie, a five year old pure bred Guernsey owned by Homer Mason, led the association with 832.65 pounds of fat, while Daisy, seven-year-old grade Jersey owned by Mr. Fitzpatrick was high in the grade class with 787.16 pounds fat. Sixty eight mature cows in the association produced over 500 pounds of fat; 36 four-year olds made over 400 pounds; 51 three year olds bettered 350 pounds and 56 two year olds went over 300 pounds.

These records are illuminating when it is considered that the average for all dairy cows in Oregon is less than 170 pounds, says N. C. Jamison, dairy specialist for the state college extension service.

COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ASSN. HOLD MEETING

The Umatilla County Public Health association held its annual meeting in Pendleton Saturday, March 28. Election of officers was the new order of business and much other important business was transacted. It was decided at a meeting of the new officers and executive board, to purchase a Ford coupe for the county school nurse to enable her to reach all ends of the county. The association had enough money on hand to make the first payment and it was decided to raise the balance by popular subscription. All clubs of the county, men and women, will be asked to subscribe \$1 per capita and in this way the burden will be light on each one. There is a great deal of work to be done by the nurse and without a car, it is almost impossible to get results. The following were elected to handle the association for 1925-26: Mrs. Alice R. Nuzent, president, Umatilla; Mrs. Willard Bond, First Vice-Pres., Pendleton; Mrs. L. M. Hills, Second Vice-Pres., Stanfield; Mrs. Helen Nelson, Secretary, Pendleton; Mrs. R. E. Bean, Treasurer, Freewater.

Committee chairmen: Mrs. McIntyre, Helix; Supply, Mrs. Best, Pilot Rock; Nurse, Mrs. Lee Shannon, Pendleton; Publicity, Miss Elsie Fitzmaurice, Pendleton; Educational, Mr. Yaeger, Pendleton.

HEPPNER HOST TO AMERICAN LEGION

HERMISTON POST WELL REPRESENTED AT DIST. CONVENTION

Legion Is Asked to Hold Meeting Here Next Year. Athens Also Puts In Bid.

Heppner acted as host to the different posts of the American Legion that comprises this district last Monday, the event being the annual district convention of the order.

All those who attended the gathering will tell you that when it comes to entertaining the Heppner boys certainly "know their stuff." The mayor of the city was unable to attend the meeting but sent a representative to welcome the boys who a few years ago rallied to the defense of their country and its institutions. In his address the representative said: "We have turned over the city to you. It is yours in every sense of the word and if you get into difficulty let us know and we will see that matters are straightened out."

At 2:30 in the afternoon there was a business session held in the Elks temple. Every post in the district but one was represented at this meeting. There was a general discussion in which everyone present took part. Four certificates of awards were given to posts in this district for their increase of membership and the Hermiston post was one of the number. In the evening there was a banquet at the Elks horn restaurant. About 125 were present at the "feed." Someone suggested that a collection be taken up for the Boy Scouts so while the boys were eating the hat was passed and an amount of over \$20 was realized which will be turned over to the Scout troop of Heppner. After the banquet a line of march was formed with the Athena-Weston drum corps at the head and singing songs that was popular with the soldiers and "gobs" during war times, marched to the pavilion where the delegates were the guests of Heppner at a smoker put on by the high school. There were some good bouts on the card and the boys enjoyed every minute of it. After the smoker a dance was scheduled and the visitors shook a wicked foot until 1:30. All of the amusement and entertainment was furnished free to the delegates by the Heppner post. Members of the Hermiston post did not arrive home until the wee small hours of the morning but felt amply repaid for their trip and the loss of sleep.

Hermiston and Athens both put in a bid for the convention next year. Echo promised to join with Hermiston in the event that it was brought here, in making it a success, and no doubt this city will be given due consideration before a choice is made. The Hermiston post of the American Legion takes this means of thanking the Heppner post for their entertainment while in their city.

Those who attended from Hermiston were Henschel Hiatt, Vase Boynton, Earl Boynton, Logan Todd, Jim Todd, Jim McCready, Joe Norton, Ernest Waterman, Loyd Robinson, Jack Biggs, Lyle Tilden and Raymond Crowder.

Horticultural Inspection Notes

Orchardists in the west end of the county having tracts menaced by San Jose scale are requested to communicate with the County Horticultural Inspector at Freewater before April 10. As far as possible, the location of the infested plot, owner and address are main essentials in filling such complaint. A check will be made on each plot neglected and owner required to have it sprayed or scrubbed out in order to eradicate the scale. It was found necessary to handle a few cases in this manner last spring but it is hoped that in spite of the unfavorable weather we have had for spraying during the past month dormant spraying may be completed immediately that no harm may be done to the young foliage.

R. F. Wilbur, Co. Horticultural Inspector, Freewater.

Eugene—Building permits issued during February totaled \$284,025.

Umatilla—Umatilla bridge to be opened to traffic in June.

Astoria—Home builders association organized to relieve house shortage.

Milton—Half mile of streets to be graded at cost of \$2500.

Baker City—Pacific Fruit & Produce Company to build \$15,000 warehouse.

The High School Mirror

Devoted to the Interest and Development of the Hermiston Schools

Vol. 4. No. 1

A group of high school people gave Wilma Waugaman a farewell party in the form of a handkerchief shower Tuesday evening. Games furnished the entertainment during which refreshments were served. All reported an enjoyable time.

Work on the operetta "The Bandit" is progressing rapidly. The cast is as follows:

- Night Watchman.....Roy Silvey
- Don Manuel, an artist visiting Antiquera.....Vernon Waterman
- Juan, Don Manuel's servant.....Ernest Addeleman
- Bartolo, landlord of the San Fernando Pasada.....Earl Bensenel
- Donna Cyrilla, Belle of Antiquera.....Dorothy Shotwell
- Don Lozano, Captain in the Spanish Army.....Don Shotwell
- Tona, a soldier.....Forest Campbell
- Jose Maria, a famous brigand.....Vernon Waterman

Events in the Lives of Little Men



(Copyright, W. N. U.)