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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

FATE OF UMATILLA DAM NOT IN HANDS WASHINGTON BOARD

DAILIES GIVE SPACE TO RIVER MAPS AND STORIES

Channel Improvement Above Umatilla Brought Into Dam Hearing at Washington.

Discussion of the Umatilla dam has never been on more tongues than right now. In slang phrase it is "hot".

Interest has spread not only among local people but is warm over the Pacific Northwest, and lately more particularly in Portland, The Dalles and Hood River. Sunday, March 15th, the Portland Oregonian gave almost a full page to a map and cuts, and an article strongly setting out the reasons why the dam should be built at this time. Since that day the same metropolitan paper in the Oregon metropolis has contained other articles, and other newspapers have followed with news and comments.

A hearing on the Robins report in Washington before the U. S. Army board was held March 16th, and the army board will make a report in the near future. This hearing was attended by senators and members of Congress from three north-west states, and new arguments were submitted to the consideration of the army board. A full report of the hearing has not yet been received from Washington. Except for a new movement that appears to have the earmarks of interference with the immediate construction of the dam, things are going fine for favorable action from the engineers, and a powerful and united popular and political support.

After the dam is approved by the army board, favorable action must then be secured from Secretary Harold L. Ickes and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, before funds are appropriated.

It has been shown to the higher authorities that the Umatilla rapids is the key to the entire complete development of the Columbia and Snake rivers. Eighty per cent of the tonnage of the inland empire is above Umatilla rapids, and successfully economic navigation below must depend on the traffic from above.

The Umatilla rapids site was shown to be in the geographic center of the Pacific northwest. It is 180 miles from Bonneville and 180 miles from Grand Coulee. It is 200 miles from Portland, 200 from the Sound cities and 200 from Spokane. It is 300 miles from the mouth of the Columbia, 300 from the Canadian line, 300 from Western Montana and 300 from the heart of the Boise-Payette Irrigation projects.

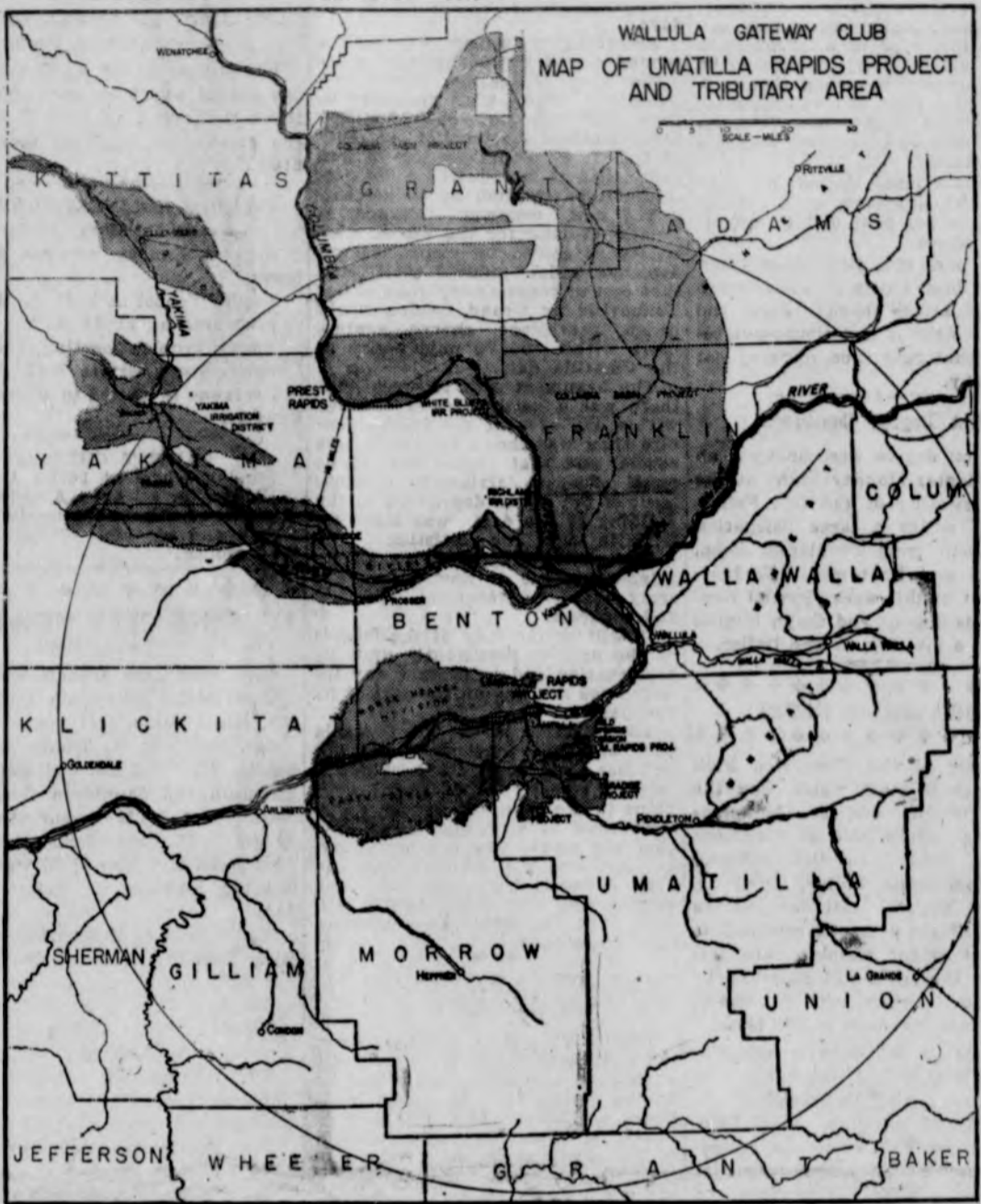
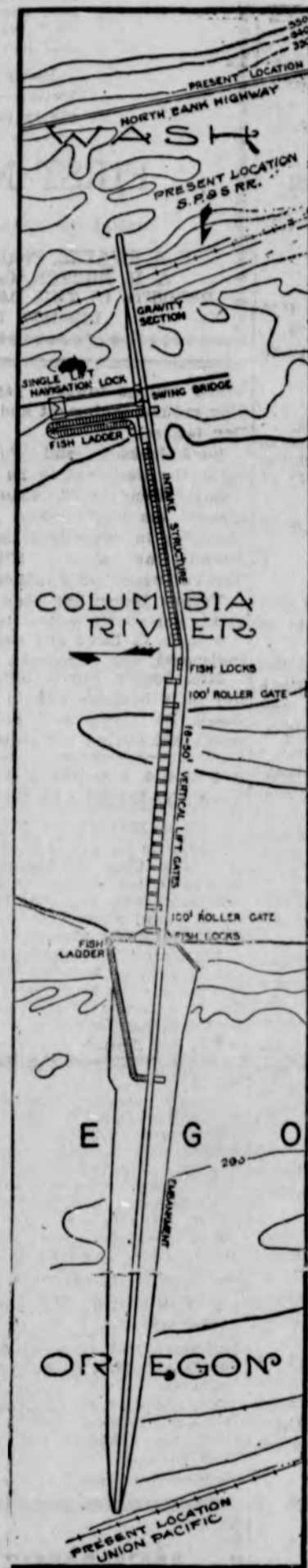
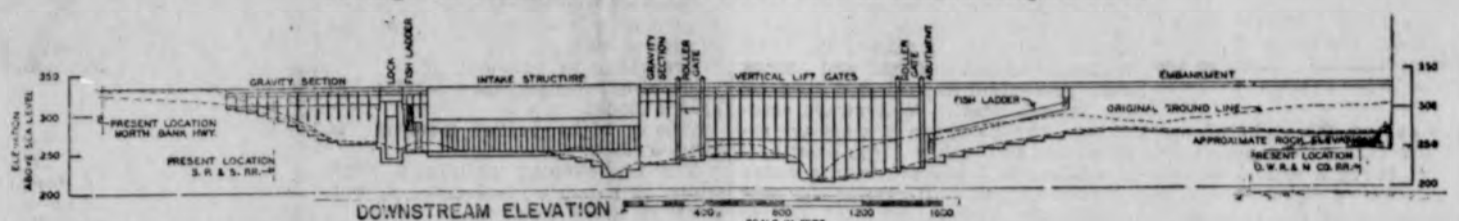
East of a line north and south through the Umatilla rapids live 1,500,000 people, while west of the line in this Pacific Northwest live 2,000,000 people. Nearly half of the people of the northwest would be directly benefited by reduced freight rates, and half a million would receive cheaper electric rates within reasonable transmission distances from Umatilla rapids who would have to pay much higher rates from either Bonneville or Grand Coulee.

The new navigable Columbia would be extended 110 miles to Priest Rapids, or 410 miles inland. The pool or slack water would back up the Snake to Five Mile Rapids, and would justify the continuation of the work on up the Snake by a series of small dams, which the government engineers do not otherwise justify.

The new navigable river would extend to within 30 miles of Yakima and also of the new Kittitas project. It would tap by trucks and good highways for 60 miles the great apple center of Wenatchee. It would reach the new Roza project now being built at a cost of \$12,000,000 by a short highway of 12 miles. It would extend along the Columbia Basin project for which the Grand Coulee dam is being built, for a distance of 75 miles from Pasco to Priest Rapids. By direct route through joint truck and water service and joint rail and water uses, it would bring reduced rates to Spokane, the great wheat belt of the Palouse and Western Montana and North Idaho.

The annual present tonnage is estimated at 12,000,000, and the annual additional potential tonnage at (Continued on page 5)

Board of Engineers at Washington to Consider Merits of Plan to Extend Navigation of Columbia; Annual Savings of Millions Seen for Producers in Inland Empire Area



The circle on the above map has a radius of 75 miles from the Umatilla rapids dam site. The north edge of the circle is 85 miles from Grand Coulee. The west edge on the Columbia is the same distance from Bonneville. The circle includes almost all of the Yakima and Columbia Basin projects and taps Kittitas county. It wholly includes the Walla Walla valley and all other irrigation projects in the inland empire, amounting to approximately two million acres of 50,000 present and potential irrigated farms. The tonnage from all this region naturally would flow down a water grade at reduced rates through river navigation. Electric power at Umatilla is estimated at 1.2 mills per kilowatt hour. The cost of generation at either Bonneville or Grand Coulee, as reported by the state of Oregon power commission would cost the users within this circle from four to six times as much. A general hookup of the three plants is considered desirable by government engineers. It is estimated that irrigation power within this circle area during the summer flow of the Columbia river, may be produced at half a mill per kilowatt hour. This area when these developments now underway, along with developments made possible through the navigation, power and irrigation features of the Umatilla dam, will support twice as many people as now live in either Portland or Seattle and according to government statisticians will add when developed, one person to the big city population to every two who live on the farms and in the smaller towns of the area within the circle. Through the low cost of power at the dam increased uses of electricity would multiply almost a thousand fold according to recent local signups and figures from the federal power commission.

—Courtesy Morning Oregonian

WALLULA GATEWAY CLUB OPPOSES PROPOSED CHANNEL

CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT ABOVE UMATILLA THOUGHT USELESS

Inland Navigation Company of Seattle Proposes to Build Special Boat to Navigate Columbia.

The Wallula Gateway club is now opposing a proposal made by certain elements in the Northwest to construct a cheap, channel through the Umatilla Rapids which is alleged to be only a temporary aid to navigation while the dam is being built. This channel is estimated to cost \$250,000 and is based on a basis of blowing out a few rocks.

A brief was filed before the army board by a Dr. Black, who represented the Columbia Valley association of Portland. A report was made by the army engineers to the board in Washington. The Inland Navigation company of Seattle, is asking for a common carrier certificate from the Interstate Commerce Commission, which is to be heard May 4th in Washington, and this company is proposing to build a special boat for such hazardous navigation.

The boat is to be 38 feet wide and 190 feet long with two engines of combined strength of 1600 horsepower. It is reported to contain six tanks for gasoline shipments so that it one is jammed the contents of the others will not be lost, and the deck will be made to carry wheat down stream.

Much publicity is being given this so-called effort to start navigation above Umatilla, and the undercurrent in its favor is strong and is generally misunderstood.

The supporters of the Umatilla dam contend that this movement is a deliberate effort to defeat the immediate construction of the Umatilla dam. The Wallula Gateway club has submitted data as to who are the promoters to the members of congress, and to all leaders who are in favor of the day, and it is hoped that the movement will be stopped.

Col. T. M. Robins, in his report last year on the Umatilla dam, stated that all money spent for attempts at channelling through the Umatilla dam would be wasted as slack water from Umatilla to the mouth of the Snake was the only possible solution to successful economic navigation for the Inland Empire region.

The new boat will require six feet of water and cannot reach the mouth of the Snake through Homli rapids which has a prevailing depth of only four feet. The new navigation company therefore proposes to build a port at Dent's Landing, a point somewhere on the Columbia, about four miles below Wallula.

KEIKKALA-BROCK

Miss Esther Keikkala, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. S. Keikkala of Westland district, and Mr. Cecil Brock of Parkdale were united in marriage March 5 at Stephenson, Wn. They plan to make their home in Parkdale, Ore., and at present are living with Mr. Brock's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Brock of Parkdale.

Attend Corvallis Meeting.

W. A. Sawyer, assistant county agent, and H. K. Dean, superintendent of the Umatilla Field Station, left last Sunday for Corvallis where they attended a federal farm extension meeting at which the federal farm program was discussed, Monday and Tuesday. Walter Holt, county agent of Pendleton, also attended the meeting. Mrs. Sawyer accompanied Mr. Sawyer to Corvallis.

ALONG THE CONCRETE

E. E. Rainwater fed some of the Farm Bureau egg laying mash to his hogs by mistake and later found a nest of eggs in the pig pen. Carl Jackman was looking for a battery under the back seat of Mrs. Fred Painter's car Wednesday morning in all sincerity. Carl knew better but he forgot it was April fool's day.

Mrs. J. B. Beebe has three children in her family who were born on the first day of April. One is 30 years old, the other two 28 and 14, respectively. Two other children have birthdays in November.

O. O. Felthouse running out of gas at the outskirts of the city Wednesday where it would be convenient for the school children to get off the bus and walk into town.

Rohrman Motor company wrecking car going out on a job and finding no wreck.

Walter Hamm was doing his Boy Scout good deed last Saturday when he washed the window in the office of City Attorney W. J. Warner. Halloween's good turn was still on the window.

SUPPORT OF PARK PROJECT IS ASKED

A plea for assistance in maintaining the Hermiston Community park project is issued this week by members of the park board. It appears as follows:

Every person living in the west end of Umatilla county should be interested in the Hermiston Community park. This is your amusement center and if you will take an interest in the building of it, it can and will be made the most beautiful park in eastern Oregon, and be a monument to the works progress administration of the federal government.

In order that this may be accomplished, it is necessary that you now give to your park board your financial assistance. Money must be raised now in order to carry on the park board's part of the project.

The federal government has appropriated more than \$22,000 for the building of this park, but this money can be used for relief labor only, with a small percentage of it being used for building material, and this material can be purchased only as the relief money for labor has been expended, and in no case shall more than 20 percent of the money that has been expended for labor be paid out for material—hence the delay by the park board in erecting the fair buildings. However, the administrators of the Works Progress Administration are heartily in favor of our park project, considering it one of the best WPA projects in eastern Oregon, and are (Continued on page 5)

COMMITTEES NAMED FOR FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

The Fourth of July committees have been appointed for preliminary work of organization of the celebration program, by Herbert Hedwall, president of the Commercial Club.

Roy Hale is made chairman of all committees, and Al Quiring is secretary-treasurer.

Harold Thompson of the boy scout organization will have charge of concessions. Harry Kelly of the American Legion will superintend the dance and smoker. John Jendrzewski of the fair board will look after the grounds. Ed Dunning of the Westland Grange and Roy Penny of the Stanfield Grange will arrange the picnic feature. The parade director will be Al Kennings. Advertising will be in charge of Lloyd Moore.

The park board will be represented on the committee by F. C. McKenzie, and the Farm Bureau by Henry Sommerer. A baseball director will be appointed later.

The next meeting of the general committee will be Wednesday night, April 8, at the American Legion hall.

Stage Hit Filmed

"Anything Goes," which comes Friday to the Oasis theatre, is Paramount's screen version of the Broadway stage hit. Bing Crosby heads a cast of popular favorites, which includes Ethel Merman, Charles Ruggles and Ida Lupino.

PAUL MILLER PASSES AWAY AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

Paul Miller, for years a resident of the Hermiston project, passed away at the home of his brother at Oakland, Cal., Monday, March 23, following an operation from which he was thought to be convalescing nicely. The immediate cause of his death was due to a heart attack. Word of his death was received here Sunday by friends.

Mr. Miller was a member of the Odd Fellow lodge and was interested in amateur radio and short wave. He operated a fruit ranch in Columbia district for a number of years, and then traded for land at Stanfield where he lived for two years. He went to California last fall to spend the winter with his mother and brother.

T. P. A. WILL DISCUSS HOT LUNCH PROBLEM WEDNESDAY.

Members of the T.P.A. and interested persons will meet at the school house Wednesday, April 8, to discuss the hot lunch problem and outline a program for the next school year. Miss Francis Clinton, county home demonstration agent, will be present to assist in the planning.

The regular T.P.A. meeting will be held Wednesday, April 15, at which time election of officers will be held.

RED CROSS MAKES URGENT APPEAL FOR RELIEF FUNDS

The Red Cross is making an urgent appeal for contributions for flood sufferers. The Umatilla county chapter has sent the money from its subscription fund, but the dire need of 450,000 people in thirteen states makes it necessary to call for additional voluntary contributions.

The need of help has not abated with the receding of the flood waters—The tragedy is so great that the president of the United States has called on the Red Cross to gather funds for the relief of the distressed thousands.

Won't you do your bit? Contributions may be deposited in the box at the Hermiston Drug company, or left at the Tum-A-Lum Lumber company.

R. A. BROWNSON, Dist. Chairman Red Cross.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES PLANNED FOR APRIL 12TH.

Easter morning worship services are being planned for April 12th by Hermiston churches. Pre-Easter services are now being conducted at the Methodist church by Rev. R. R. Finkbeiner with a fine attendance.

Special Easter services will be conducted by the Hermiston Union church Sunday evening, on Easter. Other churches are planning special services in observance of the day.