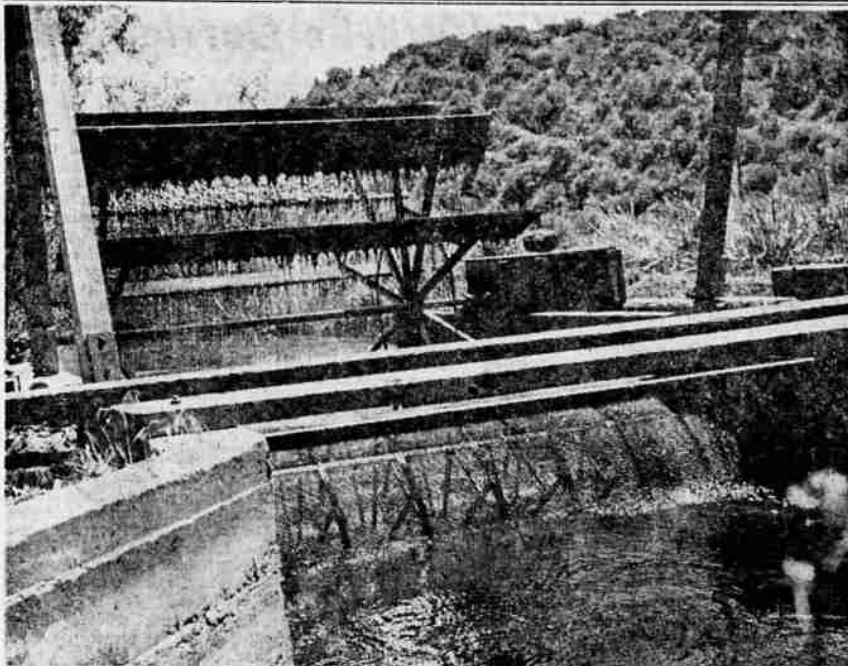
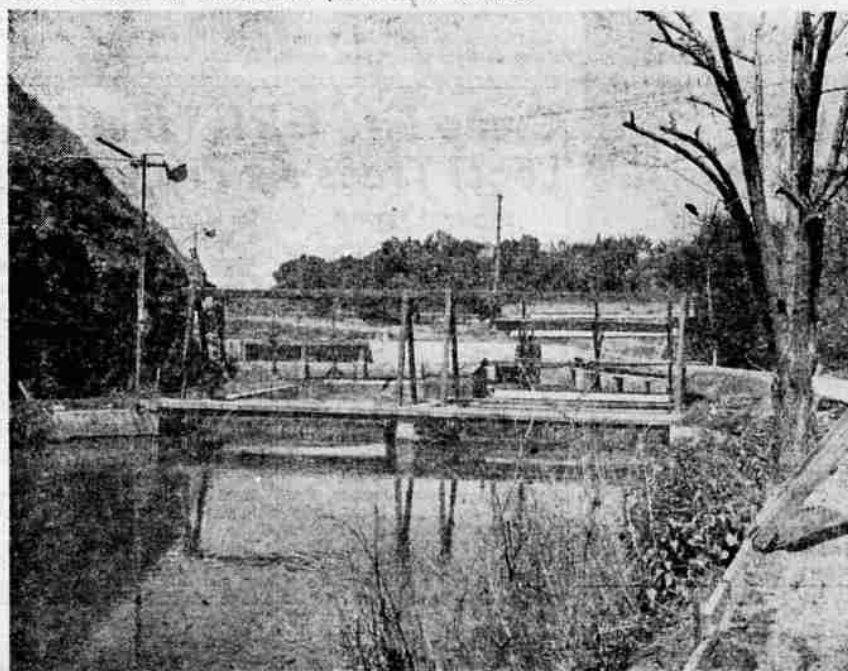
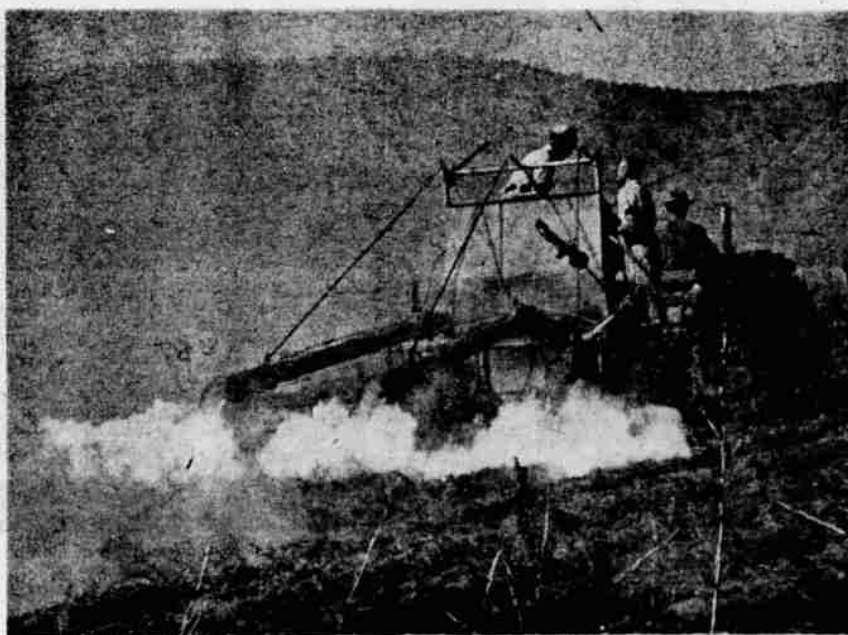




FISH SCREENS such as this one are installed by the Oregon State Game Commission to keep fish from entering the dead-end ditches and thus becoming lost to sportsmen. Another instance of conservation practices in the state.



SOME OF THE FISH SCREENS are of major proportions. This double one is installed on the Westland Canal near Pendleton. It is, however, typical of the large ones installed on big ditches and canals all over the state to keep game fish out of the irrigation systems.



VINE BURNERS offer hope for control of verticillium wilt. This burner is pictured working on potato vines before harvest on Scott Warren's Williamson River field.

— Photo by Jendrzejewski

Irrigation Ditch Screens Aid In Fish Preservation

Water from the many streams of the state of Oregon have been diverted for years for the purpose of irrigation and stock water. The first talk of harmful effects on the fish populations of the streams and rivers was made in 1902 by J. W. Baker, who was the complete staff for the game commission in those days. Baker urged that consideration be given the fish and that screens should be installed at all diversions to prevent the fish from entering the ditches. Nothing was done until 1917 when a four year study was made of screens, and in 1921 the first rotary screen was installed in the state. At that time the Oregon Game Commission did not have the authority to build screens so a screening program of the magnitude needed could not be started.

In 1941 the Oregon State Legislature passed a bill authorizing the game commission to build and install screens in diversion ditches. The commission was limited to building screens up to eight feet in length. Screens larger than that had to be built by the owner of the ditch.

Jackson County was the scene of the first large screening project but it was halted by World War II because of the scarcity of materials and labor. After the war construction continued and by 1959 approximately 1,200 screens had been built and installed by the game commission. In 1945 a screen plant was started at Central Point by the game commission and since that time all rotary-type, reverse-drive screens from two feet to eight feet have been manufactured for the commission at the plant.

Small screens from two to six feet are installed in a concrete box with rubber side and bottom sealing flaps, the edges held in place against the moving screen by water pressure. Eight foot screens are also installed in concrete boxes but the screen is held in place by an angle iron frame with the rubber seals built in the side and bottom. The large screens have to be installed with a chain hoist and an A-frame. The screens are driven by aluminum paddles that are driven by the current in the ditch.

The Fort Klamath area has 26

screens on diversion ditches on Sevenmile Creek, Fort Creek, Annie Creek, Sun Creek, Spring Creek and Wood River. The size of the screens are from two feet to 19 feet. All of the ditches are for irrigation or stock water.

Many problems arise with operations of the screens and full time personnel are required to maintain them. Jack Thomas is the screens field man for this area. Several of the problems that Thomas has to contend with are pumice washing up against the screens and either blocking the screens or wearing the mesh off the drums and repairing the screens after children and adults place sticks and rocks in the mechanisms of the installation. As a word of advice to the public please leave the screens alone as you may be the cause for a ditch washout or stopping the flow of water to pastures or to stock.

All Welcome At Extension Meets

Every woman in Klamath County is invited to take part in extension sponsored programs. To learn about local opportunities, call the county extension office TU 4-8151.

Home Economics Extension agents, in addition to their work with organized groups, provide helpful information through radio and newspapers in their county.

Because they are staff members of Oregon State College, they are equipped with the latest information and tools of research. They have free bulletins to offer on subjects that include meal planning, food buying, clothing, home furnishings, money management, food preservation, housekeeping tips, child development and better meetings.

ONE-WAY TICKET

ATLANTA (UPI) — Delta Air Lines reported receiving a fare refund request from a former passenger who said he'd like to have the money "as soon as possible" because "I think I'm going to need it." The return address was the Lincoln County Jail in Fayetteville, Tenn.

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