

County Leads Weed Action

Klamath County was declared a weed control district, under state law, on April 27, 1929, and was one of the first weed districts to be formed in the state.

The purpose of forming the district was to attempt eradication and prevent further spread of any of the so-called noxious weeds which were then established in the county and to prevent, as far as possible, the introduction and establishment of any other weeds of this nature.

Any weed which has such undesirable qualities as to be harmful to man, either physically or economically, may be termed a noxious weed.

Following is a list of the weeds which have been declared noxious in Klamath County: Wild morning glory, Canada thistle, white-top, leafy spurge, Russian knapweed, bull thistle, spiny cocklebur, puncture vine, water hemlock, blue flowering lettuce, St. Johnswort, yellow foxtail and dodder.

The following lists some of the secondary weeds which are found in the county, not listed as noxious, but of the type that could become noxious if allowed to grow unhampered: Mediterranean sage, Scotch thistle, artichoke thistle, bladder campion, poison hemlock, yellow star thistle, American cocklebur, burdock, teasel and chicory.

The manner of dissemination and spread of weeds varies with the different kind of weeds. Canada thistle, for instance, which is a perennial, has a hardy root system which has the ability to creep and spread underground; it also produces seeds equipped with miniature umbrella like appendages which can carry the seeds aloft for miles before they settle back to earth to start new patches. Still others produce seeds within burrs and spines. These are the natural hitchhikers that often cling to clothing, the hair of animals and on the under parts of vehicles.

It is because of this that these weeds are often first found growing along roadsides; many are constantly being brought into the county from other areas.

This necessitates careful inspection of all roadways, including state highways, throughout the growing season, to detect and control new infestations before they become too well established and is a major activity of the weed control department.

of interest in this crop.

At the present time, there is some interest in trying sugar beets again and further trials will be undertaken, if growers are interested in sugar beet production.



A STERLING SILVER PLAQUE, recognizing the tremendous work of Charles A. Henderson, veteran Klamath County agent, is here being presented to Henderson, right, by Gov. Mark Hatfield. The distinguished service award of the American Cyanamid Company was made to Henderson at a Portland luncheon Sept. 21, 1960.

County Agent's Service Recognized For Distinguished Service Award

Just recognition for his many years of devoted service to the agricultural needs of the Klamath Basin area was awarded to County Agent Charles A. Henderson Sept. 21, 1960, at a special luncheon in Portland.

The luncheon, attended by his colleagues throughout the state and other agricultural officials, was to honor Henderson with the distinguished service award of the agricultural division of the American Cyanamid Company.

The award, a sterling silver plaque, was presented by Gov. Mark Hatfield, and inscribed, "Outstanding servant to the agriculture of Oregon and exceptional representative of his colleagues, the County Agents of America."

Governor Hatfield, in his presentation speech, noted this tribute and added that especially was this a recognition of Henderson's contributions to the ten-fold increase in Klamath County's farm production during his 39 years as county agent.

Henderson first came to Klamath County in 1922 as county agent. The agricultural economy has increased from an approximately \$4 million in 1923 to nearly \$32 million currently.

In 1922 this area was mainly hay and cattle country. A thorough appraisal of the agricultural potential of Klamath County was the first task undertaken by Henderson with the aid of other

Basin leaders. The need was apparent for a cash crop of higher value per acre than hay.

The major shift followed and began to center around potato production and growing of malt-ing barley.

Gradually, the agricultural economy of the L. n was diversified into a number of crops. Today, almost all types of grains, potatoes, grass seeds and other activities make up the Basin agricultural economy.

Henderson was honored in 1955.

Sugar Beets Experiment Conducted From 1939-51

From 1939 to 1951, sugar beets were grown on the Klamath Project, this project was carried out cooperatively between the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, the Klamath County Agent's Office and Spreckels Sugar Company. In 1947 the gross income from the sugar beet crop was \$318,575, but from that point decreased to an income of \$5,250 in 1951 with no further sugar beets grown until 1957 when several fields grown brought in an income of \$66,000 with some smaller acreage grown in 1958.

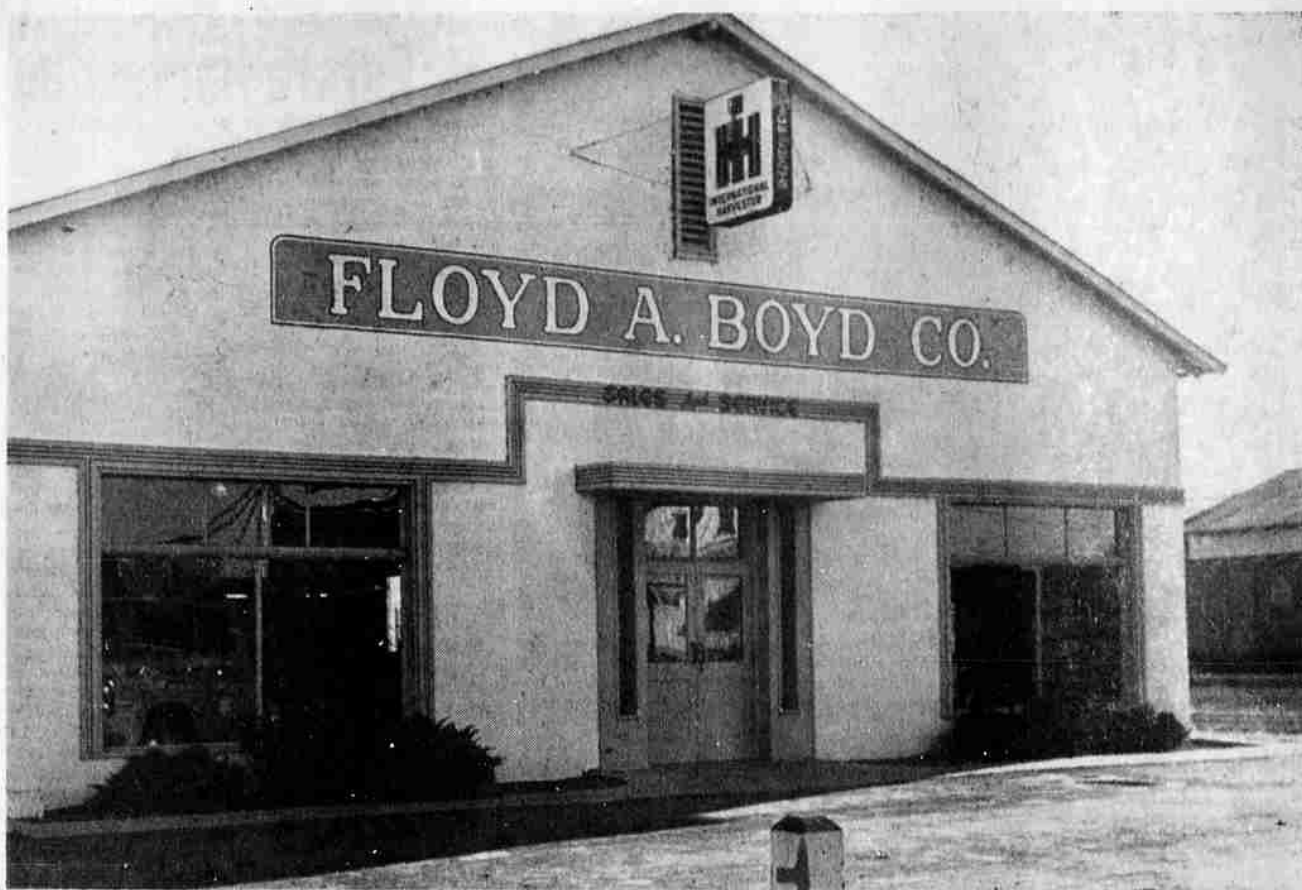
During this period, sugar beets were grown particularly in Tulelake, Lower Klamath Lake on the Klamath Project from Klamath-

Falls to Malin, and in some of the marsh lands north of Klamath Falls. Also during this period, sugar beet seed was grown on the Geary Ranch and in Northern California.

During the peak of this sugar beet trial period, trainloads of sugar beets were shipped to Spreckels Sugar Company of California.

In general, yields were not too high, varying from eight to 12 tons per acre with a reasonably good sugar content, generally from 13½ to 16 per cent. The total sugar produced per acre here, however, was only approximately one half the amount produced in certain areas in Utah. The low per-

acre income accounts for decrease



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