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U. S. Reclamation Surveys

Immediately following the organization of the U. S. Reclamation Service in 1902, topographic surveys were made in 1903, 1904 and 1905 of the irrigable lands under the Owyhee River and of possible reservoir sites above Duncan's Ferry and Red Butte damsites. Diamond drill tests made at these sites and at several diversion damsites near the mouth of the canyon of the Owyhee gave encouraging results and focused attention upon these localities. Irrigation development of the Jordan Valley near by may have influenced the selection of these upstream storage sites as it was not until 1909 that investigation by Arnold and Company led to consideration of the "Hole-in-the-Ground" site for diversion purposes. Plane table sheets were made of the area north of the Owyhee River up to 2,450 feet elevation. South of Brown Butte along the Snake River to Succor Creek topography was taken between 2,250 and 2,300 feet. East of Succor Creek topography was also taken in what is now the Gem District. Computations were made to irrigate 80,000 acres, but no records of conclusions are extant.

Malheur Report in 1909

The field investigations of the Owyhee Project, started by the U. S. Reclamation Service in 1903 and discontinued during the winter of 1905-06, were resumed in May, 1909, with surveys along the main canal lines and drainage ditches, classification of materials and estimates. The re-

sults of these investigations, embodied in unpublished reports, recommended the irrigation of Dead Ox Flat lands and areas west of Ontario by water from the Malheur River. Existing ditches were to be used as laterals where practicable, drainage by open ditches was provided for and either Harper or Warm Springs reservoir sites were to be used for storage. Failure of landowners to subscribe killed this plan.

Other Investigations Follow

In the year 1909, also, Arnold and Company, acting as engineers for the Boise-Owyhee Company made elaborate investigations of the Owyhee Project with the idea of developing it as a private undertaking. Plans proposed storing 450,000 acre-feet, using a 134-foot rock fill dam at the Duncan's Ferry site as surveyed by Graves, diverting at the "Hole-in-the-Ground" 246 feet above the river and thence running the main canal down the west side of the Owyhee River to a point near the mouth of the canyon where it divided into main canals. The topography maps and canal plates of these investigations were subsequently purchased by the Owyhee Irrigation District.

The following year, 1910, Wheeler and Stubblefield, in a report to the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Road Company of Portland recommended substituting an arched concrete dam for the rock fill type at Duncan's Ferry and lowering the diversion dam, substituting concrete lining throughout the main canal for

the more expensive head. A spillway capacity of 150,000 second-feet was recommended together with two tunnels for diverting the river during construction. They presented a modification of Arnold and Company's plan in their report in which lands near Ontario were to be irrigated under the Malheur Project.

Oregon Cooperative Work in 1916

In 1916 a report was made on the Malheur and Owyhee Projects by U. S. Reclamation Engineer John T. Whistler and State Engineer John H. Lewis for Oregon. These investigations were paid for jointly by the Department of the Interior and the State, \$5,000 being appropriated by each and were known as the "Oregon Cooperative Work." The irrigation of 23,000 acres was proposed in this report which says: "A soil and agricultural survey of the area included within the Owyhee Project as now proposed was made in 1915. The survey shows that this area is capable of a fairly intensive cultivation and as promising as any arid soil in the state which is susceptible of reclamation by irrigation."

Aside from soil surveys little field work was done, the data previously collected by the U. S. Reclamation Service being used.

Various Other Reports

C. C. Fisher made a report on the Owyhee Project in May, 1919 for the U. S. Reclamation Service. He was instructed to review the previous data and report thereon. No field work was done.

Six different plans of development for the Owyhee Project were outlined by J. B. Bond, Boise project manager, in his report of November 1921. The United States and Oregon each contributed \$5,000 toward this investigation of the feasibility of the project.

Mr. Bond was associated with R. J. Newell in a report which finally formed the basis of the construction plan for the Owyhee Project as authorized, and was dated in January, 1925. The report shows that 123,000 acres of land will be irrigated by the gravity system, utilizing 75 per cent of the stream flow of the Owyhee River with a high storage and dam at the "Hole-in-the-Ground." The total estimated cost of \$17,714,900 for the entire system included an allowance of about \$1,000,000 for drainage.

What the Owyhee Project Means
The Owyhee Project is planned to irrigate 123,000 acres of land, of which 80,000 acres are located in Eastern Oregon and 43,000 acres in Southwestern Idaho. Of this area 53,000 acres are already under cultivation, 12,000 acres being irrigated by gravity under the Owyhee ditch and 41,000 acres being served by pumping projects from the Snake and Owyhee rivers.

The damsite is about 25 miles from Nyssa. The dam is to be of the massive concrete arch-gravity type, 520 feet high from lowest foundation to top, 833 feet along the crest which is 30 feet wide, with a volume of 525,000 cubic yards of concrete, a spillway capacity of 40,000

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cupic acre-feet dead storage over an area of 13,000 acres which will extend 52 miles up the Owyhee River from the dam. The estimated cost of the entire project is \$18,000,000.

What the irrigated regions of Eastern Oregon and Southwestern Idaho will look like when the Owyhee, Vale and Black Canyon projects are completed may be comprehended by studying the illustration used in connection with this article through the courtesy of the Caldwell News-Tribune.

NYSSA BEATS FRUITLAND

It was more or less of a track meet that Nyssa put on for the entertainment of a good crowd of Fruitland and local fans at that town last Sunday afternoon, the exhibition ending in a shutout for Fruitland, 10 to 0. True, Fruitland players cluttered up the bases three times during the battle, but they lacked the punch to put a rim over in the pinches.

Nyssa got to going in the third inning, Johnson, Young and Rambaud scoring by two hits, an error and a two-bag drive to leftfield by Diven.

There was nothing doing in the fourth on either side, but in the following frame, Nyssa put across four runs on errors and an effective bombardment. Johnson was up again, going to first on a safety. Young followed with a grounder to Brubaker at short, Johnson being out at second on a fielder's choice. Rambaud's grasscutter was muffed up by Smith, Young racing to second and a moment later Lloyd' pretty single over second scored Young and Rambaud. Diven got to first on a single and Field's hit was recovered by Williams, nipping Lloyd at third. Herb Hoxie then laced out a safe hit, his brother, Harold, duplicating the stunt, bringing in Field.

In the seventh, Diven was out by Brubaker's peg to Davis. Field got on by Smith's error, going to third on Herb Hoxie's single. Field was tagged at the plate when Harold Hoxie's bunt rolled but a few feet from the platter, Herb going to third on the play. Herb went home when R. Brubaker heaved a wild one past Rands.

Nyssa scored two more in the eighth, Johnson starting things by bringing out a three-bagger and coming home on Young's safety. Rambaud was out, Williams to Davis, Young taking second and later purloining third. Lloyd bunted a low one down the third baseline, Young racing across the plate, and Lloyd being out at first, Smith to Dais. Dien got on by C. Brubaker's error and Field fanned, ending the big parade for the day.

The line-up:

NYSSA—	ABRHP O A E
Johnson, 2b	5 2 p 3 1 1
Young, c	5 3 2 9 0 0
Rambaud, p	5 2 0 0 1 0
Lloyd, 3b	5 0 1 2 2 0
Diven, ss	5 1 1 1 0 0
Field, lf	5 1 1 1 0 0
Hoxie, Herb, cf	5 1 2 1 0 0
Hoxie, Harold, rf	4 0 1 0 0 0
Servoss, 1b	5 0 1 10 2 1
Green, p	1 0 0 0 0 0
Totals	45 10 11 27 6 2
FRUITLAND—	ABRHP O A E
Brubaker, c, ss	4 0 2 4 3 2
Smith, 3b	4 0 0 1 3 1 2
Fisher, cf	4 0 0 0 1 0
Royston, lf	4 0 0 0 0 0
Rands, c	4 0 1 10 0 0
Brubaker, R., p	3 0 0 1 0 1
Williams, 2b	4 0 0 2 2 1
Durell, rf	3 0 0 0 0 0
Davis, 1b	3 0 0 7 0 0
Fitch, p	1 0 0 0 0 0
Totals	40 0 4 27 5 6

Score by innings:

Nyssa	0 0 3 4 1 2 0—10
Fruitland	0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0
Batteries: Nyssa—Bambaud, Green and Young. Fruitland—R. Brubaker, Fitch and Rands. Strikeouts: Ram- baud 4, Green 3, Brubaker 5, Fitch 5.	

Other Team Results

Vale, Payette and Nyssa emerged out of the frays Sunday with undefeated records. Vale took New Plymouth down the line Sunday, 11 to 0, and Payette trounced Adrian, 13 to 2. Fruitland, however, won a disputed game from New Plymouth which was played on April 28 and called in the fifth inning because of rain. League officers awarded the contest to Fruitland, 2 to 1.

Next Sunday's Game

There will be a real thriller on the Nyssa diamond next Sunday afternoon when Payette comes here to play. Payette decisively defeated Weiser in the initial game of the series, took a close contest from Ontario and handled New Plymouth roughly last Sunday. Plainly, it will be a battle royal here.

Other scheduled games are Adrian at Fruitland, Ontario at Vale and New Plymouth at Weiser.

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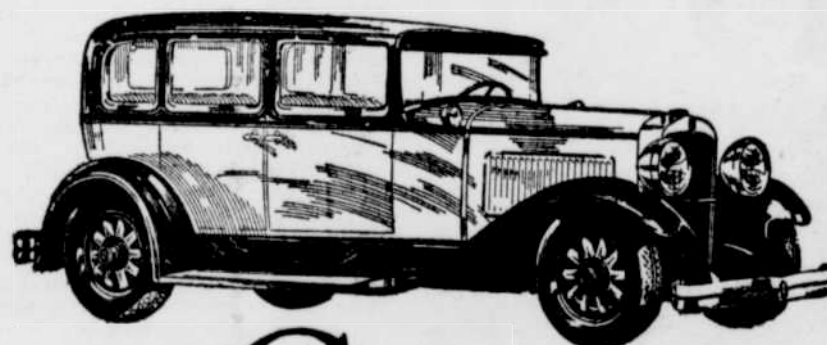
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