

Planning for Tomorrow

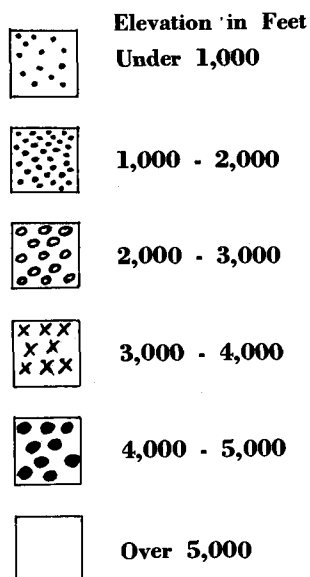
1958 PLANNING CONFERENCE REPORT

PREPARED BY THE HOOD RIVER COUNTY PLANNING COUNCIL



This topographic map of the Mt. Hood National Forest area in Oregon includes the following details:

- Elevation Legend (in Feet):**
 - Under 1,000: Represented by a pattern of small dots.
 - 1,000 - 2,000: Represented by a pattern of larger dots.
 - 2,000 - 3,000: Represented by a pattern of small circles.
 - 3,000 - 4,000: Represented by a pattern of 'x' marks.
 - 4,000 - 5,000: Represented by a pattern of larger circles.
 - Over 5,000: Represented by a solid black area.
- Scale:** A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances from 0 to 5 miles.
- Geographical Features:**
 - Rivers:** Columbia River, Hood River, Willamette River, and various tributaries like the Clackamas and Clackamette.
 - Lakes:** Lost Lake, Budget Lake, and others.
 - Mountains:** Mt. Hood, Mt. Rainier, and various peaks within the forest.
 - Settlements and Towns:** Hood River, Astoria, and various smaller communities.
- Infrastructure:** A network of roads is shown, including U.S. Routes 30, 26, and 101, as well as local roads like the Hood River Road and Clackamas Road.
- Administrative Boundaries:** The map shows the boundaries of Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties, as well as the Mt. Hood National Forest boundary.
- Grid System:** A coordinate grid is overlaid on the map, with latitude and longitude markings.





FOREWORD

This report has been prepared by the Hood River County Planning Council. The purpose of the report is to:

1. Provide factual information about Hood River county.
2. Present a concise review of studies conducted during the past year by the five planning committees regarding problems affecting the social and economic life of the county.
3. Present recommendations adopted by the committees and the council for the solution of these problems and the further development of the county.
4. Encourage residents of the county to coordinate their efforts to develop and improve the economic and social conditions of the county in an orderly and planned manner.

It is recognized that further study must be continued as it was not possible to consider all aspects at this time. Also, changing conditions will create new situations and problems. If Hood River county is to realize its greatest potential, careful planning is essential. Progress is based on planning. A careful study by local residents of problems affecting the agriculture and community life of an area to determine what should be done has been encouraged by Oregon State college for many years.

The first long-range outlook conference report for

Hood River county was prepared and printed in 1925. Since that time there have been many changes in the agriculture and community life of the county. Similar studies were made in 1938 and 1947.

During the past ten years the Hood River County Planning Council and the Planning Committees have also guided the development and expansion of the County Extension program.

This conference report was prepared by the Hood River County Planning Council. Members of the council for 1958 were Ralph Kirby, chairman; Richard Radliff, vice-chairman and chairman of Horticultural committee; Waldo Arens, chairman of Land Use committee; Dan Davies, chairman of Livestock and Crops committee; James Carr, chairman of Farm Labor committee; Mrs. Joseph Meyer, chairman of Family and Community Life committee; Mrs. W. T. Hukari, County Home Extension committee; Mrs. John Moore, County Home Extension committee; Mrs. Errol Aylsworth, County Home Extension committee; Walter Wells, master, County Pomona Grange; Lewis Merz, 4-H Leaders' association; Arvo Hukari, county judge; Armas Jakku, chairman of County Soil Conservation district; George Barch, County Chamber of Commerce; Bill Henry, County Chamber of Commerce; Gerhardt Wertgen, president, County Farm Bureau; County Extension staff, Lee Foster, secretary of the council; Steve Dowell, and Kay Bevans.

A Historical Sketch of Hood River County

Oregon's highest mountain peak is located in the southern tip of Hood River county. It was first seen by white men on October 29, 1792, by W. R. Broughton and the men of the Vancouver expedition. Broughton named it Mount Hood in honor of Lord Hood of the British admiralty.

However, it was not until 1805 when the Lewis and Clark expedition came down the Columbia river that white men first visited this area.

Trappers, fur traders, and pioneer settlers soon followed the Lewis and Clark expedition and passed through this area on their way to the Willamette valley and the coast. The first permanent settlers in the Hood River valley were the Nathaniel Coe family who filed a donation land claim in 1854 on land now included in the city of Hood River. The William Jenkins family and Benson family were soon also to file donation land claims. Only four such claims were approved. Thus began the settling of Hood River valley. The first school was built in 1863. In 1867, a road from The Dalles to the Hood River community was completed. In 1875, a group known as the Pacific Colony migrated to the area. By 1880, there were seventeen families living in the valley.

The townsite of Hood River was platted in 1881 but was not incorporated until 1894. George Prather published the first Hood River newspaper in 1889. In 1900, Leslie Butler founded Hood River's first bank. During the period 1900 to 1910, three ethnic groups settled in the area — New Englanders, Finnish and Japanese.

From 1859 until 1908, the Hood River area was a part of Wasco county. In the year 1908, Hood River county was established with the city of Hood River as the county seat.

On December 1, 1884, the Oregon Short Line railroad was completed to connect with the Union Pacific bringing rail transportation to Hood River.

Agriculture and timber have been the two major sources of revenue to valley residents during these many

years. The first sawmill was built and operated by Peter Neal near Neal creek in 1861. Other mills were built as the area developed. Lumbering is now a ten million dollar industry.

Nathaniel Coe planted the first fruit trees in 1855 but it was not until the turn of the century that fruit production became the major agricultural enterprise in the valley. E. L. Smith planted the first commercial orchard, 30 acres of apples and peaches, in 1876. Another pioneer fruit grower was Peter Mohr.

Frank Davenport pioneered irrigation developments in the valley. As a result of his untiring efforts, the Farmers' ditch was built and put into operation in 1897. Practically all of the farm land in the county is now irrigated.

During the years from 1890 to 1920 Hood River became world famous for its apples. By 1920, over ten thousand acres had been planted to apple trees. But the trend was soon to change. A disastrous winter freeze in 1919 killed many apple trees throughout the valley. Many of these injured orchards were replaced with pears. Thus the production of pears, insignificant prior to 1920, increased until the acreage now exceeds that of apples.

Hood River county is now the leading Anjou pear producing area in the world.

Strawberries also became an important fruit crop in the valley from 1890 to 1940. The planting of strawberries reached a peak of 975 acres in 1930. The most important variety grown during this period was Clark's Seedling. It was first planted by Thomas R. Coon in 1883.

Many changes have taken place since 1854 when Nathaniel Coe first settled near the Hood river. The county is traversed by modern highways, the population has increased to 11,980 and the commercial farms now number 690. Fruit and timber products are the major sources of revenue but industrial opportunities are available and the future years will see new developments and changes.

COUNTY SITUATION

PHYSICAL

Hood River county is located in northern Oregon and extends southward from the Columbia river approximately 32 miles, and eastward from the main crest of the Cascade Range 10 to 23 miles. It is an area of 529 square miles consisting of 338,560 acres of land. The topography of the county is generally hilly and mountainous. The Hood River valley, within which is located most of the farmland of the county, is formed by a spur of the Cascades branching out near the base of Mount

Hood, located in the southwestern part of the county, and terminating at the Columbia river at which point the elevation is 100 feet above sea level. The mountains extend southward through the county reaching their highest point at the summit of Mount Hood, 11,245 feet above sea level.

Mount Hood, Lost lake, and the Columbia river gorge are just a few of the scenic wonders of the area. Geologically speaking, the county is located within an

area of an important rock formation of the Northwest known as the Columbia Lava. In total, this formation is a vast sheet covering nearly 250,000 square miles and varying in thickness from 300 to 4,000 feet. This mass of rock was not formed by a single flow of volcanic eruption, but by a series of disturbances, often with a considerable period of time intervening. The line of separation between the flows is commonly marked either by a change in the structure of the rock, or by intervening strata of sands, clays, or gravel. The larger part of these lavas cooled slowly, and wherever sections of the rock are visible, a columnar structure nearly always exists.

Throughout the gorge of the Columbia river and along the Hood river, the vertical walls are often 500 feet or more in height. These bold columnar cliffs form a prominent feature of much of the wild, rugged scenery along these streams.

The Hood river traverses the county from the foot of Mount Hood northward to the Columbia river. The White river meanders across the southern part of the county, emptying into the Deschutes river. These two streams and the many small creeks draining into them,

comprise the watershed of the county.

Considerable variation can be found in the soil of the county. The major soil series include: Parkdale, Chemawa, Hood, Oak Grove, Rockford, Van Horn and Wind river.

The climate, influenced by elevation, also varies considerably throughout the county. The highest recorded temperature at Hood River is 106 degrees, and the lowest temperature is 27 degrees below zero.

The growing season in the lower valley is 183 days and in the upper valley is 143 days. Cool summer weather limits the species of crops that can be grown commercially. The average annual precipitation for the three weather stations in the county is as follows: Cascade Locks, 77 inches; Hood River, 30 inches; and Parkdale, 46 inches. As the precipitation occurs primarily in the fall and winter months, irrigation is necessary for adequate production of farm crops.

A summary of climatic statistics from 1925 to 1957 recorded at the United States Weather Bureau stations located in Hood River county is listed in the following charts:

AVERAGE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL PRECIPITATION

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Hood River El. 500													
1884-1930	5.42	4.15	3.20	1.77	1.14	.73	.22	.26	1.32	2.19	5.54	6.26	32.2
1931-1955	4.98	3.54	3.17	1.41	1.06	.96	.16	.23	.86	2.62	4.75	5.71	29.45
Parkdale El. 1740													
1909-1930	6.80	4.51	3.33	2.10	1.49	.79	.28	.33	1.44	2.52	6.68	6.61	36.85
1931-1955	8.80	5.83	5.00	2.27	1.85	1.33	.28	.31	1.26	3.87	6.86	8.97	45.91
Cascade Locks El. 100													
1879-1930	12.08	9.60	7.91	5.63	3.57	2.26	.73	.93	3.42	6.23	11.88	12.80	77.04
1931-1952	10.50	9.14	8.89	4.60	3.35	2.57	.72	.72	2.50	7.56	11.51	14.18	76.64

MEAN MONTHLY AND ANNUAL TEMPERATURE

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Hood River 1889-1930	32.6	36.8	43.3	49.9	56.0	61.5	67.5	66.7	59.5	51.4	41.7	35.2	
1931-1955	33.2	37.4	45.7	50.4	56.6	61.4	66.6	65.8	60.7	52.0	41.1	36.5	
Parkdale 1911-1930	28.9	34.3	40.7	46.2	51.9	58.3	63.5	63.1	55.8	48.3	39.0	32.0	
1931-1955	30.4	34.3	40.3	47.0	53.1	58.0	63.2	62.4	57.6	48.8	38.6	33.7	
Cascade Locks 1890-1930	35.2	39.3	45.6	56.5	57.0	62.3	67.9	67.9	61.3	53.9	44.6	37.7	
1931-1952	35.6	39.5	45.8	52.8	58.2	62.9	68.2	68.1	63.2	54.9	44.2	39.3	

AVERAGE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL SNOWFALL

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Hood River 1895-1930	23.1	12.6	3.6	.2	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	4.3	12.2	56.1
1931-1953	15.7	7.8	1.9	.4	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	1.7	6.5	34.1
Parkdale 1909-1930	31.8	18.0	7.5	2.2	.2	.0	.0	.0	.0	.2	5.1	22.9	87.9
1931-1953	34.1	21.4	10.4	1.7	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	.5	7.3	20.4	95.9

HIGHEST RECORDED TEMPERATURE

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Hood River 1891-1952	65	69	81	91	96	102	106	104	98	89	73	66
Parkdale 1911-1952	69	69	79	91	94	99	105	100	99	85	75	65
Cascade Locks 1890-1952	63	68	84	90	95	102	108	104	97	88	72	66

LOWEST RECORDED TEMPERATURE

Hood River 1891-1952	-20	-21	4	23	27	34	35	35	24	17	-6	-27
Parkdale 1911-1952	-23	-27	-1	16	24	27	30	30	25	10	3	-22
Cascade Locks 1890-1952	-8	-7	13	27	30	36	40	41	33	24	6	-9

	HOOD RIVER	PARKDALE	CASCADE LOCKS
Growing season.....	183 days	143 days	217 days
Last killing frost in the spring.....	April 20	May 17	April 7
First killing frost in the fall.....	October 20	October 7	November 10

The city of Hood River is located at the junction of the Hood and Columbia rivers. It is the county seat and major business center of the county. The area of the city is 1.88 square miles, and the population is approximately 4,100. Hood River is situated 60 miles east of Portland, 250 miles southeast of Seattle, and 700 miles northeast of San Francisco. Other incorporated community centers include Parkdale, Odell and Cascade Locks.

Two oiled highways extend almost the entire length of the county and connect with the Columbia river highway (U. S. 30) at the city of Hood River. Good farm-to-market roads make all parts of the agricultural area easily accessible. The main line of the Union Pacific railroad traverses the northern end of the county, and the Mount Hood railroad extends southward to the town of Parkdale. A county-owned airfield provides a landing field for small and medium planes.

ECONOMIC

Agricultural products from farms and timber from forest lands located within the county are two basic sources of income to Hood River county residents. An industrial site is being developed along the Columbia river near the city of Hood River by the Hood River Port Commission.

Other industrial developments are possible at Cascade Locks and Odell.

If new industries are established in the county, they will bring additional revenue to the area. The development of recreational facilities and the promotion of tourist trade also have economic possibilities for the area. The following information regarding Hood River was taken from the 1954 Agriculture Census, the 1956 U. S. Forest Service Forest Statistic Report, and other county statistics.

AGRICULTURE

The 1954 reported sales of farm products totaled \$11,675,502. This annual income usually is divided about 45 per cent and 55 per cent respectively between the farmers who produce the products, and the processors, shippers and laborers who handle and market the farm products.

HOOD RIVER COUNTY FARMS

Number of farms	1,002
Land in farms.....	39,070 acres
Cropland	20,088 acres
Pasture land	6,659 acres
Per cent tenacy	3.8 %
Number farms irrigated	914
Land irrigated	18,899 acres
Land sprinkler irrigated	12,500 " (est.)
Average size of farms.....	39 acres

SIZE OF FARMS

Under 10 acres.....	205	140 to 179 acres.....	20
10 to 29 acres.....	429	180 to 219 acres.....	11
30 to 49 acres.....	159	220 to 259 acres.....	4
50 to 69 acres.....	67	260 to 499 acres.....	10
70 to 99 acres.....	60	500 to 999 acres.....	3
100 to 139 acres.....	34		

CLASSIFICATION BY TYPES OF FARMING

Fruit	520	Diversified	40
Dairy	75	Unclassified	332
Poultry	35		

ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION

Commercial farms	690	Non-commercial farms..	312
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GROSS SALES

Number of Farms	Amount
35	\$ 250 — \$ 2,000
115	2,000 — 2,500
95	2,500 — 5,000
90	5,000 — 10,000
155	10,000 — 25,000
200	over 25,000

SOURCES OF AGRICULTURAL INCOME

Grand Total	\$11,675,502
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FRUIT — 93.5 Per cent

Value of fruit products sold (1954 census report)	\$10,901,648
Value of vegetable and horticultural specialty crops products sold	25,161

Kind of Fruit	Est. A. 1957	1950-1955 Av. Production	1957 Production
Pears	8040		
Winter		1,167,495 pkd. bxs.	1,560,624 pkd. bxs.
Bartlett		59,193 pkd. bxs.	41,025 pkd. bxs.
		16,105 tons processed	19,668 tons processed
Apples	4425	1,246,835 pkd. bxs.	1,756,656 pkd. bxs.
		12,848 tons processed	13,692 tons processed
Cherries	500	103,558 pkd. bxs.	91,943 pkd. bxs.
		207 tons processed	488 tons processed
Peaches	200		500 tons (est.)
Strawberries	175		600 tons (est.)
Vegetables			
Asparagus	10		
Others	10		

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY — 5.7 Per cent

Value of livestock and poultry sold (1954)	\$ 659,270
Dairy products	\$277,141
Poultry products	168,028
Other livestock products	214,101

Livestock and Poultry on Farms (1957 Estimate)

All cattle and calves	4,500
Milch cows	1,700
Sows and gilts	60
Ewes	400
Horses and mules	250
Chickens	30,000
Turkeys	6,000

FOREST PRODUCTS

A sustained yield program is maintained in the harvesting of timber on the county, state, and federal forest lands of the county. Both county and federal lands are supervised by the United States Forest Service.

Approximately 60 million board feet of timber are harvested on public and private lands. Forty-three million board feet of timber are now being harvested annually, in the county, under a sustained yield program

FIELD CROPS — .5 Per cent

Value of field crops sold (1954)		\$ 57,992
Crops	Acres	Production
Alfalfa	1,735	4,015 tons
Clover	882	2,228 tons
Other hay	732	1,226 tons
Wild hay	179	328 tons
Grain harvested	346	282 tons
Potatoes	26	179 tons

MAJOR FARM EXPENDITURES

Hired labor	\$2,240,875
Spray material (estimate)	350,000
Fertilizer	316,786
Feed for livestock and poultry	384,670
Gasoline, oil, etc.	268,265
Machine hire	75,700
Taxes on land and buildings (estimate)	250,000

from county and federal forest lands.

Approximately 12 percent of the commercial timber is included in the county forests. The economic value of timber cut from county forest lands amounts to \$50,000 annually.

Two forestry experimental plots have been established on county forest lands to study timber management and production on low elevation sites.

Timber statistics for the county are listed in the following charts:

FARM FORESTRY

Number of farms with woodlots (1954)	361
Acres of farm woodlots (1954)	11,252
Income from farm woodlots (1954)	\$31,429
Number of Christmas tree plantings	1
Acres in Christmas tree plantings	10

ACRES OF COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND BY OWNERSHIP AND STAND-SIZE CLASSES (1954)

	Total	Saw Timber Stands	Pole Timber Stands	Seedling and Sapling Stands	Non-Stocked Areas
Private	56,920	22,450	24,520	8,280	1,670
State	1,030	760	270	—	—
County	27,860	15,200	9,580	2,760	320
Municipal	30	30	—	—	—
Federal	156,250	111,020	29,880	12,710	2,640
Total	242,090	149,460	64,250	23,750	4,630

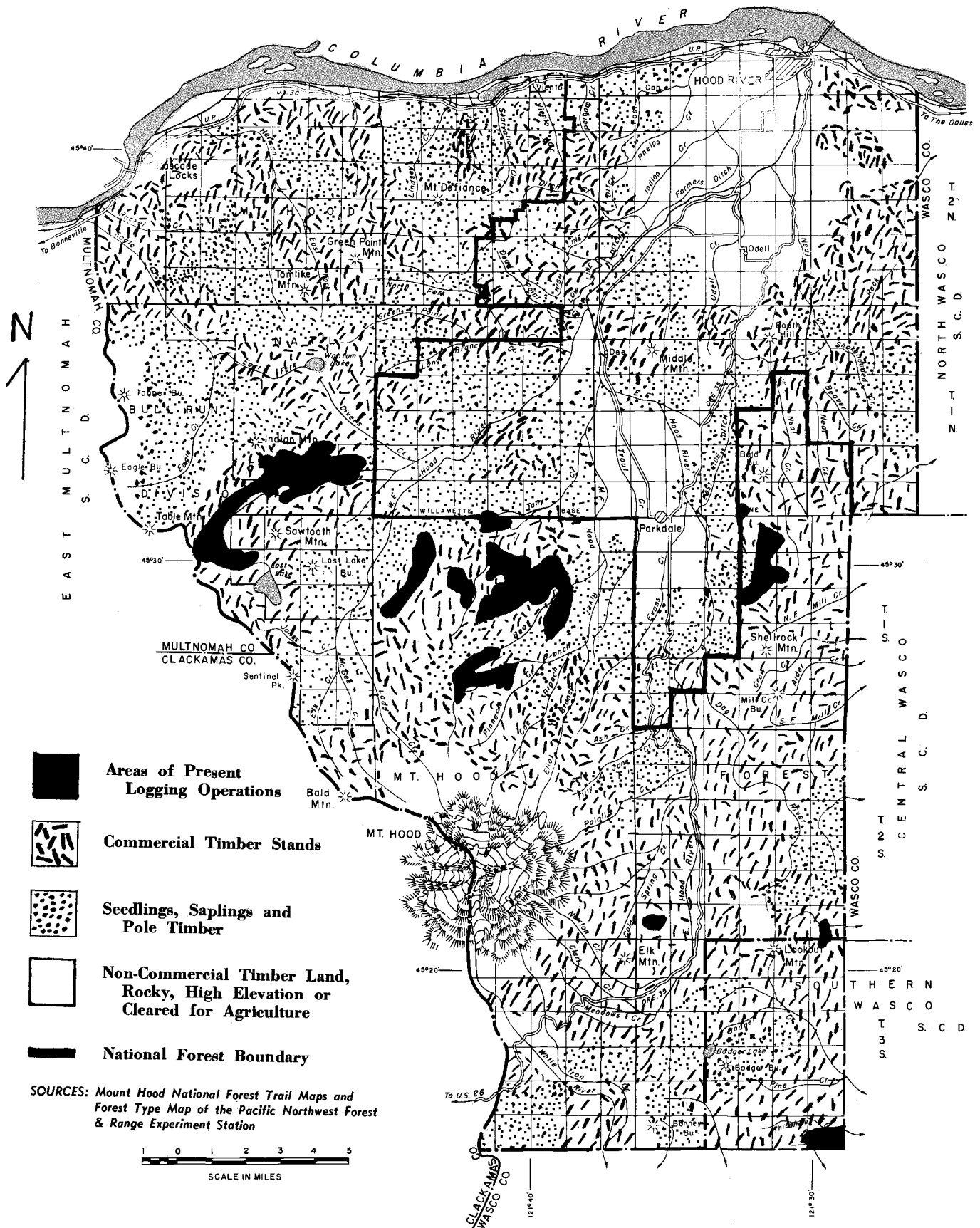
ACRES OF COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND BY MAJOR FOREST TYPE, STAND-SIZE CLASS, (1954)

Forest Type	Total	Sawtimber Stands		Pole-Timber Stands	Seedling and Sapling Stands	Non-Stocked Areas
		Large 1*	Small 2*			
Douglas Fir	157,760	60,070	30,880	48,780	18,030	—
Hemlock-Sitka Spruce	6,410	3,470	1,980	600	360	—
Ponderosa Pine	13,810	9,600	1,560	2,290	360	—
Western White Pine	200	—	—	200	—	—
Lodgepole Pine	3,640	—	—	3,520	120	—
Larch	1,120	—	240	880	—	—
Fir-Spruce	52,990	22,840	18,660	7,270	4,220	—
Hardwoods	1,530	—	160	710	660	—
Non-stocked areas	4,630	—	—	—	—	4,630
Total	242,090	95,980	53,480	64,250	23,750	4,630

1* — 21 inches d.b.h and larger

2* — 11 to 21 inches d.b.h

FOREST RESOURCES OF HOOD RIVER COUNTY



**NET VOLUME OF LIVE SAWTIMBER AND GROWING STOCK ON
COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND, BY OWNERSHIP CLASS — 1954**

Ownership Class	Live Sawtimber Million board-feet, log scale Scribner Rule	Growing Stock Million cubic feet
Private	290	101
State	6	2
County	188	61
Municipal	*	*
Federal	3,913	898
Total	4,397	1,062
* Less than .5 million		

COMMERCE

Hood River County Business Trends, 1954-1957

Bank Debits	
1957	\$98,223,381
1956	98,375,439
1955	95,329,980
1954	77,788,254

Parking Meter Receipts	
1957	\$ 18,131
1956	19,677
1955	18,894
1954	16,647

Assessed Property Valuation	
1957	\$ 8,855,830
1956	8,641,130
1955	7,276,190
1954	7,433,684

Income		
	Family	Per Capita
1956	\$4,635	\$1,401
1955	4,452	1,346
1954	4,399	1,330
1953	4,400	1,337

Postal Receipts	
1957	\$ 82,348
1956	81,078
1955	82,208
1954	82,446

Motor Vehicle Registration	
1957	7,502
1956	7,411
1955	7,332
1954	7,025

Real Property Valuation	
1957	\$44,279,150
1956	43,205,650
1955	36,380,950
1954	37,168,420

Number of Electric Meters	
1957	5,227
1956	5,283
1955	5,253
1954	5,104

Building Permits	
1957	\$ 653,113
1956	933,951
1955	672,832
1954	319,832

Water Users

1957	1,210
1956	1,200
1955	1,125
1954	1,050

Total Retail Sales

1957	\$16,953,000
1956	15,908,000
1955	14,538,000
1954	14,526,000

Number of Telephones

1957	3,744
1956	3,642
1955	3,567
1954	3,407

Financial Institutions

Two national banks. Monthly debits average.....\$8,197,787

**Survey of Buying Power — Retail Sales, 1956
(From Sales Management magazine)**

Food	\$6,992,000
General merchandise	5,311,000
Furniture and household appliances.....	773,000
Automotive	3,480,000
Drug	397,000

Manufacturing

Manufacturing firms of the county include:

Name of Company	Number of Employees	Products Manufactured
Hines Lumber Company	250	Lumber and hardboard
Neal Creek Lumber Company	60	Lumber
Cascade Locks Lumber Company	65	Lumber
Hanel Lumber Company	52	Lumber
Walton Mill	12	Lumber
Hood River Box Company	10	Boxes and veneer
Apple Growers Assn.	157-1274	Fruit products
Hood River Distillery	7-25	Distilled spirits
Luhr's Lures	25	Fish lures
Nichols Boat Works	12	Steel boats
Gibson Pipe Company	4	Concrete pipe

Five fruit packing firms pack and market the bulk of the fruit produced in the Hood River valley. These are: Apple Growers' Association, Duckwall Brothers, Webster Orchards, Stadelman Fruit Company and Pooley Fruit Company.

Employment By Major Industry Group, 1950

	City of Hood River		County of Hood River		State of Oregon	
	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	64	4.6	1,368	30.3	73,205	12.7
Mining	3	0.2	9	0.2	1,650	0.3
Construction	92	6.6	351	7.8	42,927	7.4
Manufacturing	179	12.8	704	15.5	130,609	22.7
Transportation	150	10.7	357	7.9	49,605	8.6
Wholesale and retail trade	451	32.3	836	18.5	118,388	20.5
Finance, insurance & Real Estate	40	2.8	56	1.2	19,573	3.4
Business and repair service	44	3.1	107	2.4	18,009	3.1
Personal service	89	6.3	167	3.7	32,174	5.6
Entertainment & recreation	15	1.1	34	0.8	6,263	1.1
Professional and related services	191	13.7	344	7.6	52,546	9.1
Public Administration	57	4.1	108	2.5	23,695	4.1
Industries not reported	24	1.7	70	1.6	7,866	1.4
Total employed	1,399	100.0	4,511	100.0	576,510	100.0
Labor force	1,399	100.0	4,511	100.0	576,510	100.0

Employment By Major Occupation Group 1950

	City of Hood River		County of Hood River		State of Oregon	
	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Professional, technical & kindred	175	12.5	328	7.3	50,309	8.7
Farm managers	14	1.0	676	15.0	39,972	6.9
Managers, officials & proprietors	198	14.2	388	8.6	63,112	10.9
Clerical and kindred	205	14.4	325	7.2	65,096	11.3
Sales workers	128	9.2	263	5.8	43,096	7.5
Craftsmen, foremen and kindred	192	13.7	502	11.1	78,305	13.6
Operatives and kindred	168	12.0	524	11.6	88,853	15.4
Private household workers	15	1.1	45	1.0	9,976	1.7
Service workers	154	11.1	324	7.2	45,951	8.0
Farm laborers	33	2.4	650	14.4	27,488	4.8
Laborers (except farm)	99	7.1	428	9.5	57,607	10.0
Not reporting	18	1.3	58	1.3	16,745	1.2
Total employed	1,399	100.0	4,511	100.0	576,510	100.0
Labor force	1,399	100.0	4,511	100.0	576,510	100.0

Opportunities for Employment (1957)

Estimates by the Oregon State Employment Service indicate a total non-agricultural employment in the county of 1,875. Of these, 1,450 were men and 425 women.

Construction	150
Manufacturing	750
Transportation, utilities and communications	210
Wholesale and retail trade	450
Finance	50
Other services	140
Government	125

Seasonal employment in the lumber industry ranged from a low of 210 in January to a high of 650 in August. Seasonal employment in agriculture ranged from

a low of 160 in March to a high of 5,000 in October.

Extent of unionization varies with occupation:

Lumber industry	80%
Transportation	100%
Utilities	100%
Service industries	10%
Retail stores	Less than 10%
Construction	100%

Prevailing hourly wage rates were as follows:

Machinists	\$2.35
Punch press operator	3.00
Carpenters	3.00
Electricians	3.10
Plumber	3.25
Laborer	2.45
Trucker	\$1.25 to 2.35
Clerk	1.00
Laundry worker	1.10
Agricultural workers	1.00 to 1.25
Cannery workers	1.25 to 1.50
Sawmill workers	1.90 to 3.00

Transportation

As the city of Hood River is on the main line of the Union Pacific railroad, U. S. highway 30, and the Columbia river, connections with other major rail, motor carrier, barge and air lines are good.

Transportation facilities include:

Union Pacific Railroad
Mount Hood Railway
Consolidated Freightways
Lester Auto Freight
Greyhound Bus Lines
Airfield for light planes — two lighted air strips.

Electric Power

The county is located between two big hydro-electric projects — Bonneville dam, 25 miles to the west, and The Dalles dam, 24 miles to the east of the city of Hood River.

Distributors of electricity include Pacific Power and Light company, Hood River Electric cooperative and Cascade Locks Municipal Power company. The cost of electricity for commercial use varies with maximum demand and monthly usage.

Commercial Maximum Demand	Monthly Usage K.W.H.	Av. Cost Per K.W.H.
1000	400,000	\$0.69
500	200,000	.74
300	120,000	.80
150	60,000	.95
1000	200,000	1.09
150	30,000	1.48

Water Supply

Hood River City Water System

- Source of water — Cold Springs
- Adequacy of supply — unlimited for all practical purposes
- Hardness
- Cost per 1,000 gallons in quantities of 100,000 gallons per month — \$0.15.

- (e) Chemical and physical analysis
Turbidity and color — none
Dissolved solids
Calcium carbonate — Six parts per million
Magnesium — Seven parts per million
Sodium — Four parts per million
Total dissolved solids — Seventeen parts per million
- (f) Water is transported by gravity in underground pipes
- (g) Storage reservoir — 5,000,000 gallon steel tank with 16" line to the city.
- (h) Temperature of the water — 42° to 46°

Major sources of water for rural household use:

- (a) Hood River City Water System
- (b) Crystal Springs Water System
- (c) Parkdale Water System
- (d) Oak Grove Water System
- (e) Davis Water Co.

The domestic water is supplied by gravity pressure by one of these four systems to practically every home in the county.

SOCIAL

Population Distribution In Hood River County and the State by Age and Sex — 1950

Age Group	Male			Female		
	Hood River City	Hood River County	Oregon Total	Hood River City	Hood River County	Oregon Total
	Per Cent of Total Poulation	Per Cent of Total Poulation	Per Cent of Total Poulation	Per Cent of Total Poulation	Per Cent of Total Poulation	Per Cent of Total Poulation
0-4	5.4	5.7	5.5	4.5	5.0	5.3
5-9	3.8	4.7	4.5	3.9	4.7	4.2
10-14	2.9	4.3	3.7	3.4	4.2	3.5
15-19	3.1	3.8	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.2
20-24	2.8	2.8	3.4	3.5	3.0	3.5
25-29	3.0	3.0	3.8	3.3	3.4	3.9
30-34	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.2	4.0	3.9
35-39	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.8
40-44	4.2	3.7	3.6	4.1	3.5	3.4
45-49	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.9
50-54	2.5	2.9	2.9	2.5	2.7	2.7
55-59	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.5
60-64	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.1
65-69	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.5	1.5	1.7
70-74	1.9	1.3	1.2	2.1	1.2	1.2
75 & over	1.6	1.1	1.3	2.1	1.2	1.4

Resident Births and Deaths City of Hood River and Hood River County — 1950-57

Year	City of Hood River		County of Hood River			
	Births	Deaths	Births	Rate per 1,000 pop.	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.
1950			294	23.1	95	7.5
1951			313	25.2	97	7.8
1952			303	25.9	88	7.5
1953	104	43	340	27.4	114	9.2
1954	94	45	313	23.9	134	10.2
1955	87	57	325	23.5	139	10.1
1956	92	41	306	24.0	134	10.5
1957	81	39	305	26.5	108	9.4

Population Trends

	1940	1950	1957	1958
Hood River county	11,580	12,740	11,530	11,980
City of Hood River	3,280	3,701	4,100	4,100
School census	3,647	3,208	3,488	4,218

Churches

Twenty-one churches representing 12 denominations serve the adults and youth of the county. Church membership, however, is less than 25 per cent of the population.

Schools

Total number of schools	17
Grade schools	14
High schools	3
Grade school enrollment (1957)	2,021
High school enrollment (1957)	729

Public Libraries

The Hood River County Library is located in Hood River. Three branch libraries are maintained at Parkdale, Cascade Locks, and Neighbors of Woodcraft home. A total of 27,000 books are available to residents of the county.

Health

A modern hospital located in Hood River maintains modern equipment and 60 beds. A preventive medicine program in the schools is carried on by the county health staff.

A modern nursing home with 61 beds is located near Hood River.

Safety

Six fire departments serve the county. Each is equipped for fire prevention and control and also for first aid assistance. These are located in the following communities: Hood River, Pine Grove, Odell, Parkdale, West Side, and Cascade Locks.

Two mountain rescue organizations, the Alpines and the Crag Rats, are county groups that cooperate with the sheriff's office, the state police, and the U. S. Forest Service in rescue and first aid.

Modern police and county sheriff departments promote safety programs.

Recreation

Parks include ten state parks and one county park. Theaters include Hood River, Cascade Locks, and the West Side Drive-In. Sports centers include Hood River Bowling center, Hood River Country Club golf links, Hood River swimming pool, North Slope ski area, and Hood River Rifle and Pistol range.

Rushing streams, timbered mountains, and spectacular Lost lake provide excellent outdoor recreation for both residents and tourists.

National Youth Organizations

4-H club are available to boys and girls from 9 to 21 years of age. Present county membership is 501.

Boy Scouts of America troops are available to boys from 8 to 18 years of age. Present county membership is 517.

Camp Fire Girls groups are available to girls from 8 to 18 years of age. Present county membership is 304.

Music, Literature, and Art

Music instruction and appreciation is promoted by the Hood River Music association, a county-wide organization. Music instruction is available at all high schools and from private teachers.

A local art club encourages sketching and painting among both youth and adults.

Publicity

Facilities for county-wide publicity include Radio

station KIHRR (independent), 250 watts, 1340 kc, and the Hood River News, a weekly newspaper.

Government

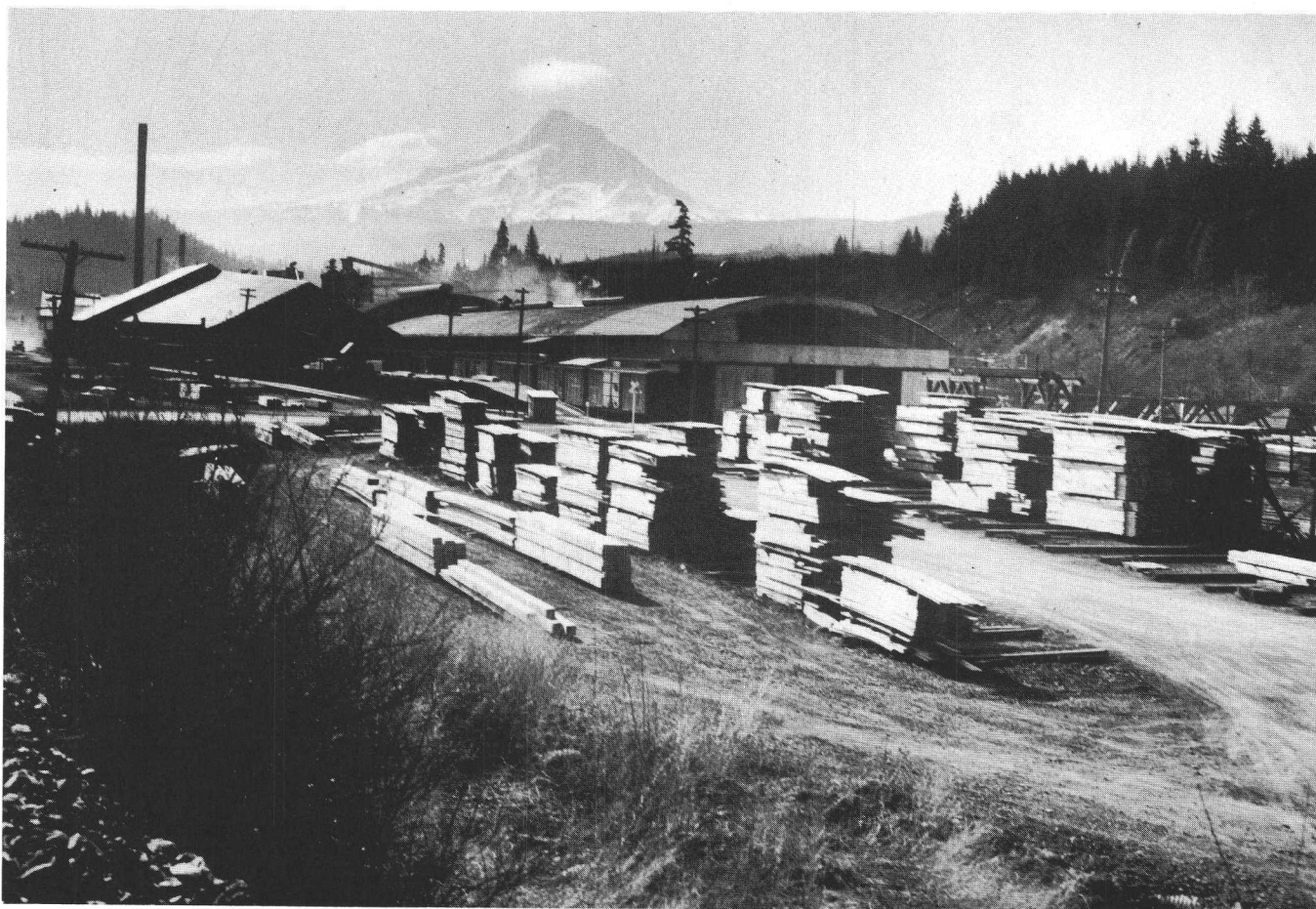
Hood River county is governed by a county court consisting of a county judge and two commissioners, all elected by residents of the county. It was established as a county in 1908. The city of Hood River is the county seat.

The city of Hood River is governed by a mayor and city council, elected by residents of the city.

Organizations of Hood River County

Aloha Club
American Association of University Women
Alpinees
Apple Knocker Archery Club
Art Club
Beta Sigma Phi, Sorority
Boy Scouts of America
Business and Professional Women
Campfire Girls
Camera Club
Chamber of Commerce of Hood River
Chamber of Commerce of Cascade Locks
Churches, 12 denominations
Crag Rats
Current Events Club
D. A. R.
4-H Clubs
4-H Leaders' Association
Garden Clubs — Hood River, Odell, Parkdale, Cascade Locks
Heights Booster Club
Hood River County Ministerial Association
Hood River Rifle and Pistol Club
Hood River Saddle Club
Isaac Walton League
Jaycee
Jaycee-ettes
Lions — Cascade Locks, Hood River
Men's Bowling Association
Mid Columbia Yacht Club
North Slope Ski Club
Newcomers Club
Odell Booster Club
P. E. O. Sisterhood
Parkdale Booster Club
Pioneer Society
Radio Amateurs of the Gorge
Rebekah Society
Rotary
Square Dance Clubs — 3

Soroptimist
Specialist
Toastmasters
Toastmistresses
United Nations Chapter
Wednesday Book Club
Women's Bowling Association
Women's Relief Corps
W. C. T. U.
Writers Club
Farm Bureau
Fire Departments — Cascade Locks, Parkdale, Westside, Hood River, Odell, Pine Grove
Granges — Odell, Parkdale, Pine Grove, Rockford
Historical Society
Home Extension Units — Barrett, Cascade Locks, Hood River I, Hood River II, Mt. Hood, Oak Grove, Odell, Parkdale, Pine Grove, and Dee
Hood River Apprenticeship Committee
Hood River City Teacher's Education Association
Hood River County O. E. A.
Hood River County Tuberculosis and Health Association
Hood River Memorial Hospital Auxiliary
Hood River Music Association
Hood River Traffic Association
Japanese American Citizen League
Neal Creek Club
Lodges — B. P. O. E. 1507, Bethel 32, Eagles Auxiliary, Eastern Star, I. O. O. F. (Cascade Locks, Idlewilde, Kemp), Job's Daughters, Knights of Pythias, Masonic, Pythian Sisters, Rainbow Girls, Rebekah Lodges (Hazel, Laurel, Cascadia, Oregon Grape), Royal Neighbors of America
Mid Columbia Dental Society
Military Organizations — American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, National Guard, Veterans of Foreign Wars, United Veterans County Council
Oregon State Nurses Association
Parent-Teacher Associations — 13



The Hines Lumber Company plant at Dee, manufactureres of lumber and hardboard. Lumbering is a major enterprise in Hood River County

LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

At the present time, agriculture and timber are the two basic sources of income to residents of the county. The opportunities for industrial development and for the expansion of the tourist trade are excellent. Future economic and social development of the county in the years ahead depends to a large extent upon how residents of the county cooperate together in planning community improvement, and upon the economic expansion

into these two fields — industrial development and tourist trade.

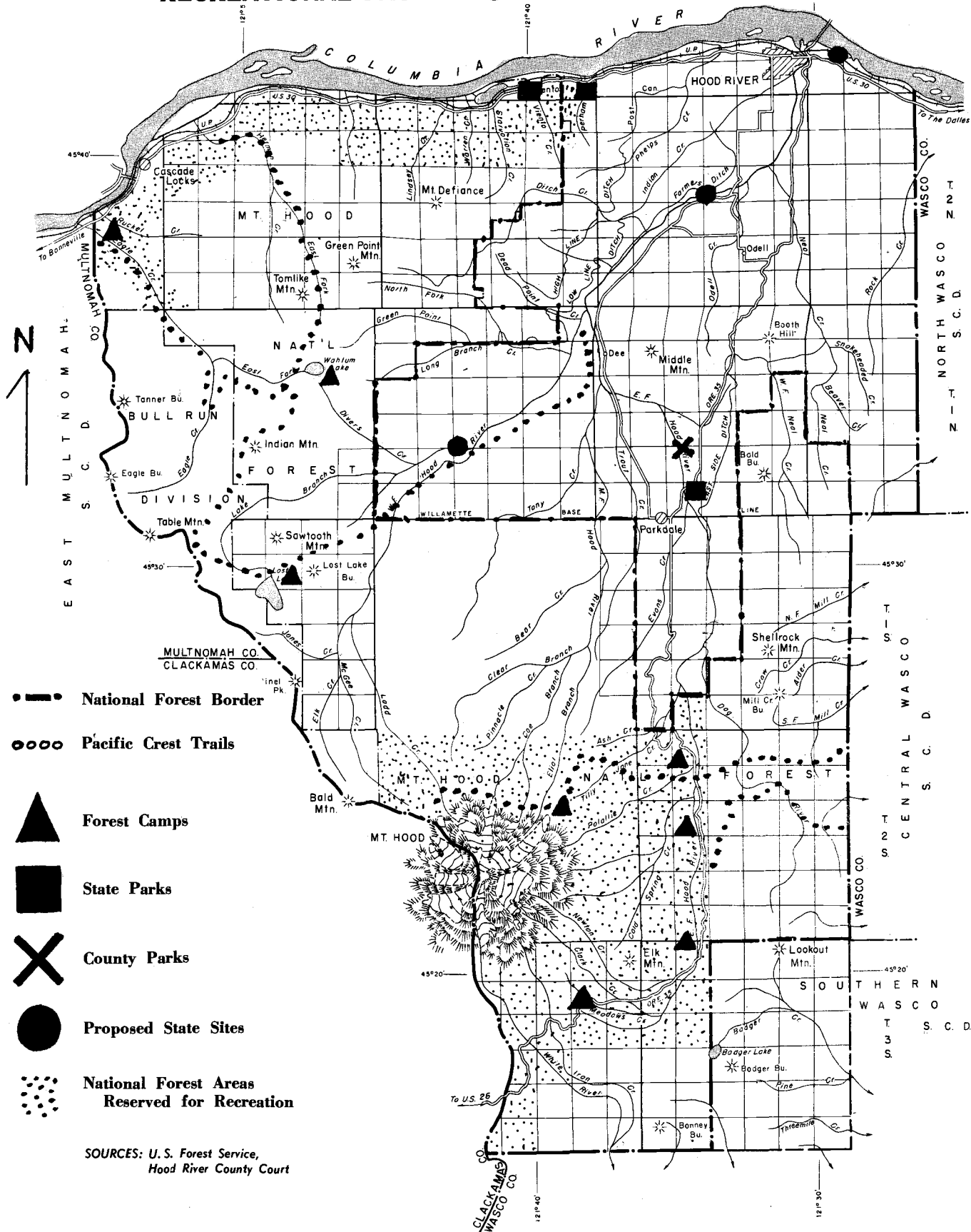
Homes and business enterprises are being built outside of the city of Hood River and the other towns of the county without consideration of plans for future development of the county. This will continue to create problems, if not corrected. After studying the many problems affecting the economic and social life of the county, the committee submits these recommendations:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

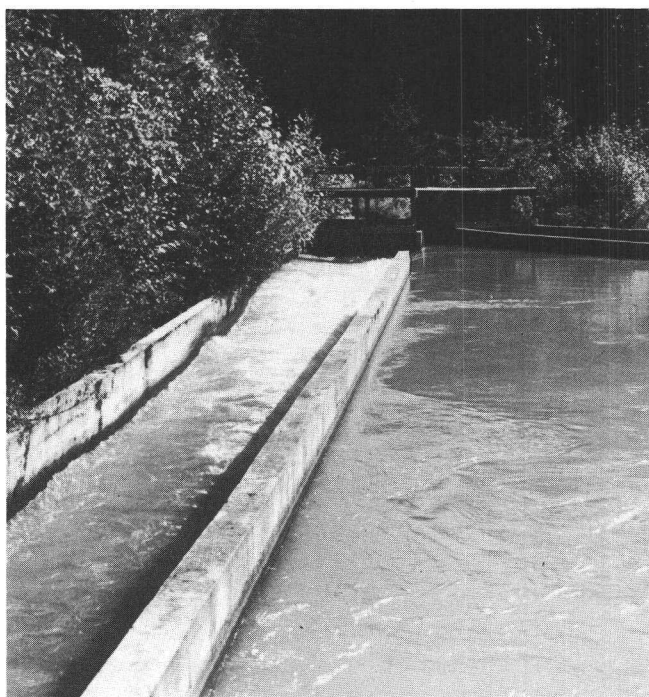
1. Continue emphasis on programs to improve rural —urban understanding and cooperation.
 - a. Continue to expand the membership of the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce with both rural and urban residents.
 - b. Expand off-street parking that is accessible to stores.
 - c. Increase cooperation between the two school

- districts whenever possible to improve the education program and create good will.
- d. Encourage local newspaper and radio stations to publicize areas of cooperation between rural and urban residents rather than areas of friction.
- e. Encourage coordination of facilities for city and county government for greater efficiency.

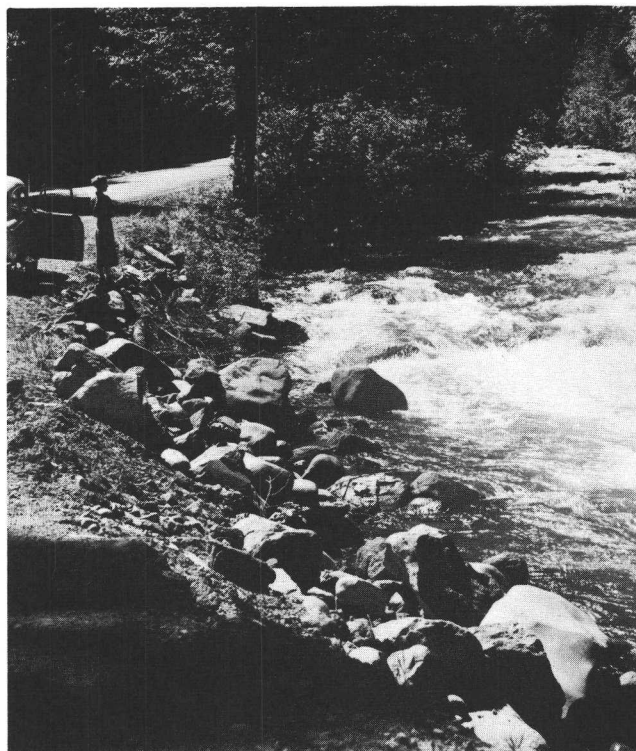
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OF HOOD RIVER COUNTY



2. A County Planning commission is studying the desirability of planning and zoning regulations for the county. With the possibility of industrial expansion and increased home building, planning and zoning regulations should be established. Residents should give careful consideration to these needs, and to the adoption of a planning and zoning program for the entire county.
 - a. Industrialists desire zoning regulations and the designation of areas for industrial development.
 - b. Home owners and farmers need the protection of zoning.
 - c. Legislative action is needed to require that tax rates on land be related to the use of the land rather than based on the zoning area. This is particularly important for agricultural land.
3. Industrial development should be encouraged as it will increase the valuation and improve the economy of Hood River county. The Hood River Port Commission is establishing industrial sites that should attract certain industries to this area. Hood River county has ample water, is near hydro-electric power plants and has good home-sites, all important for industrial development.
4. An efficient and effective school program for all children of the county is most desirable. This should be the criterion for improvements in our school program. The County school reorganization committee is giving thorough and careful study to the entire county and city school program. Every resident should study the report of this committee carefully when it is presented.



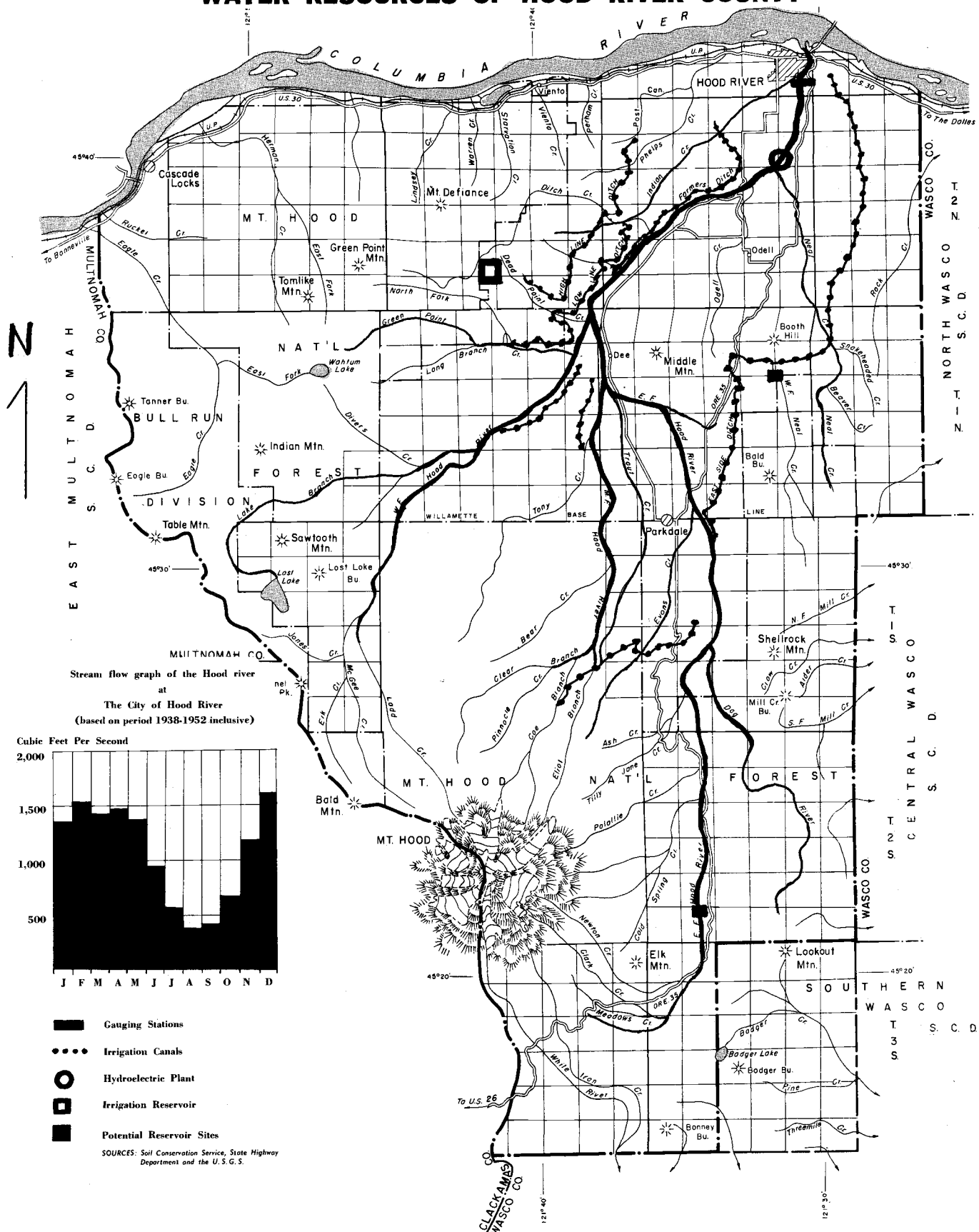
Life-giving water being diverted into an irrigation canal. All farmland in the Hood River valley is irrigated



Sparkling mountain streams and lakes attract both tourists and county residents

5. The Hood River swimming pool should be enclosed so that it could be used during the entire year by both rural and urban residents.
6. Recreational facilities and scenic viewpoints need to be improved and expanded, both for the enjoyment of local residents and to encourage tourists to visit the county.
 - a. Possibilities for park development include the following: all the area along the Hood river from Tucker's bridge to the Punch bowl; the area at the junction of the West fork of the Hood river and Lake branch; the Pathfinder club area near the old Mt. Hood covered bridge; and the Dog river area. An overnight campsite near the center of the county is needed to encourage tourists to visit Hood River county.
 - b. Establishment of Koberg beach as a state recreational area is urgently recommended. Lack of swimming safeguards and good access roads make this area hazardous at the present time. Nevertheless, many people are using it. It should be developed as soon as possible.
 - c. Viewpoints such as Panorama point, sites off highway 35 overlooking the pipeline bridge and Dukes valley should be improved and expanded to encourage tourist travel. Viewpoints should be developed at Parkdale junction, just south of Euwer's ranch; and near junction of Dee secondary and Alexander road.
 - d. Signs identifying points of interest should be placed at the viewpoints.

WATER RESOURCES OF HOOD RIVER COUNTY



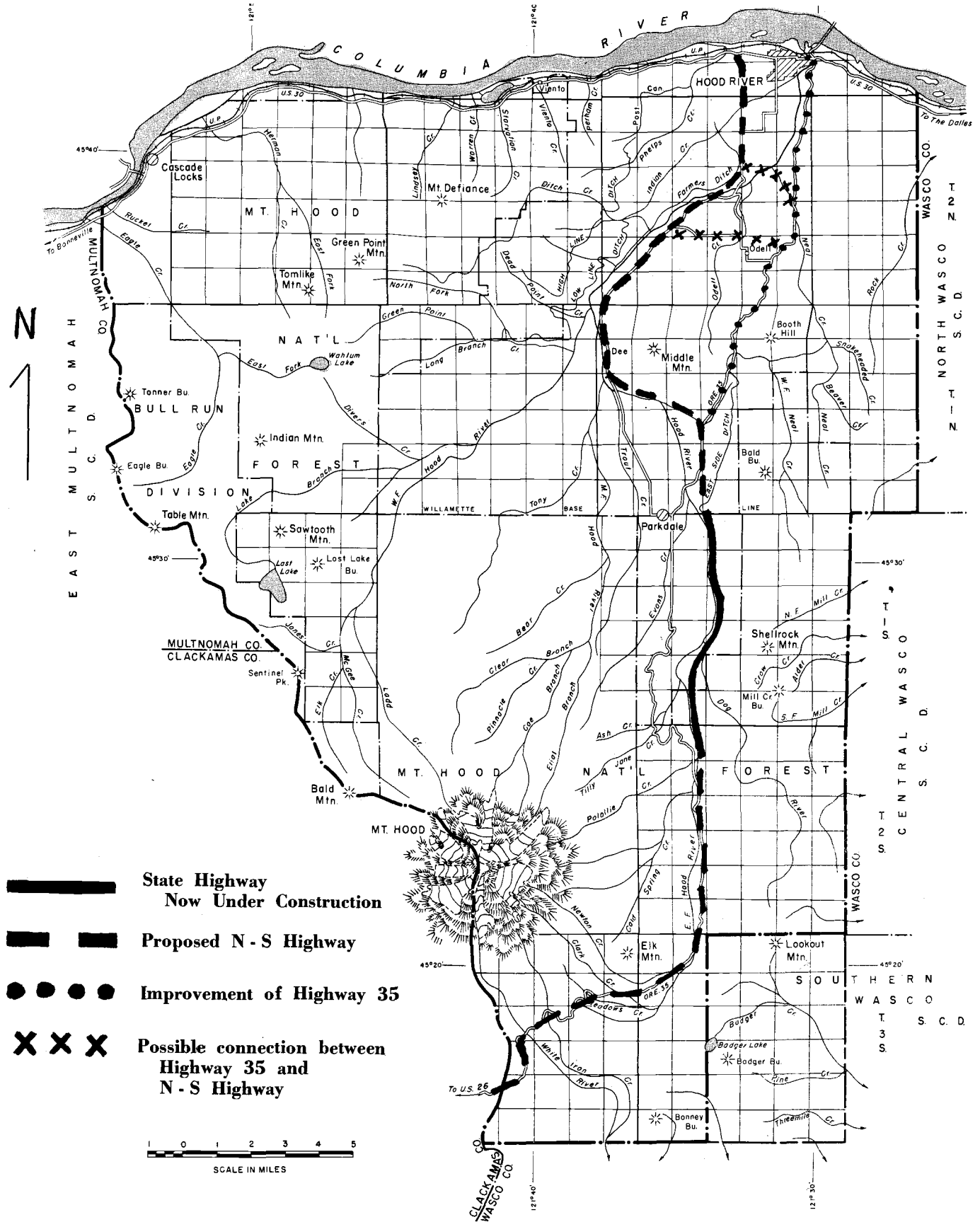
CONSERVATION

1. The county court should consider the appointment of a water resources committee to promote a coordinated and integrated program for maximum use of the water resources of the county. The committee membership should include representatives of agriculture, recreation, fish and wildlife, domestic, municipal, and industrial users. Chairman of the committee should be appointed by the county court in accordance with the state program.
2. Land owners, irrigation districts, and the County Soil Conservation district should continue further investigations and studies of water problems in cooperation with county, state, and federal agencies. Such studies should include: potential water storage areas, control of seepage loss in irrigation canals, soil moisture studies, and irrigation practices.
3. Water rights should be checked on land not now irrigated to determine if water is available before developing it. Unimproved land with water rights tentatively allocated to it should be put into cultivation as soon as possible in order to avoid losing the water right.
4. Marginal land of the county should be planted to forest trees to conserve the soil and increase the economic use of the land. The program initiated by Hood River county in cooperation with the United States Forest Service for supervision and reforestation of county forest lands is to be commended.
5. Continued improvement of opportunities for fishing will attract tourists. There are many good streams for fish in the county. The fish rearing program in the county conducted by the state fish and game commission should be expanded, as there are excellent possibilities for additional fish rearing ponds on Neal creek. Some of these areas might also include camping sites.
6. No log ponds should be established in streams in the county, as the flushing of these ponds impairs fishing.
7. The Game commission should continue the program of placing screens in irrigation canals to keep out the fish.
8. As water storage is becoming more and more important, consideration should be given to construction of water storage facilities near Robin Hood and Sherwood parks before any new road construction is started.
9. A special hunting season for deer in the county is recommended, as deer are causing considerable damage to orchards throughout the valley.
10. The Game commission is urged to re-evaluate their deer fencing program as costs have increased markedly.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

1. Improved roads are important not only to local residents, but also to business firms and tourists. There is definite need for a good north-south highway connecting highway 30 and highway 26. This should be located and designed to U. S. Bureau of Roads standards to meet the needs of 4,000 vehicles daily.
2. The general layout of all roads as to location, type, and right-of-way requirements and the construction should be determined by studies conducted relative to the following:
 - a. Present traffic—which includes farm-to-market, logs-to-mills, mills-to-market, tourist and through freight traffic.
 - b. Future traffic—which will be greatly dependent upon the land use program that may be set up by the Planning commission.
 - c. Estimated population growth of the community—which will establish the need and extent of road improvements. A traffic study should be made on a county-wide basis, together with a land use study, and a committee should be appointed to correlate all of the data obtained. A county-wide road layout should be constructed that will be adequate to sustain a normal growth period. Such a layout should include a program for city growth into the fringe area, which will show the ultimate extension of numbered streets, and avenues in such a manner that house numbers can be given to all homes north of Idlewilde cemetery and east of Frankton road.
 - d. Beautification—roadside facilities and campgrounds which includes brush and weed control, viewpoints, roadside fountains, litter disposal cans, and campground facilities. It is suggested that the Hood River county court cooperate to the fullest extent with all property owners in the maintenance and beautification of roadside right-of-ways and entrances.
3. All future highways should be constructed according to county and state specifications. Plans should be made to acquire land needed for future highway development. The use of good farmland for roads should be avoided as much as possible. It is proposed that minimum right-of-way widths recommended for all roads within Hood River valley should be 50 feet for connecting roads, 60 feet for all through roads that may connect with two or more interconnecting roads, and 80 feet for all state roads. The acquisition of the extra right-of-way needed to meet these minimum requirements can be expedited, as needed, by Hood River county until the County Planning commission has been voted into authority. Right-of-way monuments should be established on all roads now having the minimum right-of-way requirements, and should also be located on all roads when minimum right-of-ways have been acquired.

PROPOSED COUNTY HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS



TAXATION

Rate for the Taxing Bodies in the Communities of the County:

Location Co.	Sch.	Sch. Dist. 3	Gen. Co.	H.R.	C.L.	Port H.R.	Port C.L.	W.S. Fire	Odell Fire	P'dale Fire	P.G. Fire	Total Mills
Hood River		55.0	18.9	24.0		0.4						98.3
Hood River fringe		55.0	18.9			0.4						74.3
Odell	77.1		18.9			0.4			4.0			100.4
Parkdale	77.1		18.9			0.4				2.1		98.5
Westside	77.1		18.9			0.4		3.7				100.1
Pine Grove	77.1		18.9			0.4					6.8	103.2
Cascade Locks	77.1		18.9	20.0			5.7					121.7
E. of Cas. Locks ...	77.1		18.9				5.7					101.7

A brief comparison of property taxes within the state and of tax revenues of a few other states for 1956 is given in the following charts.

Appraisals and tax rates on a \$10,000 building in different areas of the State:

Hood River County	Ratio of Assessment	Assessed Value*	Mills Taxed	Total Tax Paid
City	25%	\$2,000.00	98.3	\$196.60
Rural Area.....	25%	2,000.00	100.0	200.00
Cascade Locks	25%	2,000.00	121.7	243.40

Other Oregon Cities

Pendleton	21%	1,680.00	82.8	139.10
Bend	26%	2,080.00	105.8	209.20
The Dalles	25%	2,000.00	95.5	191.00
Albany	26%	2,080.00	121.3	252.30
Portland	45%	3,600.00	88.0	316.80
Klamath Falls	25%	2,000.00	127.4	254.80
Eugene	25%	2,000.00	81.4	162.80

*Based on 80% of true valuation as prescribed by state.

The following compares Oregon's tax structure, other than property taxes, with the states of California and Washington. In the past fiscal year, Oregon raised 51.6 per cent of its revenue from corporate and individual income taxes: (corporate 10.1 per cent, individual income 42.5 per cent); 34.8 per cent of its revenue from gasoline and motor vehicle taxes and 7 per cent of its revenue from motor carrier fees. Thus 94.4 per cent of Oregon's revenue is from these three sources.

State Taxes	Wash.	Calif.	Ore.
Gasoline tax per gallon	6½c	6c	6c
Sales tax rate	3½c	3c	0
Cigarette tax rate	30%	0	0
Major source of revenue	Sales Tax	Sales Tax	Income Tax

Income Tax Rates

Individual	None	Low	High
Corporation	None	4%	6%
Per capita tax burden	\$131.42	\$111.91	\$97.07

These figures were compiled covering the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.

Oregon income tax rates on corporations are unchanged from recent years. The basic rate is 6 per cent of net income. However, this may be reduced because of personal property tax offset. This means that a corporation which is taxed on its personal property (such as inventories, supplies, etc.) may take a direct credit up to 30 per cent of its corporate income tax.

Since different communities finance their services to the people by different sources of revenue, it is ap-

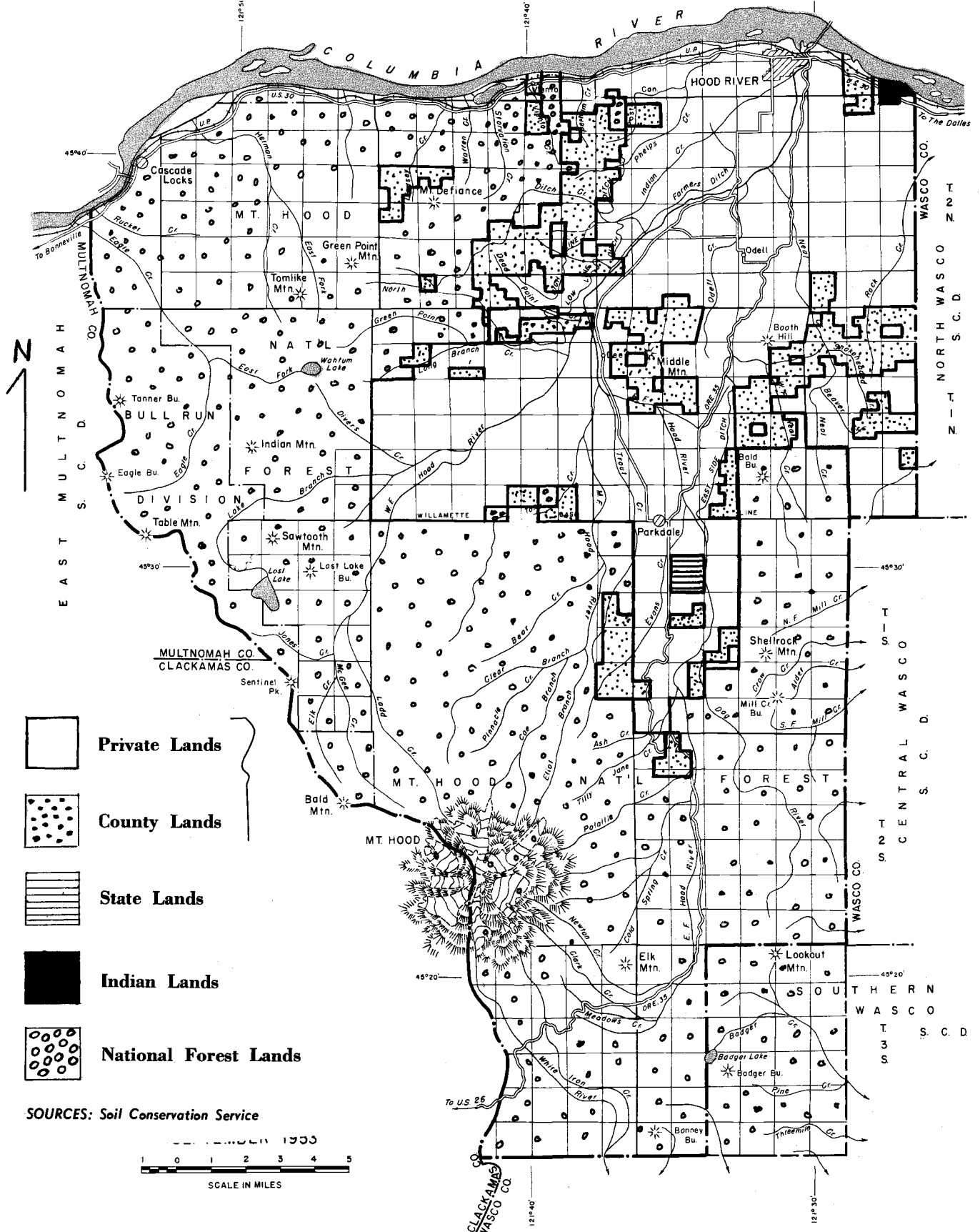
parent that the whole tax structure (real property, personal property, sales tax, income tax, and miscellaneous other taxes) must be correlated into a composite picture. For example, to cite Oregon's high personal income tax rate as compared to California, is to overlook California's high real property tax and the sales tax.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The committee urges every resident of the county to evaluate carefully the various tax programs and also the expenditure of tax funds. Everyone needs to recognize that nothing is free. Economy in government and efficient use of the tax dollar is very important and warrants the concern of all. Property taxes have increased over 50 per cent and income taxes 100 per cent since 1950. The inventory tax is often a punitive tax upon agriculture and industry and should be repealed or revised. It is possible that present forest yield taxes are discouraging good reforestation and tree farms. Taxes on forest lands should be designed to promote timber conservation and reforestation.
2. The tax base needs to be broadened. There are three possibilities for accomplishing this goal. They are:
 - a. A sales tax—exempting groceries, farm supplies, and goods used in the process of manufacture.
 - b. A universal income tax that lowers the present income rates, but allows no or very few exemptions.
 - c. A gross transaction tax. This is a combination of the two previous suggestions, and is paid in each transaction. The state of Indiana utilizes this tax.
3. The property tax should continue to be the basic support of local government institutions. No state revenues are derived from property taxes at the present time.

This report was submitted by the County Land Use committee consisting of Waldo Arens, chairman; Frank Dethman, Masami Asai, Roy Bisbee, Ray Sato, William Hazeltine, Luhr Jensen, Harry Routson, Paul Aubert, Claude C. Thomas, Earl Moore, James Crane, Theodore Perry, Cranson Fosburg, Mart Perkins, Arthur Fletcher, Leland Brunquist, Bill Beachman, Harris Higgins, Gerhardt Wertgen, W. H. Furrow, Harold Wells, Frank Hood and Jack London.

LAND OWNERSHIP IN HOOD RIVER COUNTY





A group of mountain climbers on Mount Hood. Skiing and mountain climbing are popular sports

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE

The family is the basis of our society and our community life. Social and economic pressures can affect family life for good or evil. The family can and should play an important role in all community life. The development of ideals, the acceptance of responsibility, and the training in citizenship of our young people should be basically the responsibility of parents.

SITUATION

Time did not permit a complete study of all problems relating to family and community life in Hood River county but the study did reveal the following facts:

1. The population of the county as a whole has decreased slightly since 1955 and is now 11,980; however, the population of the city of Hood River has increased to 4,100.

2. The 1958 school census lists 4,218 young people.

3. An excellent school program is available to all young people of the county, but adults are often inclined to place more emphasis on the athletic program of the schools than on the educational program. Another problem is created by present school district boundaries which result in inefficient transportation of school children.

4. The county youth recreation program, the schools, the youth organizations and the churches, provide adequate opportunities for recreation and project activities for all young people of the county. However, such pro-

grams are often handicapped by the lack of parental cooperation or the lack of adult leadership.

5. Although the percentage of juvenile delinquents in the county is below the national average, 54 young people were brought before the court for violations of the law during the past year.

6. Often young people are anxious to work, but employment is hard to find.

7. Over 125 organizations compete for the time of county residents.

8. Less than 25 per cent of the residents of the county attend church.

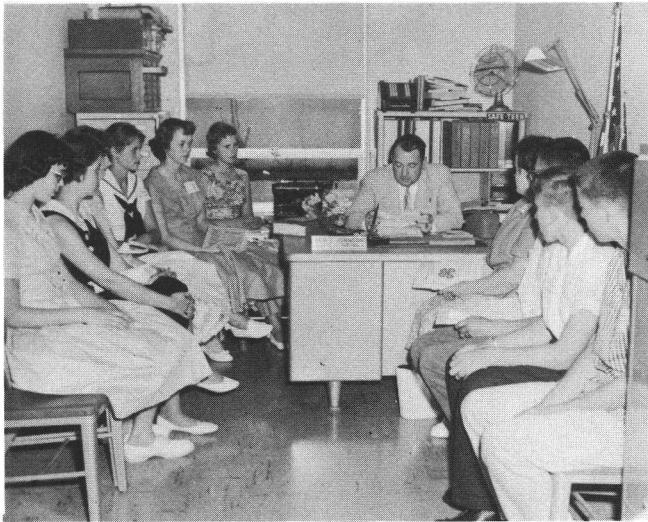
9. During 1957 there were 82 marriages in the county and 35 divorces.

10. Penalties for driving while intoxicated and endangering human life are less than for hunting deer out of season.

11. Excellent progress has been made in the fields of health and safety in the county. A modern hospital, a nursing home, a county health program, and the availability of first aid equipment at each of the six fire departments all contribute to the welfare of the people. More emphasis, however, should be given to preventive medicine and safety. Sewage disposal systems throughout the county also need to be improved.

12. The influx of 4,000 to 5,000 migrant workers each fall to work in the fruit harvest presents health, education, and law enforcement problems.

13. The county welfare program spends \$200,000 annually for the assistance of people in the county.



Members of the Hood River County 4-H Empire Builders club learning about county government during a "4-H Know Your County Government" conference

RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of these facts the committee recommends:

1. That residents of the county study carefully the report of the County School Reorganization committee when it is completed, and support a program that will provide an efficient and effective educational program for all people interested. More emphasis should be placed on basic education, and it should be presented so that it is a challenge to all students.

2. That parents accept their responsibility as parents to give their children the basic training in acceptance of responsibility and a code of life.

3. That the present youth programs and activities be continued. To provide the most effective recreational program, it is recommended that a county recreation

council be established to develop and coordinate such activities.

4. That a county leadership training program be initiated to encourage adults to accept leadership responsibility.

5. That the program initiated in 1957 in cooperation with the schools and the Hood River News, assisting young people to find employment during the summer months, be continued.

6. That a program for family counseling be initiated. The divorce rate in the community is alarming. Good counseling should save many of these marriages.

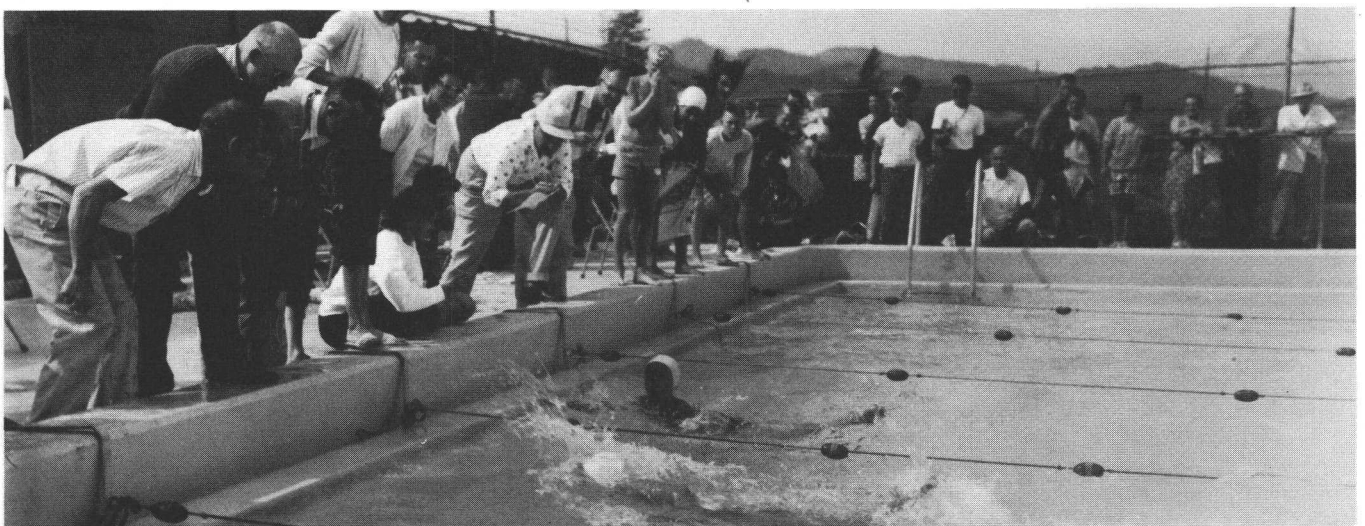
7. That as juvenile delinquency is often called parental delinquency, adults be encouraged to strive to reduce the problem by placing more emphasis on the development of a desirable family and community life, and by setting better examples of citizenship.

8. That penalties be increased for hazardous driving. It is also recommended that the alcohol educational program now being conducted in the schools be expanded to include adult groups.

9. That the excellent health and safety programs which have been carried on in the county be continued. More emphasis on preventive medicine and safety programs is recommended.

10. That thought be given to the development of a work program for people in need who are able to work, rather than giving them direct relief. It is as important that the dignity of an individual be maintained as it is that he be fed.

This report was submitted by the Family and Community Life committee consisting of Mrs. Joseph Meyer, chairman; Mrs. Ray Yasui, Ralph Kirby, Dr. Allen Henderson, Reverend Leo Horner, Joann Aldahl, Mrs. John Moore, Mrs. Lester Ziegenbein, Mrs. Masami Asai, Mrs. Ethel Holdridge, Mrs. Howard Getchell, Mrs. George Sohler, Mrs. Lee Foster, Mrs. E. C. Aylsworth, Mrs. Bill Hukari, Mrs. Samuel Brown, Mrs. Harold Dorzab, Mrs. Leo Horner and Mrs. H. Brower.



Swimming is enjoyed at the Hood River Memorial pool by both young and adults

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE REPORT

The importance of horticulture crops to Hood River county is reflected in the fact that 94 per cent of the agricultural income of the county is derived from fruit. During the past 40 years, many changes have taken place in production of fruit in the valley. In 1920 over 10,000 acres were planted to apple trees, but today the apple acreage has declined to approximately 4,400 acres. Meanwhile, the pear acreage has expanded from less than 1,100 acres in 1920 to over 8,000 acres. The acreage of cherries reached a peak of 1,100 acres in 1948, but removal of cherry trees has reduced this to less than 500 acres. At the turn of the century, strawberries were a major horticultural crop, but by 1945 few commercial berries were being grown. However, now approximately 175 acres, primarily in the upper valley, are producing berries for processing. Many varieties of fruit grown in the past have been replaced for commercial production by new varieties.

Variety Trends of Fresh Fruit Marketed Per Cent of Total Boxes Packed

APPLES	1938	1957
Newtown	60.0	52.5
Delicious	13.5	45.4
Spitzenberg	11.6	
Ortley	4.6	.9
Miscellaneous	10.3	1.2
PEARS	1938	1957
Anjou	73.3	88.7
Bosc	17.3	6.5
Bartlett	2.3	2.6
Miscellaneous	7.1	2.2

Changes in production methods, handling, and storage have made it possible for Hood River valley fruit to continue to be competitive in the market place. Such changes should continue. In view of this fact, the County Horticultural committee asks that consideration be given to the following recommendations.

FRUIT PRODUCTION

It is recognized that fruit growers of the county must be able to maintain efficient production of quality fruit of commercial varieties in order to compete in the markets with fruit from other areas. To do this, a grower must have sufficient orchard land for an economical unit. Thirty to forty acres is necessary for economical use of equipment and labor. At least three varieties of fruit should be grown to make best use of labor and equipment, and to reduce hazards of crop failure. A tree replacement program should be adopted that will maintain maximum production. The use of disease-free nursery stock of selected varieties is recommended. Fruit growers should adopt improved methods for insect and disease control, cultural practices and fruit handling techniques which have proved practical.

A number of commercial plantings of apple trees budded on Malling rootstock have been made. Such plantings should be continued on a limited basis until further evaluation is made.

The following points should be considered in selection of varieties for replanting:

LOWER VALLEY

Apples — Newtown and Delicious apples are the two varieties recommended. The present acreage of Newtons should be maintained. Growers planting Delicious should plant only the new red sports. The increase in acreage of Golden Delicious should be limited.

Pears — A slight increase in acreage and production of both Anjou and Bartletts is recommended. Limited plantings of Packhams Triumph should be made by a few growers to determine the possibilities of this variety for this area.

Cherries — All varieties are damaged by rains during harvest and tend to be a marginal crop.

Peaches are not competitive with other areas, but may be used as interplants with new plantings of apples and pears. Plant new early maturing varieties for local fresh market or processing.

UPPER VALLEY

Apples — Harvesting of Newtons is often a problem due to late maturity of the variety; the Red Delicious appears to be the only satisfactory commercial apple variety for the upper valley at the present time. Growers should plant only the new red sports. Golden Delicious should be used only as pollinators or interplants. New apple varieties may prove adaptable and of commercial value; however, only selected red sports or red varieties should be tested.

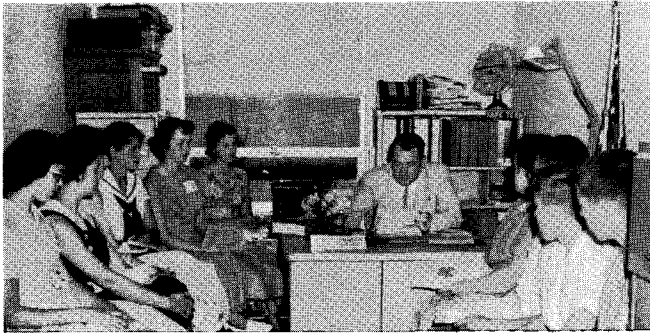
Pears — It is recommended that 70 per cent of the fruit acreage in the upper valley be planted to pears. Major plantings should be of the Anjou variety. However, the Bartlett acreage can also be increased to some extent. Packhams Triumph should not be planted commercially until proved adaptable.

Cherries — Plantings may be given consideration if shippers and processors are willing to handle the fruit.

Local fruit shippers must determine ways and means of marketing limited production of new varieties of ap-



Preparing fruit for processing at the A.G.A. cannery in Hood River



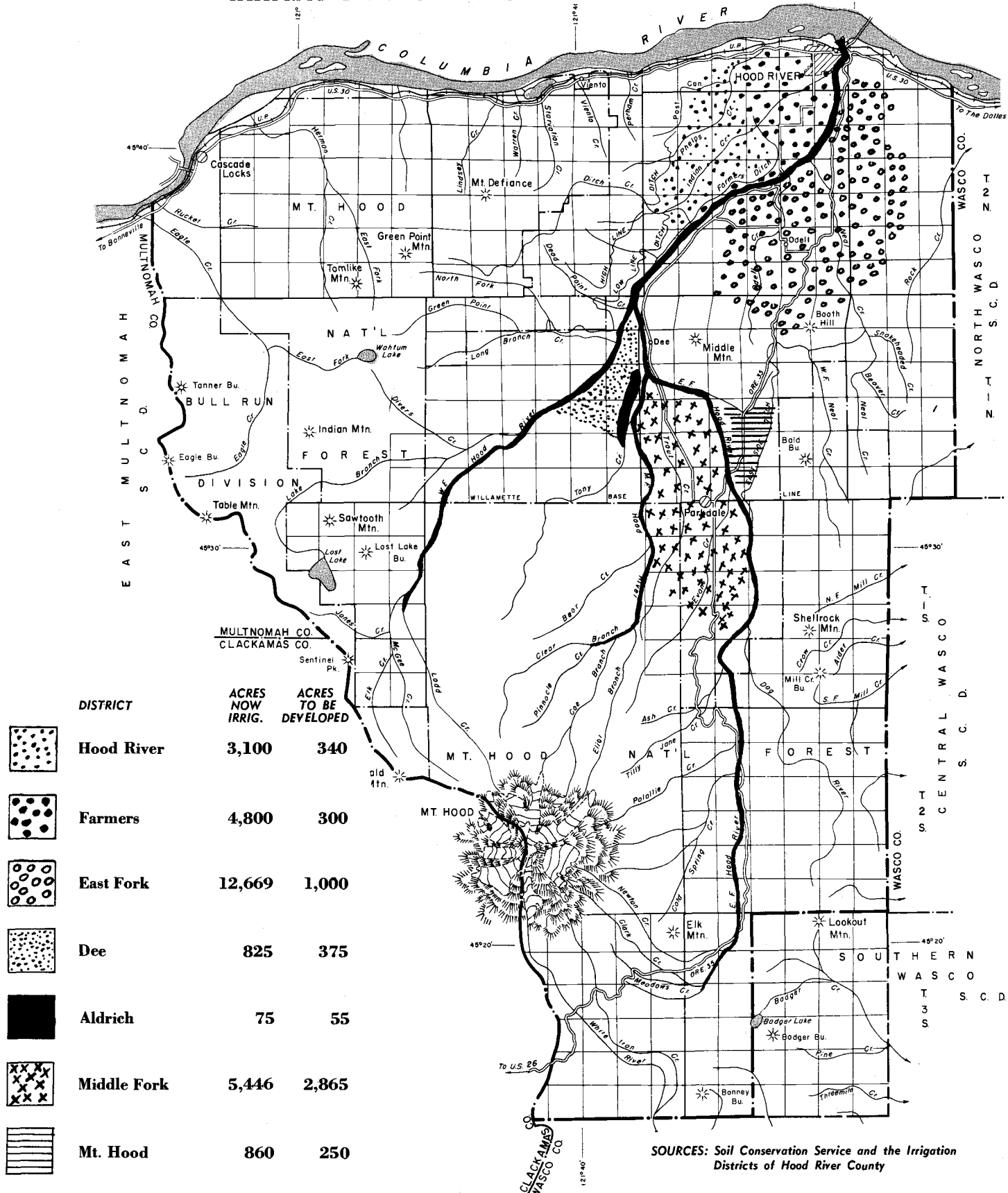
council be established to develop and coordinate such activities.

4. That a county leadership training program be initiated to encourage adults to accept leadership responsibility.

5. That the program initiated in 1957 in cooperation with the schools and the Hood River News, assisting young people to find employment during the summer months, be continued.

6. That a program for family counseling be initiated. The divorce rate in the community is alarming. Good counseling should save many of these marriages.

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS OF HOOD RIVER COUNTY





Luscious strawberries produced on the William Vollmer ranch near Parkdale. Many of the strawberry fields in this area produced 5 tons or more of berries per acre

ples and pears to determine consumer acceptance before such new varieties can be recommended for commercial plantings. This is very important to the development and utilization of new varieties of fruit.

Strawberries can be grown successfully in the valley; however, good soil preparation is very important. An economical unit requires 12 to 15 acres in berries. Growers should secure a market outlet before planting.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Research has contributed much to the horticultural industry of the county and such research should be continued. (1) It is recommended that the present research program with Malling, Malling Merton, and other apple rootstock to determine winter hardiness, value of interstocks, and variety — rootstocks compatibility be continued as planned and accelerated if possible. (2) Research regarding selection of improved rootstock for pears should be continued and expanded. (3) A definite program should be developed to provide disease-free scion wood and rootstock for commercial varieties of pears. (4) Research should be continued regarding insect and disease problems. (5) Tree nutrition studies should be continued; Oregon State college should endeavor to complete the foliar analysis studies for fruit trees. The results of these studies may then be used to determine fertilizer recommendations. (6) Fruit handling and storage studies should be continued. (7) Growers should be kept informed regarding the best methods for producing and handling of fruit. (8) 4-H and FFA fruit projects should be expanded to include more young people.

HANDLING AND STORAGE OF FRUIT

Bulk handling of fruit has many advantages as it utilizes less labor per unit, provides faster movement of fruit to the warehouse, makes better use of competent

labor and equipment, and causes less injury to the fruit. However, it is not practical for small operators, unless neighbors cooperate to use the equipment.

Present storage facilities are not designed for bulk handling of fruit. Such alterations should be made as soon as possible. All new storage facilities should be constructed to take full advantage of mechanized equipment. Factors that should be considered in the construction of new packing houses and storage facilities include: (1) location of the plant to handle the largest possible volume of fruit without a backhaul; (2) inspection of the most modern plants in operation; (3) securing advice of marketing specialists regarding marketing trends and future market demands; (4) securing advice from a competent engineering service regarding newest building methods, best refrigeration system, best methods for handling of the fruit; (5) plans for future expansion; (6) possibilities of atmosphere-controlled storage and; (7) the value of increase in capital investment to the grower.

Presorting of fruit before storing is recommended as it will (1) eliminate storage of off-grade fruit; (2) make it possible to ship sizes requested by buyers; (3) make it possible for growers to have an inventory of fruit soon after it is delivered; (4) provide better utilization of labor and equipment by lengthening the packing season; (5) provide better utilization of off-grade fruit. Proper handling of fruit both on the farm and in the warehouse and the cold storage plants is very important if quality fruit is to be marketed. Better supervision of fruit handling to avoid injury to the fruit from the time it is picked until marketed is recommended.

Growers can facilitate better fruit handling and the use of new equipment on the farm by careful planning of new orchard plantings.

This report was submitted by the Horticultural committee consisting of: Richard Radliff, chairman; Gene Euwer, Art Irish, Bob Moller, Dan B. Pierson, George Perkins, Robert Paasch, R. M. Hill, James Struck, Robert Tallman, Robert Nunamaker, Elmer Creson, Ross Hukari, George Tamura, Jan Kurahara, Ben Bisbee, Leroy Childs, Joe Smullin, Jr., Sheldon Lawrence, Gowlan Wells, J. R. Kienholz, F. E. Ellertson and Walt Mellenthin.



Harvesting fruit in bulk bins. Much of the fruit will be handled in this manner in the future



Loading Hood River Valley fruit for California markets

FARM LABOR COMMITTEE REPORT

The peak demand for farm workers is in the fall during the fruit harvest. At this time 4,000 to 5,000 workers are employed in the county harvesting, transporting, and packing the fruit. During the summer farm workers are needed for fruit thinning, cherry picking, and strawberry picking. These demands for labor can be met only by employing migrant farm workers or Mexican nationals. Employment of Mexican nationals can be done only if the supply of other workers is not sufficient to meet the demands. Practically all farm workers in Hood River county are housed in cabins located on the farm where they are employed. Lights, water, cooking equipment, and bedding are usually furnished by the farmers.

Hood River county farm wage rates have been among the highest farm wages paid in the nation for many years.

PROBLEMS

Factors that may create problems regarding farm labor include:

1. An inadequate supply of qualified workers.
2. Liquor— Often the labor turnover on farms becomes a serious problem because a number of the workers, often referred to as "winos", work only long enough to earn sufficient money to buy liquor. This creates an economic problem for the farmer and a social problem for the community.
3. Workers unwilling to do a day's work for a day's pay.
4. Rainy weather during harvest.
5. A light fruit crop.
6. Inadequate housing on the farm.
7. The low standards of some workers create housing and sanitation problems.

Migrant workers are necessary for much of the farm work in the county. They are, however, often plagued by both social and economic problems. Both governmental and private agencies are studying these problems to determine possible solutions.

In many instances the farmer or the community may be able to help solve some of the problems of the mi-

grant workers, but it is well to remember that the migrant worker also has a responsibility in this regard.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Farm Labor committee has not attempted to draft recommendations regarding the social problems of the migrant worker. The following recommendations pertain primarily to employment. It is recommended that:

1. Fruit growers endeavor to maintain suitable workers' cabins. Good cabins will attract the better class of farm workers.

2. Growers building new cabins or remodeling cabins should give careful consideration to location and cabin construction. Cabins should be designed to be adequate and comfortable for the workers, easily cleaned, and easily maintained.

3. Orchardists releasing workers after completing their fruit harvest should refer the good workers to

other growers, or to the farm labor office with recommendations. This would help both the worker and other fruit growers of the valley.

4. The Farm Labor committee should continue to establish each year a base rate for farm work that is fair both to the grower and to the worker. These rates are to be used as a guide for average working situations.

5. The Mexican national farm labor program should be maintained so that workers can be secured if the labor supply is not adequate.

6. The committee should appoint a sub-committee to study labor legislation relating to agriculture, and keep all members of the Farm Labor committee informed regarding such legislation.

This report was submitted by the County Farm Labor committee, consisting of James Carr, chairman; Ross Collie, John P. Hounsell, Arne Udelius, W. T. Hukari, John Cooper, Ray Anthon, Dorothy Bibb, Armas Jakku, Arvo Hukari, William Vollmer, Riddell Lage, Forrest Moe, Bob McIsaac, John Dentler and Boyd Jackson.

LIVESTOCK AND FIELD CROPS

There are several successful commercial livestock and poultry ranches in Hood River county, but the opportunities for such enterprises as good economical units are limited. Only 5 per cent of the total agricultural income of the county is derived from the sale of livestock, poultry, and field crops. Many part-time farmers maintain a few head of livestock or a small flock of chickens. During the past 10 years the number of livestock and poultry, with the exception of swine, has increased slightly. At the present time there are approximately

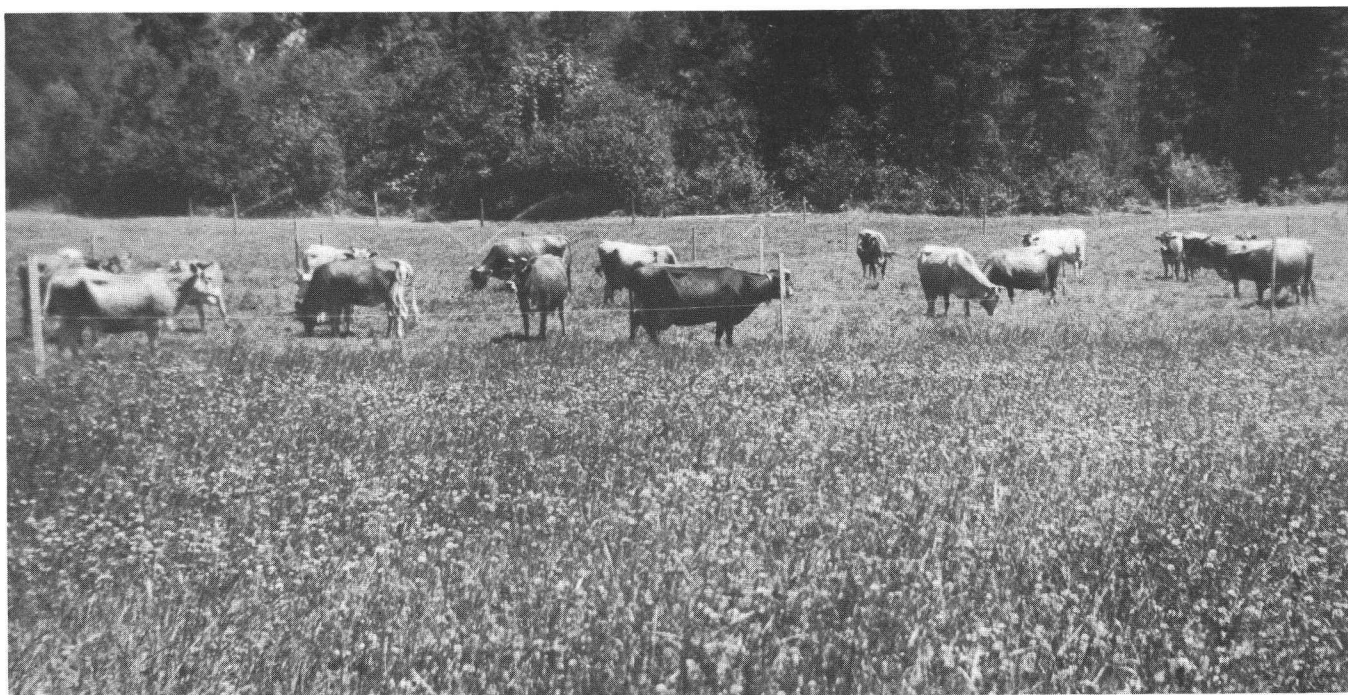
4,550 cows and calves, 400 ewes, 40 sows and gilts, 32,000 chickens, and 6,000 turkeys.

The interest of young people of the county in 4-H and F.F.A. livestock projects has stimulated an increase in livestock and also the production of a better quality of livestock. These youth programs should be continued and expanded.

Anyone planning to start a livestock or poultry enterprise, whether it be commercial or part-time, should give careful consideration to availability of markets,



John Sheppard of Hood River and his flock of Hampshire sheep



Excellent cows and pasture on the Russell Rayot ranch near Oak Grove. Dairying is the major livestock enterprise in county

availability of feed, disease problems, and management problems. The winter feeding period is usually 5 to 6 months. The committee initiated a program for brucellosis testing and vaccination of all cattle in the county. This year the county qualified as a brucellosis-accredited county. A program for artificial insemination of dairy cattle was also promoted. The committee recommended that these programs be continued. Other suggestions and recommendations include the following:

POULTRY

1. A minimum of 5,000 hens is required for an economical laying flock. The capital investment for a bird is about \$2.50. On a well-managed poultry farm the net annual income should average about \$2.00 per bird.

2. An economic commercial broiler enterprise requires the production of 50,000 or more broilers per year. The profit per bird is very small.

3. Poultry producers may increase the profit from a poultry enterprise by assuming some of the processing or marketing functions. However, it may be more advantageous to utilize this time and money to increase production.

4. Close supervision and efficient management is essential for the success of a poultry enterprise. Unprofitable poultry enterprises have often been due to failure to recognize this fact.

5. Marketing of poultry products may also be a problem. Chain stores no longer buy poultry products locally. Also, the demand and prices often fluctuate markedly. The greatest demand for eggs is during the fruit season in the fall. Anyone starting a poultry en-

terprise should carefully investigate market outlets.

6. A poultry enterprise can be coordinated with growing of fruit very well, if production and marketing problems are recognized and overcome.

DAIRY

1. A minimum of 25 producing dairy cows is necessary to provide an economical unit.

2. Dairymen should endeavor to keep only cows that produce 8,000 pounds or more of milk per year. Efficient production of milk is essential. The keeping of good production and cost records such as Dairy Herd Improvement association or weigh-a-day is a valuable aid in accomplishing this goal.

3. Intensification of a dairy enterprise seems to be more important than diversification. The raising of dairy heifers for sale to other dairymen and the marketing of surplus calves for veal has possibilities.

4. Production of grade A milk is recommended. To do this, a dairyman must secure a grade A quota. This is often hard for a new producer to do, as the supply of grade A milk is often greater than the demand. As all milk processing plants are located outside the county, shipping costs are too great to warrant the production of market grade milk.

5. A producer supplying the local market with fresh milk should assume one or more of the processing and distributing phases of marketing.

6. Dairymen should consider the use of artificial insemination, as good sires are expensive. Carefully selected bulls are used in all certified insemination programs.

7. Efficient utilization of good pastures is import-

ant for a successful dairy enterprise. Silage can be used to an advantage. Purchase of grain and hay from sources outside of the county is often more economical than raising it.

BEEF

1. Beef production in the county is usually a part-time enterprise due to the limited land.

2. As excellent pastures can be developed in the county, the opportunities for the purchase and feeding of feeder cattle appear to be the best possible beef enterprise. The 6 months winter feeding period and wet winter weather are deterrents to maintaining breeding herds.

3. Beef producers should recognize the market demands for beef. Local markets prefer meat grading "good", whereas animals sold on the Portland market should grade "good", "hi good", or "choice".

4. If a breeding herd is to be maintained, careful selection and production testing is important.

5. Efficient management practices are necessary for economical beef production. A few practices often overlooked include: Internal parasite control by rotation grazing and drenching; external parasite control by spraying or dusting; foot rot control; efficient pasture utilization; use of silage and other home-grown feeds; and adequate corrals and housing.

SHEEP

1. Small flocks of sheep are practical for some Hood River county farms. However, several factors must be considered.

2. Sheep fencing of pastures is necessary.

3. Rotation grazing will give better pasture utilization. It is possible to maintain 15 to 20 head of sheep per acre on good pastures.

4. Grazing sheep in orchards is not usually practical due to the possible damage to trees, and the hazards of toxic sprays, used in orchards, to the sheep.

5. Internal parasites are a hazard and must be controlled by rotation grazing and drenching with phenothiazine.

6. External parasites can also be a problem, but can be controlled by spraying or dipping.

7. Lambs and wool must be marketed outside of the county. Pooling of shipments would help to reduce costs.

8. Adequate housing during the winter months is necessary. Pole frame construction can reduce building costs.

SWINE

1. The committee does not recommend a full-time swine enterprise, but believes there are opportunities for swine production on a part-time basis. Such a producer should keep 6 to 8 brood sows and plan to market at least 100 fat hogs per year. The sale of weaner pigs also has possibilities, as the demand has been good for several years.

2. Good, dry housing for swine is important, par-

ticularly during the winter months, to prevent losses from swine flu and pneumonia.

3. The use of farrowing crates and heat lamps will prevent losses of young pigs.

4. As grain must be purchased from sources outside of the county, the use of bulk bins for storage would help to reduce feed costs.

5. Alfalfa pastures can be used effectively to reduce feed costs.

6. Control of internal and external parasites is very important. Peperazine citrate has proved very effective in the control of swine worms.

7. No one should attempt a swine enterprise unless he is able to give special attention to the sows at farrowing time.

FORAGE CROPS

1. Excellent pastures are possible in Hood River county. Orchard grass and ladino clover are the most popular permanent pasture. Meadow foxtail and ladino clover are recommended for wet ground.

2. The addition of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers is necessary for maximum pasture production.

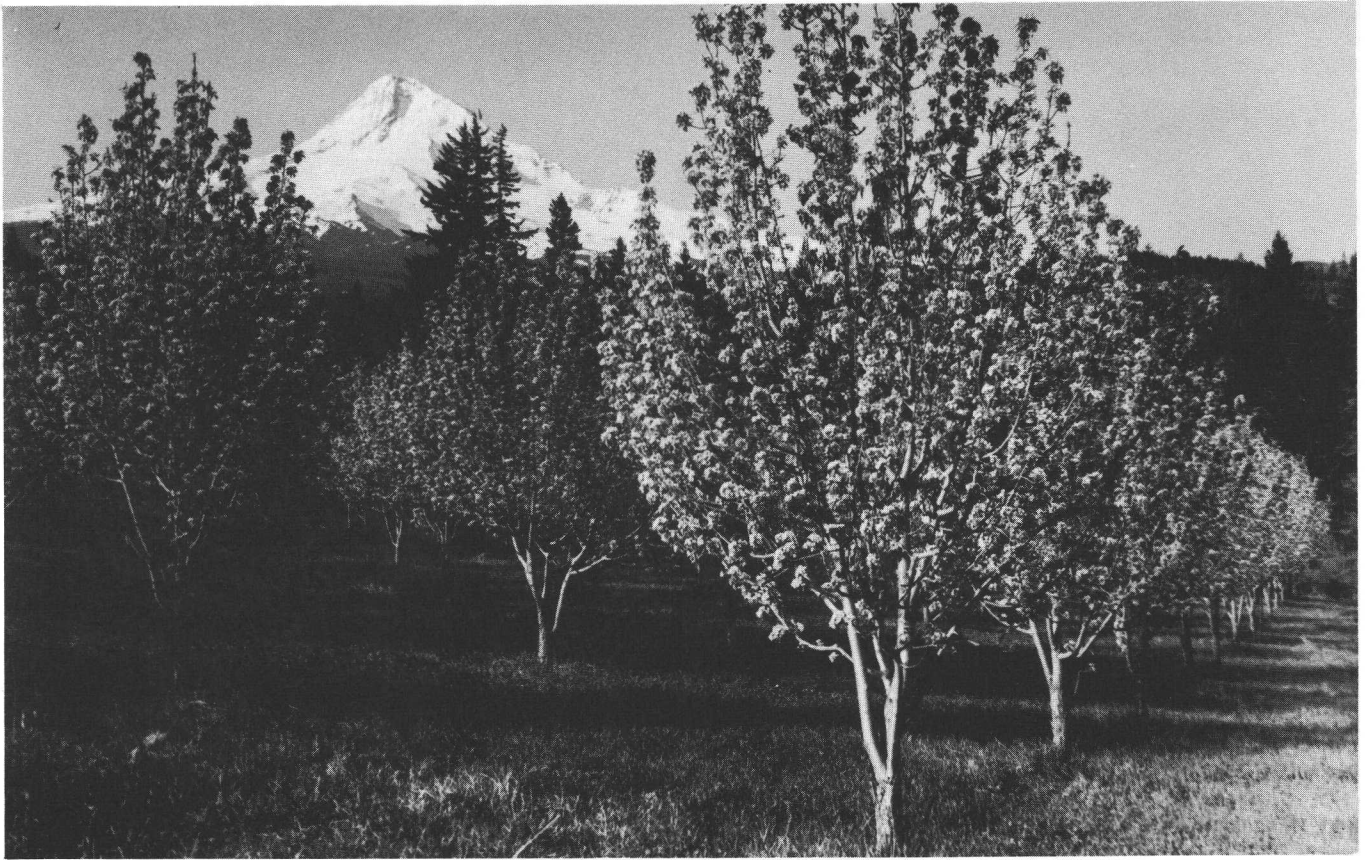
3. Rotation or strip grazing is essential for best pasture utilization.

4. Alfalfa is the best hay crop, but it will not grow satisfactorily on all soils. Application of lime, borax, and phosphorus have improved alfalfa yields. Ranger is the predominate variety grown, however, some of the new varieties are worthy of consideration.

5. Corn silage and grass silage can be utilized on some farms to reduce feed costs.

6. If acreage is limited, then it is often more economical to maintain a maximum amount of pasture and purchase hay from other sources. This eliminates the necessity of owning expensive haying equipment.

This report was submitted by the Livestock and Field Crops committee consisting of: Dan Davies, chairman; Everett King, Lynn Rasmussen, Jr., Mike Martin, William Schlieff, Art Schlieff, Rex Poole, Ivan Woods, Russell Rayot, George Alexander, Earl Peugh, Everett Gangwer, Albert Jensen and Lawrence Butterfield.



Hood River Valley pear trees in bloom. Hood River county is the largest Anjou pear producing area in the world

CONCLUSION

Continued planning is necessary if the county is to progress in the fields of economic and social development. This planning conference report and the recommendations adopted are based on knowledge and information now available regarding problems affecting Hood River county. It must be recognized that as the situations change, it may be necessary to revise recommendations and goals.

Planning, however, is of little value without action to achieve that goal. If the recommendations submitted in this report are to be carried out, residents of the county must take such action as is necessary.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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U. S. Forest Service, Hood River County Chamber of Commerce, Soil Conservation Service, Oregon State College, U. S. Department of Commerce, Hood River Traffic Association, Hood River City and County School Districts, State Department of Highways, City of Hood River and County Engineer.

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Contents

3	FOREWORD	13	LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT
4	HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE COUNTY	13	Community Development
4	COUNTY SITUATION	17	Conservation
4	Physical	17	Highway Improvement
4	Geography	19	Taxation
5	Climatic statistics	21	FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE COMMITTEE REPORT
6	Economic	21	Situation
6	Agriculture	21	Recommendations
6	Agriculture statistics	23	HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE REPORT
7	Forest Products	23	Production
7	Forest statistics	23	Lower Valley
9	Commerce	23	Upper Valley
9	Business Trends	25	Research and Education
9	Manufacturing	25	Handling and Storage of Fruit
10	Opportunities for Employment	26	FARM LABOR
10	Transportation	26	Problems
10	Electric Power	27	Recommendations
10	Water Supply	27	LIVESTOCK AND FIELD CROPS COMMITTEE REPORT.
11	Social	28	Poultry
11	Population Trends	28	Dairy
11	Churches	29	Beef
11	Schools	29	Sheep
11	Public Libraries	29	Swine
11	Health	29	Forage Crops
11	Safety	30	CONCLUSIONS
11	Recreation	30	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
11	National Youth Organizations		
12	Music, Literature and Art		
12	Publicity		
12	Government		
12	Organizations in Hood River County		

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