

2

Sherman

1958 PLANNING CONFERENCE REPORT

PREPARED BY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE
SHERMAN RURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

KICKOFF MEETING - OCTOBER 22, 1957

PUBLIC FORUM - FEBRUARY 27, 1958

MORO, OREGON

1958
SHERMAN PLANNING
CONFERENCE COMMITTEES
AND MEMBERSHIP

- I. Home & Community Living - Mrs. Dewey Thomas: Chairman
Mrs. Joe Gentry: Vice-chairman
Carol Armstrong: Secretary

Members:

Mrs. Willard Barnett
Bill Bieker
Mrs. Boyce Blaylock
Mrs. Walter Bruckert
Mrs. Luther Davis
Mrs. Elton Eakin
Vernon Eakin
Ed Fritts
Mrs. George Fox
Mrs. Earl Gentry
Ernest Goodenberger
Lynn Hampton
Lewis Hastings
Mrs. Harry Hooper
Mrs. Paulen Kaseberg
Don Leach
Donald MacInnes
Mrs. Don Macnab
Mrs. Orlow Martin
Mrs. Robert Marvin
Mrs. Afton McIntyre
Mrs. Harley McKay
Mrs. Blaine Miller
Mrs. Verne Mobley
Mrs. Joe Morris
Mrs. Harry Pinkerton
Dr. & Mrs. Frank Reid
Steve Stiver
Mrs. Clyde Stradley
Mrs. Dewey Thomas
Mrs. Marvin Thomas
Mrs. Don Thompson
Mrs. Allen Tom
Mrs. Arthur Watkins

Recreation Sub-Committee:

Bill Bieker
Ernest Goodenberger
Margilee Kaseberg
Don Leach
Margaret Mobley
Father O'Conner
Mrs. Clyde Stradley

Health Sub-Committee:

Mrs. Harry Hooper
Virginia McIntyre
Bernice Morris
Mrs. Harry Pinkerton
Dr. Frank Reid
Steve Stiver
Betty Thomas

4-H Sub-Committee:

Jo Gentry
Edna Macnab
Mrs. Helen Martin
Mary McKay
Ann Miller

Education Sub-Committee:

Richard Bruner
Lynn Hampton
Lewis Hastings
Donald MacInnes
Marjorie Marvin

Home Extension Sub-Committee:

Charlotte Barnett
Kathryn Blaylock
Helen Bruckert
Helen Davis
Beth Reid
Sharon Thompson
Doris Watkins

County Fair Sub-Committee:

Mary Eakin
Vernon Eakin
Ed Fritts
Alice Gochnauer

100
JH

- II. Land Use & Crops - Don Thompson: Chairman
Bill Todd: Vice-chairman
Bill Hall: Secretary

Members:

W. E. Bruckert	David Richelderfer
Chet Coats	Floyd Root
John E. DeMoss	Kenneth Sather
Clyde Fridley	John Shipley
Mac Hall	Don Thompson
Gordon Hilderbrand	Bill Todd
Cliff Holdman	Art Watkins
Curtis Neal	George Wilson
J. E. Norton	Frank von Borstel
Allan Pinkerton	Hildred Zell

Ex-Officio:

Hank Grabenhorst
Leo Mayer
Stan Mayfield
Vernon Root
T. W. Thompson

- III. Livestock - Bernard Martin: Chairman
Lloyd Henrichs: Vice-chairman
T. W. Thompson: Secretary

Members:

Doug Alley	Larry Kaseberg
Hans Bardenhagen	Bernard Martin
Bob Belshee	Bob Martin
John Buether	W. L. May
Ted Carlson	Ronald Powell
Luther Davis	Floyd Rathbun
A. Douma	John Reckman
Harold Eakin	David Richelderfer
Leonard Fields	Willard Rolfe
George Fox	Howard Ross
Earl Gentry	Orvill Ruggles
Lloyd Henrichs	Marvin Thomas
Bill Jefferies	Harold White
L. E. Kaseberg	

- IV. Weed Control Committee - Joe Heater: Chairman
Paul Fraser: Vice-chairman
T. W. Thompson: Secretary

Members:

Willard Barnett	Joe Heater	Harland McDonald
Ray Brown	Jesse Helyer	Gene Reynolds
Don Earl	Bill Holmes	Dick Skiles
Paul Fraser	Bill Huck	Dewey Thomas
Clyde Gilmore	Rolland Johnson	Ted Thompson
Bill Hall	Don Macnab	Atlee Wilson
	Pete Macnab	

V. Transportation & Marketing - Elton Medler: Chairman
T. W. Thompson: Secretary

Members:

Sam Alberty	L. E. Kaseberg
Paul Alley	Paulen Kaseberg
W. T. Balsiger	Orlow Martin
Max Barzee	Tad McCoy
Owen Eakin	Elton Medler
Norris Gilkinson	Harold Melzer
Irving Hart	Raymond VanGilder
John Hilderbrand	George von Borstel

River Transportation Sub-Committee:

County Roads Sub-Committee:

W. T. Balsiger	Sam Alberty
Joe Bibby	Paul Alley
Stan Coelsch	Max Barzee
Ken Fridley	Owen Eakin
Earl Gentry	Irving Hart
Norris Gilkinson	John Hilderbrand
L. E. Kaseberg	Elton Medler
Elton Medler	Harold Melzer
Dean Pinkerton	Raymond VanGilder
Allen Tom	
Hildred Zell	

VI. Public Affairs - Kenneth Fridley: Chairman
Lester Barnum: Vice-chairman
T. W. Thompson: Secretary

Members:

Mr. & Mrs. Lester Barnum	Stuart Macnab
Mrs. LeRoy Belshee	W. L. May
Joe Bibby	Harland McDonald
Charles Burnet	Vernon Miller
Virgil Cohlee	Dean Pinkerton
Mrs. Bill Coons	Frank Reid
Owen Eakin	B. C. Roberson
Robert Farrell	Bob Rolfe
Mrs. Leonard Fields	Art Smith
Giles French	Marvin Thomas
Kenneth Fridley	Dewey Thompson
Shelton Fritts	Ted Thompson
Lynn Hampton	Allen Tom
Mrs. Rolland Johnson	Mrs. George Wilson
Albert Kaseberg	

Planning Commission Sub-Committee:

Teacher Housing Sub-Committee:

Ivan Blagg	Joe Bibby
Bob Farrell	Dean Pinkerton
Harland McDonald	T. W. Thompson
Vernon Miller	Allen Tom
Gladys Zell	

SHERMAN COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PUBLIC AFFAIR COMMITTEE

Kenneth Fridley,
Chairman

T. W. Thompson,
Secretary

Planning and construction of the John Day Dam, between Rufus and the mouth of the John Day River, will have a profound influence on the social and economic picture in Sherman County during the next 10 years. The Public Affairs committee considered some of the overall problems involved. Advice from those experiencing similar projects advise prior preparation before the impact to reduce problems during the main construction period and following.

The brunt of additional tax cost from this development will be borne by permanent county residents. However, the extent of these extra costs to the county is impossible to estimate at this time. Prior planning and preparedness could save the county tax dollars in the long run and reduce many county regulatory problems. Consideration was given to a few of these problems and the following recommendations adopted.

(1) COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED

The Sherman County Court is requested to establish a Sherman County Planning Commission. This recommendation is made after due study and with realization of many problems dealing with the proposed John Day Dam confronting the county. Formation of such a legal group give the county certain regulatory powers well in advance of any problems dealing with land use, sub-dividing, zoning, building codes, etc. Creation of such a body of local citizens, responsible to the Court, will formulate programs for protection of local citizens. Establishment of a Planning Commission by the Court should be supported by local citizens.

(2) ORGANIZATIONS WARNED OF HEALTH & SANITATION PROBLEMS

Health and Sanitation problems dealing with population increase in the Rufus area could be a serious problem. The Home and Community Living Committee considered this problem in detail. We recognize these recommendations, and furthermore, ask continued alertness by the Sherman Health Council and County Court relative to health and sanitation problem in connection with the John Day Dam construction.

(3) SCHOOL COST WILL INCREASE

Construction of the John Day Dam will have an impact on the Rufus community and local school. In case increases in school enrollment caused by this influx comes to the school district, Federal Funds are available through Public Laws 874 and 875 to partially pay for operation costs and building needs. The committee recommends continued alertness by school officials to this extra burden that will weigh upon the economy of the county. Availing the county of Federal monies for school operation and construction; if needed; is encouraged. It needs to be pointed out that these funds only partially cover actual per pupil costs so any school

enrollment increase due to federal dam construction will add a sizeable tax load due to added school costs.

Other recommendations dealing with Public Affairs:

(1) SPORTSMAN-RANCHER RELATIONS

Promotion of better sportsman-rancher relations is recommended. Encouragement and commendation were given for "Red Hat Day" programs, "Hunting by Permission" signs and similar programs.

(2) HOUSING FOR TEACHERS A COMMUNITY NEED

The committee resolved that where adequate housing is not available Sherman County School Districts should consider the desirability of purchasing or constructing housing facilities for teachers--this being necessary to assure adequate and competent school teachers for local schools.

(3) PORT COMMISSION

A port commission may have a place in Sherman County. We recommend further study be given to the desirability of forming a Port District. Districts in Oregon having a population of less than 100,000 may issue revenue bonds against the earning power of public projects for their first construction. Such a method of financing the cost of a bridge across the Columbia River at Biggs would offer a means of obtaining money at no cost to the tax payer. It must first be established by engineering survey that this is a feasible project.

In addition a Port District could encourage industrial growth by purchase of industrial sites in industrial zones for enterprise desiring them. Publication of information and promotion of industrial advantages of the area lies within the scope and power at a Port Commission.

LACK OF AVAILABLE INDUSTRIAL SITES

People do not generally understand nor appreciate, even those who live in the immediate mid-Columbia area, that there is a drastic shortage of industrial development sites in this area. Notwithstanding the presence of large pools created and controlled by Bonneville and The Dalles Dam, not to mention McNary Dam in the Pasco-Kennewick area,--all giving presumable excellent sites for industrial development--such sites are in actuality not available to it. This is due to two factors:

- (1) Restrictive land-use policies of the federal government;
- (2) The fact that rights-of-way were established on both sides of the Columbia River many years ago by railroads and other public utilities, over which easements and other means of ingress and egress are being refused.

In the process of constructing a multi-purpose project on navigable rivers, it has been the policy of the federal government to secure, whenever possible, fee title to any and all lands which will be inundated

by the rising waters. As well, the federal government as a matter of policy generally secures an interest in lands which, while not inundated, are contiguous uplands. It appears that for many years the federal government merely secured what is termed a "flowage easement". This entitles the federal government to inundate the land by building a dam and to fluctuate the level of the water from time to time. Recently, however, the policy of the federal government appears to have changed to the extent that the cognizant bureaus now attempt to obtain fee title whenever possible.

As a result, it can be readily seen that vast quantities of waterfront property along the pools of Bonneville Dam, The Dalles Dam, and McNary Dam are under the jurisdiction of the federal government. Such lands can be secured for industrial sites only upon authority granted by the federal government, whether by easement, lease or otherwise.

At this point, it should be very apparent that if the federal government follows a restrictive policy of leasing or selling such waterfront lands, industries simply cannot settle along the waterfront. This is precisely the situation which confronts the mid-Columbia area.

Until August 10, 1956, the federal government under 46 U SCA 931 (b) was empowered to grant easements for rights-of-way, gas and oil pipelines, etc., to private as well as public bodies. On August 10, 1956, this particular statute was repealed and in lieu thereof there was enacted 10 USCA 2667 through 10 USCA 26669, inclusive. Under 10 USCA 2667, the secretary of a military department is empowered to lease to private bodies upon such terms as he considers will promote the national defense or be in the public interest, real or personal property which is under the control of his department, is not for the time being needed for public use, and is not excess property as defined by 40 USCA 472. However, a lease under this statute may not be for more than five years unless the secretary concerned determines that a lease for a longer period would promote the national defense or be in the public interest. Furthermore, the lease must be revocable by the secretary during a national emergency declared by the President.

It goes without saying that one of the primary problems in financing new industry is the availability of sites. By the very nature of things, a lending institution takes a rather dime view of lending considerable sums of money to build structures on lands which can only be leased and under the terms of which the industry can be dispossessed by the whim of a government official.

10 USCA 2668 and 2669 relate to easements for rights-of-way and for gas, water, sewer, and pipelines. These last two sections are very comparable to the old statute (43 USCA 931) (b). Under that old statute the Secretary of the Army took the position that if easements were granted and structures were built on such public lands under the control of the federal government, the structures so built would have to be "temporary" in nature. That is, no permanent buildings could be built on the land in question. It is, of course, difficult if not impossible to build a large factory or other installation which is not permanent.

Thus, for practical purposes, all of the waterfront lands on the major dam pools on the Columbia River are completely and wholly unavailable for use as industrial sites by private industry.

Assuming, for the purposes of argument, that the federal statutes can be appropriately amended so as to permit private industries to acquire suitable industrial sites on the waterfront lands of the various dam pools, still a further problem exists which thus far has almost completely obstructed industrial development. This is due solely to the fact that parallel railroad lines run along both sides of the Columbia River from Astoria on the west to Pasco and Kennewick on the east. Industrial development, if it should occur, will most probably occur in the region between Portland, Oregon and Pasco, Washington. On the Oregon side of the river the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way is a picket fence completely obstructing ingress and egress to the waterfront. On the Washington side of the river, the SP&S Railway right-of-way performs the same function.

It is useless to point out that easements or other means of ingress and egress can be procured over such railroad tracks by building overpasses, underpasses or the like. The railroads involved simply will not permit any private company, individual or other organization any form of ingress or egress which may become competitive with the transportation of commodities by those railroads. For example, if a water carrier desires to build a terminal interchange facility on the waterfront of one of the dam pools, and if such water carrier might be so fortunate as to secure lands from the federal government, the railroads are consistently refusing to grant any form of ingress and egress over their right-of-way to such competitors. A recent example of this occurred when a grain cooperative in Sherman County attempted to secure permission of the railroad to erect a marine leg or conveyor across a spur line of the railroad in order to convey wheat from its elevator to a basin in which barges were moored. The railroad flatly refused to grant any such easement. It should also be noted that wherever possible it appears that the railroads have been reluctant to convey fee title to abandoned rights-of-way along the Columbia River to the federal government; instead, if at all possible, flowage easements are granted. Since the railroad then retains fee title to the land in question, this economic right of refusal to grant ingress and egress still exists in the hands of the railroads.

Not all private corporations are granted the legal authority to condemn property for a right-of-way. For example, water carriers in the State of Oregon are denied this privilege, although the railroads have had such power for many years. Public bodies, such as ports, have the authority to condemn. However, there are stretches of the river in which there is no port district, and in such instances the only means of relief is through the county court. This assumes, of course, that the appropriate public body can be persuaded to institute proceedings in eminent domain to secure the easement and then that the public body would be willing to turn it over to a private individual.

This committee recommends that immediate steps be taken to secure remedial federal legislation as well as State of Oregon legislation to cure this outstanding defect in an industrial development program.

Columbia River Development Corporation

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to establish a Columbia River Development Corporation. This legislation should be studied and information as to its advantages and disadvantages disseminated through the press and other media.

(4) SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Small communities have problems with not enough willing workers and too many organizations. We recommend that all citizens exercise their democratic privilege through participation in needed community and county projects. We further recommend, however, that efforts be made in all communities to combine activities to reduce number of meetings.

A permanent public service and study organization is needed to consider county public affairs problems that look to be even more important in the years ahead. Reactivation of the Sherman County Club or a Chamber of Commerce type group is needed with a definite objective, with rotating officers, and participation by county business men and farmers. Consideration and active support are needed for the Biggs bridge and state road projects. Further consideration of a Port District could be given by this group. Sherman County, as a legal sub-division of the state, may not long continue if public affairs problems are not considered and decided by local citizens rather than neighboring counties.

(5) FULL TIME COUNTY JUDGE OR COUNTY MANAGER NEEDED

Mounting county and legal problems are creating an ever increasing burden on a part-time County Judge. The future holds in store even more. A full time county judge or a County Manager system is needed in the county. This committee is in no position to recommend one or the other, but does encourage discussion and study of the problem. The committee recognized that the biggest problem with a county manager system would be to secure a top permanent man. We recommend that the local newspapers present factual information relative to this problem for the benefit of citizens.

SHERMAN COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF LAND USE AND CROP PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

February 27, 1958

1. **SOIL SCIENTIST NEEDED:** Fundamental information on the maintenance of soil organic matter by crop rotations, and soil management practices to reduce erosion and promote economical farming methods is greatly needed in the drier portions of the Columbia Basin. It is well-known that the organic matter content of the soil is declining through the present summer-fallow practice. At what level this will begin to limit production is not known. Farmers already report that the soil does not absorb the rainfall as it once did. Increasing amounts of erosion are noted. A full-time soil scientist is greatly needed at the Sherman Brand Experimental Station to obtain this information.

This committee recommends that the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station be requested to put a full time soil scientist at the Sherman Branch Station to increase studies on nitrogen-moisture relationships, organic matter-yield relationships and cropping and tillage practices, which will benefit wheat production. It is further recommended that a committee be formed to implement this recommendation with the cooperation of other interested counties.

2. **SOIL TESTING FACILITIES:** Current fertilizer use is based on trial and error knowledge. Facilities for soil testing would enhance more efficient use of fertilizers. Present research is aimed at the development of more accurate nitrogen determinations. This work should be continued until a satisfactory test is obtained. This committee has sent a questionnaire to Sherman County farmers to determine the use to which a soils testing laboratory in this area would be put. It is recommended that a committee continue to study the feasibility of establishing a laboratory in this area.
3. **SOIL CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR FARMS:** Recent years have demonstrated the need for conservation practices which will reduce erosion. The objective of conservation farming in a water erosion area should be to retain as much water as possible in the field and to remove the excess in a controlled manner. It is recommended that each farmer develop a conservation program adaptable to his farm to reduce soil erosion and maintain soil productivity. A combination of these practices can be adapted to each farm: stubble mulch, cross slope farming, strip cropping, diversion ditches, sod-water ways, early seeding, sub-soiling, crop residue utilization. We further recommend that more study be given to the use of minimum tillage, annual cropping and chemical summer-fallow for soil and water conservation purposes.
4. **GRASS AND ALFALFA ROTATIONS:** Another conservation practice which will increase soil structure, improve water penetration and reduce soil erosion is a crop rotation of grass-alfalfa for the wheat land. Increased wheat yields for more than 5 crops after plowing have been obtained on

land thus treated. Current government programs recognize the diversion of land from wheat has caused many farmers to seed barley. Low returns per acre from barley should encourage farmers to compare the advantages of rotation of grass-alfalfa. We recommend that more farm demonstrations and economic studies be made to prove the value of this practice.

5. **COST OF PRODUCTION:** A study made by the committee of an owner-operated farm revealed that the cost of production per acre has increased 39% on a 1,000 acre farm in the past 10 years. Wheat prices during this time remained relatively constant. Greatest changes in cost of production were increased capital investment, (up 63%), increased taxes, (up 114%) and increased labor costs, (up 122%). The committee recommends that each farmer study his expense and return records to determine methods of increasing the efficiency of his operations.
6. **COUNTY SOIL SURVEY:** We recommend that the soil conservation service be requested to complete the cooperative Sherman County Soil Survey as rapidly as possible. This report will aid in recommendations pertinent to fertilization and erosion control.
7. **LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONSHIPS:** Then 69% of the crop acres in Sherman County are tenant operated, we recognized there are problems in this relationship in land use and conservation practices. We urge an educational program to keep owners and tenants informed of constantly changing land use programs.
8. **GOVERNMENT FARM PROGRAM:** Under the present, everchanging government farm program, it is difficult for farmers to develop a suitable long-range plan of operation. We urge support of organizations which are attempting to develop a long-range Federal Farm Program. We believe the following points to be of prime importance:
 1. The program should recognize and not penalize those trying to practice conservation farming.
 2. Program must recognize that farming is one of basic "wealth producing" industries of the nation. While agricultural producers represent only 12% of the nations population; processors, marketing agents and distributors of agricultural products represent a vast size of the nations economy. The people and other industries share in agricultural wealth and suffer in an agricultural depression.
 3. The program should attempt to move agricultural produce into the markets rather than into storage.
 4. It is necessary to have good public relations in a farm program. Comparable subsidies in other industries should be explained. American's today pay less in hours of labor for food than any other nation.
 5. Farmers should not lose his freedom of action under a government farm program.
 6. The cost to federal government should be kept to a minimum.

9. **INSECTS:** Insects are a recurrent problem of increasing importance and require continual alertness to potential losses. Sherman County is presently using large sums of insecticide for control of wireworm. Appearance of a "Wheat Head Worm" in the southern part of the county in 1957 and build up of English Grain aphid population have occurred. We therefore recommend:
1. Further demonstrations are needed on wireworm control in wheat and barley to evaluate the effectiveness of treatment methods.
 2. Farmers and agriculture specialists should keep abreast of major insect problems, and be alert for insect outbreaks and institute recommended control measures.
10. **DISEASES:** Smut has long been the worst disease problem in wheat production. Although present varieties have the greatest inbred resistance of any varieties produced, seed treatment with suitable chemicals to prevent the build up of new smut races should be continued. At the present, HCB offers the best opportunities to control both seed and soil borne smut spores. Chemical companies indicate that dye will soon be added to all materials for treating seed. This will allow determination of adequate seed coverage which is of the utmost importance.
11. **WHEAT VARIETIES:** Recently released varieties Omar, Burt, and Columbia are higher yielding and have greater smut resistance than older varieties. These varieties with Orfed and Federation as spring varieties and Golden as a fall variety in south part of county constitute the recommended varieties, for this county. To reduce the number of varieties and thereby facilitate storage and improve quality, only recommended varieties should be grown.
12. **RAINMAKING:** Rainmaking and hail prevention have been carried on by Sherman County farmers since 1950. Even though results are uncertain, farmers have been willing to gamble the relatively small amount it cost each individual on the chance that results are beneficial. Past evaluations had failed to show any significant increase in rainfall. However, it was recognized that the evaluation methods were subject to criticism. Current research in California is the best possibility of determining the value of rainmaking and developing new methods of evaluation.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF WEED CONTROL COMMITTEE
SHERMAN COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE
February 27, 1958

Joe Heater, Chairman Paul Fraser, Vice-chairman T. W. Thompson, Secretary

Weeds are a constant threat to Sherman County agriculture. Weed control is largely one of education and persistence by farmers and various public agencies. The maintenance of a sound agricultural economy in the county depends on confining present weed infestation and new weeds of all types, affecting our farms, roads, and cities. Coordination of the county weed program between all individuals and groups should be initiated to maintain the future productivity of our crop and range lands.

To accomplish the above objectives the weed control committee recommends the following points:

1. A weed control district was established in 1940, pertaining to certain noxious perennial weeds. To date the provisions of this law have not been enforced. The County Court in recent years have conducted a weed program to reduce perennial weeds on roadways, public utilities and cities. The weed committee recommends the County strengthen its weed control work and in lieu of enforcement intensify the education and action work coordinated through the County Weed Council. The proposed Sherman County Weed Council should be formed by the County Court in cooperation with the continuing Weed Control Committee to coordinate the county weed program of the Council with the County Court, land owners and operators, public utilities, and state and federal agencies. Purposes of the Council beside the above are to:

- a. Develop and intensive weed program to reduce present perennial infestation and inroads of new infestations with consideration for efficiency and proper use of present and future tax dollars.
- b. Direct program of the County Weed Supervisor.
- c. Inventory periodically the weeds present and their infestation in the county and take action to meet these problems.
- d. The Council will be an advisory group to the County Court and work with them in guiding the county programs relative to weeds.
- e. To work closely with the County Agent in use of new chemicals, recommendations and educational programs on weed control.

2. We recommend the county spray for annual weeds from the shoulder of the road to the fence with hormone type sprays as many times as necessary during the year to obtain effective control. Soil Sterilants should be tried by the county on road shoulders and ditches to determine their place in the weed program.

3. The county should employ a county weed supervisor to handle the county weed spraying for not less than six months. The man probably could

be best employed by the road crew for part of the year and the remaining part specifically on weed work.

4. We further recommend the county eradicate all perennial noxious weeds and others deemed desirable on county roadways and work with the cities, state highway, and public utilities for eradication on their properties.

5. We set as a goal the eradication of White Top, Russian Knapweed, Canada Thistle, and Dalmation Toadflax on all properties in Sherman County by 1963.

6. Permanent fence row or roadside weed control can be accomplished only by sterilization or the seeding of perennial grasses. Mass sterilization would create a serious erosion problem. Therefore, it is recommended that a roadside grass seeding program should be done where possible by farmers or state and county road crews when new fence is being constructed or where possible otherwise. Ditch shoulders can be shaped and seeded to grass that will reduce future weed control cost and spread of perennial weeds.

7. New chemicals are available for fence row and around buildings for general weed control and reduction of fire hazard. These can be effectively used by many farmers.

8. Rye is becoming more of a problem in cropland and on county roadways. Farmers should consider rye as a weed and treat as such. It is recommended that farmers with rye in their fields cover their bulk trucks with canvas to reduce spreading along roadways. Chemical measures for rye control are available at present with several new ones on the way. We feel their effectiveness needs to be further demonstrated.

9. Drill Box surveys have shown farmers are seeding perennial weeds. We therefore recommend use of clean seed free from annual and perennial weed seeds.

10. We recommend farmers become more aware of weed seed spreading. Source of weed infestation known are movement of livestock, hay, feed and equipment, wildlife feeding on mature plants, flower and garden seed packages, planting of plants in yards or cemetaries that are perennial noxious weeds, and wind and water erosion.

11. Perennial weed infestation on rangeland and its spread to cropland should be given more attention by farmers. Farmers should be on the lookout when riding the range for serious perennial weeds including Goatweed, Mediterian Sage, and Halogetin.

12. The committee recognizes that Morning Glory is our most serious weed problem. We recommend that all farmers whose land is infested with this pest make every effort to control the spreading by the following sources:

- a. Hormone type sprays--headway is being made on a new type materials, but to date, however, 2,4-D is still the best and should be used for field infestation by all farmers. The following is recommended for field spraying with 2,4-D: Summer fallow--cultivate until July and spray with 3# 2,4-D last of July or first of August, before or after harvest. Crop Year--Spray before boot stage or from the dough stage on, or spray after harvest to keep morning glory from going to seed.

- b. Soil Sterilants--Small patches should be treated with soil sterilant materials. Sodium Chlorate has been successfully used for many years. The Chlorobenzoic acids will be recommended in 1958 whereby the material will be cheaper and not cause as long sterilization.

13. Outlook for new chemical control looks good. We recommended, however, that morning glory control and eradication research work be intensified. We recommend the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station or U.S.D.A. employ a full time research worker to work exclusively on morning glory eradication.

14. We recommend the Experiment Station conduct additional research on methods of controlling cheatgrass in wheat fields.

15. We recommend an educational program relative to weeds and weed control be intensified to get farmers better acquainted with weeds, their control, and seriousness to the county. Programs to use include field days or tours, farm meetings, weed marked demonstration plots, newspaper articles, circular letters on weeds to farmers, and weed mounts. Farmers should become aware of all plants unknown to them and have them identified by the County Agent or other sources.

16. To accomplish the above recommendations we approve continuation of the Weed Control Committee, and further, that it work with any other county groups interested in the control or eradication of perennial weed problems to insure continued productivity of our basic soil resource.

SHERMAN COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MARKETING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Elton Medler,
Chairman

T. W. Thompson,
Secretary

Wheat growers have had production problems since wheat was first grown. Some of the biggest problems today lie in marketing and transportation. Supported prices have prevented wheat moving into some of its potential markets such as livestock feeding and industrial uses. Priced out of these outlets, there is only one other outlet for Northwest wheat and that is the export market. One of the main points of study of this committee deals with developing export markets.

Lack of an adequate export market, the influence of a cost-price squeeze, the narrowing of the farmer's share of the consumer's dollar, and the loss of domestic markets because of the burden of percentage type freight rate increase, it is becoming evident that the farmer must control more of the phases of marketing. There is an interest among some growers to investigate the potential of establishing and operating export facilities. This could be accomplished either through existing cooperative organizations or through the establishment of a new cooperative. With this in mind and after due consideration the committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Deep draft navigation to The Dalles.
2. Completion of John Day Dam and improvement of Bonneville for multiple tow barges from up river to Portland.
3. Cooperative development of port facilities at The Dalles between the Port Commission and farmer grain cooperatives.
4. Stated policy as to future plans and action by the Port Commission at The Dalles.
5. Establishment by the Port Commission of adequate, modern, efficient, and fast unloading facilities - barge to shore - with a 1,000 ton per hour capacity.
6. Terminal grain facilities owned or rented by Cooperatives at the Port to eliminate long shoreman labor problems.
7. Efforts of Sherman County Co-ops be directed toward development at The Dalles rather than Sherman County sites.
8. We suggest the Mid-Columbia terminal association become more active. Representatives of each of the member co-ops should meet with the Columbia River Development Association and gather additional facts on Sherman Counties participation in terminal port facility development at The Dalles.

We further point out the following:

1. Sherman County Co-ops will need to take the lead in terminal development since they own the river site available for facilities.

2. The survey "Navigation Potential of the Columbia River Seaway" contains valuable information for planning river development.
3. Organization of a "Trade and Development Association" to develop commercial exchange and sale in export using river facilities.
4. Terminal grain facilities at The Dalles would reduce freight charges on wheat 5 cents per bushel or \$150,000 a year savings to farmers in Sherman County. This compares quite favorably with probable loss of the railroad which brought in \$17,179.72 on the branch line in tax revenue in 1957.

In the decade which has passed since the 1948 conference there has been an increase in the building of bulk wheat handling facilities both on farm and cooperative. The incentive to build farm storage elevators has been created by the government storage payment. Another influencing factor has been the increasing competition from commercial trucks which haul from the farm to terminal offering a rate competitive with rail rates from the nearest track side storage to terminal. The trucks haul some of the wheat direct while other hauls are a combination truck-barge operation.

The cooperative in the county have their facilities offering excellent storage elevators at track side and providing a maximum of storage for the county, at least, considering present production trends. It is probable that with the completion of required storage capacity the greatest service that can be rendered by the cooperative is that of quality segregation.

We therefore recommend:

1. Cooperative maintain quality in storage by preventing mixtures of varieties, grades and classes.
2. Farm storage operators pay particular attention to moisture percentages before storing wheat. Only wheat under 12% moisture can be stored safely with freedom from heating and insect infestation.
3. Continue present emphasis on grain sanitation program through continued emphasis on insect pests, rodents, and bird control on the farm and in commercial elevators.
4. With the improvement in chemicals for smut prevention and the release of more highly resistant varieties of wheat it is hoped that the influence of smut on wheat quality can be brought to a minimum. Continued alertness to the problem is recommended by both farm and commercial elevator operators.

A special roads committee considered past, present, and future road programs in the county. They laid out and investigated the following points:

1. Reasons why some counties have more paved roads than Sherman County.
2. Future needs of roads in the county.

3. Future plans for roads in the county as to paving, expensive equipment, etc. The committee visited and secured information from other counties. Part of the roads committee report is hereforth presented:

PAVING

Sherman County has an accumulating fund of between \$25,00 and \$26,000 per year for paving. This is known as the F.A.S. money. The State of Oregon puts in 20%, Sherman County 20% and the Federal Government 60%. This money when used for paving, must be used to State specifications, which are more rigid than some times necessary. This adds greatly to the cost of paving.

Roads that are on the county planning board, problem roads in the county, and roads which would serve the bulk of that areas population are as follows:

- 2.5 miles west of Kent
- 4. miles east of Kent
- 6. miles on Grass Valley-Rutledge road
- 2.5 miles southeast of Moro Fairgrounds to fork of road.
- 8. miles northwest of Moro to Roots corner, Fulton Canyon road
- 6. miles north of Wasco to Scott Canyon
- 4.5 miles of road from Wasco to Klondike, if State turns this back to Sherman County

33 $\frac{1}{2}$ TOTAL miles

A 3 mills paving tax would cost the average operator approximately \$40.00 to \$120.00 per 2 section ranch, all farm land. This does not include buildings or personal property. This would add about \$30,000 per year to the \$26,000 F.A.S. fund. With approximately \$56,000 per year, Sherman County should see an improvement toward getting main roads paved. If a special paving tax is requested, it should be set up to run for not less than 5 to 10 years.

Interesting items are, Wasco-Fulton Canyon road stood up for 16 years before it was re-sealed. Sherman County has 23.5 miles of paved road at present. All owned by Sherman County.

Recommend F.A.S. money should be used on roads that are more easily adapatable to state specifications. County funds should be used on roads that can't meet state specifications, without extensive fills and grade requirements, under present road programs. Recommend that F.A.S. fund be used more economical on bridges, and county money be used on roads not qualifying for F.A.S. money. That county do as much preliminary work as possible as to cost against contractor prices.

Specific Recommendations:

1. Commend road department on present plan of using cement bulk-heads on drain tubes and bridges.
2. Recommended use of shale rock for basing roads if followed by crushed rock.

3. More attention to adequate drainage and tubing. Special caution should be given to drainage on present paved roads.
4. Emphasize that something be done about the spreading of rye along road banks, such as use of selective sprays.
5. One method of getting more rock on roads would be for farmers themselves to haul gravel from crusher to roads. This method has been used in other counties, and now has been used in the Gorden ridge area.
6. Recommended that proceedings of all county court meetings be published in more detail and notice of meetings be published.
7. It is felt that Sherman County should employ a full time engineer or at least a part time engineer or a combination engineer-surveyor. A county engineer-surveyor would keep a complete record of road costs.
8. It is felt that in 2 years most or all of the main roads will be graveled.
9. Recommend that Sherman County refrain from buying any more expensive road equipment.
10. Better cooperation among districts within the county, and cooperation between the County Court and the farmeris needed in working together for better road improvement and maintenance.

SHERMAN COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF HOME & COMMUNITY LIVING COMMITTEE

Due to the many areas affecting the home and community this committee, after careful consideration, divided into the following sub-committees: Recreation for Youth; Health, Home Extension, 4-H, County Fair, Education.

HEALTH - Nina Pinkerton, Chairman

One of the meetings of this committee was held in conjunction with the Sherman County Health Advisory Council. The following recommendations were made:

1. Sewage and garbage disposal facilities be improved in each community, and that rodent control should be encouraged in affected areas.
2. That there be proper county zoning prior to an influx of people due to construction projects or other reasons.
3. That the Federal Mosquito Control project be continued and improved, because a mosquito problem exists as a result of The Dalles Dam.

The committee felt that there is a need for more education in the area of Family Health in Sherman County and these recommendations were made:

1. That more emphasis be placed on educating people on services available to all from the Wasco-Sherman Health Department.
2. That the County should encourage private practice of medicine in Sherman County, i.e. Dentist, M.D., Veterinarian, etc.
3. That the Sherman County Health Advisory Council be continued and supported.
4. That the county is urged to have a more adequate understanding of mental health problems in the county.

HOME EXTENSION - Helen Bruckert, Chairman

The Home Extension committee would make these suggestions concerning the future activities of the Program:

1. That we should have a first-aid training program including emergency care and home nursing, since a doctor is not available at all times in the county. Possibly this could be done as a workshop-type lesson.
2. That Civil Defense training should be made available, since this area will receive West Coast victims in the event of an attack.
3. That caution be exercised so that not too much emphasis be given to clothing projects, because not all women are interested in sewing. That

more topics, including Nutrition and Meal-Planning be covered. That short cuts in housework be added to the program (possibly the use of an instruction on ironer and proper use of the many electrical appliances of today.)

4-H CLUBS - Helen Martin, Chairman

The committee felt that some improvements are need in the 4-H Program and would recommend:

1. That the Extension Unit 4-H committees be asked to help secure 4-H leaders.
2. That the idea of Community 4-H Clubs be presented to the 4-H Leaders Council for consideration.
3. That there is a definite need for a 4-H and Home Economics Building at the Fair Grounds. The Fair Board is to be made aware of this need.

Since the County Fair Schedule is so crowded, the committee felt that to ease the situation, this recommendation might help:

1. That a day of pre-fair judging be held a week or ten days before opening of the State Fair. This day would be for the purpose of awarding State Fair trips. All eligible 4-H members must exhibit on this day as well as at the County Fair, to complete their project. Exhibits at the County Fair will only be awarded premium money.

Since the 4-H Leader's Association is not regularly attended by the same group, the committee recommends:

1. That the 4-H Leader's Association elect a 4-H Leader's Council to serve as an awards committee and to take care of necessary business occurring between Leader's Association meetings. This Council will work directly with the County Agents.

COUNTY FAIR - Alice Gochnauer, Chairman

The committee felt that since any changes in the County Fair would have to come through the fair board the committee recommends that the following suggestions would be made to them:

1. More rest area on the County Fair grounds would make the fair more pleasant. We recommend that the area now used for the pony-ride concession be converted to rest area. Benches for resting might be sold to various county companies for advertising purposes, thus making no expense to the fair board. The pony-ride concession could be moved to an area nearer the barns.

There is an urgent need for more 4-H exhibit and demonstration area, as well as for dressing facilities for the 4-H girls. These possibilities are suggested:

1. A new 4-H demonstration and exhibit building be constructed; a large tent for dressing room; facilities be made available, or enclose the area under the bleachers.

Over the years seating in the bleachers and grandstand has become more confused. We recommend:

1. That ushers be used, perhaps Boy or Cub Scouts, and that aisles be painted or established in definite fashion.

In the future there needs to be better co-ordination between 4-H and other fair activities. We recommend:

1. That the two programs plan together and gradually adjust to a well coordinated schedule.

Since there has been considerable conflict between football games and 4-H activities at the Fair in the past we recommend:

1. That football games should not be scheduled during County Fair in the future.

RECREATION - Margille Kaseberg & Bill Bieker, Co-Chairman

The need for recreation for the youth of the county is greatest during the summer months. After investigating the possibility of a community swimming pool the committee felt that it would not be feasible because of the cost of maintenance and lifeguards. Note was made here that at this time there are 10 private swimming pools within the county. Investigation was made as to a community bowling alley as a type of recreation center for both youth and adults. Here again the expense was great and at this time probably not practicable. Specific recommendations are:

1. That the 4-H Junior Leaders be asked to sponsor teen-age dances during the summer, provided there is sufficient interest.

2. That a volunteer summer recreation program for children be carried on in the parks--perhaps DeMoss park or local community facilities. This might be done through the churches. The committee states that the County Court be commended for the improvement & care of DeMoss Park and recommends that they further improve facilities for the children. That the summer baseball program for all communities at grade school level be continued and improved.

3. That wading pools be considered in each community as a source of amusement for young children.

EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE - Lynn Hampton, Chairman

After discussion of possibilities of setting up an educational fund to allow more young people to go to college, the committee recommends:

1. That a permanent college Scholarship Fund, incorporated under state law as a non-profit organization which would qualify for income tax exemption, be established in Sherman County. We further recommend a committee of five be appointed to make further study on inaugurating such a scholarship fund and reporting back to the permanent Rural Advisory Council. We further recommend the County School Superintendent be a member of the committee and assist in inaugurating the study and fund.

Following a discussion concerning the declining use of county libraries, the committee recommends:

1. Greater promotion and use of our present library facilities and encourage increasing use of these facilities. It is also recommended that library people endeavor to adopt programs to encourage library use. The Rural Advisory Council should appoint individuals to work with the library boards in the various communities to encourage greater use of facilities.