Report of WASCO COUNTY
Long Range Planning Conference
1967
Acknowledgment

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# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crops Subcommittee</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed Control</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals and Pollution</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Crops</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigated Lands</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Mechanization</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock and Range Subcommittee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil and Water Conservation Subcommittee</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Beauty</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream Channels</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Resources</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development and Public Affairs Committee</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Subcommittee</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Bus Transportation Subcommittee</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Agencies and Government Structures Sub委员会</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning and Zoning</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Credit and Bankruptcy</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Services</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Subcommittee</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation Subcommittee</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Committee</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Situation</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Problems of Northern Wasco County Subcommittee</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Problems of Southern Wasco County Subcommittee</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Education Subcommittee</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Education Subcommittee</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College Subcommittee</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Attitude Subcommittee</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship in Home, Community and Country</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Education</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Attitude Toward Law Enforcement</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Life Committee</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Problems Subcommittee</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Life and Community Service Subcommittee</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Breakdown</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Services</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and Old Age Problems</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Care Centers</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Early in 1966, members of the Wasco County Extension Advisory Council decided that it was time to again take a look at the problems and opportunities of Wasco County. New members were invited to join the Advisory Council. After the summer vacations and the Council began their monthly meetings in the fall, more extensive plans and preparations were made for this conference.

Probably the most significant decision to come out of these preparations was to include all of Wasco County. All of the conferences in the past have dealt primarily with rural and agricultural problems. Now for the first time we are dealing with Wasco County as one community, both urban and rural.

It was agreed that we should discuss the human, natural and man-made resources and problems of Wasco County. The objective was a long-range projection (to look at the situation, study the facts, and determine our needs) to look at where we are, where we want to go, and how we want to get there. After considerable study we decided that four major committees, by subdividing, could cover all of the area. These committees were: Agricultural and Natural Resources, Community Development and Public Affairs, Education and Family Life.

To launch the Long-Range Planning Conference, a public forum was held in The Dalles on January 12, 1967, with all the citizens of Wasco County invited. After interesting talks by Dr. Burton Wood, director, Agricultural Experiment Station, and Miss Esther Taskerud, Assistant Director, Extension Service, Oregon State University, people broke into buzz groups in which the problems and opportunities of Wasco County were listed. These problems were then assigned to the committee to which they were appropriately suited. The four major committees then met and broke down into the various subcommittees, each subcommittee taking the similar or related problems for their consideration.

March 15 was set as a target date to try to bring this conference to a conclusion. The next two months were filled with meetings, surveys, and much activity as the various subcommittees toiled with the task at hand.

These reports are now presented herewith. It is hoped that they will be of value to anyone interested in the changes, trends, problems, and opportunities of Wasco County, and that they will serve as a guide for leaders and lay people as we all strive to make Wasco County a better place in which to live.

Bill Peetz
Bill Peetz, Chairman
Wasco County Extension Advisory Council
AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:
 Carl Kaser, Chairman
 Bill Peetz, Co-Chairman

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:
 Ted Daniels, Chairman
 Bill Dielschneider, Co-Chairman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:
 Bill Dodson, Chairman
 Ernest Stranz, Co-Chairman

FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE:
 Rev. Lloyd Powers, Chairman
 Mrs. Glenn Kunsman, Co-chairman
AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Introduction

This committee was organized into three subcommittees—namely, Livestock and Range, Soil and Water Conservation and Crops. The overall committee consisted of 60 members and met as a committee of the whole originally to subdivide the problems and form the subcommittees and on one or two other occasions to more completely coordinate activities of each committee.

The following problems were listed by those in attendance at the original Forum held January 12 at the Civic Auditorium:

1. Marketing
2. Unnecessary cattle movement
3. Farmer - sportsman relations—illegal hunting and trespassing
4. Reseeding range land
5. Clearing brush and oak
6. Livestock
7. Irrigated lands not used for orchard
8. Weed control education
9. Farm use of chemicals—indiscriminate uses, pollution
10. New crops research
11. Biological pest control
12. Farm mechanization
13. Soil conservation
14. Water
15. Conserve natural beauty
16. Streambed developments—dams
17. Reservoirs for domestic water supplies
18. Greater local use of the Columbia River
19. Hydroelectric development on the Deschutes
20. Columbia Plateau Resources Council
21. Exploration for underground water
22. Sedimentation from soil erosion
23. Flood control

It was not possible to study the situation and make recommendations on all these problems. However, most of them were dealt with by one of the subcommittees and are recorded in this report with recommendations thereto.

There is, also, additional information given as background material, so that those reading these reports in future years will have a thorough understanding of the situation, the problems, and the recommendations as they were studied at the time of the subcommittee meetings.
Situation:

In Wasco County we have unlimited species of weeds. Most of these weeds go unnoticed in all parts of the county.

We have eight noxious weeds that have been declared as such within the weed district. There are many other weeds that are hazardous to health and production on lands.

There are approximately 760 miles of County roads and 250 miles of State Highway roads in Wasco County. Most of these roads have very large rights-of-way and are hard to maintain for weed control. These weed situations are also located in all our State, Federal, and Municipal lands. Most of these lands receive no weed control now or have had any in the past. Also, the large acreage of lands in the city watersheds have had no weed control or eradication effort.

Problems:

1. The lack of awareness of the general public to identify weeds or to have them identified.

2. The lack of interest in administrators of farm and public lands under their jurisdiction to maintain a good weed program.

3. The tendency to use unclean seed for seeding and the non-cleaning of equipment before moving said equipment from one field to another.

4. The lack of covering farm commodities in transport from farm to shipping point.

5. The lack of a uniform weed law throughout the state of Oregon.

Recommendations:

The committee felt there should be a more intensive educational program by the Extension Service, in cooperation with the weed supervisor, on weed control and eradication; also, to encourage ranchers and public and municipal bodies to be more aware of existing weeds and their control and eradication.

The committee feels that the administrators of City, State, and Federal lands should put more effort in weed control within their ownership. The use of biological weed control could play a big part in weed control in the city watersheds, as well as chemical control.

The purchasing of certified seed by producers will lessen the chance of spreading weed seed on clean lands.

The committee feels a uniform weed law should be adopted throughout the state of Oregon. Several counties have no weed control district; therefore, they have little interest in weed control. In the past, the State Highway Department has sprayed noxious weeds in those counties with weed districts, but they have now abandoned noxious weed spraying, using only sterilant type of herbicides along the shoulders of the highway. The counties with a weed control district are trying to keep out infestations of noxious weeds while their neighbors go unnoticed. A uniform state weed law would benefit the active counties now and would also help those who haven’t yet started.
Situation:
The increased use of pesticides around our homes and croplands, present a very big problem. The use of pesticides is very important to insure food and fiber production. It also insures good production of suitable foods.

Problems:
1. People in general neglect to read the labels. The manufacturers of pesticides spend a lot of money on testing and writing of these labels and in getting Food and Drug Administration approval.
2. The lack of proper storage for pesticides.

Recommendations:
The committee feels there should be a greater effort made in the continuing education through the Extension Service.
The committee also feels there should be an effort made in the proper care and storage of pesticides.

New Crops

Situation:
There has been little or no expansion in new crops in Wasco County. There have been two individuals who have tried mint in the last couple of years. It seems to be performing satisfactorily.

There should be a study in the area for new crops for the now-irrigated lands that could produce more than they are presently doing.

Problems:
2. How large an acreage of a new crop is necessary in order to entice a processor to come into the area or to make marketing feasible.

Recommendations:
The committee feels there should be a thorough study in marketing and of new crops suitable for this climate and growing conditions.

Irrigated Lands

Situation:
Wasco County has 28,700 acres of irrigated land with established water rights; however, only one-third of the area has an adequate water supply. Another one-third has about a 50% supply; the remaining one-third has only a minimum supply, usually available only in the early part of the growing season.

With the exception of 5,800 acres irrigated with water from the Columbia River, irrigated water is supplied by streams whose watersheds lie almost wholly within Wasco County and neighboring Hood River County and from wells that are seemingly taxing the available supply of groundwater. These same sources now provide municipal water for the city of The Dalles and the present industrial needs.

Irrigation from streams is now mainly dependent on the natural flow and late season supplies are either limited or non-existent. The development of storage to provide late season supplies has been limited. With adequate installed storage, it is estimated that 21,300 acres of additional land could be irrigated and provide...
a full season supply to the present irrigated acreage.

There are opportunities to increase effective available water supplies through the modification of existing irrigation facilities. For example, it is estimated that an additional 18,000 acres could be irrigated on Juniper Flat with increased storage facilities and the development of an efficient distribution system.

It is possible that substantial acreage could be irrigated by pumping direct from the Columbia River in the Columbia District. To date little attention has been given to this possibility.

Recently there has been intense direct interest in utilization of water of the Columbia for industrial purposes. The utilization of waste water for the combined purposes of reducing pollution and for irrigation might enhance the possibility of irrigating presently dry-farmed land in parts of Wasco County and adjacent Sherman County. For example, two major power companies in Oregon are proposing construction of plants to generate electric power, utilizing atomic energy. One plant under consideration would discharge 2,000 acre-feet of warmed water per day. This should be adequate to irrigate in the neighborhood of 50,000 acres. The utilization of warm water for irrigation would eliminate the necessity of spending 5 million to 10 million dollars for cooling towers. The warmed water would have no disadvantages for irrigation; it could have some advantages early and late in the season.

Wood processing or food processing plants usually discharge sizable volumes of water high in organic solid. The organic material is one of the most harmful of stream pollutants; on the other hand, with proper management it could be fully utilized for irrigation without harmful effect on the crop.

**Problems:**

1. Cropping possibilities on two-thirds of the land now irrigated in Wasco County are limited because of seasonal and other limitations in the water supply.

2. Streamflow throughout the county is characterized by high winter and early spring flows with declining summer flows.

3. Storage facilities have been only partially developed.

4. Known groundwater supplies seem to be fully utilized.

5. Municipal and industrial use of existing surface and groundwater supplies aggravates the water shortage problem.

**Recommendations:**

An intensive investigation should be made of water storage possibilities on the streams in Wasco County. Feasibility should be based on benefits to recreation, to fish and wildlife, as well as to consumptive uses by municipalities, industries, and irrigation. Study should be made of the Juniper Flat area to determine economical procedures for increasing storage and to improve the efficiency of the distribution system. The conservation and utilization of water now wasted in the extensive canal system and additional storage water would permit the irrigation of 18,000 acres of new land.

It is suggested that the city of The Dalles take steps to insure ample water for future municipal and industrial expansion by taking water directly from the Columbia River.

Studies should be initiated to determine the feasibility of irrigating additional Wasco County land by pumping direct from the Columbia River. These studies should include the possibility of utilizing waste water from atomic energy power plants and other industrial wastes.
Farm Mechanization

Situation:
The fruit growers at present do not have an adequate number of efficient pickers available. In the future with the use of irrigation, the estimate of tonnage increase could be two to three times as great.
The lack of pickers and the inability of getting qualified ones could reach a critical situation. There are approximately 5,000 migratory workers annually, with anticipated future needs of 15,000 to 20,000.
There is adequate equipment for crops other than cherries and no new machinery design is necessary.

Problems:
1. Not enough migrant workers to harvest fruit crops to do the job efficiently and in the event of new crops or row crops where more migrant labor is required, this problem would be further compounded.
2. Lack of an efficient mechanical picker to replace and/or supplement pickers.
3. High capital costs of general farm equipment is exerting an intensified "cost-price squeeze," especially on grain growers and also, to a lesser extent, on producers of other crops in the county. This situation exists more prevalently with farmers who have less than average size farms.

Recommendations:
There should be a study made on how to increase the migrant workers to this area. The Bureau of Labor should evaluate the migrant labor situation and consider relaxing immigration laws, allowing more Mexican nationals into the migrant labor supply for row crops and orchard crops. Also, the study of mechanical methods to take care of the lack of migrant workers should be made. Research on mechanical pickers should be intensified at Oregon State University and made possible by suitable legislative appropriations.

There should be an investigation in the area of custom or joint ownership of equipment, maybe even pooling of certain types of equipment, especially with those farmers who have less than average size farms.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
Bill Johnson, The Dalles, Chairman
Glenn Cooper, The Dalles, Vice Chairman
Grant Mead, Dufur, Recorder
Frank Adams, The Dalles
Virgil Choate, The Dalles
Fritz Clausen, Dufur

Clarence Gray, The Dalles
Leo E. Hammel, The Dalles
George Hastings, The Dalles
Kenneth Johnson, The Dalles
Carl Kaser, The Dalles
Ben Mouchett, The Dalles
Jerry Nicholson, Dufur
Wasco County Agricultural Planning Conference

Report of
LIVESTOCK AND RANGE SUBCOMMITTEE

Range

Introduction:
This committee met three times, with additional meetings of the chairman, co-chairman, and recorder to coordinate and summarize the subcommittee's progress. One of the meetings of this committee was an all-day session which range and livestock resource personnel attended in order to give the subcommittee members a more complete and factual background on the livestock and range situation in Wasco County. Since most of the livestock and range in the county are in the southern part, most of the members of this committee who attended were from that area.

The land in farms in Wasco County by use in 1964, as compared with 1959 and 1960, included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Acres in Farms</th>
<th>Land in farms (percent)</th>
<th>Cropland harvested</th>
<th>Cropland in pasture</th>
<th>Other cropland</th>
<th>Woodland</th>
<th>Other pasture land</th>
<th>Number of farms</th>
<th>Average size of farms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1,096,765</td>
<td>71.8</td>
<td>104,357</td>
<td>22,854</td>
<td>99,623</td>
<td>105,292</td>
<td>741,788</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>1,269.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1,370,488</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>110,587</td>
<td>22,218</td>
<td>142,805</td>
<td>169,579</td>
<td>978,230</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>2,048.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1,369,707</td>
<td>89.8</td>
<td>97,101</td>
<td>22,110</td>
<td>93,297</td>
<td>138,910</td>
<td>990,155</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>2,286.7</td>
</tr>
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Situation:
There has been and continues to be an increasing number of pressures or demands on all lands in Wasco County. These pressures and demands come from the ranch operator who, due to the cost-price squeeze, wants to produce more range and raise more livestock to increase his net returns; also, from the public who want more areas on which to hunt and more area for recreation. It seems, too, that this will continue as population increases.

In the county, there are nearly one million acres of rangeland and grazed woodland. On this one million acres, range management practices have declined, while at the same time cropland management has advanced considerably. The reason for this could be the higher returns and more immediate results from the improvement of cropland over rangeland.

However, in much of the southern area of Wasco County, cereal crop production is limited due to the depth of soil and the inadequate rainfall. As new varieties are developed and more fertilizer is applied, the areas of deeper soil in the central and northern part of the county continue to increase their wheat yields appreciably while those cereal-growing areas in the southern part of the county make only minute impressions on yield increases.

This means that in the livestock and range area, lower anticipated returns in the future from cereal production can be expected. It may come to the time, and perhaps already is here, when some of the cultivated cereal cropland in the range area of the county should be seeded to grass and alfalfa for livestock production.

It is not possible, in most instances, to acquire more land. The other al-
ternative, then, is to make more efficient and better use of the land which is available and a major way of doing this is to make range improvements on present range land. Approximately 150,000 to 200,000 acres of this rangeland can be tilled and seeded (land capability Class VI). A very large percentage of this acreage does need reseeding at the present time.

It has been estimated that 50 percent of the total rangeland acreage needs sagebrush spraying. Some of the area is growing juniper and much of the area is growing rabbitbrush and medusahead.

The Agricultural Conservation Program has several practices for cost-sharing which provide incentive payments to benefit rangeland, but these have received limited use. The following practices can be cost-shared (most at 50 percent) with the ranchers: reseeding, spraying, fencing pipelines, wells, spring development, ponds, and stock trails.

Research and other information indicate that range reseeding is not only practical but economically feasible on much of the rangeland within the county. The returns from seeding would give an adequate financial return resulting in increased numbers of livestock produced. The same can be said for sagebrush and rabbitbrush spraying. Probably these are the two main practices that would give an appreciable net return to livestock operators. Also, complementary to these and of equal importance is adequate range management.

Problems:

1. Inadequate grass is being grown due to lack of reseeding potential areas; spraying sagebrush, rabbitbrush and other undesirable vegetation; and lack of adequate range management.

2. There is a lack of adequate grass production for all seasons of the year. The development of a new perennial grass of high quality, which is either adaptable to certain seasons of the year or more adaptable to all seasons of the year, is needed.

3. It would seem that the 50 percent cost-sharing provided by the ASCS in the Agricultural Conservation Program is an insufficient incentive for range operators to participate extensively in the various cost-sharing ACP practices for range improvement.

4. There is a lack of good grazing distribution due to an insufficient number of water developments.

5. There is a lack of cross fencing so that livestock can be adequately distributed.

6. There is lack of recognition on the part of range operators to the benefit that could be provided by spraying undesirable vegetation and reseeding the more desirable range sites.

7. The present varieties of dryland grasses do not adequately respond to fertilizer application.

8. There is a lack of awareness on the part of some ranch operators of range management principles and the acceptance of approved range management practices.

Recommendations:

There needs to be more water developments and cross fencing for better range management.

Spraying and reseeding should be set up on a scheduled program with a certain percentage of total land or a certain number of acres done each year. This will allow for years with inclement seasons.

More research is needed on new perennial grass varieties for the area that will either give a more desirable and extensive growth during specific seasons of the year or for a longer season of the year, also providing ade-
quate protein especially for the last half of the grazing season.

It is also recommended that the Bureau of Land Management be contacted about putting out some seeding trials with a range drill.

An effort should be made to encourage the County ASCS Committee to change the cost-sharing on range-land practices from 50 per cent to 80 percent.

All land that is to be reseeded should be cropped for two to four years. During these crop years, the grain could be cut for hay or pasture and during this time undesirable vegetation could be minimized.

Greater educational effort should be provided by the Extension Service to motivate ranchers in carrying out more adequate range improvement and range management practices and greater use should be made of the technical service provided by the Soil Conservation Service regarding these practices.

**Livestock**

**Situation:**

The livestock enterprise in Wasco County consists mainly of beef production. The dairy enterprise has dwindled to two or three remaining dairies, hog production has declined, and sheep production is declining. There were approximately 4,400 head of beef cows, 2 years or older, in 1940; by 1953, that figure had increased to 7,100; and by 1966, it had increased to 18,000. Sheep, however, have shown a sharp decrease. In 1940, there were approximately 75,000 head; where as in 1954, there were 26,500; and in 1966, 11,000. Sheep producers have found it increasingly difficult to acquire efficient labor, with operating costs increasing and lamb prices remaining at a fairly constant level. There were 1800 head of breeding swine in 1940 compared with 600 in 1953, and in 1966, there were 450. Dairy cattle have decreased from 2,900 in 1940 to 1,800 in 1953, and 500 in 1966.

Gross returns from the sale of livestock in 1966 as compared with 1950 were as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1966</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>$1,232,200</td>
<td>$2,103,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep and Wool</td>
<td>447,920</td>
<td>296,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogs</td>
<td>560,185</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Cattle</td>
<td>530,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,770,305</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,799,350</strong></td>
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</table>

During the past few years, livestock marketing has taken on a new dimension. Formerly, much of the livestock was either sold directly off the ranch or taken to a central market at Portland. During recent years, a number of auction yards have been established, including one at The Dalles. Practically all livestock sold now is either sold through the auction yard or direct off-the-farm selling.

Beef consumption on a national basis comprised 57.4 percent of the 1963-65 three-year average red meat poundage consumed by Americans on a per capita basis. Pork's share was 37 percent. The balance, 5.6 percent, was shared by veal, lamb, and mutton.

On the Pacific Coast, estimates indicate beef consumption was about one-fourth greater than the national
average of 97.8 pounds per capita during 1963-65. This difference is shipped into the Pacific Northwest in the form of dressed beef and live slaughter cattle from points between Denver and the Oregon-Washington borders. California also is a supply source in periods of heavy marketings of fed cattle. Also, about 70 percent of the pork consumed in Oregon and other Pacific Coast States is shipped in from eastern supply points.

Oregon is still primarily a producer of feeder cattle. Fattening of cattle for slaughter has increased to a new record level, but the 169,000 head marketed from Oregon feedlots from October 1, 1964 through September 30, 1965 represented only 24 percent of the state's 1965 calf crop. Oregon marketings of grain-fed cattle represent less than 1 percent of the U. S. total.

Disposition of Oregon's calf crop in 1965 included shipments of 37 percent or 260,000 head to California feedlots, the largest single market outlet for Oregon feeder cattle. Oregon feeder cattle also find homes in eastern feedlots as far as Pennsylvania. Probably 50 percent of the state's calf crop is sold to out-of-state feedlots operators. The other half stays in Oregon for herd replacement and marketing as vealers and finished slaughter steers and heifers.

During the five-year period 1959-64 alone, Oregon's cattle farms and ranches declined 5 percent or 1,400 units. Sheep and lamb farms dropped 22 percent or 1,742 units; 55 percent fewer farms produced hogs in 1964 than in 1959.

Problems:

1. There is a lack of sufficiently high protein forage during the last half of the summer grazing season to provide adequate protein for both cows and calves on range.

2. The continuation of the cost-price squeeze has made it increasingly difficult under present management of livestock and range to give adequate returns to the producer.

3. Livestock diseases—especially beef cattle disease—have taken considerable tolls from time to time.

4. Due to the cost-price squeeze, it is becoming impossible to acquire adequate help for range sheep enterprises.

Recommendations:

In order to combat the lack of high protein forage for the last half of the summer grazing season, fall calving should be carried on more extensively.

To combat the cost-price squeeze, beef crossbreeding and performance testing are recommended in order that more pounds of beef may be marketed from the same number of cattle.

Additional information concerning livestock diseases should be provided by the Extension Service, and a greater awareness and understanding of livestock diseases by producers is recommended.

Freeze branding should be carried on more widely as a means of recognizing and marking cattle, as a deterrent to rustling, and also for carrying on a performance testing program.

More educational information should be provided by the Extension Service on marketing so that the producer thoroughly understands the best weight at which to market feeder calves and also to make him aware of the implications of selling on a percentage shrink.

It is recommended that more consideration be given by ranchers in the
county to the farm sheep flock enterprise where labor is a minimum as compared with the range flock.

Feeding and finishing beef cattle for market as an added ranch enterprise should be encouraged, especially the finishing of ranch-reared calves.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Larry Ashley, Maupin, Chairman
Lyle Gabel, Maupin, Co-Chairman
Dale Boner, Maupin, Recorder
Lloyd Anderson, Maupin
Cecil Ashley, Maupin
A. J. Brown, Maupin
Virgil Choate, The Dalles
Lloyd Claymier, Maupin
Raymond Crabtree, Maupin
Joe Dodd, Tygh Valley
Roy Forman, Antelope
Lawrence Gabel, Maupin
Eddie Hagen, Maupin
Verne Hanna, Maupin

Clarence Hunt, Maupin
Wm. D. Ketchum, The Dalles
Lee Lindley, Maupin
Carl Mays, Maupin
Ernest Patjens, Shaniko
Art Peetz, Wamic
Bill Peetz, Wamic
Elmer Quinn, Warm Springs
Vincent Remington, The Dalles
George Schneiter, Warm Springs
Earl Squiemhan, Warm Springs
Ed Sharp, The Dalles
Vernon Shuck, The Dalles
Lester Walters, Maupin
Lloyd Woodside, Maupin
Report of
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Introduction:
The deterioration and dissipation of soil and water have been evident over the centuries throughout the world. Soil has been lost and water has not been efficiently utilized, and as a result inadequate food and fiber have been produced and nations have "come and gone."

For example, at this time it is quite evident what has happened in China and India. The people of these countries throughout the centuries demanded more food and fiber for their ever-rapidly increasing populations. They have been producing this food and fiber at the cost of soil deterioration and water dissipation and mis-use. As a result, the land is "worn out." Yet, after seeing all these object lessons, we in this country wore out more rich land in a shorter time than any nation in history, largely because we had the land to waste. We no longer have the land to spare. America's agriculture will become increasingly vital in the future as the world's population explosion creates ever larger demands for food and fiber, and Wasco County will be expected to play its role in this drama of events.

Adequate soil and water conservation practices will be one of the most important contributors to the achievement of this goal.

Natural Beauty

Situation:
Wasco County has been endowed with many areas of natural beauty. Indiscriminate industrial and residential development along our stream-banks and in our natural areas have in the past and may in the future ruin spots of natural beauty. With the population growth and demand for new industry which is imminent, it will be both more difficult to protect our natural surroundings and more important that we do so.

Problem:
The problem is to promote the development of Wasco County while preserving its natural beauty.

Recommendations:
The committee urges that in all future planning, from the individual up to the county level, every effort be made to preserve our natural beauty.

Stream Channels

Situation:
Wasco County has many small streams that have uneven annual flow, with usual flooding in the winter and spring. During serious stream flooding, such as occurred during the winter of 1964-65, many of these streams form new channels and/or flood the adjacent land. To prevent the re-occurrence of a particular flooding situation, many people rebuild the stream channel. This stream channel work many times has a more far-reaching effect on the stream than
people realize. Many remedial stream channel improvements have caused as much or more total stream damage than if no work had been done at all.

It has been the practice on many stream banks to remove the natural vegetation.

Problem:
The problem is to protect agricultural land and homes from flooding without causing increased damage to areas downstream. There is a need to keep the stream banks protected with a vegetative cover.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that all individuals and agencies involved in stream channel work investigate their stream channel programs and make changes where necessary. The committee emphasized the need for long-term and all-inclusive watershed projects over the use of short-term remedial projects and piecemeal stream channel work.

Water Resources

Situation:
The three main water resources in Wasco County are groundwater, the creeks and streams, and the Columbia River. Groundwater has been utilized to its fullest extent in the Mosier and The Dalles areas, where it has been used for domestic, industrial, and irrigation purposes. The area around The Dalles has been faced with declining water table in the so-called Dalles Groundwater Pool. The irrigation of many of the orchards from The Dalles Irrigation District instead of from wells may give some temporary slow-up in the withdrawal from this pool, but the increased demand for water from The Dalles Groundwater Pool by industry and domestic water systems is almost sure to create a crisis in this area.

The remainder of the county uses groundwater, mainly, for domestic purposes, except for some specific artesian areas where the water is used for irrigation. Extensive geological groundwater studies have been made in The Dalles and Mosier areas, but information is lacking in much of the rest of the county.

The creeks and streams have been used mostly for irrigation because of their seasonality of flow and pollution. There have been multi-purpose watershed projects on the streams of Wasco County to store water in the high runoff season for use in the late spring and summer. Clear Lake stores water for use in irrigating parts of Juniper Flat and there is a watershed development project being planned on Fifteenmile Creek.

In general, Wasco County is a "water short" county with the only large source of potential water being the Columbia River.

The only large user of water from the Columbia River is The Dalles Irrigation District, which irrigates about 5500 acres of orchard land. There have been some people contemplating more extensive uses of Columbia River water for the irrigation of large areas of northern Wasco County in the Columbia District, but preliminary studies have yet to be undertaken.

Problems:
The main problems facing Wasco County are the utilization and development of its water resources so as to provide for the future demands of industry, agriculture, and the general population.

Recommendations:
This committee recommends that a county-wide resource commission
be established with duties similar to a zoning commission, charged with the responsibility of developing a long-range plan for all water development and use for the well-being of the entire county.

The committee recommends that the area served by The Dalles Groundwater Pool consider setting up a Water Conservancy District for the purpose of getting records on withdrawal by water users and recharging the pool.

All available resources should be made available for assistance to the Fifteenmile Creek Project, groundwater studies in problem areas of the county, improvement in the Juniper Flat irrigation project, and for improvement in general irrigation water use efficiency.

Other recommendations include: methods to correct inadequate water supplies and distribution systems on Juniper Flat; development of water sources in the Wamic area; utilization of the Columbia River for a Dalles City water supply and industrial purposes, leaving wells, streams and watershed water for other purposes; and the development of multi-purpose watershed projects to get the most benefit from the water resource we have.

### Soil Conservation

**Situation:**
From observation of Wasco County and of other areas of the Northwest, it seems that Wasco County has lagged in adopting and applying soil-conserving practices. The two main areas of soil erosion considered were the irrigated orchard area and the field crop land.

**Problem:**
The problem is to prevent soil erosion caused by excessive water runoff in the wheat area during the winter and from orchard areas during the irrigation season. Problems affecting adoption of conserving practices are the need for a chemical weed control for cheatgrass in wheat areas, lack of utilization of equipment for mulching, and the need for application of already proven soil-saving farm practices.

**Recommendations:**
The committee recommends that agencies and individuals participate in informational and educational programs promoting good soil conservation practices, including stubble mulch on grain land and permanent cover crops on irrigated orchard land.

This committee recommends that the Soil Conservation Districts and other interested groups study and evaluate the Columbia Plateau Resources Council and lend support to it if it seems to be a reasonable approach to regional soil and water conservation.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**
Bob Bailey, The Dalles, Chairman
Frank Thomas, Dufur, Vice Chairman
Ben Mouchett, The Dalles, Recorder
Bert Baughman, Mosier
Virgil Choate, The Dalles
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Carl Kaser, The Dalles
L. J. Kelly, The Dalles
Art Peetz, Tygh Valley
Orville Thompson, The Dalles
Glenn Tracy, The Dalles
Harry Wickman, The Dalles
Situation:
Agriculture and its satellite businesses represent the largest primary industry of the county. Forestry, electro-metals, and hydroelectric power production are also of major importance in the industrial make-up of the area. The area has the advantage of major water, rail and highway transportation systems, abundant inexpensive electric power, industrial sites and roads, schools and other services capable of providing for a satisfactory labor force.

PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
1. More selective industries
This question arose primarily because of a serious industrial air pollution problem that has had a deleterious effect on the fruit industry in The Dalles area and has caused a major conflict between the fruit and aluminum industries. The committee recommends that prospective new industries be checked thoroughly for possible detrimental effects on the existing community. They further recommend that Federal and State laws governing air and water pollution be strengthened and enforced to preserve the natural advantages that we have.

In selecting and placing industry, the industry should fit the site for size, taking into account area needed for future projected expansion. Small industries are as good as big ones in maintaining a steady and sound rate of growth.

2. Attracting New Industry
The committee feels that there has not been the degree of cooperation and uniform policy regarding industrial promotion between agencies involved as might be possible. The major agencies are the Port District and the Chamber of Commerce. Involved to a lesser degree but equally important are The Dalles City Government and the Wasco County Court. The committee has three suggestions:

(1) Leadership. There is a need for leadership to unify effort in community development. Existing agencies should work more closely together and keep the public informed of their activities. A special committee of community leaders from the Port Commission, Chamber of Commerce, City of The Dalles, and Wasco County Court would seem to be a step in the right direction. Would it be feasible and practical to have the same Manager for the Chamber and the Port?

(2) Area Effort. There needs to be concerted effort by county business people to push for industrial development. Communication channels should be developed to gain a common ground of interest towards a common goal. This would need to be a concerted and continuing effort. The McMinnville story is good example of this.

(3) Funds for Industrial Development. Site development and even erection of buildings for prospective industries is apparently necessary if we are to compete. This site prepa-
ration has to fit into a well laid out long-range plan of action. The McMinnville story is a shining example of what a community can do if they really have determination. Briefly, the efforts of the McMinnville people included a solid plan of development backed by all the community plus a highly successful industrial development corporation. The corporation acquires land for an industrial park and, depending on the industry, may build the factory.

3. Development of Port Area

The Port operates on funds obtained from millage assessed on taxable property in the Port district. This provides funds for operation and maintenance of the Port and a gradual purchase of land for industrial development. More funds are needed for land purchases and development. How and where can these monies be obtained? Reference is made again to the McMinnville story.

There should be close cooperation between the Port, Chamber of Commerce, and local community.

The general plans of development for the Port area are incorporated in the Mid-Columbia Council Study, recently completed. There is a definite need for an access road to present Port facilities.

4. Industry and Agriculture Cooperation

Even the title of this paragraph connotes a difference between Agriculture and all other types of industry. This barrier in our thinking needs to be broken down to the extent that agriculture becomes just as much a part of our industrial community as any other industry. We feel the Chamber of Commerce is the logical organization to take the leadership in developing this kind of thinking. The Agricultural commodity groups should become an integral part of the Chamber of Commerce.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Jim Galbraith, Chairman
Paul Kortge, Co-Chairman
Rosemary Sexton, Recorder
Frank Adams
Norma Allen

Vera Bellerive
Dan Curtiss
Joe Douthit
Jack Lipson
Dick Renken
Lee Vittoria
Report of
CITY BUS TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Problem:
The problem facing the city of The Dalles is similar to many cities of Oregon of similar size. The operation of a private bus line simply becomes less and less profitable until now the present operators have indicated they are going to cease operations.

The problem is aggravated, as in other cities, by bus lines trying to increase revenue by raising the fare, which causes fewer people to ride on the bus; or they try to reduce costs by cutting down some of the bus runs, which again reduces the number of people riding, continuing the downward spiral.

The merchants of the city have voluntarily subsidized the city bus lines for some period of time, but the voluntary program has not worked well.

It is illegal according to State law for a municipality to subsidize a private business, so this avenue is not available.

Many people deem it advisable to have a bus service. The Dalles area is somewhat unique in that the town is long and narrow, which places many citizens beyond walking distance to the downtown area.

Recommendations:
The committee recommends that as an interim measure The Dalles Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Trade Division make an additional effort to subsidize a city bus line through any means available.

The committee further recommends that The Dalles City Council cause a study of the possibility of a city-owned bus system being established. When the study is advanced to the point where approximate costs could be determined that the question should be put to the people as to whether or not they would support a city-owned bus system.

The committee further feels that in its investigations, the City Council should determine if there would be interest beyond the city boundaries—more particularly, the Chenowith Murray's Addition and, perhaps, the Thompson Addition areas—in joining with The Dalles City in a tax-supported bus service.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Minnie Kenny, Chairman
Mr. and Mrs. George Caldwell
Mrs. Arthur Means
Mrs. Marjorie McAllister
Mrs. Clara Wells
Report of
PUBLIC AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES
SUBCOMMITTEE

The committee dealt with only a few of many possible topics. They are: Planning and Zoning, Bankruptcy, Credit, Fire Protection, several city improvements, and facility problems.

Planning and Zoning

Situation:
The city of The Dalles and the adjacent part of Wasco County have been zoned. Dufur city has been studying the question of zoning. A city Planning Commission is active and continually updates their zoning regulations. The county has a Planning Commission that zoned part of the county about 15 years ago.

The zoning regulations are pretty well accepted by the people in and near the city but are not accepted in the rural areas. Few people would argue against the general concept of the value of a need for orderly land use planning to protect current property values and direct growth.

Problems:
Rural people have not accepted zoning ordinances as evidenced by 30-some notices of zoning ordinance violations in the last two years, not one of which has been prosecuted.

Power line and highway rights of way have apparently not considered the long-range need for preserving good agricultural land for agricultural use.

Areas of prime recreational value are not protected now for future recreational use.

Recommendations:
1. The committee recommends that the County Planning Commission should completely review the zoning ordinances every three or four years, complete with public hearings and publicity on changes.

2. Regulations which receive public acceptance should be enforced by the County Court in the county and the City Councils in the cities.

3. A strong educational program sponsored by the Planning Commissions and public service groups should be initiated regularly to increase individual acceptance of the public policy.

4. Public agencies, such as Bonneville Power Administration and the State Highway Department, with the power of eminent domain, should be required to give primary consideration to land use planning programs that are well conceived and in force in the areas they traverse. The use of good agricultural lands for these purposes should be avoided, if possible.

5. The County Planning Commission, with advice of the Joint Recreation Council, should zone prime recreation sites specifically for that purpose.

6. The County Planning Commission should zone prime agricultural land for agricultural use and set aside specific areas for industrial sites.

7. The garbage dump serving the city of The Dalles is an odor problem to those living downwind. The Planning Commission should designate a type of garbage disposal area or so place it that the problem is minimized.
Consumer Credit and Bankruptcy

**Situation:**
Improper use of credit and bankruptcy procedures have led to abuses of consumer credit by the borrowers and lenders. The public is paying in cost of merchandise for the loss resulting from the extension of unwise credit. Oregon has the highest rate of bankruptcy of any state in the nation.

**Problems:**
1. The business man is under pressure to extend credit to keep his business growing and competitive.
2. The consumer often lacks an understanding of credit and is unable to ascertain the amount of loan repayment he can satisfactorily carry.
3. Bankruptcy can be carried out too easily and without a loss of prestige.
4. Following bankruptcy, credit is quickly established without difficulty for further borrowing.

**Recommendations:**
1. Bankruptcy laws be studied and strengthened.
2. Credit counseling be made available in the area under leadership of the Credit Bureau.
3. Requirements that should be established before credit is extended:
   a. A basic course in understanding the responsibility of using credit be made available to all.
   b. A certificate proving completion of such a course be mandatory for anyone filing bankruptcy before credit is again available.

Fire Protection

**Situation:**
Fire protection is quite satisfactory within the city of The Dalles. Dufur, Maupin and Mosier all have less adequate systems but generally represent all that the citizens of those towns are willing to pay for. There is a newly organized rural fire district adjacent to The Dalles. It is composed of volunteers plus some paid personnel through contract with Dalles City. All the rest of the county has no organized system but rely on farm equipment and help from neighbors.

**Problems:**
Fire protection could be improved with some simple steps individuals and groups could take.

**Recommendations:**
1. Through agreement between the rural fire district and The Dalles Irrigation District, a system of hydrants should be installed for refilling tankers serving the area.
2. Good fire prevention should be practiced all through the county by individuals, such as removal of combustible material around buildings, placing cisterns where possible for refilling fire-fighting equipment, and annual inspection of all buildings for fire hazards such as wiring, dirty or faulty flues, etc.
3. A rural fire prevention campaign be sponsored annually by one or more of the farm organizations. Pamphlets and other educational aids are available through the State Fire Marshal and insurance companies.
City Services

Situation:
The city provides a great many services of various kinds to its citizens. Some of these services are paid for by user fees and some by the general fund and some by private developments.

Problems:
Parking space and congestion are problems not unique to The Dalles. We have the same facilities as 40 years ago and many times more cars. The city has some unsightly areas that need to be cleaned up to make the city more beautiful. Private property cannot be forced to clean up. Littering is a problem. Lack of funds hampers any added efforts on the part of governments.

Recommendations:
Core area off-street parking is currently under consideration by merchants of the downtown area. This will help. Further developments of this kind by the city with payment for the facility by user fees is recommended as needed.
Clean-up campaigns sponsored by civic groups and city and county government should be given added emphasis.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Rosemary Sexton, Recorder
Norma Allen
Vera Bellerive
Anna Deardorff

Doris Gifford
Bill Kortge
Rita Kulick
Jack Lipson
C. Dean Smith
George Stadelman, Jr.
Report of
RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Situation:
The committee found room for improvement all through the county to provide local recreational needs and to take advantage of the potential tourist business that will be knocking on our door from all over the U.S.A., but mostly from the Willamette Valley.

The National Forests are a prime recreational asset and these are being developed under the multiple-use concept. Current budgets provided for recreation development in the National Forest are inadequate to meet the rapidly growing recreation need.

The State Game Commission, Bureau of Land Management, and State Parks Department all have sound programs of development on lands and resources for which they have jurisdiction. Wasco County, Dalles City, Dufur Recreation District, and school districts all have fair to good recreation programs and developments. In all cases, it appears the needs and opportunities are growing faster than developments are being made.

Private recreational developments are varied in the county. They consist of sale of hunting rights, cabins on private lands, some private lakes and ponds, a few campgrounds, a golf course and numerous amusements in and around The Dalles and other towns.

PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
The overall county recreation program planning and development could best be handled through organization of a county-wide recreation district. The Recreation Subcommittee's major recommendation and key point is that such a district organization proceed. It is recognized that a major share of funds for recreation developments are available from State and National sources by way of matching fund programs. Local property tax needs could be further reduced by user fees.

National forest user fees are now directed primarily to Eastern U.S. developments. It is the recommendation of the committee that National Forest user fees collected in this area be used in this area for further recreational developments. The committee feels that all the State and Federal agencies concerned with recreation have good plans and programs. Most of them need more funds for satisfactory progress. Local organizations and individuals should let Congressmen and legislators know their feeling every chance they get.

There is need for more overnight camping and trailer sites near The Dalles. The committee feels that there is a need for many simple one car or camper turnouts on the county road system, particularly in the southern part of the county. The county road department should construct some of the juniper tree and trash barrel turnouts.

Zoning for recreation appears to be the most logical method of setting aside prime recreation value sites for future development. It becomes increasingly important that the potential growth of the tourist business be adequately planned for. The committee recommends that the City Planning Commission and Recreation Commission and the County Planning Commission and Recreation Council all get together on one plan for full development of the area. The
plan should provide a blueprint for future development for the whole county. All agencies involved in recreation should be participants in the planning. Some items the overall plan should provide would be:

1. Additional improvements in parks—Federal, State, and City.
2. Possible involvement of the Port District in providing sites for recreation along the Columbia River.
3. Additional swimming and water sport facilities.
4. Consideration should be given to a public golf course and archery areas.
5. More cohesive action in developing the historical site at The Dalles.

Vandalism and littering continue to be very serious problems on both public and private lands and property. The committee recommends stiffer penalties and more efforts in controlling this problem.

The BLM program of Deschutes River development is a sound program of enhancement of a recreation area. It should proceed as planned.

The Wasco County youth work camp provides a good program for development of a few young men. The committee concurs in the program and suggests that public recreation projects are good places to aim this program.

Future development of reservoirs by irrigation or flood control interests, such as the Fifteenmile Creek project, should not fail to develop to the fullest extent any recreation potential that may also exist there.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Mrs. Florence Davenport, The Dalles
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Doris Gifford, The Dalles
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Luetta Tibbets, The Dalles
Betty Lee Vittoria, The Dalles
Report of
TAXATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Prepared by the Extension Advisory Council sitting as a committee of the whole. Acknowledgement is given to William D. Ketchum for assembling much of the material that went into this report.

SITUATION AND PROBLEM

A major block to progress in community development and public services is the unequal distribution of the local tax load. Present local taxing districts—such as schools, port, fire, recreation, etc.—have made progress but at heavy cost to property holders. These responsible citizens have accepted and borne a large part of the cost of public services apparently wanted by the majority of those who have voted.

Future progress and proposals, such as a community college district and a county recreation district, will receive strong opposition, primarily because the local share of the cost is paid by property taxes. The effect on property taxes—rather than the need for education, recreation development, or other public services—becomes controlling when property holders are voting yes or no on these proposals.

Despite this, through the years, property taxes have demonstrated some significant strengths. They lend themselves to local control and administration. Real property is difficult to conceal; widespread evasion of the tax is seldom possible. Property taxes have also proved to be a stable and dependable source of revenue. The amount of revenue produced is affected by ups and downs in economic activity to a lesser extent than revenue from income or sales taxes.

Yet, times have changed. New and different methods of financing public services have been found. Many feel that the property tax is outdated. It shows some major weaknesses when put to the tests of generally-accepted criteria of how the cost of government services should be shared. The criteria are: (1) ability to pay, (2) benefits received, and (3) equality of treatment.

Ability To Pay:

Property taxes are not distributed among taxpayers according to ability to pay as measured by current income.

Instead, property tax levies are distributed among property holders in proportion to the value of taxable property each holds.

The relationship between market value and current income varies widely by kind or class of property. This relationship is affected by risk, opportunity for capital gains and the like. For some classes, such as some business locations, the market value may be only 10 times the net annual earnings from the property. For other classes, like farmland, market prices may be as much as 50 times annual earnings. As a result, property taxes can take a much larger part of the annual earnings from one class than from another.

Likewise, the value of property held and the annual earnings of taxpayers vary widely. A city family with a $6,000 income from salaries and wages, living in a $15,000 house, usually will be paying much less property tax than an apartment house owner or farmer with similar income. As a result, property taxes are not closely related to a taxpayer's ability to pay out of current income.
The problem for farm people is emphasized in the table at the end of this committee report. It shows taxes assessed to farm property, real and personal, in Oregon by 1965 had increased 154% since 1950. Net farm income during the same period dropped 11%. The divergences of these trends compounds the adverse economic effects of the property tax on Oregon farmers. It is emphasized further by the fact that all property taxes paid in Oregon represent about 5% of the net income of those who paid the taxes. If we sort our farmers from the total group, we find they are paying 25% of their net income for property taxes. It was 30.8% in 1964 and 25.4% in 1965.

In many instances, as levies increase or current incomes decline, it becomes necessary to pay property taxes out of savings from past income, or out of borrowings from future income. These are not the usually accepted basis for measuring ability to pay and can lead to forced sales or confiscation of property.

Benefits Received
The property tax is not shared in proportion to benefits received. Many pay little property tax but receive much benefit from local services partially or entirely financed by this money. Others pay much property tax but receive little direct benefit.

Fire protection and police protection are public services from which property holders benefit somewhat in proportion to the value of their property. But these services are not the primary users of property taxes. The big users are elementary and secondary schools. In Wasco County it is 70.64%. There seldom is a direct relationship between the value of property owned by an individual taxpayer and the number of children he has in school. Education benefits society generally. Its costs might be funded to a greater extent by contributions of income-earners and income spenders throughout the state and nation and to a lesser extent by local property holders.

Equality of Treatment
To meet the criteria of equality of treatment, all property would have to be taxable and valued in the same way. But much property has been exempted or accorded special treatment by legislative acts. This means that owners of the remaining property must pay a larger tax unless the levy is reduced. This leads to dissatisfaction and unwillingness to support public services.

Recommendations
It is recommended that Wasco County citizens:
1. Be encouraged, and afforded more opportunities, to become better informed about the strengths and weaknesses of various ways of financing public services and how changes may be made.
2. Seek changes in our system of financing local government services that would bring it more nearly in line with generally accepted criteria. Such changes might include:
   a. Limiting the use of property tax primarily to supplying funds for services, such as fire and police protection, that directly benefit property holders.
   b. Returning much tax exempt property to the tax rolls. With lower tax rates there would be less need for exemptions and special treatment.
   c. Relying more heavily on the income approach when placing assessed value on property.
   d. Using more state-levied and collected funds to finance schools, roads, streets, public health and other services benefitting the public generally.
   e. Using locally levied state-collected funds, such as income or sales taxes, to supplement other sources of
Indexes of Ad Valorem Taxes Assessed to Real and Personal Farm Property and Total Net Farm Income to Farmers from Farming (1950–100)

**Oregon 1950-65**

*Farm Property Taxes*

*Net Farm Income*
revenue to meet additional or special local needs and wants.

f. Enabling legislation be enacted by the State of Oregon allowing alternative methods of raising local taxes. Benefits that accrue to people rather than property should be paid for by people taxes rather than property taxes.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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GENERAL SITUATION

At the Wasco County Long-Range Program Planning Conference Forum held on January 12, 1967, the Education Committee received over 20 possible discussion topics. These were condensed to 16 areas for subcommittee discussion. Each subcommittee, in turn, set topic priorities because all areas could not be covered between the Forum and March 15. The six subcommittees are described as follows:

1. General School Problems from Tygh Ridge to the Columbia River (included School Districts 9, 12, 14 and 29).

2. General School Problems from Tygh Valley to the southern boundary of Wasco County (included schools in Maupin, Tygh Valley, and Wamic).

3. Vocational Education.

4. Community College. This was a committee of high school juniors and seniors. Since there were county adult committees already functioning, the total Education Committee felt a student-oriented study on community college would be appropriate, since it would add to and not compete with the existing adult committees.


6. Adult Education.

Accurate information on which to base Education Committee discussion was not available to cover all discussion areas. Information resources used included: Oregon State Department of Education, Wasco County School Superintendent's Office, the various school administrators' offices, resource persons, and questionnaires prepared and used by the subcommittees.

A problem area is lack of information concerning where Wasco County children finally settled as adults and the occupations they fill. Nationally, 16% of high school students eventually receive a college degree. Of Oregon high school graduates, 40.5% enter a four year degree-granting institution. Very little information on Wasco County children and on children state-wide other than those attending school above the twelfth grade is available.

There is evidence from known situations of former students of Wasco County high schools that 20-25% of the boys eventually settle down in Wasco County as permanent residents. This same evidence indicates these boys come predominantly from the lower half of the school GPA scale. It also indicates that the boys in the upper half of the school GPA scale who remain as permanent residents usually have family business situations open to them or receive professional education and return to the county to practice. There is no information available which tells how the people moving into the county compare in education and ability with those persons who grow up and are educated here, then move to other areas.

The following tables contain information utilized by more than one subcommittee. Statistics furnished by the counseling department of The Dalles Senior High School show that in this specific school the performance of graduating seniors is, for all purposes, the same as is indicated in the table below for senior post high school plans for Oregon.
TABLE 1

Source:
Office of High School Relations, Oregon State System of Higher Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attend State System School</td>
<td>33.7 - 37.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend all colleges in Oregon, including Community Colleges</td>
<td>44.6 - 48.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total college, including out of state</td>
<td>55.2 - 56.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend college or vocational training</td>
<td>61.3 - 65.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total—no future training planned</td>
<td>34.8 - 38.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students sampled from 218 to 241 schools each year, including 19,416 to 28,902 individuals.

TABLE 2
School population of Wasco County December 31, 1966, from office of County School Superintendent

Total Students — 5,377 (High School 1,427, Jr. High 781, Elementary 3,169)

High School Students:

- The Dalles: 3 yr. 784
- Wahtonka: 4 yr. 395
- Wasco County Union, Maupin: 4 yr. 170
- Dufur: 4 yr. 60
- Antelope students to Madras: 4 yr. 18

TABLE 3
Holding power of Oregon high school students entering 9th grade 1952-1964 (from Guidance Service Section, State Department of Education)

80.8% of 1961 9th grade students graduated from high school in 1964.

TABLE 4
Wasco County persons, age 25 and older, with less than 8th grade education (from Demographic Analysis of the State of Oregon, 1965)

11,455 persons over 25 with 1,346 under 8th grade education (11.8%)

School Problems of Northern Wasco County Subcommittee

Situation:
The Education Subcommittee dealing with school problems in Northern Wasco County found the area currently to be in a stable school situation. The committee met once on February 1, 1967, and current local school problems were again discussed. The committee’s report is limited to putting into print the local educational areas that are of current concern to the people. Specific situations include:

1. Public kindergartens are not available.
2. Some of the elementary children are now being placed with junior high students in District 12, The Dalles.
3. There is interest in consolidation but no immediate pressure to create consolidation activity.
Problems:
1. There is a shortage of teachers, facilities and funds to include public kindergartens in the school system.
2. Elementary students are being placed with junior high students and the parents of these children are concerned.
3. There seems to be no apparent immediate problems, other than those that have always existed or those that go with the changing of times.

Recommendations:
1. The committee supports The Dalles District 12 plans for a four-year high school.
2. The Dalles Junior High School system should be studied with an open mind toward changes.
3. Consolidation will eventually be put to the test in the area by voters. In the meantime, study of consolidation alternatives should continue and the public should be informed.
4. Public kindergartens are needed. The need is especially felt by children of low income families.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mrs. Glenn Tracy, The Dalles, Chairman
Wayne Tienhaara, Dufur
Frank Thomas, Dufur
Mrs. Bill Brassfield, The Dalles
Ed Bonham, The Dalles

Resource Persons Contacted For Information
Alvin Unruh, Superintendent of Schools, District 12
Ernest Davenport, Curriculum and Personnel Coordinator, District 12
Ernest Stranz, Assistant Superintendent, District 9

School Problems of Southern Situation:
The committee felt the Southern Wasco County problems were public apathy and the need for consolidation. A survey sheet was printed and put out in the Maupin, Tygh Valley, and Wamic areas to get the feeling of the people on consolidation. The results showed that people in these areas do not have the same ideas regarding school consolidation. For example:

Half are interested in consolidation and half are opposed.
Half think consolidation will improve the education for their children and half do not.
Half believe the social environment is better under consolidation and half do not.
Two-thirds feel consolidation would improve teaching standards and one-third do not.
Two-thirds think consolidation means a more expensive educational system and one-third do not.

Reasons given most often for favoring consolidation are: better facilities and better instruction. Reasons given most often for opposing consolidation are: loss of local control of school and parents not wanting children in school so far from home. If consolidation should come, over half favor leaving primary students in schools in each community. There is not so much pressure to keep elementary students in the home community.

If consolidation does not come, over half want to construct better school facilities and nearly one-third want to pay higher teacher salaries. There is evidence that at least one-third of the people want to work more closely with the school and its teachers.

An action committee has met with the School Board and through their
efforts remedial reading is now available in Wamic.

**Problem:**
The committee feels there is a need for better communication between local people and school members. There is some recent improvement in communication but more is needed.

**Recommendations:**
The committee feels that consolidation will come only through the result of state legislative action.

**Vocational Education Subcommittee**

**Situation:**
The major emphasis of high school programs is directed at the college-bound student, yet almost 20% of our youth drop out of high school before graduating. The alternative paths to a place in society for these individuals are extremely limited.

Work experience programs are available at the high school level. Students are able to investigate vocational opportunities, as well as receive training in job attitudes and proper methods in applying for work. After training, the student is assisted in locating a job for part of the school day and receives credit for this towards a high school diploma.

Special training in catering and serving is offered with home economics courses.

Questionnaires were distributed at local service organizations and interviews were held with school counselors and administrators, apprenticeship committee leaders and State Employment Office personnel.

The questionnaire returns and interviews acknowledged the need and indicated favorable response for an organized vocational program.

A positive response was given to the question of support (i.e., instructing, allowing job observation and participation, and, in some instances, furnishing training sites and equipment).

The general opinion of people in the community who were consulted was that the Mid-Columbia area needs a vocational training program. Needs mentioned were: business courses, power mechanics, carpentry, masonry, painting, plumbing, and welding. Technically trained personnel in great demand at the present time are: medical and dental assistants, physical therapists, dental technicians, nurses, X-ray technicians, computer programmers, and data processors.

The local apprenticeship program trains as many people as the limited number of businesses will allow. The primary purpose of this program is to upgrade job opportunities for those who are established in a particular field.

Economic Opportunity Act work experience programs, such as the Neighborhood Youth Corps, offer opportunities to work with financially and otherwise deprived youth who would not be reached with current programs.

The Dalles School of Beauty offers excellent training for young people and adults who are interested in this field.
Problems:
1. Vocational guidance and occupation information need to start in the elementary school and continue at all levels of education. Potential drop-outs could be recognized at an early age and interests re-directed towards vocational training. All youth need work experience as part of their education. The chance to learn how to work or to experience the satisfaction of responsibility, personal contribution, staying with a task, and the many other factors which cause 95% of all people to lose jobs is not available for our young people. Closer counseling should be available to properly inform students about the work experience program and to encourage participation.

2. The area population would not support a complete vocation training center. Information from the State Department of Education indicates that a reservoir of 4,000 high school students would be necessary. Age limitations and employer liability would require special consideration if on-the-job training were expanded to include all types of business.

3. Skilled personnel with three years of experience and twelve hours of special training classes are qualified to instruct vocational education courses. (A degree in education is not required.)

Recommendations:
1. Funds are available from several sources to implement vocational education. A coordinator or advisor is needed to introduce new ideas from Federal and State levels and to consolidate efforts of school districts, the community, and employment agencies.

2. Intense counseling within the framework of the schools, beginning at the elementary school level, is needed to recognize and assist potential drop-outs.

3. Educational institutions should bring professional people with special skills into the schools part-time to help do the vocational and technical education job.

4. The work experience program should be expanded. Many students are not aware of its existence.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mrs. Eugene Johanson, The Dalles, Chairman
Gary Foster, The Dalles
Mrs. Otto Hinkle, The Dalles
Al Lafrenz, The Dalles
Mrs. James McNeilly, The Dalles
Mrs. Keith Palmer, The Dalles
Ernest Stranz, Mosier

Resource Persons:
James Tobin, Area Director, Oregon Council of Curriculum and Instruction (OCCI)
Ernest Davenport, Curriculum and Personnel Coordinator, School District 12

Adult Education Subcommittee

1. Situation:
Sessions on driver education are given through the Department of Oregon Motor Vehicles every other month. This refresher course is open to all age levels. There is no charge and a driver's license is not required. Filmstrips, movies, and lectures are used in local driver training with school teachers as instructors. The first year there were 10 people who attended. Currently, 30 people are attending.

Problem:
There are no problems as of now other than those universally recognized.

Recommendations:
There will probably be a need for more driver training teachers in the
future. There should be public classes for driving lessons. Fees should be charged and lessons should be available daytime and evenings.

All driving code violators, adult and juvenile, should be made to attend driver education classes.

2. Situation:
There is not a full rounded program in the hobby, crafts, and arts field at this time.

Problems:
There is not enough interest by the people. Facilities are lacking. Retired people need a place where they can pursue interests.

Recommendations:
A community arts and crafts center should be developed which would include fine arts. Classes in arts and hobbies should be available. These could be taught by local hobbyists, retired persons, and others. Small fees should be charged but not enough to prevent use by people of all ages. With management and planning, the center could be self-sufficient financially.

3. Situation:
There currently are no facilities to teach adult sex education in Wasco County.

Problem:
There is an adult need for sex education.

Recommendations:
The county needs a place where adults can go for sex education other than the county Public Health Department.

4. Situation:
Home economics for disadvantaged services are provided through existing Extension Units which are not slanted at any particular economic group. The Extension Service, as an educational part of Oregon State University and the United States Department of Agriculture, contributes the educational program in the Abundant Foods Program. Extension Unit lay people are trained to demonstrate uses of foods available in the Surplus Food Store. The aims of the program are: to help the women who receive the products to use all foods to a better advantage, to decrease the pickup of foods they tend not to use, to help the users become aware of savings by using surplus foodstuffs, and to acquaint users with information the Extension Service has to offer.

Because so many low income recipient (75%) are not on public assistance, the people receiving the food change monthly; therefore, the education job continues.

County Extension unit membership includes some persons who are economically deprived. Since July, 1965, separate ADC (Aid to Dependent Children) sessions have not been held.

Recommendations:
If funds were available to the Extension Service, home economics classes for low income groups could be held.

5. Situation:
Adult education classes in School District 12 and 9 are in the planning stages for literacy training and GED* classes for non-welfare people. Each district will conduct one class, with the school district providing the teachers. There is a literacy training and GED class for welfare recipients on Economic Opportunities Title V, Training.

The present class includes 18 welfare and nine non-welfare people. There is an adult conversational Spanish class being taught. Several class members employ Spanish-speaking migrant workers. A work experi-

*General Education Development, includes testing for an issuing of high school equivalency diplomas.
ience program is being given in the school. Subjects include basic English, mathematics and science. The 1966-67 enrollment of adults in classes, not including teachers, were: 113 in the fall term, 125 in the winter term. The spring term had not yet been tabulated. This covers reimbursible vocation classes (apprenticeship) and reimbursible trade and industry classes. There are also five school district sponsored classes.

**Problems:**

Some courses given through the Division of Continuing Education were dropped because of insufficient enrollment.

**Recommendations:**

There is need for more adult education classes especially oriented to low income people who cannot afford present costs. Classes should be available during daytime, evening, and during the summer. Continued study is needed in local adult education opportunities and organizations.

**Community College Subcommittee**

This committee of students polled Wahtonka and Dufur High School students in Wasco County regarding student attitudes about the community college. The committee submits the results of its questionnaire as its recommendation.

Of 68 returned questionnaires, only 5 indicated they had no plans for future education.

Thirty-one hoped to attend 4-year colleges, 13 vocational school, 11 listed other (remarks indicated nursing, business, armed services, etc.), 8 technical school.

Forty-three would attend a community college if available, 15 would not, and 7 were undecided.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mrs. Bill Dodson, The Dalles, Chairman
Mrs. Billy Clark, The Dalles

**Resource Persons Contacted:**

Ed Bonham, Wasco County Extension Agent, (4-H Club Work)
Mrs. Rita Kulick, Executive Director, Community Action Program
Lee Foster, Hood River County Extension Agent
Dr. E. E. Berg, Health Officer, Wasco-Sherman Public Health Department
Al Larvick, Driver Education, School District 12
Bert Keith, Former Chairman, Chamber of Commerce Education Committee
Ernest Davenport, Curriculum and Personnel Coordinator, School District 12

Mileage students were willing to travel for community college attendance: 0-5 miles (2); 5-10 miles (5); 10-20 miles (27); 20-30 miles (18); 30-40 miles (9); 40-50 miles (1); over 50 miles (2).

Twenty-five students wanted to live on campus, 35 did not, and 3 were undecided.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Terry Elton, The Dalles, Chairman
Susie Roberston, Dufur, Co-Chairman
Jim Bledsoe, The Dalles
Pam Adkisson, Dufur
A. Citizenship in Home, Community and Country

Situation and Problems:

A survey was made in February and March, 1967, throughout Wasco County to determine the existing general attitude in regard to Citizenship in Home, Community and Country. The survey was conducted by means of a total of 385 questionnaires directed to the adults of the communities. Two separate questionnaires were prepared and distributed: one to business, to measure the general attitudes of the adults; and one to educators, to determine their opinions of (1) youth of their community in regard to their understanding of the responsibilities of citizenship, and (2) present methods and practices of teaching citizenship.

The Dallas Superintendent of Schools and Wasco County Superintendent of Schools distributed through their offices 320 questionnaires to 19 schools of elementary and secondary level. Of these 320 questionnaires, 142 were completed and returned. There were 65 questionnaires distributed in four communities to a variety of businessmen and employees in both retail and service fields. Of these 65 questionnaires, 51 were returned.

The following is a report by percentage based on the 142 questionnaires completed by the educators:

50.7% of the teachers feel that the children in their classes express in their discussions a fundamental "love of country."

52.8% of the teachers express the opinion that the schools leave the teaching of patriotism up to the individual instructor.

16.2% of the teachers begin their school day with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

64.1% of the teachers feel that the pledge of allegiance is an important event of the day.

17.6% of the teachers feel that the average child in their class is aware of or has a basic understanding of how the Constitution and Bill of Rights affect his life.

53.5% of the teachers agree that the teaching of the basic concept of democracy is the responsibility of the home to be reinforced in school.

49.3% of the teachers think their children express pride in their school.

52.8% of the teachers feel that their children have respect for those in authority in their school.

46.5% of the teachers think that the children demonstrate responsibility toward the school.

The following is a report by percentage based on the 51 questionnaires completed by adults engaged in various types of business:

66.7% of the adults display the American flag at their place of business on all national holidays.

74.5% of the adults do not display the flag at their homes on national holidays.

43.1% of the adults state that all meetings they regularly attend are opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

68.6% of the adults think that it is important to open all meetings with the pledge of allegiance.

49.0% of the adults feel that patriotism is the same today as it was when they were children but expressed with more reserve.

41.2% of the adults feel that patriotism today is not the same as it was when they were children.

98.0% of the adults express respect and admiration for those serving in the armed forces.

66.7% of the adults feel that the teaching of the basic concepts of de-
mocracy is the responsibility of the home to be reinforced in the school.
58.9% of the adults feel that the youth in their community express pride in the community.
70.6% of the adults feel that the youth of their community express pride in their country.
62.7% of the adults feel that the youth demonstrate responsibility toward their community.
60.8% of the adults are not in favor of lowering the age of legal majority from 21 to 18 years of age.

Recommendations:
On the basis of the opinions expressed in this survey, the Citizenship Committee recommends the following percentages for further consideration by the school and/or the communities through the formation of a representative action committee.
1. If it is the general policy of the school to begin the school day with the pledge of allegiance to the American flag, this policy should be discussed with all teachers during the teachers' orientation in the fall. 16.2% of the teachers stated that it had been discussed.
2. 14.1% of the teachers replied that the teaching materials now used by the school supplied their needs for what they considered adequate teaching of patriotism.
3. 46.5% of the teachers do not feel that the average child in their class has a basic understanding of how the Constitution and Bill of Rights affect his life. The percentage increases from 32.5% in the elementary to 74.2% in the high school.
4. 33.8% of the teachers were of the opinion that their students express pride in their community. In connection with this, 39.2% of the adults engaged in business feel that their community and community leaders encourage youth to have and to show pride in their community. 35.3% of the adults do not agree.
5. 55.6% of the teachers feel their children have respect for law officials, and 52.9% of adults in business feel the youth have respect for those in authority.
6. 66.7% of the adults and 53.5% of the teachers agree that the teaching of the basic concepts of democracy is a responsibility of the home. Of the adults questioned, 74.5% do not display the American flag at their home on national holidays.

B. Communications
Situation:
There is an obvious definite breakdown of communication between school-parent youth today, locally as well as nationally.

Problems:
1. Youth wants independence, more liberty and privilege of adulthood, yet cannot survive without guidance and care.
2. The family remains the strongest tie to social order, yet parents are not meeting the responsibility of duty to bring the child up as an approved citizen. Parents lack time, desire or ability to talk with the child. The home has lost its influence upon youth. The reasons for this are: parents working, few or no chores or duties required of young people, lack of interest in hobbies unless handed to them. Parents fail to follow through on discipline.
3. Schools are slowly realizing they must assume responsibility to educate youth and parents. Unrealistic grading system creates dissension between parent-child-teacher triad. Too little guidance is given in schools. The curriculum is not designed for the "non-college bound" student, creating drop-outs and/or dissatisfaction. Contact between parent and teacher is lacking. PTAs are not filling the need.
4. The three-year high school poses many problems. The adjustment
from elementary school is a dramatic change. A large problem area among teen-agers under 16 years is being too young to work or attend organized teen functions.

5. Double standards of adults on dishonesty, cheating, etc., set poor example and create disrespect.

6. Lack of recreation facilities is noted.

7. Too much stress on negatives is mentioned.

Recommendations:

1. Clearly define that the principal of each school is the policy maker and the one to be consulted on student problems and student government by both parents and students and that he MUST be supported by the school board, administration, and faculty.

2. Start intensive orientation at the seventh grade level and again upon entering high school. The student must be made to understand that full freedom has not yet arrived—that he is in a learning situation which offers certain freedom and rights to express within a structured system. Clearly define role of teachers, administration, parents, school board, and student government.

3. More realistic guidance and counseling are needed. The teacher's role today is primarily advisor and counselor. Some teachers are not able to cope with this situation. An intensive program including all teachers is needed. Youth must have a chance to talk with the educator. Example: A strong activity program helps meet the need for student responsibility for citizenship. The degree of success depends upon the intelligent and whole-hearted leadership from activity advisors. (Note good relationship between athletes and teacher-coach.)

4. "Accentuate the positive"—stress what student CAN do, not what he shouldn't.

5. Curriculum and grading are inadequate for today's needs.
   a. More vocational courses are needed.
   b. Some courses should be restructured for "non-college bound" and/or potential drop-outs. (This is especially true of "required" courses — English, etc.)

6. In lieu of other facilities, school gymnasiums should be made available on evenings and week-ends, with paid supervision, for use of facilities by the entire community.

7. The community should seek participation of "new blood" in school affairs, including school board committees.

8. Parent-teacher conferences are needed at regular intervals with candid discussion. Parent-teacher conferences were tried successfully at Joseph G. Wilson School during this 1966-67 year. This was a pilot project to test the feasibility of the parent-teacher conference. Those at Joseph G. Wilson School are sold on the idea of parent-teacher conferences in conjunction with report cards. They feel the 87% turnout of the 390 conferences scheduled speaks for the parental interest. Next year, a 90-95% turnout is expected as more parents will have become acquainted with the idea of the parent-teacher conference.

C. Sex Education

Information Sources:

1. Questionnaires to elementary and secondary schools in the county (one school did not reply)

2. Junior High School PTA discussion group

3. Ministers—interviews with all denominations in The Dalles

4. High School Girls' League with Dr. Wilcox as guest speaker

5. Individual discussions with young people
Present Situation:
1. Schools cover biological aspects but do not involve the emotions.
2. Ideally, the home and church cover the emotional aspects.
3. The program presented by Dr. Wilcox to the high school Girl's League has opened some communication between parents and daughters by providing some common terminology.

Problems:
1. Home and church are not covering the emotional aspects adequately.
2. Not enough sex education has been aimed toward the boys.
3. Although it is a community problem, it is not being handled on the community level.

Recommendations:
1. Sex education should be started at the ninth grade level.
2. The greatest number of children can be reached by starting sex education through the schools, with beginning understanding at grade school level.

D. Juvenile Attitude Toward Law Enforcement

Situation:
There is agreement that a sizable portion of Wasco County youth display the following attitudes:
1. Disrespect.
2. Resentful of authority.
3. Question the authority of law enforcement officers.
4. Lack of concern until actually coming in contact with some phase of law enforcement.

Problems:
1. Parental guidance and influence lacking.
2. Personal contact with a law enforcement officer, which at times may leave a bad impression upon the youth.
3. An inadequate knowledge of some of our basic laws and the reasons for the laws.
4. Young people wanting to be one of "The Group."
5. Influence by newspapers, radio, and TV.
6. A changing society. Many acts of misconduct which years ago were considered minor pranks are now more serious violations in our society.
7. Little or no punishment for first and second offenders. This leaves little impression upon our youth.

Recommendations:
1. More personal contact between students and officers at schools, youth groups, etc.
2. More cooperation on the part of schools and parents.
3. Urge parents and teachers not to degrade law enforcement officers.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
Daryl Corey, The Dalles, Chairman
Mrs. John Blaser, The Dalles, Co-Chairman
Mrs. George Nesheim, The Dalles
Mrs. Dale Fallon, The Dalles
Mrs. James McNeilly, The Dalles
Carl Sauders, The Dalles
Roger Getchell, The Dalles
Miss Vicki Smith, The Dalles
Bill Bell, The Dalles
Mrs. Keith Palmer, The Dalles
Al Lafrenz, The Dalles
FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE

As a result of the beginning Forum for the Wasco County Long-Range Program Planning held on January 12, 1967, the Family Life Committee divided into two subcommittees: Youth Problems, and Family Counseling and Community Service. These two committees tried to report accurately on the present situation in Wasco County. They then defined problem areas and offered solutions to these problems.

Youth Problems Subcommittee

Introduction:
The youth of Wasco County are faced with many problems during their maturing years. These problems are of concern to the entire county because, unless proper guidance and help are offered and proper control exercised, they are costly to all in terms of taxes, environment, social well-being, community and commercial attractiveness, safety, and wasted education and abilities. Although these problems are not unique to Wasco County and are experienced across the nation, they are present here and need to be confronted and solved to the best of our ability.

Present Situation:
Teen-agers represent about 10% of our population. The vast majority of these are in school, 60% continuing their education beyond high school. A very small percentage of these young people will ever come in contact with the juvenile authorities because of complaints against them. There are presently a number of tax-supported agencies in our county working with teens to offer needed guidance. One of these—the Neighborhood Youth Corps—is a recent development but has already shown its worth by offering constructive employment and badly needed additional earnings to low-income families.

Despite the present efforts by the county and the fine accomplishments of many teens, the situation is still serious. This is evidenced by the number of school drop-outs. Some 19% of the youth drop out of school between the 9th and 12th grades. This is based upon those who start the 9th grade and do not graduate. It is seen in the fact that members of this 10% of our population account for over one-third of the crimes committed and a third of our law enforcement agencies' time and work load. This is contributed to by public and parental apathy toward both the problem in general and the specific "problem-maker."

Problems:
1. Overlapping efforts because of lack of coordination among the various agencies to deal with youth in the county. The agencies most often dealing with youth problems are the welfare department, mental health clinic, schools, and juvenile counseling, but they are often unaware of what the others are doing in a particular area or case.

2. The lack of a uniform Student
Code. Parents and youth want to know the guidelines by which their young people are expected to live and will respect equal treatment and justice for all.

3. A general unawareness, or even unconcern, on the part of the public, and particularly parents, regarding the youth situation and problems.

4. The lack of sufficient and proper recreational facilities for youth.

5. Too much dependence on the juvenile court and sheriff's department and too big a workload for them to handle effectively.

6. The need for review of sentencing procedures, curfew, and point system.

Recommendations:
(Numbering corresponds to related problems)

1. A "clearing house" should be established to provide better communication between tax-supported agencies. This would serve to coordinate the help available to young people in Wasco County and assure more efficiency in handling problems. It should be left to the discretion of the agencies to establish a "clearing house."

2. The adoption of a uniform Student Code to be written as a cooperative effort between students and parents. Codes from other areas, such as the Minnesota State Teen-Age Code, could be used as a guideline.

3 (a) A program that would motivate, educate, and possibly irritate parents to become aware of youth problems should be organized. This could be started by even a small group of parents who would sponsor qualified speakers at PTAs, church groups, civic clubs, etc.

(b) The local Chamber of Commerce's comprehensive study on juvenile delinquency should be published and submitted to the public.

(c) An effort should be made toward greater cooperation among parents, students, and teachers with regard to educational and school-related youth problems. This effort could best be implemented through a parent-teacher-student association.

(d) A Mid-Columbia Community College should be established.

4. A Youth Center should be established in Wasco County. An action committee could promote this and offer adult guidance to youth activities. If the covered swimming pool project is pursued, the youth center could be built in conjunction with it.

5. (a) A Big Brother Program should be inaugurated. This could function under the guidance of the Mental Health Clinic.

(b) A study should be made to find additional means to relieve the workload of the Juvenile Court.

(c) A sheriff's branch office should be established in the southern part of the county to police that area more effectively.

6. (a) The acceptance and use by the Courts of a Work Detail as one form of sentencing for both juvenile offenders and their parents. This program has been in use and is working effectively in Cheyenne, Wyoming, through a municipal judge.

(Readers Digest, February 1967, page 70)

(b) The establishment of a Youth Farm as a facility of handling juvenile offenders too old or too difficult for foster home care and too young for prison.

(c) Curfews should be more strictly enforced throughout the county.

(d) The point system for driving offenses should be continued, but reviewed and changed to correct present abuses in the method of accumulating extra points. It appears that some take undue advantage of the "brownie" system for accumulating extra points. It should be reviewed and strengthened in this regard.
Family Life and Community Services Subcommittee

**HOME BREAKDOWN**

**Situation:**

Home breakdown is causing social problems and youth problems in Wasco County. It is difficult to actually determine the causes of family breakdown. Two types of breakdown are:

1. The home where the parents no longer live together. The children live with the mother in most cases, sometimes with the father, and in some cases their time is divided between the two parents.

2. In the home where communication has deteriorated, respect is often non-existent, but an effort is made to hold the family together by living in one household.

In the State of Oregon, on a given day, there is an average of one divorce decree granted for every two marriages entered into. In Wasco County during 1965, there were 80 divorces granted and 155 couples married. This number does not include those couples married in states other than Oregon but whose residence is in Wasco County.

In Oregon during 1965, 40.5% of the brides and 14.8% of the grooms were of the 15 to 19 year age group. At the same time, 19% of the divorces granted were to wives in the 20 to 24 age group, 68.25% having been married from one to four years, indicating the high ratio of divorces resulting from teen-age marriages.

Contributing causes for home breakdown were listed as follows:

A. Teen-age marriages.

1. Young marriages are less stable, with the most hazardous age groups being 16 to 17 for females and 17 to 18 for males.

2. Teen-age marriages start with an economic disadvantage, because the wage earner frequently does not have the necessary skills or education to provide job security for a family.

3. Both husband and wife are often lacking in adult maturity which leads to marital and child-rearing difficulties.

   a. The husband may not be ready to accept home responsibility. He may still prefer his youth activities and friends.
   b. The wife may not be prepared for homemaking responsibility.
   c. Neither parent may be emotionally prepared to have and adequately care for children. They may feel the child prevents them from satisfying their own social and economic needs.
   d. The attention of the teen-age parent is often drawn to his own personal need rather than the needs of each other or the children.
   e. When the couple marries young, problems frequently arise when their children are teen-
agers. They are unable to give the guidance needed, having missed some of the development stages in their teens.

4. Young parents, because of their mobility and lack of community involvement, do not want to participate in activities that are community planned and appear similar to education. They are difficult to reach and resist assistance offered.

B. A Rapidly Changing Society

1. In Oregon in 1960, 62% of the population lived in urban communities in comparison to 54% in 1950.

2. A decreasing number of people now live in the same community in which they were reared and have ties.

3. Technological advances have created a mobile working class. The unskilled wage earner must move to areas where such work is available. Such work may also be seasonal, such as construction, harvesting, and orchard work.

4. Position and material wealth have become the symbol of a man's worthwhileness or community stature.

5. Efficiency and financial gain tend to become the primary goal of business, rather than personal service and satisfaction.

6. The role of the homemaker has changed and the mother is more free to pursue additional interests.

These and other changes have helped to create the following changes in the family:

Mobile families do not have roots in the community. Parents and children cannot rely on the companionship and support of their immediate family and relatives. Mobile families often do not become involved or integrated into the new community.

Mobile families must often live in inadequate or unsatisfactory living quarters.

Wage earners with seasonal skill, or who lack necessary working skills, suffer from unemployment and inadequate yearly incomes.

While there are families where both parents must work for financial security, the highly ambitious family which seeks after social position may sacrifice family relationships and responsibility for social or financial promotion. This can be seen in the husband who spends all his time at work or in making business contacts, often to the neglect of the family. Or it can be seen in the increasing number of mothers who work, at their own wish or at the desire of the husband, with the idea of providing more of the material advantages of life for themselves and their children. Parental responsibility and family companionship come second to family social position.

Efficiency in business and mobility in population has created very impersonal relationships between people. "My business is no one else's business. My cares are no one else's cares."

The home is no longer the center of activity. There is more leisure time, but at the same time more activities outside the home.

C. Parental Irresponsibility

1. Many parents are confused about how much guidance and control they should give their children. Parents who have not learned to control their emotions may have no control, at either extreme; severe and inappropriate punishment or a permissive lack of discipline.

2. Many parents are ignoring their responsibility of developing in their children a respect for authority, a moral code, and responsibility of their behavior, placing a burden on school personnel and civic authorities.

3. Women are in greater numbers seeking personal satisfaction in activities outside the home rather than in the home as a wife and mother.
D. Alcoholism—A Costly Problem

There are an estimated 40,000 alcoholics in Oregon, according to Mrs. Roberta Frasier, Family Life Specialist at Oregon State University. The cost in dollars, as well as the social problems posed by alcoholism, make it a matter of concern to everyone who comes into contact with the alcoholic. The economic cost of an estimated $3.25 billion nationally does not measure the heartache and emotional cost to the alcoholic and his family. Alcoholism is considered one of the major social problems in Oregon, according to the family specialist.

Recommendations:
1. Provide in the county premarital and marital counseling services that are not directly attached to a church or the Mental Health Clinic. Services could include sex education, family development, finances, homemaking, and family counseling.
2. Expand the present activities available for young married couples, especially those under 21. Activities for the family, as well as of an individual nature, should be developed, such as a central facility like the YMCA.
3. Encourage better and more coordinated family life education in the schools.
4. Give greater attention to interpersonal communication skills in the schools. This can be aided through more and better trained teachers and guidance personnel.
5. Parents need to set limits, be consistent, and use discipline best suited for the individual child.
6. Parents should know where their children are, what they are doing, and who they are with at all times.
7. Parents and schools should work together in establishing and enforcing a code of conduct, disciplinary measures, and a sense of responsibility in our youth.
8. Parents who abuse children should be referred to the courts.
9. The people in the community need to be better informed of services now available in the community, such as the Mental Health Clinic, Public Health, Public Welfare, the Employment Office, and the Extension Service.
10. Promote greater understanding and education on the nature of alcoholism. Aid is available to families through Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and the Mental Health Clinic.

Mental Health

Situation:
The Mid-Columbia Mental Health Clinic serves Wasco, Sherman, and Hood River counties. The staff includes: part-time psychiatrist, full-time clinical psychologist and a psychiatric social worker. There is an opening for a second social worker effective July, 1967. The clinic offers general outpatient psychiatric treatment and cooperates with other agencies.

Mental health is concerned with all problems of living. The present theory is to work with people and their problems to prevent breakdown. Present Needs and Problems:
1. Studies indicate that 1/10 to 1/3 of the population would benefit from some kind of mental health treatment.
2. In Oregon there are under 700 professional people available to help them.
3. Some severely ill people are held in the county jail awaiting transportation to the hospital due to the lack of proper facilities available in the county.
4. Mentally ill people receiving hospital treatment frequently return home with no one to help them re-establish a normal life.

Recommendations:
1. A comprehensive Mental Health Center in The Dalles to include a resident psychiatrist.
2. Provide care facilities for persons awaiting admission to a mental hospital.
3. Encourage a change in present state regulations to permit use of Columbia Park State Hospital facilities.
4. Promote a more coordinated effort between mental health and schools. Children need to learn mental health as teachers need to learn to teach it. Mental health is really a style of living and it can be learned.
5. Provide more public information and work to establish a mentally healthy community by coordinated efforts of all agencies.
6. Train non-professionals to extend outreach services to the community.

Medical Services

Situation:

Hospitals include:
The Dalles General Hospital ............... with 86 beds
Mid-Columbia Hospital .................... with 18 beds

Total ........................................ 104 beds

The recommended number of beds to population is a minimum of 50 beds with a plan for expansion to 100 beds for 25,000 to 40,000 population. The population of Wasco County is now 23,500 and the projection for 1975 is 35,100. However, The Dalles facilities are used by surrounding counties in Oregon and Washington.

Medical personnel include:
Doctors of Medicine ...................... 17
Doctors of Osteopathy .................. 2
Dentists ..................................... 12
Optometrists ................................ 6
Registered nurses (approx.) ............ 55 employed full time
........................................ 20 employed part time

Statistics:
Number of M.D.s and D.O.s in the U. S. in 1965 .153/100,000
Number of M.D.s and D.O.s in Oregon in 1965...125/100,000
Doctor shortage area is defined as 67/100,000

Public Health: The Wasco-Sherman Health Department employs a health officer, a sanitarian, 2 public health nurses, and a secretary-vital statistician. Services are available to all residents of both counties. Some activities are controlled by law. Services are available at the office, in homes, and at schools by personal request or referral by private physicians or other agencies.

Public Health Personnel statistics recommended by the American Public Health Association:
One Sanitarian per 20,000 population (Oregon recommends 1/15,000 due to the rapid growth of urbanization and industry).
One Public Health Nurse per 5,000 population or one Public Health Nurse per 2,500 if bedside nursing care is given.
Oregon averages one Public Health Nurse to 8,798 and one Sanitarian to 20,720 population.

**Recommendations:**
1. An additional public health nurse to meet Oregon average.
2. Hospital facilities should be improved to keep up with current state standards.
3. Establish need and promote additional medical personnel for Wasco County.

**Retirement and Old Age Problems (Nursing Home Care)**

**Situation:**
Nursing homes in Wasco County include:
- Valle Vista, privately owned, now running full capacity with 49 patients. A new wing is planned, which will bring capacity to 75 beds.
- Columbia Basin Nursing Home, county owned, operating at full capacity with 104 patients.

At this time, the number of beds available meets the recommendations for this population area. Neither home has a planned program for occupational therapy. Most of the activities offered to patients are done by the Grey Ladies and other volunteers.

**Recommendations:**
1. The Columbia Basin Nursing home will need an estimated 150 beds by 1975.
2. There is need for more remodeling in the old wing to meet state standards.
3. Provide a roster of activities patients need and want.
4. Promote use of volunteers and social organization activities.
5. Volunteers could also contact older people, living in their homes, who are lonesome and neglected, and include them in their planned activities.

**Day Care Centers**

**Situations:**
In 1960, 16.2% of the families in Wasco County made less than $3,000 per year. This is poverty level. In a survey of low income families in Wasco County in 1967, 41 out of 80 people interviewed requested Day Care Centers.

Day Care Centers would provide expert child care which would free the mothers to go to work and assist with the family income.

Head Start information states that the children from disadvantaged homes are as much as two years behind children from normal homes at age six, due to environment. It is difficult for them to compete with their peers. It is believed by child specialists that this constant struggle to keep up is one reason for our alarming number of drop-outs. In 1960, Wasco County had 67 drop-outs or 4.1% of enrolled students. This does not include the ones who dropped out between grades. Many of our low income families have a female head of the house. She cannot work unless she has a baby sitter. These children many times do not have adequate care at home.

One of the greatest problems the Welfare Department is faced with, even when the mother is eager to go to work, is providing adequate child care. There are frequent changes in baby sitters, which is another traumatic experience for the child. Day Care Centers would provide an ongoing, consistent child care that
would be beneficial to the child and give peace of mind to the mother. Day Care Centers could be funded federally, by the state or locally. A fee should be charged in accordance with the income of the family.

**Recommendations:**

1. A committee be formed that would include personnel from the Welfare Commission, the Community Action Program, and a member of the County Court to investigate the feasibility of a Day Care Center in The Dalles.

2. Low income families from other areas in Wasco County who would benefit by this service would probably find that they would have to move to this city for work.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mrs. Rita Kulick, The Dalles  
Chairman
Miss Carla Chamberlain, The Dalles  
Recorder
Rev. Lloyd Powers, The Dalles
Mrs. Norma Clark, The Dalles
Mrs. Ada Tidwell, Dufur
Mrs. Pat May, The Dalles

Mrs. Jill Minnick, The Dalles  
Mrs. Don Bailey, The Dalles
Maude Groce, The Dalles
Del Hoover, The Dalles
Mrs. Janette Sorahan, The Dalles
Mrs. Roberta Taylor, The Dalles
Frances McCadden, County Extension  
Agent (Home Economics)