

Project Lands 1945 - 1949



1946 - The old and the new are graphically illustrated by this picture of a farmer's irrigation ditch through wheat stubble. Project lands, on which wheat and grain hay were practically the only crops, will soon be raising a variety of produce ranging from peas and potatoes to alfalfa and clover.



1945 - Reminiscent of the old days when Jefferson County depended upon one crop "wheat" and upon the weather never to favorable, is this deserted farm. A total crop failure in 1934 preceded by several years of poor returns caused many farm families to move out of the area. This deserted farm is near Culver, OR close to US Highway 97.



1945 - Mr. & Mrs. Milton T. Suckow, originally from Sandy, OR, bought 160 acres approximately 1 1/2 miles west of Metolius on lateral M-43. Technical assistance from the Bureau land use specialists and the local County Agent will help the farmers with their irrigation systems. At left is the old farm house, now being torn down to furnish lumber for the barn, the frame work for which can be seen in the center.



1946 - The "Doc" Harris place just west of Culver is ready for the coming of water this spring. This piece of land has been marked for ditches. Juniper Butte in the background.



1947 - One of a few tent houses on the project. Most settlers were financially able to build new houses, buy machinery, etc.



1946 - First water to reach land on the 50,000 acre North Unit. George Rodman farm. Lateral M-41.



1946 - Harvesting netted gem potatoes on Harold Tompkins' farm at the end of the first irrigation season.



1947 - Deschutes Potato & Seed Co. Warehouse, Culver, OR. Checking a few of the 4,000 tons of potatoes stored, mostly certified seed for next year's planting.



1947 - Looking west across a field of Netted Gem potatoes on Harold Tompkins farm near Culver, Oregon.



1946 - Potato pickers harvest first season's crop on the O. E. Bebb farm.



1947 - Two new warehouses in Culver, OR, taxed to capacity with first year's crop. More and larger facilities will be needed as the irrigated acreage increases.



1948 - Airplane dusting clover seed crop on the North Unit near Culver, Oregon.



1949 - Tom Miller's 25 acre field of Ladino clover.



1949 - Irrigated field of Federation wheat. Adjacent dry farmed fields suffered from lack of water.