

LLOYD BARON

TAPE 3, Side 1

August 28, 1996

M.O'R.: This is Michael O'Rourke for the Washington County Historical Society. Today is the 28th of August, and I'm continuing the interview with Lloyd Baron, and today's session is taking place at his new house on Arrington Street in Hillsboro.

So I was saying just before I rolled the tape that I think it was 1970 or '71 when the State of Oregon actually temporarily suspended issuing new building permits in all of Washington County, and part of the concern, I think, was that there were water quality problems in the Tualatin and on some of those tributaries to the Tualatin, and there were a lot of local small sewer districts, some of which were doing maybe a pretty good job, but some of which weren't doing such a good job. And out of all that, of course, came the consolidation of all these small sewer districts into what's now the Unified Sewerage Agency, and at least at the time people thought that would at least be a step towards improving the water quality.

I wonder if you can tell me from your own observation what was the water quality situation in the Tualatin and the other streams here in Washington County around that time?

L.B.: Well, of course there was so much water drawn out of the streams that actually the Tualatin quit flowing, and I've even seen it flowing backwards at times in the summer, when people up this way were irrigating and stock water and various things, and there is a reservoir in the river down toward Lake Oswego because of a reef, rock reef, in the river, and so it does back up and gives us a kind of a pool or lake back by Tualatin. And when they pulled the water too hard up this way, why, water quit flowing over the rock reef, and it would actually flow back this way out of the pool to supply the irrigation. And of course every summer Lake

Oswego put up a board dam on top of the reef to raise the river higher to get water to flow in their ditch that was made back in about 1906 to help keep the Oswego lake clean. And that even got to the point where it wasn't flowing very much.

So since they had - I guess they called it a grandfather's irrigation right, why, they were first in line to get water out of the new project when it developed; they had to get water before anybody else did, and I think they finally were allocated 57- $\frac{1}{2}$ second feet of water. They would have liked to have more, but that's all the court allocated to them.

And because of that, the water got warm and the algae and phosphates - well, the high phosphate levels helped make the algae build up, and it wasn't fit for much, the water up this way.

M.O'R.: Not even irrigation?

L.B.: Well, it wasn't bad for irrigation, but for any other use - fish didn't live in it very well, and for swimming and all that kind of stuff, no sports at all. There wasn't enough to do any canoeing or boating on, and there wasn't water supplied for industrial or commercial use until Hagg Lake went in, and then of course there was after that.

So DEQ was assigned the job of determining just what the levels were of, I think, nitrogen and phosphate and some other things, at different stations along the river. And they monitored that for - oh - at least two years, and possibly longer, and they had an advisory committee that met - oh, I don't remember now, seemed like we were meeting about every month - to find out what new they had found, and then what their conclusions were and what the levels ought to be.

M.O'R.: So you were on this committee, then?

L.B.: Yes, I was one of the representatives on that committee, representing the general public.

M.O'R.: And what do you remember were the conclusions from those studies?

L.B.: Well, they - first of all, one of the things they found out was that they wanted to determine at what level of phosphates in the river did the algae start growing, and they - I can't remember the measurement they used, but it seems like it was milligrams per liter, and they found that at .075 was where it started to grow. So many of us thought that was the level they should have set, but they said, "No, we want to be doubly sure that we have provided clean water, so we'll just double that, and we'll set the lower limit at .15."

I was one that objected to that. I didn't get anyplace because they have a lot more power than I do, but the river water wasn't even that clean coming into the valley out of the Coast Range. So that means, then, that they're going to charge us with cleaning up water that comes to us more polluted than they are willing to accept, and it didn't seem to me that was quite right, but that's the way it was and the way it still is, as far as I know.

So now USA, Unified Sewerage Agency, is the main one that's charged with doing this job, and so they're having to adopt procedures that will clean it up cleaner than it comes to us originally.

M.O'R.: But, as I say, I think when they did take this action with the moratorium and they forced the formation of USA essentially ...

L.B.: Well, yeah, I think one of the reasons they did that was because nothing was happening, and they felt they had to do something to force some action. That did get them off of dead center, and they started working on a plan that would eventually clean it up. And of course DEQ was sued a couple of times with

that same thing in mind to speed them up on arriving at a plan that would provide cleaner water. I guess those things are necessary, and they are effective, but it seems like quite a way to go.

Another thing that was done, we found there were 26 different agencies that were dealing in water, either bringing it to the people or taking it away from them, as sewer, and it just seemed to some of us that that was way too many agencies to be dealing with one problem. So I set up some committees with the blessing of the County, and we worked for two years trying to find out who all these groups were and seeing if they could be combined in some way so that we would eventually get one overall agency that took care of - well, that had the say on both acquiring and disposal of water, and then try and cut out duplication in the services and maybe fill in any gaps that weren't taken care of originally.

That eventually turned into a thing - I think they have an organization now where all these water suppliers and the ones that take care of the disposal have an organization where they do have a pretty good relationship and are working on that problem to try to work out the total water program for the County. Of course I got ruled out of it pretty quick because they said I didn't represent anybody, and they wanted water purveyors to be the ones that were on the thing and had something to say and could do something.

And I said, "Well, I'm on as representing the public, and you're telling me that the public has no part in this." Well, they couldn't quite agree with that, but they still didn't make any changes. But I maintain that the public are the ones that in final analysis pay the bill, and so they should have some say, but that's not the way it is.

But they did have - they got some kind of specialist out of Olympia, Washington - I was going to say the name, and I can't -

Bob something, Bobina or Robina or something like that, and he worked mainly with the Wolf Creek Water District because they actually supplied more of the water than any other one district. I think they supplied about 70 percent of the water to all the area of Beaverton, West Slope, Metzger and all those areas through there. And they had - which I never felt was adequate, they bought their water from Portland, got Bull Run water for the most part. They had had other limited water sources, but they got it mostly from there on a short-term contract. The rates could be changed at any time, and they could be added to or cut off at any time, and that didn't seem to me like a very substantial arrangement for supplying water for - I don't know - 60-, 70-, 80,000 people. Seemed like it ought to have a more stable base than that. I think they do now, but that was the way it was for many years.

M.O'R.: That would have been Gene Seibel ...

L.B.: Gene Seibel, yeah.

M.O'R.: ... who was running Wolf Creek at that time?

L.B.: Yes. Yes, he's since retired, but at that time he was, and he's a good man, no question about it.

M.O'R.: As a matter of fact, he told me that they're still looking at this idea of consolidating all of the ...

L.B.: Well, I don't think they've got the final answer yet, and of course no one wants to give up the little red schoolhouse, and that's one of the problems. Maybe someday they'll have to do it, but as yet, I guess not. But after I got out of it, why, then he was the committee chairman and kind of the ramrod for that group for - I guess maybe until he retired; I don't know.

M.O'R.: Seibel, you mean?

L.B.: Yes.

M.O'R.: Okay. And then Bob Wobina was the engineer?

L.B.: Yeah. He was the technical advisor.

M.O'R.: The consultant or whatever that helped ...

L.B.: Yeah. And he more or less designed the plan that he thought would work to do the job, and I don't know if they're still in the process of implementing it or what, but that's kind of where they are.

M.O'R.: I have a note here that you were the secretary for a while of the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District?

L.B.: Yes, I was for a while. Palmer Torvin was the secretary from the time it started until - let's see, he was County Agent here in Washington County, along with me and some others. Well, he finally took a job as area supervisor, and he worked out of Corvallis for three years. So during that time, that three years, why, I took over his job as secretary of the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District, and then at the end of that time they were in the process of building and they needed somebody that was on the job more than I could be as the secretary, and they were about ready to hire somebody, and I couldn't think of anyone that was better suited for that who had worked on it since its inception than Palmer. I about froze my rear end off one night, we stood outside of some meeting we went to till about midnight, and I finally convinced him he ought to apply for manager of the district, and then that was when he become manager-secretary of the district, and I got out of it.

M.O'R.: Who succeeded him at the district?

L.B.: Cal Krahmer, I think. They had a fellow I thought was going to get it in the wings, and something happened in the board that finally Cal came up with it, and he wasn't there too long until somebody else. I can't think of the name of the guy that's on there right now, but I think maybe they're even on the fourth one by now. Palmer was the first, and he was there for - I don't

know - ten years, I guess, and then they've had about three since then.

M.O'R.: Well, I might be getting together with Cal next week, so I'll ask him a little bit about that, I guess.

L.B.: Well, yeah, he'll have a more recent version of it than I, and of course he will have a better viewpoint of the total water picture from day one on through, because he's been involved in - oh, I forget the name of the group. It's some other group that has worked with water on both a local and a statewide basis. So you ought to get a pretty good story from Cal on the water history.

M.O'R.: Of course, he's continued to farm his family's farm there, right on the river, I guess.

L.B.: Well, yeah. I think his kids do most of it now, but he's still there and does some, anyway.

M.O'R.: Would he be one of the bigger farmers in the valley?

L.B.: Oh, no. I don't think he's one of the bigger ones, but he operates quite a little farm operation, and then when his boys went with him, why, I think they expanded a little bit. So yeah, he's got quite a berry operation, or has had. I don't know just what they're doing now; they might even be in something else. I think he grew berries mostly, but broccoli and beans, probably, too.

M.O'R.: And of course his brother wound up being the head of the USA.

L.B.: Yeah. Matter of fact, I bought this house from his nephew. So small world.

M.O'R.: Yeah, really. So the USA wound up forming, and all these small little sewage districts sort of were absorbed into it, and at that time I guess, in the early 70's, mid-70's, there was a lot of federal money available to construct these large sewage plants, too.

L.B.: Well, yeah, I'm sure they got quite a bit, and I don't think the same percentage of it is available anymore that was at that time.

M.O'R.: No, I think that's right.

L.B.: Matter of fact, like a project, if that Scoggins project had to be built today it probably would never be built because now they - well, in fact by the time we got to Phase 2 - see, it was estimated that that Phase 1 would cost about 20 million, and it ended up costing 51. And the same size project over on the Tualatin when we were working on Phase 2 they estimated would cost 200 million, instead of the 50 that we paid on the other one.

At that time you had to have - I forget what percentage, but something like a third of what they call up-front money. If I wanted to build a dam, and you had been in the habit of supplying money for those things, and now I come to you and you say, "Okay, you show me all the figures. It has to have at least a one-and-a-half to one benefit ratio, and I want to see if you've got at least a third of the total cost of it in your hand ready to start the project. Then I'll come in." But if I didn't have that, which we didn't on that Phase 1, why, you would never - you'd just turn and walk away. We were fortunate, I guess, at that particular time, and we had some Congresspeople who were willing to go to bat for us, too. That helped a lot.

A few years earlier we had a Congressman in the First District who we talked to, and he says, "I'm not going to get involved in that; it's too controversial."

M.O'R.: That was Walter Norblad, right?

L.B.: Yeah, you're right. But when the next guy come along, well, it was a little different story, and he was willing to take a slap or two to try and help his district.

M.O'R.: Now, the project that Hillsboro built up on the Trask, I guess that came in before Scoggins?

L.B.: Well, the original one on the Trask was, yes, a number of years before, and I don't know exactly when, but I think it was back maybe in the 50's - and you see, the Scoggins didn't come along until the 70's. And they had 4,000 acre-feet, and so they said, "Well, we're in good shape. We're never going to need any more water, so we're not interested in your project." And as long as old Jim Barney - and even when Eldon Mills, why, he was very adamant that they just didn't need any more water.

Well, eventually they did. They come in for their 4,000 acre-feet, and then now they just about have completed raising that dam to hold 20,000 acre-feet up on the Trask instead of the 4,000. So they found out the city's growing faster than they anticipated, I think.

M.O'R.: Yeah. They probably didn't expect Intel to move in right next door.

L.B.: No. That's probably right.

M.O'R.: And I guess - do you know much about the new project that's going in up there now, in terms of how it's put together?

L.B.: For the City?

M.O'R.: Right.

L.B.: Well, all I know is that it's 20,000 acre-feet, but it will be fed down through the treatment plant, same as the water from the old one was. I've never been up to that. I don't know exactly how you get there, even, but if they've got five times as much water there, and then a share of Hagg Lake, why, they will be in good shape for a little longer, anyway.

M.O'R.: Are there any other partners besides Hillsboro, or do they have it all up there still?

L.B.: Well, I don't think there's any other places that are in on the water up there, no. I think it's just Hillsboro. I've heard rumors, and I don't know if there's anything to it or not, that the Coast people are wondering if maybe they gave Hillsboro a little too much of their water.

M.O'R.: Well, I wondered about that. Seems like the idea of taking the water up over the ridge there and dumping it down on this side of the valley, that it would be a little controversial on that side.

L.B.: Yeah, I'm sure it is, particularly if they thought if they had that water another salmon would come up the river.

M.O'R.: Right. Exactly. Well, I guess the Unified Sewerage Agency, after they got rolling, the fairly well-treated water that they discharge now actually augments the flow of the Tualatin, I've been told.

L.B.: Well, I understand that, too. I've never seen any data on it, but I'm sure they could supply it if need be. But yes, I understand they're at least tertiary treatment, and maybe even better than that, and so the water is pretty good that goes back in. So it does improve the water quality, and then of course the water they use going into the river is also available, a portion of it, for irrigation on down, so it's increased the amount of land that could be irrigated as well as to help the river quality in the lower part of the river.

M.O'R.: Do you think that there's been an observable change in the water quality as a result of these standards?

L.B.: Well, I think there is, but I haven't really examined it that closely to know just how much it is improved. Three or four of us got a jet boat thing, and we got in down at the Tualatin and we run the river clear up to - well, just outside of Hillsboro here three or four years ago here, just to see what it looked like.

M.O'R.: Where did you put in?

L.B.: At Tualatin.

M.O'R.: Oh, at Tualatin?

L.B.: Yeah, at City Park in Tualatin. It's quite a trip, and the country looks different from the river than it does from the road or the air. And if they can clean up some of the things along the river bank, it will help the river quality considerably. We saw places where they'd dumped dead animals and all that kind of stuff into the river down toward Scholls, down in that area.

M.O'R.: And when was it when you made the trip?

L.B.: Well, I was trying to think when it was. It was probably longer ago than I remember, but we - the fellow that is in charge of the parks for PP&L was the one that took about four of us local people - three of us local people up the river. That was the time we had this committee going to try and consolidate the water purveyors, and he was interested in boat ramps along the river from - so that they could make some use of the river. And we found that there was some places where it's already publicly-owned, and there could be a place where you could put boats in and take them out developed there, but it's never been done.

In fact, one of them is right at the bridge on 99W at Tigard, just south of Tigard. There's a publicly-owned strip there that would be ample for boats, and there's another one up at Chambourg's Bridge, and another place or two. I did have a map of all of them; I think I just threw all that stuff away about a month ago, decided I didn't need it anymore.

M.O'R.: That side of 99W would be fairly close, then, to where Roamer's Rest and Avalon Park ...

L.B.: That is at Roamer's Rest, yes. On the Roamer's Rest side of the bridge.

M.O'R.: Did you ever go there when those outfits were operating?

L.B.: Yeah. I used to swim there in the early 30's. I lived at Newberg as a kid, and we'd drive up there. That was one of the few places that - there just wasn't a lot of safe swimming places available to kids out of Newberg. They didn't want us to swim in the Willamette right there at Newberg. There would be somebody drowned there, two or three every summer, and so we had to either come up to Roamer's Rest, or we'd go down at the mouth of the Yamhill, down through Dundee and down through a guy's wheat field to get down there. I don't remember what they called that, but it was right where the Yamhill emptied into the Willamette. Crawford's, I think they called that, and that was a pretty good swimming hole. But that was about the extent of it.

M.O'R.: So you swam at Roamer's a few times at least, or often?

L.B.: Oh, not often, but we'd go there two or three times a summer, I suppose.

M.O'R.: What kind of place was it?

L.B.: Well, they had built up tanks, so you didn't swim right in the river itself. Well, they had the tanks in the river, but they had a wooden bottom and slats so the water could run in and through them and on, and you weren't right out in the open river, because it was muddy.

M.O'R.: It was still the same water in the tanks, though?

L.B.: Well, whatever was in the river was in the tanks because they had just slats, and so the river just flowed through them. And they would go up and down with the river rising and lowering.

M.O'R.: So on floats?

L.B.: Yeah, I think so.

M.O'R.: I guess there were three places there: Roamer's, Avalon and Louie's?

L.B.: There could have been, but not when we were going there. I think there was something developed later. Roamer's Rest had been there forever, as far as I know, but Avalon opened up, then, after we were going up to Roamer's Rest, and I don't know too much about it after that.

[End of Tape 3, Side 1]

LLOYD BARON

TAPE 3, Side 2

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M.O'R.: At Roamer's they had the tanks, and someone told me they had slides, too?

L.B.: I was going to say, they did have a slide into the river for the more daring guys. I wasn't one of them.

M.O'R.: That wasn't you, eh?

L.B.: No, that wasn't me.

M.O'R.: And I guess a place on the shore where you could buy beer or something, too?

L.B.: There was a little store there.

M.O'R.: I guess later on there began to be concerns about whether or not the water was healthy to swim in there.

L.B.: As I remember, there was a couple summers when it was closed for a while because of water quality. At that time I just knew it was closed; I didn't wonder much about why.

M.O'R.: Did you know anything about the people that ran it at that time?

L.B.: No. I suppose I saw them, but I don't remember who they were.

M.O'R.: After the building moratorium and then USA forming and getting all the federal money to build the plants, et cetera, on the river - or various places here in Washington County ...

L.B.: They didn't get it all federal. They assessed the local people quite a bit, too.

M.O'R.: Yes, I guess that's true. What sort of impact did that have on folks, the assessments that they had to pay at that time?

L.B.: Matter of fact, I've had an assessment on my tax bill ever since I've lived out there, '57, and I've never had any sewer services yet. I don't know if they ever will get them out there, but one of the initial bonds, or some of the initial bonds that supplied money to form that was taxed to everybody that was in the district, and of course the district stays a little strip between Hillsboro and Cornelius and Forest Grove. There's no sewer there, but you're in the district, so you help contribute to the fees.

M.O'R.: Even though you're not hooked up?

L.B.: That's right, yeah. So I don't know how much fees - minimal, I guess, but I have paid USA fees for 38 years.

M.O'R.: Without really getting much benefit from it, directly, anyway.

L.B.: That's right. Of course now we're assessed the water runoff cleanup fees, and of course as far as I know there's nothing ever happens there, either, you just pay the money. In some areas they are cleaning it up, but areas like that, I don't know what they would do. But we still help pay for it. That's the beauty, I guess, of living in a growing community.

M.O'R.: So the runoff from your property, then, is also not collected and processed by anybody?

L.B.: No place that I'm aware of. It may be. I suppose whatever runs into the river, if they do anything with that water, why, it would get treated, but I don't know that they're doing anything with that from where it runs in.

M.O'R.: Yeah. No, I think they collect it from storm drains.

L.B.: Yeah. Maybe someday they will, but not at the present time.

M.O'R.: Right. Well, now, the other thing that happened in the mid-80's, after USA had been formed and they built all these

big plants, first the Environmental Protection Agency and then USA itself were both slapped with lawsuits.

L.B.: Yeah, right.

M.O'R.: As I say, it was after, actually, they had already built these modern plants that were supposedly going to fix things up, and you already talked about this earlier, you mentioned the phosphorus levels, and that was one of the big problems, they were still discharging water to the Tualatin that was - had too much phosphorus in it to meet that phosphorus limit that you were talking about earlier. And of course those lawsuits didn't go very well for USA; they lost, in fact.

L.B.: Yes.

M.O'R.: But I understand that that lawsuit had its origins with some people down in Lake Oswego that filed the suit.

L.B.: That's correct.

M.O'R.: Can you tell me when you first heard about the lawsuit?

L.B.: Well, it was during a time we were - in fact, there was two or three different lawsuits - but it was during the time they were putting together this Scoggins project and building it and getting it under operation. I felt that they were just suing in order to get more water for themselves and to force USA to do a better cleanup job, and I guess that's probably what it accomplished, but I didn't know too much of the detail on the thing. The same lawyer filed the cases each time, or filed the suits each time, and it seemed like he was supposed to be representing the Northwest something-or-other; I don't remember just what.

M.O'R.: Northwest Environmental Advocates or something?

L.B.: Yeah, something like that.

M.O'R.: There were two or three principals involved in that lawsuit, I guess. One was a fellow by the name of Jack Churchill, and another one was Jack Smith.

L.B.: Jack Smith I remember. I don't remember the Churchill name. Could have been, though.

M.O'R.: Did you have dealings with Smith himself?

L.B.: No. I just know the name. I don't know that I ever met the man.

M.O'R.: But the committee that you were talking about earlier was this citizens' committee that looked at DEQ's work after the lawsuit? Is that right?

L.B.: Yeah. It was a committee made up of some City officials and some water purveyors and various - they tried to get a broad representation of the citizenry in the area, and I was one representing I suppose the farm people.

M.O'R.: And you said that you thought that the phosphorus standards aren't really reasonable because of this problem of the natural phosphorus?

L.B.: Well, yeah. I thought they set their levels that would be acceptable to them in an unreasonable manner and also without any regard to the cost that it would take to get it to that level. I guess as long as they don't have to pay for it, why, they could care less how much it was going to cost, as long as they could just saddle somebody else with the job and not worry about the cost, and that's kind of the way it was done, in my opinion.

M.O'R.: Now, was this the committee that you were kicked off of?

L.B.: No, that was a different one. No, we were just asked to serve on this DEQ committee, kind of an advisory group, until the time the limits were set, during the time they were studying what they were finding at the various stations on the river and how

they were going about coming up with recommendations for what would be acceptable flow, and then once they got to that point and set the limits, well, then that committee was disbanded.

M.O'R.: I see. Okay. I guess they still haven't quite made that phosphorus level. They're close, though.

L.B.: Well, I wouldn't be too surprised if they never did.

M.O'R.: I've heard that same opinion expressed by other people, that it's going to be a tough one to really ...

L.B.: Well, when you get down below what nature's giving you, why, it's rough.

M.O'R.: That's right.

L.B.: And expensive.

M.O'R.: That's right. I guess it also meant that the cost to clean up the sewage water that USA discharges went up also, although maybe not as much as some people thought it was going to. You say you pay an assessment, but people that are actually hooked up to the sewer, do they pay more out here?

L.B.: Oh, much. Yeah. Mine is very minimal. I would have thought those initial bonds would have gotten paid off before now and we wouldn't have that anymore, but I guess they keep renewing them or something. Anyway, it's always been there.

M.O'R.: And do you think the sewer rates out in the valley now are on the high side, or what's your estimation?

L.B.: You know, I really don't know what they are. I guess I'll find out once I start paying them on this house. But see, I'm not on it and so I don't know what the sewer rates are. I did have some apartments here in town for a number of years, and I paid on those. But you always think your bills are high, and later on you find out that those bills weren't high, but you've got high bills now.

M.O'R.: Right. Well, I'm wondering if you have any other thoughts about this area's future, in terms of all the growth that's going on and what kind of problems we're going to have to face in the future?

L.B.: Well, I still kind of feel a little bit like old Oscar Hagg used to say; he said that we ought to develop every drop of water we could because eventually it's going to be needed, and the longer you wait, the more it's going to cost. And I think that's proven to be true, with the City going back to get more water out of the Trask, and you hear talk now they're going to try and get water out of the Willamette and all that, when we have well over a million acre-feet of water that runs out of this valley every year, and if we had a way of holding some of that, why, we wouldn't have the water problem that we have at times. I don't know that we have a real problem right now, but as the population grows you're going to have it from time to time.

So I don't know where they will get all the water from that they're going to need in the year 2050 or whatever, but I'm sure they're going to need more than they've got now.

M.O'R.: I've heard several people say the same thing and that they think there's going to have to be a second project on the Tualatin somewhere.

L.B.: Well, what I thought would be the ideal way to go, and we had an ear for it for a while, but then I guess the monies got tight and nothing happened, to have the Hagg Lake on the Scoggins coming out of the Coast Range. About a mile over here is the Tualatin coming out of the Coast Range, and it has a site that would hold just as much water as the Scoggins Lake would hold. And my thought was that that should be put in. There you have a hump of land about a mile wide, or it would be less than that by the

time you got to the edge of the water, maybe a half a mile, and that ought to be a State Park running back up in there.

There's actually some fossilized seashells and various things like that out on the face of one of those hills back in there showing that that was under water at one time. And there are quite a number of interesting things in that area that I think would make an ideal State Park, and that would put one within 50 miles of better than half the people of Oregon, probably close to two-thirds of the people of Oregon.

There is no State Parks of any size where you can do camping, you could do horseback riding, you could do everything in that area. But I don't know if it will ever happen. We had some people from the State Park Bureau that was going to come up and look the thing over, and then on the morning they were supposed to come, why, they cancelled. And we tried it again, and they cancelled again. And so we decided that they never - didn't intend to come.

M.O'R.: They weren't too interested.

L.B.: But I still think that that would be a terrific site for a park that would serve an awful lot of people. But who knows?

M.O'R.: I guess the proposal to put the dam over on the Tualatin, a lot of people that I've talked to think that eventually that's going to have to be done, but I guess the folks up in Cherry Grove are a little worried about that.

L.B.: Well, they are. And still - you know, after we got through and decided it was a dead issue, I actually had two different families come to me and say, "Hey, that ought to happen. If we can be of any help in getting it going again, why, let us know what we can do." So they aren't all against it. Now, they probably had an ulterior motive; they probably wanted to sell out and they figured that would be a chance for them to do it and make a little money at it.

The thing that happened in Phase 1, some of those people had quite a little land holdings up there, and when the thing finally developed and they knew they was going to have to sell their farm, why, I know of two that went out and they had quite a little timber on their land, and so they got ahold of a logging outfit, and they thought they was making more money by selling it to the logging outfit. So they made the sale, and then the fellow for the Bureau of Reclamation come around and appraised their land and made them an offer, and it was higher than what they got from the logger. So then they went back and tried to buy their land back, and the loggers said, "No soap." They said, "You made your deal."

So I guess they didn't get treated all that bad.

M.O'R.: Yeah, so that might be something for the other folks up there to think about in the future if they do develop that.

L.B.: Right.

M.O'R.: Well, is there anything else that you can think of that we haven't talked about so far that you might want to talk about?

L.B.: I think you've pumped me dry.

M.O'R.: Just like the Tualatin in summertime, eh?

L.B.: Yeah, right.

M.O'R.: Okay. Well, I want to thank you again for the time you've spent with this interview.

L.B.: Well, you should have quite a story by the time you get all these guys interviewed, like Cal and maybe a few others around.

M.O'R.: Anybody else you might recommend that you think would be a good person to talk to?

L.B.: Have you talked to Merton Sahnnow?

M.O'R.: No, I haven't.

L.B.: He's currently president of the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District, and he's been a farmer up at Gale's Creek. He's been in on some of these earlier studies..

M.O'R.: Merton Sahnnow?

L.B.: Merton, M-e-r-t-o-n, Sahnnow, S-a-h-n-o-w. I think that's right.

M.O'R.: Okay. And he's the current head of the Irrigation District?

L.B.: Yes, he's president of the Irrigation District. Unless they changed - I don't know now whether their year runs calendar or fiscal, but last annual meeting they had, he was still president. I still go to the annual meetings.

M.O'R.: And he's a farmer, too, you said?

L.B.: Yes.

M.O'R.: Where does he farm?

L.B.: Up in the Gale's Creek area, between Gale's Creek and Forest Grove.

M.O'R.: So you think he'd be a good one to talk to?

L.B.: Well, he's pretty knowledgeable, and he's been with this thing for a long time. He's one of the few that has an exchange water right. I'm not sure that's what they call it, but you see, the district pipe doesn't go up as far as he is, so they run water in here across the old Richie farm and dump it into Gale's Creek, and he's on up here, and he don't have an old enough right on enough water that comes down Gale's Creek to run his farm, so they allow him to use the water and then they pay it back down here, put it back in the creek and run it on down.

M.O'R.: I see.

L.B.: Fortunately, there wasn't enough need in this stretch that it caused him any problem, that had any prior right or any-

thing. So he could run it a little bit dry down through here, and get it paid back down here and get his water requirement.

M.O'R.: I see. So he'd pull it out up there, and then the stream between there and the point where this pipe is would be a little on the dry side, but then they would dump in a corresponding amount.

L.B.: Right. And he's one of the very few that have that kind of a deal. But it seemed to work out because of the area in through here that they could pay it back down below and all that.

M.O'R.: Roughly what's his age?

L.B.: Oh, he's probably 60 now, something like that. Just a young guy. [laughs]

M.O'R.: Actually, I wanted to get somebody from the Irrigation District because I haven't really talked to anybody yet from that, so maybe he'd be the one.

L.B.: Well, I think he'd be a good representative of it now.

[End of Tape 3, Side 2]