

Fadeley continues to oppose burning

By JACKMAN WILSON
Of the Emerald

State representative Nancie Fadeley, (D-Eugene) addressed Thursday night's monthly meeting of the Sierra Club on the issue of field burning.

Introduced by local chapter president Ron Eber as "one of our best friends in Salem", Fadeley reaffirmed her opposition to any compromise on the 1971 bill which calls for a ban on field burning as of this year.

"I compromised in 1971," Fadeley said. "Banning something four years off is a lot different than banning something right away."

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources begins hearings next

week on a bill which would indefinitely postpone the field burning ban.

Other proposals before the legislature include Gov. Straubs' compromise plan which would increase per-acre burning fees and reduce the number of acres burned to 50,000 by 1976.

State Sen. Jason Boe has suggested a four year phase-out of field burning, while Sen. Brown has a bill which would allow grass seed growers to deduct losses incurred by the ban from their taxable form.

Rep. Fadeley noted a lack of statewide concern on the issue of field burning. She traced this to the fact that few people outside the lower Willamette valley have to contend with the heavy pollution caused by field burning in the late summer months.

"I really do feel that this is a health problem," Fadeley told the Sierra Club. "The economic cost to us has not been considered at all."

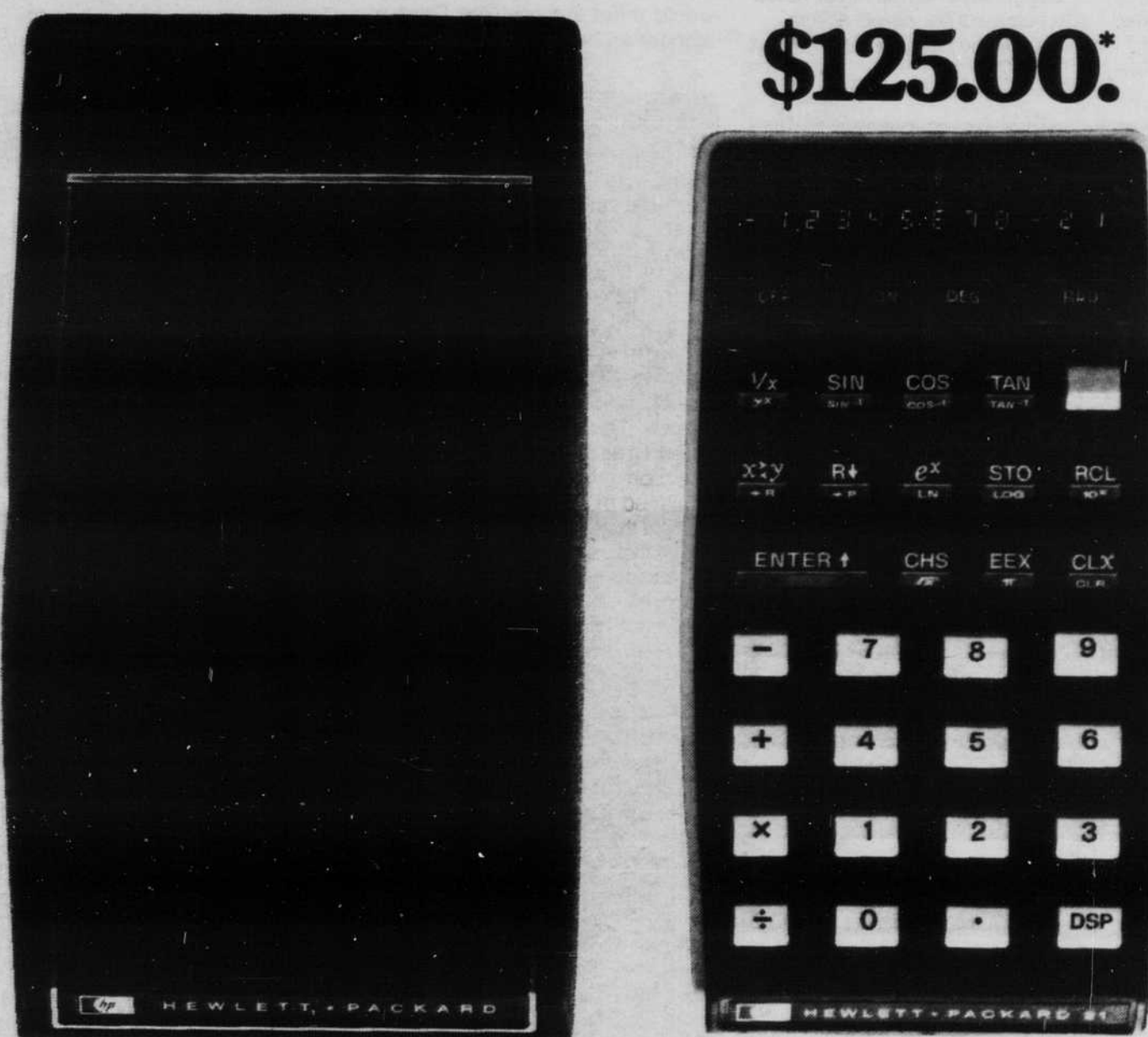
She said there has been a "very strange silence" on the part of other industries on the field burning issue. "They seem to be asking, 'We had to pay a price, how come they shouldn't?'"

Fadeley said she sees merit in placing field burners under Environmental Quality Commission jurisdiction like other polluters.

One man suggested that the entire problem could be solved if every family in Eugene would buy fifty bales of straw every year. He represents a statewide straw marketing firm.

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