

Garbage

How does Lane County contend with enough to fill Autzen Stadium every 90 days? Or, a better question, how can we, as garbage producers, cut down at the home source?

By MICHAEL HARDING
Of the Emerald

Every day Lane County's trash men collect 500 tons of garbage and tote it to a dump.

One million pounds daily. That's enough compacted refuse to completely fill Autzen Stadium every 90 days.

Most of this waste now ends up in the Bethel-Danebo sanitary landfill, located near Beltline Road and 11th Avenue, Eugene. Latest estimates say the dump will reach its capacity sometime in July.

But don't start worrying. Lane County's Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) knew the dump would fill quickly when they began using it two years ago.

"It was an interim site," says Mike Turner, technical assistant at SWMD. "We used it until we could finish a comprehensive,

county-wide solid waste (garbage) management plan."

Turner contends that to reduce solid waste, "burying is still cheapest and best," when considering cost alone.

But SWMD took more into account than just cost when considering the county's future waste habits.

Turner explains that SWMD contracted an engineering firm involved in solid waste to suggest "our most viable alternative."

"What came out of this process was to recover energy value out of solid waste and, at the same time, those materials which are easily recovered, like ferrous (iron) metals."

And that's what the two-part plan is aimed at accomplishing.

Phase I, scheduled for completion in September, calls for a transfer facility and a voluntary recycling center. The transfer facility is a covered concrete pit, large enough to hold a few days' garbage, with 26 dumping ramps next to it.

Phase II, tentatively projected to be operational by September, 1977, calls for an energy recovery plant. Basically, the garbage is pushed from the transfer pit onto a conveyor belt by tractors. Cut by a shredder into two-inch strips, the waste then passes beneath a giant magnet which removes all iron metals, which are intended to be sold for recycling. The remaining refuse goes through "air classification," something like a wind tunnel, which blows all light materials (dry paper and cardboard) away.

The plant will be built on a 20.4 acre site in Glenwood. The county commissioners have not yet bought or condemned the lot for use although the assumption is that within a month, the county will own the site so construction can begin.

Will Glenwood deal with solid waste "in ways that protect the environment to the greatest possible degree?"

Some people think not.

"I question whether, when you add it all up in the end, there will really be an energy gain" asserts Peter Thurston, a citizen recycler on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Thurston is not alone in his stand against Glenwood. Others have assailed it on the grounds that:

- The plan was decided years ago by SWMD with no alternative considerations.
- The plan's funds were approved through deceit in ballot wording.
- The system severely restricts recycling, reuse and reclamation.
- The plan will never ultimately solve the problems of solid waste.

"It was predetermined," says Thurston, "that we were going to have this kind of system. The details hadn't been worked out but we were going to have a giant garbage

grinding system to produce energy."

In agreement with Thurston is Ernie Fraim, general manager of BRING, who says "the decision is made and then they go to the committee and pretend it's up to them...."

However, many critics complain that the deceptions in the decision-making process are not nearly as bad as those used in the bond measures.

"I believe the bond measure passed because of BRING," Fraim contends. "People knew about BRING, people were familiar with BRING. They equated that with recy-

The real solution, many say, lies in source separation — people separating wastes into recyclable categories at home, before they are mixed in the waste stream.

"Source separation saves energy, saves raw materials, cuts down on pollution, saves land — all the incentives point toward source separation," insists Jim Grahl, assistant director at the Survival Center, "But people are kind of afraid to jump into that."

"We've taken source separation into account," says Turner, "not in having an engineering firm do a study, but by reading all the possible literature...and it really shows



cling and when they saw the word recycling on the bond measure, they passed it."

But the most basic criticisms leveled at SWMD center on one point — SWMD is solving only the problem of solid waste, not the fundamental problem involved.

"The county emphasis, their major concern all along, and they've told me this, is waste disposal," says Fraim, "...but they're beginning to realize the problem is not waste disposal — you can always find a hole to put it in — the problem is in trying to save the resources. That's the real formidable task, not the disposal of wastes."

Jeff Dettelsen, past director of resource recovery at the Survival Center and now a sales representative for Sani-Pac, agrees with Fraim but also sees SWMD's solution as creating additional problems.

"Glenwood will set up an industry with one of its main interests in the promotion of garbage," contends Dettelsen. "It's just the wrong way to go."

that it is not as economically feasible as the potential in creating fuel fraction."

But when pressured to reveal the markets that make the light-fraction fuel and the ferrous metals "economically feasible," Turner admits that those markets are "not specifically identified."

Markets or no markets, Lane County might soon be turning its garbage into energy, but not without a large share of warnings.

And if Glenwood turns out to be the garbage juggernaut of Lane County, there will be many well-deserved "I told you so's" echoing off the Coburg Hills.

"It's so ridiculous because when you come right down to it, we are trying to encourage them not to do with a machine what is most effectively done at home — source separation," says Bruce Walker, assistant director of the Survival Center. "It's absurd."

Tavern

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Use of work-study labor could reduce labor costs by \$33,000 per year, a reduction of about 80 per cent.

Use of conservative estimates put the revenue forecast "at the low end of the prediction range." The EMU tavern would draw from a wider area than the immediate vicinity of campus, according to the researchers, and faculty, staff, families and friends would also use the facility. (For purposes of the study, the market was assumed to be the proportion of the student body over 21.)

The study also assumed a minimum profit of \$61 per keg, while \$65-\$70 is closer to the industry average. The possibility of a lowered drinking age after the next session of the state Legislature was also not included in the predictions.

The study found that the type of draught beer had an effect on product mix. Taylor's, the only tavern in the study with Budweiser on tap, reported that 89 per cent of its

sales were draught beer, eight per cent bottled beer and nine per cent wine. The other taverns, which serve Blitz, average 59 per cent draught, 28 per cent bottled, and 13 per cent wine. Since the EMU facility would have no carry-out sales, bottled beer sales would probably be somewhat below these figures. The study made no effort to differentiate in-house and to-go sales of bottled beer. With Blitz on tap the tavern would have to sell three times more bottled beer and 50 per cent more wine to reach predicted profit levels, according to the study, but more draught (125 kegs/month to 89 for Blitz) with Bud.

The study states that decreased bottled beer sales would reduce labor requirements "as it is easier and less time consuming to serve draught beer." And draught beer has a higher profit margin.

A poll taken Sept. 25-26 indicated that Budweiser was the preferred draught beer on campus, getting 28 per cent of first place votes; Blitz polled five per cent.

The report states that it would be "best to choose from the two or three most popular brands of draught beer."

In addition to the M.B.A. study, the final proposal will include a brief history of campus taverns around the nation, and polls taken to indicate support for the tavern.

In a poll of 11,446 students taken during fall registration, 9,060 answered "yes" to the question "Do you favor a tavern in the EMU?"

In a recent poll of the faculty, 309 members indicated support or strong support, 200 were against or strongly against, 48 offered no opinion.

Final decisions on management, design, product offerings, funding and business hours will be "left up to the students" according to Bernau.

The ASUO will hold public hearings on the proposal Monday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. in the EMU Forum. Students will have the opportunity to voice their opinions on issues pertinent to the tavern.

German psychologist says

School stress suicidal

SEATTLE (AP) — Fear of school has become a chronic factor in child diseases found in Germany, a clinical psychologist from Munich said Thursday.

Dr. Edith Klasen told the International Disabilities Conference that an alarming rate in child suicides has led to creation of a new term, "school stress."

The suicides, she said, were traced to "tremendous pressure in Germany for learning more in less time and performing more." Fear of school has become a "chronic pathogenic factor in child diseases," she said.

In Bavaria, an investigation ended with a recommendation that less emphasis be placed on the sciences and academic learning, and that more emphasis be placed on developing the whole child.

Dr. Klasen returned to Germany four years ago to work with the German Caritas Association after earning degrees from Boston College and the University of California. She said she was overwhelmed by the "Americanization" of Germany.

Not only is the American influence felt in television programs and advertising, she said, but it is present in social work, psychology and education.

She said an estimated 50,000 children a year in West Germany suffer medium learning problems.

A conference keynoter, she told it that people should realize that children "are equal only in their degree of dignity as human beings and in basic educational needs."