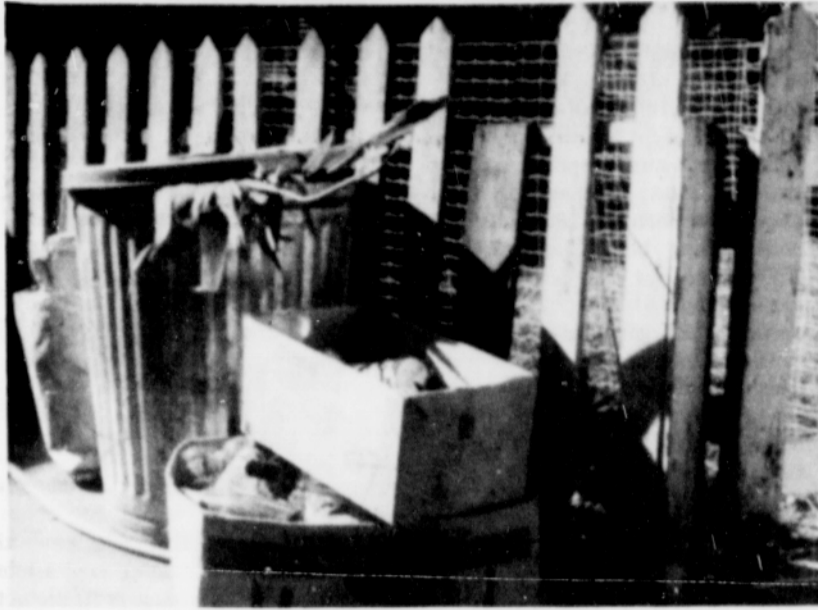


METROPOLITAN



St. Johns Landfill: filling fast

by Robert Lothian

Portland has a garbage problem. The St. Johns Landfill, where millions of tons of orange peels and tin cans have been dumped for generations, is filling up.

The landfill is scheduled to close in July of 1989, and the problem is, what is Portland going to do with 2,000 tons of garbage produced each day?

As environmentalists who advocate alternatives and traditionalists who want to continue burying and burning the smelly stuff line up on opposing sides, we'll be hearing a lot about this issue.

The option chosen to deal with the growing stream of solid waste will influence the economy and air and water quality for future generations, say local environmentalists.

They often wrangle with Metro, the regional agency in charge of solid waste. Metro has opted for a new landfill and high tech garbage burners. In 1982, Oregon City voters, concerned about air quality, turned down a proposal for a garbage burner in their community.

Now Schnitzer Steel Products Co. has announced plans to build a \$65 - \$100 million dollar garbage burner on a site owned by Schnitzer in the Rivergate area about one-half mile from the St. Johns Landfill. The proposed plant could handle about 1,000 tons a day, about half the metropolitan area's current production.

Another alternative would eventually have to be found for the extra 1,000 tons.

Metro has been proposing a new landfill for the Wildwood area of Northwest Portland, but that effort appears to be losing in the face of protests by residents and a legal battle waged by the local chapter of the Sierra Club. A Sierra Club lawyer won a court decision in June that prevented Metro from over-

turning Multnomah County's decision to exclude the Wildwood site from further consideration.

The local Sierra Club is one of the citizens' groups most involved in the garbage controversy. They want Metro to look at alternatives that extract something of value from the garbage, for instance composting or ethanol conversion.

"We admit that finding an environmentally acceptable solution to the solid waste problem is not going to be easy, but it would be nice if they at least tried," said local Sierra Club chairman Bob Smith. "So far the Sierra Club has been dragging Metro kicking and screaming toward such a solution."

Citizen expert Lyle Stanley offered some creative options during a recent club meeting. Stanley, who has a background in biochemistry, said that garbage burners are expensive, they pollute the air and they produce tons of ash which pose another environmental hazard. In addition, aluminum, a valuable resource that takes tremendous energy to produce, is lost in burning, he said.

An alternative to wasteful burning that could make money would be to recycle the metal, glass and plastic, and make fuels like methanol and ethanol out of the organic waste, said Stanley.

Portland has the potential of producing 26 million gallons of ethanol a year, with a value of over \$1 a gallon, according to Stanley, who said that ethanol is being used to fuel cars in Brazil.

Garbage separation, recycling and resource recovery technology is expensive, but only about half as expensive as burning. Some cities are already recycling garbage, Stanley said.

"There's a lot of energy in this thing, and we have the potential of making money from something that is now a liability," he said.

Dads Against Discrimination

by Nathaniel Scott

"We are not anti-women; we are pro-fathers," said Victor Smith, president of DADS (Dads Against Discrimination), a non-profit organization, as he outlined the organization's fight for equal rights under the 14th Amendment.

DADS' concept is "to bring about a little more equity in domestic laws and to educate the public about fatherhood," Smith said.

The philosophical position of the organization is that fathers are treated different than mothers in domestic disputes; especially when the proceedings end in divorce.

Smith outlined a number of "iniquities" which he said denies the father his rights to parenting.

In most cases, he said, the mother is awarded custody of the child or the children and fathers are given visitation rights.

"We don't want to be considered visitors in our children's lives," Smith said. "Both parents, unless clearly judged unworthy, should have equal time in the parenting process."

Smith emphasized that "children" are the biggest losers and it appears that our system of judgment has not made proper allowances for dual parenting relationships.

DADS are not only concerned with domestic matters; they advocate for the rights of men and the preservation of the American heritage: justice for all.

Recently, DADS pointed out to Pacific Northwest Bell that its community service pages (the blue pages) had a listing for "women's services," but no such listing for men.

Herbert Amerson, consumer affairs manager with Pacific Northwest Bell, said a "men's services" listing will be included in the next directory.

DADS questions the biasness of "approximately \$20" of marriage license fees going towards "domestic violence programs" which are exclusively for women, Smith said.

DADS, in its newsletter, advocate that U.S. Senator Bob Packwood be



VICTOR SMITH

"given non-support from the fathers of Oregon."

Smith said, "(Senator) Packwood is absolutely worthless to the men and fathers of Oregon. I am constantly looking for one thing (Senator) Packwood has done for a divorced man (in Oregon). I challenge your readers to furnish me with that information," he added.

Another issue Smith raised was the Governor's commission on women. "It's funded in excess of \$81,000 per year," he said. "Men have no such program."

Smith said in a lot of ways the general public is "taxed for sexist means."

He said the position of DADS is that men, the same as women, suffer the trauma of crises. And that under the protection of the law, each should receive adequate and equal care. He added, "Women have a crisis hot line; men don't."

DADS raised the question: "Should judges along with other public servants, periodically be required to submit to drug testing to protect the public?"

"I don't think it's any problem to ask our public servants to (submit) to drug tests," Smith said, adding, "that includes the mayor."

DADS has resources (hot lines and information) in Portland, Beaverton, Eugene, Grants Pass and Medford, Smith said. We have a nation-wide directory hook-up and can assist men with domestic problems in all the states.

DADS was founded in 1977 but recently it has gained visibility. There are

similar groups throughout the country and two national groups: Men International and the National Congress for Men, Smith said. DADS of Portland have approximately 350 people on its mailing list. The organization crosses all racial lines and gender is not a ques-

tion. Smith concluded that DADS is in need of financial and volunteer support. Anyone who wishes to contact the organization may write: DADS, P.O. Box 8504, Portland, OR 97207 or call 222-6100.

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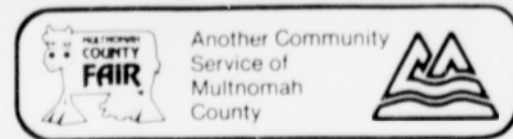
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