

# Long-range forestry program announced

By ERNIE CERESA

A long-range program for utilizing area forests and reforestation to insure timber "in perpetuity" was outlined Monday night by Allen Nistad, general manager, Kinzua Corporation.

Speaking to 50 citizens at Heppner High School Cafeteria, Nistad said that the program of farm forestry fulfills his lifelong dream and that of many employees of Kinzua Corporation.

More than a million acres of logged-over land in this area is badly in need of thinning, he said. Much of the forested land, according to Oregon State forestry studies, contain 2,600 to 26,000 too many stems (of timber) per acre, whereas the ideal stand for timber is the spacing of 100 to 200 trees per acre. The spacing would result in the annual growth rate of 300 to 700 board feet per acre, whereas the stagnated stands with 2,600 trees per acre are now producing only 100 board feet per acre.

With the new facilities (plywood plant) opening in May the company can handle small logs up to four inches in diameter, and can merchandise the whole tree.

His plan for full utilization of trees involves snipping trees at ground level, taking the entire tree to a landing where limbs are removed. But Kinzua is more interested in trees up to nine inches in diameter, which will be removed in their entirety, to be replaced with seedlings, the brush cleared

and a grass seeding program instituted to add grazing capacity to the opened up areas.

Experts are working on the design of a new mechanical de-limber and chipper. Instead of having to saw off the limbs, trees will be pulled through this machine to chip the wood into mulch. The mulch will be hauled to Kinzua mills for fuel or stockpiled for the use of ranchers in their feed lots.

Nistad said ranchers have, in the past, refused to sell Kinzua their timber. "Now," he said, "some of that timber is rotting away, and it is a disgrace. We are prepared to go knocking on farmers' doors in this area to offer to bring out their trees."

He described a scaling device that can determine the wood fiber content of a tree, and the farmer would be paid for the trees by weight—just as he is paid for hay or grain.

The firm has a thinning contractor whose job is to follow up on commercial logging and remove material under nine inches in diameter for processing.

Most trees in this area have been planted by squirrels, he said, and the trees are growing in clusters. Four to five trees in any cluster may have to be removed.

The program includes the cleaning up of brush by piling, scattering and mulching; putting in water bars and dips in roads and trails to reduce erosion; and the closure of as many roads as possible.

Once these practices have been completed, the Nistad plans calls for aerial seeding of grass over the cleaned area to provide feed for wildlife, and for the hand-planting of two-year-old seedlings in open areas. Up to 60,000 pounds of grass seed and 30,000 seedlings are to be added each year. The seedlings are to be from superior trees, many of which are grown on Kinzua's farms.

Nistad's program is approved by local governmental agencies, he pointed out. This year, 25,000 acres of Kinzua tree farms are in soil conservation programs, watershed improvement programs and demonstration areas.

"The Oregon State Game Commission will be consulted on our logging operations in this area," he said. "If they have any recommendations to make we want to know about them. It will also furnish browse seed for game in our grass reseeding programs."

Dennis Martin, timber management assistant, U.S. Forestry Service, Heppner district, told the group. "The Forest Service is not a subsidiary of Kinzua Corporation, contrary to many rumors," he outlined the basis for timber sales.

"As a public agency," he said, "we have no choice but to follow the acts passed by congress, some of them enacted many years ago. Our basic authority for selling timber comes from the Organic Administrative Act of

1897, and some of the injunctions secured by the Sierra Club are based on this act."

He referred to the Sustained Yield Act of 1944 which gave the Secretary of Agriculture authority to set up sustained yield units allowing mills to come in and develop a community.

Martin described the term "allowable cut" as used by the Forestry Service as being the amount of timber that can be cut on the continual basis for infinity and still not run out of timber.

The present allowable is 21 million feet per year, which is about the present growth per acre.

"This cut is of concern to many people who believe we are over-cutting our timber supply. Our present growth is 150 board feet per acre, which multiplied by our commercial forest acres (just under 30,000 acres) comes out to our allowable cut. We thin between 1,000 and 2,000 acres per year, so we are just cutting our growth," Martin explained.

Dr. Brian Cleary, specialist in reforestation, OSU spoke on the importance of reforestation, marketing and engineering.

"What we are talking about is the further intensification of management of the forest to double the growth of these young trees, letting them stay where they grow the fastest by using new techniques," he said.

Dr. Larry Streeby, forest economist, OSU, explained the impact of new wood process-

ing plants, with their increased employment, in the community.

More money earned within the area means more money to be spent in the community. Increased employment means heavier demands on the present community services—schools and housing. Many of the new jobs will be filled by people already living in the community, but some will come from the outside and their demands will have to be met.

After the panelists had finished they answered questions from the audience, with Harold Kerr, Morrow County agricultural extension agent acting as moderator.

"Does Kinzua have any long-range plans for the future, or only for the next 10 years?"

Nistad: "Although the plant has expanded there is still much to be done in the way of remodeling the present site. Kinzua has been incorporated since 1909 and has continued to expand its mills. It has recently purchased additional lands and traded with National Forests for the use of timber. Rotted trees not usable for plywood will be turned into mulch.

Eventually all logs will be stored on the west side of the highway with offices on the east side. Kinzua has applied for a permit to relocate Willow Creek, as we do not use any water from the creek nor do we deposit anything in the creek; the relocation would give us more land for our

use."

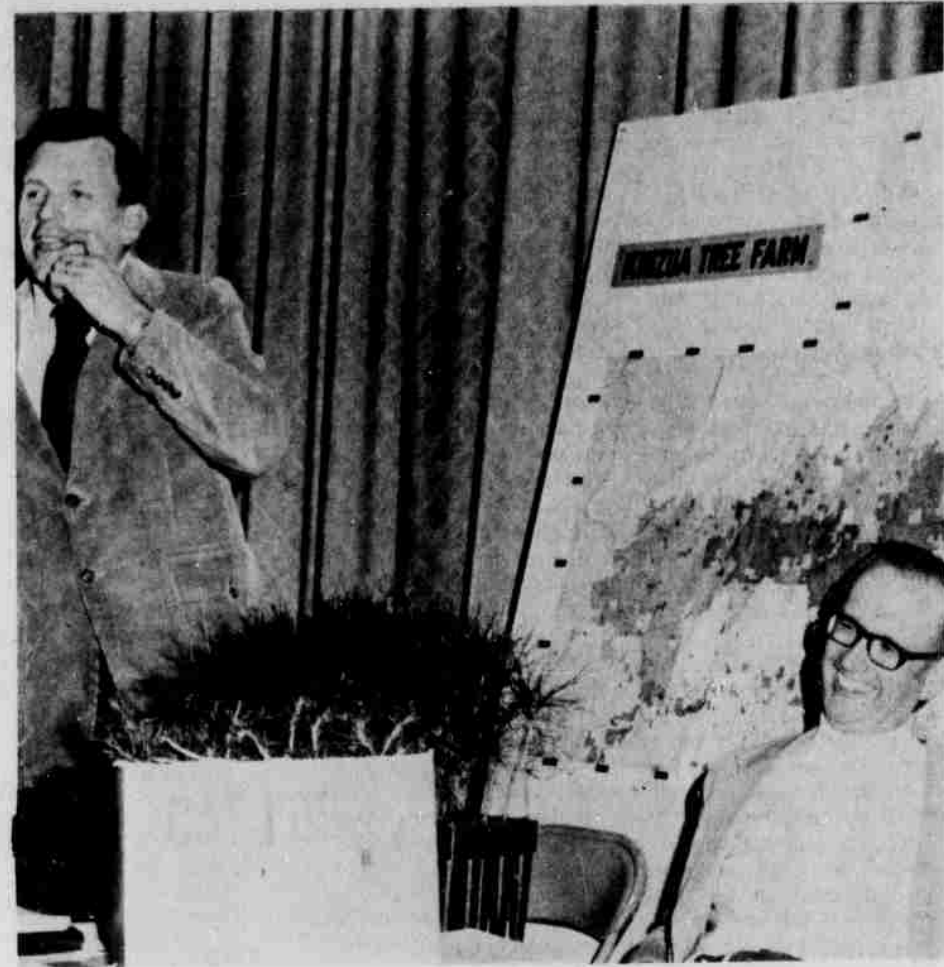
Glen Ward: "What was total production at the mill for last year?"

Nistad: "Last year we cut 58 million board feet. . . . we plan to use the mill at Heppner solely for young growth timber and trees that have been left in the woods to rot."

Nistad said Kinzua has

plans for the development of a county park in Wheeler County which may result in the closing of land presently used by hunters. He said he had nothing against hunters, but favored them walking through the forests instead of riding. He favors area closures for the protection of game and wildlife.

Concluding the panel meeting, Nistad admitted that "we are having a problem making our workers a part of this community. People keep referring to us as 'the mill,' 'the mill.' Many of your sons, fathers and brothers work at the mill. After all, they are part of this community, and should be treated as people."



Harold Kerr and Allen Nistad, smile approval at the audience at Monday night's Timber Impact meeting. The box of cat food contains small pine trees raised on Kinzua farms and given to the audience.

## Kinzua expansion

### Planners rezone 59 acres

A variance allowing Kinzua Corporation to rezone a 59-acre area from farm use to industrial use was approved Monday night by the Morrow County Planning Commission.

The request for the variance was submitted by attorney Robert Abrams, who told of the planned developments yet to come at the Heppner mill site.

The area in question rests south and west of the present mill and will be used for

expansion of the present log dumping and trash removal areas. The present area for trash burning is across the highway from the mill and has caused problems in hauling the waste wood and trash across the highway.

Abrams said Kinzua hopes to clean up the present trash burning area and eventually landscape it. Plans are being made for the company to fence in the area, allowing only one highway crossing

area which would be at the intersection where the flashing crosslight is now.

Besides burning and storing waste lumber at the newly rezoned area the company plans on extending its log dumping facilities back farther from the road so trucks will not have to maneuver across the road as they now do. "We hope to get the log truck traffic off the highway and on to our land," said Abrams.

Although the company plans expansion of its facilities, it does not plan to build any new structures on the land.

Abrams noted the company might attempt to re-route Willow Creek behind the mill away from the proposed log dump and trash areas. It was noted that this would be done to prevent any possibility of polluting the creek from the waste lumber area. However, in order for Kinzua to attempt

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## Tuesday's election results

# Record school budget gets 2-1 approval

Morrow County voters approved a record county school budget of \$1,071,178, the amount outside the basic school support of 6 per cent, by a vote of 409 to 191, a 2 to 1 margin.

A total of 600 ballots was cast, with the only close contest in the lone district, where voters approved the budget by 57-53.

The voting:	Yes	No
Lexington	37	24
Irrigon	61	27
Ione	57	53
Boardman	93	17
Heppner	161	70

The votes will be canvassed by the Morrow County School District School Board at its next regular meeting at Lexington, April 15.

Passage of the budget means that the 1974-75 fiscal year school tax will be 15.1 per cent higher than last year, or \$2.01 per \$1,000 property valuation. The normal rate of budget increase has been from 4 to 6 per cent per year.

The unprecedented increase was caused by rising costs of retirement, social security and workmen's compensation taxes; increased teacher salaries; increase in the cost of gasoline, heating oil, electricity and supplies; increase in county student enrollment; and addition of kindergarten programs and unemployment insurance.

In the election for school board director, Jerry Peck of Boardman, running county-wide for the seven-member board, was unopposed and received 536 votes.

In the election for advisory boards in the three districts the voting was as follows:

Heppner-Lexington area—Betty Rood, 258; Ken Belcher, 251; Betty Marquardt, 246. These are three-year terms to a seven-member board, and three are incumbents. However, Belcher was appointed to fill a vacancy, and this is his first elective term.

Ione area—Gene Rietmann (incumbent), 95; Jerry McElligott, 61; Lorene Griffith, 155. There are five members on this board.

Boardman-Irrigon areas

(combined)—Three candidates for one position, Zoe Billings, 84; Barbara Hug, 63; Elaine Nelson, 41. Two candidates for one position, Robert Byrd, 157; William Kogan, 29.

## Car stolen off Main Street

A 1973 Maverick belonging to Alta Cutsforth, 320 S. Court St., Heppner, was stolen from the Elks Club Tuesday night.

The vehicle, a gold-colored, four-door sedan, had been parked there earlier by Mrs. Cutsforth, who failed to remove the keys from the ignition.

As she left to go home, between 11:30 and midnight, she noticed another car parked in its place.

## Tavern robbed at Ione

The Office, Ione tavern, was robbed of an estimated \$1,000 sometime between 1 a.m. and noon Sunday.

Bob Oswalt, owner of the tavern, gave the following account of the robbery:

"We had gone to the dance at the American Legion Hall in Ione, leaving another person in charge of the tavern. We had posted a notice on the front door that we would not be open until noon Sunday. As I entered the front door at noon Sunday I noticed the back door was not bolted from the inside. A strong box and two money bags were missing. I notified the sheriff and the State Police at Arlington.

"There was no forced entry into the building and nothing else was taken, only the money. The thieves didn't even take a bottle of wine or have a beer."

"Until further investigation," Oswalt said, "we can only surmise that either someone hid inside the building or someone forgot to lock the back door."

## BMCC Board of Education

# Dorothy Krebs is a candidate

Mrs. Henry (Dorothy) Krebs, 48, Ione, is a candidate for Position 2 on the Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education at the May 6 election.

A county resident for 25 years, she has lived in Ione since 1968. She has been married to Henry Krebs, rancher, for 25 years. The couple have four children, Jane Brinkman, 20, Harve, Mont., Clinton, 19, OSU major in agricultural economics; Skye, 16, Ione High School sophomore; and Glen, 12, in the 6th grade at Ione.

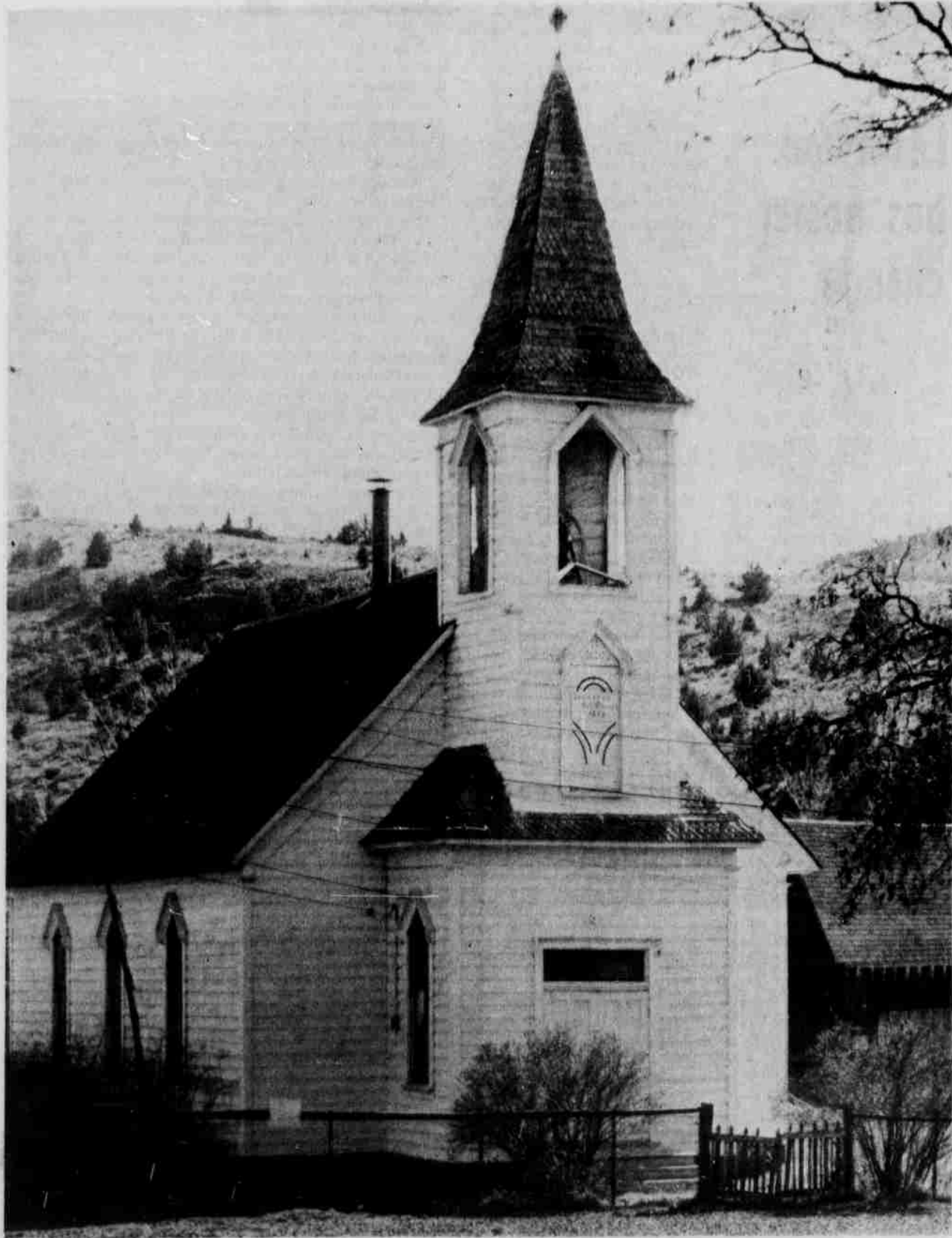
Mrs. Krebs has a master of science degree in chemistry at Oregon State University, 1949.

She is a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, honor society, mathematics; Sigma Xi, honorary research society; and Phi Kappa Phi. She was on the OSU staff for three years as research assistant in animal nutrition and biochemistry.

Past activities include: president, Arlington Kindergarten Association, one year; president, Ione Parent Teacher Association, one year; president, Midland Council of Parent Teacher Associations, two years; board of managers, Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers, two years; Ione Schools Advisory Committee, six years, two

years as chairman; Sunday School teacher, Ione United Church of Christ, six years; 4-H leader in leathercraft, three years; life member, Oregon State University Alumni Assn.

She is currently secretary of the Ione City Planning Commission; secretary, Ione United Church of Christ Board of Trustees; historian, American Legion Auxiliary (Ione unit); publicity chairman, Ione United Church of Christ Auction and Barbecue; environmental chairman, Oregon Wool Growers Auxiliary; member, Cardinal Club of Ione; and Ione correspondent for the Gazette-Times.



The old Lonerock M.E. Church, built in 1888 at the near-ghost town of Lonerock, basks in Sunday afternoon's sun. To the left, but not visible, is a huge rock from which the town probably got its name. It has a fine bell housed in an attractive belfry. The sign on the fence at lower left reads "No Hunting."