

Horse sense

By ERNEST V. JOINER



● Oregon legislators are getting concerned over the abusive use of administrative powers by state agencies. It's high time, too. The history of governmental agencies is that they are delegated power to make their own rules, which is like putting a gun and a badge on a ribbon clerk and not expect him to terrorize the community. The Environmental Protection Agency is a classic example of an agency gone berserk in legislating in areas never intended by Congress. Here in Oregon last year the State Health Commission ordered fluoridation of all public water supplies. The order was rescinded after the attorney general ruled the health commission had no legal authority to require fluoridation. Fred W. Heard, senate majority leader, Klamath Falls, has pointed out one of the most absurd examples of the abuse of administrative rules that took place in the Department of Environmental Quality on March 12, 1974. The DEQ ordered a builder to "provide one month's supply of free Tri-Met tickets to each tenant who rents a new apartment unit." There is no federal or state law requiring an owner to give free bus tickets to tenants, nor do any DEQ administrative guidelines suggest such a thing. It was an arrogant assumption of power and nothing else. In another instance, according to Heard, the DEQ required a medical center to provide parking facilities for bicycles! I suppose the next "law" would be to force the medical center to install hitching posts for horses and a dog-walking service for medical patrons! Senate Bill 381 has been introduced which, if passed, will correct the abuse of state agencies' rule making authority by requiring legislative review of all administrative rules promulgated by the agencies. I hope the current legislature will pass SB 381 and help get these administrative mad dogs away from the throats of all Oregonians.

● One of the biggest bombshells to drop in Morrow County is news that residential property values in Heppner and Morrow County will be increased on an average of 41 per cent above last year's valuation for tax purposes. So much for homeowners. Farm land values will increase from 70 to 100 per cent, which isn't going to make farming any more profitable from now on, considering falling wheat prices and already disastrously low prices for beef. Just at a time when all of us need some relief from the ravages of inflation, the government comes along and increases property values as much as 100 per cent. Property, I am informed, is by law reappraised every six years. It is inconceivable to me that if property in Heppner and Morrow County was appraised even six years ago, there could be a statewide raise in value of 41 per cent in those six years. But that's what Bill Kletzer, appraiser, told members of the chamber of commerce Monday. Only last week in this column I pointed out that government is the biggest contributors to inflation, and profits more from inflation than any other institution. Taxes last year went up 26 per cent; food prices went up only 13.5 per cent. That is outrageous enough. But a tax boost for 1974? Perhaps there is someone now who agrees with me that it is time for people to demand an end to excessive government spending. And when you climb down from the ceiling after learning about the 41 per cent value increase on your house, you might want to take a look at the proposed school budget and get back on the ceiling again before you get a chance to read the city budget.

● Dr. Rodney A. Briggs, president of Eastern Oregon State College, spoke to the local AAUW unit Saturday on population growth and world hunger. I wish he hadn't. According to my official spy report, Briggs followed the party line by attempting to make every person present feel guilty for her alleged part in bringing about world hunger. Every do-gooder must first engender a deep feeling of guilt in a person as a prelude to picking his pockets for some project of great moral and ethical proportion. How any American can feel guilty about the hungry in India, Africa and nearly every other country on earth, I cannot comprehend. Americans are the most generous people on earth. They give away far more than they should. The generosity is not returned. Those to whom we have given the most despise us the most. If our billions flung abroad with such abandon had done any good, it might be different. But the money and goods sent to other peoples has accomplished little, if anything. Take India. We began pouring billions into that country 50 years ago to keep its people from starving. But starvation is a bigger problem today than it was last year, or 50 years ago. Obviously throwing American money and food into India has worsened a condition it was to alleviate. If we should feel guilty about anything, it should be because we were fools enough to think that pouring our treasure into the pockets of others would provide them a chance to help themselves and foster friendship. Our good intentions have done just the reverse. It has made welfare barns out of these so-called under-developed countries and earned us their undying enmity. My guilt feeling stems from the frustration of knowing that some of my tax money is still being thrown down the African and Asian ratholes and there's nothing I can do to stop it.

● Dr. Briggs told his group that as long as food remains tied to money there will not be enough food. He has been quoted as saying, "We now operate on a basis that it takes money to buy food, and food is sold for money." Brilliant. What else is food to be tied to? Producing food for money has made the United States the biggest producer of food in the world. We can, in fact, feed the entire earth's population if we had to and it could be done profitably. I would like to see the idealistic Dr. Briggs trying to convince a farmer with a quarter-million-dollar debt that the wheat off his acres has nothing to do with money—that he should forget about money and think more about the morality of working his butt off to give away his sweat and substance to people 10,000 miles away under the mistaken theory that he is responsible for those people's daily bread. Frankly, I shudder at the thought of a man with Dr. Briggs' philosophy being in charge of a college curriculum. Young people have difficulty enough learning and appreciating the American economic and political system, the freest in the world, without so many high-placed individuals and organizations doing everything they can to change it by making Americans feel guilty for eating three meals a day. Which they earn. Which they deserve. Which they buy with money. And for which they need not apologize.



"Is It Now Fair To Assume That I Have Your Attention?"

Tri-county health services proposed

The county courts of Gilliam, Morrow and Wheeler Counties recently signed a joint resolution which establishes the Tri-County Health Services Commission.

Formation of the commission is the outgrowth of joint efforts by the counties to recruit doctors and nurses to the area and provide better health care within the three-county area.

The newly established commission set as its first project the preparing of an application for a federal grant of \$300,000. In June of 1975, 40 grants of up to the \$300,000 amount will be awarded nationally to established Rural Health Care Systems to encourage rural areas to find workable solutions to their lack of medical personnel and health care systems.

The commission was encouraged by the regional office of Health, Education and Welfare in Seattle to apply for the grant because the office feels the tri-county set up is a unique approach and could serve as a model for

other rural areas.

The grant, if awarded, would be stretched out over a three-year period with no matching funds required by the counties involved. Much of the money would be spent for such one-time expenditures as equipment, training of staff personnel, addition of personnel to coordinate the project at its beginning and to pay fees to private doctors to act as preceptors for nurse practitioners in the first three years of the project so that nurse practitioners could become established in their practice. If the project is successful, it is felt that cost for added services could be picked up by the clinics or agencies involved from their added revenues, which would be the result of increased usage.

The principal objective of the commission is to provide more primary care within the tri-county area by encouraging Heppner-located doctors to act as preceptors for nurse practitioners based in Condon and Fossil; and as needed, the

practitioners would refer patients to the Heppner doctors and the hospital in Heppner.

In the first year of the project a doctor would visit Condon one day a week and Fossil one day a week.

Additional plans in the project are to provide one out-reach worker in each county who will extend health and social services, especially to the elderly. There are plans to equip the hospital, Condon, Fossil and new Heppner clinic with base radio communications to provide a tie between sites and the ambulances.

It has been proposed that one room at the hospital be equipped as a temporary holding room for drug and alcohol detoxification. In addition, the University of Oregon Medical School has expressed interest in having a rural area to send nurses interested in serving as practitioners and residents in family practice to serve their preceptorships. It is hoped that the tri-county area can serve as such an area for the school. In addition, new diag-

Clinic

(Continue from Page 1)

Both Boise Cascade and the Mel Winter representatives resubmitted their proposals to the court. In a split decision the court voted to "reaccept" the Boise Cascade proposal. Commissioners McCoy and Hughes voted in favor of the Boise Cascade structure saying that while the structure cost a little more (approximately \$700 to \$1,500 more) they felt it was a better product and that the county would be getting more value for the money spent. They further stated that they felt the Boise Cascade structure would be a more saleable structure to the doctors.

Jones went on record as opposing the decision. He said he was not convinced that they were able to tell on paper if one structure was of better quality than the other and was in favor of the structure which cost less. In his opinion, he said, he didn't think the doctors would not come to Heppner because of further delay.

quote/unquote

"It takes 15 years of kissing somebody's backside for a professor to get a chair somewhere and then he's a big shot in a little world, passing his point of view on to a lot of impressionable kids."—John Wayne, on college professors

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Bill Weatherford told the fellers at the country store Saturday night that his Pa used to say a man don't learn much from the second kick of a mule. Bill said he allus was agreed with that, special since he wasn't to worked up about the first one, but Bill was of a mind that this country has been kicked in the head so many times we've started to enjoy it.

Bill said he had saw by the papers where we didn't learn a thing in Vitnam. He reported to the fellers where we've shipping troops right back in that place as advisors jest like we did in 1960. The first thing you know, Bill allowed, we'll have so much tied up in advisors we'll have to send in regular soldiers to look after our interests and we'll have the hole stinking egg busted all over our faces agin.

We keep throwing good money after bad like a drunk trying to drink hisself sober, was Bill's words.

Most of the fellers was agreed with Bill that we are like a youngun playing with fire. We know we are going to git burnt, but we jest got to see them sparks fly. Bug Hookum said this has been America's pattern, and it has been official policy since we sold all our scrap iron to Japan so they could shoot it back at us in World War II.

Bug said he looks to him like ever cure we come up with fer our international ailments is worst than the diseases.

It ain't enough that we got 9,000 advisors back in Vitnam, allowed Bug, we give a \$80 million contract to a private outfit that hires former soldiers to do the same thing in the Arab countries the military is doing in the Far East.

Ed Gonty said it looks like we're playing both ends agin the middle. Since last July, Ed allowed, the United States has sold nearly \$4 billion worth of equipment to fight with to them countries that has locks on all the oil. The idee, said Ed, must be to git them countries in shape to defend their oil in case we run out and try to take some of theirs.

We allus like to fight fair, declared Ed, and give the other feller the first lick, like we did at Pearl Harbor.

Actual, broke in Zeke Grubb, the Government may be trying to keep what the Ford Administration calls "a certain balance" in the world by selling everybody the same kind of guns and airplanes, but from our side it may be a balance of payments we're talking about. Maybe we ought to work out some kind of guns-fer-oil plan as a bonus for the extra jobs we're providing in the plants that are making all the guns, was Zeke's idee.

Personal, Mister Editor, I can't understand why we keep sending Secretary Kissinger all over the world to try and make peace with the folks we're selling all those guns to. Looks like we're negotiating ourselfs out of the weapons market, but I ain't never been kicked by a mule onct.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY



The shepherd is a wolf

By LESTER KINSOLVING

PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA—Donald J. A. Morton, former pastor of Hatfield Methodist Church here, is now employed by the Center for Social Action of the 2 million-member United Church of Christ, New York.

In this capacity and as a consultant for the National Council of Churches, Morton has begun to write a book on sanctions—having taken a lead in the closing down of the Air Rhodesia offices in New York. He also goes about the country lecturing and organizing "task forces" of students and stockholders, in order to bring pressure on all U. S. corporations who do business in South Africa.

Morton recently sent a form letter to 1,400 U. S. travel agents, in which he threatened them with ten years' imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine because they had arranged travel plans including Rhodesia (an incorrect interpretation of law).

Morton's superior at United Church of Christ headquarters in New York, the Rev. Larod Schulz, told this column:

"Morton was exiled from South Africa because of his opposition to Apartheid."

But South African Government records here reveal that Morton, a South African citizen, was never exiled, despite his having told the press in London of an alleged James Bond-style escape from South African security police.

What United Church of Christ headquarters has not revealed is that social activist Morton has been unfrocked—suspended from the Methodist ministry—by the Rev. Stanley Pitts, President of the Methodist Conference in Johannesburg.

In a letter dated May 8, 1973, the Rev. Mr. Pitts notified Methodist layman E. M. C. Stack of Morton's suspension.

Stack's concern in this regard was explained in a letter which he and his wife wrote to the national headquarters of the Methodist Church in New York—which is in the same building as Morton's office. Stack's letter to the U. S. Methodists notes:

His (Stack's) daughter Louise, a Sunday School teacher, was at "the impressive age of sixteen when Morton arrived to become pastor, accompanied with his wife and two children, and began making advances at our daughter."

"I have carefully checked authenticity and have established beyond doubt since his departure from this country that he (Morton) had in fact indulged in unseemly behavior with young girls at Rhodes Theological College and again at First Church, Witbank."

The then Rev. Mr. Morton deserted his Pretoria parish in the middle of the night of Nov. 18, 1971—only one month after he was ordained. Leaving his wife and children in Pretoria, he subsequently persuaded Miss Stack to join him in London.

Here the couple planned to be married by Anglican Bishop Colin Winter—who was reportedly deported from South Africa. But despite Bishop Winter's praises of Morton as a "good person" and his denunciation of Louise Stack's parents, he was prohibited from officiating at this marriage—by order of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The abrupt departure of the then Rev. Mr. Morton was not very much more surprising to his hapless Pretoria parishioners than was his first sermon upon arrival—in which he announced that he had a police record, "including an arrest on a charge of housebreaking and theft."

Pretoria's Anglican Bishop Edward Knapp-Fisher, to whom the Stacks appealed for help when they received a denunciatory letter from Bishop Winter, told this column:

"The influence which Morton wields in your National Council of Churches is scandalous. When I was visiting in New York, I asked the General Secretary of the Council about Morton, and Dr. Espey admitted that Morton had been retained without any check whatsoever upon his character or background.

Down-With-Dogs Dept.

Canines have police chief at bay

One of the highlights of Monday night's Heppner Common Council meeting came toward the end of the meeting when Police Chief Dean Gilman asked, "Does the city council have any solution to the present dog situation?"

"I have contacted Dr. Norene and have asked that he give me cost figures for taking care of dogs for the required five-day period, and also asked the cost of putting the animals to sleep if they are not claimed by their owners. When I saw Dr. Norene today (Monday) he informed me that he wants nothing to do with the dogs because they are carriers of distemper."

"What will I tell people when they phone and complain about the number of dogs running loose on our streets? If an ordinance exists there is no way of enforcing it because there is no place to take the dogs," Gilman complained.

The Heppner Elementary School area is a canine problem area. Dogs follow the children to school and at the first opportunity they go into the school area.

"Although the children try to end this situation, I usually receive a call from the school asking me to take care of the problem, as school authorities do not want a youngster to be bitten by a dog," he told the council.

"We are helpless to pick up stray animals. This is a major problem every spring, and spring is just around the

corner." Perhaps the council had better think of some answer to the calls they will receive from irate citizens in the future.

One council member said it is a shame that dogs can't be shot when they run loose. "If a few of them were killed, perhaps their owners would keep them either at home or take the necessary steps to control the animals," he said. Gilman warned, "If the city wants to get into serious trouble, just hurt someone's dog. Most people don't care

what happens to their children, but don't harm their pets."

In other business the council:

—Granted variances to Ray Grace for 90 days to put up a duplex and remove an existing temporary building and to Richard D. Olson, who plans to place a house on a permanent foundation, even though the new structure is not clearly defined as to whether it is a modular or a mobile home.

—Denied a request to Bill

Scott for a mobile home; his neighbors have objected in writing to the city.

—Requested that Marlette Homes file another application with the city for a mobile home. The previous permit was applied for three years ago.

—Approved the permit for a modular home for Edgar Olson with the stipulation that the structure meet the code.

—Advised City Attorney Robert Abrams to draw up a contract for council approval for removal of waste from the city dump. Richard Peck has asked the city for the permit to remove all of the necessary cans and metal from the city dump. But council members felt a contract should be drawn up to insure removal of all the debris.

—Accepted the finance committee's report for the purchase of a new pickup for the city crew.

—Authorized City Attorney Robert Abrams to send bill for \$600 in damages to the city water main to Henkle and McCoy, contractors for Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone.

—Abrams advised the council that foreclosure proceedings on the Hager property on Main Street had been filed.

—Mayor Sweeney reported on the proposed city budget and explained that in the past the budget has been \$69 thousand outside the 6 per cent limitation. This year the budget is \$48,000 outside the 6 per cent. The committee has not met to study the budget

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