

# Sound off!

"Stop and think before you sign an initiative petition," says Allan Pinkerton, president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League and a farmer in the Helix, Oregon area.

"When you sign an initiative petition, you are saying you want that issue on the general election ballot", Pinkerton said.

"I am telling people to stop and think about it before they sign one. Find out about the facts, talk to people, because your signature on the petition can have far-reaching results", Pinkerton said.

Pinkerton said his main concern was the recent initiative petition concerning corporate farming in Oregon. Supporters of the initiative, who include the Farmers Union, the State Grange, the National Farmers Organization and the Oregon AFL-CIO, have until July 2 to acquire 61,646 signatures to have the initiative placed on the November general election.

Pinkerton criticizes, as do most opponents, the approach of using an initiative petition at all. If enough signatures are gained, he said, the issue will be decided by Portland area residents.

"That is absurd to me, that the Grange is asking people in Portland how to run their farms," he said.

Several major farm organizations are opposed to the petition stating that the initiative petition is a constitutional amendment which would put severe restrictions on many phases of agriculture.

Groups opposing the initiative now include the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, the Blue Mountain Potato Growers, and the Oregon Wheat Growers League is on the fringe. Pinkerton expects the OWGL board of directors to come out in opposition to the initiative at a March 31 meeting in LaGrande.

Within the last three weeks, representatives of 30 industries, agricultural commodity groups and businesses formed the Freedom to Farm Committee, with the announced sole objective as being to defeat the initiative petition.

"Freedom to Farm will be taking its case to the people of the state on the advantages and the need of permitting not only incorporation of individuals, but by partnerships and other corporations", said Dave Nelson, Salem, staff coordinator for the committee.

Nelson said Freedom to Farm joins the OWGL and the OCA in supporting the current investigation of farm corporations and corporate farm legislation being made now by the interim state legislative committee on Trade and Economics Development.

## \$388,720 FOR IMPACT STUDIES

Bonneville Power Administration announced it has negotiated seven contracts with firms for assistance in preparing an environmental impact statement on the agency's role in the Pacific Northwest power supply system, including the Hydro-Thermal Power Program.

Four firms will explore and provide data on five specific topics identified by BPA. These include Energy Conservation, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (\$96,423); Energy-Economy Relationship, Ernst & Ernst (\$45,828); Rate Structure & Levels, Foster Associates, Inc. (\$56,000); Load Forecasts, Ernst & Ernst (\$55,469); and Environmental Impacts of Generation, Equitable Environmental Health, Inc. (\$185,000).

In addition, three contracts have been negotiated for services as needed but not to exceed \$50,000 each with R.W. Beck and Associates; Daniel, Mann, Johnson & Mendenhall Hillon; and Stanford Research Institute.

A draft copy of the "Role" EIS is expected to be ready for filing with the Council on Environmental Quality this fall when copies will be mailed out for public review and comment. Approximately 1,000 copies are expected to be distributed.

The document, as envisioned, will be an estimated 3,000 pages long. Because of its size a 90 day review period will be allowed rather than the usual 45 days.

Public meetings will be scheduled in the fall of 1976 to receive public comment on the draft statement.

## PACKWOOD CRITICIZES PROPOSED CLEARCUTTING

Sen. Bob Packwood (R-OR) leveled six specific criticisms at a bill which would restrict clearcutting to 25 acres in the West and ban clearcutting in the East, charging that the bill was shortsighted and ill-suited to Oregon.

In testimony prepared for delivery Wednesday before the House Subcommittee on Forests of the Agriculture Committee, Sen. Packwood said that Congress "should establish broad guidelines and set general standards which curb abuses, rather than bickering over narrow, prescriptive rules which may be good for one group or sector, but totally unrealistic for another." He warned against restrictions proposed in a bill introduced by Sen. Jennings Randolph (E-W.Va) saying that:

—a 25-acre limitation on clearcutting would result in as much as a 15 per cent increase in road construction, which would prove more expensive, would cause more soil erosion and runoff into streams.

—requiring cuts to be more than 1,000 feet from another would create needless inflexibility for the Forest Service

—limiting clearcutting to areas where all trees are predominantly dead, mature or large could reduce Oregon's total timber harvest by roughly 30 per cent.

—directing the Forest Service to divide the national forests into districts not to exceed 500,000 acres would be an artificial restriction and should instead be based on natural boundaries such as watersheds

—requiring that individual trees be marked would be unnecessary and a waste of Forest Service personnel and resources.

"Limited, controlled clearcutting can be a useful, even necessary tool in the management of our forests," Sen. Packwood testified. "When Congress writes prescriptive legislation for national forests, we are not just affecting the forests in Oregon. We are saying that what applies to one must apply to all, regardless of whether conditions are different," he said.

"Congress has no business telling the Forest Service in precise detail when and where it should use accepted forestry management techniques. No two forests are alike... and I would hate to see management practices frozen at any point in time and written into statutory law that becomes almost impossible to change," he said.

**FIRST HORSE SALE OF THE YEAR**

**Monday, April 4**

LaGrand Livestock Commission Co.

Sale starts at 1 p.m.

Early consignments would be appreciated

For further information call:

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# The mail pouch

TO AN UNKNOWN PERSON:

This is just a letter of thanks for ridding us of a loyal and devoted friend. A friend who died where he spent the majority of his life, in our home.

Now, thanks to you, we no longer have to put up with the wagging of his tail when he sees us; the sound of his pawing at the door when he wants in to join us and share our love and warmth and the joy he used to share with us when he went hunting.

Of course he was only a dog, but you did perform quite a deed by poisoning him at his home.

We congratulate you, and good luck, maybe next time you'll rid the world of a child innocently playing in his yard, just like you did our dog.

Thank you,  
The Flaiz Family  
Heppner

EDITOR:

"Save the Family Farm" cry those who would pass the Anti-Corporation Farming Bill and now circulating petitions to put it on the ballot. Why don't they tell us who they are saving it for. This proposed bill gives the go ahead to the millionaires but stops the very small operator trying to get started as a few examples will show.

Six or eight ranchers could not incorporate to buy a small hay farm to raise the winter feed for their livestock. If the hay farm was to cost \$200,000 it might be one of the major investments of their lives to raise an average of \$25,000 apiece but this would be outlawed. Two or three families with a total of six members would be prohibited from incorporation to buy a 200 acre dairy farm together, a farm very hard to divide, yet large enough to make them all a good living. Eight or ten stockraisers could not incorporate a grazing association to run their cattle together. Twelve of fifteen small operators or investors could not join together to raise the capital to get a farming venture started. "Save the Family Farm" from them.

There are no restrictions on how much acreage or how many farms the millionaire could buy under this law. The "Shiek of Araby" with his oil billions could buy 500,000 acres and still be classified as a family farmer. Anyone else in the world or any corporation having no more than five members could own and operate as ranch land as they wished. If a corporation had more than five members a few of the stockholders or personnel could form a farming corp., borrow the money to buy the land from the parent corp. and sell the product to them also with no restrictions.

Under Section 2, para. 6 of this bill it appears the XYZ Oil Co. could buy unlimited amounts of land and hold for oil exploration a hundred years from now. Again they could form their own farming corp. to operate the farms so purchased. Many other types of corporations could proceed under the same arrangement. Save the Family Farm for the millionaires.

On being asked to sign or sponsor a petition to put this outlandish bill on the ballot you would do well to ask to see a copy of it and read it for yourself what it allows and what it prohibits. This is probably one of the most poorly written bills to ever be presented to the people of Oregon. It is unfortunate that the sponsors did not seek competent legal advice rather than have an aspiring politician looking for some cheap publicity to ride into state office write this. Then maybe it would save the family farm for farmers rather than millionaires.

ARNOLD BRAAT  
Boardman.

EDITOR:

We were amazed and disgusted at the needless destruction of all the beautiful trees at the old Gilliam place. We think that it is carelessness like this that will bring our environment to its ruin.

We have heard that the old Gilliam place will be burned down sometime this month to be replaced by apartments. We are sure that the land need not be totally demolished and the builder could probably have built in harmony with the trees. We have always thought Heppner a beautiful town, but if this kind of indifference continues it will not remain so.

SUZANNE MARTIN  
ALISON PARENT  
Portland.

**THE GAZETTE-TIMES**

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Ernie Ceresa, Editor

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**"Heading for Beecher's"**

Ione, Oregon

NO LIVE MUSIC, Sat., April 3

SEE YOU AT THE SPRING COTILLION  
Ione American Legion Hall

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL  
Lobster Dinner \$6.50  
Land and Sea \$7.50

SUNDAY SPECIAL:  
Honey Buttered Chicken \$2.25  
Chicken Fried Steak \$2.50

EDITOR:

Too bad—there isn't a Responsible Parent Ownership Council to set standards for delinquent, destructive, juveniles in our community (especially in my neighborhood.) Perhaps my husband would not have as much trouble mowing our lawns that have been strewn with rocks. The rocks have been pelted by the kind compassionate children as they passed by when my dogs have been tied in their own yard. I personally think parents should have the gumption and obligation to train their children to be obedient, well mannered members of society. It is not fair to a child to be turned in to an outlaw, hated by the neighbors and allowed to run loose all over town to destroy and steal Christmas decorations and lights. Since my lights and Nativity scene were stolen, broken and scattered all over the City Park on two different occasions, many folks were deprived of the lighted Christmas corner that has displayed the true Christmas spirit for years. The real meaning was "Peace on Earth", compassion, love, integrity, mercy and kindness to all.

The saddest part is that you the children's parents may not even be aware of the destruction and vandalism that they are up to—it might interest you to know that I've had to change the delivery spot of my E.O. from my door of business to my home door upstairs because I became tired of finding my E.O. torn to shreds and shoved back into the paper box, or else thrown out in the rain, snow and wind to be destroyed. Friday, March 26, even my two paper boxes were scattered around in the park across from my house. There are different ways to sweep the dog problem under the rug—but I would not recommend borrowing your neighbors beebie gun to shoot the neighbors un-neutered dogs when they come to visit your unsprayed female dog. It is unlawful to shoot a gun in the City. It's no fault of the dogs that they cause unnecessary barking, fighting unsightly episodes in town. The owners are at fault. To my knowledge no one ever had the stupid audacity to say the spaying and neutering of anything that had fur and four legs would solve the dog problem; but neutered and spayed dogs would save me the job of advertising that these irresponsible people need good homes for their unwanted puppies.

Gene Burgess of the Oregon Humane Society Box 11364, Portland, Oregon, 97211 sent me on March 25 a copy of the new Oregon law ORS 33.067—Instruction in Ethics and Morality. (I) in Public schools special emphasis shall be given to instruction in (a) honesty, morality, courtesy, obedience to law, respect for the National Flag, the Constitution of the U.S. and the Constitution of the State of Oregon; and other lessons which tend to promote and develop upright and desirable citizenry; (c) the effects of alcohol and narcotics upon the humane system; (c) humane treatment of animals.

Burgess has informed me that if we can get enough interested persons to sign up to attend a meeting for the purpose of organizing a Morrow Co. Humane Society, he will come out to help us. But don't be misled, this is not for financial help, only advice. The society is strictly run on a donation basis and they have more local problems than they have dollars.

If you really care about children and animals you might send him a generous donation gift (tax deductible), for the past eight years he has been promoting Humane Education in our schools. Since dogs and cats are reported to be responsible for carrying 65 known horrendous zoonoses diseases and many human diseases from mild to fatal effects, isn't it a miracle that so many of us are still around to enjoy our pets? Dogs have lived in my house all of my life and the way I see it, I have much to be thankful for—good health and strength to carry on the same inside business after 30 years.

LOIS WINCHESTER,  
Heppner.

EDITOR:

I am very pleased someone has decided it is time for people to take care of their dogs.

When a dog barks at night and it is mentioned no one seems to know who owns the dog.

A dog is a dirty animal and uses anyone's yard as well as the street to leave his marks.

I wonder how many people use their food stamps for dog food or money for dog food that should be used for their own food.

I don't dislike dogs but don't think they should be all over town as they are now. Also, I'm glad to many came to the meeting about the dam. I never did like to see a dirt dam built and I think along with the others, too much money has been wasted as is. All we would have would be a mud hole with mosquitos, without spraying and I can't see money being spent for spraying.

As for a flood, if the Creek was kept cleaned I think it would take care of a lot of water. As for the 1963 flood I can imagine the shacks and what not that was in and near the creek at that time.

I'll always think the last flood would not have gone down Main Street if the work done at the swimming pool hadn't sent it down rather than across the pool as it did earlier—I stood and watched the water cross the pool at the other flood.

MARTHA VAN SCHOIACK

## OSU Extension Service News

by

## Morrow Extension Staff

### SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR 4-H MEMBERS

Older 4-H members from Morrow county have a choice of four events planned especially for them by the Oregon State University Extension Service during the week of June 14-19, reports Mike Howell, county extension agent.

The events include 4-H Summer Week on the OSU campus, the 4-H horse member's workshop, also at OSU; the 4-H marine science workshop on the Oregon coast near Coos Bay, and the 4-H outdoor workshop at the Oregon 4-H Center near Salem.

Each program is planned for 4-H members just completing their sophomore, junior or senior year in high school. Deadline for applying is April 30.

"There's a new name and a new look for longtime Oregon 4-H program, Summer School," Howell explains. "It is 4-H Summer Week. It is still on the OSU campus, but this year there will be separate programs for older and younger 4-H members."

"Open Up" is the theme of Summer Week and the program is designed to encourage 4-H members a chance to grow in self-awareness as well as experience new ideas and learning," Howell points out. Special interest groups built around subjects of interest to today's high school student are planned for both morning and afternoon.

High School 4-H members active in the horse project may chose to attend the horse members' workshop to spend four days learning more about horses, their care and training through a series of workshops, seminars, labs and other action-oriented activities. Registration is limited to 50 members. Members of the OSU animal science and crop science departments and the School of Veterinary Medicine will be the instructors.

Camp Terramar at Charleston on the southern Oregon coast will be the setting for the marine science workshop which is also limited to 50 4-H members. Extension agents and specialists as well as OSU students will be the instructors for the workshop.

Activities include tours of a seafood processing plant and a large freighter as well as observing coastal wildlife.

"Friendship Earth" will be the theme of the 4-H outdoor workshop at the Oregon 4-H Center. Those attending will learn about outdoor survival skills, environmental and human relationships as well as participating in campfire programs and ceremonies.

Extension agents, OSU students and other "outdoor skilled" persons will do the teaching during the week.

Eligible 4-H members in Morrow County will receive information about the programs and an application blank. However, additional forms are available at the County Extension Office. Applications are to be returned to the county office by April 30.

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EDITOR:

Thanks for your help in straightening out the Great Plymouth Brethren Mystery.

As of our phone conversation of last week, we have corrected our tables, and Morrow County will NOT appear in the Atlas of Oregon as the state's leading center for this very small denomination.

The misinformation originated in the National Council of Churches survey on Religion in the United States, published in 1971. This survey lists the number of adherents, by denomination, for each county in the United States. It's an interesting document, and we were particularly struck by the information that, in your county, the otherwise obscure Plymouth Brethren (only 1600 adherents statewide) had six churches, and a membership of well over 400.

Was there a fascinating vignette of Oregon history hidden here? We hope so, but the more we thought about it, the more we suspected clerical error. You confirmed our suspicion, and the Plymouth Brethren, shorn of their surplus membership, have dropped below 1500 members, and thus out of our table. (Since there are some 60 or 70 denominations in Portland alone, we arbitrarily limited our table to the 30 or so with more than 1500 members statewide.)

Our apologies to the Plymouth Brethren, and our thanks to you.

STUART ALLEN  
Associate Director  
Atlas of Oregon Project

<p align="center"><b>RED DEL. APPLES</b></p> <p align="center">No. 2 Potatoes 29¢</p> <p align="center">20 lbs. for \$1.39</p> <p align="center">Lettuce 4 heads for \$1.00</p>	<p align="center"><b>Lg. Oranges 8 for \$1.00</b></p> <p align="center"><b>CARROTS 2 lb. for 29¢</b></p> <p align="center">Prices effective April 2-3</p> <p align="center"><b>MTF whole kernel corn 303 3 for \$1.00</b></p> <p align="center"><b>MTF Whole Peeled Tomatoes 303 35¢</b></p> <p align="center"><b>BLUE BELL POTATO CHIPS 3 pac 69¢</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>1 1/2 lb. CORNISH GAME HENS \$1.15</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Hills Jumbo BOLOGNA 69¢ lb.</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Oregon Chief Slab BACON \$1.39</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Court Street Market</b></p> <p align="center">We process farm-killed animals</p> <p align="center">111 N. Court St. Heppner Or. 676-9643</p>