

Senate bill will put teeth in shoplifting laws

By State Senator Ken Jernstedt

At the request of the Oregon Retail Council I have introduced a bill which will soon be debated on the Senate floor. It should be of interest to all consumers, since it is an effort to control something which adds to the price of items we all buy in stores and super-

markets. It is SB 893 and has to do with shoplifting. Shoplifting losses amount to an estimated \$7 billion annually, based on apprehensions. And it is calculated that only 1 out of 35 shoplifters are apprehended. Oregon ac-

counts for about 1.1 per cent of the national market—so a very conservative loss figure for Oregon is a \$70 million annual loss. Retailers increase prices to absorb the losses they experience through shoplifting, so all of us pay for things that

people steal. SB 893 is a civil statute and does not change criminal provisions already existing in Oregon law. It is uncomplicated and written in simple language. While it will not bring an end to shoplifting, hopefully it will provide an

effective way of slowing its rapid growth and of discouraging both initial and repeated stealing, particularly as it relates to young people.

Studies have shown that the average age of juvenile shoplifters is 13. Until recently girls shoplifted more than boys, taking small things like cosmetics, jewelry, perfumes. But more and more boys are now becoming involved.

Another group that is involved is young couples who are unable to afford things they want and so they shoplift them.

At present, since the only recourse is a criminal procedure, many merchants take no action because they feel that it is not appropriate to take juveniles to criminal court, because it is time consuming and costly and there are delays in getting cases into court, and because an attorney is needed to prosecute.

Current law lacks the certainty of penalty, which is the only effective deterrent to shoplifting.

SB 893 does the following things: Establishes a civil liability for taking merchandise or for altering prices on merchandise.

Makes parents or legal guardians civilly liable for the penalties imposed on minors.

Awards to the merchant actual damages; a penalty in the amount of the retail value of the merchandise, not to exceed \$500 for an adult or \$250 for a minor; and costs of preparing and presenting the action of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250.

One of the most effective parts of the proposed law is that first time offenders would be punished. A survey conducted by Distributive Education Clubs revealed a prevalent attitude expressed as: "Hey, don't try to kid us, we won't get caught—and if we do, nothing will happen!"

Under SB 893 something will happen!

Area students are BMCC's new officers

Kent Madison, from Echo, has been named student body president for the 1979-80 school year at Blue Mountain Community College following recent student elections.

Madison will be assisted in associated student body activities by: Mike Lincoln, La Grande, vice-president; Kyrnn Robinson, Heppner, corresponding secretary; Penny Baxter, Umatilla, recording secretary; Lori Rinehart, Pendleton, treasurer; and Larry DeWalt, Lake Tahoe, publicity director.

Morrow Co.

schools seek

handicapped

for education

Child Find is trying to locate Oregon children, birth to 21 years of age, with physical, mental or emotional problems or chronic illness. Sometimes these handicapped children are not receiving the free, appropriate public education to which they are entitled.

This state-wide campaign, which is sponsored by the State Department of Education, is appealing to people throughout the state to help in this child identification and public awareness program.

Parents or guardians who believe a child may have physical, mental, or emotional or learning problems are encouraged to call the school in their local community. Also they may call the Child Find projects toll-free number in Portland for additional information. The number is 1-800-249-7727.

Those contacting the project will receive more detailed information on the services Child Find can provide. Subsequently, they may request, through the project, that their child undergo appropriate testing in their local district.

Of Shrubs And Bedding Plants

DAY IS A SAVINGS DAY!

WESTERN FAMILY SHOESTRING FRIES



QUICK AND EASY TO FIX
LARGE 20-OZ. BAG

3 89¢

MISSION LONG SPAGHETTI

22-OZ. SIZE



59¢

WESTERN FAMILY AA LARGE EGGS

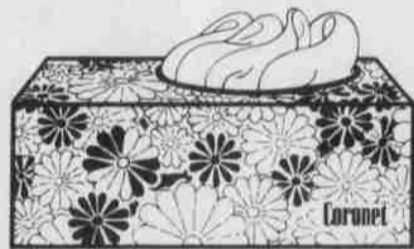


THE INCREDIBLE EDIBLE EGG
GUARANTEED FRESH
DOZEN

65¢

CORONET STUDIO FACIAL TISSUE

200 COUNT



49¢



WHITE OR WHEAT BREAD

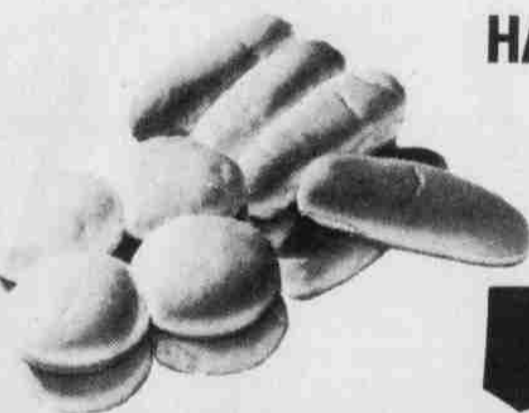
PLAIN WRAP
22½-OZ. LOAF

4 \$1
FOR

THRIFTWAY EXTRA VALUES

BAKERY TREATS

- WESTERN FAMILY MAYONNAISE 32-oz. Size \$1.15
- MJB FLAVORED RICE MIXES Assorted Flavors, 6-oz. Size 39¢
- HIGH YIELD COFFEE Regular or Automatic Drip, 39-oz. Size \$5.79
- DEL MONTE GREEN BEANS Sliced Seasoned, 16-oz. 3 for 89¢
- CHUN KING CHOW MEIN Assorted Varieties, 42-oz. Size \$1.49
- MRS. BUTTERWORTH SYRUP 36-oz. Size \$1.69
- HUNT'S TOMATO SAUCE Thick & Rich, 8-oz. Size 5 for \$1
- SMUCKER GRAPE JAM or JELLY 32-oz., Your Choice 99¢
- LIPTON CUP-A-SOUP Assorted Varieties, Pkg. of 4 59¢
- PILLSBURY BROWNIE MIX Deluxe Fudge, 22.5-oz. Size \$1.09



HAMBURGER OR HOT DOG BUNS

SHUR-FRESH
PKG. OF 12 BUNS

59¢

FROZEN FOODS



MEDIUM SWEET PEAS OR NIBLETS CORN

IN BUTTER SAUCE
10-OZ. SIZE
YOUR CHOICE

49¢

SWANSON TAKE OUT FRIED CHICKEN 28-oz. \$2.99

WELCH GRAPE JUICE 12-oz. 79¢

SALTESEA FRIED CLAMS 5-oz. 99¢

THRIFTWAY FRESH PRODUCE



COACHELLA VALLEY WHITE GRAPEFRUIT

EAT PLENTY AND STILL KEEP A SLIM WAISTLINE

\$10.9
EA.

8-LB. BAG

SWEET CORN

5 \$1
FOR

NEW CROP FROM FLORIDA,
SWEET & TENDER

SWEET TASTY CANTALOUPE

RICH AND FLAVORFUL,
FULL OF JUICE 39¢
LB.

- FANCY ALL GREEN CABBAGE lb. 35¢
- EXTRA CHOICE LEMONS Large 6 for \$1
- ALFALFA SPROUTS "Yakima Grown", 6-oz. Pkg. ea. 49¢
- U.S. NO. 1 BAKING POTATOES 6 lbs. \$1

