

# Wheat President denounces efforts to ban herbicides

Phenoxy herbicides are no more dangerous than any other chemical on the market today when used correctly, according to Louis Carlson, second vice president of the Oregon Wheat League.

Carlson spoke at a recent Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

"There is nothing worse

than eating an apple with a worm in it unless it's eating an apple with half a worm in it," Carlson said.

And that could be more common than it is today if environmentalists are successful in banning the use of herbicides used by farmers of wheat and other products like cherries, apples and pears.

The Environmental Protec-

tion Agency (EPA) has put a temporary ban on the use of the herbicide 2-4-5.T because of complaints about miscarriages in Lincoln County.

"It is a very emotional issue and it must be taken seriously," Carlson said.

He added that the ban on the chemical spray may become permanent depending on a decision that will soon be

made in Washington, D.C.

An OWL study of the chemical 2-4.D showed no adverse side effects.

"We would like to know if there are any adverse side effects," Carlson said. "It has not been harmful to my family and it won't be as long as you follow the directions on the labels for use it won't cause any damage."

Phenoxy herbicides are weed killers farmers use in their wheat fields in the spring.

There was a concentrated effort last year in Lane County for a referendum to ban phenoxy herbicides. It took only six days to get the required number of signatures to place a referendum on the ballot but 600 of the names

were ruled invalid otherwise herbicides probably would have been banned there, Carlson said.

Last year, the sprays killed another type of "weed" in Lincoln County and in northern California. The largest cash crop in that area, Carlson said, is marijuana and herbicides used by the

forestry department are suspected to have killed pounds of marijuana in the area.

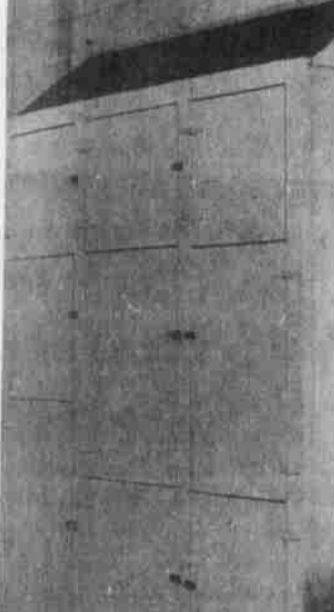
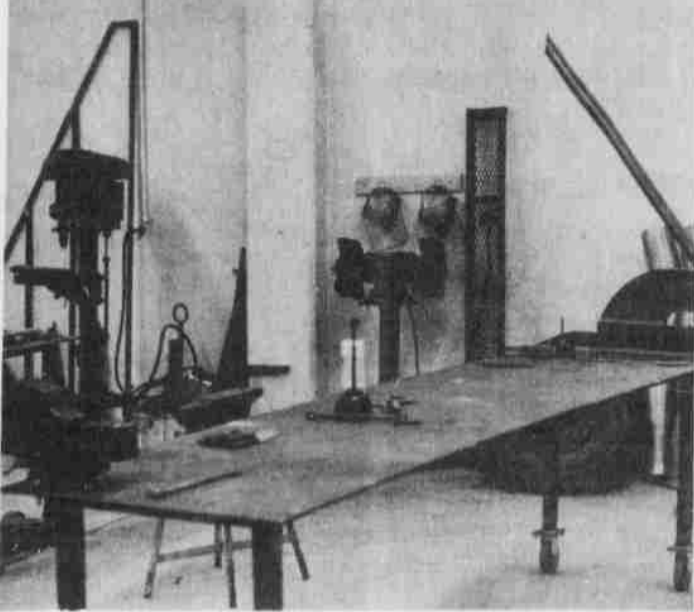
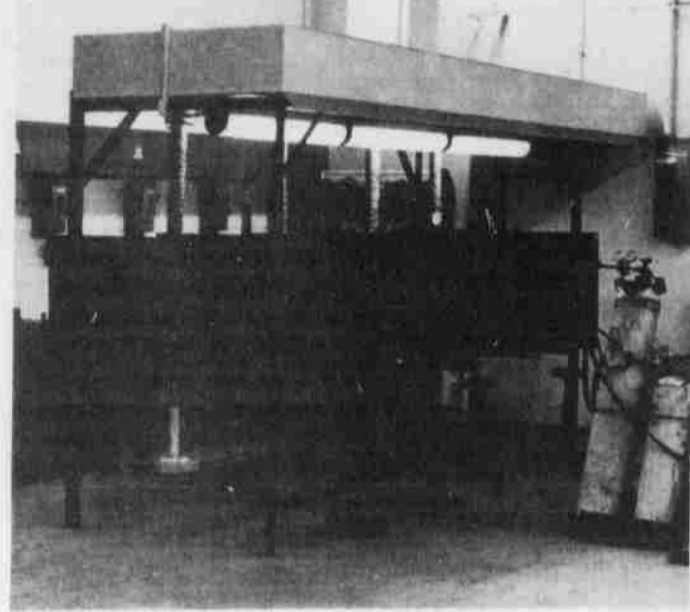
The results of a study done by Oregon State University that were announced recently state that the EPA used faulty information in its ban on 2-4-5.T.

The OSU study found a 6.3 percent miscarriage rate for women in an area where 2-4-5.T was sprayed and a rate of 6.0 percent in other areas in Oregon.

Pakistan start buying from the U.S. again then \$5 a bushel will be a low price but "That is a big if," he said.

The grain trade has a large carry over of old crop of 50 to 60 million bushels just in the Northwest while last year the carry over was 25 to 40 million bushels, according to French.

"Five million bushels in the Northwest have been bought up by someone and it is not going anywhere," he said. "It was bought up hoping that the Iran situation would be straightened out."



## Future Farmers of America saluted this week

Future Farmers of America are receiving a salute around the nation this week—it is National FFA Week.

The vocational agricultural program in America's school system that provides leadership training for its participants was established in 1928. The first FFA chapter in Morrow County was organized at Heppner High School 43 years ago and for the past 14 years the work has been directed here by Hal Whitaker, vocational agricultural instructor who came to Ore-

gon from Texas.

"I've seen the program grow and expand," he said. "It offers students an opportunity they don't have in other areas to develop an occupation and livelihood in agriculture. They get leadership training by participation in meetings, meeting kids from other schools, and competing in contests."

FFA chapters always function in conjunction with a school's vocational agricultural instruction, Whitaker said.

Besides the chapter in

Heppner, with about 40 students, there is an FFA chapter at Riverside High School in Boardman with about 50 members. Ron Black is the teacher there.

Teachers are specially trained and accredited in the field of vocational agriculture, Whitaker said.

They meet with their students on a daily basis providing in-depth instruction in livestock projects, crop planting and agricultural engineering.

Our motto is: "Learning by doing, doing to learn, earning

to live, living to serve," Whitaker said.

He said his students have "learned by doing" in such shop projects as constructing an eight-station welding center, building metal work benches and making storage cabinets.

Students from the two Morrow County FFA chapters will be attending the state convention in Gresham next month.

Projects completed by Future Farmers of America students in their vocational agricultural training at Heppner High School—an eight-station welding training center, metal work table and a bank of storage cabinets.

## Lions announce scholarship

To encourage students in vocational or technical training, the Heppner Lions club has announced an annual \$500 scholarship to be awarded to Heppner High School graduates.

Cliff Green, scholarship chairman for the Lions, said the program is designed to encourage young people to acquire a marketable skill. So the one-year scholarship award could be used toward, but would be restricted to, community college vocational programs, Oregon Institute of Technology study courses, barber or hairdressing school, farriers' school, welding programs, business schools, computer technology training, auto or diesel mechanics courses, or design school.

In general, Green said, four-year college degree programs would not qualify for the Lions scholarship.

Students may inquire from the school counselor and submit applications by March 31.

## Local residents should receive PNB telephone books soon

Heppner, Ione and Lexington Pacific Northwest Bell customers should have a copy of the new 1980 telephone directory this week, according to PNB Manager Linda Buckner.

Inside the new book, telephone users will find a new toll free telephone number for reaching the Oregon State Police office in Pendleton. Customers outside Pendleton should now dial 1-800-452-8150.

PNB has added two new numbers for telephone customers for telephone repair service. One number 1-276-

5080, is for residence telephone repair service. The second number, 1-276-4612, puts you in touch with a new business repair service established by PNB to provide special service for business telephone systems.

Postal ZIP Codes have been moved to the phone book's Center Color Section. The section, located between the white and yellow pages, also includes athletic schedules and community information.

Another new twist this year is the addition of official name

abbreviations for the 50 states and 10 Canadian provinces in the "Area Code" section of the phone book.

Heppner, Ione and Lexington telephone users will discover that their new books are 24 pages fatter and include 797 more alphabetical listings than the 1979 edition.

About 2,350 books will be delivered in the Heppner area, Buckner says.

Lois Allen of Lexington will be delivering the phone books in the area and she said it will take about one week and some may have to be mailed.

## Wheat growers meet in Heppner

The Morrow County Wheat Growers will hold their annual spring meeting, Monday, March 3 starting at 7:30 p.m., at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Heppner, Brok Tucker, county president, has announced.

An interesting and informative program is planned. The topic will be the use of pesticides in agriculture and particularly the use of phenoxy pesticides such as 2-4-D.

Two speakers will share the program. The first is Georgia Hoglund from Clarkston, Wash., chairperson of Citizens Against Herbicides, whose talk is titled "Risks, Benefits and Alternatives." Dr. Jim Witt, Extension Service specialist in chemistry of environmental toxicology, from Oregon State University, will speak on "2-4-D, a Health Evaluation."

All wheat growers and their

wives are invited and encouraged to attend the spring meeting, Tucker said.

Janet Tucker, County Wheathearts chairperson, has announced an informational meeting for Wheathearts on the use of agricultural chemicals will be Monday, Feb. 25. Tom Zinn, Wasco County Extension agent, will be the speaker. More information will be announced later.

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