# Legislative Report

By Rep. D. E. (Denny) Jones

Rather than discuss specific bills which have been considered during this past week, we thought you might be interested in the many ways your legislator can help his constituents. You are aware of the more publicized activities of a representative-introducing bills, attending committee meetings, listening to testimony and making decisions on bills in committee, debating legislation on the floor of the House, voting on bills, etc.

State legislators have another role important to the people of their districts-this is the role of citizen advocate, a liaison between the people at home and what is fast becoming our "Big Brother State Government." The business of the State has become so complicated, so detached from the people, so regulatory that the legislator has become the focus for helping the average person who just doesn't have the information available to seek the help needed in certain situations

If a legislator doesn't know the answer there is instant access to the sources of information for unscrambling difficulties with which constituents are often faced. This is particularly important for District 60 which is separated by a lot of geography from the state machinery in Salem. We use telephone or personal contacts here to help to solve problems which might take the average citizen weeks of letter-writing to eventually find the right agency and person to contact. It is not unusual to find a rule or regulation adopted by an agency or department which doesn't really take into account Eastern Oregon's problems or viewpoints or

special situations We've had many appeals for help regarding problems with workmen's compensation. In our State Telephone Directory, the State Industrial Accident Fund Agency lists over twelve de-

partments or divisions to scrutinize to determine which one would apply to a particular problem. We eventually reach the right person to help, with a few phone calls. A rancher wrote us, most upset, because he thought some of his property was going to be condemned for a state campground. We were able to determine that this was not going to happen. but the time clapse in communication between state agencies and the citizen often creates misunderstanding and lack of information. We can speed up the communication, thereby alleviating the worry. We've helped senior citizens with social security payments delayed or interrupted. Both of our Senators have offices either in Salem or Portland.

and they are very cooperative

and successful in investiga-

ting any problems relating to

An important factor in our liaison work is the good equipment and assistance to aid us. The Centrex telephone system is invaluablewith our access to WATS lines, both at our office and home. This reduces the cost of long distance telephoning. which is necessary throughout the state, as the WATS expense is based on a flat rate-you can make as many calls as needed at no extra charge. The State Library just across the street from the Capitol allows quick reference to any subject on which we need information. A legislative research department of Legislature furnishes reports on request.

We hope you'll let us know if we can help you here in Salem with any situation that is causing problems-give us a call-write a card or letter. State government is your government, 378-8834 is our



### Your County Agent Says

White top - one of our persistent perennial noxious weeds will soon be in the proper stage for most satis-

factory control measures. At the bud stage white top is most susceptible to 2,4-D Low Voltile spray. This material applied at the rate of 3# active ingredient per acre in at least 20 gallons of water stops seed formation and will hold the weed in check all summer. This treatment will not completely kill all the white top but does offer us one of the best control measures we have. Repeated applications have eliminated some infestations in the

If left unchecked these weeds will go to seed and continue to spread like a malignant growth spreading both by seed and root

Have you checked your 'bull power?" Many operators will be turning the bulls out within a few days so some checking of these bulls is in order. Some common defects of bulls turned out are infertility and bad feet. It's a known fact that a high percentage of bulls turned onto the range are sterile or incapable of settling a cow. A bull with bad feet won't cover the country necessary for him do a good job.

Solutions to these problems aren't expensive nor too time consuming. Your veterinarian can fertility test a bull for a small fee and those feet can be trimmed with a set of hoof nippers and a rasp in a few minutes. A group of operators in a community can get together and have a commercial hoof trimmer come in and trim all the bulls feet at a reasonable cost.

Alfalfa hay growers will soon be faced with another annual invasion of the alfalfa weevil. This pest is distributed throughout the hav growing sections of the county and can be found in varying numbers in all fields. The extent of the infestations

#### Oregon Agriculture Service Report

By Malcolm MacEwan At the national level, cash receipts to farmers for marketings of milk and cream hit a record \$9.4 billion in 1974. That is a 16 percent gain from the previous high set in 1973. Milk production in Oregon grossed \$87.75 million, a 17% gain over 1973

Cattle and calves on feed in Oregon for slaughter market totaled 55,000 head on April 1, according to Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. This is 5000 fewer head than on feed a year ago. Placements of cattle in feedlots during January-March totaled 32,000 head-10,000 more than in the same period in 1974. Marketings for slaughter during the past quarter of cattle fed in Oregon totaled 40,000 head eight percent more than last year. Expected marketings for slaughter from Oregon feedlots during April-June are estimated at 31,000 head. 11 percent above the corresponding period in 1974.

Oregon's value of total agricultural production reached \$1.1 billion in 1974. Combining total crop production values of \$808 million with livestock production value of \$313 million gives the state a ten percent gain over its total production values for 1973.

determines whether or not hay growers should treat their fields with insecticides to control the pests.

Adult weevil-small snout beetles-lay eggs in the hay fields during the spring period. These eggs hatch into small larvae that feed on the terminal tips of the alfalfa plant. Heavily infested fields may have a gray cast due to the shredding of the upper leaves.

Farmers should make periodic inspections of their fields during the next several weeks in order to determine the extent of the weevil infestations. Several insecticides are recommended for the control of the pests.



SOME OF THE WILD HORSES roaming on Eastern increased steadily since the animals have been protected by Oregon rangeland managed by the U. S. Bureau of Land Management. Officials say that the horse population has

the 1971 Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act.

#### Wild Horses On Increase In Oregon

The number of wild horses in Oregon is growing at the rate of 21 percent each year according to inventories just completed by the U. S. Bureau of Land Management The latest count shows 6,928 wild horses on national resource lands managed by BLM in eastern Oregon. The surveys were made this spring by BLM using airplanes and helicopters.

The horse population has increased steadily in Oregon and elsewhere in the western states since the animals have been protected from gathering and slaughtering for commercial purposes, by the 1971 Wild Horse and Burro

Protection Act. The Bureau of Land Management in Oregon re-

moved 135 horses from the range last fall. According to E. J. Petersen, acting statedirector, "Those horses were gathered from areas where the population had increased to the point that forage was becoming scarce and the animals faced possible star-

The horses were given to individuals to care for. although the federal government retained ownership to the animals. "Nearly all of the persons who got wild horses are happy with their charges," Petersen said. Most of the horses have become family pets and some are being ridden," he added.

In addition to the horses gathered by BLM, 427 privately owned horses have

been removed from national resource lands by individual ranchers as allowed by the wild horse act. These gatherings were supervised by BLM and brand inspectors from the Oregon Department of Agriculture who inspected and certified ownership of each animal.

The court ruled the act 'unconstitutional' in February. The same court, however, staved the order and is allowing BLM to continue management programs pending a higher court decision. The government has filed an appeal in the U. S. Supreme Court which will decide the constitutionality question. Petersen said.

The BLM will continue to manage wild horse herds in Oregon until the courts have settled the issue."

BLM will also continue to

participate with the national citizens advisory board on wild horse management. The board, created by the 1971 Act, meets periodically to monitor the wild horse programs of all Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture

agencies. Recently this board recommended to Congress that the 1971 Act be modified to allow the use of aircraft and motorized vehicles in management of wild hourses. They also recommended that persons acquiring excess wild horses be given title to the animals.

Petersen said, "The Bureau of Land Management supports these recommendations. Based on our experience to date in wild horse management, we think these recommendations make a lot

Wild Horse Inventory National Resource Land Managed by BLM in Oregon Year Number of Wild Horses

2,925 1972 No inventory 1973 4,080 5,715 6.928



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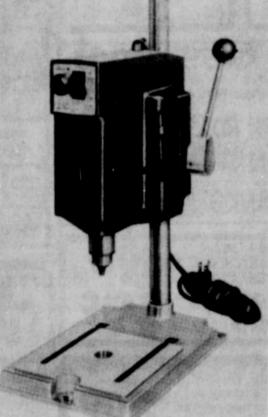
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