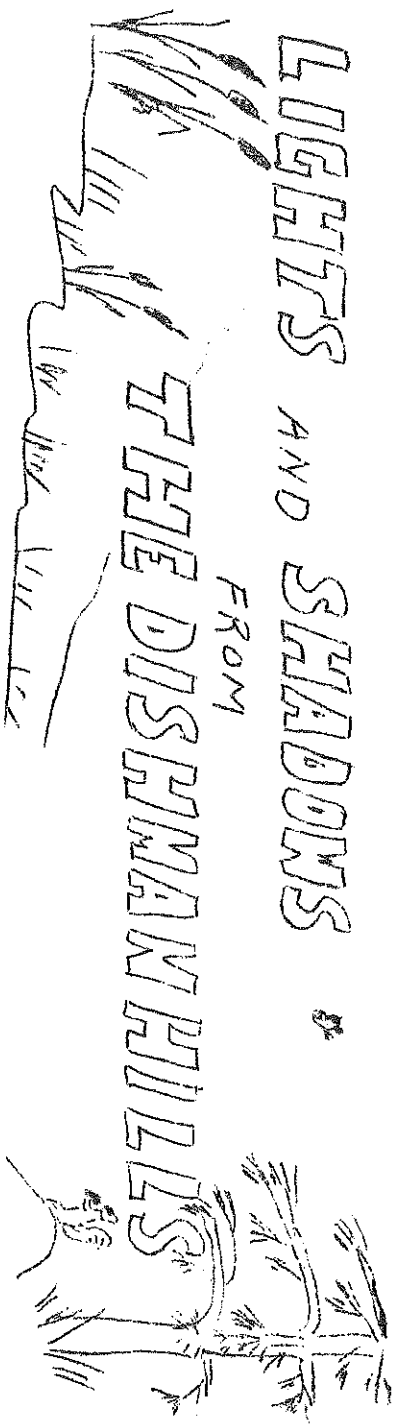


LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM

THE DISHMAN HILLS



September 1978

COMMISSIONERS TO HEAR APPEAL OCTOBER 9 FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT BY DISHMAN HILLS

FIRST \$5000 FOR HILLS WILL BE MATCHED

An anonymous Dishman Hills supporter will match the first \$5000 donated to the Dishman Hills Association land fund between April and December 31 of this year. Helen Liningger, association president, made the first pledge, for \$150. Acquisition of 140 acres in the hills is expected to be completed this year by Spokane County, The Nature Conservancy and Dishman Hills Association working together. We understand that our treasury will be temporarily emptied for the project, the amount to be returned later as matching funds are received. It appears we still lack part of the necessary money, so more donations are needed.

The next step probably will be to buy land to the northwest of the present county and Nature Conservancy land, containing two ponds, picturesque cliffs and ravines. After that, acquiring land south toward Tower Mountain likely will be next. Hence the continuing need for fund-raising.

Returnable Container Initiative No. 61 Needs More Signatures before Dec. 31

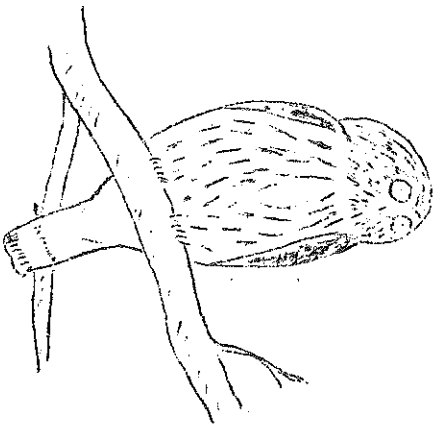
Returnable beverage container legislation is being promoted in the state by Initiative 61. It calls for a minimum five cent refundable deposit on all beer, malt and carbonated soft drink containers. 123,711 valid signatures are needed by the year's end. A uniform returnable system will save consumers money, reduce energy and natural resource consumption, create jobs, lessen solid waste problems and reduce litter, according to a recently released fact sheet, quoted

ONCE-REJECTED HOUSING PROPOSAL UP AGAIN

Spokane County Board of Commissioners will conduct the twice-postponed hearing on "The Meadows" development November 27 at 1:30 p.m. at the hearing room in the court house. The proposal for building 135 housing units, priced at \$30,000 and up, on 160 acres crowded against the west side of the Dishman Hills in the vicinity of 18th Avenue and Park Road, is being fought vigorously by Dishman Hills Association and residents of the area. Spokane County Parks and Recreation Department superintendent A.D. (Sam) Angove has indicated his department will continue to oppose the development, as has a spokesman for the State Department of Game. The Nature Conservancy, the Spokane chapter of Washington Environmental Council and the Washington Native Plant Society are all opposing it.

To date our association has collected over 1000 signatures of Spokane city and valley residents opposing the project and residents of the immediate area probably will have collected as many more. Haworth and Anderson, Inc. has prepared a draft environmental impact statement for developer Pete Rayner. Preliminary examination of the statement does not seem to give the project the support it needs. Also the report neglects the high impact so many people will have upon the nearby Dishman Hills Natural Area and the addition now in the process of acquisition, which will adjoin the housing project.

Back at the beginning of the Dishman Hills Natural Area project then-commissioner Bill Allen said that the Hills were becoming a political issue, that if anyone tried to do anything to damage them, the people would rise up in their defense.



PYGMY OWL

This seven-inch owl is the smallest owl in the Pacific Northwest. In summer it frequents the mountain forests, nesting in an abandoned woodpecker hole in a dead tree. In winter it drops down to lower elevations. The species is believed to nest on Tower (Browne) Mountain and has been found in fall and winter in the Dishman Hills. Imitating of its whistled notes will attract many small birds.

DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSN., INC.
E. 10820 Maxwell Ave., Spokane, WA 99206
Phone (509) 926-7949

Returnable Containers (cont. from p. 1)

A non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy and to learn from.

Helen E. Lininger, president
Thomas H. Rogers, vice-pres. & editor
Bernice Ammons, secretary
David E. Lentjes, treasurer

Directors (In addition to officers)
Doris Allgood Warren A. Hall
Omar E. Carroll LeRoy Hook
Bernice Hahn William F. Marchand
Margaret Haggin Ambrose Priestley

Monthly meetings are at Kiwanis Camp Caro, S. 625 Sargent Road, Dishman. Board meeting is at 7 p.m. and general meeting is at 8 p.m. the fourth Wednesday. You are cordially invited to attend both. A slide or film program on the out-of-doors is usually included.

Your bulletin editor has been able to obtain \$400 for the land fund so far this year, thanks to the many people who have been saving newspaper, junk mail, writing paper, brown paper, etc. Keep up the good work! (No waxed paper or plastic, please.)

Wouldn't it be great if people who have money to invest in housing developments would put it into affordable house, apartments, etc. for people of modest means? Recent news stories indicate a serious need for such in the Spokane area. Oh, well--I can dream, can't I? Sometimes dreams come true,

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates savings to consumers of \$2.5 billion annually or 2.5 cents per 12-ounce serving should a national returnable system be established.

The Federal Energy Administration (FEA) projects savings of 81,000 barrels of oil a day or a 44% reduction in the energy required to deliver soft drinks and beer by 1982. The EPA projects a 40% reduction in energy required and a saving of 5.2 million tons of glass, 1.5 million tons of steel and 500,000 tons of aluminum annually.

Oregon reports a net increase of 365 jobs since the returnable bill was implemented there in 1972. (Note - increased mechanization in the beverage industry over the years has been decreasing jobs.) The FEA projects an increase in employment nationally of 156,000 jobs when a national bill passes. This is a 32% increase in employment, bringing with it a 22% increase in employment revenue.

Under a national system the EPA forecasts an annual reduction of 7 million tons of solid waste by 1980. This represents a 5% reduction in all solid waste and an 8.5% reduction in manufactured waste.

Oregon reports an 83% reduction in beverage container litter since 1972 and Vermont reports a 76% reduction. A 1977 G.A.O. report to Congress estimates that a national returnable system would reduce beverage container litter by 81-85%.

We hope you have already signed the petition and that you will assist in gathering more. We have some blank petitions or you can get some from CITIZENS FOR RETURNABLE BEVERAGE CONTAINERS, 1406 NE 50th, Seattle, WA 98105.