

THE CLARION

"CALLING FOR AN END TO CANNABIS PROHIBITION"

Appeals Court Rejects Latest DEA Bid to Outlaw Hemp Foods

More To Come, Act Today!



A federal appeals court on Monday, June 30, 2003, overturned a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration ban on the sale of food containing hemp, saying the agency failed to give enough advance warning or allow for public comment before imposing the rule.

The 2-1 ruling by a panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals did not decide the constitutionality of a hemp food ban, but merely determined that the government did not follow proper bureaucratic procedure when it announced the ban in October 2001.

In March, the DEA began complying with the federal Administrative Procedures Act, and has been sued again by the hemp industry in a challenge now pending before the appellate court. The ban has been put on hold pending legal challenges.

In a sharp dissent, Judge Alex Kozinski called the majority's ruling "gratuitous," and predicted the ban will ultimately prevail. "The most likely outcome," he wrote, "is that we will uphold the regulation."

Hemp is an industrial plant related to marijuana. Fiber from hemp plants long has been used to make paper, clothing, rope and other products. Its oil is found in body-care products such as lotion, soap and cosmetics and in a host of foods, including energy bars, waffles, milk-free cheese, veggie burgers and bread.

Last year, DEA attorney Daniel Dormont told the appellate court that the agency banned food made with hemp because "there's no way of knowing" whether some products may get consumers high.

Hemp food sellers say their products are full of nutrition, not drugs. They say the food contains such a small amount of the active ingredient in marijuana that it's impossible to get high.

The DEA declared that food products containing even trace amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol — the psychoactive chemical known as THC that is found in marijuana and sometimes in hemp — were banned under the Controlled Substances Act. <continued next page>

**The CLARION,
your basic Cannabis
Law Reform
Information and
Outreach Newsletter,
is an all-volunteer, not-
for-profit venture
committed to ending
cannabis prohibition. It
is intended to inform
and educate the reader
on the medical truth
about cannabis and the
benefits of hemp.**

For compliments about the CLARION, call or stop on by and thank our volunteer staff. Complaints, etc is the department of Perry Stripling - editor.

Contact Us Today!

Snail Mail:

**The CLARION
1675 Fairgrounds Rd.,
Salem, Oregon, 97303
503-363-4588**

E-mail:

clarion_editor@hotmail.com

our WWW page:

pdxnorml.org/orgs/clarion

Check it out!

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Many thanks for their support.

<continued from previous page> The administration ordered a halt to the production and distribution of all goods containing THC that were intended for human consumption. The DEA also ordered all such products destroyed or removed from the United States, but the 9th Circuit suspended that order pending a decision.

This was welcome and timely news for the Canadian Hemp sector and its American partners for if this final rule had taken effect, the sale of Canadian-grown hemp foods in the US would have been made much more difficult. Some say, even banned outright, as the Final Rule sought to ban hemp foods containing trace THC.

People who utilize sources such as *The Hemp Report* are aware that industrial hemp has been legal to grow in Canada since 1998, and that hemp foods is one of the premium markets that has been developed for this new crop over the past half-decade. As a legal industry, hemp is regulated by Health Canada under the country's Industrial Hemp Regulations. These regulations allow for trace content of THC to be present in food. As for the USA of course, America remains the only major industrialized nation on the planet to prohibit the growth of industrial hemp. And to date, they have refused to accept Canadian standards.

The questionable openness of the large American market has been facing Canada's young hemp food sector since year one. Despite regulatory and marketplace confusion, the US hemp food market has grown from nil to \$5 million a year in retail sales, pacing a parallel development in Canada.

Why all the fuss over this perhaps strange little seed? It is well known that hempseed is an excellent source of protein and Essential Fatty Acids (EFAs). One by one, consumers are learning to appreciate hemp for its nutrition as well as its nutty taste. Hempseed and hempseed oil are increasingly used in natural food products, such as chips, nutrition bars, hummus, nondairy milks, breads and cereals. And interesting research results are beginning to back up many of the good words often said about hempseed.

Now while still a small industry, this commercial growth is pleasing to many industry participants and interested observers and bringing a lot of hope to an embattled sector. Embattled, not just because of interference plays run by a powerful rogue government agency, but because of the challenges involved in making this new commercial crop work.

Will the reprieve be enough? The past five years have not been easy. There have been disappointments, some quiet departures, and there are small bush wars brewing. And what ever happened to Health Canada's Hemp Hazard Report anyway? And what's this talk about a Canadian Hemp Trade Association and what is their role? The plot thickens.

The Hemp Report Team

The Hemp Report team has years of working experience with industrial hemp. Their core strengths include research, web publishing, and message making. They have worked with many nonprofit industry groups and businesses in Canada and the US since 1999. Their rates are both affordable and competitive and they have unique understanding of the many issues that affect this intriguing sector. And if they don't know they know who to ask! If you need help with your project they might be able to help you. Please contact us at with your ideas.

For more info and general help please see the FAQs posted on their web site:

<http://www.hempreport.com/faq.html>

Free Hemp News Service

Many *Hemp Report* fans have been enjoying the Hemp News service that they have established over the past year. Do you want to be among the first to know when hemp related news comes out? Join their Topica Hemp News list and they will email you whenever a new item is listed on the HR News page. *Note this is a different list from the regular Hemp Report subscriber list.* You can sign up for Hemp News at: <http://www.topica.com/lists/hempnews/>

For the regular Hemp Report subscriber list, where you get to read the latest news, features, and other good stuff, please go to: <http://www.hempreport.com>

Click on the "Subscriber's Log in Page" link below the main navigation bar.

The Name/User ID to use is: hemp
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When prompted enter "hemp" in the first line of the box and "food" in the second, without the quotation marks. If you use Internet Explorer or Mozilla you can choose to save the password for easy future access. Though we will remind you of the log in name/user id and password in all future posts, you will still want to hang on to this message for future reference.

Please note they like donations and your support does have an impact. As a free-to-read online journal *The Hemp Report* relies on corporate support, advertising, and reader donations to fund all of their knowledge creation and distribution activities. They spend hundreds of hours a year to make *The Hemp Report* happen. Please show them that this is time well spent. Donations help them create new content and gather hard-to-get information which they transfer to us. If everyone of their subscribers made even a small donation (between \$1 and \$5 a year) it would make a huge difference!

For more information contact Arthur Hanks and *The Hemp Report* team, (Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada) by
eMail: hcf@sk.sympatico.ca or visiting:

<http://www.hempreport.com>

American People Cry Out for Industrial Hemp

Recent news and information about industrial hemp production has prompted many people to comment about this controversial crop. Writers of letters to the editor are overwhelmingly in favor of legalizing hemp as a crop product and many said they would like to grow it.

Although industrial hemp is grown in countries throughout the world, it is still illegal for US farmers to grow it because

hemp is classified as a drug under the US Controlled Substances Act. We will not reprint the names of those who commented, a sad statement on the DEA's ability to suppress free speech.



“Here I am — an educated, conservative Republican beef producer about to come across as a complete liberal,” wrote one supporter. “Hemp should not be banned as an agricultural/industrial crop in this country.”

“There simply is no honest, factual argument against it. Yet irrational fears, governmental turf protection and industry lobbying are keeping it out of our fields.”

“As visitors to countries around the world have seen, there are many products to which hemp fiber easily and inexpensively lends its attributes. But you will not see these products in our free country — clothing that has the suppleness of cotton, hand soaps and lotions that heal, dry weathered hands.”

Another e-mail stated: “I am a farmer in northwest Missouri and am in favor of industrial hemp. I would gladly grow hemp as an alternative crop.”

One farmer said hemp would be ideal to grow on land that is not suitable for other crops. He also favored hemp because it requires little, if any, pesticides to grow. He said hemp is a cheap alternative to cotton or timber.

Another farmer said he was confused by the government's hard stand against legalizing industrial hemp. He said the government should favor the production of any crop that opens new markets for American farmers.

“If it can be used to make paper, rope, clothing, food and so many other things, why would they stop us from growing it?”

Show Your Support

There are many organizations in the US that support the production of industrial hemp. One of the most active is Vote Hemp, a non-profit <continued on next page>

<continued from previous page> organization working to create a free market for industrial hemp. Vote Hemp director Eric Lineback has a few suggestions on how farmers can support the campaign.

“The most important things your readers can do are educate themselves, educate others and lobby their legislators at the local, state and federal level,” Lineback said.

An easy way to get started is by going to the Vote Hemp website at www.votehemp.com. There you can sign up for a free newsletter, read about current hemp legislation, send a pre-written fax or letter to members of Congress and even buy hemp products.

Vote Hemp’s mission is to educate consumers, business owners, farmers and legislators about the many benefits of industrial hemp and to build grassroots support for changes in current law to allow for hemp farming in the United States, Lineback said.

“Hemp is one of the few issues of national interest that enjoys tremendous bipartisan and cross-cultural support,” he said. “Democrats, Greens, Libertarians and Republicans, liberals and conservatives, farmers and hippies, global corporations and small mom-and-pop businesses are all part of the broad coalition in favor of industrial hemp.”

In the spring of 2003, Vote Hemp hired Zogby International, a US political polling firm, to conduct a national poll of likely voters on their opinions about industrial hemp. Lineback said the results were very encouraging — at least 66 percent of likely voters supported allowing US farmers to grow industrial hemp.

State's Rights?

Industrial hemp production has the support of many state governments. In 2000, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) sent President Clinton a letter stating that the NCSL supports flexible federal policies to allow states to determine the viability of industrial hemp.

At that time, 11 states had passed bills or resolutions supporting the reintroduction of industrial hemp into American agriculture. NCSL stated in its letter that federal barriers to the cultivation and production of industrial hemp effectively blocked the states from determining hemp’s viability and market potential.

This means that even though some states have passed laws that allow farmers to grow industrial hemp, those farmers could still be prosecuted by the federal government.

“Federal drug laws supercede state laws,” Lineback said. “So states that have legalized production would not prosecute hemp growers, but the feds could.”

Lineback said many states have resisted passing hemp

production laws because of this reason. However, he says it is important for states to continue passing hemp bills to send a message to the federal government that states support hemp production.

The bottom line, Lineback says, is that federal laws need to be changed to distinguish industrial hemp from marijuana. Technically, he said, hemp and marijuana are legal to grow if you have a permit from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Farmers should know that securing a DEA permit “is near impossible to get”, Lineback said.

Hawaii is the only state that has passed hemp production laws and has secured DEA permits so its licensed growers are protected from federal penalty. North Dakota is now trying to get a DEA permit as well, Lineback said.

According to Vote Hemp, at least 12 states have passed hemp legislation, including North Dakota, Virginia, Montana, Minnesota, Illinois, Hawaii, California, Arkansas, Vermont, Maryland, West Virginia and Maine.

More than 25 have considered hemp bills, but did not pass them. They include Oregon, New Hampshire, Missouri, Colorado, Tennessee, New Mexico, Kentucky, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Idaho, California, Wisconsin, Vermont and Arizona.

Action in 2003

During the 2003 legislative session, four states have tackled the industrial hemp issue — Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire and Oregon.

Iowa’s hemp bill SF 191 died in committee. It stated, “The general assembly finds a trend exists among states to consider the economic importance of industrial hemp, which is a major crop in other nations.

“Industrial hemp historically has contributed to the economic welfare of this country, and is a renewable natural resource manufactured for textiles, pulp, paper, oil, building materials and other products. The purpose of this Act is to promote the economy of this state by providing for research necessary to develop industrial hemp as a viable crop.”

Maine legislators were successful in passing their hemp bill, LD 53, which allows for experimentation in the cultivation of industrial hemp.

The bill’s summary states, “This bill defines ‘industrial hemp.’ It authorizes, but does not require, the director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station to obtain the appropriate federal permits to study the feasibility of growing industry hemp.”

If passed, New Hampshire bill HB 653, which is currently retained in committee, would authorize the production of industrial hemp.

Oregon's HB 2769, which has not yet come to a vote, would permit the production and possession of industrial hemp and trade in industrial hemp commodities and products.

The Oregon bill would authorize the state Department of Agriculture to administer licensing, permitting and inspection program for growers and handlers of industrial hemp. It would also allow the department to impose civil penalties not exceeding \$2,500 for violation of license or permit requirements.

For more information on Vote Hemp and what you can do to help contact:

Eric Lineback
National Coordinator
Vote Hemp * <http://www.votehemp.com/>
PO Box 862, Bedford, MA 01730
E-mail: lineback@votehemp.com

Australians Call for Federal Hemp Industry Funds

An opportunity to dominate the world non-woven textile market could pass Australia by, according to one of the industry's top companies.

Eco-Fibre Industries is currently planning Queensland's second planting of commercial industrial hemp at southern Queensland sites including Dalby, Childers, Kingaroy and Murgon.

Managing director Philip Warner says the one-year-old Australian industry is already producing quality fibre cheaper than anywhere else in the world.

Mr Warner fears other countries may end up dominating the world market because the Australian industry is not eligible for Federal Government funding.

"Whilst we might be able to create about 22 jobs directly with the factory and a knock-on of about 140 jobs for any one region, we're not big enough to scoop the pool in the sense of hundreds of millions of dollars that ... mining companies get ... on the other hand we're not one of those small entities that's developed a widget for an existing value chain where you get \$100,000 towards your program," he said.

"We're sort of in the middle of that. We're looking for...\$2-3 million to get this business up."

Hemp Blends for Active Friends

Designer Peggy Scarborough is the first to utilize hemp with a stretch for swimwear - a super alternative from conventional outdoor synthetics. She is the third generation from a family of experienced swimwear makers represented in her California business, Happy Campers Clothing.

The weight and weave of 55% hemp, 41% cotton and 4%

lycra blend creates a comfortable fabric that is neither too hot nor too cold. Natural hemp and cotton breathes while lycra adds that little bit of stretch to hug the body. Expect a great fit, comfort, movement, and shape retention that won't wash away. Natural, black, aqua and burgundy colors in one piece or separate styles are offered.

Happy Campers is dedicated to complimenting healthy active lifestyles. Sport bras, tanks, shorts, briefs and pants are perfect for yoga and athletics too. Both women and children can easily mix these hemp and lycra pieces with casual wear. Each piece is lined with 90% cotton, 10% lycra blend. Why hemp?

"Because it is environmental, holds shape, is strong, durable, and resistant to mold and ultraviolet rays," says Peggy. "I also use PET, recycled soda pop bottles, blended with hemp to make shorts for men and women. The sustainably made combo is quick drying; terrific in or out of the water."

Hemp Traders distributes hemp, cotton and lycra blends in four different weaves and weights. The 55% hemp, 45% PET blend is distributed from Hemptek Industries. Happy Campers Clothing is the first company on record to market hemp swimwear from fabric rather than yarn. It meets designers needs and consumer trends perfectly for today's market.

For more information, contact:
Delia Montgomery, Environmental Design Consultant
Chic Eco * URL: www.chiceco.com
785 Abbott Road, Lexington, KY 40502
Tel: (859) 277-9226 * E-mail: info@chiceco.com

Crops Offer Fuel for Planners

We all know farmers produce food. But did you know they can produce heat and light too? In Britain, the word is getting around. Some 60 Pembrokeshire NFU (Farmers Union, England) members met to hear the union's crops adviser Nick Starkey talk about alternative crops.

Crops can replace fossil oils and other materials in a wide variety of uses, they can even be used to generate heat and electricity. In some countries the production of so-called "bio-fuels" from farm crops is already quite well developed.

Oil-seed rape can produce bio-diesel while sugary or starchy crops such as wheat can be fermented and distilled into bio-ethanol — the equivalent of petrol.

Crops also have industrial uses. For example, starch can be used as the basis of an effective, biodegradable polystyrene replacement, vegetable oils can be processed into plastics, and hemp fibres are already used as a renewable alternative to fibreglass in the motor industry.

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<continued from previous page> But the biggest driver for encouraging the use of alternative crops is the environmental benefit. Increasing use of fossil fuels is causing carbon dioxide and other pollutant gases in our atmosphere to rise.

And this is causing our climate to change — leading to hazardous weather patterns of storm and drought.

Alternative crops can help to reduce climate change because crops absorb carbon from the atmosphere as they grow. Using crops as fuels or as raw materials recycles that carbon, rather than introducing further carbon into the atmosphere from fossil fuels.

Many crop-derived products are compostable, in contrast to their fossil-derived equivalents, and so reduce the pressure on landfill.

With the EU (European Union) becoming increasingly dependent upon non-EU imports of fossil fuel, alternative crops have the potential to reduce this dependence.

With the same tax relief that these other countries give to “alternative” fuels — and with smaller tax breaks than those given to LPG in cars — this could be a reality in the UK (United Kingdom) in less than two years.

Furthermore, the extra revenues the Treasury would derive from the new business activity created with this industry would go a long way to compensating for the revenue deficit. More than 10,000 jobs could be created through the growing and processing of this green fuel.

The potential is much wider than bio-fuels, though. Last year Sony announced the launch of the first Walkman with a casing made from maize starch.

Not only is this made using renewable raw materials, but it also means that when the product comes to the end of its life it can be burnt to produce heat without the release of poisonous dioxins.

Fujitsu are set to follow this development with a laptop that is made from the same product. And trials are taking place using oils, starch and fibres from crops in a whole raft of other ways from car dashboards to cosmetics to nylon without nitrogen oxide emissions.

We, the people of America, need to ensure is that these, and many other exciting developments, are made from U.S. crops. We need a coherent government and federal policy to encourage entrepreneurial developments in this whole area, not lie about and attack every idea. The consequences could be amazing for rural communities, the environment and society as a whole.

Other countries should not get rich selling hemp products in America due to the monopoly created by cannabis

prohibition.

It's High Time That Hemp Made A Comeback

Reefer madness or the next big thing? James Graham meets Paul Jenkinson who is passionately pursuing the commercial prospects of hemp.

"It's not normal to leave an interview with a carrier bag crammed with hemp-based products."

There's cannabis beer, the cannabis pastels, the rasta pasta, hemp nibbles, hemp-flavoured crisps and perhaps most surprising of all, hemp erotic massage oil.

"Munching through the crisps at Wakefield train station felt quite daring."

But there's nothing illegal about any of these products for those outside the USA. They're all produced with commercially-grown hemp which has been legal throughout the European Union (EU) since the mid-1990s.

It's allowed because it has an almost negligible quantity of THC, the natural chemical that has psychoactive properties and is far more prevalent in marijuana, a more potent member of the hemp family. The U.S. DEA department keeps pressing an absolute zero-tolerance policy and this is not yet an option for the American farmer.

The crisps, the beer and the nibbles are all made in Germany and imported by Paul Jenkinson, a Wakefield (Yorkshire, England) businessman convinced there's a huge and untapped demand for this kind of food.

He's launched Yorkshire Hemp to market and sell these goods — at the moment mainly to about 25 health food shops around the country.

The company's logo is Yorkshire's white rose sandwiched between the characteristic jagged-edged leaves of a cannabis plant, although there's something I should point out at this stage.

Jenkinson, who has spent the past 25 years sailing yachts for millionaire bosses in the south of France, is no dope fiend.

He's not perpetually surrounded by a cloud of marijuana smoke and he's not a flag waving advocate of legalisation. He doesn't smoke the stuff and is at pains to point out the difference between marijuana and hemp.

But he's fairly evangelical about the 20,000 uses of the hemp plant, many of which have been long forgotten. Hemp was vital in everything from salt-resistant rope to sails and even in the 1920s was used for 80 per cent of clothes.

Nylon changed all that, but with growing pressure for biodegradable products that will not clog up landfill sites, hemp

is making a comeback and can be used to produce biocomposites for the automotive and aerospace industries, insulation, fibre boards, cements and paper.

Regional development agency Yorkshire Forward is even getting in on the act and has given £100,000 for a prototype hemp processing machine as part of a project to help farmers diversify. Springdale Crop Synergies near Driffield is heavily involved in the project and has 300 acres of the crop. Jenkinson talks with some fervour about hemp's uses, especially its "superfood" qualities because it has "all the essential oils and the right kinds of fats".

This is why he can't understand why it's not being used more, especially when it can grow everywhere and is so eco-friendly.

However, he doesn't want to get bogged down trying to make every conceivable hemp-related product popular, so he's focusing on food, hence the hemp nibbles and the rasta pasta.

But what about the stigma? The Wakefield station scenario? Well, he admits that his parents took a bit of convincing, but if anything hemp's reputation is a boon.

"Stigma? It's a marketing opportunity," says Jenkinson. "It slaps the consumer across the face. Once you've got their attention you turn it around and show them the benefits."

There is only a stigma associated with hemp because it was illegal for some 60 years. For centuries it was an essential crop grown widely in Yorkshire and elsewhere by such illustrious figures as George Washington.

But a wave of "reefer madness" scare stories about the violent effects of marijuana published by American newspaper baron William Randolph Hearst were instrumental in a United States clampdown on hemp production. Europe soon followed suit. Hearst is said to have led the war on hemp because new, mechanised ways of processing the crop threatened his own timber and paper interests.

The US still has a draconian stance against hemp but with European relaxation there's market potential that makes Jenkinson feel like a gold digger "running around putting stakes in the ground".

"The opportunity now is to grab brand space, to grab that equivalent of the Uncle Ben's brand because in the future there will be millions of tonnes of hemp grown around the world.

"It's just bubbling under, it's ready to explode," says Jenkinson who wants to be at the heart of a Yorkshire hemp industry.

That's why he's been talking to a Huddersfield food

producer Shaws about a hemp pesto and York Brewery about a Yorkshire Hemp Beer.

"It's great for farmers, it offers new opportunities to business, it's great for your health. If that's not magic I don't know what is."

But after those 60 outlaw years hemp needs a touch of magic to ensure its acceptance by the masses that Jenkinson craves. And he can't wait too long for that to happen. Yorkshire Hemp has been financed by Jenkinson's savings and he's frank about finances, admitting that he's "doing things on a shoe string".

"I've come as far as I can go without help both financially and with the know-how. I need help from the banks and the food business people. A one-man show can only go so far. I'm the captain, but now I need a good engineer, a cook and some good deck hands."

The son of a farmer-turned-salesman Jenkinson grew up in Wakefield in the 1960s with dreams of becoming an ornithologist. Instead he went off to board at Trinity House nautical school in Hull when he was 13. He planned to join the merchant navy when he left, but a holiday to Monte Carlo at 18 made an indelible impression.

He decided to stay and took jobs working as a galley boy on the French Mediterranean coast and moved to Nice. By the time he was 24 he was a captain skippering multi-million pound yachts for the rich and famous — including some of Yorkshire's financial elite whom he refuses to discuss.

He stuck at it for 25 years, marrying a German au pair and now has four children — the youngest born last month. But life on the Med isn't all it's cracked up to be.

"You can earn good money, but there's no pension and no security," says Jenkinson who was unceremoniously dropped on a number of occasions by employers not willing to retain a skipper during the quiet winter months.

It was a desire to own a yacht rather than sail other people's that drove him towards commerce and in the late 1990s he attempted to climb aboard the dotcom boom with online wine sales. It didn't quite work out, but it was during this flirtation with the Internet that he came across the world of hemp and saw his opportunity.

But why quit the south of France for Wakefield, surely giving up a life most people can only dream of?

Jenkinson admits it was a struggle trying to start a business in a foreign country. He thought there would be more help back home, especially in Yorkshire where there appears to be a multitude of business support agencies awash with start-up grants. So far such help has been elusive, but he remains optimistic. **For more information, contact: Yorkshire Hemp at URL: www.yorkshirehemp.com**

THE CLARION

"CALLING FOR AN END TO CANNABIS PROHIBITION"

Marijuana Now Native to Iowa

From Atanasoff Hall to the Armory, students touring the ISU campus might find another weed growing besides dandelions and crabgrass. Plants of *Cannabis sativa*, otherwise known as marijuana, can be found sprouting up in areas around Atanasoff Hall, the Armory and other places on campus.

This does not surprise Dennis Erickson, manager of facilities maintenance.

"We do see them from time to time when we're out doing our bedding," he said. "We can't have somebody searching all the time."

ISU Police Capt. Gene Deisinger said he was not surprised by the prospect of marijuana plants growing on campus grounds.

"I don't have any direct information, [but] it's entirely possible there may be some out there," he said.

Hemp, a tough fiber made from the leaves and flowers of the marijuana plant, can be found all over the state of Iowa growing wild, and is a remnant from when it was cultivated in Iowa earlier in the previous century, said Deborah Lewis, a curator in the botany department. There is even an abandoned hemp processing facility in Grundy Center, a town near Dubuque, she said.

"The original building is still there," said Jean Evans, secretary of the Grundy County Historical Society. "They were raising hemp to make ropes for the navy," she said. "Many of my friends worked there. They did turn many corn fields into hemp fields."

Iowans were asked in 1943 to grow 60,000 acres of hemp as part of 300,000 acres to be cultivated nationwide. The hemp was to be used for ropes and other types of cordage. Because of the war, normal sources of raw material for ropes were cut off, and hemp offered an alternative.

"It wasn't cultivated for THC content, but for hemp," Lewis said.

She said industrial hemp, which is very likely the variety found on campus, has less than 1 percent THC content (the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana) and would be of little use to those seeking a recreational drug. Although many states have passed bills calling for industrial hemp cultivation, to date it remains illegal without federal authorization.

Why do police find it necessary to destroy "wild marijuana?"

So then we read the headline, "Wild marijuana destroyed in Marion County," we had to wonder, why aren't ornamental poppies also destroyed in the interest of eradicating opium? The notice indicates even the police are aware "ditch weed" isn't potent marijuana yet they, and the press, always misrepresent that it is. Why is that? "Ditch weed" is feral hemp and no more "marijuana" than ornamental poppies are opium.

Excerpted from the history "Hannibal, Too" by J. Hurley and Roberta Hagood (1986): "Settlers who came from Kentucky ... learned that the rich land of Marion Co. would produce a fine quality of hemp. It was highly saleable as a crop because of the demand for twine, rope, nets, sailcloth, canvas, tarpaulins and other products made from the pulp of the plant. ...

"The first hemp grown in Marion Co. was grown by William P. Brown, five miles north of Palmyra in 1819. It became the leading cash crop of the farm belonging to Marion College in the early 1830s. A warehouse for hemp constructed by John R. Copelin was the first large building to be completed in Marion City. ...

"Hemp raising became more widespread. The Longmires, near Palmyra, reaped one thousand twenty lbs. of fiber per acre. A hemp warehouse was established in S. Hannibal. In May 1849, construction was begun on a hemp baling warehouse. It was owned by the Green family and was managed by William N. Green. ...

"By 1853, William Green was shipping each month, two hundred coils of rope and 40,000 lbs of hemp bales. He won first place premium at the New York World's Fair in 1853, for the finest bale of hemp."

By 1856, William Green had died and the company was continued by his brother George who "kept 30 men employed and carried on a large operation. The plant turned out 1,500 lbs. of bale rope and two tons of dressed hemp per day. Even though the 1856 hemp crop had been inferior due to the unusual weather conditions, the firm grossed \$90,000 that year."

So hemp, aka "wild marijuana," was an illustrious founding industry of Marion County. We think that deserves to be known. Mark Twain's writings are full of references to alcohol. Is there a single reference to the smoking of hemp?

It's up to you, the people, to see the truth wins out. Just say "NO" to government feral (wild) marijuana eradication programs.

For news and information on these stories and more visit
Global Hemp online at:

<http://www.globalhemp.com/>

Tel: (309) 685-3591, Fax: (253) 793-2318

-or- write them at: 401 E. Illinois Ave., Peoria, IL 61603
with your hemp related item or request.

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