

books

in 1976. Already four years of bibliographic research and base map development have been completed, but actual construction of the atlas in an economically prudent and academically proper fashion will require at least three years.

He also pointed out that the University is the place best able to compile such a comprehensive atlas, because, "We have scholars and experts in every field who could assist the Geography Department in this project. And in the department at this time we have several people with atlas compilation experience."

Loy cited other sources which would be drawn upon, saying, "The atlas would contain much information already gathered by various state agencies and institutions. The budget has been constructed assuming that we will not duplicate the work of existing state agencies."

You can see much harmony in this sort of endeavor. The people of the state should be pleased to see their university creating the atlas at a fraction of the cost it would involve if done by an outside firm. It would be a most visible by-product of the educational system, something of which the University and state alike could be justly proud.

Loy has drafted a formal proposal for the project, which is receiving department support. It has already been screened by a faculty advisory committee, has approval as a University Development Fund project and has received the endorsement of University President Robert Clark. Soon Loy hopes to see Governor McCall about financial support for the project, expected to cost \$135,770 over four years, including printing.

The preliminary edition is presently only to be found in the text stacks of the Co-op, under the heading of Geography 301. But students of all curricula will find it interesting and a bargain at \$2.25. It contains over 120 maps and several charts, the majority of which have explanatory texts conveniently placed on the facing page.

Beginning with a map of old Oregon as it appeared in the early 1800's, the atlas proceeds with a comprehensive coverage of various historical developments, geological and climatic make-ups, demographic phenomena, industrial, mineral and agricultural distribution, as well as several transportation and miscellaneous flow systems.

There is a map showing the Indian tribes of Oregon and one showing early routes of exploration. There are several series which depict the chronological development of such things as the state's counties, population spread and the railroad and highway systems.

There are also maps showing the distribution of such things as newspapers, gold mines, institutions of higher learning and pulp and paper plants. Other maps indicate production of logs, peaches, Irish potatoes, and filberts, county by county.

Many of the maps showing current economic and social data were generated by the SYMAP computer program. The result is an unusual type of area shading, interesting, but with inherent inaccuracies. For instance, there are generalizations showing such things as an average per-farm production value of \$30-\$50,000 atop Mt. Jefferson. The limitations of this method are described sufficiently, however. And one advantage of some of these maps lies in the overlay sheet provided in a pocket in the back. It enables the reader to look at the tendencies over the state as a whole first, and then county by county.

The atlas has no maps of cities or any other areas less than state size, a necessary limitation imposed by the scope of the project. Still, it does give an uncluttered presentation of thousands of facts at a modest price, which notably covers only the printing costs. It was produced early this October by multilith process at the University Press, for the Geography Department.

Gregory Howard

Mapping Oregon's history and economy

Atlas of Oregon
University of Oregon Press
Copyright 1972
\$2.25

A comprehensive Atlas of Oregon project has been begun by the University's Geography Department and an inexpensive preliminary edition has recently arrived at the Co-op Book Store. The preliminary atlas was constructed over the past academic year in an undergraduate seminar taught by William Loy, assistant professor of geography.

Loy, who also is president of the Oregon Academy of Science, says he believes now is the time to push on and begin work on a "first-rate" Atlas of Oregon, there being none at the present. He sees this as "a time when all segments of the population are becoming more aware of their environment, and more conscious of the need for comprehensive statewide planning to intelligently regulate the rapid changes of the future." He feels it is therefore imperative that the physical, demographic, economic and social patterns of the state be mapped and presented in atlas form as soon as possible.

Looking ahead, Loy feels such a production would be a worthy contribution to the celebration of the University's centennial



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