

Bill lowering majority age faces vote in House today

SALEM (Special) — The House will vote today on a bill (HB 3167) which grants 18-year-olds all legal adult rights except the right to drink. The bill sets Oregon's drinking age at 19.

The House rejected a motion

Thursday which would have substituted 18 for the 19-year-old drinking age in the bill.

Rep. Stephen Kafoury, (D-Portland), chairer of the Joint Alcohol and Drugs Committee which considered HB 3167, made

the motion to substitute "a minority report" for the bill passed by his committee.

Kafoury said it is not "logically consistent" to grant 18-year-olds all adult rights except the right to drink. "Drinking should go along with adulthood," Kafoury noted.

He said everyone knows that 18-year-olds now drink, pointing out, "it has been found that the rate of drinking does not vary with legality or illegality."

The young representative observed that the present situation causes "the very serious problem of disrespect for the law."

The debate on Kafoury's motion was sluggish during the morning session, with few legislators speaking for or against the minority report.

Rep. Howard Cherry (D-Portland), a doctor, said that it is important to note setting the drinking age at 19 will prohibit persons from legally drinking until they have graduated from high school.

Rep. Paul Walden (R-Hood River) said that traffic officials in his district have expressed concern about young persons in Washington traveling to Oregon to drink if Oregon lowers its drinking age below the 19 year age recently set in Washington. He said it is important to keep the drinking ages the same in each state to avoid traffic problems.

Groener (D-Oregon City) supported Kafoury's motion during the sleepy session.

The House voted 20-6 against the proposal.

Classics department cut to two faculty

The Classics staff, already reduced by the mandatory retirement of Frederick Combella, Professor Emeritus of Greek Literature, has been denied funds to replace an assistant professor position being vacated this year, C. Bennett Pascal, program head, said yesterday.

This leaves only two instructors, Pascal and John Reavis, a doctoral candidate at Stanford, for next year's Classics program.

Pascal said they will have to take on 11-14 hours of teaching apiece and give more autonomy to the graduate teaching fellows.

Though he couldn't say whether the staff reduction is permanent or not, Pascal said it looks like Classics is "becoming an endangered species."

He added that the student participation in the program isn't immense, "so we can't yell loudly . . . I can sympathize with the Dean's office on this."

Though enrollment in the program's Arts and Letters courses is good, there is about an 80 per cent "mortality rate" in the first-year Latin and Greek classes, Pascal said.

He said that funding decisions are often based on the quantity of students involved in a particular program.

"Our students have been few, but they've performed well at the University, and they've got good jobs outside the University," Pascal said.

Pascal said that with the reduction, he will be the only Ph.D. in Classics left in the employ of the State System of Higher Education.

Women's committee asks for full-time studies director

The Ad Hoc Committee on Women's Education recently appointed by President Clark delivered a letter to Clark Thursday in which the committee requested "immediate authorization to search for and employ a full-time Director of Women's Studies at the University of Oregon, an academic appointment to begin fall quarter, 1973."

The Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by Clark April 12 in response to demands presented him by the Women's Studies Steering Committee in a position paper the Steering Committee wrote during fall term. The Steering Committee was formed from a group of about 100 women who met in November. The Steering Committee met with Clark in February to discuss the requirements for beginning a Women's Studies program. Clark then appointed the Ad Hoc Committee, which is composed of equal numbers of faculty, staff, students, and interested community persons.

Clark charged the Ad Hoc Committee to analyze women's

educational needs. The committee's letter to Clark, "in response to" that charge, "has determined that an urgent need exists on this campus for a Director of Women's Studies."

The person holding this position would "co-ordinate the currently offered women's studies courses...develop an Introduction to Women's Studies course, which would be offered beginning fall term 1973 through the Interdisciplinary Studies Com-

mittee, team-taught by women instructors from several departments," according to the letter the Ad Hoc Committee sent Clark.

In addition, the proposed Director of Women's Studies would "provide liaison among university departments to facilitate the initiation of new courses in women's studies," and "collect information on all current courses and publish a booklet publicizing them."

Native Americans to vote

The Native American Student Union will hold elections for officers today, Monday and Tuesday. The polls will be located in the Native American Student Union office in the EMU. Information on candidates will be available on the ballots.

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