

Simnasho Grade School

Indian language, puppet shows, plays, and guitar lessons make up a part of the diversified curriculum designed by Tom and Elizabeth Dyer for the 29 children, grades 1 through 4, attending Simnasho Grade School.

The puppet shows and plays are part of a pilot program made up by the Northwest Regional Laboratory in Portland. While they follow regular theater format, with a cast of characters and a script, the Dyers encourage self expression. Some of the characters include Pine tree, Hickory tree, Man, and Spruce tree, among other fauna and flora of the forest.

Indian language is taught for an hour each day by Matilda Mitchell and Sylvia Wallulatum. Simple words, greetings, and phrases are taught by a method of questions and answers, and repetitive recital. Topics are generally restricted to what the children can easily relate to. For instance: "Good Afternoon"; "How are you?"; "What day is today?"; and one that was quickly picked up by the youngsters, "There will be no school today."

When there is school, 24 of the children are picked up each morning by driver Art Belanger, who is also the school's custodian. Only 5 of the pupils attending the school are from the community of Simnasho, with the others riding from as far as Warm Springs.

Sister Helen Zistica occupies a cubicle in one corner of the school where she heads up the Title I reading program, a one-on-one course aimed at improving reading skills in the areas of speed and comprehension.

Tom and Elizabeth Dyer are both from eastern Oregon. Tom graduated from Portland State University and taught English there for three years before deciding that he would rather work with children. He enrolled at Eastern Oregon State College, where Elizabeth's father is vice-president, and graduated with an elementary education degree in the spring of 1975.

Mrs. Dyer had been an elementary school teacher for eight years before coming to Simnasho in the fall of 1975. She taught at Forest Grove for 7 years, and 1 year in La Grande while her husband attended school. She specializes in music instruction. Under her tutelage, S.G.S. students will learn basic guitar chords.

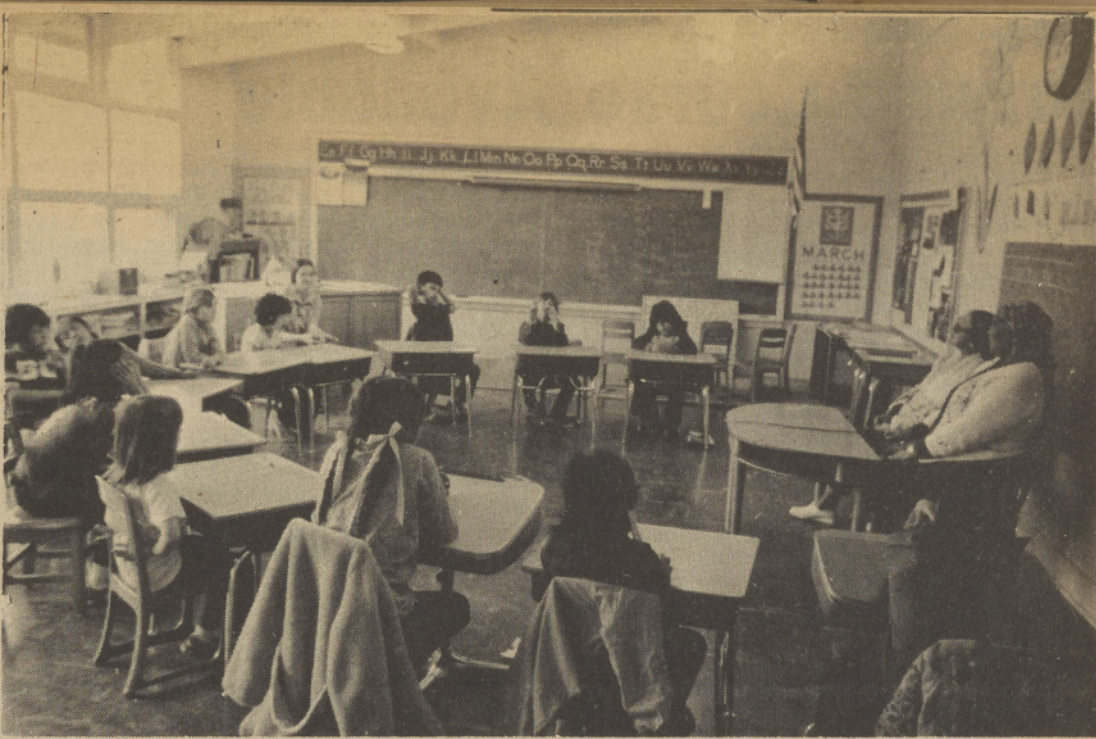
Mr. Dyer will draw on his vast mountaineering experience

to teach his students survival techniques and, when the weather permits, will introduce them to backpacking and camping.

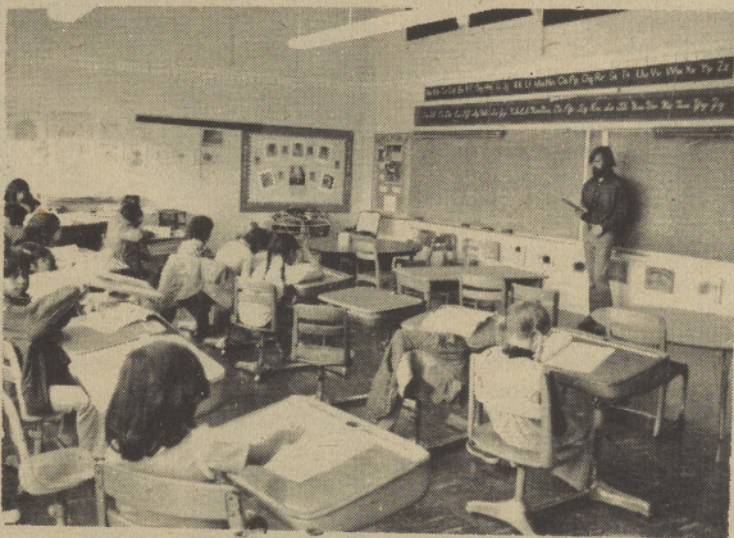
Dyer has scaled the highest peak on the North American continent (Mt. McKinley in Alaska) and has topped all of the mountains in Oregon except Mt. Jefferson; which he plans on doing later this summer.

The first six weeks of the summer, however, will be spent climbing the second highest peak in North America, Mt. Logan, in the Yukon Territory of Canada. His party of eight expects to take six weeks to complete the expedition, which they are funding themselves.

In the meantime, there are the 29 children. Says Dyer, "They are very receptive to affection, and I enjoy giving it."



SYLVIA WALLULATUM and Matilda Mitchell teaching the Indian language to the children at the Simnasho Grade School.



TOM DYER, explains the script to the children prior to the puppet show as part of the curriculum at the Simnasho Grade School.



TRIBAL EMPLOYEES here at a luncheon meeting at the Community Center on March 23, discuss possible future social activities, and create a closer relationship among all tribal employees.

Groups Meet

There will be a meeting for all dance groups and persons wishing to participate in cultural programs at Kah-Nee-Ta this year, on Tuesday evening, April 6, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Room of the Lodge.

It is very important that all interested people attend as we will set the schedules for the Sunday dancing, the 5-day cultural demonstrations, and special performances - such as the 4th of July, Labor Day, etc. We will also have sample questions, or if for some reason you cannot attend this meeting and would like to participate in our programs this year, please contact either Myrtle Adams Terman, at the Village Office, or Anita Jackson, in the Kah-Nee-Ta Office.

Employee Incentive Group

"We feel that tribal employees need to have a sense of belonging and a morale boost. Many employees know few people outside the department in which they work. We hope to provide a way of improving those conditions," said Orthelia Miller after a lunch-hour meeting of the newly formed employee incentive group March 23rd at the Community Center.

Earlier talks had hinted formation of an employee association. Besides being a negative approach, it was feared that an association would open the way for union-type aggressiveness toward management by employees, according to group member Stach Miller.

To achieve their goals, the group is presently considering a variety of social functions to draw the employees together. A questionnaire is being circulated to gauge employee interest in an annual picnic, asking what would be the most convenient day and month, and most suitable location.

Rockin 4-H Club

23 members make up the Rockin 4-H Club here at Warm Springs at the present time, but the club leaders would like to see the membership increase to 35. Boys and girls from the ages 8-18 can join.

The Club President is Bobby Brunoe, the Vice Pres. Mike LeNo, Treasure is Jim Manion, and Kim Manion is the Secretary. The Club advisor and leader is Jeff Sanders.

To those who are interested in livestock and would like to join the club; a tribal loan can be arranged with the Credit Department to purchase a heifer or a cow.

The Club is getting ready to brand, vaccinate, and dehorn the calves. To date this year 25 calves have been born, six cows are yet to calve.

The club has a 10 month grazing permit for the 4-H Range Unit on Sidwalter Flat. After the calves are branded, the blue bunch grass is 4" high or more and the ground is firm enough to support a cow, the club will graze their stock in that Unit, "as reported by a club spokesman."

It is also planned to buy trophies or plaques to honor employees and supervisors of the month and employees and supervisors of the year, and to combine the presentation of these awards with a Christmas banquet and party.

It is hoped, said Mrs. Miller, that enough enthusiasm can be generated to ultimately improve employee relations and efficiency.

Student Employment

Summer student employment will be handled by the Tribal Personnel Office. Applications and other forms will be available in the near future.

ALL STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT WORK PERMITS ARE REQUIRED IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ARE A MUST WITH ALL EMPLOYERS. IF YOU NEED APPLICATIONS FOR WORK PERMITS OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, YOU MAY PICK THEM UP IN THE PERSONNEL OFFICE.

Questionnaire

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is a bit lengthy but most worth while. The management would like for everyone to participate as this will be the tribes own shopping center. The information supplies by each individual will give the Tribal Planner a guide for a more objective approach on the subject.

It was also learned at the news paper office (Spilyay Ty-moo), that all employees for the tribe, Kah-Nee-Ta, and the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries, as well as other business that are in direct contact with the tribe, that all supervisors will be handing out the questionnaires to their employees and when they are completed he will turn them back to the main office. Other than that, everyone else will receive the questionnaire from other tribal representatives. These forms do not require a signature upon completion, but it is stressed that all tribal members complete the form on this important matter.



RAY WELCH, B.I.A. Land Operations Officer, explains the bureau's position in regards to the Indian campsite at Shearers Bridge.