

High school history courses spark AAUW action

By Justine Weatherford
Last week Oregon branches of the American Association of University Women were alerted to the matter of state requirements for history courses as prerequisites for high school graduation.

After considerable discussion at the Heppner Branch of A.A.U.W. at Carolyn Cole's home on Oct. 2, Branch President Liz Curtis appointed a representative to contact the County School Superintendent Matt Doherty and the County School Board about the matter.

State School Superintendent Verne A. Duncan had pro-

posed one year of U.S. history, including government, and one year of world history, including geography. Some districts thought that the instruction in these areas given in the seventh and eighth grades (junior high) could be applied toward meeting the total requirements.

The state board, according to a late September news

release, is considering expanding the social studies requirement by one-half year to include one year of U.S. history, one year of global studies and one-half year of government.

A summer 1979 Oregon State Historical Society News Bulletin carries an article concerning the matter of teaching history in the secondary

schools where the society feels it has not received adequate attention. The article also points out:

"Very few departments in four-year colleges or universities now require their majors to take history courses. The results of this widespread institutional disinterest in the past—and this is a national trend we are confronting—

may ultimately prove disastrous for our country and civilization."

Doherty, in an interview this week, stated that he believes in and respects the importance of teaching history. He is concerned with the preservation of local history and has been searching through the collection of school district archives rather recently and

finding items of interest.

One matter he feels concerned about is the possible destruction of the old school at Irrigon, parts of which the school system has been using but will no longer need upon the completion of the new school now under construction there.

Doherty has urged the school board to appoint a

committee to consider the future of this building, the oldest standing public building in the north county. He states that although young people may not feel concerned about things past—there may come a time when their maturity will show them that their ancestors did some good things and built quite well with the means available to them.

New Fair aide appointed

Dorothy Estberg has been appointed as the new secretary for the Morrow County Fair. She assumes the job from Nancy Bruch, who has served for the past nine months.

Mrs. Estberg's husband, Steve, works as grounds-keeper for the fair.

She may be reached by telephone 676-5159 on matters pertaining to the fair.

Irrigon news

Francis Rose Wilson

922-3352

Work is progressing on the new junior high school building, located at 1st and Nevada streets south of town. Cement slab construction is being used. The walls are up and looking impressive, although there is much work yet to be done.

The area around the school has been developed rapidly during the past few years and no doubt will continue to grow with industry in the area.

The newly formed Desert Pegasus 4-H Club of Irrigon will hold a bake sale Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Umatilla Key-Buy Food store. It is to be held in conjunction with National 4-H week.

The proceeds will be used for the club's projects through out the year.

The leaders for the horse club are Sharon Timmsa and Barbara Mathis.

There were two tragedies in Irrigon the past week. A woman, May Rowan, 59, was killed instantly when her car veered into the path of a tractor and trailer. The reason was not known, although her husband said she may have been distracted by two parakeets in a cage in the front seat of her car. Her husband was driving another vehicle ahead of her.

They were moving from Winston, Oregon, to Colorado.

A construction worker, Donald W. Fritz, 20, was fatally injured, when he put his head between two pieces of 48-inch steel pipeline, just as the sections were being fitted together by heavy-duty equipment for Western Empire Corp. The pipe will bring water from the Columbia River.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gordanier have moved to Irrigon from Springfield, Ore. He will assist his father, Rev. Allen Gordanier, in the ministry in related youth programs and music.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Hill of Springfield were visitors of the Gordaniers over the weekend. Connie, Mrs. Jim Gordanier, is the Hill's daughter

Morrow County gets \$32,358 from U.S.

Morrow County received a total of \$32,358 as payments in lieu of taxes for federal lands, Oregon Congressman Al Ullman announced.

The federal Bureau of Land Management (B.L.M.) sent a check to Morrow County in July for \$15,778 which was left over from last year. Another \$16,580 was added this week for the total of \$32,358.

The \$16,580 check is about 12 percent short of what it should be if enough funds had been appropriated. Morrow County will probably receive two checks next year, one which will make up for the 12 percent short check given this year.

The B.L.M. gave out a total \$2,451,267 to Oregon counties.



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