



Mrs. Marshall Sweet, second-quarter junior in teacher education at SOC, attends classes, does her housework and teaches fifth grade in the junior department of First Presbyterian church. One son, Phillip, is a graduate student at Whitworth college, Spokane, and Stanley is a student at Hedrick Junior High school. Mrs. Sweet, who has taken all her college work at the Ashland school, may teach after graduation since there is a critical shortage of teachers.



Mrs. David Baker, junior in elementary teacher education at SOC, entered the school after passing an examination which earned her high school diploma, which she lacked. Mrs. Baker keeps house for her husband and daughter, Sylvia, student at McLoughlin Junior High school; their son, David, 13, is a student at Canyonville Bible academy. Already a graduate practical nurse with several years experience, Mrs. Baker plans to seek a teaching position after graduation.



Mrs. G. A. Dierdorff, mother of three children and wife of a Medford osteopathic physician, is a sophomore in general studies. In addition to her home duties and studies, Mrs. Dierdorff is a district officer of the auxiliary to the American Osteopathic association and also served as the national seal sale chairman last year. The Dierdorffs' children are Larry, 9; Todd, 7, and Gay, 5. Mrs. Dierdorff enrolled at the Ashland college last year as a freshman.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 1956

By Olive Starcher

More and more American women are attending college. Some of these women students are just out of high school, some are young married women with small children and some are older women whose children are also in school, or married and living away from the family home.

In Jackson county many married women wishing to complete their education, or to take special courses, enroll at Southern Oregon college, Ashland. The school can be reached easily by car from almost any part of the county, and its ever-expanding curricula affords varied educational opportunities.

The reasons why married women begin college, or return to school to complete their education, are as varied as the students themselves. Many desire training in order that they may enter the employment field, some feel at a disadvantage in a home where husband and children are college-educated and they are not; some are impelled by a sense of civic duty to enter or return to a field,

Homemakers—Students



Another Medford woman enrolled at Southern Oregon college this quarter is Mrs. Duane Richardson. Mrs. Richardson, a senior, is a transfer from the University of Oregon at Eugene and is now practice teaching at McLoughlin Junior High school. Her practice class is ninth grade English.

such as nursing or teaching, where there is a lack of trained workers. These women are not necessarily those with time to spare, for most do their housework and keep up a program of civic activities while attending classes. At least one holds down a full-time job while taking a full schedule of classes.

Many women wish to widen their intellectual horizons and even though they do not wish to enroll in full-time classes, take one or two courses in such fields as literature, foreign languages, history or religion. Sometimes a group of three or four housewives make up car pools and drive to Ashland two or three times a week for classes which provide intellectual diversion, if not college credit.

Last quarter records at Southern Oregon college showed about 25 married women living in the Medford area were enrolled at the school, and today The Mail Tribune presents a representative number of these married women students.

(Brainerd photos)



Mrs. Robert R. Miller is another young mother and homemaker enrolled at Southern Oregon college. A senior in secondary education, she attended the University of Oregon before her marriage. Mrs. Miller is pictured here with her son, Kit, 3, who occupies himself with a coloring book while his mother studies. Mr. Miller is an artist and the Millers spent a year in Europe after his graduation from the university's school of art. Mrs. Miller, whose family lives in Medford, attended Medford High school before entering the university.



Mrs. A. Erin Merkel, a former teacher who already had a college degree, is enrolled at SOC to work for a bachelor of science degree. A graduate of Union college, Lincoln, Neb., Mrs. Merkel attended the same school where her husband, Dr. Merkel, head of the Jackson County Public Health department, took his pre-medical studies. Their daughter, Sharon Jean, is a sophomore at La Sierra college, Arlington, Calif. Mrs. Merkel's hobbies are raising orchids, music and doll collecting; she also is a Seventh Day Adventist church worker.