



THE HOME STRETCH — is this graded portion of the Adel-Winnemucca cutoff on the Nevada side as it nears completion. A Nevada highway department truck is shown bringing in another load of gravel. — Photo by McKinney and Bennett

'Equal Rights' For Women In Oregon Tells Story Of Determined Early Battle

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Husbands and wives go to the polls together now in Oregon but half a century ago that didn't happen. The men went, but the women stayed home.

There wasn't, in fact, a woman voter in all of Oregon in 1909.

The reason, of course, is that women were not allowed to vote in the state until 1912.

The long struggle by women for "equal rights" is one of the most interesting chapters in the state's development, according to Dr. Joseph W. Ellison, head of the history department at Oregon State College.

A widely-known historian and author, Dr. Ellison is writing a new book on the woman suffrage movement in America. It is tentatively titled "Women Are Also Born Free and Equal," a statement that would have been disputed at the turn of the century.

Oregon was in the middle in the suffrage movement, Dr. Ellison noted from his extensive research. It trailed Idaho, Washington and California in giving women the right to vote but was still ahead of several other western states.

The national woman movement for equal political and economic rights was launched in 1848 with Susan B. Anthony and others as leaders. In Oregon, the movement began about 1870 with Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway as the "champion" of the cause for women.

To Dr. Ellison, Mrs. Duniway ranks as "one of the great women of the west."

Abigail Scott came to Oregon in 1852 as a girl of 17, Dr. Ellison relates. Despite little formal education, she became a school teacher, writer, businesswoman, editor, and most of all a dedicated and able crusader. Shortly after her marriage to Ben C. Duniway, he was hurt in an accident and incapacitated for farm labor. The family burden then fell on Abigail or "Jenny" as she was called.

and we're all fools," she reportedly said.

Convinced that the only way to better things was to win voting rights for her sex, Mrs. Duniway moved to Portland where she started a newspaper devoted to "enfranchisement of women." The first issue of the "New Northwest" appeared May 5, 1871. It declared itself for "free speech, free press, free people," and compared favorably in editorial excellence with the Oregonian, edited by Abigail's brother, Harvey Scott, Dr. Ellison says.

The New Northwest, published for about 15 years, was praised and denounced. Mrs. Duniway was maligned as an "infidel, free thinker, a dangerous, crazy woman."

In 1871, Susan B. Anthony came to Oregon and toured the state with Mrs. Duniway, organizing suffrage groups.

Though a mother of five children, Mrs. Duniway found time and energy not only to continue with her newspaper but to travel across the state speaking for women's rights. At Jacksonville in 1879, she was showered with eggs. When she returned a week later for a second meeting, no women of the town were allowed to attend and local feeling ran so high that the sheriff felt obliged to protect her.

In 1882, the question of woman suffrage was put on the ballot. It was decisively beaten. The same thing happened in 1884. The question of woman suffrage then died down for a time, Dr. Ellison reports. But after the adoption of the initiative and referendum system in Oregon, the question of woman suffrage was referred to the voters—or men—in 1906, 1908, and 1910. Each time, the margin of defeat grew smaller.

Finally in 1912, the measure passed by a vote of 61,265 to 37,104.

Mrs. Duniway, then 77, was given the privilege by Governor Oswald West of drawing up the proclamation declaring the results of the election and heralding the right of women to vote in Oregon.

HUE NEVER KNOW

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Blue-eyed Andra Martin plays the part of a brown-eyed Indian maiden in "Yellowstone Territory." Contact lenses did the trick.

OSC Museum Draws Crowds

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—A record 42,559 persons visited Oregon State College's Horner Museum of the Oregon Country in the 12 months ending in July with Centennial interest given major credit for the record numbers.

All of the 50 states were represented among the visitors, according to Lula M. Stephenson, curator. The 42,559 figure is 2,000 more than last year, previous high.

The museum, located in the basement of the OSC coliseum, provides an insight into the early days of the state, Miss Stephenson noted, with special emphasis this year on the historical displays.

Included are exhibits of pioneer furniture and clothing, Indian artifacts, early American glassware, a quilt collection, oldtime candle-molds and kettles, the famous Hank Monk stage coach, and many weapons and tools of pioneer Oregon.

In addition to the historical collections, the museum includes a natural history section with mounted birds and animals of Oregon; fossils and mineral collections; and an art room with art pieces from around the world.

Some 12,000 articles in all are now included in the Oregon Country Museum, Miss Stephenson said. Many valuable items are on loan from descendants of pioneer families.

Hundreds of school children from across Oregon visited the museum last year as part of their school work. A breakdown of the visitor total shows 30,135 from Oregon; 8,326, other states; and 627 from other countries.

The museum is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m. There is no admission charge.

FLYING ROCK HAZARD
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. (UPI)—Thomas J. DiFranco, director of parks and recreation, warned golfers to watch for falling stones from blasting on the Niagara Power project along the eastern boundary of Hyde Park course. He added that the new hazard did not warrant a change in par.

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SIGN HERE, PLEASE
HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—The FBI has plenty of samples of James Stewart's handwriting. The actor signed autographs for government workers when he

wasn't before the cameras while parts of "The FBI Story" were being filmed at FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C.

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