

## NORTHWESTERN HISTORY SYLLABUS

[The aim of this department is to furnish outlines that will aid those who wish to study the subject systematically. It is expected that its greatest use will be as a guide for members of women's clubs, literary societies, and classes in colleges or high schools. It will be a form of university extension without the theses and examinations necessary for the earning of credits toward a degree.]

### VIII. Provisional Government of Oregon

1. Early Settlers.
  - a. Fur hunters.
  - b. Seekers for homes and lands.
  - c. The Oregon trail.
2. Petitions to Congress.
  - a. Seeking recognition and protection of government.
  - b. In nature of early census.
3. Death of Ewing Young, Feb. 15, 1841.
  - a. Possessing property but no heirs.
  - b. Action proposed at the funeral.
  - c. Committee to form some sort of government.
  - d. Property probated.
  - e. Temporary government abandoned.
4. Wolf Meetings.
  - a. Seeking united action.
  - b. Multnomah Circulating Library.
  - c. Lyceum for debates.
  - d. Bounty for destruction of dangerous animals.
  - e. Proposal to secure protection for families.
  - f. Committee to frame temporary government.
  - g. Plan adopted by meeting in Champoege field.
  - h. Legislative committee appointed.
  - i. Executive committee of three instead of governor .
5. Reorganization.
  - a. Influence of immigration of 1843.
  - b. Primitive State House.

- c. Earliest laws enacted.
  - d. Legislative committee becomes a legislature.
  - e. Executive committee changed to governorship.
  - f. George Abernethy chosen governor, 1845.
  - g. Oath of office reveals "joint occupancy."
6. Results.
- a. Laws of Iowa Territory adopted.
  - b. Prohibition.
  - c. Failure of post-office.
  - d. Dwelling.
  - e. Currency, "Beaver Money" in gold.
  - f. Dominion up to 54-40 north latitude.
  - g. Federal organization of Oregon Territory, 1848-1849.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.—The above outline covers one of the most interesting portions of Northwestern history. It reveals the natural aptitude of Americans for self-government and shows a natural evolution of a state from settlements of pioneers in a wilderness. The literature on the subject is growing rapidly. The items following are among those most readily accessible to those wishing to pursue the study:

BANCROFT, HUBERT HOWE. *Works of*. Vol. XXIX, chapters XII, XIV, XVI, XVIII, XIX, XXII, XXVI. Here is found the story of the provisional government told at considerable length.

CLARK, ROBERT CARLTON. *How British and American Subjects Unite in a Common Government for Oregon Territory in 1844*. In the *Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, Vol. XIII, Number 2.

GROVER, LAFAYETTE. *The Oregon Archives*. This is a rare book, published in 1853. It contains the early laws of the provisional government and other source materials of prime importance.

HOLMAN, FREDERICK V. *Dr. John McLoughlin, the Father of Oregon*. While this is intended as a biography of the grand old Doctor, it is a book of much helpfulness to students of this period. At the end of the volume there are nineteen documents illustrative of the text.

JOHNSON, SIDONA V. *A Short History of Oregon, Chapters XVIII to XXIII*. The title of the book is well chosen, but many may find there the facts needed.

MEANY, EDMOND S. *History of the State of Washington.* Chapter XVI deals in part with the provisional government while Washington was yet a part of Oregon.

SCHAFFER, JOSEPH. *History of the Pacific Northwest.* In this interesting and useful book, Chapter XIII is entitled "The First American Government on the Pacific."

WOODWARD, WALTER C. *Political Parties in Oregon, 1843-1868.* This book was published by the J. K. Gill Company of Portland, Oregon, in 1913. It is the newest, as well as the most extensive, work in this particular field. Those who are collecting books on the Northwest should not overlook this one. Anyone studying in the field of the above syllabus will find the book helpful.