SOCIAL SCIENCE EDUCATION

Social Science Education (secondary) became a field for teacher preparation at Oregon State in the school year 1960-61. At that time the School of Education and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences cooperated to employ a man who would function as head of Social Science Education and as a professor in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. The first appointee, Dr. Leonard Adolf, came from the Department of History, a tenured staff member there with a background in public school teaching. With the exception of one year, this arrangement has been continued to the present. The salary for this position comes from both schools, divided equally between them.

The holder of this position teaches two classes each quarter in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. For the School of Education he teaches one class each quarter in social science methods or the social science section for the course "School in American Life." Also, for the School of Education each quarter he supervises social science major student teachers and conducts a seminar for such student teachers. He may also assist in the observation of the student teaching of social science classes by students who are only social science teaching minors. He also advises all social science education majors. These range in number each quarter from 85 to 125.

Though social science education students may undergo the teacher training program while enrolled in either school, Humanities and Social Science or Education, the actual ratio is currently between six or seven students in Education compared with one in Humanities

and Social Sciences. It is anticipated that this disparity will increase because of recent changes in the Humanities and Social Sciences School requirements. It should be noted, however, that a student enrolled in the School of Education in this program has, since the beginning taken as much social science as do regular enrollees in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, 75 hours. And, students in social science education are being encouraged increasingly to take courses in the humanities, particularly literature, writing, religion and philosophy.

There is also a program, established in the school year 1964-65, in which students can prepareprimarily for junior high teaching by taking a program supervised cooperatively by the heads of English education and social science education. This program of 81 hours is roughly divided into 60 percent English and 40 percent social science courses.

Student teachers are placed in public schools in the Willamette Valley, more frequently in the Corvallis area but also in schools as far north as Portland.

The social science education course requirements are at least 6 hours of work in sociology, economics and political science, 9 hours in geography, and 27 hours in history. There are other requirements, of course, which insure that students take more work in some or all of these fields.

There is no dearth of social science education students. There is, however, a dearth of social science teaching positions, and has been since this program was initiated. On the other hand, nearly all students who are serious about going into social science teaching have secured teaching positions.

Perhaps most significant in the social science education program in its short history at Oregon State University is the fact that with the exception of one year both schools involved have filled the position with persons holding doctorates in a social science discipline who also have had experience in secondary school teaching and work in professional education courses. Dr. Wubben in 1966-67 moved full-time into the History Department and Dr. William McLean took a year's leave of absence from the Coos Bay Public Schools to head up the program. The program is building up so rapidly that two full-time personnel will be employed in this area in 1967-68.