

The National Civil Service Reform League Report--1943 Annual Report

The civil service merit system has met the pressure of war emergency reasonably well and, as was to be expected, has made a valuable contribution to the war effort. The war has brought to the federal service many persons of unusual talent and training who in ordinary times probably would have shunned it. To encourage them to continue to serve the government in time of peace, it

more attractive in salary, in opportunities to advance, and in reward for unusual capacity and accomplishment.

As a consequence of the discredited spoils system, many still think of the public employee as a "tax-eater", a "payroller", an inefficient and perhaps corrupt, as an overpaid and underworked parasite. That this generally false picture still finds acceptance is due to the type of employee which the spoils system produced.

SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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1. Bond for Executive Secretary.
2. Industrial Accident Insurance coverage.
3. Income Tax Information Return.
4. Contingent Liability Insurance.
5. Travel Expense for the Executive Secretary. Reimbursement for actual expense incurred, subject to the same limits as all State Departments, as established by the Board of Control.

The Chairman of the Membership Committee gave a brief report.

Mr. Clymer reported he was appointing a Committee on Education; also that no action had been taken relative to Credit Union activities.

Mr. J. G. Smith reported that at the Convention of the League of Oregon Cities, held in Portland, Oregon, on May 25, 1944, Mr. Herman Kerhli, Executive Secretary of the League, spoke at considerable length on a retirement program for State and Municipal officials. He indicated that the League was making a study of such a program and there was every indication that they would sponsor and support legislation at the 1945 Legislature to carry this program into effect.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

will be necessary to make the service

Through the merit system, we have gained the services of a body of men and women the vast majority of whom are working loyally, efficiently, and often at great personal sacrifice, to give us the essential services which we take for granted, but which are indispensable to the safety and comfort of life today. Among these anonymous workers, moreover, who perform the year-to-year, unglamorous but necessary tasks of government, are many engineers, scientists, and administrators, who as individuals are almost equally anonymous, but whose achievements are of great benefit to the world.

Veterans Preference

Most forms of preference work out highly inequitably as among veterans themselves. Generally the preferences do not distinguish between veterans whom the war has handicapped and who need special aid to fit them for government employment, and those who suffer merely from ordinary minor infirmities incurred during the war, but not resulting from actual combat or exposure due to war. The recruit discharged for psychiatric defects after the briefest service in training will receive, in many instances, the same consideration as the veteran seriously disabled overseas, but

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