

solving the problem through the establishment of local pension systems except for the city of Portland, the Portland school district, Multnomah County, and the state government. The other cities, counties, and school districts must find some other solution.

3. *Pension Systems for Special Groups.*

Most of the proposed legislation that has been considered in Salem during the past 15 years for the retirement of public employees has provided for the establishment of a retirement system for some special occupational group. To date only one of these special groups, namely, judges of the supreme court and the circuit courts, have been provided for. There would appear to be no sound reason for meeting the problem for one group of public employees and not for others. The expense of administering a number of separate pension systems would be much greater than the expense of administering a single pension system for all public employees.

4. *A General State-Wide Retirement System.* The trend in recent years has been to set up a general state-wide retirement system to cover all state and local employees not already covered in a local system. That plan was recommended by the governor's

committee in 1940 and would appear to represent the most satisfactory approach. The plan might be established so as to cover automatically all public employees of the state as in Ohio, or to cover state employees automatically and to be available for local employees as in New York and California.

"I have often wondered why it is that business men, successful business men, don't appreciate good government. . . . The debasing effect on government and on the public of the application of the slogan of the political buccaneers, 'To the victor belong the spoils,' cannot be overestimated."

ARTHUR T. VANDERBILT,  
Ex-President, American Bar  
Association.

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