

Meet Our Vice-President

Edward F. Chidsey, a true native son of Oregon, was born in Prairie City on April 21, 1903 and spent his early boyhood and young manhood in the spacious bounds of Grant and Morrow counties. School age found him at Heppner, Oregon, where he attended grade school and graduated from high school in 1921.

The engineering profession had an early appeal to "Ed" and he spent the last two of his high school summer vacations gaining experience as a chainman with the Oregon State Highway Department. Upon graduation, he took a steady job with the Department and, with the exception of six months employment with Morrow County and a four-months service with a private engineer as a transitman, has been with the Department since that time. His interest in his chosen profession is indicated by his advancement from chainman to transitman and thence to his present position of resident engineer, the latter position being held since 1932. Mr. Chidsey has augmented his technical training by an I.C.S. course in civil engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Oregon.

The life of an engineer is usually one of frequent changes in residence and that of Mr. Chidsey has been no exception. Married in October of 1925, Mr. and Mrs. Chidsey, despite their many moves have managed to maintain a home and have raised two daughters and one son, ages 19, 16 and 11, respectively. Their present home is in LaGrande.

On being questioned, "Ed" admits a fondness for fishing and for hunting "birds only." There may be a story about his hunting experiences which it might be amiss to tell at this time, but "Ed" himself could tell some mighty tall "fish stories." He acknowledges a weakness for golf, which at one time



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was generally considered an old man's game, but which serves him well as a conditioner for his fishing and hunting exploits. Somewhat of a poet in his own right, he is the perpetuator and talented declaimer of some of the best old ballads of the engineers of old, including that famous anonymous contribution to literature, "*The Hobo Engineer*."

As a member of the Oregon State Employees Association since its inception, Mr. Chidsey has at all time been extremely active and enthusiastic in his support of its advancement. He has maintained an active interest in the LaGrande Chapter, has served one term as Director from District V and now serves as Vice-President of the State Association and member of the committee on Laws and Legislation. He brings to our Association friendliness of nature tempered with serious minded application to his duties.