

MEMBERSHIP

By DAVID C. BRYANT

Chairman Membership Committee Portland Chapter No. 17

At the close of the recent legislative session our roster showed a membership of only 48 out of the much greater potential members in Portland. This small group was most pleasantly surprised when it was learned that both our civil service and retirement bills had been approved by both houses and signed by Governor Snell. Most of us felt that the best way to show our appreciation to the Governor and to the law makers who had made this legislation possible, was to go all-out in an effort to build a strong Portland Chapter, which would coordinate and cooperate with these new laws in the interest of harmony and efficiency.

The fact that some fifteen different departments of State are scattered throughout the city creates somewhat of a problem. These various departments employ from one to two hundred potential members, and it is very important that these employees be personally invited to become members. Because of not having the necessary time in which to visit and interview each employee, it was proposed to our president, Allen A. French, that a key employee be named in each department to serve as a representative of such department as a member of the membership committee and to solicit members and collect dues from his department. This employee would automatically become a member of the president's advisory board which would meet prior to each regular chapter meeting to discuss various chapter and association problems and make recommendations to be acted upon at the following regular meeting. In this way each department would have a direct representative through which it might clear its related departmental problems.

As you all know, Mr. Forrest Stewart, Executive Secretary of our Association and his secretary, are the only paid personnel in our organization. All other officers have their assigned duties and have very little, if any extra time to devote to the organizational work which must be done. Therefore, we feel that the membership policy we have outlined is the best and most practical way of making our program known and, generally, getting the job done.

Mr. Stewart has been able to spend sometime with us recently and his help in our Membership Campaign has been most productive of results. We now have ten departments represented by our Chapter and it is gratifying to note that the department heads are topping the new lists.

In order that all State Employees may show their appreciation to the Governor, the legislators, and the men and women who gave so much of their time and effort in preparing and passing our bills, each and every employee should become a member of the Association and do their part in building an organization of which we and the state can be justly proud. Do it now!

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