

The President's Message

This first short message is directed to the members of the Oregon State Employees Association. In all truthfulness I can say that I feel greatly honored in being elected the fourth president of this organization and that I appreciate the confidence and trust which the members, through their delegates, have placed in me. There is also a distinct feeling of responsibility and a sense of obligation to these people which I can discharge only in the full and faithful performance of the duties of this office.

I have been a member of the Oregon State Employees Association since it was founded and have watched and participated in its activities, have seen dark and bright moments, but the one thing which stands out to me is the fact that the members, representing nearly all state activities, and unacquainted personally, have worked together for common objectives with the greatest of harmony. This is a tribute not only to the good, common sense and innate fairness of the members, but to the quality of the leadership that they have in the past seen fit to elect. As your newly elected president, I will do my utmost to maintain that unity, harmony and unselfishness of purpose.

Our Association in its three years of existence has built an excellent reputation. The people in the Association have been big enough, and their characters and purposes high enough, that the things we have worked for and the accomplishments we have made have been beneficial not only to our members but to all state employees and to the public.

Our members can take a certain amount of pride in the fact that they belong to an organization which is striving to raise the level of state service. They too can be proud of the fact

that this movement has come from the employees themselves. The steady growth of the organization is an excellent barometer of its true value and worth, especially when the manner of its growth is considered. No glowing promises are made, and no coercive methods used. Employees are approached on the basis of reason and the value of legitimate organization. The Association offers them an opportunity to speak for themselves, and to be heard.

The program which was originally undertaken is only partially complete. We now have very fine retirement and civil service laws, and we also have a well defined obligation to protect and better these laws as conditions warrant. The problems of parity wages, uniform vacation and sick leave, equal pay for men and women who do equal work, hospital and insurance coverage and overtime regulations are still before us. Some of them may be solved soon, some may require considerable time and work. The solution of these problems is of great importance and requires the active support of all state employees.

OUR NEWEST CHAPTER

Congratulations to the personnel of Oregon State College for the organization of our newest chapter.

The chapter is to be known as Corvallis Chapter Number 29. Dr. W. B. Bollen is president of the chapter; Bob Glenn, Vice-President; Herbert V. Nelson, Secretary and Paul A. Walgren, Treasurer.

The chapter is starting out with a very fine spirit and promises to be one of our most active groups.

Our Association is extremely fortunate to have the interest of this group. Best wishes and welcome to O.S.E.A.