

years before he entered the armed forces."

The phrase "or returns to it hereafter" in subdivision 2, Section 17, Chapter 401, Oregon Laws 1945, above quoted is to be understood as meaning "or returns to it hereafter within one year after being honorably discharged from service in the armed forces," for the reason that in granting credit for service in the armed forces no distinction should be made between those who were discharged before the effective date of the act and those thereafter discharged.

The employee here concerned was not in the service of the state at the time he entered the armed forces and for more than five years prior thereto had not been in such public service. He can be accredited with no "continuous service" as that term is defined by subdivision 7 of Section 1, Chapter 401, supra, thus reading:

"(7) the term 'continuous service' means service not interrupted for more than five years."

The "prior service, including military service," for which the "additional pension" described by Section 19 of Chapter 401, supra, is payable in ser-

vice rendered before July 1, 1946, the date on which public employees will become members of the retirement system. Credit therefor is allowable if such past service was "not interrupted for more than five years." Inasmuch as there was an interval of more than five years between the conclusion of the former service of the employee in question and the date on which he entered the armed forces, he was not in continuous service prior to that date within the meaning of Sectional, subdivision 7, supra. Therefore, past service credit can not be allowed this employee for any time prior to the date in September, 1945, when he again became a public employee.

Prior Service of Ex-school Teachers

"You (The Public Employee Retirement System) have quoted this specific question as illustrative of the type of inquiry you are receiving on the subject of service credit of certified school teachers:

"From 1926 to 1936 I taught
(Continued on page 18)

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