

questions above quoted, an unequivocal negative."

The opinion states that "another objection to the board's entering into a 'working agreement' with the union is that the board is precluded from consenting to be governed by the union or any other group of people in the selection of employees whom the law directs it to employ in its discretion."

It further states; "The question of limiting public employment to union labor has not been directly before the Supreme Court of this state, probably because of public policy, as indicated by the absence of legislation in this respect, has been widely understood and accepted."

Article 1, section 2 of the Constitution of Oregon provides:

"No law shall be passed granting to any citizen or class of citizens, privileges or immunities which, upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens."

Apprenticeship Agreement

"Any public employee who is a party to an apprenticeship agreement such as indicated by the form submitted will remain out of the classified service of this state during the prescribed length of his course of training.

What has been said with reference to apprenticeships in the state service is not to be construed as deciding or conceding that it is proper, possible or permissible for state departments generally to enter into apprenticeship agreements. Statutory authority to department heads to make contracts of public employment, including apprenticeships, is peculiarly lacking.

The administrative offices of the state were created for the purpose of conducting the state's affairs and not for functioning as business or trade schools. For the latter purpose the state and the school districts have made adequate provisions.

Another reason for not relaxing the

restrictions of the civil service law is that the legislature, when enacting it, was primarily concerned with improving the public service of the state, rather than fixing tenure of employees in whatever capacity they might choose to serve.

This provision, subdivision 6, Sec. 8, chapter 400, 1945, authorizes the training of employees in the classified service of the state, for the purpose, not so much of educating those employees, as of improving the quality of service rendered by them to the state. Instruction in special practices and methods of a state department is quite different from teaching apprentices the fundamentals of trades and occupations.

Regular employees in state departments who participate in on-the-job training programs in order to improve the quality of the service they render will remain in the classified service of the state.

An employee with civil service status dating from September 14, 1940, will lose the benefit of such status on entering the apprentice class, and for as long as he remains in that class. The rules of the civil service commission will be determinative of the length of time that the employee may be absent from the classified service without losing his right to classification. If a regular employee in the classified service enters an on-the-job training program conducted under conditions hereinabove indicated, he will not thereby alter his civil service status."

Retirement of Elected Officials

"An elected official who will become a member of the system in 1946 and whose term of office will expire on December 31, 1946 will, if reelected, be permitted to serve out his term of office beginning January 1, 1947 even though he may be 65 years of age at the time of becoming a member of the

(Continued on page 16)