

News from the Chapters

For this issue at least, chapter news consists of news about what some of the chapters are doing, with a few personal items included. As explained elsewhere, issuing the magazine quarterly makes many personal items "old" news, and for that reason they have been omitted.

We hasten to explain that all items that are contributed are welcome. Every contributor's effort is appreciated. However, we hope that the omission of social items will not be misunderstood. We hope to use our limited space for news of interest to everyone and we sincerely hope that no personal disappointments will result.

Salem Chapter No. 1 Considers Division

At its January meeting, this chapter installed its new officers and then talked about dividing into two or three separate chapters. It now has over 450 members (about 260 paid up), is mostly highway department, and represents maintenance men, shop men and office men. The thought back of the split-up was that there is some feeling that the three classes of employees have different interests, some feel they do not get much representation, and others feel that just one group of leaders doesn't give others any chance to be active. No action on division was taken, but the matter is still before them and may bear fruit. Regardless of the outcome, there will be no hard feelings as all members want the same things. It is the thought of many that large chapters such as this do not give each member the same chance to be heard, while smaller chapters of employees who work closely together can accomplish more.

Bend Chapter Favors Monthly Reports

Marguerite Elder, Bend chapter secretary, has advised Forrest Stewart that the Bend chapter has gone on record as favoring a monthly report of Association activities from the execu-

tive secretary. Members will recall that Stewart used to get out some good reports regularly, but had to quit them during last legislature and has been too busy since then to start them again.

The public relations director is going to try to lighten Forrest's work by getting out the dope to all members and it is hoped this will please Bend members as well as all others.

Eugene Chapter President Offers Constructive Ideas

According to the by-laws and intentions of the Association, we were organized for the betterment of ourselves, and also the departments. In other words we were organized to better our wages and working conditions, as well as to give the taxpayer more efficient service per dollar, by improving our method of accomplishing the work. In doing this the whole state system would work more smoothly.

So far, the pay check, or take home pay has been the most discussed subject at all meetings, and there is room for more discussion of this kind.

We have been working on civil service and retirement, and other things of equal importance, all of which has taken a lot of time and energy.

Now I wonder if it isn't about time we are showing the department heads that we mean what it says in the constitution about being a help to them and the state as a whole.

Let's get to work, and make a study of our method of operation, and see if each chapter can't come out with some resolutions or suggestions to our department heads, to make our work more efficient and economical.

It should be easy in the highway department. We are trying to maintain modern fast highways with old one horse methods and equipment. I would like to make a suggestion (as foreman of a maintenance crew) that the equipment department of the highway com-