

mission send a man into the field to spend a few days with each crew. The foremen and equipment operators would be glad to help them make a study of the one horse methods we have to use in adapting present equipment to the work at hand.

I'll admit we foremen are rather dumb or we wouldn't be here. But nevertheless, most of us have been doing this kind of work for years, and should have some valuable ideas for the departments. If they would come out and work with us, I am sure we could overcome some of the hazards that make a maintenance crew's life a nightmare.

Every department in the state must have a few problems of this kind, which could be solved by the simple formula of "experience plus engineering."

Norman C. Dick

President, Eugene Chapter No. 6.

Astoria Reports Personnel Changes

During the past winter months, several of the highway employees of the Astoria district have been hospitalized. Mr. Sweet, employed at the Bradley state park, after being admitted to the hospital because of a stroke, has been in the hospital 70 days, and it is quite evident he will be unable to return to his former duties. Harold Reed, who was with the maintenance section crew, Astoria, is now acting as caretaker at Bradley state park during Mr. Sweet's absence. Charlie McCutchen was also in the hospital for a short time prior to his being placed on retirement. Mr. Herb Robinson, employed at the Astoria-Megler ferry, was confined to the hospital for a period of 30 days because of ill health, and upon being released from the hospital, has moved to Oceanside, Calif., in an effort to regain his health.

Mr. Olaf G. Fransen, who was maintenance helper at Astoria, has been promoted to section maintenance foreman at Clatskanie, when such position was left vacant upon the retirement of Mr. George Johnson.

Roy Levens, who for the past 11 years has been with the bridge maintenance department in Astoria area, has been transferred and is now employed as a drawbridge operator at Astoria.

During the week ending February 14, Mr. Charlie Campbell, now office man in the shops at Klamath Falls, was visiting friends in Astoria. Mr. Campbell at one time was office man at the highway maintenance department, Astoria.

Under the civil service retirement act, the following Oregon state highway employees of the Astoria area were placed on retirement as of January 1, 1948: Charles McCutchen, W. McCaulley and John Kela, Astoria; George Johnson and Arthur Parton, Clatskanie; D. T. MacKenton, Hebo; Austin Dowling, Mist; W. G. Perkins, former bridge foreman; J. H. Scott, resident engineer, Nehalem.

Mr. L. D. Mars, resident engineer, Astoria, has been temporarily moved to Nehalem to take over the engineering duties of Mr. J. H. Scott, who was placed on retirement January 1, 1948.

Mr. Jeff Hathaway, who has been an assistant bridge foreman with the highway department, has been promoted to bridge foreman to fill the vacancy left by Mr. W. G. Perkins, upon Mr. Perkins' retirement.

During the month of December, a joint meeting of the Nehalem, Astoria, Mist, Clatskanie, Seaside, Tillamook, Hebo and Jewell chapters was held at Nehalem. The principal speakers for the evening were our newly elected president, Mr. White, and our executive secretary, Mr. Stewart. Mr. White outlined his policy for the ensuing year, which met approval of all chapters represented at this meeting. He emphasized very emphatically as to increasing membership of all chapters. Mr. Stewart explained in detail the pay plan and increase in pay brackets as set forth by the civil service rules and regulations.

Floyd H. Simon.