

Illinois Head Honors 25-Year State Workers

The Editor's attention has been called to an article appearing in the State of Illinois current official organ published by the Department of Public Works in which the Illinois Governor is quoted as follows: "It might be said also that this ceremony is a tribute to all loyal employees of the state government, whose faithfulness and devotion are not always accorded the full public recognition they deserve."

The ceremony referred to was the inauguration of what is to be an annual event honoring State Highway Department Employees who have completed 25 years or more of service, giving them gold emblems and certificates of award.

The Governor's address pointed out the growth of Illinois' highway system and the fine job done by its personnel in designing constructing and maintaining its system under all manner of trying conditions during the 40 year history of the State's supervision thereof.

Oregon, although younger in its life span of highway development, can likewise be proud of its system and the employees who have worked diligently to make and continue it as among the nation's finest! Praise and commendation for employees' efforts, publicly expressed are in no small measure a powerful influence toward engendering a spirit of goodwill among those who give of their talents and energy to State service.

Careers Founded On Office Work

"When a giant group of workers repeatedly describe their jobs in tones of dispragement or apology, something's

wrong. And it's our contention that something's wrong in the field of clerical work for women.

"The clerical worker is the all-important keeper of her company's business records. She may type, file or deliver them; take dictation, telephone orders or in-person messages. She handles correspondence, records and financial statements. And it's perfectly obvious to anyone that no business in the land could function a week without her. Yet, strangely there's very little evidence that she's proud of her responsible assignment. . . . All of which suggests that what's wrong with clerical jobs is not the work but the attitude of women who do it. We believe, frankly, that the clerical worker is selling herself short.

"There are more than 4,000,000 women holding clerical jobs in this country today. . . . The turnover through marriage and promotion averages one seventh of the entire field annually. It means that the clerical worker has much greater mobility, she can move from city to city, or from business to business with no loss of salary or know-how. . . . We are convinced that the girl who puts professional day-dreaming aside can make clerical work a pleasant dignified and rewarding career."

All of the above statements apply equally to state employment. Civil Service offers an opportunity for salary increases and inter-city and inter-department transfers and promotions.

At the Celilo Falls of the Columbia river near The Dalles, Oregon, Indians still supply tribal larders by spearing and netting salmon in the way of their ancestors. From dangerous perches on rocks above boiling waters, the redmen are adept with equipment which was the vogue centuries ago. Their fishing privileges are protected by treaty rights drawn up with the United States in 1855.