

ciation, in giving out news to the members and in publicizing ourselves.

Other expense items run about the same as for 1949 and are as low as present conditions and a growing OSEA will permit. The headquarters office is now supplied with a new mimeograph machine to be paid for in 1950. This will save us at least \$60 an issue in printing bulletins and news letters and will pay for itself during the year. The budget allows also for a new desk, typewriter, adding machine, file cabinet and minor items necessary to provide the tools for furnishing better service to the growing membership.

General Financial Condition

During 1949, this association did a creditable piece of business in getting into a good financial condition, and more than holding its own in membership. This in spite of a very large turnover in state personnel! We increased our reserve fund by nearly \$1,000; and at the end of the year our financial net worth was well over \$2400.

If, as members, we keep ourselves in good standing and encourage others to join us in promoting and protecting employees benefits during 1950, there will be continued growth for the OSEA. Its ability to function will be strengthened. Each of us as members, and EVERY state employee, has a real obligation to support the OSEA. It is the only organization that has always and consistently worked in the true interests of state employees.

OSEA Supports Blood Program

There was little Gary, badly hurt in an automobile accident. His mother said he was hardly in the hospital before a transfusion of blood—Red Cross blood—was pouring into his veins.

Then there was the Rh negative baby whose blood had to be exchanged for normal blood, four pints of it—and there was four pints of Red Cross blood which had been contributed—

And the man from Salem who was seriously ill in a Boston, Massachusetts hospital. He used 28 pints of Red Cross collected blood. Already, 13 do-

nors in Salem and Portland have replaced this blood.

Almost everyone knows of someone who has either received from or donated blood to the Red Cross blood program. It has been almost a year since the peacetime inception in Oregon of the community blood program. Let's take Marion county, one of 19 participating counties in Oregon and Washington. Since the first visit on March 8th of last year, Marion county residents have contributed a total of 1622 pints of blood; have used in the hospitals, 1441 pints. Suppose this blood were valued at the standard commercial price of \$25 per pint, then Marion county citizens would have donated \$40,550.

The blood program is a community project. The Red Cross assumes the responsibility of recruiting the donors, collecting, storing and processing the blood and transporting the blood to the hospitals. It is available to all without cost (although the hospital makes a standard charge for administration).

Headed by a local advisory committee from the medical society, many groups in the community share in the program. The American Legion as well as other veteran groups, participate on a local and national scale. The Masonic groups, the OSEA, service clubs, organized labor, and churches all help share the task of recruiting donors and supplying volunteers for this worthwhile cause.

The OSEA participation has been outstanding in Marion county. At the start of the bloodmobile visits often the state employees constituted the bulk of the donors. One state employee received 12 pints of blood and at the next visit of the bloodmobile more than twice as many of his fellow workers donated blood.

This program is a continuing one. Lacking the urgent appeal of wartime, it is nevertheless fulfilling a community need which had not been met in any other way. The continuance of the program is up to everyone in every town. Only a human being can manufacture blood and only blood can replace blood lost in sickness or accident.