

Retirement Board Secretary Resigns

W. M. Schuppel, chairman of the public employes retirement board, has announced the resignation of Jerry S. Sayler as executive secretary to the retirement board, and the appointment of Ried Stone as Mr. Sayler's successor, the effective date of the change in executive secretary to be as of October 10.

For the past several years Mr. Stone has held the position of Clackamas County auditor. Mr. Stone is a graduate in engineering from Dartmouth College and has had many years of experience in insurance work, especially in the life insurance field. As auditor of Clackamas County, which has participated in the retirement system since its inception, Mr. Stone has had close contact with the retirement system and is quite familiar with its operation and principles.

Comments by Mr. Sayler follow:

"Our hearts are saddened by the untimely death of James M. Burgess who, during the entire existence of the retirement system, was a most loyal and valuable member of the retirement board. "Jim," as he was known to all of us, had long been interested in a retirement plan, especially for the teachers of Oregon. He was an intimate personal friend of the late Governor Earl Snell, both men having been born on exactly the same date, July 11, 1895.

"This seems as good a place as any to relate a little story about Jim Burgess and Earl Snell, which was told to me many years ago, and which has always seemed to me to be quite a remarkable coincidence.

"In July of 1901 the families of both of these six-year-old boys were traveling across the country in eastern Oregon with teams and wagons, as was the custom in those days. They were traveling independently of each other but by chance camped at the same camp-grounds along a stream in eastern Oregon on July 11, 1901. Jim was playing around the camp established by his parents when a strange little

boy from a neighboring camp came over and invited Jim to share his bag of jelly beans, stating that it was his sixth birthday and the jelly beans were in the nature of a birthday remembrance. Jim stated to the other little boy that it was also his sixth birthday. The other little boy was Earl Snell. Out of this early contact developed a life-long friendship between the two stalwart men, both of whom left an indelible mark, each in his own way, upon the history of our state. Both were tremendously interested in education, and both were enthusiastically interested in the establishment of our retirement system. Both are now gone, but certainly their memories will remain with us always.

"In passing, may I say that succeeding governors have likewise been tremendously interested in the successful operation of the retirement system. Our present Governor McKay not only takes a keen interest in the system but I am genuinely surprised at the knowledge he has concerning it and his grasp of the overall fundamental principles involved.

"As to my own change in plans, perhaps little need be said. For some time I have felt that I should return to private business in an effort to expand my income, if possible. In my opinion, many public officials in Oregon are underpaid. Money, however, is not all-important and were this the only consideration I would not be making a change. For the past more than five years I have devoted my best efforts in the interest of public employes, particularly the older ones. Now I would like to try to do something for the young generation coming up and expect to devote the remaining years of my life to this activity. It seems to me our young people need to be taught more of the fundamental principles of Americanism, selfreliance, and the homely old virtues of honesty, industry, and integrity. In fact, I believe all of us should place more emphasis on the spiritual approach to all of our present-day problems which seem so grievous. In my opinion, there is no factor so important to success as the will to do.

"As for the retirement system itself,