

# District No. 2 Council Meetings

The monthly meetings of this council have been very interesting and loaded with new ideas and projects for the good and welfare of OSEA. The Council held its first meeting of the year on January 19 in Salem. Mr. Forrest Stewart gave a review of what had transpired in the Legislature since it started early in January. He brought out the fact that OSEA has had to combat false impressions given to the Legislature by a few dissatisfied state employees regarding the attitude of state employees toward the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Stewart also reviewed bills covering the State Employees Retirement program. He stressed the importance of a large membership in the OSEA and its effect on increased benefits through the Legislature.

Mr. Gordon Shattuck explained the Marion County Civil Defense work and outlined its accomplishments to date.

Mr. Ratcliffe, District Director, announced the appointment of Mr. E. A. Bamford as Treasurer of the Presidents' Council. Mr. Bamford was also appointed chairman of a recreational committee. One of the first projects of this committee is reactivation of the choral group which was a great success last year. The Council took on a project of addressing 12,000 letters for the Easter Seal drive.

The erection of a building for use of the OSEA at Salem was discussed by those present and the group went on record in favor of such a building. Mr. Ratcliffe announced that he was being called back into military service and that Alternate Director, Lyle Sacre, would act in his place.

The February meeting was held on the 27th with representatives from 14 chapters present. There were several visitors present including Robert Ashby, State Association President; Forrest Stewart, Executive Secretary;

Gene Schmidt, Assistant Executive Secretary, from state headquarters; and E. F. Chidsey, Jr., Past President of the State Association. Mr. Stewart discussed the bills now before the Legislature, particularly those regarding salaries, holidays and retirement benefits.

Mr. Chidsey said he was pleased with the progress made regarding most of our bills in the Legislature and the manner in which Mt. Stewart was conducting the legislative work. Mr. Bamford reported that the choral group met on February 26 with Glenn Savage elected as President, LeRoy M. McDuffee, Secretary and Enola Englehorn, Treasurer. Since there are no funds to hire a professional director, he asked the names of employees who could assist in this work. Of new business to come before the Council was the subject of the Salem chapters buying material for building stage equipment at Champoeg Park. It was decided to secure estimates on the cost of such equipment before taking and definite action.

Action was taken to submit names for an Alternate Director to assist Mt. Sacre in handling the activities of the district. The Board of Directors make this appointment.

There was some discussion on the problem of reinstating employees who were dropped from the Association for non-payment of dues. It was stated that the chapters would continue to have this problem until they could offer additional benefits to employees in good standing. After considerable discussion on ways and means to improve our magazine, "The State Employee," it was suggested that each chapter cooperate through their publicity committee by sending in items to be used by the editor of the magazine.

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