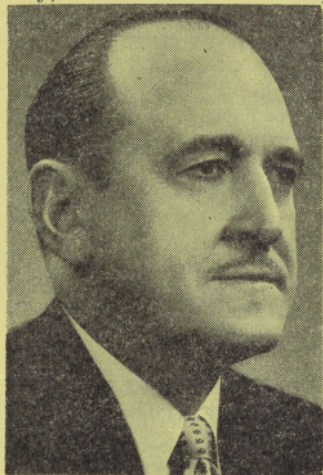


STEWART HONORED ON 10th ANNIVERSARY

On the occasion of completion of 10 years of service for OSEA, Forrest V. Stewart, Executive Secretary, was honored at a surprise dinner party on



Tuesday, June 15, 1954. Members of the Headquarters Staff sponsored the affair which was held at the Marion Hotel in Salem right after work. Attending in addition to Forrest and Mrs. Stewart were Bob Ashby, Rudy Meffert, Jean Brimacombe and Eugenia Olson, all of the Headquarters Staff, and Mr. and Mrs. Virgil O'Neil. Forrest was presented with a gift merchandise certificate from his Staff. The

evening was spent in recollecting the "remember whens," and in mutually interesting experiences of those present.

On behalf of the OSEA, President O'Neil congratulated Forrest on his endurance in staying by the Association through the last 10 years and expressed appreciation for the fine service which he has so faithfully and ably rendered.

GROUP LIFE INSURANCE REOPENED

Members who have not availed themselves of the generous life insurance coverage provided by the OSEA group life program will have another opportunity to do so very soon.

Letters are being mailed to all chapter presidents (except Highway) by Bill West, OSEA insurance representative, asking that a committee be appointed to work with him in carrying out the job of requalification.

OSEA's life and medical insurance programs are the best obtainable for the price. Both programs are geared to the income of state employees. With 50 per cent of the classified employees getting a salary of \$268 per month or less, 85 per cent getting \$350 per month or less and 90 per cent getting under \$400 per month there is little room for fancy and expensive insurance gimmicks.

Where else can a state employee buy medical insurance with no restrictions on surgery, generous hospital allowances, private rooms, private nursing, generous polio and accident benefits (all renewable each year) for the small sum of \$3.14 per month for the male or \$3.87 for the female employee, or protect the whole family with the same generous benefits for only \$9.74 per month?

Where else can state employees buy life insurance for 70 cents per thousand dollars at age 35 or \$1.35 per thousand at age 55? Where else can they insure all their dependents regardless of the number for 41 cents a month? All of this without medical examination.

Ask the chapter chairman about dates for requalification for group life insurance.

THE FIRST TEN YEARS

In June, 1944, OSEA opened a headquarters office and staffed it with an executive secretary and one stenographer. The office was not large, 11 by 12 feet; not much space for two desks and four oak chairs (all still in use), a typewriter (rented) and one filing cabinet, oak, bought second hand (still in use).

An only window opened upon a tar paper roof 18 inches below and faced south.

In this little room night after night, through the remaining months of 1944, a small group of men labored over letters, laws and pamphlets. They were men with a cause, men of vision who ignored the taunts and jibes of some fellow workers because they believed in their cause and felt it was just.

They believed if the economic fear and uncertainty often accompanying the arrival of old age could be avoided the state and employee would benefit. They believed that working conditions should be uniform and pay should be the same for like work. Retirement and Civil Service were born in that little room. Most of these men will live to see many thousands of state employees enjoy the fruits of their labor.

The chapters were all in the highway department, all 16 of them. Membership was under two thousand. Dues were low but so were state salaries. The little money in the treasury didn't go very far toward paying fees for an attorney to represent OSEA at the 1945 legislative session. The board of directors borrowed money from the chapters to pay legislative costs. Many times payday had to be postponed until enough new members could be enrolled to meet the payroll.

Those state employees who pioneered OSEA are made of good material. The sacrifices and disappointments suffered helped to solidify the basic principles of OSEA — truth, justice and welfare of state and employee.

Ten years is not long in the lifetime of a nation or a state. OSEA has become a part of Oregon and will remain such as long as old glory waves over the capitol mall.

THE 40 HOUR WEEK—HIGHWAY

No announcement is as yet forthcoming on the 40-hour work-week for employees in the maintenance division of the State Highway Department.

The Civil Service Commission spent considerable time studying and discussing the problem at its meeting on June 16 and 17.

The governor heard OSEA representatives on June 17. The governor also met with the Civil Service Commission and the Highway engineer on that date.

It is expected that the emergency board will hear the request at its next meeting. The date of its meeting has not been set.

BOARD MEETING CALLED

The OSEA Board of Directors is meeting in Salem, Saturday, June 26, to take stock of progress being made on OSEA policies, to discuss administrative policies and to make preparations for the General Council and legislative sessions. Questions concerning publicity, dues, splitting Districts, office location, and other administrative matters will be discussed as will also the main problems of State personnel.