

The OSEA

Sentinel

Incorporated

January 4,

1945



"Welfare
of State
and
Employee"

Published monthly by the Oregon State Employees Association
311 Oregon Building, Salem, Oregon - Phone 4-3325

LINCOLN PFEIFFER - - - Director of Public Relations
V. G. O'NEIL, President - - - GERTRUDE CHAMBERLIN, Secretary

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Association.
Address communications to Oregon State Employees Association
311 Oregon Building, Salem, Oregon — Phone 4-3325

EDITORIAL

The association's most successful legislative effort in history has just been written into the record. New benefits for 17,500 state workers have been secured. Foremost accomplishment easily is the new retirement program provided by S.B. 47, which provides a retirement figure of approximately half salary.

Several persons deserve credit for the attainment of this long sought retirement principle. Without exception unstinting praise is due the interim subcommittee on salaries and wages. (Baum, Eaton, Merrifield, Allberger and Brandt). Throughout the legislative session, Dr. Orval Eaton particularly distinguished himself by demonstrating an awareness that the state paycheck had no more elasticity than is found in other paychecks. Max Manchester, Director of the Public Employees Retirement System, also rendered a real service, as did Virgil O'Neil, OSEA President.

The prime mover most singly responsible, however, is Professor P. M. Brandt of Oregon State college. Although chronologically past the bloom of his first youth, Brandt energized the subcommittee during two long years of study. The Retirement Act becomes effective January 1, 1956. If late in December every member of the Public Employees Retirement System sends a Christmas card to 106 Withycombe Hall, Corvallis, it is the proper due of P. M. Brandt. He blazed a course in social action which the state's Higher Education people should follow. Someone other than Brandt inspired the definition that a professor is a person who went to college and never got out.

From time to time, the time and talent of all is needed. Politicians continuously hack away at Civil Service and admittedly propose no system which is better. By public acclaim Dr. Salk will be forced to share the pedestal with any person who can improve upon Civil Service. Civil Service can be improved, but not improved upon.

The salary situation was disappointing. When the legislature found the Barrington Report unaccept-

able, insufficient time remained for other than a stop-gap salary appropriation. On the whole, the OSEA legislative program was strikingly successful. Of the 45 bills directly or indirectly affecting state workers, the majority were favorably resolved. All state workers profited from Executive Secretary Forrest Stewart's ten year's legislative experience.

Whittier once noted, "Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these 'it might have been'." The six thousand association members quiver with excitement at what might have been accomplished had their ranks been greater.

Lincoln Pfeiffer

PERSONNEL PEOPLE ATTEND CONFERENCE

The State of Oregon and OSEA were well represented at the Western Regional Conference of the National Civil Service Assembly held at Hoberg, California, May 22, 23 and 24. Executive Secretary Forrest Stewart and OSEA Civil Service Director Marion Horton put a receptive mind forward in behalf of the association.

The following State personnel specialists profited by this professional seminar: Gordon Shattuck, Unemployment Compensation Commission; A. Turner Johnson, Board of Health; James May, Game Commission; Margaret White, Public Welfare; Charles Bocci, Civil Service; Charles W. Terry, Civil Service (Director).

STUDY GROUP ELECTED

At the last Board of Directors meeting on May 7, 1955, a committee was appointed to study the organizational and related problems of the Association with particular reference to the headquarters staff.

Five members were elected to serve on this committee. Non-board members elected were Floyd Query, Salem Chapter No. 1 and Fred Mehl, Willamette Chapter No. 21; board members elected were James May, Director, District No. 1, Ross Newcombe, Director, District No. 6, and Carl Hobson, Director, District No. 2.

Hobson was appointed chairman. His mailing address is 1490 Corina Dr., Salem, Oregon.

INSURANCE NEGOTIATIONS IN PROSPECT

The association may soon be presented with a car insurance bid by the Civil Service Employees Insurance Company of San Francisco, reports Eugene Schmidt, OSEA Insurance Director.

Discussion has been underway between this company and the association since January. The company's application to transact business in Oregon is being studied by the State Insurance Commission. If the license is granted, the company will present a definite prospectus for association consideration.

DEFINITIONS

Middle-aged—Someone ten years older than you are.

Optimist—Man who enjoys the view when treed by a bull.

Pessimist—One who, when he has a choice of two evils, takes both.

Penology—The science of crowding eighteen hundred men into a prison built for eight hundred, and then holding investigations to find out why trouble brews.