

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The adjournment of the 1963 Legislature left the state employee with several immediate benefits, but also with some important issues still unresolved. A comprehensive evaluation of people and events during the 1963 Session will be forthcoming in the July issue of the EMPLOYEE.

Incidentally, our only all-member medium will be issued on a monthly basis in order to keep you abreast of Association progress and problems.

Something else is new. We have, upon the advice of the Insurance Committee, changed our group life insurance and income protection carrier to the Standard Insurance Company, whose main offices are in Portland. The change to the Oregon based company was brought about because of a better coverage and a more equitable rate structure to OSEA members.

I know I join all of you in congratulating our eleven Scholarship and Grant-In-Aid winners. Scholarship Committee Chairman Dallas Norton and his committee deserve our sincere thanks for a difficult task well done.

Two years of experience with the Institutes on Government have led me to write Governor Hatfield a request to allow state employees to attend subsequent Institutes held on weekdays. It is the feeling of the Public Relations Committee and the Board of Directors that these important informational programs must be held when it is possible to obtain a maximum attendance. The only way to do this is to schedule it for a weekday and obtain permission for department personnel to attend according to the professional benefit they would derive from the subject matter.

A mention of the new membership campaign should be made, since it concerns the very basis of our strength. If we remain static at the current 12-13 thousand level, it indicates a lack of progress. A lack of progress indicates weakness. OSEA has not been accused of that for many years. It is the intent of the Membership Committee to raise this figure to 15,000 by November 1. Premiums or not — we have our duty to the Association and ourselves. Let's face it, and do it.

CHALMERS JONES

GOOD OF THE ORDER . . .

That an injury to any part of an integrated whole constitutes an injury to the entire being is so well accepted that it is almost axiomatic. In public service it is not at all unusual to find one segment of public service, with apparent malice, trying to injure some other segment. One department will sometimes belittle the importance of another department or operation as a means of stressing their own importance. This is especially true during legislative sessions when the competition for money becomes acute.

This last session of the legislature was an exception in that regard, as there was no recorded instance of an organized attempt on the part of individuals to play down some other segment of state service.

There was evidence that a better understanding of the scope and importance of state service existed among our membership than ever before. The Association has been attempting a broad education program to acquaint every member with other work areas in feature articles in our publication program service forums and by other vehicles. If this new found spirit of pulling together is in fact real, and to be attributed to this source, then the lesson is made! We must redouble our efforts to kindle pride in not only our branch of state service, but in state service!

JBD

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