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**OSEA's Highway Division Contract
Contains 'Best' Moving Allowance**

OSEA's new contract with the Highway Division contains the "best moving allowance benefit in state government," according to staff member C. D. Johansen, who headed the Association's negotiating team.

Negotiations were completed on the two-year contract earlier this month.

Johansen said the expanded moving allowance grants Highway Division employes the following benefits:

- Payment for moving household goods and personal effects.
- \$17 a day per diem for up to 30 days.
- Up to five days of paid time off plus \$17 a day per diem for "house hunting" time.
- Up to 30 days free storage of household goods.
- Full value insurance, appliance blocking and extra handling charges for packing and moving household goods.
- Transportation of employe vehicles to new location.
- A miscellaneous expense allowance of \$450 for each employe.

Johansen said the new moving allowance benefit is needed "because Highway Division employes move more than employes in other agencies and therefore suffer greater economic loss as a result of such moves. The new moving allowance is designed to minimize those losses."

He said the new contract contains numerous other employe benefits. They include:

- An additional benefit in the overtime section of the contract provides employes will be granted a \$4.50 meal allowance when they work 2½ or more hours of overtime without prior notice.
- Presently employes are allowed to take one week of vacation leave during the calendar season of their choice. That benefit was expanded to allow employes to take additional vacation leave at their choice provided their department or section can accomplish its work load.

● Coveralls, aprons and other apparel will be provided employes who work with materials that soils clothing beyond the ability of home laundering to get clean.

● An annual shoe allowance of \$20 will be granted patching crew employes who work with application of asphalt tack coat. In addition, gloves will be provided employes who perform hazardous work where protection of the hands is necessary.

● The non-commercial per diem rate of \$13 a day that applies to employes who use trailers and campers will be increased to \$15 a day provided the Executive Department approves the increase.

● A special education and training committee composed of employes will be formed to seek out better ways of providing career opportunities for Highway Division employes. Special emphasis will be given to clerical and secretarial classifications.

● The Highway Division has agreed to seek authority to pay employes for the loss or breakage

of valuable personal possessions while on the job. Such possessions would include eyeglasses, dentures and watches.

● A new contract provision guarantees employes six months leave without pay after sick leave has been exhausted.

Negotiations on the new contract were conducted jointly by OSEA and the Association of Engineering Employes. The document covers about 3,500 employes in both of the Highway Division's bargaining units. They are the "main" unit and the "engineering and allied" unit.

Besides Johansen, OSEA's negotiating team was composed of staff member Richard A. Leith and two members of its Unit Representation Committee: Alvin H. Meyer, Rose City Chapter 5, and Gene St. Clair, SI Chapter 89.

The AEE team was made up of Fred Van Natta, and two employes: David H. Haug and Michael K. Schultz.

Representing the agency were David H. Moehring, right of way engineer; Carroll T. Keasey, construction engineer; Gene Huntley, personnel director; Warren H. Gaskill, assistant state parks superintendent; and Larry W. Rulien, regional engineer.

**Mall Agencies Cut
Electric Use 28%**

Employes who work in state buildings on the Capitol Mall in Salem reduced consumption of electricity 28 per cent from August 20 to September 20, according to Gov. Tom McCall.

He said electrical use in the Portland-state office building was cut 30 per cent during the same period.

Capitol Mall buildings consumed 1,240,000 kilowatt hours of electricity in the month from August 20 to September 20, 1972. This year during the same period usage was 891,600 kilowatt hours. That's a reduction of 28.1 per cent.

McCall said the saving is equivalent to the total electrical needs of 348 homes for a month.

The governor ordered all state agencies in August to reduce the use of electricity, gasoline and heating fuel by at least 10 per cent because of the Pacific Northwest energy crisis.

The power savings in state buildings resulted largely from a sharp cutback in the use of hot water, elimination of air conditioning in all areas where it was possible and elimination of much interior and exterior lighting. Maintenance schedules also were changed so that custodians could do their work in daylight hours.

Portland General Electric Company surveyed the cutbacks made in state buildings in Salem earlier and estimated the savings would amount to about 12.5 per cent. The figures announced by Gov. McCall are based on electricity billings for the 30-day period.

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