JERROLD OWEN BIO 8/6 SPRAGUE

Biography

Newspaper background, starting on Fresno Republican (1910) under Chester Rowell, now editor S. F. Chronicle. Portland Oregonian, 1914-1931 with excursions into magazine publishing (Better Fruit, Better Flowers) public relation work and 20 months service in World War (First Officers' Training School, Presidio, S. F.—1st Lieut. 364th Inf., 91st Division). Several years after war joined Oregon National Guard with rank of Captain serving six years as regimental adjutant and as plans and training officer 162nd Infantry.

Started first departmental publication of American Legion in 1919, known as the Pacific Legion, covering states of Oregon, Washington and California; since 1928 has edited monthly veteran newspaper of 15,000 circulation known as Oregon Legionnaire, handling all editorial work in spare time. Column "Jerryscope" has been widely quoted. Was Sunday Editor Portland Oregonian prior to appointment by Governor Julius L. Meier as Executive Secretary, World War Veterans State Aid Commission.

In latter capacity since 1931 has been in charge of liquidation and service of some $30,000,000 in veteran loans, sales of state-owned property in amount of $6,011,864 at profit to state from this distress property of $49,522. Current delinquencies on loans and contracts which rose to more than one million dollars during depression now reduced to $100,000. Commission one of largest realty operators in state. Income from property acquired by state increased from 2 per cent to 6 per cent.

Served five years on National Publications Commission of American Legion; at present Chairman of Editorial Committee of this commission, responsible for publication of American Legion Magazine and National Legionnaire.

Born, San Jose, Cal., 1894. Married, one daughter, sophomore U. of Oregon. 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason; Shriner.