

Albuquerque Journal, 1968

Gordon to State Post

Health Chief Quits; City Hires PR Man

The city has lost a department director, but gained a public relations man Friday.

Leaving his job as environmental health department director after 13 years of city employment, is **LARRY GORDON** who is going to Santa Fe to take a similar post with the Health and Social Services Department.

Gordon leaves City Hall Aug. 7 and goes to work on his new job the next day.

STARTING work Monday as the city's first publications officer in more than two years is John H. Janowski, 38, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame who for the last seven years has worked for his alma mater.

Gordon, who submitted his resignation to City Manager G. B. Robertson Friday, will become director of the State Health Dept.'s division of environmental service at a \$18,800 a year salary.

"There's a real opportunity for improvement of environmental health department services at the state level," he said Friday.

"WE NEED TO critically review all environmental health programs running the gamut from recruitment, budgets, legislation, personnel, planning and priorities."

In announcing his resignation, Gordon praised the health, department staff, giving particular attention to his division heads.

"We have the best in any health program in the country and our work under their continued guidance and leadership won't suffer as attested to by the recognition we've had over the country," Gordon said.

GORDON joined the department in 1955 and became director two years later.

Since then, the department has won six national awards, more than any other environmental health department, and it is Gordon's contention that the program is the most far reaching and effective of any in the country.

"I've suggested some persons from other areas as possible replacements, but no one has had experience in all the programs we administer in this department," he said.

ASST. Director Pat Kneafsey will serve as acting director but is ineligible to take the job permanently because he does not have a Masters degree in public health, a state law.