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nap- A consultant had testified that
Yellow Cab was already getting custody today. He was identified

10-9-70

New Residents Flood Welfare

Out-of-work families are leaving the recession-hit areas of the Santa Clara Valley, the San Francisco Bay area, and Los Angeles to go on welfare in Santa Cruz County.

This was revealed today by Raymond Ansell, county social welfare director.

Over half the new applicants for welfare aid are from outside the county, Ansell said, and the majority are families of about three persons in the young age group.

The influx has been going on since this spring, when large numbers of persons started to lose their jobs in the defense-oriented industries around the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

With the end of summer, however, the welfare invasion suddenly has picked up sharply. "They are brought here by our climate, of course, but also by the fact that summer rentals are now over and lower winter rate rentals are available," Ansell explained.

His office is getting 300 new applications each month, and more than half are from out-of-county.

As there is each fall, Ansell said there has been a heavy increase in the welfare caseload this past month, up 612 families to 1,671 families over the same number last year. "But it's not really too much more than we expected," he said.

The actual caseload in the department is growing at the rate of 100 to 150 families per month, since new applicants are offset by persons going off welfare each month.

Because of recent court decisions and new regulations, this county can't refuse welfare aid to out-of-county or out-of-state residents. Residency requirements have been outlawed.

"Very, very few of our new cases have come from the closing of the Sylvania plant in Santa Cruz County," Ansell said. "The thing that has really hit us has been the impact of families from Santa Clara County, the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles."

Other types of aid to individual persons, such as the blind, disabled, or aged, have remained about the same in the past few months.

Ansell saw no relief in sight. He just returned from the annual County Welfare Directors Convention in Redding, where directors were told Congress is not expected to pass welfare reform legislation this session.

"Since the state has not acted, it means we can expect more of the same thing—running our office by telegram from higher-ups or by court decisions," Ansell concluded.