

RE-SC
Econo
Tight
Job
Market
8/3/75

Santa Cruz County is listed by the state Department of Employment Development as an area of "persistent unemployment" and the unemployment rate currently is 10.4 per cent.

Or at least it was in June at the time of the latest state statistics.

"I really wouldn't advise anyone to come in," said Dale Kooyman when asked persons of which job classifications he would first invite to come to the county because they might have some chance of finding work.

Kooyman, operations supervisor for the county service of the Employment Development Department, said he wouldn't invite any newcomers because his office has an "application file of several thousand."

He thought clerical workers, provided they have the proper skills, might have the best chance of going to work here.

At the time of the latest state tally, the civilian work force in the county was 68,500. Of those, 61,400 were working and 7,100 were unemployed.

The biggest surplus of applicants—and thus, the poorest chance of going to work—seems to center on the tourist industry, Kooyman said. The classification of waiter-waitress, he added, "is one in which I have a large excess."

There also are too many people—the ones with marginal skills—who want to go to work in the clerical field. Big surpluses also are found in the arts, teaching, counseling and among grounds keepers, stock clerks, warehousemen and

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Big Crop Predicted By Butz

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of increased demand.

So instead of a 6 to 8 per cent boost in food prices in 1975 now predicted by USDA, about half the rate of recent years, consumers could be saddled with a larger increase and further gains in 1976.

Butz said "we've put a hold on, for all practical purposes" on further sales of wheat and corn to Russia until more is known about U.S. crop prospects and, for that matter, the Soviet harvest.

Employment Job Market Is Tight In County

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general laborers.

But the chances for registered nurses are "pretty good," as are those for medical clerks who are familiar with the various aspects of medical insurance bookkeeping.

All in all, though, Kooyman sighed, the unemployment rate in Santa Cruz County is "higher than in many other areas."

A news release from the State Department of Employment Development hints at the local work chances in a number of job classifications. They include:

Registered nurse—There is a shortage of RNs who have supervisory or specialized experience and who are available for shift work. There is a strong demand in convalescent hospitals.

Medical assistant—Some opportunities for experienced or well-trained applicants with good clerical skills and knowledge of medical and insurance forms.

Licensed vocational nurse—There is a shortage of qualified applicants willing to work any shift and weekends.

Dental assistant—There is a low turnover, a limited demand and a surplus of qualified applicants.

Accountant (with degree)—Limited demand, and most employers require specialized experience.

Secretary and stenographer—Continual demand for secretaries with experience who type 60 or more words per minute, take dictation of 90 or more words per minute and have stable work histories.

File and typing clerks and general office receptionists—Some demand for versatile clerical workers who type 45 or more words per minute, have good grammar and spelling skills and steady work histories.

Bookkeeper—Moderate demand for well-qualified experienced bookkeepers.

Bank teller—Intermittent demand to fill openings resulting from high turnover;

Shipping and receiving clerk, stock clerk—Competition keen, with limited activity and number of applicants exceeding number of openings.

Insurance sales agent—Employers continually recruit persons who have two years of college, own their car and are willing to work evenings and weekends.

Register-Pajaronian



Pulitzer Prize gold medal for public service, awarded The Register-Pajaronian, 1956, by The Trustees of Columbia University.

Frank F. Orr, editor; Page Gilman, business manager

Watsonville (Calif.)

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A caution for the majority

THE THREE "liberal" members of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors ought to realize two things: They have a skilled chairman; and they do not necessarily have a mandate to make over the entire county overnight.

They came pretty close this week to losing Dan Forbus as chairman, in the ruckus over their determination to shove Cecil Smith off the Local Agency Formation Commission. Wisely, they accepted the sensible compromise put forth by Mr. Forbus: Wait six weeks (until after the Sutter Hill-Capitola annexation question has been decided by LAFCO), then make new Supervisor Ed Borovatz a permanent member and Mr. Smith an alternate, instead of Mr. Forbus.

Dale Dawson, along with Mr. Borovatz and Gary Patton, wanted Mr. Borovatz as a permanent member for one reason which makes no sense at all, and for a second which does make some sense.

First, he said, Mr. Borovatz ought to have the commission seat because his predecessor, Pat Liteky, had had it. That's no reason at all — as evidenced by his second, and sensible reason: That these appointments shouldn't be made on the basis of geography (Mr. Smith being the south county representative on the board of supervisors), since the board's man on LAFCO is