Explaining Law Of Compensation

CARSON CITY, December 28—
How much money will I be able to draw in out-of-work benefits in case I lose my job? How much will I get each week and how will I go about getting my weekly checks?

Those questions will be the ones most frequently aimed at Nevada's unemployment compension division after January 1, 1939, when the state begins payment of weekly cash benefits to eligible, unemployed workers under the Nevada compensation law.

The law provides that the most a worker can draw each week for total unemployment is one-half his former regular weekly wage, not to exceed \$15; thus a worker who has earned \$30 weekly would be able to draw \$15 in benefits; a worker who had earned \$24 per week would be eligible to draw \$12. The least a totally unemployed and eligible worker will draw in benefits will be either \$7 or three-fourths of his former full-time weekly wage, whichever is the less.

Under the law the maximum number of weeks in any worker's benefit year for which he can draw his full benefit amount for total unemployment is set at 18. Accordingly, if a worker were eligible for \$15 weekly the most money he could draw would be \$270 in 18 weekly payments of \$15 each.

During the first three months of benefit payments, determination of the amount to which a worker is entitled is made directly from the worker's wage earnings reported by his employer, for work performed during the first nine months of 1938. Because wage records were not required of employers prior to January 1, 1938, earnings previous to that time will not be counted.

To be eligible at all for benefits the worker must have earned, during his base period, at least 16 times what he would be entitled to as a weekly benefit amount; thus, a worker who had earned \$20 weekly would be entitled, if otherwise eligible, to draw \$10 per week in benefits. If, during the first nine months of 1938, he had earned exactly 16 times \$10 or \$160, then he would be eligible, but the amount he could draw would be smaller than if he had earned \$20 weekly straight through the nine months' period.

In the case of the man who had earned exactly \$160 during his base period, the total amount he would be able to draw in unemployment compensation would be \$26.67 in two checks of \$10 each and one for \$6.67. This amount is determined by crediting to his account "benefit credits" at the rate of one-sixth of his total quarterly earnings during his base period and one-sixth of \$160 is \$26.67, or the total amount which can be drawn by this particular worker. The maximum benefit credits which any worker can be credited with during any one quarter is \$390, set forth in the law. If a worker had earned \$120 monthly for the entire nine months, then he would have total earnings of \$1080 during his base period. One-sixth of \$1080 or \$180 would be the full amount he could draw, at the rate of \$15 weekly for unemployment compensation benefits.

Also provided for in the law are "partial" benefit payments to those workers who are partially unem-

ployed through no fault of their own. For cases of partial unemployment, the law provides a mathematical formulae for the computing of small benefits.

In answer to the question "How must I go about getting my weekly benefits?" division officials point out that every worker wishing to claim out-of-work payments must register for work at his nearest employment service office and there file his benefit claim. After serving a two-week "waiting period," the man can become eligible for benefits for the third week of unemployment, provided of course that he has not been successful in finding another job. The employment service office then certifies him as unemployed to the unemployment compensation division and his benefit check for his third week is mailed directly to him by the unemployment compensation agency; the check itself will, in all probability, arrive sometime during the fourth week, and will continue for each successive week of unemployment until his benefit credits have been exhausted.

Employment service offices, located in Reno, Fallon, Tonopah, Las Vegas, Pioche, Ely, Elko, Winnemucca and Lovelock, have been geared up to handle claims against the unemployment compensation division and unemployed workers in those areas must register for work at their nearest office and file their claims for benefits. In addition, they must report back to the em-

ployment office weekly to determine if a job has been located for them. If not, they file a continued claim for benefits.

For those workers living in towns or communities not near an employment service office, itinerant service has been arranged where workers may report once weekly to a representative of the employment service who will register them for work and accept unemployment compensation claims. In remote areas, where the number of workers claiming benefits would not justify itinerant service, "mail claims" will be made available and the worker will be able to file his claim by mail. Large posters, entitled "Attention Workers," have been placed in conspicuous places in such communities and fully advise employees as to how to file a claim by mail.

Rotarians Hear California Man

Howard Jay, past president of the Downey, Calif., Rotary club, editor of the 107th Rotary district publication "The Cog," and a lecturer at the University of Southern California, was the principal speaker at Thursday's meeting of Las Vegas Rotary club.

The speaker took as his subject "Rotary Programs" and for 30 minutes gave sage advice to the members who may be called upon to carry out club programs.

Referring to Rotary, the speaker declared that there are many definitions to describe the system, some good and some bad. He illustrated the difficulty of an accurate definition by relating the anecdote of the Irishman newly arrived in New York who, seeing some cranberries in a store window, asked what cranberries are.

"I can't tell you exactly," replied his Irish friend, "but I know they make a darned sight better applesauce than prunes."

Frank Gusewelle reported as chairman of the committee on entertainment of the large group of Rotarians of the 107th district coming to Las Vegas and Boulder dam January 21, that the Vernon Rotary club which is sponsoring the event has requested that 500 tickets for the proposed banquet be sent them for sale.

Mr. Gusewelle stated that more than 500 visitors will be present, arriving Saturday, January 21, by rail and auto, and that it will require the cooperation and active assistance of Las Vegas Rotarians to properly entertain them and transport them to Boulder City, the dam and Lake Mead.

A heavy frost usually does away with the flies and bugs, but up to this time it has unfortunately been unable to do anything about decimating the jitterbugs.

