

NORTH ☆ SOUTH ☆ EAST ☆ WEST - ALL AROUND THE NATION

Employment Legislation

WASHINGTON -- Eleven states passed legislation in 1967 dealing with discrimination in employment as more than 500 state labor laws were enacted during the year.

In the field of civil rights, these were the highlights listed in an article in the latest issue of the Labor Department's MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW:

--West Virginia approved an act prohibiting discrimination in employment and public accommodations because of race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry.

--Minnesota broadened the scope of its civil rights law and created a Department of Human Rights which was given greater authority than the agency it replaced.

--Connecticut and Illinois extended coverage by reducing numerical exemptions.

--Indiana authorized the enactment of local civil rights ordinances.

Among the other amendments was one in Ohio to invalidate hiring hall agreements that obligate public works contractors to use union labor, unless the union has in effect antidiscrimination procedures for referring qualified employees.

Connecticut, Idaho and Nevada adopted legislation prohibiting sex discrimination in employment and Nebraska and Indiana enacted equal pay provisions banning bias based on sex.

An amendment to New York's law made it unlawful for an employment agency to discriminate in its service to a person because of sex.

Illinois enacted a comprehensive law banning discrimination because of age.

Job Future Views Differ

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Two different views of the job situation over the next seven years have been made within recent weeks by two governmental agencies.

According to one, the Small Business Administration, the outlook is good for employment of many "hard-core" jobless and disadvantaged persons in depressed areas in 1968. On the other hand, the Economic Development Administration, sees a very critical job-shortage by 1975 in 25 of the nation's central cities.

The favorable picture from the SBA came from Administrator Robert C. Moot, in his year-end review. He listed four points that would bring about "thousands of new opportunities for small businessmen and women" and "would provide jobs for many 'hard-core' unemployed and disadvantaged persons in depressed areas."

These were:

--Increased purchases by state and local government which would create new fields for small business expansion.

--Higher family incomes and expected population growth of 1.5 per cent, bringing about greater demands for goods and services.

--Greater residential construction, benefiting smaller builders and suppliers.

--A massive drive, jointly conducted by government and private industry to create jobs and provide training for persons otherwise qualified only for menial tasks.

HOWEVER, THE annual report of the FDA, part of the Commerce Department, suggested that a projection of the "deepening poverty of rural areas" is that increasing numbers of jobless workers will be flocking to the cities.

By 1975, the 25 largest metropolitan areas, excluding those in California, will have a potential shortage of 2.9 million jobs. In terms of people, this means that 7.1 million persons will either have to go to other communities, or find jobs at home--jobs that are not expected to be created.

Its solution is that not only must migration of the rural poor to the cities be reversed, but "substantial migration from the largest cities must be achieved" in order to solve "the crisis of the cities."

**A New Adventure
In Fine Living Is
Just Around The Corner**
MTA

**Discriminatory Firing
Of Employees Costly**

WASHINGTON -- Three Negroes formerly employed by a Louis Dreyfus Corp. facility in Pascagoula, Miss., have been paid \$3,000 after complaining to the Government of being fired on racial grounds.

The firm signed an agreement with the Departments of Labor and Agriculture to pay the three ex-employees after a Federal investigation of their complaint of discriminatory discharge.

The three men, one of whom is a local NAACP and Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party official, worked at a grain elevator operated by the Dreyfus firm, which is a Government contractor.

All three are now employed by another Government contractor at higher salaries.

The \$3,000 paid to the workers is meant to cover the amount of salary they lost because of their discharge, said Edward C. Sylvester, Jr., director of the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance.

"From Welfare To Wages"

WASHINGTON -- A few months ago, Royzelle Lowe, an unskilled and uneducated teenager from Atlanta, and his seven brothers and sisters lived on welfare. His family eked out a meager existence on public assistance funds.

Today, with the help of the Neighborhood Youth Corps, Royzelle is permanently employed as a laboratory aide in the Atlanta Health Department. He is learning valuable skills, earning wages, and beginning a promising career. And he is no longer on welfare.

Youngsters like Royzelle who come from families on welfare account for more than one quarter of all Neighborhood Youth Corps enrollees.

The story of how NYC is helping these disadvantaged youth move from public assistance to steady, worthwhile jobs is told in a monograph recently released by the Department of Labor.

THE REPORT, one in a series describing Departmental manpower programs, is aptly titled "Neighborhood Youth Corps: From Welfare to Wages."

The publication explains how NYC programs across the country are helping disadvantaged youngsters trapped in the poverty cycle become self-supporting. Enrollees are given the chance to prepare for permanent employment, at the same time that they are performing worthwhile work in their own communities.

Ninety percent of the funds invested in NYC come from the Federal Government under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, and these funds are bringing fast returns.

The report points out that every unemployed youngster who becomes a job holder or continues his education to the hiring point with the help of NYC reduces the need for government welfare spending.

In many cases, youngsters helped by NYC are breaking a chain of poverty and welfare payments that is passed on from generation to generation. In these cases, welfare for these youngsters was a form of "inherited poverty."

Often, more than the individual NYC enrollee is affected. Enrollees often help support younger brothers or sisters, or have a child or children of their own.

AN EXAMPLE cited in the monograph shows how NYC helped an 18-year-old unwed mother of two find employment that enabled her to take her small children off welfare.

An 11th grade dropout, the girl's limited education handicapped her in finding work. Her NYC job enabled her to return to high school at night, however, and after a year she was ready for a job as a laboratory aide with the State Board of Health. If her progress continues, she will become a laboratory technician. Her earnings will rise to \$600 a month, and her children will be able to grow up without welfare.

For this girl and hundreds of other disadvantaged youngsters, the Neighborhood Youth Corps is providing a happy ending to a long story of poverty and welfare.

It is also helping them start a happy story of their own.

**Servicemen Arrested For
Integrating Laundromat**

MACON, Ga. - (NPI)--Ten black people--one of them a Vietnam-bound serviceman--have been arrested for trying to wash their clothes at a suburban laundromat for whites.

Accused of integrating white and colored soap suds were Vietnam-bound Marine Pvt. Kenneth Lee, 19; Airman First Class Lewis Jackson, 18, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; and Pvt. Carlton Harris, 23 and Gilbert Harold, 20, formerly of Ft. Benning Ga. There were six civilians in the group also.

Demonstrations are to continue until the laundromat integrates.

**Negro Runs For Mayor
In Mississippi Town**

INDIANOLA, Miss. - (NPI)--Carver Randle has become the first Negro candidate for mayor in this small Mississippi community.

On his behalf, a "Brother's Keeper benefit" has been staged Monday, (Jan. 14), in Chicago. Participants in the benefit and backers of Randle were Dick Gregory; Roy Woods, Radio Station WVON; Chester Higgins, associate editor, Jet magazine; and J. D. Wilson, sponsor.

Indianola, with a 6,714 population, is in Sunflower County, residence of Sen. James O. Eastland.

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