

Greer Testifies Before EOB Committee On Hunger

The Clark County School District offers some kind of lunch service in 53 schools and will add six more in January under what Associate Superintendent for Business and Financial Services Ed Greer termed a "limited" food service program before the Hunger Committee of the Economic Opportunity Board.

"We are not proud of our food service program Greer told the committee in North Las Vegas today. "Our program is all right as far as it goes, but it does not reach enough people."

Greer said free and reduced price meals are available to needy students in all schools where lunches are served and that to the end of October this year 24, 169 free meals had been served in elementary schools and another 1,768 in junior and senior high schools.

He estimated, however, that at least 2,000 elementary school students who qualify for free meals are not being reached, while only 700 are being served on a regular basis.

Greer said Type "A" sack lunches would be served to all students wanting them at Kermit Booker, Matt Kelly, Jo Mackey, Madison, Marion Cahlon, and Lois Craig Elementary Schools, starting in January. He said lunches would be prepared at Paradise Elementary School and Western High School and trucked to the six schools, but that "this service will tax our existing kitchen facilities to the limit."

Those who qualify will receive their lunch

for 40 cents.

He said the big problem was not preparing meals, "but finding the money to build the kitchens to make the lunches available."

He said the Federal government provided between four and four and one-half cents in money and from seven to eight cents in commodities for every Type "A" lunch served, and that the District could receive more money and more foodstuffs simply by serving more meals. The Federal government does not provide money for facilities, except for a limited stipend under the breakfast program for needy students.

Greer said last year that the District received \$4,500 for food preparation facilities under the program.

He also pointed out that the school district serves breakfast in the six Westside schools (C. V. T. Gilbert, Kermit Booker, Matt Kelly, Jo Mackey, Madison and Kit Carson) with Federal assistance.

"We are utilizing every dollar of assistance we can qualify for in our food service program," he said.

"But we have grown so rapidly since this District was created in 1956 that some things had to be sacrificed to make the classrooms available. One of the things sacrificed was kitchens and cafeterias, and that has left us with a very limited food service program."

(See Greer page 9)

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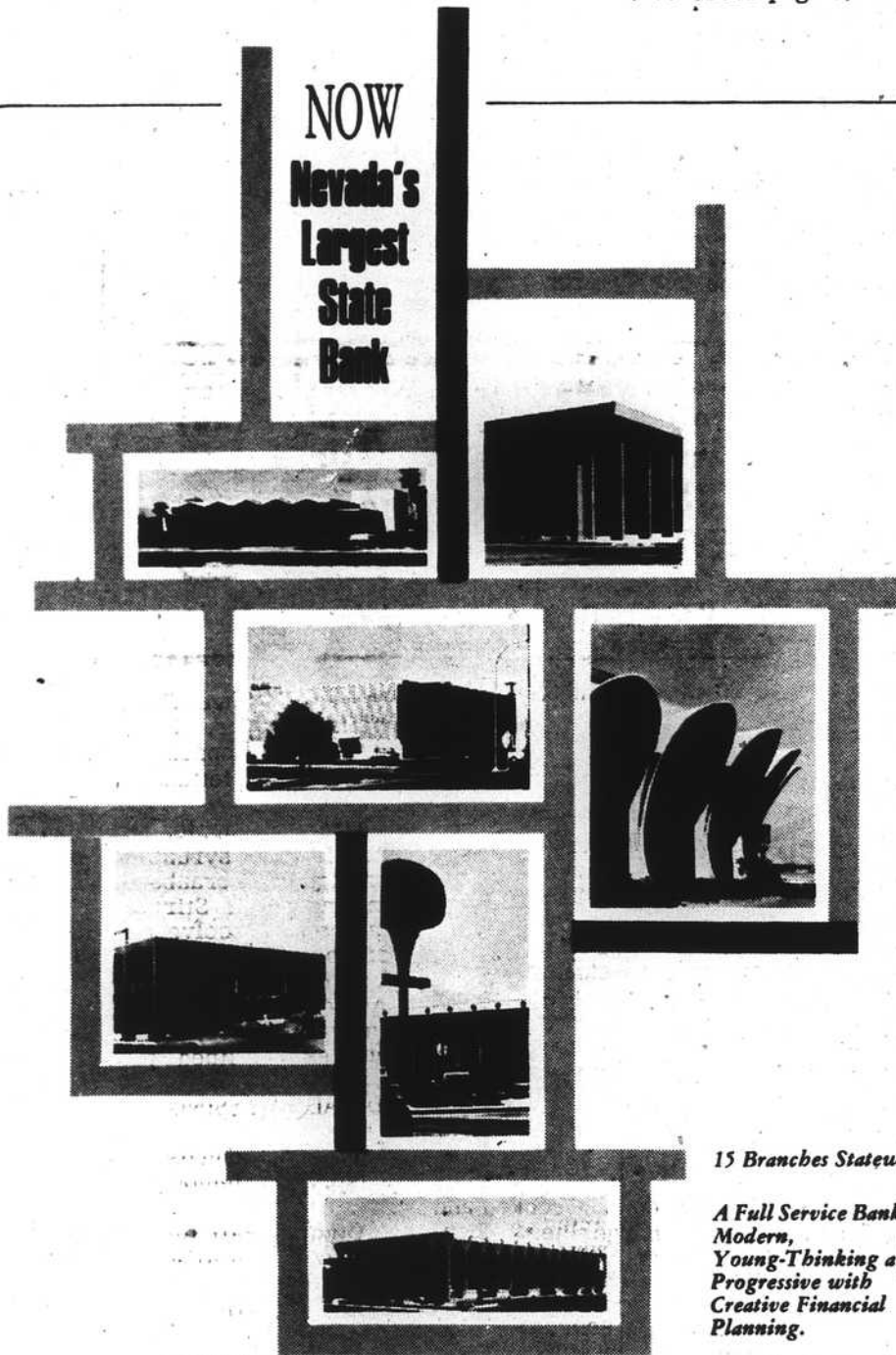
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