

NO FEDERAL FUNDS FOR SCHOOL LUNCH KITCHENS

A list of 33 potential sources of Federal revenue provided by the Children's Foundation of Washington, D. C., to help start a hot lunch program for all students in the Clark County School District "unfortunately does not describe any sources we have not already investigated, and none that will help us build kitchens," according to Dr. Parker G. Woodall, Director of Federal Projects for the school district.

Woodall said the District is investigating "other than normal avenues of funding, such as emergency programs," since regular channels show little promise. He said a direct appeal to the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington might be made.

The list was provided after Gary Delgado of the Children's Foundation testified two weeks ago before the Economic Opportunity Board Hunger Committee that the Clark County School District was not aware of many sources of funds from Washington, D. C.

Another official, Authur McCaw of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, also testified that Federal money was available to help equip kitchens in Clark County.

Woodall said only one of 33 bills listed by the Children's Foundation provided funds for kitchen equipment. He said the District received \$4,436.30 under the act, which is the non-food assistance portion of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966. The money was used to purchase equipment for the Westside Breakfast Program, according to Woodall.

McCaw also testified that money was available because other states had not claimed their entitlement for equipment money. Woodall said he had checked with the officials in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and apparently Nevada could have qualified for an additional \$101.00 out of funds available for redistribution under the national \$10 million program.

The school district receives support under ten of the bills listed by the Children's Foundation, Woodall said. Five acts provide money to support the regular lunch program, breakfast programs, needy meals and milk programs, and four more

provide surplus food commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The tenth provides funds to support school lunch programs for Indian children living on Federal trust property, and in Clark County this means the Moapa Indian Reservation and the Indian colony in Las Vegas. Woodall said "just under \$3,000" was received yearly from this bill.

The Clark County School District simply does not qualify under the other acts, according to Woodall.

He said seven are restricted to private schools and one to public service institutions such as day care centers.

Two others pay Federal and state administrative costs, respectively, and two are limited to the Secretary of Agriculture for surveys and studies and for training programs for food service workers. Still another is to finance pilot projects in food service methodology, but with very limited funding.

Two more apply to Headstart and Headstart Follow Through programs, and in Las Vegas Headstart programs are run by the Economic Opportunity Board.

Another bill is limited to Model Cities projects, both Las Vegas and North Las Vegas have been turned down in their applications for Model Cities money.

Two more apply to community action agencies, one to attack malnutrition and the other to help support foster children, but both specifically exclude school districts.

One is an amendment to the Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to provide for migrant workers' children, but hot lunches are already served in Virgin and Moapa Valley schools, where the greatest concentration is located.

Another provides funds to help serve handicapped children, and the last bill is listed is the Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1964. Woodall says some limited food service programs can and are provided under this title, but any expansion "would have

to come at the expense of remedial reading, family aide services, and migrant students education programs."

Finally the list includes the School Nutrition Demonstration Project Act, and Woodall's department has submitted preliminary proposal for pilot programs in four schools under this law.

The school district has maintained that the need for kitchen facilities is the big drawback to expanding lunch service in Clark County. All junior and senior high schools, with the exception of Boulder City, have a la carte lunch programs, and limited food service is provided in 29 of 54 elementary schools. Six more elementary schools will receive total food service, beginning in January.

Free and reduced priced lunches are provided to needy students in all schools with any kind of food service programs.



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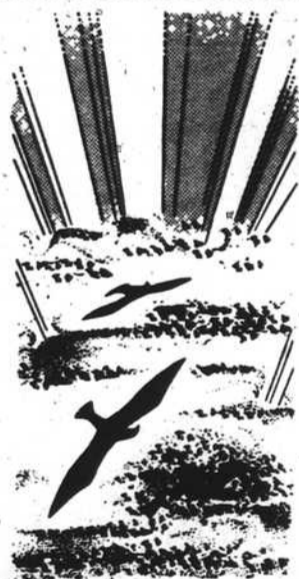
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