

USDA INCREASES LUNCH ALLOWANCE

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced an increase in its rates of payment to state educational agencies to assist schools taking part in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

The increases, which will be in effect January 1 through June 30, were announced by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to implement the provisions of Public Law 93-150, passed in November, 1973. It provides that payment rates for school lunches and breakfasts be adjusted twice each year, in line with changes in the "food away from home" series of the U.S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI). This is the third such adjustment and, as provided by law, it reflects changes in the CPI for the period, June - November, 1974. During that period the series increased 5.79 percent, and the lunch and breakfast rates announced today approximate that amount of increase, rounded off to quarter-cent intervals as provided by law.

In the National School Lunch Program, the national average payment to states, to be used by them to assist

local school authorities help defray food costs of each lunch served, will be increased three-quarters of a cent, from 11 cents to 11.5 cents. Within that average, states are authorized to vary the rate of reimbursement to individual schools, subject to certain conditions, up to a maximum of 17.75 cents a lunch. Previously the ceiling was 17 cents.

The national average payment to states for each breakfast served to eligible children will be increased one-half cent -- from 8.75 cents to 9.25 cents. The additional average payment to states for each reduced-priced breakfast which has been 16.50 cents, will be increased to 17.50 cents. The additional average payment to states for a free breakfast, which has been 22 cents, will be increased to 23.25 cents.

For cases of severe need, maximum rates of reimbursement remain at 40 cents for reduced-priced breakfasts and 45 cents for free breakfasts.

The complete schedule of rates of payment for school lunch and school breakfast programs is scheduled to appear in the Federal Register Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1975.

(From page 1)

Mason attributes her 1975 National Roster of victory to hard work. "I Black Elected Officials, got out there and door a publication of the Joint knocked, talked to Center for Political Stu-people in person and on dies in Washington, D.C. the radio. Considering She has also been sel-my district has 54 pre- ected for membership in cincts--44 white and 10 "Who's Who Among Stu-Black--I would agree it dents in American was an upset." Universities and Col-

In addition, Ms. Masonleges," an honor con-has been notified that ferred upon outstanding she will be listed in the student leaders.

JUVENILE CRIME TEEN-AGE SHOPLIFTING

by Dorothy Johnson

Communities from coast-to-coast are battling a juvenile crime wave. Throughout the nation, 70 to 80 percent of all shoplifters apprehended are under 18-years old.

We share the mutual consternation at these national statistics, but our gravest concern is with our own youth in West Las Vegas.

Parents who think their children would never shoplift, had better re-consider.

Out of 1,123 boys and girls interviewed by Gilbert Research, Inc., 494 admitted they had shoplifted.

Commonly, the individual reason in these and other interviews is: "I did it for kicks." Others with practically every material advantage, gave distressed parents this cool reasonong. "I took it because I wanted it and I knew you wouldn't buy it for me."

A juvenile "prank" can return to haunt the perpetrator years later. Three cases of stolen pop a boy out of Annapolis.

As competition for jobs becomes keener, employers will become increasingly more selective. A minor record can become a major obstacle.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

Know how much money your child has and how he spends it.

Know what your child brings into the house. If it isn't his, check on where it came from.

Know when, where and why your child is going shopping.

Find out what your community is doing about meeting the problem---and lend your help.

Discuss the matter at home---emphasize the fact that shoplifting is stealing; a crime. Make your child aware, that even if he is "only with" someone who is stealing, he too, is implicated.

Tell your child, if he sees another person shoplifting, he should inform the clerk. The store will take it from there.

If you discover your own child has shoplifted ---act---accompany him with the merchandise back to the store.

Should your child be apprehended, cooperate with the store bringing the charge, and if necessary, with the Court.

Most parents react with a shocked, "this happens to other people--not in our family," attitude.

CANNON SHOCKED AT POLICY

Nevada Sen. Howard Cannon today asked the U. S. Attorney General for an explanation on why the Immigration Service does not intend to enforce the law governing removal of illegal aliens.

In a letter to Atty. Gen. William Saxbe, Cannon said, "I have been informed that Nevada law enforcement agencies have been told to discontinue apprehension or detention of any suspected illegal aliens."

"I am shocked that an agency under your control does not intend to enforce the law, and I also find it very disturbing that an office of your agency would state publicly that detention and removal of illegal aliens has been discontinued, apparantly at least in Nevada," Cannon told Saxbe.

Cannon referred to recent statements in Nevada newspapers by the supervisory immigration officer in the Las Vegas Immigration and Naturalization Service office. The officer said he had requested local police departments to refrain from picking up illegal aliens because of a lack of operating funds.

Cannon told Saxbe that Congress approved a budget for the Immigration and Naturalization Service of almost what had been requested, and he added that it was an increase of more than \$20 million from the previous year.

He told the attorney general, "Both Nevada Gov. Mike O'Callaghan and I repeatedly have called for crackdowns on illegal aliens entering the state."

Nevada's senior senator said the argument that illegal aliens hold jobs no one else wants "is a myth. It is estimated that only 30 percent hold unskilled or so-called menial jobs."

Cannon said he considered the illegal alien situation "extremely serious," and he told Saxbe, "I am even more distressed that an agency of your office apparently is not enforcing the law."

MINORITY ENTERPRISE SUMMIT MEETINGS

WASHINGTON, D.C., The U. S. Small Business Administration will conduct a series of meetings throughout the nation in the next -five months to help minority-owned businesses weather the recession, Thomas S. Kleppe, SBA Administrator, announced today.

"While the recession has hit small firms first and hardest, minority-owned businesses are in the forefront of the small business sector

feeling the impact soonest," Kleppe said. "We want to act as rapidly as possible to provide them maximum support within our resources."

The purpose of the meetings is to elicit from the business concerns their immediate problems and to discuss the application of SBA resources to those problems.

Top officials of the agency will participate in all of the meetings.

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