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## Unemployment Claims Over 100,000 In State

By SCOTT R. SCHMEDEL

United Press Staff Correspondent  
INDIANAPOLIS (UP) —Take a pencil and draw a line gradually rising from horizontal, the way an airplane takes off.

Then break the course of that line abruptly and turn it to the perpendicular, the way an ICBM shoots straight up from its rocket launching pad.

There you have a rough graph picturing the way unemployment in Indiana has zoomed to more than 100,000 since last October.

Claims for unemployment compensation were slightly above 100,000 during the first two weeks in February.

This doesn't account for Hoosiers who exhausted their eligibility for state benefits. Last year 37.2 per cent of all beneficiaries exhausted their benefits, and in 1954 the figure reached 41.9 per cent.

Nor does the total include those employed for short weeks or more than 100,000 since last October.

But compensation claims figures compiled by the Indiana Employment Security Division are probably the best indication of what's going on.

They show claims of 30,000 early last October, 68,000 by Jan. 4, and 92,000 a week later.

A January IESD bulletin compared the current unemployment situation with that of 1953-1954, the highest unemployment peak on recent Indiana charts. The greatest number of claims filed in one week then was 85,900 in March, 1954.

The 100,311 claims registered two weeks ago was the highest since returning veterans boosted the one-week record to 119,100 in March, 1946.

That the present peak of unemployment is much higher than the usual seasonal mark is shown by an index set up by Dwight Kelley, IESD's chief of research. For the five-year period 1952 through 1956, the chart shows the greatest number of Hoosiers were working through the summer months and into the fall. Unemployment compensation claims increased in November, reached the top in January, then trailed off as spring arrived.

Mass Production Hit  
But average monthly claims during those five Januaries totaled 42,920, well under half the present peak. July produced the lowest average for claims—31,169.

"The chief cause of seasonal variation," Kelley said, "is the change in the weather. Outdoor activity, principally construction, is reduced in the cold months."

Kelley said mass production industries are hardest hit by the current unemployment situation, particularly metals.

As a whole, the percentage of eligible workers receiving compensation throughout the state was 6.8 by Jan. 25, Kelley said, an appreciable increase over the 5.9 per cent recorded during the same week in 1954.

Similar comparisons show the problem is general everywhere in Indiana.

In the South Bend area, where the situation was described by

Kelley as "very bad," 13.6 per cent of those eligible were drawing state relief, compared with 9.8 in 1954.

The problem is constantly "getting worse" in Evansville, Kelley said, where 8.1 per cent claimed benefits, compared with 5.7 in 1954.

New Albany-Jeff High  
In Terre Haute, the percentage of 7.5 was about even with 1954's 7.6.

"The smaller figure of 5 per cent in the Calumet area still represented a large increase," Kelley pointed out, "because this area has been very prosperous and has had a low rate of unemployment in the past."

"The very high rate of 15.7 in the New Albany - Jeffersonville area (compared with 13.8 in 1954) didn't even include those from Kentucky who depend on that area for work," Kelley noted.

"Indianapolis was fortunate to have the lowest percentage of the areas on our list," Kelley said. "There 3.9 of every 100 eligible workers got benefits. But that is partly because of the large variety in the labor force. There is considerable non-manufacturing and more stable employment in the city."

### Special Services At Zion Lutheran

Six forty-five and 8 o'clock are the hours for special Lenten services Wednesday evening at Lutheran Church, West Monroe and Eleventh streets. "Our Redeemer Forsaken" will be the pulpit message of the pastor, the Rev. Edgar P. Schmidt, who is preaching a series of sermons during the six weeks of Lent on the general theme, "Our Suffering Redeemer," and drawing on scenes from the history of the passion and death of Jesus Christ. At the Wednesday evening services this week, the primary choir, under the direction of Mrs. Louis Zwick, will sing at the early vesper while the men's chorus, led by Karl Reinking, will appear at the later hour.

"It is hoped," stated Rev. Schmidt, "that the earlier hour, 6:45 and 8 o'clock, will appeal to families with children. The first vesper is intended as a family service. The services do not exceed minutes in length." An invitation is extended to the non-churching public.

### Naval Maneuvers On In Pacific Ocean

MANILA (UP) — The greatest concentration of naval might in 14 years moved toward the Philippines today for massive missile age amphibious maneuvers against the island of Luzon.

Some 100 American and Filipino warships, carrying 80,000 men, moved southward from Japan and Okinawa, in "Operation Strongback," fighting off "enemy" submarine and air "attacks" as they advanced.

Lent is a testing time of spiritual loyalty.

## Congressman Adair Asks Renomination

### Seeks Reelection In Fourth District

WASHINGTON — U. S. Rep. E. Ross Adair of Fort Wayne Monday announced his candidacy for re-election to Congress.

The fourth district Republican joined with the other eight Republicans in Congress from Indiana in handing his declaration of candidacy to postmaster general Arthur Summerfield who will mail them all out. Adair is filing declarations with the clerk of the Allen circuit court and the secretary of state. The first official filing date in Indiana for the May 6 primary election is Feb. 25.

In seeking his fifth two-year term in Congress, Adair said he was asking the support of voters in the eight counties of the fourth district on the basis of his "record of service to the state and the nation" since first being elected to Congress in 1950.

Adair said that he had opposed the foreign aid programs, worked for government economy and a balanced budget, sought to eliminate waste and extravagance, supported a sound and fair tax policy, voted against federal usurpation of local government powers, and endeavored to eliminate subversive elements in the nation during his four terms in Congress.

He pointed out that the "overwhelming issue today is to keep the nation and the world at peace, while at the same time providing for a strong domestic economy and essential military preparedness."

Asserting his continued efforts to "achieve these objectives," Congressman Adair said that he hopes to gain another "strong vote of confidence" from the district in his campaign for the Republican in the May 6 primary.

### Lenten Service At Reformed Church

The second mid-week Lenten service will be held in the Zion Evangelical and Reformed church, Third and Jackson streets, Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The colored film, "The Upper Room," will be shown. Special music will be furnished by Harold Cox. All members and friends of the church are invited to attend.

The trademark of Christianity is the cross.

### Friedheim Church Service Wednesday

Midweek Lenten services will be held at the Zion Lutheran church at Friedheim Wednesday

evening at 8 o'clock. "Songs of the Cross" is the theme of sermons by the pastor, the Rev. A. A. Fenner, during the Lenten season. Special music will be provided by the church choir.

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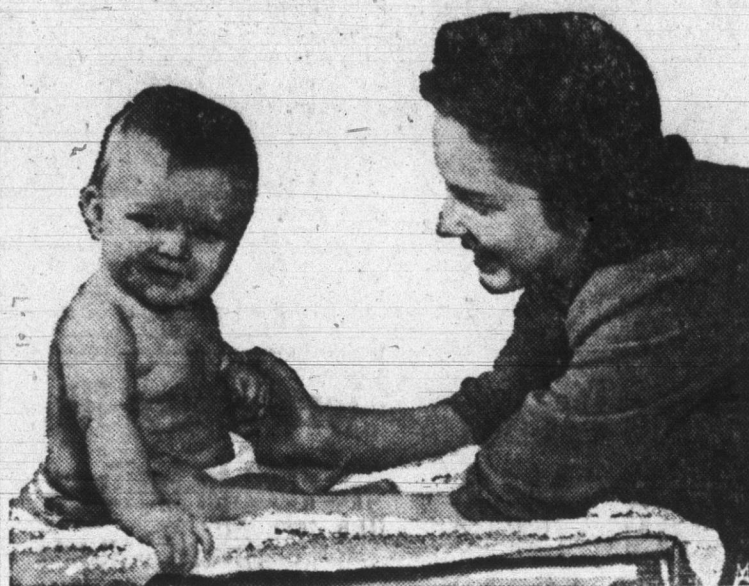
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