New Process of Finding Jobs

A new program for speeding up the process of finding jobs for Alaskans has recently been developed by the Department of Labor. Employment Security Division.

The program, Job Applicant Retrieval System (J.A.R.S.), utilizes a computerized terminal to retrieve information instantaneously on all available job applicants registered with the Employment Service. An additional computer system provides listings of all job openings throughout the state of Alaska.

Persons seeking work complete an application which includes their name, address, phone number, social security number and work experience. The information is stored in the computerized system under a special category according to the applicants primary vocation.

It remains there for 30 days, or longer if requested by the applicant. Applicants are contacted as soon as an employer calls looking for someone with their qualifications.

The employer calls one of the 15 employment centers and asks for the Job Placement Unit to place—his order. The J.A.R.C. system, with a type-writer-like keyboard—and a display screen like a television set, is queried to determine if applicants with skills specified by the employer are available. Within seconds, a list of qualified applicants appears on the display screen and is relayed back to the employer.

The Job Bank contains a listing of all job openings throughout the state and is constantly updated with the opening and closing of jobs each day. Applicants wanting to review job openings available may go to any employment center to obtain the information.

If an employer wishes to obtain more information on the job applicant than what is retrieved from the computer, the employment center will provide it upon request.

Employers may utilize this system throughout the state by calling one of the employment center affiliate offices, who in turn contact one of the terminal offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau. The information is then relayed back within minutes.

Each affiliate office also retains a file of listings and qualified applicants registered within their city.

Once the entire telecommunication system is put into place, each affiliate office will be able to participate by using facsimile transmission equipment which permits transmission of employer orders or J.A.R.S. applicant listings over regular telephone lines.

Installation of terminals in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau was completed Nov. 15, 1974, and participation of affiliate offices is expected to be statewide by mid-December.