

Industrial Commission

The Industrial Commission has five members appointed by the governor. Each member serves a five-year term. The Industrial Commission is responsible for the Workmen's Compensation Fund, which helps pay expenses of workers who are injured on the job. This commission has a staff of lawyers and investi-

gators to look into accident reports and claims.

The Industrial Commission also has the responsibility to enforce some labor laws. These laws concern such things as the employment of children, working hours, and equal opportunity employment regardless of sex or race.

Department of Weights and Measures

The annual Tucson Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Showcase was underway. More than a thousand dealers had arrived from around the world. They brought plenty of brightly colored mineral rocks to sell. Inspectors of the Department of Weights and Measures were busily testing hundreds of scales.

"We are the referee for both businesses and consumers in Arizona. We want accuracy, period," said Dee Ann Deaton, a department spokeswoman.

Not all of the scales passed inspection. In Arizona no scale can be approved for commercial use unless it weighs accurately. It must also be certified to meet national standards and be licensed by the Department of Weights and Measures.

How important is this department? A lot of what we buy at stores is by weight, measure, or count. Commercial scales are needed in grocery stores, at sand and gravel pits, on airlines, and many other places. Trucks have to be weighed correctly because highway taxes are based on a truck's weight.

Weights and Measures inspection stickers can be seen where meters are checked: gasoline pumps, propane tanks, taxicabs, and timing devices at laundromats or parking garages.

An inspector checks a gasoline pump for several reasons: Is it dispensing the right amount of fuel? Is the listed octane rating correct? Does the gas meet the legal quality standards to cut down on air pollution?

The Department of Weights and Measures plays another important role in the marketplace. It inspects retail stores to make sure a price is on each item or on a display sign. The cash register must scan the same price.



An employee of the Department of Weights and Measures checks a gasoline pump for accuracy.