

Why do unionized Oregon educational workers not get off season unemployment benefits as unionized California agricultural workers used to . . . and may still do.

More than 40 years ago I worked for a short time at the Del Monte fruit-processing plant on Azurais Avenue in San Jose. My understanding then was . . . and still now is . . . that full season cannery workers would get state unemployment-benefits during the off season in the winter when the fruit was off the trees. This meant that unemployment benefits would tide the workers over so that they were ready when the next full season came around.

Why don't unionized Oregon educational workers receive unemployment coverage during their off season, the summer, when many find uncovering full time fill in work difficult.

If society wants educational staff to be ready to serve at the start of each new academic year, society needs to tide the workers over during the summer season, unless that is, society would prefer year round schools. Society's been getting a free ride on the backs of persons now getting a union voice. 'Tis time for society to pay its fair share. We can't expect workers below the poverty-line to live without income for almost 2 months of the year.