

Rackets Panel Investigator Roberts Quits

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — The chief investigator for the state Labor-Management Commission of Inquiry says he is resigning June 30, because he only planned to stay with the commission temporarily.

A. Harry Roberts said that "I had intended to stay only three or four months, so I've overstayed my leave by six months."

ANOTHER factor is that the commission's investigators will come under civil service pay on July 1. Roberts, a former FBI agent and private detective, said it would be impractical for him to stay after then.

He declined to say whether he expected more resignations in the investigative staff, but noted it's hard to get competent investigators for less than \$74 a day.

Roberts has supervised the probe of the rackets commission into the troubled Baton Rouge labor-management field.

"I think a lot of the spade-work has been done," he said. "A number of criminal charges have been filed."

UNDER the civil service plan, investigators would get \$440 a month. When the commission was first established, the chief counsel at that time, Camille Gravel, had resisted putting the investigative staff under civil service.

There have been reports of other impending resignations on the investigative staff because of the lower salary schedule.

Investigators are now paid on a per diem basis.