

## Legislative Notes

### GOVERNOR'S WATER PROGRAM

SB 1106 (Burns) which contains Governor Brown's compromise proposal to put California in the water and power business with a \$1,750,000,-000 bond issue, to be submitted to the voters, has been okayed by the upper house Water Resources Committee and will be on the floor of the Senate early next week after Senate Finance checks it over.

Although Governor Brown is expressing confidence that the upper house will approve the compromise proposal, it looks like a real battle is shaping in the Senate. Many Northern Senators are far from satisfied with what the Brown compromise offers them for the development of water in their own backyard. Senator George Miller (D-Contra Costa Co.), who lost Delta protection amendments in the Senate Water Resources Committee, has announced that he will fight the measure because in its present form it could lead to "daylight robbery" of water from the Sacramento, San Joaquin Delta for other parts of the state. The southland representatives, on the other hand, appear to be satisfied with the Brown compromise.

In the fight that is developing on the Senate floor, one thing is certain. If the Brown measure goes through in its present form and the people vote the bonds to put California in the water and power business, the handful of giant landowners in the lower end of California's great central valley are going to be enriched by many millions of dollars at the expense of taxpayers.

Here is a bird's eye view of the land ownership situation in the portion of the valley which lies in the vicinity of the water aquaduct which will take water south from the Delta pool: Of some 3,995,000 acres, Standard Oil owns 218,485; other oil companies have a total of 264,678 acres; Kern Land Company has 348,026 acres; Southern Pacific holds 201,851 acres; Tejon Ranch Company (includes L. A. Times - Mirror interests) has 168,531 acres; and other private land holders of over 1,000 acres each hold 1,323,821 acres. **In summary these holdings account for over 63% of the land.**

It is still not clear just how much water will be made available in this area of concentrated land holdings, as the service area of the California water plan seems to change with every publication. Whatever the amount,

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# Weekly News Letter

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## FARMERS DESCEND ON CAPITOL; SENATE LABOR UNIT TABLES GOVERNOR'S LABOR REPRESENTATION BILL

More than 1000 farmers descended on the California state capitol this week to witness the dumping of Governor Brown's "labor representation" bill, AB 419 authored by Assemblyman Allen Miller.

The upper house Committee on Labor tabled the measure by an audible voice vote of five to two, thus handing the Governor his second major defeat of the 1959 legislative session in the field of labor legislation.

Some four weeks ago the same Senate Committee on labor killed Governor Brown's minimum wage bill by sending it to interim committee for study. It was also opposed by farmers who turned out in mass.

AB 419 would have established machinery for the determination of union representation rights and the settlement of jurisdictional disputes in intrastate commerce, while repealing the often misused state jurisdictional strike act. Both employers and reactionary farm groups have opposed the measure from the outset of introduction.

Monday's hearing was transferred to the Assembly Chamber because of the overflow crowds that turned out for the execution of the bill. The more than 1000 farmers who jammed the gallery and the floor of the big Assembly chamber cheered, whistled and applauded as the committee's dumping action was announced by Chairman Robert I. Montgomery.

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## EXTENDED JOBLESS PAY BILL READIED FOR ACTION

A bill which would permit unemployment claimants who exhaust their jobless pay benefits to draw extended benefits for a maximum of thirteen additional weeks during periods of high unemployment and while undergoing retraining has been readied for action in the upper house of the State Legislature.

The proposal is embodied in SB 945 (Miller), and is part of the unemployment insurance package program negotiated by the California Labor Federation with employer groups, and endorsed by Governor Brown.

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## Assembly Ways and Means Committee Removes Coverage Provisions of UI Bill

The Assembly Ways and Means Committee, in a surprise move this Monday, deleted the coverage provisions of AB 590 which would have extended unemployment and unemployment disability insurance to public and non-profit employees.

AB 590 is the unemployment insurance package proposal agreed to by labor and management. After receiving a "do pass" recommendation from the Assembly Committee on Finance and Insurance, the measure was referred to Ways and Means Committee for review of financial aspects affecting the State.

**Without notice on the daily file, or even the notification of interested parties, the package bill was taken up in Ways and Means and the coverage provisions removed by voice vote of the Democratic controlled committee.**

The only aspect of the coverage question falling within the scope of authority of the Ways and Means Committee was the cost to the state of extending coverage to state employees.

Assemblyman William Munnell, author of AB 590, proposed the deletion of coverage for state, county and municipal employees. Removal of coverage for employees of non-profit organizations was accomplished by voice vote also on motion introduced by Assemblyman Frank Lanterman.

The effect of this action was to deny coverage to approximately 600,000 public employees and another 60,000 employees of non-profit organizations.

**The policy action taken by the Ways and Means Committee this Monday**

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# HEARINGS

## May 25th (Assembly)

**Civil Service and State Personnel, 1.30 pm**  
\*AB 902 Bane. State contributions to pension plans. **Good**  
AB 2315 Meyers. State employees medical care program. **Bad**  
AB 2699 S. Geddes. State employees medical care program. **Good**  
AB 2550 Crawford. Civil Service appointments. **Good**

**Education, 3.45 pm**  
AB 2566 Britschgi. Dues check-off for teachers. **Good**  
AB 2486 Donahoe. Classified school employees. **Watch**  
AB 2455 Hanna. Attendance of pupils at public schools. **Good**

**Finance and Insurance, 8 pm**  
AB 963 Rees. Administration cost of Rees-Doyle health and welfare regulatory act. **Bad**  
AB 2372 Masterson. Medical care program continuation on termination of employment. **Watch**  
AB 2373 Masterson. UI eligibility and disqualifications. **Good**  
Also referred to the full committee from subcommittee are:  
\*AB 498 Waldie. Workmen's compensation third party suits. **Good**  
\*AB 423 McCallister. Lump sum payments from workmen's compensation subsequent injuries fund. **Good**  
SB 158 Short. DI hospital benefits. **Good**  
AB 1806 Rees. Workmen's compensation scope and operation. **Watch**

**Transportation and Commerce, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2582 Meyers. San Francisco-Oakland Bridge toll. **Watch**  
AB 1371 Pattee. Operation of farm labor vehicles. **Good**

**Ways and Means, 1.30 pm**  
SB 999 Teale. Mariposa County Water Agency. **Bad**  
AB 1863 Davis. Sierra County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. **Bad**

**May 26th**  
**Fish and Game, 3.45 pm**  
SB 150 Murdy. Anchovy canning season. **Bad**  
SB 453 Erhart. Fish and Game regulations. **Watch**

**Government Organization, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2346 Johnson. Trailer coaches. **Bad**  
AB 2553 Bradley. Practice of cosmetology. **Bad**  
AB 2551 Shell. Kosher meat. **Watch**  
AB 2561-62 Dahl. Sale of liquor near UC and institutions. **Watch**

**Governmental Efficiency and Economy, 3.45 pm**  
\*AB 701 Pattee. Contracts for public works. **Good**  
SB 533 Gibson. Examination for cosmetology certificate. **Watch**  
SB 613 Gibson. Horse racing, sale of information. **Watch**

**May 27th**  
**Judiciary—Civil, 2.30 pm**  
AB 444 Burton. Discrimination by real estate licensees. **Good**  
AB 1609 Burton. Exemptions from attachments and executions. **Good**  
AB 1708 Grant. Landlord's liens. **Bad**

**Public Health, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2545 Masterson. Investments of housing authorities. **Good**  
AB 1659 Bane. Registered barber apprentices. **Watch**

**Public Utilities and Corporations, 3.45 pm**  
AB 2608 Beaver. Off duty hours of trainmen. **Good**  
AB 1689 Geo. Brown. Protective shelters over repair track. **Good**  
AB 1668 Burton. Advertising by public utilities. **Good**

SB 369 Dolwig. Disposition of public utility property.

## May 28th

**Industrial Relations, 3.45 pm**  
AB 2796 Hawkins. Employment agency fees. **Good**  
AB 1663 Burton. Dept. of Employment information regarding use of Mexican nationals. **Good**  
AB 1771 Burton. Wages of minors. **Good**  
AB 2878 O'Connell. Sanitary facilities on construction sites. **Good**  
AB 2708 Luckel. Recovery of wages. **Good**  
AB 2103 Holmes. Carnivals and circuses. **Bad**

SB 719 Montgomery. Workmen's compensation silicosos awards. **Watch**

**Municipal and County Government, 1.30 and 8 p.m.**  
AB 1354 Rees. Replacement housing in re-development projects. **Watch**

**Transportation and Commerce, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2604 Bane. Truck lanes on divided highways. **Watch**  
AB 182 Munnell. Anti-smog device. **Watch**  
AB 649 Meyers. SF-Oakland rapid transit tube. **Watch**  
SB 735 McCarthy. SF-Oakland Bay bridge terminal. **Watch**

## June 1st

**Civil Service and State Personnel, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2744 Meyers. State civil service punitive action notice. **Good**  
AB 2747 Meyers. Disciplinary proceedings in state service. **Watch**

**Criminal Procedure, 3.45 pm**  
AB 810 Burton. Wiretapping. **Good**  
AB 2563 Dahl. Driver chemical tests for intoxication. **Bad**  
AB 2611 Burton. Misrepresentation in election campaigns. **Good**

**Transportation and Commerce, 1.30 pm**  
AB 2706 MacBride. Compulsory periodic vehicle inspection. **Watch**  
AB 2737 Hegland. Display of signs on vehicles. **Good**  
AB 2683 Gaffney. SF-Oakland Bridge tolls. **Watch**  
AB 2755 Dahl. Vehicle weight limits on city streets. **Good**  
AB 2684 Gaffney. SF Bay southern crossing. **Watch**

# HEARINGS (Senate)

## May 25th

**Finance, 10.30 am**  
SB 576 McCarthy. Golden Gate Authority bill. **Watch**

**Labor, 1.30 pm**  
AB 76 Hawkins. Workmen's compensation for domestics. **Good**  
AB 886 Unruh. Private employment agency licenses. **Good**  
AB 887 Unruh. Farm labor contractors. **Good**  
AB 1044 Z'berg. Workmen's compensation security. **Watch**  
SB 605 Hollister. Lump sum payments under workmen's compensation. **Bad**  
SB 723 Holmdahl. Age discrimination. **Good**  
SB 944 Fisher. Safeguards on Railroads. **Good**  
SB 1034 Hollister. Picketing restrictions. **Bad**  
SB 1269 Short. Workmen's compensation benefit computation. **Good**  
SB 1364 and 1365 Fisher. Payment of wages. **Good**

**Public Utilities 10 am**  
SB 1133 and 34 Dolwig. Common carrier rate regulations. **Watch**  
SB 1195, 1196 and 1207 Holmdahl. Telegraph and telephone company city franchises. **Watch**  
SB 1173 Dolwig. Public Utility rates. **Bad**  
SB 580 Short. Operation of Trains. **Good**

**Revenue and Taxation 1.15 pm**

AB 1176 MacBride. Governor's inheritance tax bill. **Watch**  
SB 875 and 1112 Shaw. Property tax disclosure of information. **Good**  
SJR 18 Berry. Millionaire's federal tax amendment. **Bad**

## May 26th

**Business and Professions 1.15 pm**  
SB 732 Thompson. Certification of psychiatric technicians. **Watch**  
AB 686 and 687 Masterson. Trading stamps. **Watch**  
SB 1483 Murdy. Local regulation of outdoor advertising. **Bad**  
SB 1237 and 1239 Gibson. Physical therapy examining committee. **Watch**

**Elections, 10 am**  
SB 608 Hollister. Voting in small districts. **Watch**  
SB 980 Richards. Approval advertising copy by candidates. **Good**

**Fish and Game, 1 pm**  
SB 1481 Slattery. Commercial salmon season. **Watch**  
AB 1922 Thomas. Sale or purchase of fish. **Watch**

**Transportation and Commerce, 9 am**  
AB 1962 Johnson. Routes for transporting explosives. **Bad**  
AB 1676 Chas. Wilson. Vehicle salesman's licenses. **Watch**

## May 27th

**Education, 9 am**  
SB 1339 Erhart. State College employees. **Bad**  
SB 1406 Rodda. State aid for exceptional children. **Good**

**Governmental Efficiency, 9:30 am**  
SB 1301 Donnelly. Career executives in state service. **Bad**  
SB 1459 McAteer. Report of law violations by state employees. **Watch**  
SB 1469 Fisher. Agricultural labor resources committee. **Good**

**Insurance and Financial Institutions, 1:30 pm**  
SB 945 Miller. Extended unemployment insurance benefits. **Good**  
SB 1287 Miller. Pension contracts and special pension funds. **Watch**

## May 28th

**Public Health and Safety, 1 pm**  
AB 1683 Grant. Auto and trailer parks. **Watch**  
AB 1256 Grant. Sanitation requirements in restaurants. **Watch**  
AB 1843 Grant. Trailer coaches. **Watch**

## June 1st

**Revenue and Taxation, 1:15 pm**  
SB 1432 and 1433 Brown. Mineral depletion deduction conformance with federal law in state income and bank and corporation tax laws. **Bad**

# FEDERATION SPONSORED BILLS

Four Federation sponsored measures this week completed the legislative circuit and were sent to the Governor for his signature. They include \*AB 351 (George E. Brown), which substitutes references to a cosmetologist for present reference to hair dresser and cosmetician or cosmetologist in the State Cosmetology Act; \*AB 142 (Davis) which requires a one-half hour lunch period in planing mills and similar lumber product plants; \*AB 618 (McMillan) which extends the right to organize to firefighters; and \*AB 528 (Masterson) relating to workmen's compensation for firefighters.

## EXTENDED JOBLESS PAY BILL

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Under present law an eligible unemployment insurance claimant may receive his weekly jobless pay for up to 26 weeks, but not to exceed one-half of his qualifying base period earnings.

SB 945 provides that when the statewide level of unemployment is six percent or more in a calendar quarter, an individual who exhausts his benefits may make application and continue to draw up to thirteen weeks of additional benefits so long as his total benefits do not exceed the limitation of one-half of base period earnings.

The same exhaustee would be eligible under SB 945 to draw the extended duration benefits while undergoing a worker retraining course, if on application to the Department of Employment it is determined that the basic skills of the individual "may be effectively utilized in occupations for which there is a substantial demand in the labor market area."

While undergoing retraining, the individual exhaustee would be required to submit with each benefit claim a written certification that he is enrolled and satisfactorily progressing in a retraining course.

The Department of Employment, in turn, would be prohibited from disqualifying a person from extended benefits on grounds of refusal to accept suitable employment, if the acceptance of such employment would require the termination of his retraining course.

The inclusion of retraining benefits in the extended unemployment compensation proposal offers a measure of protection to the individual who is displaced in his job by labor saving machinery and automated practices.

Experience in the recent recession has proved that many workers laid off with production cut-backs were never reemployed when output levels were later restored, because of the introduction of more efficient machinery. The provision for extended benefits in SB 945 would allow such an unemployed individual who has exhausted his benefits to enter a retraining course without fear of losing his right to extended benefits.

The measure gives recognition to the principle that employers should share the responsibility and cost to the individual that results from technological advancements in our economy.

Under SB 945, the cost of extended unemployment compensation payments would be born entirely by covered employers. In accordance with the concept of counter-cyclical financing, employer contributions would vary from .05% to .20% of taxable payrolls inversely with the number of quarters in the previous year in which the level of unemployment exceeded 6%.

## LABOR REPRESENTATION BILL DUMPED

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Large farm delegations were brought from all parts of the state by the Associated Farmers, the Farm Bureau Federation, and other reactionary farm groups who falsely interpreted the Governor's bill as a measure to force the organization of farmers into unions.

Actually, AB 419 merely established democratic procedures, including the secret ballot, to determine whether or not workers in a unit desired to be represented by a union. The application to farms was highly questionable because of the limited application of the bill to intrastate commerce. Almost all farm activity in one way or another affects interstate commerce and, therefore, would have been exempt from AB 419.

Despite the narrow scope of AB 419, farmers were brought to Sacramento under the apparent assumption that the measure had general application to all farms.

Assemblyman Miller, in presenting the bill said, "The fears on which the misunderstanding of the bill are based are without foundation."

The Los Angeles Assemblyman said he would not attempt to answer all the charges leveled against the bill. "To do so" he added, "would require more time than we have here. Suffice it to say that those charges are based on a complete misunderstanding of the bill's content, purpose and effect."

Employer groups joined the farm organizations in opposition to the measure. Gilford Rowland, representing the Federated Employers of San Francisco, denounced AB 419 as "A bill to create labor monopoly" and said that "It was rigged entirely for labor." Richard Bennett of the California Association of Employers described the measure as a "devilishly written bill."

Organized labor, while not supporting the bill, had declared officially that it was not opposed to the Governor's measure.

## U. I. COVERAGE REMOVED

*(Continued from Page 1)*

was in sharp contrast with its refusal last week to amend a Federation sponsored collective bargaining bill on grounds that the Committee was without authority to determine policy. The measure in question, AB 570, extending collective bargaining rights to municipal utility districts and county water agencies, was referred back to Industrial Relations Committee when the amendment was suggested.

The dual standard applied by the Democratic controlled committee this week will undoubtedly be contested on the floor of the Assembly.

## Department of Labor Announces West Coast 'Labor Review' Issue

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced this week its May issue of the "Monthly Labor Review" contains a special section on "Labor and Labor Relations in the West Coast."

Fifteen experts in the field have combined their talents to explore labor and industrial relations problems in California, Oregon and Washington, the Department said.

The special issue includes articles by Clark Kerr, President of the University of California; Varden Fuller, of the University of California's College of Agriculture at Berkeley; Maurice Gershenson, Chief of Division of Labor Statistics and Research of the California Department of Industrial Relations; Melvin Reder, Professor of Economics, Stanford University, and Arthur Ross and Margaret Gordon, Director and Associate Director of the Institute of Industrial Relations at the University of California, Berkeley.

Among the subjects covered are: Migratory farm labor; Wage Trends; Association Bargaining; Arbitration; Bargaining Practices in the Maritime; Trucking and Lumber Industries; Disability Insurance and Health Plans; Industrial Shifts and Labor Force Changes.

The edition was nearly a year in preparation and the contents were selected with the assistance of consultants broadly representative of labor, business, and academic groups in the three coastal states.

"The West Coast issue," said Max Kossoris, chief of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics in the West, "will be the authoritative source book for information on labor market characteristics, union development, wage structure and trends, labor relations, and special characteristics of area labor legislation, industry problems and bargaining patterns for years to come. It is the largest compendium on West Coast labor ever assembled in a single volume."

Copies of this are available through the San Francisco office of the BLS, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco, California. Cost is 55 cents a copy.

## LEGISLATIVE NOTES

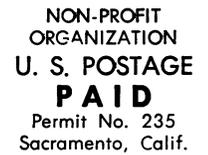
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however, the pattern of ownership is such that these giant land owners cannot miss picking the pockets of the taxpayers. Apart from what happens in the Legislature this session, will the voters of California go for this kind of a deal?

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### LEGISLATIVE NOTES (Continued from Page 3)

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BENEFITS

The package proposal for vast improvements in this program, embodied in \*AB 1015 (Crown), was given a "do pass" out of Senate Labor Committee this week, and will be on the Senate floor for final passage after Senate Finance takes a "look-see." This is the first of the basic social insurance measures to pass the midway mark in the legislative process.

In addition to providing a maximum weekly benefit of \$65 for temporary disability and a maximum of \$52.50 per week for permanent disabilities, along with a new minimum of \$20, the bill would substantially increase death benefits to survivors of fatally injured workers, establish a modified free choice of doctor provision, boost life payments for permanent disabilities of 70% or more, increase the burial benefit, raise the ceiling on penalty payments in the case of serious and wilful misconduct on the part of the employer, remove the waiting period where an injury requires hospitalization, provide injured worker expenses in connection with contested claims, and liberalize provisions for payment of the cost of x-ray, laboratory services, medical reports and medical testimony.

The package would give injured workers an increase in benefits estimated at over 16 million dollars a year.

#### AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Despite what happened to AB 419 this week (see lead story) a small step forward has been taken by the Senate Labor unit which might possibly benefit farm workers in the future. The upper house committee on Labor this Monday sent to the floor SJR 19 (Farr and others) which calls upon Congress to enact a minimum wage law for agricultural workers. At this point it looks like the resolution will clear the upper house.

A real test on the agricultural labor question is coming up Wednesday,

May 27, when SB 1469 (Fisher) is heard before the Senate Committee on Governmental Efficiency. This measure would establish a 15-man Agricultural Labor Resources Committee on a continuing basis, with authority to investigate, study, hold hearings, and make recommendations on all aspects of agricultural labor.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT DISABILITY INSURANCE

AB 494 (Unruh), containing negotiated proposals for liberalization of California's unemployment disability insurance program, is on the floor of the Assembly, and is expected to be passed on to the Senate by the end of this week with little or no trouble.

The liberalization measure provides for a maximum weekly benefit of \$65 and would place the so-called extended liability account on a substantially pay-as-you-go basis. Estimates are that the bill will increase benefit payments to workers by about 6.5 million dollars a year.

The question of whether or not the disability insurance program will be extended to employees of non-profit organizations and state, county and municipal employees is dependent upon what happens to AB 590, the unemployment insurance package proposal. Extension under the unemployment program automatically extends coverage to the disability insurance program. This week, however, the extension of coverage to both non-profit and public employees was deleted from AB 590 by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee (see story in this issue of the Newsletter).

#### DENTAL TECHNICIANS

AB 2321 (Crown), providing for the licensing of dental technicians, failed to get off the ground when the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Economy killed the measure this Tuesday. The California State Dental Association fought the measure, which was supported by organized dental technicians.

#### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN WATER AGENCY BILLS

"Support in principle" does not necessarily mean votes when the chips are down. This is the story of a series of county water agency bills which authorize the undertaking of water conservation, flood control, and other projects to be financed by the sale of publicly generated power.

The Federation received plenty of support in principle for amendments to provide for collective bargaining for the employees of such agencies, but very few votes to get the amendments inserted. A number of bills are beginning to go to the desk of the Governor without giving the workers the protection they would otherwise have under private development.

In some cases the bills provide either that the falling water may be sold to a private utility for development of hydro-electric power or that the agency undertake development itself. The right to collective bargaining in the former case and the denial in the latter case is a service shortcoming in the development of public power. Organized labor, moreover, is a staunch supporter of public power development.

#### PASSED BY ASSEMBLY

The Assembly this week passed several bills of interest to affiliates: AB 2241 (Bruce Allen) which would prohibit the circulation of initiative petitions by professionals; AB 358 (Elliott) which liberalizes the provision for lunch periods for teachers; AB 1960 (Z'berg) which provides that a person receiving unemployment disability insurance benefits reduced by the amount of temporary workmen's compensation received for any day, shall not be required to obtain a doctor's certificate.