

State Jobless At 11 Year Oct. High

The number of unemployed in California climbed last month to the highest level for any October since 1949, according to a report released this week by state director of employment Irving H. Perluss.

Joblessness rose by 5,000 from September to a total of 298,000 for the state, 109,000 above the October 1959 figure. The rise in unemployment was all the more startling since the jobless total normally declines during October.

State industrial relation's director John F. Henning also announced that California's total civilian employment for the month dropped by 45,000 to a level of 6,210,000. Although decreased seasonal activities were considered primarily responsible for this reduction, he noted that this decline was abnormally sharp for this time of the year.

The deterioration of the unemployment situation in California paralleled developments at the national level. U. S. Department of Labor last week revealed that the national rate of unemployment has shot upward to 6.4% during October, the third highest level for that month during the past 15 years.

California's rate of unemployment

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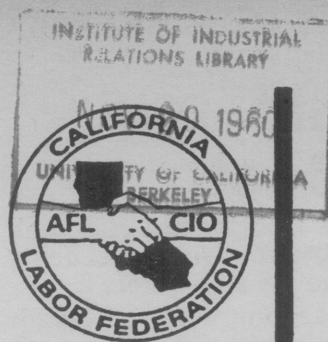
Economic Growth Conference to Stress Labor Investment Role

The Federation's forthcoming "Economic Growth" conference, December 5-8, will give major attention to the increasingly important investment role of labor unions, health, welfare and pension funds in the economy.

The final day of the four-day educational session at the Hilton Inn located near International Airport, San Francisco, has been programmed to highlight trade union investment practices in the field of private economic investments.

Dr. James Longstreet, U.C. Professor of Finance, has been obtained to open the day's discussions with a session reviewing the private investment role in the economy today, placing emphasis on the growth of so-called "institutional" investors.

Longstreet will be followed by a session pinpointing present investment practices of health, welfare and pension funds. Carroll J. Lynch, Resident Partner of the Martin E. Segal Company, consultants in health, welfare and pensions, will lead this session.



THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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Commonwealth Club Told Fed's 1961 Legislative Goals

The breadth of organized labor's philosophy and its primary legislative aims for the coming session in Sacramento were outlined by state AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts this Wednesday before the Commonwealth Club of California.

The state AFL-CIO leader challenged those who would depict labor as a pressure group concerned only with so-called "special interests" in legislation affecting collective bargaining, job opportunities, employment security programs and related social insurance needs.

If we are such a group, Pitts said, "we certainly are spending a lot of our 'special interest' funds on purely public interest matters."

This major public interest involvement was attributed to the fact that while workers recognized the

vital importance of their unions, they are first and foremost citizens and private individuals.

As such, and as members of the largest organized sector of the public, Pitts asserted:

"Union members insist upon being whole people. They refuse to conform to the idea that they should be organizational schizoids and pursue only narrow economic legislative goals that reflect only their organizational base."

The broad program mandated by union members through their conventions is mirrored in labor's legislative activities, Pitts said. As parents of school children and heads of families confronted with problems of illness, aging, housing, community facilities and a variety of consumer concerns, he said their legislative goals largely coincide with the needs of the general public.

Pitts added that their concern as citizens for social and economic responsibility is evident in organized labor's proud support for programs as diverse as broad implementation of equal rights and responsible basic resource development principles.

It is also reflected in concern for planning at all levels to insure balanced economic growth rather than chaotic speculative development. Pitts observed that this involves grappling with the difficult fact that many of our most basic needs, such as community facilities, can only be

In the afternoon, the conference program is designed to introduce for discussion and study the concept of "economic and social purpose" as a consideration in labor union investment practices.

A top labor union figure will be on hand to place this growing issue before the conference participants, followed by a panel of experts for floor discussion.

Major questions to be taken up at this final session include:

What is the role of social purpose in trade union investments?
What economic services should investments provide for union

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Commonwealth Club Told Fed's 1961 Legislative Goals

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provided by governmental action.

Calling for a sense of proportion as to the relative value of private production of gadgets as compared to publicly developed services and facilities, Pitts stressed labor's philosophy of at least equating our basic community needs to those private desires which must be "engineered".

LEGISLATIVE AIMS

The Federation's 1961 objectives for state labor legislation were reviewed, with high priority attached to intrastate organizational and collective bargaining rights issues. Calling for establishment of democratic procedures to implement such rights, Pitts observed that nowhere has this general problem been brought home more clearly than in agriculture. He declared that grower groups have "fought ably and valiantly" against such machinery.

"Yet what a great wail can be heard from the farms in the Valley and on Montgomery Street when the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee dares to employ the organizational strike," Pitts said, adding:

"We are accused of hitting below the belt just when the crops are getting ripe. But we ask, what is there in the dollar value of crops that gives some human beings the prior right to run roughshod over the rights of other human beings?"

The Federation official promised further that labor would press hard to eliminate the moral callousness toward farm labor by granting these workers all the other socio-economic protections long enjoyed by others.

Labor will seek to remove artificial restrictions that limit the application of workmen's compensation standards in such areas as weekly indemnity and death benefits, Pitts said. He stressed the need for realistic provision of rehabilitation training to industrially injured workers unable to return to former jobs.

The broad goals of labor in unemployment and disability insurance were described as requiring at least 50 percent wage-loss compensation for the great bulk of claimants.

Pitts said labor would also seek additional benefits for dependents and coverage for all workers.

In the pressing field of health care, the state AFL-CIO leader said the Federation would press for a state health care program for senior citizens based on the dignified social insurance principle to overcome the present vast gap between income and medical care costs. Revival of the drive for a state health care program for the general population, utilizing former Governor Warren's proposal as the starting point, was also promised.

Major attention was given by Pitts to the high cost of home financing, which has removed 70 percent of our families from the housing market. He turned to New York's recent experience under both political parties to demonstrate that the key to inexpensive and adequate money is the use of state credit.

Pitts noted that any suggestion of making such funds available for low and middle income housing at or below cost is often termed "socialistic". He pointed to many precedents for such action, however, including the equivalent of interest-free loans under corporation income tax laws.

Beyond this he asserted that such scare-words have little meaning to union members when, as in the case of housing, such programs evolve from urgently felt needs.

Economic Growth

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members? What new areas of member needs should unions invest in? What standards and safeguards should they employ?

Conference invitations have been sent out to all affiliated unions for advance registration.

The conference registration desk at the Hilton Inn will open at 2 p.m. Sunday, the day before the opening of the 4-day meet.

Unions which still haven't registered delegates for the conference should do so immediately on forms sent to all locals or contained in last week's issue of Newsletter. (Newsletter for November 18 also carries the full conference program.)

Ike Advisers Report Farm Labor Depressed

The growing wave of protest against farm labor conditions has now been swelled by a report issued by the President's Committee on Migratory Labor, chaired by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell.

The report confirms that the lives of most migratory farm workers "are characterized by lack of adequate employment, low wages, poor housing, lack of education, lack of health and welfare services, and in some cases, unsafe vehicles for transportation."

Its recommendations for federal and state action include federal review of all foreign worker import programs to insure against adverse effect on U. S. farm workers. It also urged elimination of residence requirements as a condition for receiving federal funds for state health, education and welfare programs.

Although the committee at this time made no recommendations for minimum wage legislation, Mitchell has stated in the past that the extension of appropriate minimum wage legislation to agriculture is both "feasible and desirable."

While noting recent advances in migrant worker social security, housing, recruitment and transportation laws, along with measures to provide steadier employment, the committee concluded that a great deal remains to be done before the economic position of migrants will be significantly improved.

This is the committee's second report. It was released simultaneously with President Eisenhower's announcement that he has signed an executive order formalizing the committee.

In addition to Mitchell, committee members include: Ezra Taft Benson, secretary of agriculture; Fred A. Seaton, secretary of the interior; Arthur S. Flemming, secretary of health, education and welfare; and Norman Mason, administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

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ment in October reached 4.6% of the civilian labor force as compared to 3.0% a year earlier. The September-October rise in the unemployment rate marks only the second time this has occurred since the readjustment period following World War II. The earlier occasion was in October 1957 at the start of the 1957-58 recession.

Henning indicated that the state's manufacturing employment was off by over 28,000 for the month. In addition to the seasonal contraction in canning, lumber and tin can manufacturing, a continued slowdown in primary metal, machinery and aircraft employment was reported.

Jobs in primary metals, principally steel, dropped for the eighth consecutive month to a level 6,000 below February 1960. This meant that every ninth person employed in this industry lost his job during the period.

California's agricultural employment for the month was off by 20,000 while the construction industry employed 5,000 fewer workers. These declines were partially offset by an increase of 11,000 jobs in government as hiring of school teachers continued into October.

While the sustained downtrend in aircraft employment slowed during October, employment in the missiles and electrical equipment (including electronics) industries advanced to all-time highs. Electrical equipment employment of almost 170,000 was 11,500 higher than a year ago. Jobs in missiles gained 13% over the year for a total employment level of 61,400.

Another reflection of these economic difficulties appeared in state controller Alan Cranston's monthly

statement on the status of the general fund.

Cranston reported that sales tax receipts of \$207 million during July-October 1960 declined by well over \$8 million, or 3.8%, from the level of such revenues during the identical months in 1959.

Despite the reduction in receipts, this most important source of state revenue still yielded slightly over half of total general fund income during the four month period ending in October, 1960.

REALTOR LICENSE RACIAL BARRIERS ENDED

Designation of race and place of birth on applications for real estate broker's licenses was declared illegal according to an interpretation of California law by state professional and vocational standards director Vincent S. Dalsimer.

After state attorney general Stanley Mosk called this violation to the attention of the state real estate commissioner, Dalsimer issued the following statement to his department:

"The attorney general's office has recently advised the real estate commissioner that the use of application forms and fingerprint cards which require applicants for real estate broker's licenses to designate their race and place of birth violates state statutes which prohibit the state and its agencies from including questions of this kind in applications and other forms required to be submitted to them.

"I believe this conclusion applies with equal force to this department and its constituent agencies."

New Film - "Consumers Want To Know"

"Consumers Want to Know," a 30-minute, 16mm sound film about Consumer Union and **Consumer Reports**, has just been completed and prints are now available for rental or purchase by trade unions, schools, women's clubs, church groups, co-operatives, credit unions, service clubs, and others.

Announcement of the new film came from Consumers Union, the non-profit, non-commercial organization—largest of its kind in the world—whose magazine boasts a 4 million circulation.

(Mildred Brady, editor of **Consumer Reports**, is slated to discuss consumer problems at the Federation's forthcoming Conference on Economic Growth at the Hilton Inn, San Francisco, December 5-8, 1960.)

The new film presents a factual day-by-day account of how CU functions, how a test project is carried through from start to finish, how **Consumer Reports** is produced, and how CU speaks for consumers at Washington hearings. The cast is CU's staff. The entire film was shot in such places as CU's Mount Vernon, N.Y. offices and test laboratories and on its auto track in Connecticut.

CU, being a non-profit organization, has made the film for educational purposes. The rental and purchase charges are as low as costs permit. Prints of the new film are available for rental in color, and for purchase in either color or black-and-white. The following rental rates apply: \$7.50 for 1 day; \$11.25 for 2 days; \$15 for 1 week. Color prints may be purchased for \$125, black-and-white for \$60. The film will be shipped postpaid and, in the case of rental, the user will be responsible for return postage.

Requests for the film should be made well in advance of showing date, and should include alternate showing dates and the anticipated number in the audience. (CU will send, without additional charge, a useful brochure for each member of the audience.)

Requests should be sent to Consumers Union Film Library, 267 West 25th Street, New York 1, N.Y. Written confirmation will be sent as promptly as possible. Payment may be sent in advance; otherwise, an invoice will be mailed to the user at about the time of showing.

Television Stations Now Carrying "Americans At Work"

This series is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is telecast by the following TV stations in California:

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|------|---------------|--------|------------|
| KBAK | Bakersfield | Sat., | 5:45 p.m. |
| KHSL | Chico | Mon., | 4:00 p.m. |
| KIEM | Eureka | Sat., | 8:30 a.m. |
| KVIE | Sacramento | Tues., | 7:45 p.m. |
| KSFD | San Diego | Sun., | 4:00 p.m. |
| KTVU | San Francisco | Sat., | 10:00 a.m. |
| KQED | San Francisco | Tues., | 6:00 p.m. |
| KNTV | San Jose | Sun., | 8:45 a.m. |

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Second Apprenticeship Conference Planned

The California Conference on Apprenticeship will hold its second biennial meeting at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles, April 24-27, 1962.

The announcement was made by Philip R. Melnick, Los Angeles, and William H. Diederichsen, San Mateo, chairman and co-chairman, respectively, of the conference.

The decision was reached by the Conference Planning Committee, composed of labor and management representatives from every part of the state, at a meeting in San Mateo on October 26 in connection with the quarterly meeting of the California Apprenticeship Council.

Webb Green, Los Angeles, and Fred A. Schmitz, Redwood City, members of the Council, were co-chairmen of the Conference for its

very successful first biennial meeting held at the Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco, last May, with more than 1200 conferees present.

Many have acclaimed this one of the best Conferences of its kind ever held in the United States, according to Charles F. Hanna, Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards and Council Secretary.

Two permanent committees have been established by the Conference: Management Incentives to Employ Apprentices and Opportunities for Minority Groups in Apprenticeship.

"Conference recommendations are expected to have a great stimulus on apprenticeship in California," declared Hanna. The Conference operates under the rules and regulations of the California Apprenticeship Council.

FED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS

In its first meeting since the third convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in Sacramento last August, the Federation's executive council will assemble to roll up its sleeves for two days of hard work on December 3-4 in San Francisco.

Meeting in the wake of the November 8th state and national elections, the main business confronting the 36-man body is to put its legislative program into bill form.

The council will be confronted with the task of reviewing the legislative mandate of the convention and checking proposed Federation legislation already being prepared for introduction into the legislature.

The state legislature will convene in regular session on January 2, 1961.