

Factory Job Recovery In Severe Lag

Manufacturing employment in California, on a seasonally adjusted basis, has recaptured only a third of its 1960-61 recession losses even though a greater-than-seasonal rise of 10,000 factory jobs during September placed factory jobs at a peak level for the year.

In announcing that manufacturing employment swelled to 1,360,000 since August, California Director of Industrial Relations John F. Henning drew attention to the fact that durable goods manufacturing industries once again bore the burden of the latest recession and continue to lag in their recovery.

Henning also noted, "As often happens during the first phase of a business upturn, many manufacturing employers are boosting the working time of those already employed rather than taking on new hands. Thus: in September the average factory workweek of 40.3 hours was the longest for any September since 1958."

About 445,000 workers, one-third of California's manufacturing employees, are on the payrolls of de-

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THOS L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

Published by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO



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Weekly News Letter

Programing Completed for Federation-Sponsored Educational Conferences

Affiliates of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO were advised this week that the planning details for the Federation's weekend labor education conferences on the problems of job displacement, retraining and skill development have been completed.

In a letter to all AFL-CIO unions and councils in the state, Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts described the conferences as representing "one of the Federation's most important undertakings to provide labor education opportunities for local organizations in a subject matter of immediate interest and vital concern to our entire movement."

The dates and locations for the weekend sessions are:

San Francisco, Del Webb Towne House, November 10-12, 1961.

Los Angeles, Statler Hilton Hotel, November 17-19, 1961.

The conferences, identical in scope and purpose, are being offered in two locations for the convenience of affiliated organizations.

Pitts' letter to affiliates enclosed printed conference programs setting forth the schedule of sessions and listing the participants engaged to make major presentations, lead workshop sessions and serve as resource experts in various discussion groups.

Pitts said that the sessions at both conference locations have been staffed with an outstanding group of individuals, "who will develop specific and practical information for use by local organizations in coming to grips with pressing skill training problems."

Main speakers will include Ewan Clague, U.S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics; John F. Henning, Administrator, State Employment Relations Agency; Marc Johnson and Louis Pagliassotti, Area Director and Deputy Director respectively of the State Department of Employment in San Francisco and Los Angeles; Morris E. Skinner, State Supervisor, U.S. Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training; Wesley P. Smith, State Director of Vocational Education; Charles F. Hanna, Chief, State Division of Apprenticeship Standards; Max Kossoris, Regional Director of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sixteen resource experts and discussion leaders will staff workshop discussions in the following industrial and occupational groupings: construction industry; manufactur-

LABOR'S ONLY ANSWER—

Grassroots Political Action

"Grassroots political action is our only salvation, and we must take increased action in all political campaigns if we are to continue to see the labor movement in California thrive."

State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts issued this warning in an address to delegates of the Sacramento Central Labor Council last week.

Pitts has been touring the state during the past months in an attempt to better acquaint local leadership with the legislative process and specifically with developments at the 1961 session of the legislature.

In Sacramento, Pitts told a packed hall that stepped-up political activity at the community level provides the only solid base for legislative action.

The state AFL-CIO leader warned that this community base in political activity must extend to local elections as well as to those involving state and federal offices.

"School board elections, city council elections, county elections—

every time a ballot is cast—labor should be actively supporting its known friendly candidates," Pitts said.

In addition to reviewing the highlights of the last session of the legislature, Pitts said:

"Labor operates on many fronts in order to elevate our society. We are active in all community endeavors. We have been one of the staunchest supporters of the school system. We get behind the United Crusade in every community in the nation. We believe in the axiom that all that is good for the community is good for labor. But too frequently we fall down when election time rolls around."

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Political Action

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Pitts' appeal was for continued non-partisan political action:

"We must continue to do as Samuel Gompers urged — reward our friends and defeat our enemies. And we must do this regardless of partisan politics. We never want to see the trade union movement as an appendage of either of our great national parties. Nor do we ever want to see a labor party, per se, come into existence. We must press for greater political action on the part of our local unions and our state, district and local councils."

Stressing the importance of the records of legislators, Pitts said that political aspirants should give the public the opportunity to judge their records before seeking endorsements.

"The last thing we need," he said, "are those candidates who try to jump on the bandwagon at a late date, hoping that one or possibly two good votes will tie down endorsements for them."

In his tour of the state, Pitts has been advising local movements that California Labor COPE is now in a position to give greater assistance to local movements in their political action activities, with the addition of Fred Smith, former president of the Federated Fire Fighters, to the state COPE staff.

Programing Completed

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ing industries; utilities, trade and service industries; and office and technical occupations.

All conference delegates will be free to choose workshops in the occupations and industries of immediate interest to them.

Pitts advised affiliates that the conferences have been carefully planned to engage people who are fully conversant with the many skill development problems which "we must face squarely if the labor movement and individual unions are to maintain their organizational base and survive as potent forces for the advancement of the hopes and aspirations of working people."

Advance registration forms were attached to the conference programs mailed out this week. (The form is also printed below in this issue of the News Letter.)

Registration forms should be completed and returned to the office of the Federation as soon as possible for the conference location selected.

A \$12.50 delegate's registration fee, payable in advance or at the time of the conferences, covers both the kickoff dinner session Friday night and the group luncheon on Saturday.

Hotel reservations may be made directly with the hotel involved, as blocks of rooms have been reserved.

Executive Order on Housing Bias Asked

Pressure for redemption of last year's pre-election pledge to use executive powers to end discrimination in housing was greatly intensified in recent weeks from two different directions.

In a hard-hitting report to President John F. Kennedy, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission has urged an executive order directing federal agencies concerned with housing to "take steps" to require nondiscrimination by builders, banks and real estate brokers in home sales involving government financing. The commission, an official government body whose life was extended by action of the present Congress, recommended such action be required of the Federal Housing Administration, Veterans Administration and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

Even stronger measures were backed by four commission members who advocated that all mortgage lenders using federal facilities, funds or insurance programs be required to practice nondiscrimination. This would cover most conventional mortgages as well as those directly insured by FHA and VA.

Similar executive action was also called for by the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing. This group consists of 33 labor, liberal, civil rights, religious and minority groups. Its chairman, New York housing expert Charles Abrams, pointed out:

"The greatly hailed Housing Act of 1961 was the major accomplishment of the past session of Congress. Whether its provisions will benefit the nation depends upon executive action which would make the benefits available to all, regardless of race, creed or national origin."

As partial documentation of continued federal subsidy and support for segregated housing, the National Committee cited the following:

"Less than two percent of the new homes insured by FHA and VA have been available to non-white families. Builders continue to receive federal aid for the construction of new 'all-white' subdivisions.

"Federal urban renewal is resulting in new segregated housing, often replacing presently integrated

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REGISTRATION FORM

CALIFORNIA LABOR FEDERATION, AFL-CIO CONFERENCES on UNEMPLOYMENT, RETRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

CHECK CONFERENCE LOCATION SELECTION

- ☐ SAN FRANCISCO, Del Webb Towne House, Nov. 10-12, 1961
☐ LOS ANGELES, Statler Hilton Hotel, Nov. 17-19, 1961

DELEGATE(S):

Name

Union and

Local No.

Address

City

CHECK SELECTION OF DISCUSSION SESSION

- ☐ Construction Industry ☐ Manufacturing Industries
☐ Office and Technical Occupations ☐ Utilities, Trade and Service Industries

ADVANCE \$12.50 REGISTRATION FEE ENCLOSED: YES..... NO.....

FORWARD THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
995 Market Street, Room 810
San Francisco 3, California

WHITE HOUSE REGIONAL CONFERENCES SET FOR NOVEMBER 20 AND 21

Governor Edmund G. Brown formally announced this week that two-day White House regional conferences on domestic problems and future needs have been scheduled for both San Francisco and Los Angeles for November 20 and 21.

Labor Secretary Arthur J. Goldberg will be among five or six cabinet heads from Washington, D.C., who are slated to spearhead the conferences, backed by teams of career specialists from the federal government and local experts in the fields to be covered.

The conferences will discuss four broad topics: (1) economic growth and full employment; (2) opportunities for youth; (3) opportunities for cities; and (4) opportunities for the aging. The two-day conferences in San Francisco and Los Angeles are "cross-coupled" in that topics (1) and (2) will be explored November 20 in San Francisco, at the same time as topics (3) and (4) are discussed in Los Angeles. On November 21, the programs will be reversed between the two cities.

Similar conferences are scheduled for eight other cities in the nation as a result of requests by governors and mayors to President Kennedy for a first-hand exchange of information and views with the Administration.

Invitations for participation in the conferences will be issued from the Governor's office to individuals and groups, including organized labor, in California, Arizona, and Nevada, who have a special interest in one or more of the topics on the White House regional conference programs. In addition, the public will be informed as to sessions open to them, a restriction on attendance being necessary only because of space limitations.

A task force is currently planning arrangements and facilities for the meetings.

The format of the White House regional conferences calls for cabinet secretaries and their aides to explain the Administration's programs in the four subject areas to be covered by the conferences. The views of local people on the programs will also be solicited.

Topics to be covered under the four broad headings include: economic growth, creating new job opportunities, education, recreation, rehabilitation, veterans' needs, health, housing, job retraining, day centers, metropolitan planning,

community facilities, city development, urban renewal, fiscal and monetary policies, surplus goods, minimum wages, unemployment compensation, social security, physical fitness, civil defense, mass transportation and others. It is expected that the discussion of future needs in these areas will highlight legislation, both past and pending.

Factory Job Recovery

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defense-related industries such as aircraft, missiles and electrical equipment (including electronics), according to department statistics. These industries in California are expected to benefit from the 1961 defense build-up prompted by crises in Berlin, Laos and Cuba.

There has been a marked shift in employment among these industries in recent years, with losses in aircraft balanced by gains in electronics and missiles.

The current work force of 194,000 in aircraft, despite gains during the last two months, remains 100,000 short of the April 1957 figure. This loss has been more than offset by the addition of 108,000 workers to the missile and electrical equipment industries. Currently, 179,000 workers are engaged in electrical equipment production and 71,000 are in California's missile industry.

Henning reported rapid recovery from sharp recession losses in such industries as machinery, primary and fabricated metals. Nevertheless current totals remain below pre-recession highs.

Among the nondurable goods industries, the fastest growing is printing and publishing, which continues to rise to new peaks month after month. Paper products and chemicals have also shown growth.

On the other hand, Henning pointed to a generally lower level of employment in California's food processing industry during 1961. Petroleum refining has evidenced a general downtrend during the past several years, he added.

Executive Order

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districts. In addition, 70 percent of the displaced families are nonwhite.

"More than 80 percent of federally sponsored public housing is racially segregated and new segregated projects continue to receive federal approval.

"Mortgage lending institutions profit from federal benefits, chartering and insurance, yet deny loans on the basis of race and religion."

In urging the most comprehensive coverage for an executive order, the organization also asked for establishment of a President's Committee on Discrimination in Housing, "empowered to evaluate compliance, make recommendations for more effective enforcement and report to the President."

Declaring that housing remains the last major area where government is party to discriminatory practices, the National Committee enumerated the areas where executive administrative action has already been exercised:

1. Employment by the federal government and in connection with government contracts.
2. Service in the armed forces.
3. Accommodations in veterans' hospitals.
4. Accommodations in national parks.
5. Facilities in bus stations, railroad stations and airports.

School Cost Burden Heaviest for Poor

The poorest families and the poorest states bear the biggest proportional burden of school costs, according to an analysis by the AFL-CIO Department of Research.

Labor's Economic Review, a feature of the current issue of the AFL-CIO American Federationist, asserts that federal aid to schools is needed now just as state aid was a generation ago—to equalize educational opportunities for American youngsters, whether they live in big cities or on farms, in wealthy communities or depressed areas.

The analysis in the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine points out that local school funds are generally raised from property taxes, a system "completely divorced from the concept of tax equity," while a large share of state funds comes

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FORM 3547 REQUESTED

'Labor's March on Cancer Month'

(The following is the text of a resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council designating November as "Labor's March on Cancer Month" to raise \$1,000,000 for presentation to the Eleanor Roosevelt Cancer Foundation.)

Union members, even more than other Americans, owe an unpayable debt to Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is incumbent upon our movement, as well as in accord with our individual sentiments, to take every practicable opportunity to pay tribute to his memory.

Moreover, the widow of this great President has greatness of her own. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is indisputably the First Lady of the free world, a symbol of all that is best in the human spirit. To honor her is to honor ourselves.

A unique opportunity is now available to translate these sentiments into a direct service to mankind—one that is appealing on its own merits.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Cancer Foundation has been established

to further the fight against the most terrible disease of our time. This fight not only involves the search for more adequate methods of prevention and cure; it also embodies the effort to educate the public about remedies already available. Medical experts estimate that 2½ million Americans now in the labor force will ultimately die of cancer needlessly; 2½ million could be cured by prompt detection and adequate treatment of the disease.

In many ways the situation with respect to cancer today is similar to that of infantile paralysis a generation ago. For many years the labor movement gave unstinting support to the March of Dimes; while the result of this mass assault on that disease was long in coming, it was surely worth every cent and every ounce of effort.

Therefore be it resolved by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO that:

1. We pledge to raise from our

affiliated unions and their members the sum of \$1,000,000 at the rate of 10 cents a member, to be turned over to the Eleanor Roosevelt Cancer Foundation at our convention in December.

2. November, 1961, is hereby designated as "Labor's March on Cancer Month," during which each AFL-CIO member will be asked to donate a dime to this great cause. We shall at the same time use this month for a mass campaign among union members on education about cancer and cancer detection methods.

3. All administrative and other expenses involved in the collection of this fund will be absorbed by the AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions, so that every cent contributed to the campaign will be turned over intact to the Foundation.

4. We call upon each affiliated organization, and every AFL-CIO member, to join wholeheartedly in this nationwide drive to further the fight against a dreadful disease.

School Cost Burden Heaviest for Poor

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from "insidiously regressive" sales taxes.

In contrast, 80 percent of the federal government's revenue is raised through progressive income taxes on individuals and on corporation profits.

When states and localities try to raise taxes on big corporations within their jurisdictions, the article notes, "too often those who write the tax laws are not too subtly reminded that plants and jobs can be moved" elsewhere.

The Department of Research analysis emphasizes that "it is increasingly evident that if the corporate giants are to contribute a fair share to the maintenance of

state and local public services and if this share is to be equitably distributed, the federal role as tax collector and dispenser of federal grants-in-aid for education and other purposes must grow."

Tax Disparity Stressed

Also emphasized is the disparity in the tax burden for education on persons in "rich" and "poor" states.

Although Delaware has a per capita income more than twice that of South Dakota and spends \$126 per capita on schools as compared with \$70 in South Dakota, the average resident of South Dakota paid \$12.30 out of every \$100 of income taxes as compared with a \$6.50 average in Delaware.

Noting that "citizens of some of

our lowest income states now shoulder the highest state and local tax burdens in the nation," the article states:

"Despite their unequal sacrifice, children who live in these states still attend tragically substandard schools."

Urging enactment of a program of federal grants "related to the school population and income levels of the various states," the AFL-CIO analysis concludes:

"With increased federal participation, the giant corporation, the wealthy and the moderate income family will all add to their contribution for the improvement of America's schools—but more nearly on the basis of ability to pay."