

Knight Pulls Out Of GOP Race

Former Governor Goodwin J. Knight, suffering from an attack of hepatitis, reluctantly announced this Tuesday that he was pulling out of the race for the Republican gubernatorial nomination at the June primary.

In a formal statement Knight said:

"It is with the greatest regret that I now follow the advice of my doctor. I shall not file as a candidate for Governor in March. This reluctance is inspired by the sincere devotion and friendship of many Californians who have so unselfishly supported me for Governor of California. I will never forget their loyalty."

Political observers immediately noted that Knight's withdrawal strengthens Richard Nixon's position as the leading contender for the GOP nomination.

Other announced GOP candidates still in the race are Assemblyman Joseph C. Shell of Los Angeles and ex-Lieutenant Governor Harold J. Powers. Speculation is rampant on how long these two will be able to hold out against the Nixon machine, which is known to be cornering GOP campaign funds.

Knight's withdrawal followed Monday's announcement by Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco that he was entering the race

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State AFL-CIO Urges Goldberg and Congress to Resist Grower Pressure

Intense agribusiness pressures upon Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg appeared, at News Letter's press time, to have gravely jeopardized the Department of Labor's recent order increasing lettuce harvest piece rate to 24 cents a carton or its equivalent in California's Imperial Valley and Arizona.

Upon learning that the Department is considering backing away from its order, state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts sent the following wire to Goldberg:

"We are shocked to learn that the Department is contemplating proposing an alternative to the recently promulgated rate in lettuce that would give braceros a choice between a 24-cent piece rate and a flat \$1.00 per hour.

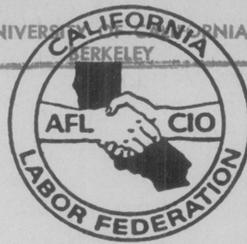
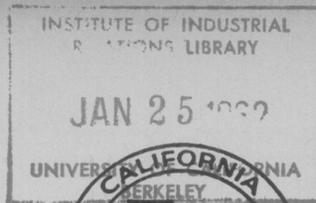
"This would make a mockery of the Kennedy Administration's expressed determination to enforce prior rights of employment for do-

mestics. Obviously, grower pressure on braceros to select the \$1.00 an hour rate would render the choice completely meaningless. You certainly should recognize this.

"I urgently request that the final decision on this alternative proposal be held up until I am able to be in Washington on January 22 to discuss the matter with the Department on behalf of the California AFL-CIO.

"The same courtesies extended growers in granting them several days to travel to Washington, D. C., to meet with the Department should

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THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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STATE INDUSTRIAL WELFARE COMM. APPOINTS FIVE WAGE BOARDS

Meeting in San Francisco last Friday, the California Industrial Welfare Commission completed the appointment of members to five of some twelve wage boards which the Commission is in the process of establishing to update its orders setting minimum wages and other conditions for women and minors employed in California.

The five boards completed cover the following: Order No. 1, manufacturing industry, 13 members; Order No. 2, personal services, 5 members; Order No. 3, canning, freezing and preserving industry, 5 members; Order No. 4, professional, clerical and technical and similar occupations, 15 members; and a combined board for Orders No. 8 and 13, industries handling products after harvest, 21 members.

The function of the boards, composed of an equal number of employee and employer representa-

tives, with an impartial chairman selected by the Commission, are charged with the responsibility of making recommendations to the IWC covering the industry and occupations falling within the order.

The remaining seven boards will be appointed at a meeting scheduled for San Francisco on Friday, February 9. These include boards covering the following orders: No. 5, public housekeeping; No. 6, laundry, dry cleaning and dyeing industries; No. 7, mercantile industry; No. 9, transportation industries; No. 10, amusement and recreation; No. 11, broadcasting industry; and No. 12, motion picture industry.

Time ran out on last Friday's meeting for completion of the wage board appointments. However, the Commission did select chairmen for all of the boards, and determined the size of each.

Named as chairmen were: Order No. 1, Dr. Irving Bernstein, Associate Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, UCLA; Order No. 2, Wayne L. McNaughton, Graduate School of Business Administration, UCLA; Order No. 3, Dr. Arthur M. Ross, Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley; Order No. 4, Miss Virginia B. Smith, San Francisco attorney and Assistant to Vice President-Executive Assistant, University of California, Berkeley; Order No. 5, Robert Kingsley, attorney, Dean of Law School, University of Southern California; Order No. 6, Dr. Richard N. Baisden, Associate Director, Uni-

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State Industrial Welfare Commission Appoints Five Wage Boards

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versity Extension, UCLA; Order No. 7, Dr. Earl Cheit, Assistant Professor of Business Administration, University of California, Berkeley; Orders Nos. 8 and 13, Dr. John P. Troxell, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University; Order No. 9, Hubert Wyckoff, attorney, Watsonville; Order No. 10, Mrs. Margaret Gordon, Assistant Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley; Order No. 11, Dr. Harold I. Roth, Professor of Law, University of Southern California; and Order No. 12, John L. Darragh, arbitrator, Los Angeles.

Employee members named to the five completed wage boards are:

Manufacturing Industry—John Collins, Machinists, San Diego; Herman Pelz, Bakers, San Francisco; George Smith, Bookbinders, Los Angeles; Joseph Angelo, Steelworkers, Oakland; Mrs. Lottie A. Millikan, Machinists, Burbank; John Ulene, ILGWU, Los Angeles.

Personal Service Industry—Alvin Holt, Barbers, Los Angeles; Mrs. Frances Markley, Barbers and Beauticians, Los Angeles.

Canning, Freezing and Preserving Industry—Mike R. Elorduy, Cannery Workers, Sacramento; Manuel R. Castro, Cannery Workers, Hayward; Walter L. Jones, Cannery Workers, San Jose; Harold Woodard, Butchers, Wilmington.

Professional, Technical, Clerical and Similar Occupations—John Kin-

Knight Out of Race

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for the GOP nomination for Lieutenant Governor. Christopher, whose teaming up with Nixon has been rumored for some time, faces opposition on the GOP side from Senator John McCarthy of Marin County. The two are contenders for the post presently held by Lieutenant Governor Glenn Anderson, who was elected in 1958 with labor's endorsement.

The week's political developments signaled what promises to be the real beginning of some heated primary campaigns. Governor Edmund G. Brown is expected to announce his candidacy for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and reelection by the end of the month.

nick, Office Employees, Oakland; Lew Fink, Insurance Workers, Burbank; W. Allan Baker, Communications Workers, San Francisco; Miss Lou Webb, Newspaper Guild, San Francisco; Edward Collins, Medical Employees Union, San Francisco; Donald Camp, Office Employees, Los Angeles; Phyllis Mitchell, Office Employees, San Francisco.

Industries Handling Products After Harvest—Dolores Huerta, Community Service Organization, Los Angeles; Joseph M. Dillon, Cannery

Workers, Redwood City; George Reed, Packinghouse Workers, Huntington Park; G. A. Paoli, Sugar Workers, Crockett; David Burciaga, Community Service Organization, Bakersfield; Helen Hardeman, Packinghouse Workers, Salinas; Emil Mertlik, Packinghouse Workers, Fresno; Bud Simonson, Packinghouse Workers, Huntington Park; Consuelo Ulloa, Community Service Organization, El Centro; and Everett A. Matzen, Butchers, Petaluma.

Revised Program for Organizing Farm Workers Explored

State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts this week confidently predicted that a revised program to organize farm workers into the AFL-CIO will be worked out for California.

Pitts expressed his optimism in a statement announcing that he met this Monday with a group of central labor council leaders in the state and national AFL-CIO representatives on the organization of agricultural workers.

The meeting, held in the San Francisco office of the Federation, was called by Pitts pursuant to the AFL-CIO decision at its recent Miami Beach convention to revitalize its farm labor organizing activities.

"The purpose of the meeting," Pitts said, "was to review the organizational problems of the past and explore all possible modifications that may be necessary to carry on an effective organizing campaign."

"We in the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO," he declared, "will bend every effort to help implement the AFL-CIO resolution in this state."

The state AFL-CIO executive officer said:

"I am satisfied that we will be able to continue our efforts to organize farm workers in the AFL-CIO through a revised program which will secure for farm workers the organizational base they must have to participate in our American standard of living."

Pitts noted that his statement reflected the consensus of the San Francisco meeting on Tuesday. The California Labor Federation had

announced earlier that it was working to find solutions to problems in the farm labor organizing field.

At its last meeting, the Federation's Executive Council established a special four-member committee to review the status of the agricultural workers' organizing drive in California and to make recommendations to the council. As we go to press, the Executive Council is holding its winter meeting this Thursday and Friday at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood.

The national AFL-CIO decision on the farm labor front was contained in a lengthy resolution unanimously adopted by the Miami Beach convention delegates.

The resolution pledges the "loyalty and support of the men and women members of the affiliated unions of the AFL-CIO to this great moral cause, that is, the redemption of the American promise to the men, women and children in the families of two million forgotten people, America's migratory and seasonal agricultural workers."

On the question of organizing, the resolution:

1. "Urges the AFL-CIO and all of its affiliated departments and international unions to lend their support to the agricultural worker organizing effort:

2. "Calls upon the affiliated unions of the AFL-CIO to support the organizational undertaking financially, by publicity in their newspapers and magazines, by cooperation in the legislative effort on behalf of the hired farm workers, and by direct coordination with the actual organization effort..."

STATE JOBLESS RATE 6.2 PERCENT IN DECEMBER

Unemployment estimated at 412,000 in December marked an increase in the state jobless rate to 6.2 per cent of the labor force for the month, as compared with 6 per cent for November.

The increase, however, was described by the State Department of Employment as "much less of a rise than usually occurs at this time of year." A year earlier, in December, 1960, 457,000 unemployed persons accounted for 7 per cent of the labor force.

In a companion report, the State Department of Industrial Relations said that December employment figures indicated a slightly greater than usual increase for the month.

Spokesmen for the two departments pointed out that "on a seasonally adjusted basis, both the employment and unemployment picture continued to improve in December."

AFL-CIO PUSHES FOR EQUAL COLLEGE CHANCES

AFL-CIO unions are expanding the drive to give every talented young person in the United States the chance for a college education.

The first push came this month when more than 100 union representatives met with college presidents, administrators, professors and academic specialists to discuss plans for enlarging opportunities for higher education.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told the meeting that the labor movement is committed to a "massive assault" on the inequality of educational opportunity. He pointed out that scholarships, alone, are not enough. All of the scholarships in the country, he said, meet only five per cent of the total expenses of the college enrollment, and the average scholarship is only \$145 per year.

To make the opportunity for college available to every able young person, Mr. Meany proposed:

- Federal aid for elementary and secondary schools to give every community minimum standards of education.
- An end to racial segregation in all public schools.
- A federal scholarship program to guarantee that no boy or girl

Civilian employment in December rose to 6,196,000, reflecting the highest December total ever recorded, and a net gain of 24,000 employed workers from November.

The usual sharp Christmas expansion in retail trade—plus gains in post offices, services and finance—outweighed contractions in such seasonal industries as agriculture, canning, wholesale trade, lumber and construction.

Also, with California's continued participation in the national defense build-up, employment again rose in the state's electronics, aircraft and missiles plants.

December marked new, all-time highs in four major categories of employment—services, government, trade and finance. Employment in manufacturing and construction has pulled ahead of the comparable period in 1960, but is still short of earlier peak levels.

gives up a chance for a college education because of a lack of funds.

- More state and federal financing for colleges.

Mr. Meany said that a federal aid program is the only way to bring equal educational opportunity to every youth.

Panel members discussed the fact that today's scholarships cannot, of themselves, bring about equal opportunities for all of our talented young people. They called for more two-year colleges, lower tuitions, more dormitories and classrooms, and, again, more state and federal aid.

John A. Hannah, president of Michigan State University, told the conference that "it should be no surprise to anyone in this country to see that organized labor is interested in higher education."

He noted that the meeting was being held during the 100th anniversary of the Morrill Act establishing the land grant colleges, an act to which labor gave its support. The conference and the discussion panels were reminded that the labor movement fought for and won free public schools.

AFL-CIO unions were urged to push for the legislative measures advanced by Mr. Meany in his talk.

State Aged Medical Program Starts

Nearly 12,000 persons have applied for benefits under California's new medical aid for the aged program, which started January 1. The program is the result of the Kerr-Mills bill enacted by Congress last year.

State Social Welfare Director J. M. Wedemeyer said the 11,787 applications received in the program's first two weeks are being processed for eligibility by the counties involved.

"More complete information should be available by the end of the month," Wedemeyer said, "but it appears these medical care applications are running about what we anticipated. Our information indicates 20 per cent of the applications are new, with the majority coming from persons transferring from other state programs for the aged and disabled."

The new program provides medical care to persons over 65 whose income is insufficient to meet their medical needs, and who have been confined at least 30 days in a hospital or nursing home.

Half of the applicants are from the Southern California area. Los Angeles' 3,584 applications are the largest number received by one county. Total applications received by some of the other larger counties were as follows:

San Francisco, 1,684; Alameda, 995; San Diego, 615; Orange, 307; Contra Costa, 280; Sacramento, 271; Fresno, 248; Santa Clara, 224; Kern, 220; Sonoma, 194; Santa Cruz, 161; Tulare, 172; Stanislaus, 158; Yolo, 132; Butte, 112; Santa Barbara, 141; and Marin, 106.

Estimates were made for several counties where actual counts had not yet been made, including San Bernardino, 411; Riverside, 281; and San Joaquin, 210.

Cost of the program is estimated to run \$30 million for the first half of 1962. With federal funds paying for 50 per cent of the program, the balance will be shared equally between the state and the counties.

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State AFL-CIO Urges Goldberg and Congress to Resist Grower Pressure

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certainly be extended to the AFL-CIO movement in the State of California."

Backed by the Federation's executive council, which was meeting in Hollywood, Pitts also sent wires to California's 30-member Congressional delegation, along with Senators Kuchel and Engle, urging that they stand firm "against pressure groups seeking to reverse the Department's ruling."

Pitts declared, "The time has come when men of integrity must defend the rights of our domestic farm workers against the 19th century labor philosophy of the protesting grower-oriented groups."

Informed sources in Washington indicated that Goldberg would make the so-called alternative proposal at a meeting with the California Congressional delegation Friday morning. The \$1.00 an hour "alternative" is already what the growers had been forced to pay by the furor over exploitation of braceros in the Imperial Valley.

Corporate grower interests in California airlifted some 200 farmers to the capital this Monday in an all-out effort to undo the Department's order. They met with Labor Department representatives on Tuesday, and with the California delegation on Wednesday. Press reports indicate that all but a few of the California delegation are yielding to grower hysteria.

Plans for the growers' march on Washington were brought to light last Friday. The Federation immediately alerted the national AFL-CIO, religious organizations and other citizen groups active in defense of farm worker rights, urging support for the Department's wage order.

Earlier, Pitts had wired Goldberg commending the Department's determination "that a 24-cent per crate price in the Imperial Valley

lettuce harvest is necessary to prevent adverse effect upon domestic workers."

Pitts at that time had urged Goldberg to "stand fast on this matter of such fundamental importance to hundreds of thousands of farm workers in California."

The center of grower opposition is in California's Imperial Valley, where the winter harvesting of lettuce is now in progress. Recently, according to the Council of California Growers, more than 200 growers in California, Arizona and Texas gathered in El Centro to protest the Department's order.

Wild charges had been hurled against the Labor Department, contending "abuse of administrative

power" in the enforcement of Public Law 78, "rank arrogance" and "an attempt to impose unionization" on agriculture.

Pitts blasted these contentions in his wire to the California delegation. He pointed out that the 24-cent piece rate is "not only legal, but carries out a mandate of Congress clearly set forth in Public Law 78."

Growers are screaming that the 24-cent piece rate for lettuce may result in earnings from \$1.50 to \$2.00 an hour. By comparison, as pointed out previously in the *News Letter*, the average factory worker in California earns more than \$2.75 an hour, plus fringe benefits valued in the vicinity of 60 cents an hour.

UNION LABEL A 'POTENT WEAPON'

The Union Label is one of organized labor's "most potent weapons" to help improve conditions for American workers.

AFL-CIO President George Meany advanced this priority for union label activities in his keynote address to the historic 50th convention of the Union Label and Service Trades Department of the AFL-CIO held December 4-5, 1961, in Miami Beach.

Speaking to the most heavily attended convention ever scheduled by the Department, Meany stressed the fact that the Union Label, Shop Card and Service Button denote highest quality in products and services. He pointed out that the public has learned to respect organized labor's emblems, and increasingly expects these products and services to be good ones.

Meany added:

"Actually, we are not merely promoting ourselves when we promote the Union Label. Of course, we are

interested in our own people, in their job opportunities, and in advancing their welfare.

"But, in addition to advancing the welfare of our own people, we are very definitely advancing the interests and welfare of the people for whom our members work—the employer. We are helping the employer to sell his product. We are helping him to make a better product. We are helping to get a wider market for the product and, in doing so, we are helping him to get the profits that are necessary for him in order to stay in business, to expand his business and to improve the techniques and methods used for his production.

"In addition, however, we are strengthening the free system that we have here in the United States, through cooperation with the employer in production and in determining fair working conditions for the production of goods under the Union Label."