

REPORT

ON

LABOR LEGISLATION

FORTIETH SESSION

OF THE

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

January 6 to February 4, and
March 10 to May 12, 1913

ISSUED BY

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

SECRETARY'S OFFICE
Labor Temple, 316 Fourteenth Street
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.



INTRODUCTORY.

To the Trade-Unionists of California:

This report is intended to describe as concisely as possible the work of the recent Legislature with respect to legislation directly affecting Labor. In order to give an adequate explanation of that work and enable the rank and file of Labor to learn from first-hand sources what cannot be obtained from the prejudiced accounts in the daily press or from the colorless recitals in official records of the proceedings of the Legislature, there are recorded some of the experiences and impressions of those men who were delegated to watch over Labor legislation at Sacramento and by all honorable means promote its passage. It is believed that information of such nature will be of interest and value not only for the present but also for the future, as many a lesson may be learned from even the shortcomings and mistakes of past efforts in behalf of Labor. That errors of judgment may have been committed is freely acknowledged, that, in fact, must be expected in the strife and confusion of a heated session, when novel and complex propositions had to be met and decided quickly as well as with vigor. Therefore, whether good, bad or indifferent, this review of the work of the Fortieth Session aims to give a truthful and intimate account of what took place and of the men who were the chief actors for or against the interests of Labor.

The Fortieth Session of the California Legislature—distinguished from its predecessors in a formal way as “the first divided” (or “bifurcated”) “session,” and politically as “the second progressive Legislature,”—convened at Sacramento, January 6, 1913, took a recess on February 4, in accordance with the amended State Constitution, reassembled March 10, and adjourned sine die officially at noon May 12, 1913.

RESULTS OF THE DIVIDED SESSION.

As a result of the division of the Legislature into two distinct parts, the procedure and methods of transacting the business of the Legislature was changed materially. Thus, the first part of the session was by common agreement devoted to the preparation of bills. Very few committee hearings were held and no bills were passed by either house except revenue bills of extraordinary urgency. The main idea was to merely prepare the measures so as to permit the people to study them during the recess. Before that course was decided upon, a few bills were reported out, the first of all being a labor bill, A. B. 249, to regulate advertising for help during strikes. It was reported out on January 21, was quickly advanced to third reading file, and rested there until after the recess.

But what the Legislature during the first period lacked in actual lawmaking was compensated for by its formulation and introduction of a wonderful array and variety of bills and other measures which taxed the full capacity of the printing office and continued to do so during the entire session by an avalanche of new propositions and amendments. This bill-drafting activity of the session is hardly appreciated as fully as it ought to be. It explains a good many things. The truth is that except for this division of work made possible by the institution of the “divided” session, the latter history and work of this Legislature would not have taken on such a complex and intricate character. Just imagine, hundreds of men coming together for a whole month and principally devoting all their time and energies to the writing of bills. As an interested observer expressed it very aptly: “The legislator who is always writing bills and resolutions of every description, somehow or other can never put his whole heart in it as well as when he is in Sacramento, where there seems to be created a special atmosphere for such things when the Legislature is in session.” This is the fact of it, whether it is psychological or otherwise. The constant touch between a number of minds all bent upon the production of legislative ideas and measures, must necessarily result in unusual productivity in either the quantity or quality or both of their work. Thus it is easily explained how this session became noted for having proposed more bills and in greater variety than any previous session in the history of the State. It seemed to be the ambition of the majority of the members and parties attending in the interest of legislation to draft and propose a bill upon almost every conceivable subject, and in that respect those working for Labor followed suit. This condition explains how afterwards the entire State took such immense interest in the proceedings and work of the session. There was hardly an interest, industry, corporation, individual, high, low, good or bad, who would not be materially affected by one or another of the various measures introduced; and according to the degree in which bills affected the various interests there were forthcoming all manner of expressions concerning them.

The reputation of the Legislature in the public press ran the entire gamut between “the best and most constructive Legislature that ever sat in the State or the United States” and “the most vicious aggregation of freaks that ever presumed to legislate for an intelligent people.”

A FEW COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

From a purely statistical standpoint it is interesting to compare this Legislature with its two predecessors. In 1909, there were introduced 2705 bills, in 1911, 2876, and in 1913, 3922, of this number 3738 before the recess. The number of constitutional amendments proposed in 1909 were 82, in 1911, 105, and in 1913, 169, of which number 151 were proposed during the first part. The number of measures of all kinds, including numerous joint and concurrent resolutions, all of which require reference to committees as well as three separate readings by each house, were in 1909, 2862, in 1911, 2078, and in 1913, 4247. A comparison of the number of bills passed by both houses shows that in 1909, 878, in 1911, 950, and in 1913, 1078 bills were passed and transmitted to the Governor.

A comparison of the number of legislative days of each session shows that the session of 1909 lasted eighty days, that of 1911 eighty-five days, and the session of 1913 lasted ninety-four days. In justice to the last Legislature it must be stated that most of the legislators devoted the thirty days during the recess to explaining the pending legislation to their constituents and to study and prepare themselves for the second part of the session. At least a part of the Legislature was kept together for over 35 hours after the time officially set for final adjournment in order to permit the printer and attaches of the Legislature to catch up with the work so that every bill could be properly engrossed and presented to the Governor before the formal ending.

AN ESTIMATE OF THE WORK AND THE PERSONNEL.

The Thirty-ninth session laid the foundation for the regeneration of the State government in the interest of the people at large. The Fortieth session sought to construct upon that foundation structures of permanent value for the same end. It has been aptly said that the latter task is the more arduous as well as less spectacular and appreciated, for the reason that it necessarily continues only the new order already inaugurated. And inasmuch as it is constructive, rather than destructive, and it requires time to construct, the result is not so apparent nor so quickly accomplished. Hence, the acts of this Legislature may be said to be the mere beginnings of the new order. New skill and experience was demanded for the planning of so many new structures. Hence, one need not expect anything else than a good deal of hesitation in the choice of plans presented for adoption. Whether or not some of the measures adopted were the wisest and best, only time can tell. In some things we deem this Legislature to have done exceedingly well, in others the work did not measure up to our expectations. The import of this assertion may be grasped as one reads the details which follow. However, if this Legislature had done nothing else than enact the compulsory compensation law, raise the tax on corporations, and conclude again to submit to the voters the constitutional amendment for home rule in taxation, it would still deserve the grateful appreciation of the people of this State. And as for Labor, the first measure mentioned is, in our judgment, the best labor law thus far enacted in this State.

It is usual in a report of this character to pay compliments to those who assisted Labor to obtain its due in the Legislature, but as exact justice to each member cannot be rendered until the entire record is examined, that duty will be left for a later report which will make a special feature of furnishing the exact basis for such special consideration and bestowal of praise or blame as each one deserves. In this connection it should be borne in mind that this was the first session at which all members had been questioned before election regarding their attitude upon a number of important Labor measures. The replies of all candidates had been compiled in pamphlet form and were freely distributed during the campaign. And we regret to report that quite a few members of the Legislature who had answered our questions in writing with an emphatic "yes," had a change of heart when it came to voting and in some instances actually orated against the very measures which they had promised to support before election. The worst offender in this regard was Senator James C. Owens of Richmond, representing Marin and Contra Costa Counties. And if the "Recall" of a faithless public servant was ever justified it surely is in this case.

On the other hand, we had splendid types of statesmen—"real men"—who constantly gave their time and talent to further the cause of Labor in the legislative field. To name one or two, or more of our friends, and not deal with all, would be unjust. But their Labor Record will be in print and available for inspection at the meeting of our annual State convention, in Fresno, October 6-12 of this year.

Regarding the personnel of the lawmakers generally, we repeat without fear of contradiction our assertions of two years ago, that from Labor's point of view there were genuine Progressives and real Reactionaries among the three dominant political parties. In fact, party lines were almost entirely eliminated in passing or defeating "Labor bills." And it is sincerely hoped that when any member of this Legislature shall again aspire to a public office the voters will be guided by his record, rather than by his party affiliation or his personal popularity.

THE LABOR LOBBY AND OTHER LOBBYISTS.

The Labor lobby at this session was not quite as numerous as at the 1911 session. The State Federation maintained headquarters at 929 K street, in the same location as two years ago. The same organizations shared the expense and made use of the headquarters, excepting the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, whose representatives did not act with other Labor representatives during this session.

The following is a list of the organizations and their representatives: State Federation of Labor, Paul Scharrenberg; State Building Trades Council, no permanent agent; San Francisco Labor Council, Charles McConaughy; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, James M. Murphy; Order of Railroad Conductors, W. F. Lemon; Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, R. H. Bishop. Theodore Johnson was employed as Assistant Agent for the State Federation and the San Francisco Labor Council. Many other representatives of Labor were at the Capitol from time to time in the interest of measures of particular interest to their organizations.

A stenographer was employed during the entire session and a report of important doings of the Legislature was furnished to the Labor press of the State each week. These reports were generally printed in full in the various papers, and it is believed was a means of furnishing trade-unionists throughout the State with a mass of information not accessible to them in ordinary newspapers.

The various members of the Labor lobby were always ready to co-operate and assist each other, and the State Federation's representatives gladly acknowledge the valuable aid received from fellow lobbyists whenever the latter were called upon to render some special service.

Among the lobbyists were many employes of the State. In fact almost every department of our State administration was represented at the Capitol in some capacity. Nearly all of the State's lobbyists were on the side of the common people and we cannot help but mention Mrs. Edson, an employee of the State Bureau of Labor Statistics, who rendered very material assistance to Labor and seemed to take real pleasure in so doing. The splendid work of Mr. Morrison, of the Industrial Accident Board is referred to elsewhere in this report. There were a few employes of our State, however, who showed considerable activity on the wrong side. The members of the Fish and Game Commission seemed to be more interested in furthering the wishes of a "few sports" than in protecting fish and game. As an example it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that the bill creating a game reservation and prohibiting shooting on Mount Tamalpais and its slopes, was bitterly opposed by the commission just because one of its members was personally identified with a "gun club" located in that territory. So the interests of the hundreds of thousands who visit that mountain and the adjacent country to enjoy the scenic wonders of that beautiful region were sacrificed in order that a few men with a "preserve" may continue to shoot!

According to Franklin Hichborn, a well-known and experienced newspaper man and journalist, who was in attendance during the entire session, there were more lobbyist at this session than ever before at any Legislature. As there was no increase in the number of Labor lobbyists, it will be realized that the forces of our opponents must have been very materially strengthened.

Some of the really sad sights, quite common at this session, were the delegations of unorganized workers who appeared before various committees pleading in behalf of their bosses against the enactment of the very measures which would benefit them most—certainly far more than the organized workers who are often able to protect themselves by means other than legislative enactments.

Volumes could be written about lobbyists and lobbying and much of it would make interesting reading, but the space of this pamphlet is limited and there are other more important matters to be commented upon.

CLASSIFICATION OF MEASURES.

The various measures hereafter mentioned have been classified and appear in the following order:

1. **BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW.**
2. **BILLS ENACTED DESPITE LABOR'S OPPOSITION.**
3. **BILLS ADVOCATED BY LABOR BUT NOT PASSED.**
4. **BILLS DEFEATED OWING TO OPPOSITION OF LABOR.**
5. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ADOPTED.**

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL SCHARRENBERG,
Legislative Agent.

THEODORE JOHNSON,
Assistant Legislative Agent.

San Francisco, Cal., June 28, 1913.

BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW.

Under this head will be grouped under different subdivisions all Labor bills passed by both houses and approved by the Governor. In addition to a brief description as to the effect and purpose of each bill, further comment will be made in regard to either the subject-matter or the history thereof, except such observations as are of a more general nature and apply to legislation from points of view treated in other portions of this report. It is the aim of this part of the report to summarize as fully as possible within a limited space the net achievements of the Fortieth Session insofar as it affects Labor.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND RELATED SUBJECTS.

Chapter 176, S. B. 905. Workmen's Compensation, Insurance and Safety Act. Drafted by the Industrial Accident Board, introduced by Senator Boynton, endorsed by all labor organizations, opposed by the Employers' Federation of Labor and Insurance and Liability Companies. The bill is based upon years of American and European experience, and modeled upon selected features from existing laws of many States. It is considered the most comprehensive law on the subject thus far enacted by any State in the Union. It makes compensation compulsory upon all employers excepting those engaged in farming and kindred pursuits who remain under liability or may voluntarily come under this act in a manner similar to that provided under the Roseberry act. Household domestic servants are also exempted from the operation of the law. The Roseberry act is superseded by this act when it takes effect on January 1, 1914, unless referendary proceedings now threatened by the Employers' Federation should postpone or defeat its legal enforcement.

The act contains three parts. The first part contains the provisions relating to compensation. In the main the principles of the Roseberry act are followed, except in the matter of rate of compensation for different injuries. The schedules in that act have been found unsatisfactory as the same compensation is given irrespective of the amount of injury suffered; likewise, those who are permanently disabled and practically prevented from earning anything are not provided for after having drawn the full amount of compensation. The new law corrects those defects and grades compensation according to amount of injury, and makes provision for permanent compensation for those injured and helpless to make their living. Labor representatives suggested further improvements upon these schedules, but they had to yield to the more important necessity of securing "compulsory" compensation at this time.

The second part of the act provides for a system of State insurance against liability under the act. This is designed for the protection of those employers who cannot afford to take the risk themselves. Such insurance by the State relieves the employer from all responsibility to pay the compensation and guarantees him that he will not have to pay more than a reasonable rate for such insurance, and will no longer be subject to extortion to enhance profits of private companies. It is plain that such a system is antagonistic to the interests of the powerful insurance companies of this and other States. Therefore, those interests fought the bill on account of this feature as fiercely as any Labor measure was ever fought and enlisted in their behalf the powerful influence of the stand-pat California press. Absolute misrepresentation as to the actual provisions of the measure were circulated and will continue to be circulated until the fate of this bill is finally settled.

The third part of the act establishes under the management of the Industrial Accident Board a Safety Department charged with the regulation of all places of employment to afford safety to employees, and thereby diminish the number of accidents. The powers granted under the act are extensive and similar to those entrusted to the Railroad Commission over public utilities. As a result many needful safety regulations may hereafter, when this law takes effect, be secured through this board and need not be asked for from the Legislature.

The labor press and labor organizations are particularly urged to explain and defend this act to the working people of this State in the face of the campaign of misrepresentation and malevolent abuse waged against it ceaselessly by those whose sole aim and purpose is to retain the barbaric laws of last century imposing upon the workers themselves the entire burden and cost of industrial accidents.

Among those entitled to recognition for valiant and unceasing services on behalf of this humane and most important act ever enacted in this State on behalf of Labor, must be mentioned the members of the Industrial Accident Board, and particularly Mr. Willis I. Morrison, who was kept busy during the entire session in perfecting the details and doing the tedious work of dove-tailing and incorporating or rejecting the ceaseless stream of amendments presented to the bill. His task was difficult indeed, and much credit is due to him for the result as a whole. The constitutionality of various features, as well as of the entire act, was attacked and defended. The San Francisco Labor Council secured, at its own expense, the brief prepared by former Justice Harrison, who set at rest many of the contentions of the opponents. Through the entire fight the Governor lent his

assistance to the measure. So did nearly all the members of the Legislature who were not under the absolute domination of special interests fighting the bill.

It is to be regretted that a few Democrats whose labor record is clear in every other respect, saw fit to oppose this bill although their own platform declared for the adoption of an industrial insurance system by the State.

The following bills supplement the operation of the main bill:

Chapter 177, S. B. 1089. Provides for the organization of mutual workmen's compensation insurance companies. This bill will enable employers to conduct their own insurance on a co-operative basis, and gives an additional means to carry the burden to compensate injured employees. Thus an employer can choose between State insurance, private insurance and co-operative insurance.

Chapter 178, S. B. 1457. Authorizes the Industrial Accident Commission to use the money in the "Accident prevention fund" created by the main act, for the enforcement of safety laws and regulations. All fines collected for the infractions of such laws and regulations are to be paid into that fund.

Chapter 179, S. B. 1458. Creates the "Industrial accident fund" into which are to be deposited all moneys and fees collected by the Industrial Accident Board, and not otherwise disposed of by law. This is a revolving fund for the contingent expenses of the board.

Chapter 180, S. B. 1459. Appropriates \$100,000 for the operation of the "State Compensation Insurance Fund" created by the main act for payment of the claims incurred under the State insurance system.

Chapter 561, S. B. 1774. Creates the Industrial Accident Commission and confers upon it all the duties and powers of the Industrial Accident Board.

SPECIAL SAFETY LEGISLATION.

Chapter 48, S. B. 1070. Painters' scaffolding bill. Bill of similar purpose failed at previous session. Regulates scaffolding swung or supported from overhead support.

Chapter 284, S. B. 982. Requires electric headlights on locomotives. Will assure greater safety for passengers and employees of railroads. Passed upon urgent request of Railroad Brotherhoods.

Chapter 368, S. B. 1608. Requires a telephone system in every mine over 300 feet in depth, to communicate information in cases of accidents or to relieve against same.

Chapter 275, S. B. 1343. Regulates elevators used in buildings under course of construction. Provides for proper system of signals and the employment of proper persons to give such signals.

Chapter 290, S. B. 133. Provides that a hatchtender must be employed to warn against danger in loading and unloading vessels. Similar bill failed at last session.

REGULATION OF HOURS.

Chapter 352, S. B. 466. Limiting the Hours of Women. Amends present law and extends it to cover women employed in public lodging and apartment houses, places of amusement, and women employed in hospitals, excepting graduated nurses. The attempt to otherwise extend the law failed; and both present provisions and the extension secured were fought bitterly, particularly by the Oakland Cotton Mill and the hospital interests exploiting pupil nurses. The latter are young women required to do heavy menial work in addition to their three years' course of study, at from \$5 to \$10 per month, and extreme irregularity of hours, sometimes being assigned to special cases for which the hospitals receive as high as \$30 per week. The revolting conditions revealed did not prevent the opposition from using its utmost efforts to defeat the bill. The press and printed circulars as well as petitions of female employees and a numerous female lobby were employed in that behalf, but the Legislature did not weaken in the face of the incontrovertible facts demonstrating the horrid conditions existing. A system of blacklisting was also used or threatened to be used against pupil nurses opposing the wishes of the managers of these hospitals.

Chapter 226, A. B. 94. Railroadmen's 16-hour law was amended by this bill so as to give eight consecutive hours off duty.

Chapter 214, S. B. 1034. Child labor law amended. Establishes an eight-hour day for minors under 18 in manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile and other establishments, excepting for the making of certain repairs to machinery or for securing shorter hours during one day in the week, but in no case may such minors be employed for more than forty-eight hours a week. Other changes are made to improve the administration of the system of permits and certificates required in cases where some exceptions have to be made regarding minors' attendance at school, and to enable the Labor Commissioner to properly enforce the law.

Chapter 186, S. B. 568. Corrects the Title to the Miners' Eight Hour Law, as former title has been declared by Supreme Court too narrow to embrace tunnel and underground workings other than in mines.

REGULATION OF CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

Chapter 168, S. B. 847. Amends the Railroadmen's Full Crew Bill passed at the 1911 session. Corrects interpretation put upon the law by the Supreme Court, extends the law to cover trains run by electric and other power as well as steam, and makes further regulation for operation over steep grades. Is now held by Railroadmen's organization to be the best bill of the kind in any State in the Union.

Chapter 198, S. B. 292. Regulates Payment of Wages in Seasonal Labor, or where employees are not paid regularly but receive their wages as work ends at the end of the season, like in the Alaska fisheries. Empowers the Labor Commissioner to enforce the payment of wages and settle wage claims in such cases and refuse to recognize gambling debts and liquor bills incurred during the employment. Designed to break up the practice of skinning the men out of their season's earnings.

Chapter 282, S. B. 1413. Regulates Private Employment Agencies. Two years' experience of present Labor Commissioner's office is embodied in this law. It is believed that it will further curb this unruly and plunderous tribe, against which it seems very difficult to find appropriate remedies.

Chapter 333, A. B. 249. Regulates Advertisements and Solicitations for Help during Strikes and other labor troubles. Requires employers and their agents when hiring help from other localities than where such strike or labor trouble exists to make known that fact to those that may be engaged to take the places of former employees.

Chapter 350, A. B. 1118. Anti-Blacklisting Bill. It is very difficult to draw a bill that will both hold water in a legal sense and also accomplish anything of substantial benefit to those who may become victims of blacklisting by employers. This bill is a good beginning, just two or three words in the place of its present language would have been better if the Legislature could have been persuaded to sanction it. As it is, railroadmen think it will accomplish some good.

Chapter 590, A. B. 2080. Establishes State Civil Service under a commission. Only actual experience with such a policy can teach us what defects exist in the law as presented and suggest the proper improvement in the future.

Chapter 613. Relating to Duties of State Printer. Endorsed by the Typographical Unions of the State. Under the provisions of this law, the bill filing rooms of Senate and Assembly will hereafter be under the management of the State Printer. Stricter accounting for supplies and expenditures than in the past are prescribed by this law.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

The appropriation for the office were increased, but several bills designed to increase the scope and standing of this office failed to receive the Governor's approval. It may be surmised that the new safety department to be under the control of the Industrial Accident Commission may have influenced the Governor to assume the attitude to consider these two rival departments. To Labor, however, it seems the two offices are of distinctly different functions, one requiring high technical skill and expert planning, while the other requires only men of practical and energetic executive ability. Labor needs men and offices of both such nature, and it is believed that organized labor in the future will not consent to minimize but rather enlarge the present activities of the labor bureau, the only effective means to enforce labor laws. A law well enforced is better than ten others remaining dead letters on the statute book. The plan to consolidate the two offices would, as we see it, be of no real benefit as different types of men are needed, and one of the more vigorous stamp would hardly be as useful in a more dependent position.

The bills directly concerning the labor bureau are the following.

Chapter 227, A. B. 609. Providing for an Attorney for the Bureau.

Chapter 255, S. B. 1035. Providing for the Registration of Factories.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES.

Chapter 81, A. B. 979. Sterilizing of wiping rags.

Chapter 182, S. B. 343. Sanitation and Inspection of Labor Camps.

Chapter 189, S. B. 563. Lien upon a lot for improvements thereon.

Chapter 278, S. B. 756. Providing for a medicine chest in every factory.

Chapter 371, A. B. 2070. Employees' Ferry Bill. This is the bill so signally fought for by the Mare Island Navy Yard employees against the Vallejo Ferry Company. After a struggle of many years the ferry company obtained a decision from the Supreme Court preventing the employees from using their own boat to cross over to the Navy Yard from the City of Vallejo. In its decision the court pronounced the archaic opinion that an employer may convey himself and "his employees" without infringing upon the company's franchise right to operate a ferry across the channel, but that the same operation on the part of the employees, ferrying themselves in their own boat was not mentioned in the precedents quoted by the judges, and therefore could not be upheld. The Legislature assumed a correct attitude on this matter, the bill was passed and received the Governor's signature, putting the employees upon the same basis as the employer.

BILLS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Chapters 4 and 8, S. B.'s 261 and 501, respectively, Appropriating Money for Distribution of Free Text Books. Several other bills were passed on the subject, which is now in that stage of development that it is no longer considered as a matter of exclusive interest to Labor. In this connection, it may be stated, that every general reform of any greater importance first becomes a Labor measure, and after it has reached a certain stage of success it becomes a general legislative policy of the State and ceases to be regarded any longer as a pure labor matter. To this fact may be ascribed that Labor's representatives at Sacramento need not devote much of their time to promote such issues. They seem to thrive of their own force. This should encourage Labor in all its struggles even when the questions taken up seem to be of an unpopular nature at the time.

Chapter 6, A. B. 197. Raising Rates of Taxation on Public Service Corporations. The first real big measure of the session and passed before the recess. Contrary to predictions made when Constitutional Amendment No. 1 was adopted, this measure carried without any serious show of opposition. Public opinion was behind it and enforced the just increases carried into effect.

The rates were increased as follows: On railroads from 4 to 4.75 per cent. of gross earnings. Gas and Electric companies from 4 to 4.6 per cent. Telegraph and telephone companies from 3.5 to 4.2 per cent. Car companies from 3 to 4 per cent. And Insurance companies from 1.5 to 1.75 per cent. The foregoing increases amount on a percentage basis of former rates for the different corporations mentioned to 183/4, 15, 21, 331/3, and 161/5 per cent. respectively.

The figures submitted by the corporations in support of their contentions that they were taxed already as much as other property, would not bear investigation. This was easily inferred from the fact that shortly after the hearings, which consumed about a week's time, all copies thereof mysteriously disappeared, and frequent inquiries around the capitol building for access to such figures supposed to be on file in certain committees, failed to produce any information whatever concerning them. This is related for the purpose of calling the attention of all interested in the public welfare to the importance of preventing similar occurrences in the future by taking the precaution to preserve such corporation records for future reference. Such records are easy to secure at the moment, but are usually lost or destroyed very soon. In that connection it may be stated that it has come to the notice of more than one investigator of corporation methods and affairs, that many libraries in this State which formerly held in their archives documents of current interest concerning certain corporations no longer are able to produce such documents upon inquiry therefor. Moral: Do not entrust corporation agents with the trusteeship and management of libraries and other repositories of public information.

Chapter 113, S. B. 5. Anti Alien Land Bill. Much controversy has raged as to the merit of this measure. As it stands it is as good a measure as proponents of such measures have heretofore presented. Labor attempted to have the bill enacted into law as it came from the committee without any leasing privilege whatsoever. When this seemed impossible an attempt was made to have all leasing discontinued at the end of three years. All efforts in this direction failed and the three-year leasing clause was adopted both in the Senate and the Assembly by a vote which cannot be called partisan.

As far as Labor is concerned the land question, including the question of leases, are but one-half of the problem. Competition between two un-assimilative races for employment will not diminish through the enactment of any anti-alien land law alone. Labor, however, realizes fully that in the long run it will be easier to deal with the labor end of the question, if no land legislation had preceded it. As this bill has attracted so much public attention, we think the conclusions reached by Labor's representatives at Sacramento should be noted and understood as well.

Chapter 353, A. B. 2086. "Blue-sky-law." To protect investors in corporate securities.

Chapter 276, S. B. 53. Regulating Competition, against unfair discriminations to out competitors.

Chapter 138, A. B. 1697. Prescribing who are qualified to sign Petitions and Nomination Papers. Important bill endorsed by Labor, although not as good as originally drawn.

Chapter 287, S. B. 1740. To minimize Loan Shark Evil. Regulates assignments of wages and prohibits assignment of wages or salary to be earned in the future. Senators Bryant, Benson and Campbell are entitled to credit for the enactment of this bill.

Chapter 323, A. B. 1108. Mothers' Pensions. Appropriates \$860,000 to be distributed for deserving mothers unable to care for orphan children or children abandoned by their father.

Chapter 322, A. B. 970. Establishes a Legislative Counsel Bureau to assist in the drafting of proper legislation.

Chapter 326, A. B. 2095. Comprehensive Motor-Vehicle Bill. Embodies the desire of chauffeurs' unions for licensing of their craft. Their license is fixed at two dollars a year.

Chapter 328, A. B. 836. Appointment and organization of a new State Board of Education.

Chapter 339, A. B. 743. Empowering the Railroad Commission to value public utilities to be condemned by counties or municipalities.

Chapter 356, S. B. 389. Strengthening of the Tenement House Act.

Chapter 364, S. B. 1007. Selection of school text books. To prefer California authors.

Chapter 385, A. B. 1234. Establishing a Department of Tuberculosis under control of State Board of Health.

Chapter 401, S. B. 46. Establishing a State training school for girls along the lines previously adopted for the reformatory for first offenders.

Chapter 512, A. B. 165. Prohibiting Exportation of Abalones, an anti-alien proposition.

Chapter 583, A. B. 7. Abolishes the straightjacket and other cruel punishments in the State prisons. Assemblyman Brown has hitherto unsuccessfully introduced such a bill but kept at it till he won.

Chapter 586, A. B. 642. Provides for a Water Commission to conserve the water power of the State.

Chapter 591, S. B. 139. Establishes a Board of Parole Commissioners and prescribes rules to govern them.

Chapter 597, S. B. 32. Establishes State Inspection of Weights and Measures. Identical with the hard fought bill that failed during the preceding extra session. Labor's long drawn out fight for such a measure finally won. Governor Johnson deserves credit for signing this bill instead of a much less effective bill which also passed and was fathered by Assemblyman Chandler.

Chapter 681, A. B. 1550. Establishes a Commission to study and prepare Legislation for Old Age and Mothers' Pensions. The appropriation is but \$3,000 and may be considered the beginning of a great task. The members of the Commission serve without compensation.

Chapter 694, A. B. 1263. Establishes Teachers' Pensions, with thirty years' service and \$500 straight annuity as a basis. About half of the expense will be paid by contributions from the teachers themselves. Bill was endorsed by the San Francisco Labor Council.

Chapter 167, S. B. 788. Net Container for Foodstuffs. Similar bill failed at previous session.

LAWS ENACTED DESPITE LABOR'S OPPOSITION.

Chapter 318, S. B. 318. Commission on Immigration and Housing. Labor's objection to this bill is not against the object sought to be accomplished, but only to the indefinite nature of the bill and its interference with the scope of other governmental agencies. If a good personnel is appointed the bill may accomplish its purpose, but it would have been more proper, to our notion, to limit the sphere of the commission's activities to the definite subject of caring for immigrants proper instead of the larger contingent of alien born resident and immigration population. As the bill reads, it permits the board to dissipate its energies in fields of research, statistics, etc., where it may do something for the scholarly investigators of social problems, but will have little left to do real good. Its resources are not so great that it can afford to spread out over territory already covered by other governmental agencies.

Chapter 324, A. B. 1251. Minimum Wage Bill, establishes the Industrial Welfare Commission to investigate conditions of women and minors and establish minimum rates of wages.

The act applies to women and minors employed in any industry, and whose compensation for labor is measured by time, piece or otherwise. It is specifically provided that the commission shall not act as a board of arbitration during a strike or lockout. This clause was inserted at the urgent request of organized labor's representatives because it was believed that certain avowed advocates of compulsory arbitration were endeavoring to have their pet hobby enacted into law under the guise of a minimum wage bill.

A deeply significant fact was that the two principal orators for the minimum wage bill were also the two most active proponents of a compulsory arbitration bill which failed of passage two years ago. Having failed to impress their views upon our legislators with reference to compulsory arbitration, which brings with it enforced labor or real enslavement of the workers, our friends (?) did succeed in passing their minimum wage bill.

There may be no direct connection between so-called compulsory arbitration and the establishment of a minimum wage by law. Still, we know that some of Labor's greatest struggles in the past have been to abolish and wipe from the statute books laws enacted for the purpose of regulating wages. Hence, we do not welcome this kind of legislation with the degree of enthusiasm displayed by many of our well-meaning friends higher up. We prefer to wait and see what the events of the future will bring forth. And if this "reform from above" should prove successful it will be the first time in history that anything worth while mentioning has been obtained by the workers through other than their own efforts.

BILLS ADVOCATED BY LABOR BUT NOT PASSED.

This part of the report should be studied carefully as it presents an outline of some hard work by your Legislative Agents which brought no results except that it will serve as the theme for future legislative efforts. We feel quite certain that all our temporary defeats will finally be crowned with victory for we know that all of these measures are deserving of our continued efforts.

The Anti-Injunction Bill, S. B. 54, was again introduced at this session and again defeated, perhaps with more determination than ever on the part of those interests who imagine that without the assistance of the arbitrary functions of a court, their last resort to subjugate Labor is taken from them. Andrew Furuseth, Labor's veteran campaigner in this fight, was again on hand, and delivered a broadside of unanswerable arguments for the bill, but the opposition had the votes and the bill was defeated by a vote of 18 to 22. The roll of honor and shame reads as follows:

Ayes—Senators Beban, Benson, Bryant, Caminetti, Campbell, Cartwright, Finn, Flint, Gerdes, Grant, Hans, Juilliard, Kehoe, Lyon, Regan, Sanford, Shanahan and Tyrrell.

Noes—Senators Anderson, Avey, Birdsall, Boynton, Breed, Brown, Butler, Carr, Cassidy, Cogswell, Cohn, Curtin, Gates, Hewitt, Jones, Larkins, Mott, Owens, Rush, Strobridge, Thompson and Wright.

Senators Cassidy and Rush two years ago voted aye on the same bill, in fact made some sacrifices to stand right with Labor on the question. Senators Cohn and Owens had been pledged not only by the State platform of the Democratic party but by personal letters, during the questioning campaign preceding their election, to vote in favor of the principle of this measure. This is the first recorded instance where such flagrant and unexcusable breaking of platform and labor pledges have been made on an important question. Labor's representatives were confident to pass the bill by at least 22 and possibly 23 votes, as it was thought that Senator Curtin would hardly break away from his party even though his personal antagonism was too well known, but the record of the Senator is not usually characterized by consistency, so the miscalculation in his case may be excused. The result shows plainly that Big Business will take no chances with this bill; its adherents had to make good.

To bring the question up in a more innocent and concrete form, S. B. 1520 was also pressed for passage in the Senate. This bill would make peaceful picketing lawful. That ought to seem harmless enough to any fair-minded person. But the bill was defeated by practically the same vote, the only change being that Senator Cohn of Sacramento this time voted with Labor, and Cartwright went over to the side of Big Business. But what occurred in this legislative struggle to abolish Government by Injunction is only one example of that singularly characteristic of this session—the many inconsistent actions and the hesitation of members regarding the acceptance or rejection of antagonistic principles. This session certainly was a melting pot of good and bad, principle and expediency, selfishness and altruism, a mixture of motive of men not pleasant to contemplate. As one Senator said, "The sessions of the Legislature nowadays are becoming too strenuous, one runs up against the devil and the archangel too often. It used to be 'so different'."

Contempt of Court Bill, S. B. 1296 and A. B. 1574, was another important bill championed by Labor and defeated. It proposed to give any person accused of contempt of court the right to a trial by jury. The bill passed the Assembly without much opposition, but was after a hot and sharp fight defeated. The defeat may be charged directly to the Progressive leaders in the Senate as the National Progressive party is pledged to a reform of this character. This occasion throws a powerful light upon the heterogeneous elements composing the leadership of the State Progressive party organization. Talk about purging the ranks of Labor of some of its leaders, what about the double-headed actions of some Progressives?

To Abolish Property Qualifications of Jurors and to Select Jurors from the Great Register Instead of the Assessment Roll, A. B. 416 and 560 respectively, are two important measures defeated by roll call votes. Both bills passed the Assembly but were defeated on final passage in the Senate. Statistics were shown that progressive California is one of the few remaining States that require voters to

possess property in order to serve on a jury. There was not and cannot be much of an argument for the opposition, but it had the votes. Moral: Don't fail to look up your Senator's and Assemblyman's record!

The Cement Bill, A. B. 75 and S. B. 134. Provided originally for preventive appliances in factories against cement dust, and for dust-proof containers for the handling of cement in vessels and in railroad cars.

The powerful opposition manifested by a numerous and expensive lobby maintained by the cement trust during the biggest part of the session, induced the Assembly Committee on Labor and Capital to eliminate the part of the bill affecting the cement plants, although Senator Wright and other legislators stated with some pride that several cement factories in the South are operated under dustless conditions. On instructions by the Assembly a special committee made a personal investigation concerning the handling of cement in factories and vessels. Their report was published in the Journal and made out a strong case for the necessity of this legislation. Nevertheless, the bill was thought to be a cinch bill by the majority, who defeated the measure. A companion bill, S. B. 134, was amended so as to require simply that cement loaded in ocean-going vessels should be packed in paper bags or equally dust-proof containers. Medical and other testimony of the highest character was introduced to disprove the assertions that the bill was not practical and necessary. Senator Bryant made an unusually effective plea in behalf of the bill, but the influence of the cement trust had then been cinched so strongly that this humane measure failed of passage. The fate of this measure is about as black a spot on the fortieth session as its detractors in other directions might have found but significantly fail to mention.

Absent Voters' Bill, A. B. 541. Would establish a system enabling those absent from their voting precinct on election day to cast their votes in any part of the State. Thousands of workmen, particularly railroad men, seamen, laborers, and other migratory workers are seldom enabled to vote on account of present election system. The bill passed both houses, but was pocketed by the Governor. As this bill probably could have been passed over the Governor's tacit veto, it illustrates the point that it is possible that present practice to leave nearly all legislation in the hands of the Governor for his approval after the Legislature has adjourned is not without its distinct disadvantages and it should be borne in mind at all times that in the final analysis the legislation for the State depends upon the attitude of its Governor. There is scarcely any doubt but what this meritorious bill will be enacted at the next session.

To Protect Married Men Under New Compensation Law, S. B. 1519. Bill required employer under compensation to pay the death benefits incurred on account of death of unmarried employee, leaving no dependents, into the Accident Prevention Fund, for use of the State in preventing industrial accidents. Designed to prevent discrimination against married men as it is feared that employers will prefer to employ unmarried men so as to save the cost of death benefits. Passed both houses but was pocketed by the Governor.

Exemption of Wage Earners from Certain Attachments, A. B. 1575. Designed to alleviate discriminations in existing laws relating to amount of wages exempt from execution or attachments. Died in Assembly Judiciary Committee for lack of necessary votes.

Barbers' Registration Bill, A. B. 1487. Also requiring sanitation of barber shops. As it was intimated that the Governor would prefer a bureau under supervision of the State Board of Health instead of an independent board, the barbers' measure was changed to effect that object. It passed both houses, but did not receive the Governor's signature. Possibly it possessed still some inherent defect, which ought to be remedied as we believe such a measure will prove beneficial to the barbers' craft as well as to the patrons of barber shops.

Guaranty Fund to Indemnify Depositors in Insolvent Banks, S. B. 448. Failed to attract the attention of the Legislature, because it was fathered by a Democrat instead of a Progressive; just the reason why some other good measures failed.

Steam-Boiler Inspection, A. B. 232. Defeated in the Assembly, after having been amended to suit some prominent opponents. Moral: One may just as well insist on the straight goods. It got only 19 votes in its favor, a result that certainly was not brought about by making concessions to the interests opposed to the bill.

Providing for Inspection of Steel Structures, S. B. 860. Died in committee.

Appropriating Ten Thousand Dollars to Investigate and Prepare Legislation for Old Age Pension System, S. B. 686. Received unfavorable recommendation from Senate Finance Committee and died on third reading file, being reported out too late for action. Another bill appropriating only three thousand was signed.

Appropriating Five Thousand Dollars for Preparing Legislation for Relief of Unemployment, S. B. 1273. This measure was jockeyed so it could not receive decisive action. Like the former bill, the proposed commission would receive no salary. That may have also contributed to its defeat as the Minimum Wage bill carries fine per diem allowances.

Day of Rest Legislation, S. B. 140. Providing for one day rest in seven in all

employments, private and public. Held up in Senate Finance Committee, evidently because the State is not ready to give all employees a day off a week, particularly in State institutions.

As there was considerable agitation for a Sunday-rest law, an attempt was made to combine the most essential feature of such law with the Labor bill for one day rest in seven. The compromise would establish Sunday as the day of rest in certain mercantile and factory employments which now generally observe Sunday as a day of rest. Likewise a special bill, S. B. 959, was introduced in favor of employees in State institutions. All bills of the kind were relentlessly smothered in committees.

Eight-Hour Day for Females Employed in Public Institutions, S. B. 1559. Died in Senate Finance Committee.

Licensing of Detective Agencies, A. B. 1107 and S. B. 1069. Could find no support, although representatives of Morse and other detective agencies were willing to become regulated and pay a reasonable license as they are required to do in other States. But the members of the committees held that this was simply a Labor scheme to get after the poor detectives.

To Regulate the Repayment of Employers' Advances, A. B. 739 and S. B. 1008. Would guarantee employees certain length of employment before employer is permitted to deduct fares. Passed both houses, but was pocketed by the Governor. It was never claimed by any legislator that the bill was unconstitutional; however, if it was, it might have been signed to enable us to find out how far we might go in such regulation. The prohibition against dividing of fees in another bill that became law sounds good but is practically unenforceable as evidence will be hard to procure in majority of cases. Therefore some measure like this should be enacted where the remedy and the evidence are both in the hands of the employee, to break up the practice of keeping a constant stream of men coming and going on big jobs for the profit there is in the division of fees and in some cases transportation profits as well.

Providing that Electrician Clearing Trouble on Power and Electric Poles and Lines Shall Have a Helper, A. B. 982. Was defeated in the Assembly.

State Employment Bureaus, S. B. 651. Proposed to expend \$100,000 for State Employment Offices; failed in committee. A. B. 530, appropriating \$25,000 for three offices, passed both houses, but was not signed. The State administration, as well as the Labor Bureau, do not feel very enthusiastic on this proposition, but in our humble judgment the money for this purpose would have been well expended, particularly in view of expected immigration due to the opening of the Panama Canal. As it is, the incoming hordes of immigrants will be rich pickings for private employment agents.

Regulating Places of Employment, S. B. 1385. A comprehensive measure that failed to be acted upon, though fathered by the Labor Bureau.

Regulating Fire Escapes, S. B. 1397. There were several bills on same subject. It seems a pity some such bill was not signed. Governor's action, however, is based upon the probability that the entire matter as far as concerns places of employment will be regulated by the safety department of the Industrial Accident Commission. The power of that commission does not extend so as to reach all dwellings. A determined effort should be made at next session to get a State law covering the entire field of protecting human life and domestic animals against fire.

Granite Cutters' Bill, A. B. 694, and another bill to prevent competition in the Granite Cutters' trade by prison-made stone, died in the Senate committee, though the first-mentioned bill passed the Assembly.

Fishermen's License Bill, A. B. 101. As originally drawn would establish prohibitory licenses for fishermen ineligible to become citizens. As it passed and was signed it is rather a bill in their favor as it puts all aliens, including Asiatics, on the same footing with citizens.

Home Industry Bill, A. B. 214. To promote home industry and give same preference in bidding for municipal and State contracts. Passed both houses but was pocketed by Governor.

Regulating Collection of Hospital Fees by Employers, A. B. 1908. Died on Assembly files.

The General (misnamed universal) Eight-Hour Law, A. B. 31. Introduced by the Socialist member of the Legislature. The Socialists of the State by their actions seem to have considered this bill the only important measure before the Legislature as some of their publications had very little to say on other measures. In justice to Assemblyman Kingsley it should be said that he was not of a narrow partisan type, for he did valiant service on every labor measure that come before him. He also knows that if he had not introduced this bill it would have been introduced by others. The arguments in the committee both as to the provisions of the bill and its constitutionality were made by trade-unionists, and we believe that the 31 votes that were cast for the measure were cast through the influence of trade-unionism. The petition of 90,000 signers was also circulated and signed to a large extent by trade-unionists.

The roll of honor reads: Ayes—Messrs, Alexander, Bloodgood, Brown, Bush,

Byrnes, Canepa, Collins, Ferguson, Finnegan, Fitzgerald, Ford, Gelder, Hayes, Inman, Kingsley, McCarthy, McDonald, Morgenstern, Mouser, Ryan, Scott, Shartel, Smith, Stuckenbruck, Tulloch, Wall, Weisel, Walsh, Weldon and White. One name is not recorded but at the time all who watched the roll call are unanimous in saying that they heard 31 ayes.

Industrial Courts, for Quick Collection of Wage Claims, S. B. 1381 and S. B. 1759. Both bills died; the first on files, the second in committee.

Increasing Staff of Labor Commissioner and Giving Him Power to Enforce all Labor Laws, S. B. 1314. Passed but not signed. Reason unknown; appropriation for labor bureau was much increased.

Prohibiting Employers From Coercing Men not to Join Labor Unions, S. B. 1748. Failed in committee.

Inspection of Mines, A. B. 752. Great endeavors were made in the last days of the session to prevail on the Senate to pass this bill. If Senator Boynton's objections could have been eliminated, the bill probably would have been passed. However, the Industrial Accident Commission has power to inaugurate such inspection. A. B. 1306, regulating conditions in mines, suffered the same fate as the preceding bill. Same applies to A. B. 1602, which would have the miners' eight-hour day commence on entering the mine. Assemblyman Finnegan fought hard for these three measures, but time was too short to circumvent the powerful opposition.

Prohibiting Minors Under 16 Years to Transmit Train Orders, A. B. 1260. Passed the Assembly, died in Senate Judiciary Committee, the graveyard of many good measures.

Reporting of Occupational Diseases, S. B. 216. An improvement in the present law. Endorsed by Secretary of the State Board of Health. Passed by both houses, not signed for reason unknown.

Prohibiting Use of Third Degree and Oppression of Persons Taken in Custody, S. B. 544. Died in committee.

Produce Exchange Commission, A. B. 254. Aimed to eliminate middlemen between producers and consumers. Passed Assembly, died in Senate Finance Committee.

Seats for Employees on Interurban Lines, A. B. 107. No action.

Stormshed for Mechanics Working in Railroad Shops, A. B. 1003. No action.

Spotters' Bill, A. B. 1484. Provides that an employee being reported by a so-called spotter have an opportunity to be heard in the presence of such spotter before being discharged. Passed the Assembly, defeated in the Senate.

Clearance Bill, A. B. 1501. Prescribes width of locomotives and standard clearances against obstructions near railroad tracks. Fathered by Railroad Brotherhoods. No action.

To Abolish Railroad and Steamboat Police, S. B. 322. No action.

Low Water Alarm in Boilers, S. B. 984. Passed Senate, died in Assembly committee.

Shoddy Bill, A. B. 1422. To clean shoddy. Passed Assembly, died in Senate committee.

Sanitation of Food Producing Establishments, S. B. 674. To establish system of permits for conducting food-producing establishments to facilitate enforcement of food and sanitation act. No action.

Owners' Valuation of Property, A. B. 1510. Requiring owner to set value on his own property for assessment purposes, giving option to State or county to purchase the property at such value. No action.

Common Language of Employees, S. B. 373. Requiring certain employees to speak common language for the promotion of public safety. No action.

Citizens for Public Work, A. B. 88. To amend the law requiring public work to be done only by citizens. Passed Assembly, died in Senate committee.

Prevailing Wages on Public Work, A. B. 1495. Aimed to enforce payment of prevailing rate of wages in public work. Passed by both houses, pocketed by Governor.

To Enforce Eight Hours on Public Contract Work, A. B. 1496. Passed Assembly, died in Senate Judiciary Committee.

Three Dollars Minimum Wage on Public Contracts, S. B. 516. Aimed to make \$3.00 per day the minimum pay on public contract work. Passed both houses, but was pocketed by Governor.

University Extension. At the instance of the State University, bills were introduced appropriating only \$20,000 for University Extension. At the instance of Labor companion bills were introduced providing for a \$50,000 appropriation. The \$50,000 bill passed the Assembly and was dropped in the Senate as the item was included in the General Appropriation Bill.

The Governor saw fit to eliminate this item from the General Appropriation Bill, explaining his reasons for so doing as follows:

"It is unnecessary that this item be included in the general appropriation bill. This item is not disapproved because of any lack of enthusiasm for University Extension work. On the contrary, it is the wish of the Legislature and the

Governor of the State of California that the University Extension work be carried on, improved and broadened. It is the hope and the desire of all familiar with the appropriations for the University that plans for a greater extension work shall be matured without delay, and that a greater and broader work in this field shall be immediately commenced. The State this year has provided for the University of California with the utmost generosity, and its appropriations at this session of the Legislature far exceed those ever before made. This has been done in pursuance of the fixed purpose of the State administration to bring the University closer to the people, and to render it of the service it should be to the toilers, the farmers and the horticulturists of the State, and to bring to all classes some of its benefits. One of the methods of thus bringing to all something of value is by University extension work; and this can be and should be not only continued but greatly improved and enlarged out of the extraordinarily liberal appropriations that have been given this year."

The total appropriation for the University for the next two years is \$3,407,000. Past experience with the Board of Regents of our State-owned University has taught us to expect little or nothing in the line of University Extension work. It remains to be seen whether or not an effort will be made during the coming two years to bring the work of this costly institution a little nearer and closer to the needs of the working people who pay the taxes for its support.

Printing of Transcripts in Criminal Cases, S. B. 531. Passed by both houses. Pocketed. Fought for by Typographical unions.

Forbidding use of Scrip of Store Orders in Payment of Wages, abolishing company stores, A. B. 340. No action.

Regulating Time of Payment of Wages, S. B. 275. The bill of the State Federation of Labor received no action. Labor was not united as to the proper policy, hence nothing done.

Regulating Deductions from Wages during Sickness, A. B. 597. Passed Assembly, died on Senate files.

Steam Engineers' Licensing bill, A. B. 663. Passed both houses, pocketed by Governor. Several unions were opposed to this bill.

Regulating Hours of Street Railway Employees, A. B. 34. Died on files in Assembly, as unions involved could not agree upon the proper terms of the measure.

BILLS DEFEATED OWING TO OPPOSITION OF LABOR.

A number of bills regulating assignments of wages, deemed rather to assist than defeat the objects of loan sharks.

A number of bills relating to mechanics' liens and which would re-establish unsatisfactory conditions existing previous to the enactment of good laws in 1911.

A number of bills to repeal legislation enacted in 1911 for the protection of Electrical workers. The Railroad Commission rendered valuable assistance in this matter by recommending that present legislation remain on the statute books. The Legislature referred a great many bills to said commission, and its reply was quickly forthcoming in each instance, showing the value of such reference. The contentions of Labor that although a regulation may come under the jurisdiction of a board or commission, standards may nevertheless be established by the Legislature to be enforced by such bodies, were upheld by the commission.

S. B. 1004. Regulates use of soaps, cups, etc., in barber shops. Passed by both houses. Pocketed.

A number of bills relating to removals of cemeteries. San Francisco Labor Council and Building Trades were mainly interested in defeating those bills.

S. B. 1333. Consolidating Bureau of Labor Statistics and Industrial Accident Commission. Considered unwise at present.

S. B. 1334. Restoring old abuse of **special verdicts** to be required from the jury on request of attorney. This trick was used by corporations to defeat recovery in damage cases. Senator Gates asked the Judiciary Committee to kill his own bill. It was done.

A number of employers' liability and compensation acts were introduced but none of them came out of committee, except A. B. 1189, which would have been reached on the file within a few minutes if time set for abandonment of further action on all Assembly bills had not come at the opportune moment. On the subject of liability complete codification must be made at the next session, because if the new compensation act takes effect, a very chaotic condition regarding liability will be found to exist.

Some labor organizations were much interested in the fish and game legislation, and assisted in the adoption or defeat of many such measures.

The Typographical unions were affected by many bills relating to legal procedure and printing.

Several bills were introduced fixing the legal minimum wage for women and

minors. The amounts were too low, but the prevailing opinion among many Labor representatives was that a high enough rate would be acceptable as an experiment with the principle. Of course those who favor a legal minimum wage would not consider anything near a \$12 a week minimum wage for women as suggested to them in debates on the question.

A number of constitutional amendments were opposed and received no action.

A. B. 1612. Would restore the old abuse to punish seamen for boarding vessels. No action.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ADOPTED.

- A. C. A. 32. Extra sessions of District Courts of Appeal.
- S. C. A. 12. Relating to appeals.
- S. C. A. 13. Payment of bonds.
- S. C. A. 15. Exempting certain colleges from taxation.
- S. C. A. 17. Exemption of vessels from taxation.
- S. C. A. 16. Taking of property for public use.
- S. C. A. 34. Restricting power to incur indebtedness.
- S. C. A. 53. Municipal operation of public utilities.
- A. C. A. 6. Relating to revenue and taxation.
- A. C. A. 7. Home rule in taxation. Endorsed.
- A. C. A. 19. Relative to elections.
- A. C. A. 23. Relating to employees of the Legislature.
- A. C. A. 25. Municipal corporations.
- A. C. A. 47. Reclamation and drainage districts.
- A. C. A. 60. Charter amendments of counties.
- A. C. A. 62. Regulation of public utilities.
- A. C. A. 81. Municipal corporations.
- A. C. A. 84. Irrigation districts.
- A. C. A. 87. Powers of Railroad Commission.
- A. C. A. 88. Revision of State Constitution.
- A. C. A. 90. Welfare of employees.
- A. C. A. 92. Election of U. S. Senators.

At a later date complete analysis of all constitutional amendments to be voted on at next State election (Nov., 1914) will be made and published by the State Federation.

