



**CALIFORNIA
INDUSTRIAL UNION
COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS
TO THE
6th ANNUAL
STATE
CONVENTION**

CONVENTION HALL: EXHIBIT HALL, MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

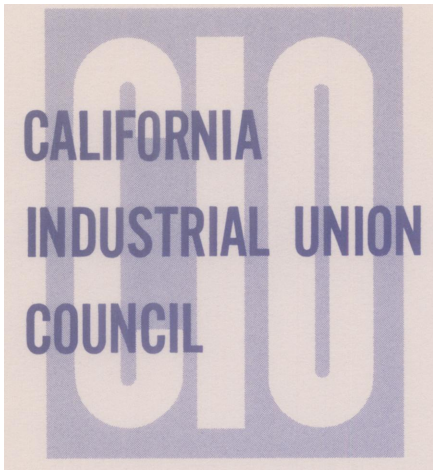
CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS: WILTON HOTEL

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA



53

NOVEMBER 3-4-5-6, 1955



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OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD OF CIO-CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCIL

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IUE LEROY OLESON	UPW STEVE RAY
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UTSEA.....IRENE FEIGHT EVANS	

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

GERALDINE LESHIN *Director*

REPORT OF OFFICERS

"Decisions to do good—to channel efforts into wise and worthy undertakings—are, in the final analysis, meaningless unless an action program to implement them is conscientiously undertaken and the objectives reach fruition.

"In a sense this responsibility assumes greater implications on the eve of the historic merger of the two great American labor organizations, for we in CIO in California must join with our AF of L brothers to continue, from a greater position of strength, the humanitarian and liberal philosophy which guides the program and projects of CIO and organized labor in general. It therefore follows that California CIO must make concrete contributions when organized labor officially joins hands in this State."

—from Official Call to Sixth Annual Convention

GREETINGS:

This Report, presented to the delegates attending the Sixth Annual Convention of the CIO-California Industrial Union Council, represents a resumé of the activities and programs of the Council since the last Convention.

The officers of the Council have made an effort in this Report to give an overall picture of the activities and programs of the Council—supported in these undertakings by its CIO affiliates—in various fields of endeavor, and the results of such activities and programs, particularly on the legislative and political action fronts.

The information contained herein should serve as a practical guide to the delegates in formulating the State CIO program for the months ahead, in determining what areas of activity should be strengthened and in deciding those policies that should be reaffirmed or adopted.

It is the sincere hope of the officers that the delegates read this Report with care and after so doing, express their approval of the work performed and of the efforts and finances expended by the California CIO Council.

The work of the past year has been based on Convention mandates and has reflected itself in the community to the degree that the CIO voice in California is articulate, meaningful and respected.

It should be noted at the outset that the support and cooperation given by CIO unions and county councils have made the work and achievements of the CIO State Council possible. Thanks and appreciation are extended to all CIO groups and members for their understanding and all-out support.

I. CALIFORNIA CIO-PAC

→ Election Year: 1954

The previous Report of 1954 detailed the endorsement of candidates by the State CIO-PAC and the primary and general elections activities of the Council—auto-typist services to candidates, help in political campaign press releases, distribution of candidate and ballot proposition slate cards, financial contributions, research information to CIO-endorsed candidates, etc.

However, the Report went to press before the November election results were available for candidates and ballot propositions.

The following data, prepared by the Department of Education and Legislative Research, affords information on how CIO-PAC candidates fared and the outcome of ballot proposals. (The Department prepared a detailed report on the results of every race in the primary and an equally detailed report on

each race in the general election; the latter likewise compared registration, voter participation and candidates' and party votes with the primary.)

CIO-PAC SCOREBOARD

CANDIDATES How did CIO-PAC candidates fare in the 1954 elections? Because the effect of cross filing diminished—mainly due to party identification on the primary ballot—as compared with the '52 primary election, 95% of CIO-endorsed candidates were either nominated or re-elected to office. (Following the primary, the California CIO Political Action Committee, on which all international unions and county councils have representation, made a few additional endorsements in districts which had been left "open".)

Notwithstanding the success of CIO political activity which resulted in favorable primary results, the CIO scoreboard for the general election points up harsh realities. Our November total losses still outnumbered our total gains. While gains were made in the run-offs, the fact remains that until the liberal-labor community faces up to the two inter-related deterrents to victory—paucity of campaign dollars and a lack of year-round organization of liberals in the field of political action—the increase in liberal representation will indeed be a slow process.

It also points up the fact that organized labor cannot do the job alone. It will take adequately sustained financing and a well-organized coalition of liberal elements in the community to overcome the present minority status liberals now hold in state government, the state legislature and in the California congressional delegation.

However, gains were made in the state legislature. This matter is discussed in detail in the section on legislative activities.

Following is a summary of how CIO-endorsed candidates fared in the 1954 elections:

8 State-Wide Races (7 partisan; 1 non-partisan)

No. of Races Endorsed by CIO-PAC		CIO-PAC Wins	CIO-PAC Losses
8 out of 8	Primary	2*	
	General	0	6 (75%)
	Total	2 (25%)	

*CIO-PAC-endorsed candidate, Democratic incumbent Edmund Brown, won on both primary tickets in the Attorney General race. Non-partisan race for Superintendent of Public Instruction was won by incumbent Roy Simpson, endorsed by CIO-PAC.

4 Board of Equalization Races

No. of Races Endorsed by CIO-PAC		CIO-PAC Wins	CIO-PAC Losses
3 out of 4	Primary	1*	
	General	1	1 (33%)
	Total	2 (67%)	

*Republican incumbent Quinn, endorsed by CIO-PAC, won in primary—had no opposition on either ticket.

30 Congressional Races

No. of Races Endorsed by CIO-PAC		CIO-PAC Wins	CIO-PAC Losses
30 out of 30	Primary	2*	
	General	9	19 (63%)
	Total	11 (37%)	

*Democratic incumbents Clair Engle and John Shelley—endorsed by CIO-PAC—were re-elected in the primary—Shelley ran unopposed.

20 State Senate Races

No. of Races Endorsed by CIO-PAC		CIO-PAC Wins	CIO-PAC Losses
12 out of 20	Primary	5*	
	General	3	4 (33%)
		—	
	Total	8 (67%)	

*11 out of 20 contests were decided in the primary. 5 incumbents ran unopposed; 5 incumbents and 1 non-incumbent won both party nominations. Of the 11 victorious candidates, 5 were endorsed by CIO-PAC.

80 Assembly Races

No. of Races Endorsed by CIO-PAC		CIO-PAC Wins	CIO-PAC Losses
67 out of 80 races	Primary	12*	
	General	24	31 (46%)
		—	
	Total	36 (54%)	

*22 out of 80 races were decided in the primary. 15 incumbents ran unopposed; 7 won both party nominations. Of the 22 victorious candidates, 12 were endorsed by CIO-PAC.

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS As a result of CIO efforts, some of the worst ballot measures were defeated and some of the best were given voter approval. Not only were ballot proposition slate cards distributed to CIO local unions in bulk and to CIO families in small quantities, but an additional 250,000 were distributed to campaign headquarters throughout California. This, in addition to newspaper ads on some of the major proposals, represented the most thorough coverage and dissemination of ballot proposition information conducted by *any* organization in the State!

Out of 20 ballot measures, the California CIO Political Action Committee took a stand on all 20—15 were supported, 5 were opposed.

Here is the CIO-PAC scoreboard on ballot measures:

	Carried	Defeated
15 measures supported by CIO-PAC	11 (73%)	4 (27%)
5 measures opposed by CIO-PAC	1 (20%)	4 (80%)

Thus the CIO position was upheld by the voters on 15 out of 20 measures, representing a 75% favorable win in terms of measures either supported or opposed by California CIO.

→ Special Elections: 1955

As this Report goes to press, CIO-PAC is awaiting the outcome of the September 20th special election in the 4th Assembly District (Butte, Sutter and Yuba Counties) to fill the vacant seat of the late Assemblyman Don Hobbie (R). CIO support has gone to the Democratic candidate, Arthur Coats, Jr., former Assemblyman.

A special election in the 31st Senatorial District (Santa Barbara County) to fill the seat left vacant by the late Republican Senator Clarence Ward, is to be held on November 8th. A decision on a CIO endorsement will be made once the candidates and the programs they espouse are known. In line with the democratic philosophy of government that a good citizen is a participating citizen, your CIO Council officers notified CIO local unions in the area, urging that they register their unregistered members and their families in order to participate in the November 8 special election.

(Permit us a parenthetical note at this point—the CIO State Council office participates actively, on a day-to-day

basis, with those groups, organizations or individuals who have taken on the task of registering eligible voters to the end that a *potential* voter becomes an *active* voter.)

Two other special elections have been called by the Governor for Dec. 6: in the 8th Assembly District (Sacramento) and the 1st Senatorial District (Lassen, Modoc, Plumas Counties). Republican Assemblyman Gordon Fluery has been appointed to a judgeship; death took Democratic Senator Dale Williams.

Since 1953 the Democrats have been successful in special elections; consequently the Bourbon Party is anxious to hold them; the Republicans, obviously, less so.

The most recent example of success for the Democrats was the May 3, 1955 victory of Fred Farr over ex-Assembly Speaker James Silliman (R) for the Senate seat from Monterey County. Farr received CIO support. Particularly active in his campaign were the United Packinghouse Workers in the area. The physical aid plus the financial assistance given by the CIO State Council and CIO affiliates helped in the defeat of a man who is identified with the anti-labor forces in this State.

This race likewise re-emphasized a point often stated by your officers: "in a marginal race an extra effort can turn the tide." The special election in Monterey County was a marginal race; the "extra" effort resulted in Fred Farr edging out his opponent by 1532 votes—or to put it another way, newly elected Senator Farr received 53% of the total vote cast; Silliman, 47%.

→ Campaign Funds

The elections alluded to in the foregoing were financed through the use of two different funds. Support of candidates for federal office (e.g., Congressmen) came from the Voluntary Fund, built up through voluntary PAC dollar donations of individual union members.

The other fund—the State Election Fund—both in 1954 and 1955 has been largely sustained by the 30¢ per capita treasury contributions by local unions. The 30¢ appeal in both years has been the result of an Executive Board decision. *Without this treasury money, it would have been impossible to have printed the ballot proposition slate cards, the newspaper ads on some of the measures and to have made contributions to state candidates (state offices from Governor down through the Assembly districts).*

The Executive Board joins with the officers in acknowledging in this Report appreciation to the local unions that have supported the State Election Fund through this special per capita appeal.

With the 1956 elections approaching, the urgency of building up both the Voluntary and State Election Funds becomes self-evident. CIO made notable gains in the 1953 special elections and 1954 election of state legislators—these gains reflected themselves in the 1955 session. (See "Legislative Activities" for report on session.) The present status of these Funds and the record of the unions contributing to them are contained in the Financial Report to be found in the Convention kit.

→ Tools Used in CIO-PAC Work

The 1954 Officers Report detailed the many practical "tools" used by the Council in its political work—both during and between campaigns. However, for the benefit of delegates

attending a CIO State Convention for the first time, the officers feel it incumbent to reiterate the work performed and the "tools" used by the Council in support of candidates and issues. Also this will afford a thumbnail sketch preview of the Council's activities during the 1956 election year.

AUTO-TYPIST SERVICE TO CIO-ENDORSED CANDIDATES

With 6 auto-typist machines (3 in the State Council office in Los Angeles and 3 in the Oakland office of the Council) which produce "personally-typed" letters, CIO-PAC candidates have been offered an invaluable service in sending out hundreds of thousands of letters, appealing for funds and/or campaign workers and in sending special letters to professional groups.

In addition, both offices of the Council have handled volumes of "thank you" letters sent out by candidates to both campaign workers and contributors.

One of the most important things a candidate needs is a political secretary. Most cannot afford this nor could one person adequately or physically handle thousands of personally typed letters. The CIO auto-typist service has met this problem and, in the final analysis, represents additional financial contributions given by CIO to its endorsed candidates.

That the service, in addition to direct financial contributions, has meant a great deal in the effectiveness of their campaigns, is told by the candidates themselves. Your attention is directed to Appendix I where a few of the candidates' comments can be read.

NAMES OF CONTRIBUTORS AND WORKERS GIVEN CANDIDATES

A combination of gummed tape, an addressograph machine and names on addressograph plates add up to an important and helpful contribution to CIO-PAC candidates. Since 1952 the Council has methodically and painstakingly collected and placed on plates and in a card file, the names and addresses of persons active in the campaign of liberal candidates—persons within and outside of CIO.

This is one example of the year 'round attention given by your Council to political action. During 1955, the thousands of new names collected from the 1954 campaigns have been processed and placed in their proper file by assembly district.

Long before a primary and awaiting CIO endorsements, the staff runs off these names on gummed tape by assembly districts so that CIO-PAC candidates will have a base of names from which to secure workers and obtain financial help. Thus, in 1956 all CIO-endorsed candidates will receive their respective lists of names early in the campaign days; all they need do is to cut the tape then place each name and address on an envelope for a letter mailing or on a postcard.

PRESS RELEASE WORK

As in 1954, the Council office anticipates being the "nerve" center during the '56 elections in another phase of the candidates' communication needs or problems.

Very few new candidates or campaign committees start out in a campaign with a knowledge of the minority and community newspapers which exist along with the metropolitan papers, radio and TV stations.

The Council office has on plates a list of approximately 900 papers, radio and TV stations. Community papers are broken

down by assembly districts—this has been of beneficial and practical help to our local candidates in disseminating press releases within their given communities as well as to the metropolitan press, radio and TV. The entire list has been used extensively and intensively by statewide candidates who have received CIO endorsement.

FACTUAL TOOLS

On a year 'round basis, the Department of Education and Legislative Research distributes factual material to PAC chairmen, political clubs and politically active citizens. In addition, the congressional and state legislative delegations are kept informed of the CIO position on national and state issues—issues which play a prominent role during political campaigns and in which CIO endorsements predominantly depend.

Materials such as the National CIO *Economic Outlook* and material prepared by the Council office, including the *Newsletter*, are disseminated to the political community and law makers. This is another example of the State Council's day-by-day approach to a 365 days-a-year political action program.

The many issues on which CIO attempts to keep its members and the community apprised form the basis on which the CIO-PAC candidate questionnaires are prepared. The CIO position on these issues has been determined by Convention action—on the national and state levels. These endorsements are made according to the legislative program or "legislative yardstick" adopted through democratic CIO convention decisions.

→ Participation in Party Affairs

In line with CIO-PAC policy to participate in the affairs of the two major political parties, the Council arranged to have the UAW Education Director of Southern California and the Northern California Director of CWA appear before the California Republican Assembly meeting in Stockton during December of 1954. The two CIO spokesmen presented the views of CIO and organized labor in general to the Labor Committee of the Republican Assembly. Specifically, the two spokesmen presented the CIO position on the so-called "Right-to-Work" proposals, the guaranteed annual wage, the eight hour day and equal pay for women.

The significance of this type of activity can be found in the comments of the CWA spokesman who wrote to your Council officers that "it was apparent from some of the questions asked...most of the audience as well as some of the Committee were completely uninformed as to how unions operated, what union security is, and how union security is obtained..." He went on to say: "It is my impression that this is the first time any labor people have appeared before this group...and I feel that it certainly was worth our time to appear. The lack of knowledge of the objectives and operation of unions as indicated by their questions and comments... certainly reveals a wide area for further educational work."

It is this type of activity that will "educate" both political parties not only to trade unionism but also will help clarify in their minds why labor is and must be active in the political life of the community, state, nation and world.

Another phase of this participation in the political affairs of both parties was the support given to the two Democratic dinners held in Northern and Southern California, respectively.

Another example is the appearance of CIO State Council officers or their representatives before both political and civic

meetings to present the CIO program and recommendations on issues which are confronting both parties.

These are just a few examples of the CIO Council program—in line with CIO-PAC policy to participate in the affairs of the major political parties.

II. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

- ☆ on the state level
- ☆ on the national level

→ On the State Level

COMPOSITION OF LEGISLATURE

When the 1955 regular session of the legislature convened, the Republicans again organized both houses of the legislature, just as they have done since 1943.

As an historical legislative note, the GOP has always maintained control of the Senate even when a Democratic Governor, Culbert Olson, took over the gubernatorial reins in 1939. At the time, only 18 Democrats sat in the Senate (back in '31, they could count only 3 members in the upper house!).

The Democrats lost control of the Assembly in 1943 when Earl Warren was first elected. Since that time both houses have been under GOP stewardship.

However, Democrats made gains in the 1953 special and the 1954 general elections, so that when the '55 session began they had garnered 5 additional seats in each house.

At the beginning of the session the original line-up of party representation was as follows:

STATE SENATE	ASSEMBLY
24 Republicans	47 Republicans
16 Democrats	32 Democrats
—	1 Vacancy
40 Total	—
	80 Total

Resignations or deaths created 4 additional vacant Assembly seats, all previously held by Republicans, and 2 vacant Senate seats; the latter were held by a Democrat and Republican, respectively.

The 4th District seat is to be filled at a special election on September 20. The district was formerly represented by the late Don Hobbie (R).

As this Report goes to press these Assembly seats are vacant for the reasons noted:

DISTRICT	COUNTY	REASON FOR VACANCY
8	Sacramento	Gordon Fleury (R) resigned to become a Superior Court Judge. Special election has been called for December 6.
25	San Mateo	Daniel Creedon (R) resigned to serve as a lobbyist for the California Brewers' Institute.
35	Tulare	Roscoe Patterson (R) died shortly after '55 session.
75	Orange	Leroy E. Lyon, Jr. (R) resigned to become lobbyist for the railroad interests.

The following Senate seats are vacant for the reasons noted:

DISTRICT	COUNTY	REASON FOR VACANCY
1	Lassen, Modoc, Plumas	Dale Williams (D) died during the session. Special election has been called for December 6.
31	Santa Barbara	Clarence Ward (R) also died. Special election has been called for November 8.

The number of vacancies that have occurred is an all time high.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1955 CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A sizeable number of liberal and practical measures sponsored or supported by the California CIO Council were dropped in the hopper.

Taking all factors into account, the 1955 session can be summed up as the best session since 1939 in the field of monetary gains for labor.

Compared with the last regular session in 1953—or going all the way back to 1939—the special session in 1954 and the 1955 regular session, provided greater "bread and butter" gains for labor. Increased benefits totaling over \$42 million come in the form of increases in old age assistance, workmen's compensation, unemployment and disability insurance and other related legislation. Of the \$8.00 per week increase in unemployment insurance, \$5.00 was obtained in the special session. Unlike other sessions in recent years, civil rights and civil liberties legislative battles took on a more positive aspect.

Bills designed to destroy unions or put them in a legal straightjacket never really got rolling. In general the "political atmosphere" around the legislative halls was a substantial improvement over the 1953 session which we characterized two years ago as "the worst in 20 years."

On the other hand the 1955 legislative session had a lot in common with many recent legislative sessions. The legislators were bogged down considering thousands of bills dealing with minute details concerning various problems in the State. The majority of the legislature never really faced up to the major issues of taxes, schools, election reforms, health insurance, transportation, structural reform in government, economy in government, development of natural resources, water and power—to mention a few of the issues whose solutions cannot be postponed indefinitely.

Yet this failure to find solutions to major problems of our State lies more at the doorstep of the majority of the people who take no interest in the issues rather than the legislators bogged down in minutiae.

While the 1955 session chalked up a sizeable number of deadlocks and compromises, accompanied by pangs of frustration, on a comparative basis labor-sponsored legislation received better treatment during the recently adjourned session than at any session in recent years.

Perhaps a major reason for this is the fact that the Democrats, while still in the minority in both houses, have been gaining both in numbers and influence. This factor plus an increase in the number of liberal Republicans made possible the passage of some significant liberal measures by the Assembly.

The complexion of the Senate has been turning increasingly more liberal in recent years, both through Democratic victor-

ies at the polls and through a growing recognition among younger Republican members that a solid right wing voting record is becoming a one-way street to political oblivion.

And the Assembly—where liberal influences are becoming dominant—is getting more adept at outsmarting the Senate. The lower house has adopted the device of amending its own proposals into Senate-passed bills and then sending them back to the upper house floor for concurrence.

This somewhat round-about method has the virtue of bypassing the predominately conservative Senate Finance and Labor Committees, thus presenting the issues directly to the Senate as a whole.

PENSIONS → It was this very tactic that won final passage of the \$5 across-the-board increase in monthly old age pensions in the final hour of the session. (The bill in its original form sought a \$20 increase—i.e., to boost the maximum pension from \$80 to \$100, the latter figure having been supported by CIO for several years.)

Earlier in the session, the Assembly had passed the \$5 across-the-board increase but the bill, by Assemblyman Charles Wilson (D) of Los Angeles, had been blocked by the powerful Senate Finance Committee. The Finance group, instead, sent out a measure to grant the \$5 increase only to pensioners with special medical needs.

The architect of the Senate bill was Senator John Murdy, Jr., an arch-conservative Orange County Republican.

The lower house sat on the Murdy bill until late Wednesday (June 8), then amended the provisions of the Wilson bill into it and returned it to the Senate floor for concurrence.

When the bill was called up for floor action at 11:00 p.m., Murdy asked that concurrence be denied. On the first roll call the vote was 21 to 16 for concurrence.

Then all those who voted "no"—with the exception of Murdy—apparently realizing the political liability of their action, switched over to the winning side.

Governor Knight has signed the bill. This means an additional 14 million dollars annually in benefits to the aged.

Also on the plus side, was passage of a measure to grant old age pension rights to aliens, formerly ineligible for citizenship but now eligible, who have lived in the United States for 25 years.

There was a debit side, however, in pension legislation. Efforts, supported by CIO, to repeal the relatives' responsibility law failed.

Another setback came when the Senate Social Welfare Committee turned down the federal-state program to pay a \$75 monthly stipend to the totally and permanently disabled. 38 states now participate in this program.

WORKER INSURANCE → In all three worker insurance programs CIO sought a \$50 maximum. The final outcome was that increases were made but below the goal set by labor. Increases in all three programs made a legislative "first"—this is the first instance in which all insurance programs have come in for increases at the same session.

The following proposals have been signed into law by Governor Knight:

1. *Unemployment Insurance*—Increases maximum weekly unemployment insurance benefits from \$30 to \$33. In order to

be eligible for benefits the base period earnings must be \$600 instead of \$300; in addition, in order to receive the new \$33 maximum, the high quarterly earnings have been upped from \$780 to \$840. The improved increment schedule for determining the amount of unemployment insurance benefits will mean millions of dollars of more benefits to the unemployed. Penalties have been increased: a person charged with making a fraudulent claim will be penalized by denial of benefits for 52 weeks. Those charged with refusing "suitable employment" will be denied benefits from one to ten weeks; previously, it was one to five weeks.

These were compromise terms agreed to as a result of a stalemate on the original measure, AB 1370 by Assemblymen Donald Doyle (R), S. C. Masterson (D), and William Munnell (D). The bill originally provided for a \$50 a week ceiling as advocated by the CIO.

In the April 13, 1955, issue of the *Council Newsletter*, your legislative representative made the following observations in his article, "Stalemate Produces Compromise!":

"Based on current and recent unemployment, the provisions of AB 1370 will mean about three to three and a half million dollars more in total annual payments to the unemployed, including CIO members. Substantially over 90% of unemployed CIO members will eventually fall in the \$27 to \$33 brackets. In fact, more than a majority of all unemployed workers will benefit from the revised increment schedule. However, the Department of Employment estimates that AB 1370 (as amended) would save two million dollars in pay out from 26,000 persons who earn less than \$600.00 in the base period year. It is, of course, difficult to argue that persons earning less than \$600.00 a year are regularly in the labor market. Even when the Unemployment Insurance Act was passed in 1939 (New Deal period) a higher percentage was disqualified for lack of earnings. Inflation and the steady rise in wage earnings have consistently lowered this percentage since then.

"As part of the compromise a lot of bad bills by Assemblyman Levering and others were dropped. These included provisions for severe disqualifications for voluntary quits, for withholding 'all' material facts, for permitting the Director of Employment to upset appeals Board decisions, disqualifying workers during period of receipt of severance pay, disqualifying those temporarily 'suspended' for misconduct, lowering the tax schedule on employers and jeopardizing the solvency of the Fund, changing the base period earning requirements to the disadvantage of all workers regardless of the amount of earnings, and a host of other ideas dreamed up by employer lobbyists to deprive workers of benefits and lessen the taxes of the corporations. Also, into the discard for this session went a lot of good bills supported by labor.

"The question is asked—was the compromise worthwhile?

"The answer depends on whether you look at the situation from a short or a long range viewpoint.

"For workers regularly in the labor market and who are unfortunate enough to be unemployed in the two year period just ahead it means more jobless pay—three dollars a week more—about \$13.00 a month—and that's bread and butter to the unemployed family.

"However, personally I felt it would have been better to have pushed for a roll call vote on the \$50.00 jobless pay bill and thereby dramatized the issue for the 1956 elections. Most

of those who opposed the \$50.00 maximum, extended coverage and other needed benefits sought by labor are the same legislators who block other needed progressive legislation. As it is—in the words of Assemblyman Levering—all of the members of the assembly committee want to become co-authors of the amended bill. It takes all of the opposition 'off the hook' because in the next election they can honestly campaign on the fact they voted for increased unemployment insurance pay benefits for the unemployed.

"On the other hand, the fact that the AFL had worked out the compromise for a \$3.00 a week increase for the jobless made it unwise to create an AFL-CIO split—at a time when the historic merger of the labor movement is taking place and in recognition of the fact that in California the AFL is the substantially larger portion of the labor movement.

"Certainly, if the compromise had been rejected, under the voting alignments existing in the present legislature the stalemate would have continued and no improvement in unemployment insurance benefits would have passed this session. Both sides have enough supporting votes to stop opposition proposals to change unemployment insurance legislation—for better or for worse in 1955.

"In this sense the stalemate proves to be worth a \$3.00 per week increase."

2. *Unemployment Disability Insurance*—Maximum benefits were increased \$5 by the legislature, from \$35 to \$40. This insurance program provides for non-occupational illness or injury.

The legislative goal of CIO was to liberalize the Act, deemed necessary by the changes in wage and price structures, to include:

1. an increase in the maximum weekly benefit from \$35 to \$50,
2. an increase in hospital benefits from \$10 for 12 days to \$15 for 15 days,
3. an increase in the tax wage base from \$3600 to \$4200,
4. removal of the waiting period if a disability lasts longer than 7 days, and
5. provision for pregnancy benefits for a maximum of 42 days.

The latter four objectives failed passage; the increase of \$5, of course, did not measure up to the payment schedules which should have been adopted to bring the Act up to date with the economic realities of every day living.

The Act was changed for the better by a provision that if a worker receives disability pay, he may receive 100% of his wage and still be eligible for unemployment disability insurance.

The new provision, to become effective January 1, 1956, puts the State plan on the same basis as most private plans in the matter of receiving wages while ill.

3. *Workmen's Compensation*—Benefits for permanent disability were increased from \$30 to \$35; for temporary disability from \$35 to \$40. In other words, both forms of disability came in for a \$5 increase. Minimum payments for both permanent and temporary disability will go up from \$9.75 to \$15 per week.

Also under the workmen's compensation program, death benefits were increased from \$7,000 to \$10,000 and the maxi-

mum benefit for a widow with dependents was boosted from \$8,750 to \$12,500.

A bill aimed at turning over the entire workmen's compensation program to private insurers was killed through the efforts of labor representatives.

CIO had joined forces with the AFL to raise the maximum benefits under the workmen's compensation program from \$35 to \$50 for temporary disability (a \$15 increase) and from \$30 to \$50 for permanent disability (a \$20 increase). As noted, both forms of disability came in for only a \$5 increment.

The \$5 increase was the highest amount in which the upper-house would concur. The original Assembly bill, reflecting the figures supported by organized labor, was amended by the Ways and Means Committee to provide for an increase of \$7.50. The Senate in turn further lowered the figure by \$2.50.

That the Senate went along for a \$5 increment should not be passed off lightly. The Senate has never been too prone to up the benefit. In this sense this is a victory for Governor Knight who sought a \$5 boost.

Thus the final outcome was not one that labor sought, but on the other hand labor's choice was to go along with the \$5 increase or get nothing at all. The same was true in the matter of unemployment and disability insurance.

Or to put it another way, things in Sacramento are neither black nor white; they are various shades of grey. The problem is always to work for a legislative program on the basis of the facts of legislative life.

Two of the basic reasons why CIO works for an increase in workmen's compensation benefits are:

1. In 1913-14 when the California Act first became law practically all workers at the average earning level of that period were assured of receiving a full 65% of their weekly pay if they became disabled. The trend since then has dropped this to 40% and then to 31%. The hard fact is that this brutal trend was most accelerated in the 1939 to 1954 period—an era when industrial profits were unparalleled and the rise in cost of living unprecedented! The proposed increases are simply a step up toward the relatively low 1914 level of 65%.

2. *Any increased benefits received by an injured worker immediately goes back into circulation.* Thus an increase in compensation means that the purchasing power of the injured worker will be increased accordingly; this benefits the grocer, drugstore, retail stores, etc. Business conditions, in turn, determine whether or not we shall have full employment or wasteful unemployment.

While the rate schedule did not meet the CIO legislative goal, the increase in death benefits marked a necessary and major step forward. As a matter of record, the legislative increases did not go as far as those advocated by Governor Knight, who in his message to the legislature, recommended a maximum of "\$17,000 in death benefits for a widow with a large family." (This figure was based on his proposal that the maximum should be \$12,000 plus \$1,000 for each of the first 5 children.)

CIVIL RIGHTS → Record progress was made in the field of FEP legislation. The Assembly passed bills to create a state fair employment practices commission and to permit court relief for persons who were denied job opportunities because of race, creed or color.

Although both bills were killed by the Republican majority on the Senate Labor Committee—despite an FEP plank in the Republican Party platform—it was the FIRST time in history that this legislation has ever been approved by a house of the California law-making body.

History was also made when two less far-reaching non-discrimination bills were passed and sent to the desk of Governor Knight.

One, signed into law by the Governor, bans the practice of discrimination in the issuance of automobile liability insurance.

Another proposal, signed by the Governor, prohibits a school board from denying employment to a teacher only because of race, creed or color. This measure was skillfully handled on the Senate floor by Senators Alan Short (D) of San Joaquin County and George Miller, Jr. (D) of Contra Costa County. The author of the bill was Assemblyman William Byron Rumford (D) of Berkeley.

Some significant civil rights measures, however, met a less fortunate fate. Defeated were CIO-sponsored measures which would have outlawed the "quota" system in higher institutions of learning, established a state civil rights study commission for the purpose of recommending legislation in the civil rights field, and a measure to set up proper training of enforcement personnel in a better understanding of inter-group conflicts and minority group problems.

On the Senate floor, the advocates of racial discrimination won another victory. The Senate, by a vote of 20-11, killed a bill to repeal a state law banning marriages between caucasians and members of other races despite the fact that the law has been declared unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court.

The measure, authored by Assemblyman Allen Miller (D) of San Fernando, had passed in the lower house by a 60-0 tally.

Background on FEPC Bill

AB 971 (Rumford (D) and others), the measure defeated in Senate committee, unfolds a story that should be repeated over and over again because it relates two telling points:

1. When like-minded organizations join hands in an undertaking, comparatively more progress is made at less cost and with the optimum use of time and effort.

2. The history of the bill in committee on the Assembly side cogently illustrates the power of each vote—whether the vote represents a lowly populated district or one highly populated. Three votes killed the measure in committee, making it necessary to muster 41 floor votes in order to report it out. While this latter technique worked because of the joint and determined efforts of the CIO, AFL, NAACP and other interested organizations, this is not generally the case in other legislative matters. Other major legislative proposals, killed by one or a few votes in committee, more often than not stay in committee, thus writing "finis" to their legislative biography.

Here in summary is the legislative course and the final fate of AB 971:

1. The bill, originally approved by the lower house Governmental Efficiency and Economy Committee, was referred to Ways and Means because it carried a \$100,000 appropriation.

2. W&M then proceeded to kill the measure by a 12-9 tally. 15 votes were needed for a "do pass" out of Ways and Means.

3. On May 11, a day of rejoicing for proponents of AB 971, the FEPC bill "with teeth" was voted out of W&M by 44 votes—3 more than needed for passage to the floor. 21 voted against and 14 did not record a vote (either absent or not voting).

4. Hopes for passage were smashed quickly and decisively when the Republican-controlled Senate Labor Committee killed off AB 971 and 2 other FEP measures.

In all three cases the vote by the 7-man committee was along party lines, with the 5 members of the Republican Party voting against and the 2 Democratic committee members voting in favor of fair employment practices legislation.

Suffering in the onslaught was a Senate bill similar to AB 971, introduced by Senator Richards (D) of Los Angeles County, and an Assembly bill by Los Angeles Democratic Assemblyman Hawkins. The latter bill would have provided for civil suits against unions or employers discriminating because of race, color, creed, etc. Awards would have ranged from \$100 to \$500.

The 5 Senate Republican committee members voting against the CIO-supported measures (i.e., voting for discrimination) were: Senators F. Presley Abshire (Chairman) of Sonoma County, Louis Sutton of Colusa County, J. Howard Williams of Tulare County, Donald Grunsky of Santa Cruz County, and John A. Murdy, Jr., of Orange County.

The 2 Democratic committee members who voted for the measures (i.e., voted against discrimination) included Senators Harold T. Johnson of Placer County and Robert Montgomery of Kings County.

CIVIL LIBERTIES → A more mature, calm and informed position was taken by the '55 legislature than in previous sessions in the matter of civil liberties.

The law-makers backed up civil liberties by turning down proposals requiring those engaged in licensed trades and professions to take a loyalty oath; efforts to impose censorship of school books were twice defeated in committee; wire tapping and "bugging" legislation was heaved into the discard file, representing perhaps one of the biggest civil liberties victories of the session.

One of the finest commentaries in this matter was carried by the *San Francisco Chronicle* during the course of the session. Because of its clarity of thought, the editorial was reprinted with permission in one of the issues of the *Council Newsletter* during the period when the CIO Council publication was covering Sacramento and alerting members to write in support or opposition to legislation. For the edification of delegates to this Convention, the editorial follows:

1955 LEGISLATURE BACKS UP LIBERTY

Reprinted from the San Francisco Chronicle

Senators and assemblymen are heading into the last month of the 1955 legislative session at Sacramento with a higher record for respecting, maintaining and defending the liberties of Californians than any legislature since the end of World War II.

How to account for the noticeable and gratifying turnabout from the hysterical frenzies of the 1947, '49, '51 and '53 sessions we do not know for certain. It is a fact, however, that the

heyday of Jack Tenneyism in the Capitol is past. Something, possibly the voice of conscience, has convinced the majority of the legislators that there is neither justice, good sense nor, in the long run, votes to be won by recklessly tossing some of our most precious rights onto the bonfires of extremism.

Here is a look at the 1955 legislature's record on bills affecting the liberties and dignity of Californians:

Oath proofing the churches: An extreme example of the hysteria which surged through the people of California as recently as 1952 was the law, adopted as a constitutional amendment, to keep Communists and fellow travelers from enjoying tax exemptions granted veterans and certain organizations. The law requires a loyalty oath to qualify for the exemption. The oath must even be taken by church boards seeking the historic tax exemption on the real property of religious institutions. Some churches have refused to take the oath, on principle, and have paid taxes under protest instead. It looks now as though the legislature will abolish this unconscionable church oath requirement. (The assembly... voted against the bill to exempt churches.)

Oath proofing the licensed trades and professions: This proposal would have required a loyalty oath of 500,000 persons licensed by the state in the practice of their callings: Doctors, lawyers, barbers and so on. The governors of the state bar opposed a loyalty oath affecting lawyers; powerful medical leaders resisted a doctors' loyalty oath, and by the time the bill came up in the assembly judiciary committee, its sponsor, Assemblyman Charles Chapel (of Los Angeles County), failed even to get it referred to an interim committee. Senator Hugh Burns (of Fresno County) has not yet bothered to call up a similar bill in the senate.

Schoolbook censorship: Criticism from all over the state forced Senator J. F. McCarthy (of Marin County) to drop a bill requiring boards of education to sift books for objectionable matter and hold hearings on protested books. A softened version, the Donnelly bill, passed the senate; it said school districts should prescribe screening procedures, but even this was killed by the assembly education committee. It sensed that school boards already have power to reject the objectionable.

Comic book censorship: Two or three dubiously constitutional comic book censorship bills went before the assembly judiciary committee and were dumped. The only bill to pass the legislature in response to the hue and cry against comic books is one, totally unconcerned with censorship, that forbids wholesalers to force dealers to accept tie-ins.

Gagging teachers: The Elliott bill abolishing the kind of political gag imposed on teachers by the San Francisco Board of Education sailed through the assembly education committee... and looks to be headed for passage by the assembly at least.

Wire tapping and "bugging": Perhaps the biggest civil liberties victory of this session came about through the cold shouldering of Chapel's bill to authorize wire tapping by police in certain suspected cases. Chapel, discouraged, let this measure go onto the inactive file after the supreme court had pulled the rug out from under him by declaring evidence turned up by illegally planted microphones to be inadmissible.

We don't know any one person to single out for congratulations on this record. The leadership of the assembly and senate is unquestionably entitled to credit. So are the vigilant citizens and organizations which never quit, never gave up

the fight against intolerant restrictions on freedom. For the improvement in the atmosphere at Sacramento all Californians have reason to be grateful. Possibly it is public opinion as a whole, swinging slowly and majestically like a Foucault pendulum, that is ultimately responsible for the new and freer mood.

HEALTH → One of the most forward looking measures to be defeated was the one providing for optional establishment of mental health clinics by cities or counties. State financial aid would have been forthcoming to communities setting up mental health programs for the treatment, diagnosis and prevention of mental illness. Passing the Assembly by a 59-15 vote, it was smothered in a senate committee.

In addition, CIO sponsored a bill to establish a non-partisan commission to study the health needs of the citizens of California to the end that legislation could be developed to improve present health programs and to expand activity in the health field. Those professing to be most concerned with the health needs of the community—the medical associations—vociferously opposed the measure. Ironically, this "study" bill was referred to an interim study committee.

Bottled up in committee in both houses were measures intended to give the California Physicians Service a virtual monopoly in the field of health insurance. Passage of these measures would have meant the demise of health plans such as the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, widely used by both CIO and AFL members. CIO efforts were instrumental in keeping these measures in committee.

TAXES → Labor opposition was credited with playing a major role in the scuttling of the bulk of Governor Knight's program to impose some \$80 million worth of consumer taxes.

A proposed three-cent per pack cigarette tax was killed as were increases in beer and horse racing levies. The only portion of the administration program approved was a 14-cent a fifth tax on hard liquor which is expected to bring in \$14 million a year in new revenues. It is interesting to note that this tax goes up 50% by the time it reaches the consumer! One liquor advertisement points out that the new tax will increase prices about 21c per fifth.

On the debit side of the ledger, however, a bill to permit counties to levy a 1% local sales tax (Bradley (R) of San Jose) did reach the Governor's office and was subsequently signed by him. If all counties in the state levy the tax it could load another \$82 million onto the already disproportionate tax load being carried by California wage earners.

The permissive measure, opposed by both the CIO and AFL, provides that the counties will receive the revenue collected in unincorporated areas and the cities (upon imposing a 1% sales tax if one is not already in existence) will retain the revenue collected within its boundaries. The State Board of Equalization will serve as the collection agency.

A means to clarify the hit and miss fashion of state taxation was to be found in the CIO proposed state tax study commission. Such a non-partisan commission would have been mandated to examine the obvious need for revision of the predominately consumer tax nature of California's revenue structure. After being passed by the Revenue and Taxation Committee, the measure was bottled up by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. A similar measure was killed in a senate committee.

The opposition came from Republicans who apparently fear that the proposed study would show the need for boosting income, bank and corporation taxes.

A sly move on the part of corporate interests in the City of Vernon to escape possible additional taxation took the form of a measure to permit the residents of the City of Vernon to adopt a charter for home rule. A careful reading of the proposal—ACA 57—showed that it would have permitted property owners to vote. Property qualifications for voting eligibility are prohibited by the State Constitution. By making this a basis for voting—residency being no requirement—the corporations could then prevent the 80 residents of Vernon to vote annexation to an adjacent community from which the industrial workers of Vernon are drawn. Such a move would mean increased taxes for the corporate interests in order to meet their community responsibilities.

It is to the credit of the CIO that this feudalistic attempt was beaten back. The California CIO Council took the lead in alerting its affiliates, legislators and community to the hidden motives behind this "corporate kingdom" proposal and the un-democratic features of the bill.

Concern about the tax dollar frequently expresses itself in many, many different and unusual (in this case anachronistic) ways!

And for the fourth time around, the proposed millionaires' tax amendment was defeated. Introduced by Democratic Senator Earl Desmond of Sacramento County, SJR 8 sought legislative support for a federal constitutional limitation on income, gift and inheritance taxes. The Senate turned down this perennial turkey by a 26-6 tally.

WATER → One of the major issues the solons failed to solve is that of water with which it has wrestled unsuccessfully for many years.

The complicated water issue failed to come in for positive action because of the need expressed by many legislators to give especial attention to it, an almost physical impossibility in a 120-day session forced to introduce and handle 6,000 bills, resolutions and constitutional amendments covering a myriad of subjects.

Compounding the dilemma was the fact that Southern California legislators served notice that they would not consider any major substantive water proposals until there was legal assurance that a realistic supply of water from the northern sector of the state would find its way to the water-hungry south. In other words, they wanted another look at the "county of origin" ruling by Attorney General "Pat" Brown. Briefly, Brown opined that the county in which water is found has the final say as to its dispersal.

The above factors, in addition to the battle between those favoring federal development of water resources and those supporting state financing, resulted in no progress being made toward the realization of the state's ambitious Feather River Project. The only legislation which weathered the storm provides \$250,000 for an independent study of the state's proposed FRP. Also the legislature passed a resolution asking for federal construction of Trinity Dam and the San Luis Reservoir.

Going down to defeat under a barrage of disagreement were 3 separate bills to establish a State Department of Water Resources. Proponents stated it would give overall direction to full development of California's water potential.

A majority of the lower house members is seeking a special session on the water issue prior to the March, 1956, budget session.

MINIMUM WAGE → Both the CIO and AFL sought to establish a state minimum wage law. At present, California does not have a minimum wage law, contrary to popular belief. The 75c minimum for women and minors (men are excluded) is not a law but rather is a figure set down by the Industrial Welfare Commission. Or to put it another way: the figure itself is an administrative determination subject to change.

An AFL-sponsored \$1.25 minimum wage measure was chloroformed by the Assembly Industrial Relations Committee. The very same committee then turned around to pass out the CIO-sponsored measure after amending the \$1.25 figure to \$1.10. This proposal also provided for occupational or industry wage boards. Re-referred to Ways and Means, it never saw the light of day.

The legislature did go on record memorializing Congress to increase the federal minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

CHILD CARE CENTERS → The legislature continued support for child care centers for another two years, refusing to establish them on a permanent basis. The Assembly supported the latter position; however, the Senate would not go beyond a two year extension. The lower house finally acceded because to have taken a "no compromise" position would have resulted in discontinuation of the centers. Governor Knight has signed the bill. (The CIO is on record in support of permanent centers.)

UNIONS → Two Senate measures intended to shackle local union operations and one bill to hamper international-local union relations stayed in committee. The three anti-union bills were authored by Senator Abshire (R) of Sonoma County.

A victory for labor came with the passage of a liberalized jurisdictional strike law. The terms of the amended law now provide that if an employer has been guilty of forming a company union within one year of the commencement of injunctive proceedings in a strike, such action will prevent said employer from obtaining injunctive relief against a bona fide labor organization. In addition it clarifies the section of law placing the burden of proof on an employer to show that he has no association with the formation of a company union and adds a new section to the law allowing civil action for damages against parties responsible for formation of a company union.

On the basis of the 1954 election results the California CIO Council predicted that there would be no "right-to-work" or secondary boycott legislation. This was the case. No legislation was initiated.

HEALTH & WELFARE PLANS → Those "shouting loudest" in support of newspaper charges of corruption in the operation of union health and welfare plans, did an about face in opposing an AFL-sponsored bill to regulate union health and welfare funds.

Urging the bill's defeat were spokesmen of the Bank of America, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company and other employer interests.

The measure would have subjected health and welfare funds to supervision of the California Insurance Commissioner, giving him power to adopt "reasonable regulations" for such programs following public hearings on plan operations.

The Assembly-passed bill, killed on the Senate side in the Social Welfare Committee, was thus fought by those who have expressed fears about the possible abuse of health and welfare funds.

When a labor organization offers such a bill in the knowledge that the vast majority of these funds are being operated in an honest and efficient manner, but feels that as long as there is any doubt in the public mind such a measure should be approved, then it is indeed amazing to find the above named business interests in opposition!

The answer is not too hard to find. Those hollering "corruption" against union plans won't even go for a labor bill imposing reasonable regulations because they do not want employer-controlled insurance plans to be subject to the same regulations!

ELECTION REFORMS → A major defeat was handed the proponents of improved election laws: the Munnell "purity of elections" bill, the Fair Election Practices Study Commission bill and the abolition of crossfiling in primary elections proposal were all handed the death blow.

Defeat of the major proposal—purity of elections measure—is laid at the doorstep of the Republican Party in control of the upper house. This measure would have required full and complete reporting of all political campaign contributions and expenditures. It would have allowed voters to find out the true backers of candidates before they went to the polls and to find out the amounts of money expended and for what purposes.

A rather weak substitute was passed which, however, will plug up the present loophole whereby candidates report only expenditures made with their knowledge. The bill, signed by the state's chief executive, requires that campaign committees report all expenditures to their candidates. Thus, candidates can no longer escape the responsibility to give a more complete and accurate report of campaign expenditures made in their behalf.

In other actions, the law making body refused to provide for public financing of campaigns; extend the right to vote to 18-year-olds; have the Secretary of State issue a voters' handbook covering candidates and ballot issues; make city and county offices, with a few exceptions, partisan—these measures were either supported or sponsored by CIO.

On the credit side was the defeat of some very bad bills—far from being election "reform" measures.

Senator Desmond's effort to make the legislature non-partisan was beaten back in the Assembly following passage by the upper body. Among the things this bill would have accom-

plished would have been the further weakening of party responsibility—there is an urgent need in this state to strengthen party responsibility in both political camps; at present, there is a glaring lack of it in both parties. Party responsibility would carry with it a safer guarantee that office holders would follow the party platforms on which they campaign. The voting populace would, in the final analysis, have a surer and more accurate yardstick by which to vote.

Another measure—opposed by CIO—which met defeat was the proposal to extend the terms of Assemblymen from 2 to 4 years and Senators from 4 to 6 years.

Thus the Elections Code still remains basically unchanged. A legislative stalemate resulted in the field of election code changes. Both the very good and the very bad were scuttled.

Public Financing of Campaigns

The officers of the CIO State Council take pride in the fact that it placed California CIO on record as being the forerunner of the idea that political campaigns should be publicly financed. Both in the 1953 and 1955 sessions, the Council introduced a bill providing that a comparatively small portion of a registered voter's tax money should go to the party of his choice in support of the nominees of that party. While there may be differences of opinion as to the method in this matter of public financing, the idea is catching on. Newspapers throughout the nation are now editorializing on this idea. The point to make is that it has now come out in the open for public consideration.

For example, Philip L. Graham, Publisher of the *Washington Post and Times Herald*, believes that the fundamental defect of our political system is the manner in which funds for political campaigns are raised. He believes the idea lies in convincing millions of Americans that "good citizenship requires political contributions to the party or candidates of his choice."

That the American public is not apt to disregard the idea of public financing can be seen by a recent Gallup Poll. Gallup Poll questioners asked a wide cross section of voters whether they would give, say, \$5 to the party of their preference. 33% of the nation's families said yes. That means that if 16 million families would—as they say they would—contribute \$80 million (or even a fraction of that amount!) the two parties would not have to turn to other sources presently controlling party financing. This would do away with special slush funds such as that which was set up for Nixon and would save the American people the experience of listening to a soap box opera broadcast attempting to justify a "morally squalid" situation.

Again we repeat that California CIO broke the ice in proposing public financing of campaigns. While the suggestions for the method of public financing may vary, it is a healthy sign when newspapers and publications are now openly discussing the matter.

TIDELANDS → The oil companies may have reaped what will prove to be one of the biggest steals in California history.

They won the right to expanded wildcat drilling on state-owned tidelands for a 12½% royalty rate plus a cash bonus.

This would appear to be a very low rate of return for the State when the experience of the City of Long Beach is considered. Long Beach is getting close to 70% oil royalties from its city-held tidelands.

This legislation would make it appear that the oil companies knew what they were doing when they so vigorously supported the state in its legal battle with the federal government over ownership of tidelands.

The tideland oil bill was authored by Assemblyman Joseph Shell (R) of Long Beach, a son-in-law of Harold Morton, the influential oil lobbyist.

The highly explosive Allen bill which proposed to have the Long Beach royalties go into the state treasury was shelved this session by referring it to an interim study.

STATE PARKS → Bitter disputes between the two houses were resolved just before adjournment, clearing the way for a sizeable appropriation of \$16 million for an acquisition program for more parks throughout the state. This is ear-marked tidelands oil money for beaches and parks. Governor Knight vetoed the measure.

BALLOT MEASURES → Coming up for voter consideration on the 1956 general election ballot will be the proposed \$200 million bond issue to finance construction of state prisons, colleges, mental hospitals and other institutions; the proposed \$100 million bond issue for further state loans to distressed school districts to aid in schoolhouse construction projects; repeal of the present constitutional requirement that food must be served in licensed liquor bars.

"GRASS ROOTS" LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCES

To inform a broad cross section of the CIO membership, to receive active support of the CIO legislative program determined by convention action of the membership, and to stimulate letter writing and personal contacts with state legislators, your Council initiated two regional and one state-wide "grass roots" legislative conferences.

In addition, the Council expended staff time and money in co-sponsoring with other organizations the FEP Mobilization Conference in Sacramento.

Regional Conferences

More than 250 CIO members participated in the Southern California CIO Legislative Conference sponsored by the California CIO Council in cooperation with the Los Angeles and San Diego County Councils.

On hand to discuss some of the legislative proposals either supported or opposed by CIO, were the State Council President and Legislative Representative; A. T. Lunceford and

James Curry, Secretary-Treasurers of the Los Angeles and San Diego County Councils, respectively; George B. Roberts, National CIO-PAC Field Director and Los Angeles attorney Ralph Nutter.

Useful information was handed out to the delegates; a booklet, prepared by the California CIO Council Department of Education and Legislative Research, included analysis and comment on civil rights measures, the \$1.25 state minimum wage proposal, unemployment and disability insurance and workmen's compensation measures, election reform proposals, tax bills and a proposal establishing a commission to study the health needs of California.

The booklet contained an analysis and comment on those measures being supported by CIO as well as an analysis and comment on those proposals being opposed by CIO, including some of the worst unemployment insurance and disability insurance proposals being pushed by Assemblymen Levering and Backstrand, among others.

The delegates were given tools to help them in getting legislative action programs underway in their local unions, including a Tool Kit on "How to Write Your Legislator" which sets forth practical information for effective letter-writing campaigns. The CIO spokesmen emphasized to the delegates the importance of their contacting their respective legislators when they were home on weekends from their legislative duties in Sacramento.

Time was taken to have "buzz" sessions which permitted the delegates to divide themselves up into groups in order to prepare questions to ask the program leaders.

Following in the wake of the highly successful legislative conference in Southern California, the Northern California counterpart was well attended by local union officers and members who came to Oakland to "know the legislative tide in '55."

More than 125 CIO'ers listened, asked questions and planned a legislative action program for their local unions.

The conference was sponsored by the California CIO Council in cooperation with the San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa CIO County Councils and the Northeastern Legislative Committee.

Chaired by the President of the Council, other participants included the CIO Legislative Representative; Sam Pratt, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alameda Council; James Drury, CIO staff representative; Robert B. Crimmins, Secretary of the Northeastern Legislative Committee; San Francisco attorney Jay Darwin, and George B. Roberts, PAC Field Director for National CIO-PAC.

Also on the scene were the San Francisco CIO County-Council Secretary-Treasurer Frank White, its President Roy Haus, CWA Director Louis Knecht, ANG Executive Secretary Sam Eubanks (and a state council vice-president), and the President of the Alameda County Council, Gordon Laughland.



CIO members learn that "grass roots" legislative activity can be made simple if organized correctly . . . interest in the CIO program was evidenced by the attendance of Woodworkers who came from the far reaches of the northern part of the state, and by the presence of packingshed workers from Salinas and telephone workers from Fresno.

Both of these regional conferences were means to stimulate local union and individual member support of the CIO legislative program and to inform them of the measures which were being opposed by CIO because of their backward looking social and/or economic intent. Likewise the regional conferences built up momentum for the statewide CIO Legislative Conference held in Sacramento.

Statewide Legislative Conference

CIO's position on vital issues was carried directly to state legislators by some 200 CIO members when they gathered in Sacramento for a hard-working, three-day Legislative Conference.

The Conference began Sunday, May 1, and ran through Tuesday, May 3. Sponsored by the CIO-California Industrial Union Council, it was opened by the President of the Council. The Council Secretary-Treasurer talked on the California legislative situation, while Irwin L. DeShetler, CIO Director, Region XIII, spoke on the picture in Washington, D. C.

The Conference was characterized by hard work, with delegates on the job all day Sunday to hear speakers, participate in workshops and hold discussions. The following two days were crowded with appointments as delegations visited members of the state legislature.

Workshops concentrated on specific measures on sales taxes, minimum wage and election reform legislation. Director DeShetler, Richard Cartwright, UAW-CIO Region Six Director

of PAC and Education, and Attorney Ralph Nutter served as workshop chairmen. They were assisted by James Curry, Secretary-Treasurer, San Diego Industrial Union Council; Tom Consiglio, Steelworkers District 38 Legislative Education Director; Attorney Abe Levy; Ed Shedlock, Utility Workers Western Region Director; Henry Santiestevan, CIO Representative; Sam Eubanks, San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild Executive Officer and Verlin McKendree, Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers staff representative.

CIO delegates told state legislators they opposed AB 3111, legislation allowing counties to levy a one-percent sales tax, and AB 1388, 1389 and 1390, calling for "selective" sales taxes on distilled liquors, beer and cigarettes.

Legislation pushed by the CIO delegates included AB 3279, establishing a state minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour and wage boards, and Assembly Joint Resolution 22, memorializing Congress to increase the Federal minimum wage to the same figure.

Election reforms supported by CIO included AB 2215, asking for state donations to campaign funds, and AB 1548, the "purity of elections" bill, which would compel political candidates to list publicly contributions to their campaigns and campaign expenditures.

While in Sacramento, CIO members also pushed support for AB 971, Rumford's Fair Employment Practices Commission bill, which had received concentrated attention the previous week in an FEPC Conference attended by scores of CIO members.

Presence of the CIO delegates in Sacramento at the time the Assembly brought Assembly Constitutional Amendment 57 to a vote was said to have played an important part in the measure's subsequent defeat. Delegates made it clear to their lawmakers that they firmly opposed ACA 57, which would have granted the City of Vernon special privileges to allow property owners to vote in municipal elections, even though they did not reside there.

Throughout the two days, delegations called on state legislators representing their home districts, and returned to report on the attitudes of the representatives toward the legislation discussed.

The Conference closed with a general assembly, at which the importance of carrying reports back to the membership and pushing CIO's political action program was stressed.



Here is example of a typical CIO delegation visiting their district assemblyman or senator... Assemblyman William Munnell (seated) joins with CIO delegates from his 51st district to discuss sales tax legislation, election reform measures and minimum wage legislation. Reading from left to right: Herman Scheyer (USA 1549), Carl Brown (UAW 255), Edith Jenkins (URW 44), DeWitt Stone (UAW 509), chairman of the delegation, Gil Anaya (USA staff representative), Glenn Knapp (UAW 509) and Paul Perez (URW 44).

FEP Mobilization

The precursor to the FEP Mobilization in Sacramento was the establishment of a permanent committee officially known as the California Committee for Fair Employment Practices. This Committee, on which the Council Secretary-Treasurer serves as one of the co-chairmen, is composed of the major labor organizations in the state, the NAACP, Jewish Labor Committee and many civic and church groups.

Careful plans were laid for the three day civil rights conference, with particular emphasis on visits to legislators following workshop sessions on the Rumford FEPC bill.

This grass-roots endeavor was another example of the citizen-voter in action. The men and women who attended had no political axe to grind—their aim was the passage of a bill which would establish economic democracy in the employment field which, in the final analysis, means more social democracy and the recognition of the dignity of the individual without regard to race, creed or color.

In addition to the direct monetary contribution to the work of the Committee in behalf of the mobilization, the staff of the Council worked prior to and during the conference; as a matter of record, the California CIO Council provided the major share of staff personnel.

The conference likewise afforded the opportunity to gather together the CIO'ers in attendance in order to discuss the CIO program in support of other bills in the civil rights field—bills sponsored by the California CIO Council in line with previous convention policy decisions.

The history of civil rights legislation has been previously noted under the section on the highlights of the session.

BACKGROUND WORK OF COUNCIL

To inform the State legislators of the CIO position on bills and to alert the CIO unions and members to matters of major importance, the Council office availed itself of the following means to attain these objectives:

1. Letters from the Council to the state solons were almost a daily undertaking.

2. Analysis of bills, prepared by the Department of Education and Legislative Research in cooperation with the legislative representative, were directed to the law-makers.

3. One of the most searching analysis sent to the state legislators (and the members of the County Boards of Supervisors in the larger counties) was the "Handbook on State and Local Taxes" which gave careful research data in support of the type of tax program CIO seeks; that is, one based on the principle of the ability to pay. Among the many comments received by the Council office on this publication was that of Los Angeles Assemblyman Vernon Kilpatrick (D) who wrote, "since my service in the legislature, this is the best effort I have seen presenting the facts of tax life to the people and to the members. I think an effort should be made to get your charts printed in the Journal..." Another legislator wrote... "It is interesting to note that for the first time in my recollection an enormous and powerful organization such as the California Industrial Union Council has come forward with a positive approach to the problem of 'where shall we get more money to perform the services requested by our fellow citizens'."

4. A Digest of Proposed Legislation and frequent issues of the *Council Newsletter* were made available to CIO affiliates and members so that intelligent and timely letter-writing programs could be developed within the local unions.

5. In addition, the CIO legislative secretarial service was extensively and intensively used. Both CIO members and liberal citizens in the community were given the benefit of this auto-typist service. Not only did this make possible thousands of letters being directed to Sacramento, but it served as another means of communicating to CIO'ers and the community the pressing legislative matters of the moment. (Letters on national legislation were also part of the 1955 legislative activity program.) In turn, the answers received from the law-makers have encouraged many to engage in frequent letter writing on their own and have made them better understand why CIO endorses candidate X over candidate Z. In other words, this legislative secretarial service—unique among California organizations—supports the CIO legislative program by appreciably increasing the usual norm of mail to law-makers, keeps those signing the letters informed as to the issues and their current status and makes them more interested in political action and endorsement of candidates.

Not only did the Council officially communicate with the law-makers, but likewise with the Governor in matters pertaining to his legislative recommendations. Notable among such communications was that pertaining to CIO opposition to new sales taxes and additional increases on those already on

the books. Copies of this communication were sent to the legislators in addition to the excellent "Handbook on State and Local Taxes" previously discussed.

Following the session your Council office had the herculean task of recommending to the Governor those measures which CIO advocated he sign and those CIO advocated he veto. Thanks are extended to Los Angeles attorney Ralph Nutter for his expert legal advice on several worker insurance measures of a highly technical nature.

One final note in the matter of background work. Interim committee hearings are continuously held in various parts of the state on a variety of subjects. It should be recognized that the recommendations incorporated in committee reports determine to a large degree the type of bills that will come before legislative sessions. Therefore, your officers have kept apprised of these hearings so that testimony could be presented and placed in the record, either through a verbal or written presentation of the CIO position in a given matter.

→ On the National Level

During the state legislative session, the national issues were not neglected by your Council. Official letters and telegrams and reams of individual letters prepared through the CIO legislative secretarial service, plus a call to action through the *Newsletter*, put California CIO on record on issues of housing, control of natural gas prices to the consumer, taxes, minimum wage, farm price supports, water and power, etc.

In order to keep the National CIO office apprised of the views and position of the 32-man California Congressional delegation, the responses received by the Council to its letters were sent back to Washington.

Cooperation between the CIO Regional office, under the directorship of Irwin DeShetler, and the Council office made it possible to eliminate duplication in notifying County Councils and International Unions in the matter of wires, letters and phone calls and personal visits to national law-makers.

While time, distance and money precluded the Council from participating in but only one of the CIO legislative mobilizations and/or conferences held in Washington, D. C., there was no shirking of duty in getting field activity by CIO unions in California.

Close cooperation was given to special CIO committees handling specific matters such as the minimum wage increase, for example. The committee was kept apprised of the activities in behalf of a state minimum wage law and a resolution to memorialize Congress to up the minimum wage floor. The State Council urged the County Councils to ask their respective Boards of Supervisors to memorialize Congress to increase the minimum wage to \$1.25 but not less than \$1.00.

THE CIO FAIR LABOR STANDARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR-
MAN, SOLOMON BARKIN (TWUA), WROTE ON MAY 24,
1955:

EMIL RIEVE
General President

WILLIAM POLLOCK
Executive Vice-President

JOHN CHUPKA
General Sec'y-Treas.

TEXTILE WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA
AFFILIATE OF THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS
99 UNIVERSITY PLACE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

SOLOMON BARKIN
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

TELEPHONE
OREGON 3-1400

May 24, 1955

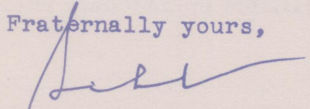
Mr. John A. Despol, Sec.-Treas.
California State CIO Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Brother Despol:

Thank you for your letter of the 19th and for your telegram.
I think the fight you are putting up for the resolutions
is extremely constructive. Not only will it benefit us in
our present fight but will, I am sure, be of help to you in
your state battle.

Please keep me informed of developments.

Fraternally yours,


Solomon Barkin, Chairman
CIO FAIR LABOR STANDARDS COMMITTEE

THE TYPE OF COOPERATION GIVEN TO THE NATIONAL CIO IN ITS LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS BY THE CALIFORNIA CIO COUNCIL IS REFLECTED IN THE FOLLOWING LETTER RECEIVED FROM BROTHER ROBERT OLIVER, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE CIO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:

Congress of Industrial Organizations



718 Jackson Place, N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE 3-5581

Cable Address "CIOLABOR"

August 17, 1955

Mr. John Despol, Secretary-Treasurer
California State Industrial Union Council-CIO
117 W. 9th Street, Room 911
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Brother Despol:

This is a brief note to express to you the appreciation of the Legislative Department for the splendid cooperation which was extended to us throughout the first session of the 84th Congress.

As President Reuther's statement last week pointed out, the first session is a combination of achievements and disappointments. No matter how one appraises the record of Congress itself, there is no question but that CIO's efforts on behalf of public interest legislation was most gratifying. Those of us who work at the Washington end are very grateful to you in the field for this record of support. "Lobbying" has definitely become an activity that extends from the halls of Congress itself to the thousands of communities in which CIO has members.

A full report, in pamphlet form, of the record of the 84th Congress is now in preparation. These pamphlets will be available immediately after Labor Day.

With best wishes.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Robert Oliver". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of "Robert" being a large, stylized capital "R".

Robert Oliver
Assistant to the President and
Director, CIO Legislative Committee

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III. COUNCIL COOPERATION WITH CIO UNIONS

Whenever a union on strike or in financial straits has sought the assistance of the Council in "spreading the word" for financial and physical help, your Council has responded promptly and with sincere interest.

Since the last Convention, the Council came to the aid of the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild when its *Daily News* members lost their jobs when this metropolitan daily folded. A letter was sent to every CIO body in the state asking that contributions be made to the ANG welfare fund to help tide over unemployed members.

Another case in point was the Woodworkers' 11-month strike in the Laytonville area. An appeal for aid was likewise directed to CIO affiliates. That this type of Council assistance is helpful is expressed in the words of the President of the IWA California District Council #13, Emmett Lawson, who wrote on March 20, 1955: *"I want to thank your office for its very valuable assistance it has rendered this District Council during this period."*

In addition to letter appeals, the *Council Newsletter* is used as another communication media to get the story across, which in the tradition of trade unionism, is all that is needed to get support by other sister locals, councils and joint boards.

The California boundary is not used as an excuse to forget about CIO in other parts of the nation. Requesting financial aid for the CWA strike in the Southeast was part of the Council's program.

Likewise, your Council circulated a resolution asking local union adoption in support of the ACWA members in Wynne, Arkansas, who were being denied recognition of their union by Rainfair, Inc. Your officers are happy to report that many California CIO locals adopted the resolution in support of the ACWA members and in opposition to the purchase of Rainfair garments, and, per instructions, sent them to the company involved.

Whenever physically possible, your officers attend and participate in local union functions, graduation ceremonies of CIO Community Services counsellors and special institutes, summer schools and/or conferences of the international unions.

One of the programs being carried on in the northern part of the state is the informal "get acquainted" luncheon of CIO staff representatives. This affords an ideal way to exchange information and views and to achieve a better insight into the problems and programs of other unions.

The auto-typist service has been made readily available to unions desiring to send personally typed letters in their organizing efforts or for any other official purpose. Likewise, this service is available to the County Councils, some of which have availed themselves of this service.

At this point the officers wish to extend their heartfelt gratitude for the fine spirit of cooperation extended to the Council in its work. The support of CIO unions during the legislative session in terms of letter-writing, attendance at legislative conferences, etc., was never better.

Cooperation is only meaningful when it is a two-way street. The CIO unions have travelled the road willingly and in sincerity. It has been the earnest aim of your Council to do likewise.

IV. CIO REPRESENTATION

- ☆ in state government activities
- ☆ in federal government activities
- ☆ in community or civic activities

A great amount of time and effort has been devoted by your Council representatives, and other CIO leaders recommended by the Council, in representing California CIO in state, federal and community activities.

A full discussion of CIO work in these respective areas of participation would, in itself, make a complete and separate Officers Report. Therefore, the following is an attempt to present the information in a concise manner.

→ In State Government Activities

The California Congress of Industrial Organizations is taking an active role in the operation of state government in the administrative or executive branch. Those serving on state committees or agencies are either your Council officers or persons recommended by the Council officers or Executive Board.

Briefly, here is the picture:

1. Your President serves on the State Employment Advisory Council along with URW Director Floyd Gartrell. The main task of this Council centers around the matter of job placement.
2. The Secretary-Treasurer of the State CIO Council and CWA Director Louis Knecht serve on the Citizen's Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention. Two committees were set up by the office of the Attorney-General—one in Southern and one in Northern California. The Southern CIO spokesman on the committee is the Secretary-Treasurer of the State Council; the Northern, CWA Director Knecht. The committee has performed a valuable service in its effort to get the facts and in its proposed preventive programs in the fields of alcoholic and narcotic addiction. While the legislature did not follow through on rehabilitation measures, it is apparent that the committee will continue to work for future legislative enactment of the major phases of its program.
3. The Council's activities in state government extend to all phases of activity related to the preservation of human and natural resources. An example is the participation in the California Fire Prevention Committee on whose Executive Committee your Secretary-Treasurer serves. It is sponsored by the California Division of Forestry, county fire departments and the U. S. Forest Service.
4. One of the Vice-Presidents of the Council, Sam Eubanks, Executive Secretary of the San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild, has, during the past year, ably represented the Council in the field of education. He serves as CIO spokesman, along with your President, on the California Education Study Council which was actively engaged in the planning of the Governor's State Conference on Education (September 30 - October 1, 1955).

The Council office, in cooperation with international unions, submitted 200 names of CIO members who were to receive invitations.

Unfortunately, this Report goes to press before the Conference takes place, hence precluding any comment as to its value, success and the future role organized labor should assume in such undertakings. (It is pertinent to note, however, that as

in the past, your Council has placed great emphasis on the need to improve and increase our educational personnel and facilities through official participation in government programs which show merit and through joining with community groups interested in the same objectives. In addition, CIO supports liberal legislation for the betterment of our school system.)

5. Bernard Simon, UAW, is performing a first rate job on the California Apprenticeship Council. He is an articulate representative of California CIO on a very important government body.

6. The Division of Industrial Safety has CIO representation in the person of Ray Bilskie (URW) who serves on the Board determining safety orders for the Division.

7. California CIO, through the State Council, is able to have its voice heard in the matter of executive appointments. The Council supported the appointment of Charles Hanna as chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards, left vacant by the resignation of the previous Director. Mr. Hanna was appointed by the Governor.

Your Secretary-Treasurer served on the Special Advisory Committee on Selection of a New State Director of Social Welfare. On the basis of the slate of acceptable candidates presented by the Committee, the Governor made his selection of George W. Wyman.

This is the type of public service organized labor can and should perform. It is the type of service which, notwithstanding the lack of fanfare and publicity, is of major importance because the men and women selected to carry out the laws can be of either two basic types: those in sympathy with the program they are asked to administer or those in opposition to the very philosophy behind the program over which they assume jurisdiction. Thus the choice affects every citizen directly or indirectly.

8. A case in point is the State Public Utilities Commission, a commission purportedly created to protect the consumer. Except in rare instances has the Commission ruled in favor of the latter.

Your Council has, from time to time, made known either in verbal or written testimony the CIO position on rate increases in transportation, etc.

The most recent case in point occurred a few months ago when the California CIO Council officially protested efforts by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company to show favoritism by lowering rates to a company at the expense of other power users. Your Council protested on the following grounds: ... "This organization is opposed to the Company's request that a reduction in its rate be made for only one large customer, the Permanente Cement Company of Santa Clara County. We do not believe the issue should concern itself with the fact that the latter Company has indicated that it could save the consumer money by using a high viscosity fuel oil at rates less than that of natural gas. In the final analysis the consumer will suffer because it stands to reason that other organizations could pressure PG&E with the same argument. Thus, the latter would be forced to increase rates not only to the individual consumer but to other firm customers as a means to subsidize a few large individual firms not entirely dependent on gas for their operations. While some of these firms can switch back and forth, this certainly does not apply to home owners and most others

who cannot switch back and forth from one type of fuel to another. That the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. would seek further rate increases to offset its reduction in rates to a special few has already been substantiated by the fact that once having submitted petition No. 36765, PG&E requested and was granted interim increases...in 'bread and butter' terms, this increase amounts to \$3.56 a thousand cubic feet of gas for homes, businesses and industries dependent upon a continuous supply of gas. To grant the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. this leeway is merely a means to create a privileged monopoly within a virtual monopoly..."

As a result of our official protest, joined by others, the PG&E application for very special rate concessions to its largest interruptible customer was denied. However, PG&E was not left without the probable permission to file a new general schedule to lower rates to the largest customers while raising rates of smaller customers, but at least the singling out of one giant company for preferential treatment was stopped.

9. Both the President and Secretary-Treasurer serve on the Governor's Advisory Committee on Children and Youth. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to one of the Council's Vice-Presidents, Herbert Wilson (URW), who has represented the Council in some of the work of the Committee when the officers have been unable to attend. Specifically, we refer to the active participation of Brother Wilson in the workshop on California children in detention and shelter care, a project undertaken by this Committee.

10. Attention is directed to Section VIII of this Report in which CIO members Louis Knecht and Jerome Posner report on their work on the Correctional Industries Commission and the Clothing Trade Advisory Committee of the State Prisons, respectively.

11. Through the recommendation of the Council office, the Director of the Shipyard Workers in California, James Daniels, has been appointed to the Governor's Committee on Shipbuilding and Repair and CIO Director Irwin DeShetler is serving on the Governor's Committee to Employ the Physically Handicapped.

The officers would like to end this phase of the Report by stressing that this matter of participation in state government activities either through participation in state agencies or committees or through the legislative and elective processes, is a daily job made necessary not only to protect the rank and file citizens of the state but is an expression of the CIO philosophy that a worthy citizen is a participating citizen. This is equally true of organizations which are, in the final analysis, groups of individual citizens banded together for mutual objectives. In the case of CIO we can all be proud of the fact that these mutual objectives are geared not for the privileged few but for the many.

→ In Federal Government Activities

Participation in the federal legislative field by your Council has previously been discussed elsewhere in this Report.

Two other matters will serve to point up the role your Council takes in other federal matters of real import.

One of these matters concerned itself with the federal hearings held last August regarding the federal government's charge that the State of California was not in conformity with the federal law in the matter of unemployment insurance.

Mr. Leonard Lesser presented the official policy for both the CIO State Council and National CIO.

This was the background leading up to the August hearing held in San Francisco:

The U.S. government charged that denial of benefits to unemployed seamen seven years ago might be in violation of the basic precept of the federal unemployment insurance law—that is, that a worker is not required to be a strikebreaker to collect unemployment insurance. In other words, the federal law protects unemployed workers who refuse to “scab.” Therefore, if a state overrides this federal provision, it is out of conformity and thus federal funds for the administration of the state program will be curtailed.

When the '48 maritime strike broke a number of seamen were unemployed, drawing unemployment compensation. As soon as the strike started their compensation was stopped. An appeal of the original ruling by the Department was made.

The ruling was sustained when the Department of Employment upheld the employers' contention that in industries such as theirs where there are hiring hall agreements, the workers—regardless of whether they are working when a strike begins—are part of the industry pool and should not receive unemployment benefits.

The position of the state and employers was upheld by the State Supreme Court. The implication of the ruling and court decision is obvious; it means that in any given industry, if one plant goes out on strike and there are unemployed workers from that industry, they would be forced to take jobs in the struck plant or forego their jobless pay benefits on the theory they are part of the strike.

What the state has done is what Senator Knowland tried to do a few years back in his attempt to amend the federal act to deny benefits to unemployed workers who refused employment at a struck plant or company.

Employer groups were plagued by this recent development. On the one hand they supported the employer-favored decision by the Department and Supreme Court; however, on the other hand, they were aware that denial of federal funds would shake up the present “merit rating” system whereby some 33,000 employers pay nothing into the state fund and a goodly number pay a very small percentage. Curtailment of federal funds would mean a drain on the state fund reserve which would automatically up the tax rate for employers once the fund goes below a reserve set at 7.1% of taxable wages.

The CIO spokesman for the Council and National CIO warned against efforts to wreck the government's unemployment insurance program, stating that “five million CIO members are vitally concerned. A decision on California's non-conformity affects workers in all unions all over the United States.”

Lesser pointedly declared, “If the employers can force workers to take jobs under conditions of the 1948 maritime situation, then they could break all bona fide unions.”

The State Department of Employment and employer groups opposed organized labor's position at the hearing.

As this phase of the Report is being written, the recommendation of the hearing officer supports the state's position that it is not out of line with federal requirements. The final decision will come from Secretary of Labor Mitchell some time before the end of this year.

The Secretary-Treasurer of the Council has been named to participate in the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference sponsored by the Department of Defense.

Another example of Council participation in federal undertakings of worth was the attendance of your President at the dedication ceremonies of the American River Project. The importance of Council representation rests with the fact that this was a manifest demonstration of CIO support of expanding and improving our water and power resources in the most practical manner possible.

An additional example of activity on the federal front was the attendance of the Secretary-Treasurer at the San Diego meeting of the Joint United States-Mexican Trade Union Committee. This committee is an official international committee of the International Committee of the Inter-American Organization of Workers (ORIT), affiliated with the ICFTU. The United States section represents the CIO, AFL, United Mine Workers and the Railway Brotherhood affiliated with the Railway Labor Executive Association. The meeting centered around a discussion and approval of an interchange of trade unionists, stricter controls on the entrance of illegal immigrants from Mexico, elimination of artificial barriers and the approval of the principle of an international agreement between Mexico and the United States regarding Mexican workers. (This type of undertaking while not *technically* part of our participation in federal government activity does affect federal government policies.)

→ In Community or Civic Activities

The number and types of associations with community or civic non-profit groups are staggering. Space prohibits an exhaustive listing and commentary.

Some of our community work with other groups is local, some cuts across county lines to encompass the state, others cut across state lines to encompass the nation.

Selected as examples are the following:

1. The American Association for the United Nations has availed itself in both offices of the use of the auto-typist machines for fund-raising and membership efforts. This represents a dollar and cents contribution, notwithstanding the fact that a Council check made payable to the AAUN is not in evidence.

2. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received financial contributions from the Council and CIO unions. The Council's addressing services and the auto-typist service have been utilized by the NAACP. (For Council contributions to the NAACP and other organizations, see the Financial Report in the Convention kit.)

3. Both staff time and financial contributions have been allocated to the California Committee for Fair Employment Practices on which the Secretary-Treasurer serves as a co-chairman. This Committee, unlike similar counterparts, is a permanent set-up. Contributions from the Council and CIO locals have aided in the legislative work of the Committee and in sponsoring the 1955 civil rights mobilization in Sacramento, previously discussed herein.

4. The American Federation for the Physically Handicapped, Inc., a national organization on which National CIO is represented, has likewise received financial aid from the Council as permitted by its budget.

5. A recently formed Committee in the Los Angeles area is the Freedom Agenda Community on which there is representation from the California CIO Council, Los Angeles League of Women Voters, State PTA, UCLA Extension Division, Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Los Angeles Town Hall, Los Angeles Jewish Community Council, American Association of University Women, YWCA and individual sponsors, including judges and educators. The objective of the Committee is to set up a pilot project of discussion groups on a small scale with various types of groups, i.e., neighborhood, organizations, etc. The pilot project will involve training discussion leaders, financial underwriting, and an agenda for pilot groups.

6. The Council President is an active participant in the following undertakings: (a) The Harry S. Truman Memorial Library Committee, (b) the East Bay Advisory Committee on Minority Group Employment, (c) the 5-County Northern California United Bay Area Crusade, serving as a vice-president of this comparatively new organization. In addition, Carl Jones (USA) and S. M. Pratt (Secretary-Treasurer of the Alameda Council) were named to the 50-member Executive Committee. In total, 19 CIO leaders are on the Board of Governors of the Crusade which merged 288 vital health and welfare agencies into a single effort. It is now the third largest United fund in the nation.

7. Your Secretary-Treasurer and President have participated in panel discussions on numerous occasions during the year. Two examples among many were the participation at a Bill of Rights program sponsored by the Wilshire Community Coordinating Council and a panel discussion on automation sponsored by the Adult Education Division of the Oakland Public Library, the latter being tape recorded for delayed broadcast in the area.

8. Aid was given to the American-Korean Foundation, Inc., appeal for funds to individuals and organizations in the community with the help of the auto-typist service.

9. The California Water and Power Users Association, initiated primarily by the State Grange, has received a substantial contribution from the Council in line with Executive Board action; Vice-President Sam Eubanks (ANG) has represented California CIO in an expert fashion. The objectives of this association is to join farmers, organized labor and others in a single effort to assure a sound water, power and conservation program in the state. The association is still in a comparatively embryonic stage.

10. To cite other organizations with which the Council is associated:

- (a) Advisory Council of Occidental College
- (b) California Safety Council, a citizen's voluntary non-profit accident prevention agency
- (c) Los Angeles World Affairs Council
- (d) American Foundation for Political Education
- (e) Advisory Board of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers
- (f) California Federation for Civic Unity

11. Support has been given to "Magazines for Friendship," a singular effort initiated in Southern California by a university professor. The current affairs and non-fictional magazines collected by the Council are sent overseas for use by people of other nations. Our last shipment was sent to the Far East.

12. The work on the Health Plan Consultants Committee's first project ended when the Ford Foundation grant to the Inter-University Labor Education Committee came to an end. The last of the series of health and welfare conferences sponsored by the CIO and AFL in cooperation with the Health Plan Consultants Committee was held in Los Angeles last February. The conference, similar to those previously held, was attended by a representative group of 330 community leaders with an interest in improving pre-payment health plans. Among the representatives present were 130 from labor unions, 75 from the medical, dental, osteopathic and optometric associations, 11 from the hospital state councils and 61 from the various types of health plans.

13. Another community project in which the Council participated was the "Skilled Manpower Conference" held last July. Henry Santiestevan of the CIO Regional Office staff represented this organization. The conference, conducted under the joint sponsorship of the National Manpower Council and the Los Angeles City Schools, brought together representatives of labor, industry and education.

14. An undertaking which has in recent months consumed much time and effort on the part of the Secretary-Treasurer is his activity on the Community Advisory Committee of the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Los Angeles. The CIO representative is also active on a sub-committee of the Community Advisory Committee which in broad outline is considering the functions of the Community Advisory Committee with reference to research, teaching and curriculum activities of the Institute.

The foregoing examples are indicative of the comprehensive participation of the California CIO Council in community and civic affairs, programs and projects.

V. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

The comments made in this portion are intended to be brief since the Department of Education and Legislative Research has been involved in virtually all phases of Council activity noted throughout the Report.

A great deal of work of this branch of the Council has been in the preparation and dissemination of legislative and political information not only for educational purposes but to stimulate CIO and community activity.

Among the numerous responsibilities of the Department is the publication of the official organ, the *Council Newsletter*. During the state legislative session an effort was made to publish it on a weekly basis.

Likewise, during election periods, the *Newsletter* is distributed on a more frequent basis.

The *Newsletter* has been well received by our CIO affiliates and members as well as by legislators, individuals and organizations. Appendix I of the Report contains samples of letters of commendation of the *Newsletter*. It might be a note of interest that a New York employer group sent in a \$25 subscription.

In addition to the CIO names, the publication is mailed to the metropolitan dailies, college libraries in California, state

and national legislators, out-of-state Councils, the CIO national and international union officials, governmental departments, and to individuals who have expressed the desire to receive it.

Among other matters with which the Department concerns itself:

1. The annual CIO Summer School. Since this Report is being printed prior to the 1955 Summer School which is to be held in California Hot Springs, October 2-8, it is impossible to give details as to the number of students who attended and other pertinent information. However, the prepared agenda to be used at the school indicates that students attending will be given a well-rounded intensive week of instruction in the fields of labor economics, labor history, issues of '55, international relations, steward's training, how to build a stronger union, and how to be effective in political action. Interspersed with the school work will be recreational activities.

2. Furnishing specialized data to unions and organizations so requesting. In addition, special data is sent periodically to the National CIO-PAC on such matters as CIO people holding elective or appointive offices, congressional district breakdown of CIO members, etc.

Information to aid out-of-state Councils is also provided. An example of this is the material on unemployment and particularly disability insurance sent to the legislative representative of the Massachusetts CIO Council who requested specific information. He wrote to the Council: "I want Miss Leshin to know that the material she sent us was of great aid. With it we nailed cold one of the lies, widely spread by the opposition."

3. Preparation of election result reports for every race for information of CIO leadership and political activists.

4. Taking care of a myriad of questions over the phone from both unions and outside groups.

5. Preparation of the details and material for the CIO regional and statewide legislative conferences was the responsibility of the Department. Likewise, the major portion of the background work of the FEP mobilization was in the hands of the Department of Education and Legislative Research.

6. Preparation of bill analyses sent to the legislators during the last session was another phase of this year's work.

7. The Department likewise prepared Council letters on legislative issues that were directed to the state law-makers and the letters for use by the CIO legislative secretarial service. (The same was done for national issues.)

8. Periodically, research material is mailed to political clubs for their perusal and dissemination among club members.

9. Arrange for Council staff and other CIO spokesmen to address students at the Catholic Labor Institute, union meetings and political clubs.

10. Preparation of press releases as a phase of the California CIO Council public relations and information programs. (See Appendix II for samples of newspaper coverage of CIO activities.)

11. As noted elsewhere, preparation of the Tool Kits, candidate slate cards, etc., was part of the responsibility of the Department.

12. Working with the joint AFL-CIO committee to present labor's views on setting up an Institute of Industrial Relations at State College in Los Angeles is another Department responsibility.

This in brief is a thumbnail sketch of the activities of the Department of Education and Legislative Research. Every effort has been made through the Department of Education and Legislative Research to help further advance the cause of CIO and to help disseminate information in this behalf.

VI. AFFILIATION REPORT

An affiliation count as of September 5, 1955, based on the per capita record of affiliated local unions and information furnished by the International District offices of unaffiliated locals, evidenced by the table listed below, shows that there are a total of 318 CIO local unions in California. 250 locals or 79% with a total membership of 166,501 are affiliated. 68 or 21% with a membership of 7,375 are unaffiliated.

International Union	Affil. Local Unions	Unaffil. Local Unions	Total in Calif.	Affiliated Membership	Unaffil. Membership
Auto Workers	27	0	27	59,850	
Brewery	1	1	2	100	200
Broadcast	3	0	3	932	
Clothing	12	8	20	4,090	845
Communications	45	8	53	23,087	838
Electrical	9	1	10	1,886	
Furniture	3	0	3	2,122	
Glass and Ceramic	0	1	1		10
Insurance	3	0	3	211	
Lithographers	1	2	3	700	1,726
Marine & Shipbuilding	1	1	2	1,729	150
Maritime	2	0	2	500	
Newspaper Guild	5	2	7	2,812	194
Oil Workers	12	2	14	12,333	400
Packinghouse	10	0	10	7,023	
Paperworkers	1	0	1	145	
Retail Wholesale	2	1	3	82	250
Rubber Workers	28	4	32	10,991	87
Shoe Workers	0	1	1		25
Steel	39	15	54	29,063	1,169
Textile	8	2	10	2,012	50
Transport Service	4	1	5	161	7
Transport Workers	2	4	6	102	410
Utility Workers	12	7	19	2,978	429
Woodworkers	14	4	18	3,062	520
Local Industrial Unions	3	0	3	169	
	250	68	318	166,501	7,375

An affiliation count of Joint Boards, District Councils and County Councils is also shown herewith:

	Affiliated	Unaffiliated	Total in California
<i>Joint Boards</i>			
Clothing	1	1	2
Textile	2	0	2
	—	—	—
	3	1	4
<i>District Councils</i>			
Oil	0	1	1
Packinghouse	1	0	1
Woodworkers	2	0	2
	—	—	—
	3	1	4
<i>County Councils</i> . .	5	0	5

A comparison with the 1954 Affiliation Report of the Officers Report reveals an increase of 19,496 in per capita membership. The total per capita membership as of October 31, 1954, amounted to 147,005, whereas per capita membership as of September 5, 1955, amounts to 166,501. The Council gained 7 new locals during the past year with a membership of 4,278 and dropped 8; thus it would appear that 15,218 workers were added to existing affiliated locals.

(The Affiliation Report contained in the Convention kit is based on the affiliation count as of October 15, 1955. Therefore, totals may slightly vary as compared to the above figures.)

VII. REPORTS BY CHAIRMEN OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The officers wish to take this means of conveying their appreciation and thanks to chairmen Ruth Miller (Education Committee), William McMahan (Housing Committee), Ray Haeckel (Community Services Committee), Carl Allen (Workmen's Compensation and Industrial Safety Committee), and E. J. Franklin (Civil Rights Committee) for the great amount of time and effort they have given.

Following are reports submitted by the undersigned chairmen:

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

By WILLIAM McMAHAN, *Chairman* (CWA)

During the past year the Housing Committee has continued its participation and research in current housing programs and problems. Close contact has been kept with the various government and local agencies involved in housing activities and the committee took active part in various hearings and conferences.

The more serious problems at this time appear to be urban renewal (community re-development), relocation and minority group and lower middle-income group housing.

Urban renewal is complicated by a clash of interests of various groups who have their own selfish economic interests to protect. The Housing Committee has evaluated the stands taken by these groups and is prepared to present a great deal of factual data at future urban renewal hearings. We believe this data will assist in developing a slum clearance urban renewal program that CIO can heartily endorse.

Relocation of lower income families, displaced by many types of public and private enterprise programs and improvements, has never been satisfactorily accomplished. Every year

thousands of tenant families and individuals of low or moderate income are forced to move on short notice, then compete in a tight housing market for over-priced, inadequate rental housing. Your Committee believes a single public agency, created solely to solve this problem, is the only practical solution. Data has been compiled as to kinds and types of activities that cause this problem, the extent of the problem over the last few years, family composition, income ranges, racial characteristics, transportation problems, and other pertinent items. Some preliminary discussions have been held with public officials and we hope, in the near future, to accelerate our activities on the problem.

Despite the greatly improved economic status of minority groups in the last fifteen years, despite the job security guaranteed by the seniority clauses in our union contracts, despite the proven acceptance of credit responsibilities by minority groups, despite the provisions of the 1949 and 1954 Housing Acts that were supposed to insure adequate housing for minority groups, these minority groups still are largely limited in solving their housing needs to second-hand housing in older neighborhoods. Our own CIO unions may be justifiably proud of the great part they have played in insuring the ability to acquire new housing if it were available to minority groups, but greatly increased interest and activity will be required by our unions if any material assistance is to be given to the solution of this problem. This Committee has done considerable research in this matter and is prepared to present its data at the proper time.

The lower middle-income family has the problem of finding adequate shelter on a minimum housing budget and no practical assistance has been given this group in finding it. Programs in the 1949 and 1954 Housing Acts do not meet the need of the vast majority of this group and the builders and lenders purposely ignore the provisions of these bills designed to assist the group. Having no organization or spokesman, the group must depend on unions, service groups and other similar organizations to help solve its problem. So far, the assistance given has not been too productive.

In the Bay Area, the UAW has pioneered a union assisted housing project which may be at least a partial solution of some of the previously discussed problems. Working with the national headquarters of the union, the Bay Area group planned an integrated housing project when one of the automobile plants was moved a considerable distance from its former location. Despite tremendous resistance to the project, the union finally overcame the last obstacle and is proceeding with the building of a tract of good homes, at reasonable prices, for their members.

The Housing Committee was honored during the year by an official request of the Department of Labor that it participate in the planning and conducting of a housing tour, both in the Southland and in the Bay Area, of an Indonesian Government Housing Mission. The group consisted of eleven government officials and labor leaders and they were given every assistance and full cooperation in making their week-long stay in each area an educational, informative, practical and pleasurable success.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE REPORT

By E. J. FRANKLIN, *Chairman* (UAW)

Since the formation of the Civil Rights Committee, it has endeavored to perform its duty, in spite of the difficulty in

getting a full committee meeting during the year. However, during election time and the convening of the state legislature, the committee has made itself felt.

Our chief function is to press for civil rights legislation, as well as to support candidates who support our program.

Before each session of the legislature, we have consulted Secretary-Treasurer Despol on civil rights bills to be presented.

In the past we have had several FEP bills presented before the legislature—only to die in Committee.

At the 1955 session of the legislature, we were able to get AB 971 (FEPC) out of the Assembly Governmental Efficiency and Economy Committee and out of the Ways and Means Committee. Although the bill was defeated in the Senate Labor Committee, this was the first time that we got such a bill out of committee and were able to gain passage on the assembly side. However, AB 970, regarding the hiring of teachers without regard to race, creed or color was passed and signed into law.

Being a member of the Los Angeles County Committee on Human Relations, we have been active in many civil rights issues, pertaining to housing, and the recent Los Angeles Fire Department segregation case. The City Council defeated an FEP ordinance, 8-7, in May of this year.

We are quite certain that you are well aware that civil rights legislation is a No. 1 issue, yet our legislative bodies and many politicians have made it a political football. At the last session of the 84th Congress, not one piece of civil rights legislation was passed.

Both parties, Democratic and Republican, are guilty. It behooves us to look closely at the records of our legislators—city, county, state and national—as well as the records of candidates.

This committee is continuing to fight for civil rights legislation in spite of the many setbacks.

The committee asks your full support throughout the year.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

By CARL E. ALLEN, *Chairman* (OCAW)

During the past year there were a number of state safety orders that were up for reconsideration in terms of revision, rewriting and extending of coverage. In addition there were many new orders. The work of your Chairman in this matter involves not only representing the Committee of the CIO State Council but also the Committee of District Council #1 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, of which this writer is also Chairman.

The latest information, as of this writing, shows the status on the following orders:

1. *General Industry Safety Orders*—Now completed. These orders pertain to all industry in the state (where it has jurisdiction) and are superseded only by orders that are written for a particular industry wherein they cover the point of safety under consideration.

2. *Electrical Safety Orders*—Now completed. These orders pertain to all electrical equipment throughout the state.

3. *Fired Pressure Vessels Safety Orders*—Now completed. This set of safety orders deals with steam boilers and other fired pressure equipment.

4. *Construction Safety Orders*—Now in Committee. These orders deal with safety in the building and construction trades wherein such work is being done in the state.

5. *Drilling and Production Safety Orders*—Now in Committee. This set of orders relate to field operations in the petroleum industry.

The Governor's Safety Conference was also part of your committee's activity during the year, as well as some sectional meetings such as those held in San Diego and Santa Barbara. One of the members of the State Council committee is Ray Bilske of the Rubber Workers, who is a member of the Board of the Division of Industrial Safety—this Board considers testimony presented at public hearings relating to safety orders. The Board has the responsibility of adopting safety orders on the basis of recommendations or testimony made at these hearings.

This report does not cover every phase of activity but should serve as an indication of the type of work and activities in which the Chairman and members of the Committee have a deep interest and responsibility.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

By RUTH MILLER, *Chairman* (ACWA)

During the course of any given year, a number of problems and projects are presented to the State CIO Council Education and Research Committee for consideration and action.

Members of the Committee, from time to time, present the viewpoint of the Council in a variety of meetings and projects which the Council endorses.

The major project of the State Education and Research Committee during this year will be the 1955 Summer School to be held at California Hot Springs in Tulare County from October 2 to October 8.

Students will be drawn from various unions in the state exclusive of Auto, Steel and Communications. These three unions hold their own schools so that the Council School, which is conducted jointly by National CIO, Region XIII and the State Council, makes it possible for the remainder of the CIO unions in the state to have the benefit of a Summer School program.

The project is designed to increase the understanding and knowledge of membership in the problems, history and responsibilities of the labor movement.

The 1954 Summer School was capably staffed by National, Regional and State personnel in addition to staff members of individual participating Internationals.

Once again in 1954, the Ken Hunter scholarship was offered. It was awarded to Floyd Pierce of the Furniture Workers Local 262 in San Francisco. Brother Pierce proved to be a valuable asset to the school.

The enrollment of the school was 37 students. There are very decided advantages in an Institute this size because it makes possible a close association of the student body among themselves and with the staff and permits a great interchange of ideas and experiences.

The Council is most fortunate to have an Education and Research Committee which is sincerely interested in the problems to which it is assigned. A vote of thanks is therefore due committee members Edward Shedlock (UWUA), Eric Carlson (ALA), Chester Larson (CWA), Cass Alvin (USA), Clyde Baker (UAW), Hap Cantley (OCAW), Henry Santestevan (CIO Regional Office) and John Janasco (UPWA).

By RAY P. HAECKEL, *Chairman* (USA)

It is indeed a pleasure to serve as Chairman of this working committee because of the fine cooperation we have received. However, to date, this Community Services program has only penetrated the surface of our membership and the state as a community. So far, the results of this penetration have been most stimulating and gratifying. Thus we, the committee, feel more strongly than ever that "What Is Good for the Community Is Good for the CIO."

The emphasis during the past year has been to stimulate more active participation of the membership in the Community Services program. Through the development of Community Services Committees, they become aware of the affairs of their communities and the services available in a time of need, thereby strengthening family life and the community as a whole.

A breakdown of the activities in the development of this program is as follows:

1. *Integrating the Community Services Program:* Great strides were made this past year through the helpful cooperation of the State Council officers and Board, International Directors and their staff, the five county councils—Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco—and the various local unions. This cooperation has brought the National CIO-CSC program down to the local level, thereby calling greater public attention to CIO in the community with more and more agencies requesting CIO representatives on their boards as the agencies become aware of this active interest of CIO in community affairs. We have been represented at numerous meetings and conferences, assisted in strikes and school programs—with one thought in mind—that this program was designed to benefit everyone.

2. *Leadership Training:* Meetings were held to acquaint Council officers and International Representatives with the need for active interest and participation in community affairs so that they would develop leadership among their membership for the purpose of attaining more CIO representation on committees and boards of the community agencies, promoting a better program of service for CIO members and developing a sound plan of federated giving to health and welfare agencies.

3. *Training the Union Counsellor:* This is the most important part of our program. In the past year, we have trained an additional 250 Union Counsellors to assist our members when they have out-of-plant problems. Future counselling classes are being scheduled and it is the hope of the committee to have trained counsellors in every local union in the state.

4. *Program for the Aged:* Contact was made with all Internationals and Local Unions in the southern area and meetings were held to develop a program for the aged. Assistance was provided to establish committees to obtain gains for the aged, job retirement pension plans, social security benefits, state aid for the aged, special housing facilities, recreation, etc.

5. *Preparing for the Unemployed:* CIO local union officers and committees were encouraged to contact California State Employment Service district office managers to receive the interpretation of the Unemployment Insurance Law, policies, administration procedures, and the facts regarding unemploy-

ment insurance determinations. Also to assist in the placement of CIO members who are unemployed and to know what health and welfare services are available in the community.

6. *Public Relations:* It is quite evident that the Community Services Committee program is becoming more widespread than ever, not only among the CIO membership but among community agencies and in the metropolitan press. This was helped considerably by the development of the following:

a. *The CIO-CSC Awards Dinner:* This Awards Dinner sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles CIO Council and its Community Services Committee coincided with the Annual Philip Murray Award Dinner. It was the first time that labor in this area has recognized the efforts of social workers and community agencies. Nine community agencies and four individuals were honored with awards for outstanding Community Services.

b. *The Union Counsellor Graduation Dinner:* This dinner was sponsored by the State Council and the three Bay Area Industrial Union Councils. It was attended by agency representatives, husbands and wives of graduating counsellors. It was necessary for the 96 people who graduated to attend seven out of nine sessions of the course in order to receive a diploma. Dr. Milton Chernin, Dean of the School of Social Welfare, University of California, was the principal speaker. These dinners attracted wide interest in the metropolitan press and various official publications of community agencies having a state-wide circulation.

c. *"Keynotes"*—CSC publication of Southern California: "Keynotes" is the new publication of the CSC office of Southern California which devotes itself to facts, figures, and how-to-do-it methods, such as garnishments, unemployment insurance benefits, family budgeting, etc. The first issue which deals with garnishments was a tremendous success. Copies have been requested by judges, attorneys, the Public Defender's office, community agencies and A. F. of L. representatives. The next issue of "Keynotes" will be devoted to California State Employment Service determinations regarding unemployment benefits and "how to present the facts" in making a claim.

d. *"At Your Service"*—CSC publication of Northern California: "At Your Service" is a monthly Newsletter which informs Union Counsellors and Local Unions about public and voluntary agencies such as changes in the health and welfare laws, agency programs, and highlighting cases that are referred and processed.

e. *Meeting with the Agency Representatives:* Monthly meetings with members of the Community Services Committee and top personnel of community agencies are held so that a better understanding of programs may result. The cooperation of each is to the advantage of all concerned.

f. *CIO Community Services Handbook:* Directors Harding and Hellender cooperated in the preparation of the State Council's publication "CIO Kit No. 7—How to use Community Service Program." The "CIO Community Services Handbook" which is included in this kit describes the services of national and local community agencies and how to use them. While it was developed as a working handbook for the CIO Union Counsellors, many agencies in the community requested copies for their own use. The following letter is an example of the response it received from community agencies (see Appendix I for other samples of letters):

WELFARE *PLANNING* COUNCIL, LOS ANGELES REGION

- WELFARE INFORMATION SERVICE -

729 SOUTH FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES 17, CALIF.
MICHIGAN 8821

April 1
19 55

Mr. Charles J. Harding
C.I.O. Community Services
Welfare Federation of Los Angeles Area
729 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles 17, California

Dear Mr. Harding:

Welfare Information Service is most grateful to CIO-CSC for making available to some of our interested agencies recently the "CIO Kit No. 7 - How to Use Community Service Program" and "Twenty-five Steps to Community Service." You may be interested to know how some of the individuals have been using the Kit. Dr. Shefflre and Mrs. Nowlin of the Board of Education Counseling and Guidance Division are doing a comprehensive review of the use of community resources by the Los Angeles City Board of Education personnel at all levels of education. This is a tremendous project and will result in very real improvements in school-agency relations, we hope. They are developing a guide to community resources for use of their school people. Your Kit will be very helpful to them as a sample of another approach.

A faculty member of UCLA School of Social Work is another person, I believe, who has received a Kit, and is making a study of problems and use of community resources by management and labor. The referral service at the Church Welfare Bureau, which consults with church groups around health and welfare problems, is another agency which has been particularly interested in the Kit.

I also want to take this opportunity to express to you and Mrs. Stone and the CIO-CSC the satisfaction WIS has had in working with you on special referral service. Mrs. Moses and the rest of the staff are glad to have you call upon us at any time when you think we can be helpful.

Sincerely,

cc - Mr. George Hill

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
WALTER S. HILBORN
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
H. C. WILLETT, Sc.D.
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MRS. JOHN W. EAGLE
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
C. W. PFEIFFER

Barbara H. Thies
(Mrs.) Barbara H. Thies, Director
Welfare Information Service

Participating in the Los Angeles Community Chest

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VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS ON: CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

By LOUIS B. KNECHT, *Director, CWA-CIO District 9
Member, Correctional Industries Commission*

The most pressing need of the Department of Corrections is still additional prison capacity. This problem was not solved by the last session of the legislature and is one which the State Council should still be taking considerable interest in. By June 30th of 1956 adult prisons with a unit capacity of 13,381 will be expected to safely keep 17,000 prisoners. It should be pointed out also that of this 13,000 capacity, 3700 are in temporary semi-permanent or outmoded buildings. By 1965 the prisons of California may be expected to house 23,000 offenders. Therefore, during the next ten years the State of California should provide additional capacity for over ten thousand adult prison inmates. Even if temporary and condemned buildings are continued in use indefinitely, the state will need to build additional capacity for 6600 inmates. The real question is not, "Shall there be more prison construction?" but rather, "What is the best compromise between cost of construction and operation on the one hand, and safety and efficiency on the other?". For many years administrators in this field have held steadfastly to the belief that prisons with a capacity of more than 1500 are cumbersome, dangerous and inefficient. The Department of Corrections knows of no responsible experienced leader in the criminology field in the United States or in the entire world who does not also share this conviction.

The American Prison Association, which has been the official voice of the leaders in the field of penology for the past 85 years, has been on record by formal resolution since 1929 to the effect that institutions for adult prisoners should not exceed a capacity of 1200; and institutions for juveniles and young adults of the reformatory age group (18 to 25 years) should be even smaller, preferably from 600 to 1000.

However, in spite of these accepted professional standards, the Department of Corrections of California has sought to find some reasonable compromise between the cost advantages of large institutions and the safety and rehabilitative values of small ones. This compromise involves limiting the development of adult institutions such as the California State Prison at Soledad to an ultimate total capacity not to exceed 3000, but with the important provision that the expansion of the institution be carried on in such a way as to add separate branch or satellite units on the same site so that insofar as the inmate program and inmate segregation is concerned, we would, in effect, have a parent institution and two or three branch facilities with a capacity of about 600 in each unit. To use the Soledad situation as an example, we have there a new, complete institution with a capacity of 1500. We have a temporary structure known as the Farm Barracks which has a capacity of 440, but is currently caring for 700. Current plans provide for adding two more satellite units of 600 each.

Attention is called to a pamphlet entitled, "Some Prison Questions Answered, or a Summary of Long-Term Needs for the Department of Corrections Construction" which was issued by the California Department of Corrections in January of

this year. All people interested in this field and those with the responsibility for carrying out statewide and community level duties should be acquainted with this pamphlet. Once more, forces in the State Legislature with little or no understanding of the problem are attempting to curtail and cut back appropriations for additional prison facilities in California. So far, those attempts have been, in the main, successful. I believe the California State CIO Council should continue to support the long-term needs of the Department of Corrections as enunciated in this January report, and should use every means at our disposal to convince those legislators friendly to us that they, in turn, should support this kind of program. Opponents of the program are still thinking in terms of adding additional bunks to existing cell blocks in order to take care of the prison population problem, and this does nothing more than compound an already overcrowded situation. We in the CIO must get behind the needs of the Department of Corrections and do everything we can to advance the programs laid down if we are to carry out our responsibilities to our people.

Perhaps the most ambitious of the Correctional Industries programs is the cotton textile industry which is being set up at San Quentin. The textile mill is in operation and there were approximately 136 men assigned to this activity as of March 31st, with another 200 expected to be absorbed in July. Since this is the only cotton textile enterprise in California, it is considered a pilot project for the state and its success will largely determine whether or not it is feasible for further cotton textile enterprises of this nature to be established by private enterprise. As you know, all the cotton used in this mill comes from California.

During the last week of the recent session of the legislature, three resolutions were adopted which affect work programs in the various institutions in California. They are Senate Resolutions #144, #147, and #162. As a State Council, I think we should pay particular attention to the activities of the various commissions set up by these resolutions so that we don't get ourselves in a situation where the state legislature begins to play politics with what is a perfectly good and workable program.

As in recent years, I think our main theme should still be to try to educate the public at the community level of the problems associated with prison needs in California. Only in that way will we be able to apply enough pressure to the state legislature that they will take cognizance of these needs and stop playing politics with the problem.

CLOTHING TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE PRISONS

By JEROME POSNER, *Manager, L. A. Joint Board, ACWA
Member, Clothing Trade Advisory Committee*

For a number of years, I have served as a member of the Clothing Trade Advisory Committee of the State Prisons.

This committee is made up of representatives of industry and labor who are charged with the responsibility of supervising the training and work habits of inmates of state prisons who are assigned to the needle trades work sections of their particular prisons.

It is the task of the prisoners within this group to produce the garments worn by inmates of California state institutions. The work they do is, at no time, in competition with private industry.

As I see the function of the Committee, it has a multifold responsibility. First, it is our duty to see that the skills involved in producing clothing are properly taught as a trade in the state prisons so that when a prisoner has concluded serving his time, he will have a means of earning a livelihood. Second, the training should be in line with the most modern methods of production both for the benefit of the trainee and for the industry into which he will come. Third, we must do all we can to place each parolee immediately upon his or her release.

The people who comprise the Advisory Committee are doing an important job mainly because it is a selfless, humanitarian job. They are not merely working to save money for the state—this is a by-product; they are working to help people who, for a variety of reasons, have had to pay a debt to society. The importance of the task is highlighted by the startling fact that the average age of prisoners in our state is 24!

During the 15 year period in which I have been manager of the Los Angeles Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, we have placed a good number of parolees and we are careful to guide them through their first period of employment. We try to make them feel secure in their jobs and help them on the road to a useful, productive life.

COOPERATION BETWEEN CIO REGIONAL OFFICE AND CALIFORNIA CIO COUNCIL

By IRWIN L. DeSHETLER, *CIO Director, Region XIII*

Again this year, the office of Region XIII has good reason for expressing gratitude to the CIO-California Industrial Union Council, its officers and board members, for their full cooperation in furthering CIO programs and policies.

Response to the requests made by this office to the officers and board members to implement in the field the important political action, legislative, education, and other basic CIO programs has been magnificent.

During the first session of the 84th Congress, many field action programs were sent to us through our National CIO Legislative Department. All of our State CIO Councils were keystones in this endeavor. We are happy to say that cooperation from all of them in Region XIII was given fully and effectively.

This year, as it has in past years, Region XIII again entered into co-sponsorship with the CIO-California Industrial Union Council of a Summer School, held in California Hot Springs. Our office assisted in liaison with the office of George Guernsey, Associate Director in charge of Education, National CIO Department of Education and Research. Also, staff representatives from our office participated in the school.

State CIO Council participation and cooperation in various conferences and meetings called by the office of Region XIII was very much appreciated.

Particularly, we wish to stress our appreciation for the participation of the Council's two top officers in the Conference called by Region XIII, held in Portland, Oregon.

We believe that CIO moved forward on all fronts this past year—in political action, legislative work, education, organizing, collective bargaining, etc.

Of particular importance in this achievement of progress was the full cooperation of all State CIO Councils in those areas in which they are operative.

As Director, Region XIII, it is a great pleasure to express for myself, and for my staff, our appreciation to the officers and board members of the CIO-California Industrial Union Council for the cooperation and work well done in the year of 1955.

IX. A WORD OF THANKS!

The past year has witnessed well-attended Executive Board meetings, meetings which were called regularly during the year in connection with Council work and activity programs. To the Board members, the officers wish to express grateful appreciation for their participation and cooperation in the work of this organization. A special word of thanks is extended to Vice-Presidents Clark (USA), Bruhl (OCAW), Eubanks (ANG), Shedlock (UWUA), Stone (UAW) and Wilson (URW), for their assistance and advice and for representing the Council on various occasions.

Special thanks go to National CIO-PAC Field Director George B. Robers. In his travels around the state he has very ably explained the legislative and political action programs of our State Council and he has urged all-out cooperation by local unions.

To Irwin DeShetler, CIO Director, Region 13, also goes special thanks for the fine cooperation and understanding he and his staff have extended to the Council.

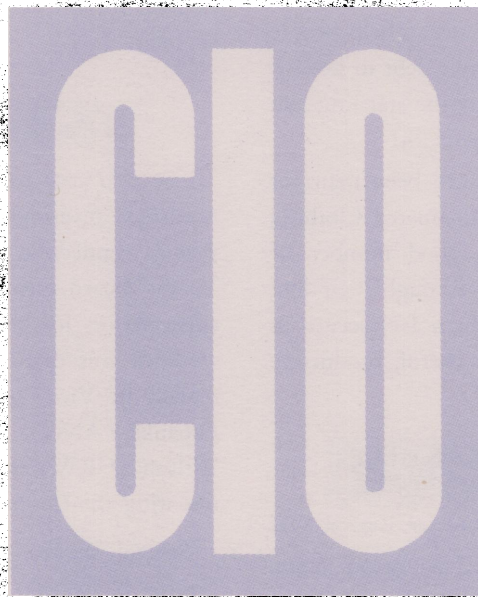
Grateful appreciation is extended to Charles Harding, Southern California Director of the CIO Community Services Committee, and to Art Hellender, Northern California Director of the Community Services Committee, for their cooperation in representing the Council before community agencies and state governmental bodies.

And to the affiliated CIO unions, County Councils, Joint Boards and District Councils whose financial and moral support and cooperation have made possible the type of activities contained in this Report, our sincerest thanks and appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

MANUEL DIAS, *President*

JOHN A. DESPOL, *Secretary-Treasurer*



APPENDIX I

**SAMPLES OF LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR THANKS
FROM INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANIZATIONS
COVERING VARIOUS PHASES
OF CIO STATE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

Ernest B. Webb

Charles F. Hanna
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS
69 Ninth Street
San Francisco 3
May 2, 1955

JOHN E. MOSS, JR.
30 DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT OFFICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
P. O. BOX 1828

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

December 24, 1954

RAM ARCHIBALD
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MARIE GENEAU
PERSONAL SECRETARY

WASHINGTON OFFICE
ROOM 1259
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. John A. Despol, Secretary-Treasurer
California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Mr. Despol:

I have been told about the interest and help which you gave in a recent appointment of myself to be Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards. I want you to know that I appreciate your personal interest and the interest of your fine organization in bringing this about.

We have very much appreciated working with your group in past years and are looking forward to working with you in the future. It is with the help of you and your fine organization that we have been able to build apprenticeship as we now know it in California. With your help we can continue to improve the program which all of us know can be improved.

I am quite sure the efforts of labor-management and our own group have produced the good record which we now have and will, in the future, produce better rewards for those who are so deeply interested in our youth and in training them for the many occupations necessary to our industries in California.

Will you also express my sincere appreciation to Messrs. Manuel Dias, Bernard Simon, Joe Deardorff, William Grunell, Marie DeMartini and many others who have indicated their interest in this work.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Hanna
Charles F. Hanna, Chief

Mr. John A. Despol
Secretary-Treasurer
CIO State Council
117 W 9th Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear John:

Thank you for your telegram of congratulations and thank you, particularly, for your most kind offer to type the personal thank you letters which I will be sending to campaign workers and financial contributors. This exhibits a keen practical political sense, showing that you realize a campaign is not over until many weeks after election day.

We are just now setting up the lists of people to whom letters will be written and I do not know now whether I will have more letters to write than my staff can handle. If I do I will most certainly take advantage of your kind offer.

Speaking of "thanks" I owe a debt of gratitude to you and to the other organized labor groups which were the major supporters of my campaign. I can only repay it by doing my best to be the type of legislator who is solely interested in the welfare of the people.

Sincerely,

John E. Moss, Jr.

JEM:ad

WASHINGTON OFFICE
ROOM 1720 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: NATIONAL 8-3130

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

HARLAN HAGEN
CONGRESSMAN, 14TH CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

April 28, 1955

LOCAL OFFICE
ROOM 200 HARRISFIELD BUILDING
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
EDWIN W. WILSON, ASSISTANT

COMMITTEES
Livestock and Dairies
Vice Chairman
Agriculture
Fish and Game
Revenue and Taxation

Assembly
California Legislature

ALAN G. PATTEE
ASSEMBLYMAN, THIRTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

Mr. John Despol
California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Johnny:

I am writing to you to express my deep appreciation for the moral and material assistance and many courtesies which you furnished to me in the last election. I shall be forever grateful to you. I trust that my actions have justified, and will continue to justify, the mutual respect we have shared in the past.

Presently I am a member of the House Agriculture Committee. My position on this Committee has already permitted me to render a rare service to my District in the fight over cotton allotments and with respect to other matters. I am certain that you can stand on my record of service to agriculture in the most direct and active way.

In general I have tried to follow the line of judgment rather than partisanship in voting on the great issues which confront the Congress. In most instances these lines converge.

I will appreciate your continuing interest in political affairs. Any informational material relating to the affairs of our Government which you desire will be readily forthcoming from my office. A great deal must be done now to assure the election of the best Congress and the best President in 1956 and we, who share common convictions of Government and politics, must be armed with the utmost knowledge in order that we may persuade others to our points of view.

With best personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours

Harlan Hagen

HARLAN HAGEN
Member of Congress

HOME ADDRESS
155 CORRAL DE TIERRA ROAD
SALINAS, CALIF.
TELEPHONE: 9498
SACRAMENTO ADDRESS
STATE CAPITOL
ZONE 14
TELEPHONE: GI 1861 2-4711
Ext. 2304

Dear John:

Since I am sitting here at the ranch and have just finished your Council Newsletter, which arrived today, I thought I should drop you a line to say your Sacramento Roundup was a good one and well done. I am using some of it for notes in my various talks before groups here in Monterey County.

Sincerely,
Alan Pattee

HOME ADDRESS
3715 ABBOTT ROAD
LYNWOOD
SACRAMENTO ADDRESS
STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 14



VERNON KILPATRICK
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY, FIFTY-FIFTH DISTRICT
January 12, 1955

COMMITTEES
CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND
PUBLIC WORKS
EDUCATION
SOCIAL WELFARE
WAYS AND MEANS

Mr. John A. Despol, Legislative Representative
Sacramento Hotel
Sacramento, California

Dear John:

I am greatly appreciative of the material you sent through titled "FACTS ON TAXES". Since my service in the Legislature, this is the best effort I have seen presenting the facts of tax life to the people and to the Members. I think an effort should be made to get your charts printed in The Journal. It seems to me it knocks over very well the justice in further increase of various types of use or sales tax.

Cordially yours,

Vernon Kilpatrick
Vernon Kilpatrick

VK:ED

HOME ADDRESS
419 SOUTH IMPERIAL AVENUE
BRANLEY, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE: 2045
SACRAMENTO ADDRESS
STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 14
TELEPHONE: 612-4711
EXT. 4890

Assembly California Legislature

J. WARD CASEY
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY, SEVENTY-SIXTH DISTRICT
VICE CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION

April 13, 1955

Mr. John A. Despol
Legislative Representative
California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Mr. Despol:

Thank you for the handbook on State and Local Taxes.

This is certainly a useful and informative handbook, and I appreciate having it.

Sincerely,

J. Ward Casey
Ward Casey

WC:s

L. S. BUCKMASTER, PRESIDENT

JOSEPH W. CHILDS, VICE PRESIDENT

DESMOND WALKER, SECRETARY-TREAS.

United Rubber, Cork, Linoleum and Plastic Workers of America

UNITED RUBBER WORKERS' BUILDING - HIGH AT HILL STREET
Akron 8, Ohio

June 2, 1955

PHONES
4-2222
4-2223
4-2224
4-2225
FRANKLIN

Geraldine Leshin
Administrative Assistant
California Industrial Union Council - CIO
117 W. 9th Street
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Gerry:

Thanks very much for giving us the names of the congressmen for our list of people.

We appreciate your help a great deal.

Our personal thanks to Ethel Case for the work she did.

Fraternally yours,

Joe Glazer
Joe Glazer
EDUCATION DIRECTOR

JG:ds
1927 CIO

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 13 INTERNATIONAL WOODWORKERS OF AMERICA - C.I.O.

P. O. BOX 1271 - PHONE 399
1864 MONTGOMERY STREET
OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA

March 10, 1955

John Despol, Secretary-Treasurer
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Sir and Brother:

This letter is to inform you that our eleven (11) month strike against the Hampton Lumber Company in the Laytonville area is officially ended.

I wish to thank your office for its very valuable assistance it has rendered this District Council during this period.

Although the settlement is not all that we had hoped for, we feel quite sure that we will, one day soon, gain a foot hold for the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, in the Laytonville area.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Emmett R. Lawson
Emmett R. Lawson, President
California District Council #13
I.W.A. - C.I.O.

ERL:sw
cc: Manuel Dias, President
CIO-California Industrial Union Council

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC* CENTRAL COMMITTEE

DON ROSE
CHAIRMAN

JACK J. SPITZER
1ST VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARY SHAW
2ND VICE-CHAIRMAN

H. O. VAN PETTEN
3RD VICE-CHAIRMAN

TOM B. CARVEY
SECRETARY

ED HAWKINS
TREASURER

ROBERT JOSEPH
ASST. SECRETARY

ADRIENNE LEIBSOHN
ASST. TREASURER

August 2, 1955

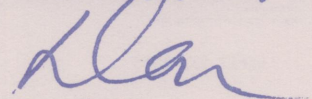
Geraldine Leshin
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Gerry:

I would have responded earlier to your request for an up-to-date list of Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee members but there have been numerous resignations and filling of vacancies and no accurate list was available. I have forwarded your request to Tom Carvey, Secretary, and have asked him to get the information for you as he has the most recent corrected addresses.

I want to congratulate you on the excellent job of covering legislative activities at Sacramento and Washington which the CIO Council Newsletter has been doing. I have read every issue thoroughly and certainly appreciate receiving it. You are a very competent editor. I am sending a copy of this note to John Despol as a means of letting him know, too, that the CIO's excellent Newsletter is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Don Rose,
Chairman

DR:ec

cc: John Despol
Tom Carvey

New Address
371 SOUTH VERMONT AVE.
LOS ANGELES 5, CALIF.

SUITE 911, 742 SOUTH HILL ST.

LOS ANGELES 14, CALIFORNIA

*NATION'S LARGEST REGULARLY MEETING DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE - REPRESENTING 1 1/4 MILLION REGISTERED DEMOCRATS

BUSINESS ADDRESS
2914 W. BLAUNO AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 48, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE: AXMINSTER 4-8671

RESIDENCE ADDRESS
8106 W. 78TH PLACE
LOS ANGELES 47, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE: PLACENT 2-0811

SACRAMENTO ADDRESS
STATE CAPITOL
ZONE 14
TELEPHONE: OILCREEK 2-4711
EXT. 3603

Assembly California Legislature

CHARLES H. WILSON
ASSEMBLYMAN, SIXTY-SIXTH DISTRICT

June 25, 1955

Mr. John A. Despel
CIO California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear John:

May I take this opportunity to again thank you and the CIO for the helpfulness and courteous consideration extended to me in my first session with our State Legislature.

I feel that great progress was made by our lower house, at least, in the recent session in much of the legislative program of your organization.

I look to the guidance and recommendations of the CIO as one of the most important factors in my legislative determinations and it is hoped that we will have an opportunity to work closely together for many years to come.

Please express my thanks and appreciation to the members of the CIO for their valuable friendship and assistance at the first opportunity you may have.

Very sincerely yours,

Charlie
CHARLES H. WILSON

CHW:fm

COMMITTEES
CIVIL SERVICE AND
STATE PERSONNEL
MILITARY AFFAIRS
PUBLIC HEALTH
PUBLIC UTILITIES
AND CORPORATIONS
REVENUE AND TAXATION
—LOS ANGELES
COUNTY DELIBERATION

CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

ED ROYBAL

for

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

3610 WEST FIRST ST. LOS ANGELES 4, CALIF.
TELEPHONE DUNKIRK 4-8071

— III —

February 20, 1955

Mr. Manuel Dias
117 W. 9th Street
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Mr. Dias:

My very special thanks to you for your assistance in my campaign for Lieutenant Governor. I want you to know that I am deeply grateful for your wonderful support and the spirit in which it was given.

Unfortunately we cannot always win, but I want you to know that I shall continue my efforts toward the principles of freedom and justice upon which our government was founded.

Again, my sincerest thanks for all your help and my humble apologies for not acknowledging your generous support sooner.

Cordially yours,

Edward R. Roybal
EDWARD R. ROYBAL

Authors and Sponsors "NATIONAL EMPLOY THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WEEK"—October 2-4, 1955

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, Inc.



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Chartered in Washington, D. C. • August 26, 1942

AFFILIATE: AFPH EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC., AFPH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN
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(Contributions to affiliates are tax-deductible)

National Headquarters

1570 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.
Telephone: WASHINGTON 7-1214
April 12, 1955.

Mr. John A. Despel, Sec'y-Treas.,
California Industrial Union Council,
117 W. 9th St.,
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Bro. Despel:

Yours, April 11, enclosing contribution check for \$25, received, and I ask that you thank Bro. Dias, and your Executive Board Members.

We have just begun to fight for our FEDERAL AGENCY FOR HANDICAPPED bill, copy of which will soon be sent you, when prints are out, and this \$500,000,000 measure is of deep concern to all Labor.

I hope, in future, it will be possible for you to include AFPH Contribution in your Annual Budget, because, this is a "continuing program", and each year, we shall need funds to carry on.

Meantime, again, I thank you, and invite you to visit us, when you again come to Washington.

Fraternally,

Paul A. Strachan
PAUL A. STRACHAN
President.

Administrative Vice-Presidents: LOUISE DUNN ROY EVANS R. J. GREER

Texas State CIO Council



S. A. MILES
President

310 EAST 14TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS
Telephone: 7-6195

D. ROY HARRINGTON
Executive Secretary

March 11, 1955

CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 W. 9th Street
Los Angeles 15, California Room 911

Dear Sirs:

We have seen your Tool Kit No. 7 and we are very impressed with the format as well as the materials which you have used. We were wondering if it would be possible to have one copy of each of the other six.

Sincerely and fraternally,

D. Roy Harrington

D. ROY HARRINGTON
Secretary

drh
lmn

May 14th, 1955

C.I.O.-California Council
117 West 9th Street, Rm. 911
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sirs;

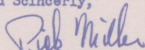
Enclosed you will find a reply concerning the minimum wage bill, that I received from Hon. James B. Utt, my Congressional Representative from Orange County.

The letter is certainly self explanatory on the position he is taking on this all important measure, which so vitally affects the un-skilled labor group. Especially of course in our Southern States. Mr. Utt seems to have reversed the intent of the minimum wage bill, speaking as if a ceiling is a floor, and a floor is a ceiling.

Before closing, I would like to mention that your Secretarial Service letters are indeed more than --- expected, and the Council should be highly recommended for inaugurating this procedure. Also have found this service an added inducement in promoting the sales of P.A.C. stamps, which if I may add, this vessel has just received their Honor Scroll of 100% for P.A.C. donations.

Thanking you again, may I remain

Fraternally and Sincerely,



Rick Miller S/S Wyoming

% Texas Oil Co. P.O. #755

Wilmington, California



LOS ANGELES CHAPTER
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
AMBASSADOR HOTEL • LOS ANGELES 5, CALIFORNIA
DUNKIRK 3-6088



April 6, 1955

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W. O. DAVIS

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MRS. NEAL D. IRELAND

LOREN MILLER

HARMON O. NELSON, JR.

EDWIN F. WIRSING

Miss Geraldine Leshin
117 W. 9th St.
Los Angeles, Calif.

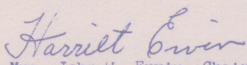
Dear Miss Leshin:

You no doubt know by now about the success of our Tenth Year Dinner and the many compliments that have been given regarding it to our officers and chapter members.

Thank you sincerely for your efforts in behalf of the dinner. We feel that it was a tremendous undertaking which achieved many of its purposes. All of us who worked so hard toward its completion can point with pride to a job well done.

You can rest assured that not only does the Chapter benefit by this event but the cause of the United Nations has been furthered in our community--for this we cannot thank you enough.

Sincerely,



Mrs. John W. Ervin, Chairman
Fund-Raising Dinner Committee

E/h

Congress of Industrial Organizations



OFFICE OF
ARTHUR J. GOLDBERG
GENERAL COUNSEL
1001 CONNECTICUT AVE., N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

December 27, 1954

REPUBLIC 7-5353

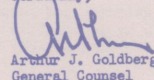
Mr. John Despol
117 West 9th Street - Rm. 911
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear John:

I want to thank you for your participation in the Labor Law Conference panel on "Civil Liberties", and especially for your generosity in stepping in at the last minute as you did. I appreciated your comments and know that your discussion contributed greatly to the success of the Conference.

With all best wishes for your happiness and success in the New Year, I am

Cordially,



Arthur J. Goldberg
General Counsel

California

Water and Power Users Association

Treasurer's Office: % Retail Clerks Union, 84 So. 1st St., San Jose, Calif.

April 26, 1955

CIO-California
Industrial Union Council,
7204 East 14th Street,
Oakland, California

ATTENTION: President Dias and
Secretary-Treasurer Despol

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

The action of your Council in making your recent grant of \$500.00 to this Association to implement our membership campaign is greatly appreciated and will be of major assistance in perpetuating the aims you endorsed by making your first contribution last year.

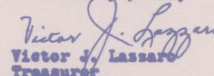
We believe that we have the ideas, the organizational structure, and the men to firmly establish this Association as a beneficial force in the determination of water and power development in this state.

Our success in achieving these aims will be of undoubtedly great value to the many thousands of your members and should result, over the coming years, in both indirect increases in their paychecks and in ensuring lower rates for the water and power they must buy as consumers. But, in the larger sense, our work should be of greatest value to them and to all other Californians in helping ensure that our common heritage of water and power resources is developed and conserved for the common benefit of this and future generations.

We are, in addition, deeply grateful to you for the splendid assistance given and expected in the future from one of your Vice-Presidents, Sam Eubanks, as a member of our Board of Directors.

We shall keep you informed of our progress and activities in the future and beg that you do not hesitate to let us serve you on any questions that come to mind.

Fraternally yours,



Victor J. Lazzaro
Treasurer

Orig-Dias
cc-Despol
Eubanks

GEORGE E. SEHLMAYER, Pres.
Master, California Grange

ERNEST A. McMILLAN, Sec.
State Leg. Chm., Bro. Ry. Clerks

CHARLES F. LAMBERT, Dir.
Sacto. River Water Assn.

JOHN E. THORNE, 1st V-P
Ch. So. S.J. W. Users Assn.

VICTOR J. LAZZARO, Treas.
Sta. Cl. Co. Cent. Lab. Council

THOMAS A. SMALL, Dir.
V-P, Calif. Fed. of Labor, AFL

M. M. KIBLER, 2d V-P
Ch. So. S.J. W. Users Assn.

SAM B. EUBANKS, Dir.
V-P, CIO Cal. Ind. Union Coun.

ROBERT B. RIVER, Consultant
Organizing Secretary

SEN. H. E. DILLINGER, 3rd V-P
Dir. El Dorado Irrig. Dist.

REV. JAS. L. VIZZARD, S.J., Dir.
Nat. Cath. Rural Life Conf.

174

Water and Power Users Association

POST OFFICE BOX 145 - FRUITVALE STATION - OAKLAND 1, CALIFORNIA

174

May 4th 1955

CIO-California Industrial Union Council,
117 West Ninth Street,
Los Angeles 15, California.

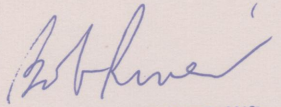
Dear Sirs:

Attn: Mrs. Leschin.

Your kindness and speed in furnishing us with the tapes of addresses requested is greatly appreciated and will be of great value in our current campaign for membership and funds. Thank you!

Today we have shipped you some material at the suggestion of Mr. Eubanks, as indicated in the enclosed copy of letter to him. We understand that its use has already been decided upon between him and Mr. Despol and others concerned.

Again thanking you, Sincerely yours,


CALIFORNIA WATER AND
POWER USERS ASSOCIATION
ROBERT B. RIVER, Org. Sec.
4507 Tulip Ave, Oakland 19, Calif

GEORGE E. SEHLMAYER, Pres. Master, California Grange	JOHN E. THORNE, 1st V-P Ch., Sta. C. Co. W & P. Users	M. M. KIBLER, 2d V-P Ch., So. S.J. Vp. W. Users Assn.	SEN. H. E. DILLINGER, 3rd V-P Dir., El Dorado Irrig. Dist.
ERNEST A. McMILLAN, Sec. State Leg. Chm., Bro. Ry. Clerks	VICTOR J. LAZZARO, Treas. Sta. Cl. Co. Cent. Lab. Council	SAM B. EUBANKS, Dir. V-P, CIO Cal. Ind. Union Coun.	REV. JAS. L. VIZZARD, S.J., Dir. Nat. Cath. Rural Life Conf.
CHARLES F. LAMBERT, Dir. Sacto. River Water Assn.	THOMAS A. SMALL, Dir. V-P, Calif. Fed. of Labor, AFL	ROBERT B. RIVER, Consultant Organizing Secretary	

SAMUEL WM. YORTY
28TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTED:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
1423 NEW HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C. 668 South Bonnie Bras Street
Los Angeles 57, California

July 28, 1955

Mr. John A. Despol
C.I.O.
117 West 9th Street
Los Angeles 15, California

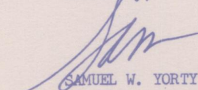
Dear John:

In its decision #51736 the Public Utilities Commission has denied the application of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company for very special rate concessions to its largest interruptible customer, the Permanente Cement Company. P.G.E. will, it appears be permitted to file a new general schedule which will lower rates to the largest customers while smaller ones are being raised but, at least, the singling out of one giant company for individual treatment was stopped.

Your protest was noted in the Commission's decision and I want to thank you for your devotion to the public interest which prompted your communication to the Commission.

With best regards,

Sincerely,


SAMUEL W. YORTY

SWY:mw

THE 22ND C. D. DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL

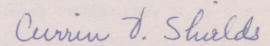
February 23, 1955

Jerry Leschin
California Industrial Union Council-CIO
117 West Ninth St.
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Jerry:

I want you to know that the members of the 22nd C.D. Democratic Council greatly appreciate the service you performed for us in mimeographing our Steering Committee report on the 1954 Campaign, as we appreciate the many other contributions the State CIO Council has made on behalf of the Democratic Party.

With best regards,


Currin V. Shields,
Chairman

By: Audrey Barnett
Corresponding Secretary,
22nd C.D. Democratic Council
18940 Sylvan St.
Reseda, Calif.

25 March 55

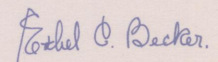
C. D. O.
California Industrial Union Council,
Department of Education and Research.

Please accept my words of appreciation for the material you have organized and distributed to us at the "Truth-Sayers" class, sponsored by the Democratic Women's Forum.

I have been appointed Librarian of the Democratic Women's Club of Pasadena, and am assisting on the Research Committee - my special assignment being Labor legislation. If you maintain a mailing list, I hope you will include my name. It will be my privilege and duty to bring important legislation affecting

labor to the attention of our membership. We are a Working Club, not a social club.

I have long been an admirer of Mr. John W. Vandercook and I do appreciate your bringing us his penetrating comments each evening.


Esther C. Becker.

Mrs. James C. Becker
820 North Lake Ave.,
Pasadena 6, Calif.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CHARITIES

LELAND C. CARTER
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT OF CHARITIES

WILLIAM A. BARR
SUPERINTENDENT OF CHARITIES

August 18, 1955

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
BUREAU OF
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
1917 American Avenue
Long Beach 6, California

Mr. Charles J. Harding, Director
Community Services Committee
of the Greater Los Angeles C.I.O. Council
729 So. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles 17, California

Dear Mr. Harding:

A few months ago you sent me a copy of your C.I.O. Community Services handbook, kit #7. Your brochure was of considerable interest to our Bureau of Public Assistance and its administrators. We feel that this material is of great help to the members of your Council in that it very clearly outlines the basic principle of public assistance as administered by our Bureau and the methods to be followed in referring your union members to our several public assistance offices.

We feel also that it points out the available resources of the private agencies and will be helpful to your membership as to the agency they should go to when welfare problems arise.

I also delivered a copy of your handbook to Mr. George Logan, Executive Director of the Community Welfare Services of Long Beach, who after reading it stated that it was one of the finest compilations of its kind that he had seen in many years of agency work. He also stated that he had shown it to several members of his executive committee and they expressed themselves likewise.

We wish to compliment you and your organization for the authoritative way in which this material was assembled and the time and effort that you have undoubtedly spent in being of assistance to the C.I.O. membership in regard to the matter of welfare considerations.

Very truly yours,


ROSS LOPEZ
District Director
(San Pedro-Wilmington-Long Beach)

RL:hd

OIL, CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS
INTERNATIONAL UNION,

C.I.O.

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

September 12, 1955

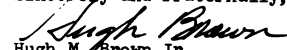
Geraldine Leshin, Director
Dept. of Leg. & Res.
Calif. Ind. Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Gerry,

I received the information you sent me on the school system in California and would like to take this time to thank you for the trouble of doing this for me.

Wishing for you and the council the best of every thing under the new merged union, I am.

Sincerely and fraternally,


Hugh M. Brown Jr.
National C. I. O.

Les Claypool's

FREE PRESS

P. O. BOX 2975 TERMINAL ANNEX • LOS ANGELES 54, CALIFORNIA • MUtual 8971

LESLIE CLAYPOOL
EDITOR
DANIEL RAEBURN
PUBLISHER

Jan. 23, 1955.

Mr. John Despol,
117 West 9th Street,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear John:

I want to again thank you for the fine help that you have given us for our project, the Claypool FREE PRESS.

The letters for Edw. Roybal have been sent out, thanks to your prompt help, and are even now getting returns. They were excellent.

Again, many thanks. Please communicate our appreciation to Jerry and the others in your office.

Sincerely,


Kent Pillsbury

504 S. Bixel St.
Los Angeles 17.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

September 9, 1955

Mr. Ray P. Haeckel, Chairman
Community Services Committee
C 10 California Industrial Union Council
610 16th Street, Room 219
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Haeckel:

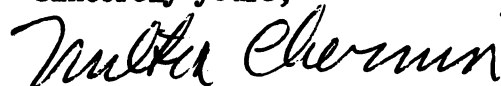
One of the recognized essentials of an effective community welfare program is widespread knowledge of what it is made up of, who it is for, how one can get the help or service he needs from it and what has to be done to make it better or to fill unmet needs. The more people know about welfare the more support they will give welfare programs; the better the welfare programs within it, the better the community as a place to live and work and bring up one's children.

Organized labor has a tremendous stake in community welfare organizations and programs and it is most heartening to those of us who work professionally in welfare to see the increasingly widespread and effective work labor organizations are undertaking in the welfare field. Through their enthusiastic support of and participation in fund-raising activities, their effective service on welfare organization boards and committees and the increased welfare activities of labor organizations themselves, representatives of organized labor are playing a vital role in strengthening American welfare and American democracy.

It has been my privilege during the last two years to be related personally through participation in the graduation exercises and through consultation with the Director, Mr. Arthur R. Hellender, to the CIO Community Services Training Program for Northern California. I have met and talked to the almost two hundred persons who have graduated from the course during these two years and have become available in northern California to help their fellow workers better to utilize the welfare services, both public and private, available to them. This is a tremendous contribution to the welfare resources of California. The work of these graduates will be increasingly felt in every community in which they are located. We need a great many more of them.

I sincerely hope that the future will see an expanded program of Community Services in Northern California under leadership as able as that given by your committee and its Director, Mr. Hellender.

Sincerely yours,



Milton Chernin
Dean

MC:fd

OHIO *C.I.O.* COUNCIL

218 EAST STATE STREET • COLUMBUS 15, OHIO

James P. Griffin
President

Jacob Clayman
Secretary-Treasurer

August 1, 1955

John A. Despol, Secy-Treas.
California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Johnny:

Thanks very much for sending us the material on election reform legislation in your state.

This is very helpful in the formulation of our attitudes and programs on this issue.

I want to congratulate you, Johnny, on the splendid fashion in which you keep us apprised of things of importance transpiring in California. This is a genuine help.

Best wishes.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Jacob Clayman
Jacob Clayman, Secy-Treas.
OHIO C.I.O. COUNCIL

JC:ae
cio 1700

Assembly California Legislature

WILLIAM BYRON RUMFORD
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY, SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

April 25, 1955

Mr. John A. Despoi
CIO Calif. Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear John:

This is to thank you for your appearance at the hearing on A. B. 971 last Wednesday. Your contribution without question was responsible for the favorable action by the committee.

While we do not feel at this time that extensive hearings will be required for the Ways and Means Committee, we will keep you informed as to the progress of this legislation, and in the event your presence is needed, we will be glad to let you know.

Thanking you again,

Sincerely,

W. Byron Rumford
W. BYRON RUMFORD

P.O.Box 94, Sta. B.
Bakersfield, Calif.
May 21, 1955

Gentlemen:

I am interested in the work you are doing and ask that you may enter my name on your list.

I learned about your program through Mr. Fulton Lewis Jr. I do sincerely hope you got many more like me through his efforts.

Yours for an informed and strong Labor

George Saunders
George Saunders

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

808 NORTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA
MUTUAL 9211

July 15, 1955

C. C. TRILLINGHAM
SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. John Despoe
C.I.O. Labor Council
117 West Ninth
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Despoe:

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude and that of each member of the work-shop for your interesting and informative discussion on the role of organized labor at our work-shop on June 28.

Your contributions, and that of other visiting speakers, have been an inspiration to the members of the group. This is the first time that many of them have had the opportunity to hear representatives from business and industry discuss their programs and problems with school people.

Needless to say, the horizons of the members have been greatly extended for them personally, as well as for the approximately 3,000 students with whom they will come in contact this next year. It is such efforts as yours that the school and other community resources, working together, can build a better life for our young people.

Again may I say thank you and I hope that on other occasions we may have the pleasure of your presence and counsel. If at any time we may be of service to you, will you please call upon us.

Sincerely,

Harold J. Reed
Harold J. Reed
Workshop Director

HJR:wh

COMMUNITY CHEST of SAN FRANCISCO

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The New
UNITED BAY AREA CRUSADE

5 COUNTIES 143 COMMUNITIES
2,347,000 PEOPLE
288 HEALTH & WELFARE AGENCIES

GOAL: \$10,691,640

OCTOBER 11 • NOVEMBER 21

Mr. Arthur R. Hellender
Director, CIO Community Services
of Northern California
47 Kearny Street
San Francisco, California

Dear Art:

As you know, I am interested in the Institutes and Union Counselling Courses and what I consider an excellent opportunity for interpretation - two ways.

The kit of material provided by the CIO is excellent. First, of course, because of its content and second, because of the way in which it is put together for the Counsellors. It is encouraging and intelligent to have reference material available in that compact form.

Your good example leads me to hope that we, who represent the agencies, can get together with you on some plan which will enable us to present the agency material so that the Counsellors will also find it understandable and useful.

I think we have a real opportunity to be mutually helpful and improve our skills as we go along.

Cordially,

Eva Hance
Eva Hance
Director, Social Planning

EH:ds
September 7, 1955

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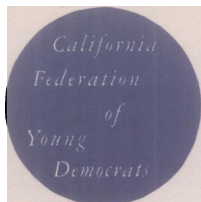
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NORTHERN CHAIRMAN: BERGE BULBULIAN, 6025 S. Temperance, Fowler
SOUTHERN CHAIRMAN: DARRELL McCORRY, 1408D W. Alameda, Burbank

2278 UNION STREET BERKELEY 4 STATE HEADQUARTERS
Official Youth Organization of the Democratic Party
June 22, 1955

Mamuel Dias, President
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
7208 E. 14th St.
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Manny:

The California Federation of Young Democrats has asked me to tell you and Johnny Despol of our appreciation for the many services you have rendered to us and to our member clubs. I am sure the same thing can be said for the entire Democratic Party of California.

You may not personally be aware of all the services that your organization has performed for us, but I can tell you that many of our projects would have been done less well or even not at all without your assistance.

We will consider it a privilege to be asked by you for help at any time.

Sincerely,

Tom Winnett
TOM WINNETT

TWD
cc: John Despol

MRS. JACK W. HARDY

2065 Balmer Drive, Los Angeles 39, California

June 8, 1955

Mr. John Despol
Secretary-Treasurer
CIO California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Mr. Despol:

I want to thank you on my own behalf, on Mr. Petty's behalf, and on behalf of our entire Committee for the great help you gave us during the campaign with your services. I am sure you do not need to be reminded that much of what got out, thanks to your staff and equipment, would not have gone under any other circumstances.

I regret that Mr. Petty did not succeed in winning his office, but I sincerely hope that I can represent the wishes of all the people who supported me and hope that you will keep in touch with me whenever you have anything relating to the Board of Education in your mind.

Your cooperation will not be forgotten.

Sincerely yours,

Virginia Hardy

SANFORD'S
TOWN AND COUNTRY LODGE
3 Miles South Of Tahoe City, Phone Tahoe City 181-W
P. O. Box 46, TAHOE CITY, LAKE TAHOE, Calif.

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Deluxe Rooms With Double Or Twin Beds. Kitchenette Apartments With Snack Bar. Hollywood Beds. Tile Baths And Showers. Central Heating. Fireplaces. Weekly And Monthly Rates \$25/55

Gentlemen: YEAR AROUND
Here's just a note to let you know how much the Council Newsletters (esp. the Special legislative edition) have helped provide the ammo. to fire at the right people in the right places. Thank you very much for a superb job.
Sincerely, *J. J. Sch*

ALAMO
MAY 24
10 AM
POST CARD
Calif. Industrial Union
117 West 9th Street
Los Angeles, 15
Calif.



FRED FARR for STATE SENATOR

Headquarters: 521 Tyler Street, Monterey, California Phone: Monterey 2-0313 - 2-1403

SPECIAL

ELECTION
TUESDAY

MAY
3rd

April 12, 1955

John A. Despol, Sec.-Treas.
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 W. 9th St.
Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Dear Mr. Despol:

This is to acknowledge with sincere appreciation the contribution of the CIO-California Industrial Union Council to my campaign for the State Senate.

I have requested my treasurer to remit your contribution to the Democratic State Committee to help defray the cost of advertising they have secured for me.

Please convey my thanks to your membership. With this kind of cooperation we can elect California's 17th Democratic Senator.

Sincerely,

Fred Farr
Fred Farr

Jesse E. FLUHARTY for ASSEMBLYMAN 8th DISTRICT
DEMOCRAT

Headquarters 719 Forum Bldg., HU 1-1768, Sacramento

December 1, 1954

Miss Ethel Case
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Miss Case:

Thank you for the very fine appreciation letter, which you typed for me.

I am sure that the efforts expended by the CIO will aid in increasing Democratic representation in the legislature in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Jesse E. Fluharty

JEF:es

STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND

EXECUTIVE OFFICES • 450 McALLISTER STREET • SAN FRANCISCO 1

EARL R. HOWARD
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MANAGER
COMPTROLLER
COUNSEL



LOS ANGELES
CHICO
FRESNO
LONG BEACH
OAKLAND
SACRAMENTO
SAN DIEGO
SAN JOSE
STOCKTON

June 22, 1955

Mr. John A. Despol, Secretary-Treasurer
CIO-California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

IN REPLY REFER TO

Dear Mr. Despol:

ASSEMBLY BILL 3458
By Messrs. Kelly and Donald D. Doyle

Assembly Bill 3458, you will recall, was designed to affect materially the operations of the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

The bill, both as originally drafted (to prohibit the Fund from actively soliciting business) and as amended (to eliminate the first choice given to the Fund to write the workmen's compensation insurance of public employers), developed widespread opposition from employers, labor, public agencies, and the press throughout California. Consequently, the bill did not get out of committee but has been referred to the Rules Committee as a recommended subject for Interim Committee study.

The interest you displayed in opposition to this legislation is very gratifying and deeply appreciated. We will do our best to continue to deserve your wholehearted support.

Sincerely,

Earl R. Howard
Manager

ERH:ho

CREATED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO FURNISH PROTECTION TO EMPLOYERS AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST AND TO GUARANTEE TO THEIR EMPLOYEES THE BENEFITS OF THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAWS

ASSEMBLY CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

JACK A. BEAVER
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY, SEVENTY-THIRD DISTRICT
VICE-CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND INSURANCE

August 12, 1955

Editor
C.I.O. Council Newsletter
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Editor:

Please accept my appreciation for being placed on the mailing list of the Council Newsletter. I find the information contained therein to be most helpful in the analysis of the major labor problems in the State of California.

Cordially yours,

Jack A. Beaver
JACK A. BEAVER

JAB:mf

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES CITY, INC.

304 EMBASSY BUILDING, 847 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE, ZONE 17

Telephone Michigan 9324

December 9, 1954

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President
CYLDE C. ROWLAND
Junior Past President
STANLEY KURTZ
First Vice-President
MARY MONTGOMERY
Second Vice-President
MARJORIE L. SCHRAMLING
Secretary

NORMAN A. HASS
Treasurer
ROBERT L. ELLIS
Auditor
ROBERT ALLAIRE
Sergeant-at-Arms
HARLE B. ALLEN
Parliamentarian
FLORENCE GRASS
Office Secretary

California Industrial Union Council
117 West Ninth Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Members:

The Los Angeles High School Teachers' Association thanks you for your active support of the school bond proposal, Proposition Two, in the recent election.

Great progress and achievements have been accomplished by the united efforts of our groups to better the educational opportunities for boys and girls of California.

We greatly appreciate the continued cooperation of your organization in matters of legislation and financial support of education.

Sincerely,

Alberta Dredla

Miss Alberta Dredla
President

AD:dw



Political Action Committee

chairman

WALTER FREUTHER

director

JACK KROLL

secretary-treasurer

DAVID J. DONALD

718 JACKSON PLACE NW WASHINGTON 6 DC • EXECUTIVE 3-5581

June 24, 1955

Mr. John Despol, Sec.-Treas.
California State Industrial Union Council
117 West 9th Street, Room 911
Los Angeles, California

Dear John:

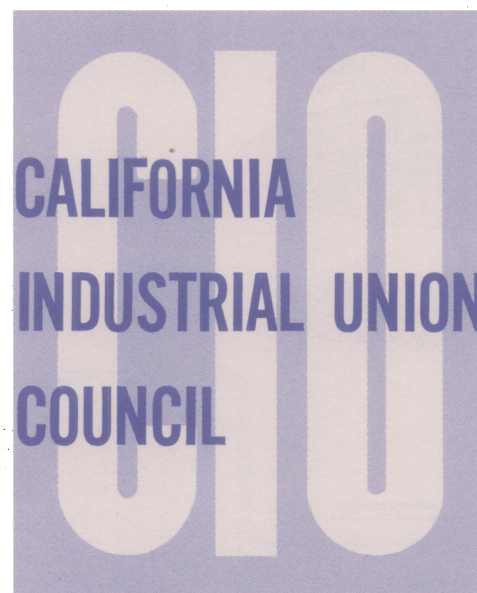
I want to thank you for your prompt and complete reply to our request for CIO membership figures in your state.

These figures will be of great value to us in laying plans for the 1956 elections and we very much appreciate your efficient cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mary Goddard
Mary Goddard
Records and Information

MG:mb



APPENDIX II

SAMPLES OF NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF CIO ACTIVITIES

SAMPLES OF NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF CIO ACTIVITIES

CIO Urges State Money For Politics

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 4 (AP)—The California Industrial Union Council wants the Legislature to enact a bill under which voters would financially support election campaigns. John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the council, said today the proposal calls for earmarking from the State's general treasury \$1 for each registered voter. Half of each dollar would go to the State Central Committee of the party of the voter's choice, the other half to the Central Committee of the county in which the voter lives.

"This approach to the perennial problem of high campaign costs would help equalize the opportunity of all candidates to get their story across to the people," Despol said.

Prepaid Health Insurance Backed by CIO Council

CIO Legislative representative John Despol has announced that the California CIO Council will sponsor and urge passage of an act to provide for prepaid health insurance in California. The measure is expected to be acted upon at the current session of the Legislature after it reconvenes in March.

"Although modern medical science has made outstanding progress in providing facilities that greatly improve the general health in the community, these same facilities are often unavailable to many citizens by reason of their necessarily high cost. It is the purpose of this act to make such facilities available to as many citizens of the State as possible, utilizing the insurance principle, and at the same time to insure to those furnishing such service and facilities an adequate and sure compensation," Despol said.

"Many unions in the CIO have negotiated insurance plans in their contracts. Our experience has, in the main, proved successful and extremely beneficial to union members. We believe that all citizens are entitled to the same kind of protection."

Reporter's Roundup

The California CIO Council this week announced its determination to tackle one of the more serious problems that beset candidates for public office — that of campaign expenditures.

With the development of new media of mass communication and new and increasingly expensive techniques for "selling" the candidate and his platform, this matter of campaign spending presents an increasingly troublesome problem.

Campaign war chests become larger and larger and the disparity in opportunity to reach the voter between the well financed candidate and the one with little money to spend becomes greater and greater.

CIO Winds Up Legislative Parley

A Congress of Industrial Organizations legislative conference drew to a close today in Sacramento.

The meeting drew 200 from CIO unions throughout the state. It opened Sunday.

Following discussions of bills of interest, delegations were formed for calls on legislators.

John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the CIO council, said legislators are being informed of CIO opposition to a 1 per cent county sales tax, a tax on cigars and an increase in the beer and whisky taxes.

Despol said the CIO supports Assembly Bill 1548, Munnell, which would

AFL and CIO Health Parley to Open Today

A two-day health and welfare conference sponsored by the AFL and CIO will open at 9:30 a.m. today in Dorsey High School, 3537 Farmdale Ave.

Representatives of management, the medical profession, health and welfare will

State CIO Asks Minimum Wage of \$1.25 an Hour

The California CIO council is sponsoring a bill in the state legislature to establish a minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour, John Despol, CIO legislative representative, has announced.

"Thousands of workers in

California earn less than this minimum amount," Despol said. "The \$1.25 minimum wage would not only raise the health and living standards of those workers, but the added purchasing power would increase prosperity in California and help stabilize employment," he said.

"Furthermore, the \$1.25 minimum would provide a floor below which competition could not depress wages and would thus protect reputable firms from being undercut by irresponsible competition," he said.

Under present state law, he said, the only minimum wage provision regulates minimum wages and maximum hours only for women and minors.

CIO to Oppose Voting Change

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The CIO announced today it is opposing a proposed state constitutional amendment for non-resident voting in the city of Vernon on the grounds that "any person of any foreign nation could become eligible to hold office in Vernon."

CIO Representative Blasts Levering

Charges made by Assemblyman Harold Levering (60th A.D.) that "in the recent session of the Legislature the labor bosses ran the show and stacked committees in the Assembly" were labeled "completely false, ridiculous and contrary to the facts of political life" by a California CIO Council representative.

The Council spokesman said

that "90% of legislation proposed and supported by labor was blocked in the Assembly" and attributed Levering's charges to the fact that "Levering was probably emotionally upset by the fact that about 90% of the legislation reflecting his viewpoint also was refused passage by the Legislature."

So. Cal. Labor News

AFL, CIO Keep Eyes On State Legislature

By FRED H. WEIGEL

Both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations today opened legislative offices in Sacramento from where the two unions will direct fights against bills which

are regarded as anti-labor and in favor of labor-sponsored measures.

present 75 cents an hour to \$1.25.

Also he

CIO Proposes New Tax Study Group

The California CIO council will ask the state legislature to create a California Tax Study Commission during the current session, John Despol, CIO legislative spokesman announced.

"California is faced with deficit, and an apparent need to raise more tax money to carry essential services. The governor has proposed an increase in certain sales taxes to meet the deficit—a move which the California CIO council opposes as a tax on those least able to pay," the CIO legislative representative stated.

The California CIO council recommends that the commission be non-partisan and consist of 16 members: eight to be appointed by the governor, two from the executive branch of government, two from business and labor, two from each of the two major political parties. Four members would be appointed by the speaker of the assembly; two from the assembly and one from each of the two major political parties. Four members would be appointed by the president of the senate; two from the senate and one from each of the two major political parties.

Fair Employment Legislation Backed by California CIO

California CIO Council will help to sponsor legislation at the current session of the California State Legislature creating a Fair Employment Practices Commission, John Despol, legislative representative for the organization announced.

"Fair Employment Practices laws, as sponsored by the CIO, were endorsed by the Democrats at their national convention in 1952, and Eisenhower

CIO BRANDS SALES TAXES 'MOST UNFAIR'

Sales taxes and the tax on liquor, cigarets and racing are "most unfair" of all taxes by CIO-California Industrial Union Council representative John A. Despol in a letter mailed Monday to Gov. Knight—three days before Knight asked for an added

Despol argued that "these kind of taxes hit hardest the families that are least able to bear them. The middle income groups and the poor are placed

at a financial disadvantage."

He cited tax studies showing that families under \$2000 per year income now pay 9.1 per cent of their income in national and local sales taxes, those in

the \$3000 to \$3999 bracket pay 8.4 per cent, while families with incomes of over \$100,000 pay only a fraction of 1 per cent and said that sales taxes are "painless only for the well-off."

Union Urges Election Reform Measure Passage

John Despol, legislative representative for the California CIO Council, today announced that the CIO in this state would sponsor and urge passage of a number of election reform measures at the current session of the legislature in Sacramento.

The California CIO Council will sponsor legislation which will require full and accurate reporting of all campaign expenditures. "At present the spirit of the Elections Code is often flouted," Despol stated. "A candidate is required to report only those campaign expenditures made with his knowledge. Often, large contributions are made and spent for the expenses of a campaign without his knowledge of it. Legislation sponsored by the CIO would make it unlawful for any person to expend, contribute or pay money for anything of value, for any candidate, at any election, without the candidate's written consent. We feel that citizens are entitled to full knowledge about the campaign expenses of those who represent them," Despol said.

The California CIO Council will sponsor legislation directing the Secretary of State to print a Voter's Handbook containing information on political party platforms, pictures of and statements by candidates for state or national office, as well as proposed ballot measures to each registered voter before both primary and general elections. "The State of Oregon has published this kind of Voter's Handbook for a number of years with successful results," Despol explained. "In

California, the City of Berkeley provides the voters with the same kind of information. We believe the people of California are entitled to know enough about a political party and candidate for public office and can make a qualified choice. Often, an intelligent candidate finds it impossible to reach enough registered voters with his story because of high mailing costs and the expense of advertising. The CIO feels this is unfair to both the candidates and the voters," Despol said.

Legislation to amend the Elections Code to remove township and municipal offices from those in the category of non-partisan offices will also be sponsored by the California CIO Council. This legislation will not affect judicial and educational offices. "Party responsibility can be neither consistent nor effective unless it embraces lower principal training offices are the higher elective offices," Despol said in explaining the CIO position.

The California CIO Council will also sponsor legislation creating a non-partisan commission known as the Fair Elections Practices Study Commission. This commission will consist of 16 persons representing both major political parties, both houses of the state legislature and the executive department and organized labor and representatives of business. "Its purpose shall be to study the need for legislation to assure fair elections and campaign practices, and the

Union Council has announced recommendations for a "yes" vote on Proposition 1, the veterans loan bond issue, and a "no" vote on Proposition 3, the liquor reform act, and Proposition 16, requiring conformation to California water laws.

CIO Program

So that union members may know "the legislative tide in '55," the California CIO Council has voted to call two regional conferences and a statewide CIO conference.

The regional conferences are co-sponsored by the County Councils in the respective areas. The legislative conference for Southern California is set for March 11 at the Clark Hotel in Los Angeles. The Northern California conference is set for March 25 at the Leamington Hotel, Oakland. Both will convene at 7:45 p.m.

The call for the statewide conference will be issued by the Council office soon. Some of the legislative goals of the CIO are as follows:

CIO WELFARE GRADUATION

Eighty-four CIO health and welfare counsellors who have attended classes in San Francisco and Oakland the past nine weeks will graduate Thursday night during ceremonies at the Showboat in Jack London Square, Oakland.

Dr. Milton Chernin, dean of the School of Social Welfare, University of California, will speak.

The new counsellors have received training enabling them to advise fellow workers how to secure hospitalization, child care, legal advice, housing aid or other welfare or health facilities from the proper community resource, according to Arthur R. Hellender, director of CIO Community Services of Northern

Ask Law to Make Voters Pay Cost Of Campaigning

"Election reform measures will be sponsored by the California CIO Council in the coming session of the California legislature," according to John A. Despol, CIO legislative spokesman, following his appearance before the Conrad committee on elections and reapportionment.

Among the major measures cited by the CIO spokesman will be a bill calling for financial support by registered voters in general election campaigns. The proposal seeks to make election expense a voter responsibility by earmarking from the state's general treasury one dollar per registered voter for the party of his choice. Fifty cents would go to the given party's state central committee; the other portion of the dollar would go to the given party's central committee.

CIO Out Against Sales Tax Boost

The California CIO Council today flatly announced its opposition to any boost in the general sales tax and to the increase in the cigarette tax proposed by Gov. Knight.

The council in a letter by its legislative representative, John A. Despol, urged the governor and all members of the Legislature to

Water and Power Issue Looms in New Legislature

(From the CIO California Industrial Union Council Newsletter)

How to solve the water and power needs of California no doubt will come in for heavy debate in the California Legislature. Everyone is in agreement that the State needs more of both, but there is disagreement as to the best way of meeting these needs.

That the lack of water is an acute problem is illustrated by the fact that avocado growers in the San Diego area have been willing to pay \$50 an acre-foot to bring water all the way from the Feather River in Northern California. To cite another example: in some portions of the Southern San Joaquin Valley the water table has fallen some 20 to 30 feet yearly since 1945. One well drilled in this area went down 2,000 feet at a cost of \$71,000.

Recognition of these facts was evident in the speakership contest in which the water issue came to the forefront; Governor Knight in his inaugural address also couldn't avoid the subject and Lt. Gov. Harold J. Powers, in his inaugural remarks, likewise pinpointed this subject. The need for water and the companion need for power to help move water from where it is abundant to where it is needed, are certain to create a struggle in the legislature. This stems from the fact that for many years now there has been a battle as to who is to control these vital resources.

Broadly speaking, the line-up will be between the supporters of public and multi-purpose development of water and power resources and the spokesmen for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, the corporate farm group, the Southern California Edison Co., and all other opponents of public power development and the Federal 160 acre limitation.

Among the groups plugging for public development of water and power resources are: the CIO, AFL, California State Grange and the newly organized California Water and Power Users Association, of which the California CIO Council is a member.

Key issues in the legislative battle will presumably revolve around the following:

(1) Creation of some kind of a unified state water department to bring together ten different state agencies now dealing with water.
(2) The proposed Feather River project which would be a state project independent of, but not necessarily in conflict with, the Central Valley Project. The question here is the financing of this billion dollar undertaking.

(3) The proposed Trinity Project which would be a Federal undertaking to dam the Trinity River.

CIO Fights Proposal to Shift Primaries From June to August

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 8.—The California CIO Council today attacked a plan to move the June primary elections to August and branded its proponents as "heavy-sugar" financial contributors.

John Despol, California CIO legislative representative, said changing the date would make election campaigns even more costly. "Such a move," he said, "is to the advantage of 'heavy-sugar' contributors and will lessen the influence of voluntary campaign workers in both parties."

Despol said the present primary schedule gives the "grass roots" campaign worker a chance to rest up in July and August from the primary and to take care of personal and family chores.

"Furthermore," he said, "it will mean the added expense to both taxpayers and campaigns of having two primary elections in Presidential campaign years because the Presidential delegations supporting given Presidential nominees must now be elected in June prior to the July national convention of the Republican and Democratic Parties."

Crusade to Counsel Bay CIO Members

United Crusade leaders and CIO union officials will open their second annual counseling service course next Sunday to acquaint labor union members with community resources available when illness occurs or family problems arise.

Some 100 union members are scheduled to enroll for the nine-week course so that they may assist fellow workers who need hospitalization, medical care, legal aid, child care or other welfare services.

At the introductory sessions on Wednesday nights in San Francisco and Thursday nights in the East Bay, speakers will include Art Hellender, director of CIO Community Services for Northern California, and Ray P. Haackel, State chairman of the California CIO Industrial Union Council Community Services committee.

Top unionists to sift civil rights trends

Impact of the recent election on civil rights trends will be examined by Southern California's top trade unionists tomorrow at the 15th annual state conference of the Jewish Labor Committee.

Participating in the 1:30 p. m. sessions at 126 N. St. Louis St. will be John Despol, secretary-treasurer of the State CIO Council; John Henning, educational director of the AFL State Federation of Labor; Samuel Otto, West Coast director of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, and many others.

Speaking at an evening session

CIO Raps Sales Tax Proposal

CIO representatives in Sacramento yesterday threw their full force against a uniform local sales tax proposal pending in the Assembly.

The bill allows all counties in the state to impose a sales tax of one per cent; only San Francisco now has that right. The collection of the tax would be by the state, which would turn the money—less administrative costs—back to the counties.

Proponents of the bill hope that cities now collecting a sales tax will contract with the state for collection; this would enable merchants to eliminate double-bookkeeping by paying both city and state sales taxes in one lump sum.

Opposing the bill, John A. Despol, CIO legislative representative, said it would lead to the imposition of a sales tax in cities now without such measures.

Despol added that removal of all city sales taxes would be far more equitable; in their place, he suggested a city income tax based on ability to pay.

Slightly more than half of the cities in California now have a sales tax. The bill requires counties, and cities using the state for collection, to levy a uniform one per cent tax.

Trade Union Conference Airs Health Plan Issues

Problems in the administration of health plans covering more than 100,000,000 Americans were discussed yesterday at a trade union-sponsored conference at Dorsey High School. Sponsored by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the two-day registration drew a first day registration of 300 representatives of labor, management and the legal and medical professions. Six workshop sessions on types and use of health plans were held with W. J. Bassett, secretary of the AFL's Central Labor Council as general session co-chairman. Conference luncheon speaker was Attorney James E. Ludlum, who spoke on "Problems in the Control of Hospital Costs." Other speakers were Dr. Lester Breslow, of the State Department of Public Health, and C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the AFL State Federation of Labor. Scheduled for today is another series of workshops on recent plan developments and special problems. Speakers will be Paul J. Sullivan, president of the Los Angeles Painting and Decorating Contractors Association; John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the State CIO; and Dr. Russel V. Lee, of the Stanford University School of Medicine. Conference co-chairman for the closing general session will be A. T. Luncford, secretary-treasurer of the Greater Los Angeles CIO Council.

Uniform Tax Opposed by CIO Council

By Harry Bernstein

Labor opposition to a proposed uniform local sales and use tax for California came yesterday from the California State Congress of Industrial Organizations Council.

A measure now pending in the State Assembly would permit counties and cities to impose a 1 per cent sales tax which proponents of the bill say is needed to eliminate double auditing of business records on city and state sales taxes.

John A. Despol, CIO legislative representative, said that if the proponents of the bill want uniformity, "This can be achieved by eliminating the city sales taxes where they now exist and establishing an equitable city income tax to meet local government needs."

"It is obvious that the counties and cities will impose sales taxes as a result of this 'permissive' proposal," Despol said. The City of Los Angeles already has a 1 per cent sales tax. The state sales tax is 3 per cent.

Passage of the bill, introduced by Assemblyman Clark Bradley, would mean an \$82,000,000 increase in sales taxes.

CIO Political Bill Shelved

Special to The Tribune

SACRAMENTO, April 20.—A CIO attempt to return city and county government to partisan politics is dead.

The Assembly Elections Committee voted to hold the measure in committee—tantamount to killing it—after it was charged that it would set California local government back 100 years.

Sacramento County Auditor J. H. Hastings made that allegation as he appeared in opposition on behalf of the County Auditors Association.

Joining in protesting the proposal were the County Supervisors Association and the League of California Cities.

Although it was authored by Assemblyman S. C. Masterson of Richmond, the bill was presented by John Despol of the California CIO Council.

He contended it was aimed at strengthening the two-party system and stopping "the trend toward a one-party system," and maintained that party policies should be injected into local government. Such issues as taxes and water, he said, should be considered partisan matters.

Also held in committee was a bill by Assemblyman Carlos Bee of Hayward which would have required equal representation for political parties on precinct boards.

CIO Asks Creation of Tax Study Unit

The California CIO Council will ask the Legislature to create a California Tax Study Commission, John Despol, CIO legislative spokesman announced.

"California is faced with a deficit and an apparent need to raise more tax money to carry on essential services," Despol said. "The Governor has proposed an increase in certain sales taxes to meet this deficit, a move which the California CIO Council opposes as a tax on those least able to pay."

"The purpose of a tax study commission would be to study the tax and fiscal structure of California which has become increasingly complex in recent years. Faced with immediate need for revenue, the legislature has enacted tax laws without regard for their over-all effect upon the state's economy or their relationship to taxes levied by other governmental units within the state."

Difficult Questions

"Specifically, the study commission should supply answers to the difficult questions of overlapping and duplicate taxes of the proper disposition of special earmarked funds in the state budget; of over-use of sales and excise taxes and a lack of effective use of state, personal and corporate income and severance taxes."

"The California CIO Council recommends that the commission be nonpartisan and consists of 16 members; eight to be appointed by the Governor, two from the executive branch of government, two from organized labor, two from

business and one each of the two major political parties. Four members would be appointed by the speaker of the Assembly, two from the Assembly and one from each of the two major political parties. Four members would be appointed by the president pro tem of the Senate; two Senators and one from each of the two major political parties.

Like Hoover Plan

"The effectiveness of the non-partisan commission has been well established. An example is the highly successful Federal Reorganization Commission on Government Reorganization which achieved a remarkable degree of success as a result of its non-partisan character."

"The CIO in California hopes that such a non-partisan Tax Commission in California, representing the major sections of the community, could stimulate public support for an equitable and adequate tax program," Despol concluded.

CIO Seeks Wage Floor

The California CIO Council is sponsoring and urging public support for a bill in the legislature in Sacramento to establish a state minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour, John Despol, CIO legislative representative, announced today.

"CIO support for this measure is the result of serious discussion in local unions and the unanimous passage of a resolution at the recent CIO State Convention in Oakland attended by delegates representing 250,000 members," Despol stated.

"There are thousands of workers in California earning less than this minimum amount. The \$1.25 minimum wage would not only raise the health and living standards of those workers affected, but the added purchasing power spent at the grocery store, drug store, shoe shop, etc., would increase prosperity in California and help stabilize employment," Despol stated.

"Furthermore, the measure would protect

California Industrial Union Council of the CIO has come out this week with an endorsement of McLain's Proposition 4, in addition to supporting Propositions 2 and 12—just for your information . . . Well, we see eye to eye with them on these!

CIO Council Hits Taxing Proposals

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The California CIO Council today flatly announced its opposition to any boost in the general sales tax and to the increase in the cigarette tax proposed by Gov. Knight.

The council, in a letter by its legislative representative, John A. Despol, urged the governor and all members of the Legislature to "unalterably oppose" such hikes.

"A tax hits only the poor and the well-to-do alike."

CIO Men Named As Crusade Help

Graduation exercises for eighty-six CIO union members who will now serve their membership as health and welfare counsellors throughout their respective Bay Area communities were held last week in Oakland.

Dr. Milton Cherin, dean of the school of social welfare, University of California, praised the graduates for conscientious attendance, saying not another adult education course has such an outstanding record.

Manuel Dias, president of the State CIO Council, told the graduates that the nine weeks of school had provided them with tools which "will make you, your union and the community stronger. So go out," he said, "and use them for the benefit of all."

"As a result of the information you have gained," he added, "each and every one of you is a potential volunteer better equipped to serve your membership and your community."

The counselling course has been under the joint sponsorship of the United Bay Area Crusades and the CIO's Community Services Committee. Its object for the past two years has been to acquaint labor union members with community resources so they may help their fellow workers when problems arise such as the need for hospitalization, legal aid, child care or family consultation.

LABOR

BY JERRY MAHER, Mirror-News Staff Writer

Organized labor is unlimbering its big guns in the 1955 legislative battle—both on the State and national levels—and one Knight yesterday proposed a 3-cent-a-pack tax on cigarettes and higher levies on beer, liquor and horse racing to make up for a State budget deficit that may go as high as \$147,000,000.

The proposal stung John A. Despol, State CIO secretary-treasurer, into a four-page letter to the Governor and every member of the State Legislature detailing CIO's "unalterable" opposition to sales taxes. Moreover, Despol included a study by Prof. R. A. Musgrave of the University of Michigan to prove his contention that sales taxes are regressive—that is, they hit low-income groups hardest.

Musgrave's figures: Families making \$7500 or more a year paid 4.6% of it out in sales taxes; families making \$3000 to \$3999 paid out 8.4%; those making \$1000 to \$1999 paid 9.1%; those making under \$1000 paid 11.8%.

Despol said that at the present time 37% of the State's total revenue comes from general sales taxes and 26% of it comes from selective sales taxes. On the other hand, he said, 7% comes from individual income taxes and 10% from corporate net income taxes.

Despol gave two reasons for opposing sales taxes:

- 1—Unlike the progressive income tax which allows exemptions based on family size and graduates the tax as income rises, the sales tax takes the same levy from everyone regardless of ability to pay.
- 2—A sales tax is levied on money spent, not money received. Since wealthier families usually save more of their income than lower groups, the tax hits only a portion of their earnings.

In support of the second point, Despol quoted 1950 figures showing that 10% of consumer units with the highest incomes held 73% of personal savings, while the bottom 50% earned less than they

Despol called the income

Election Law Amendments Recommended by State CIO

The state CIO will sponsor several election reform measures during the current session of the state legislature, it was disclosed last week.

The CIO council will sponsor legislation to require full and accurate reporting of all campaign expenditures.

"At present the spirit of the elections code is often flouted," said John Despol, CIO council secretary-treasurer.

"A candidate is required to report only those campaign expenditures made with his knowledge. Often, large contributions are made and spent for the expenses of a campaign and the candidate claims he had no knowledge of them.

"Legislation sponsored by the CIO would make it unlawful for any person to expend, contribute or pay money for anything of value, for any candidate, at any election, without the candidate's written consent."

VOTER HANDBOOK

The state labor group also wants the secretary of state to print a voter's handbook to include party platforms, pictures and statements of candidates for national and state offices, and pro and con statements on measures.

The handbook would be mailed to each voter.

Legislation to remove county, township and municipal offices from the non-partisan category is also proposed.

This will not affect judicial and educational offices.

"Party responsibility can be neither consistent nor effective unless it embraces lower elective offices as well as higher ones. These local of-

ing ground for higher elective offices," Despol said.

The labor group also recommends a fair election practices study commission to study the need for legislation to assure fair elections and campaign practices, and the need for strengthening party responsibility.

It would also study the problem of reapportioning political districts.

CIO Sponsors New Campaign Fund Plan

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The CIO California Industrial Union Council plans to sponsor a bill under which voters would financially support election campaigns.

John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the council, said the proposal calls for earmarking from the state's general treasury \$1 for each registered voter. Half of each dollar would go to the state central committee of the party of the voter's choice, the other half to the central committee of the county in which the voter lives.

"This approach to the perennial problem of high campaign costs would help equalize the opportunity of all candidates to get their story across to the people," Despol said. "In addition, passage of this bill would mean that the financial voice of the people would more than offset the large scale financial contributions of special interest groups promoting injurious legislation."

'No' Vote Urged for Propositions 3, 16, by CIO

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The CIO organization in California announced Monday that it is opposing two of the state-wide propositions on the Nov. 2 ballot and supporting one.

The CIO California Industrial Union Council announced opposition to Proposition 3, which would establish a state alcoholic beverage control department, and Proposition 16, which concerns state water laws.

Manuel Dias, president of the State CIO Political Action Committee, said the labor organization is supporting No. 1 to provide a \$175,000,000 bond issue for veterans' farm and home loans because the measure will "help our veterans by a plan that has proved economically sound."

The CIO said it opposes the liquor control proposition because it "simply shifts power of political favors—especially in granting liquor licenses—from the Board of Equalization to the governor."

Proposition 16 provides that any governmental agency acquiring property involving water control shall conform to California water laws.

Dias asserted this is a "hidden means" to prevent projects such as the Central Valley Project, to provide low cost water and power.

Codornices Aid Urged

A special mayor's housing committee on Codornices Village today was given a request of the California State CIO Council to "give assistance" to the families who are being required to move from the wartime housing project.

The petition was received by the City Council from Manuel Dias, State CIO Council president. He said that because of the personal hardship involved, the city should "give immediate consideration" to the families. Dias did not elaborate on what he considered to be assistance from the city.

At the same time City Manager John Phillips reported that of the 1896 apartments at the village, 1,770 now are vacant.

mayor's committee is assisting.

State CIO Backs Civil Rights Bills

The California CIO council will help sponsor legislation at the current session of the state legislature creating a fair employment practices commission, John Despol, legislative representative for the organization, has announced.

Other civil rights legislation is also being pushed by the state labor group.

"Fair employment practices laws, as sponsored by the CIO, were endorsed by the Democrats at their national convention in 1952 and urged by President Eisenhower for adoption in the various states," Despol said.

"Thus passage of such legislation by the California state legislature would carry out campaign pledges of both major political parties."

"The proposed California act is modeled after the New York law which has been in successful operation since 1945 and which has been adopted in eight other states and 22 cities, covering a total population of almost 60 million people."

"More than 5,000 complaints have been handled in the fair employment practices states, and all but five cases were settled by conference without even the necessity of a formal commission hearing. Emphasis of the proposed act is on education and on preventing discriminatory practices," the CIO spokesman explained.

"It is time we demonstrate to the entire world that our constitution's guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are not meaningless phrases to a large number of American citizens because of the color of their skin, their religion or their national origin," Despol asserted.

CIO RENEWS PROP. 3 BLAST

In a new attack on Proposition No. 3 the California Congress of Industrial Organization said yesterday the measure, creating a new liquor control department under the Governor, "merely transfers existing liquor evils to the Governor's office" and is "misleading."

now is under

OTHER BILLS

The California CIO council will sponsor and urge passage of additional legislation in the civil rights field. One such measure is a civil peace act, a bill to assist cities and counties in fostering civil peace through public agencies set up to improve group relations, to provide for the training of state, city and county law enforcement officers in the prevention and control of intergroup conflicts.

The CIO labor organization will also sponsor and urge passage of legislation preventing the "quota system" in enrolling students in institutions of higher learning.

This is the system whereby some educational institutions take only a small number of Negro, Mexican, Oriental or Jewish applicants without regard for the qualifications of others of the same background who may apply.

In addition, the council is sponsoring a bill to create a civil rights study commission. Such a commission would have representatives appointed by the governor, president pro tem of the senate and speaker of the assembly.

The duties of the proposed 16-man commission would involve the study of the need for legislation to protect civil rights and to provide for the strengthening of the internal security of the state.

CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION

Among the matters pinpointed for consideration by the commission would be the establishment of a law enforcement agency comparable to the federal civil rights section of the department of justice.

Worker and Machine is Forum Topic

"The Worker and the Automatic Machine: How Can We Control the Second Industrial Revolution?" will be the topic of tonight's program, one of a series on East Bay's community development presented by the Adult Education Division of the Oakland Public Library, in the West Auditorium of the main library, 125 14th St.

Participating panel members tonight are as follows: Manuel Dias, president CIO California Industrial Union Council; Charles Briggs.

CIO Endorses Raise in Pay For Legislators

LOS ANGELES (UP)—The California CIO has endorsed a pay raise for state legislators but has urged a "no" vote on Proposition 10 on the Nov. 2 ballot which would lengthen their office terms.

John A. Despol, state CIO secretary-treasurer, said yesterday he thought legislators, next to school teachers, are the most "underpaid" people in the country.

"We want the legislature to be answerable to the people at reasonable intervals—six years is too long," he said in explaining the group's opposition to Proposition 10.

CIO Support Given State Props. 2, 4, 12

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The California CIO announced today that it is urging support of Proposition 2 on the Nov. 2 ballot to provide a 100 million dollar bond issue for school construction.

"California urgently needs additional classrooms to meet the needs of a growing school population," said John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the CIO California Industrial Union Council. The state CIO also announced support of Proposition 4, to increase state pensions to needy Also given support by the CIO is Proposition 12 which would restore the right to vote to persons convicted of a felony after they have paid the penalties required.

John A. Despol, secretary-treasurer of the CIO-California Industrial Union Council, said his organization is opposing Proposition 13, and advocating passage of Propositions 5 and 12.

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