

# Apprenticeship Training Increases

"California is meeting the challenge of supplying apprentice-trained skilled craftsmen for the State's growing industries," the State Department of Industrial Relations declared this week.

Industrial Relations Director John F. Henning said, "20,017 apprentices are learning skilled trades as compared to 18,468 a year ago."

"California now leads the nation in the number of registered apprentices," Henning noted.

In commenting on this increase, Henning pointed out that the Apprenticeship Month Campaign in June, sparked by a proclamation of Governor Edmund G. Brown, resulted in 1,577 apprentices starting their careers, which was twice the June average of the past nine years and that the 834 new apprentices in July was the highest number for July during the past five years.

The Apprenticeship Month Campaign was sponsored by the California Apprenticeship Council and supported by 650 labor and management committee in cooperation with the Division of Apprenticeship Standards.

Apprentices are paid workers receiving on-the-job training during the day and attending related instruction classes in public schools two nights a week, under training standards approved by the State.

## Farm Labor Proposals Get Mixed Reaction

Farm labor regulation amendments proposed by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell were accorded a mixed greeting in a prepared statement by C. J. Haggerty, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, before Department of Labor hearings in Washington, D. C. September 10-11th.

The announced purpose of Mitchell's proposals was to prevent use of public facilities to undercut workers' standards in areas where farmers recruit labor from other states. Most of the suggested revisions deal with conditions which must be met before public employment agencies can place growers' job orders into interstate clearance.

Although regretting the Secretary's having withdrawn several of his initial housing proposals, Haggerty praised his advocacy of a requirement that housing and facilities be "reasonably calculated to ac-



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## SAN FRANCISCO HOSTS AFL-CIO AND DEPARTMENTAL CONVENTIONS

Meeting in the wake of last week's passage of the so-called labor reform management reform bill, some 900 delegates from affiliated international unions, state and local central bodies will convene in San Francisco September 17 for the national AFL-CIO's third constitutional convention.

C. J. Haggerty, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, will join San Francisco leaders in welcoming delegates to California.

Prior to the AFL-CIO convention, which is expected to run through September 25, four federation departments—Building and Construction Trades, Metal Trades, Maritime Trades and Union Label—will hold their separate conventions in the city by the Golden Gate. The International Labor Press Association will hold its annual meeting in the city at the same time.

### LABOR "REFORM" BILL

Although concentration on program and policies will be the predominant theme of the national convention, it is anticipated that the

new labor management reform bill will receive detailed scrutiny.

In its final version, the reform bill toned down some of the worst anti-labor provisions of the Landrum-Griffin bill, but wound up by taking away from trade unionists some of their long-standing rights through the imposition of curbs on picketing and boycotts, and modification of state-federal jurisdiction over labor matters.

The AFL-CIO legal department, which just this Tuesday received its first copy of the final bill, immediately embarked on a detailed analysis of the measure for presentation to the San Francisco convention delegates.

### SPEAKERS

Major speakers will complement the work of delegates as they consider wide-ranging resolutions and proposals to mobilize against the current attack on labor and press for the achievement of labor's social and economic goals.

Scheduled speakers include Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell; Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Martin B. McKneally, Commander of the American Legion; Dr. Benjamin Mays, President of Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia.

The following is the lineup of the departmental conventions preceding the AFL-CIO meeting:

### Building and Construction Trades Department

It is anticipated that some 200 delegates representing 3 million

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# Toilet Facility Program for Farm Workers Planned

Despite continued grower stalling tactics aimed at diverting plans to deal with the dangerous lack of toilet and hand-washing facilities for field workers into ineffective programs depending on local initiative and education, a task force of state agencies has agreed to accelerate their efforts for a state-level program encouraging local participation designed to cope with the problem.

Movies of field workers, under instruction from growers to screen themselves from public view, relieving themselves against stacks of boxes filled with tomatoes headed for market, were shown at a September 3rd, Berkeley hearing sponsored by the State Department of Public Health.

Participants in the hearing included representatives of the State Departments of Industrial Relations, Employment, Agriculture and Public Health, together with representatives of labor, growers and counties.

Although there was general agreement that present laws are insufficient, the state agencies agreed to fully utilize existing statutes until better legislation could be enacted in 1960.

The need for some kind of community organization behind the program was generally conceded. The view of many participants was expressed by State Department of Industrial Relations Director John Henning, who observed:

"Local action may not be forthcoming. Obviously, we can't wait indefinitely. Our department is obligated to protect the safety of workers. If local action does not materialize, we will have to take some action. There is need for some kind of state guidance or, where necessary, initiative."

Tom Saunders, Chief of the Division of Industrial Safety, declared that his agency had the jurisdiction and the necessary enforcement powers to ensure against disease hazards in agriculture.

State Director of Agriculture W. C. Jacobson recognized a responsibility in regard to any hazards which might jeopardize the marketing of crops. He stated that there should be a basic state law or series of regulations which would be a guide for uniformity.

AFL-CIO Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee's research director, Henry Anderson, asserted that while voluntarism is preferable to compulsion, there is little evidence in the past or in present attitudes to indicate that an educational approach alone would be adequate. He noted that a recent survey found that the third most important objection of farm workers to field work was the lack of sanitary facilities.

Anne Draper, of the recently formed California Citizens Committee for Agricultural Labor, spoke of the severe privacy problem relating to women and children and urged adequate screening of toilet facilities.

# Safety Order Hearings Scheduled

Public hearings on the proposed revision of state general safety orders relating to the transportation of employees and material have been scheduled for October and November by the State Department of Industrial Relations, it was announced this week by Director John F. Henning and Thomas N. Saunders, Chief of the Department's Division of Industrial Safety.

Location of hearings and dates are as follows:

In Chico, Tuesday, October 13, 1959, at 10 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Oaks Hotel, West Second and Salem Streets.

In Fresno, Tuesday, October 27,

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## PROFIT BOOM

The AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee recently warned that profit grabbing by the nation's corporations, and their refusal to share record earnings with workers through wage increases and with consumers through price cuts, could throw the nation's economy into another recession.

The following, taken from the August monthly letter of the First National City Bank in New York, gives substance to the AFL-CIO's warnings. The right-hand column shows the percentage increase in "after-taxes" profits for the first half of 1959, as compared with the first half of 1958, by industry groups:

No. of Cos.	Industry Groups—	Pct. Change in After Taxes Profits
27	Textiles and apparel .....	+ 338%
36	Automobiles and parts .....	+ 196%
33	Iron and Steel .....	+ 153%
7	Tires, rubber products .....	+ 98%
51	Cement, glass and stone .....	+ 77%
32	Chemical products .....	+ 74%
105	Other metal products .....	+ 53%
55	Misc. manufacturing .....	+ 49%
54	Machinery .....	+ 42%
31	Paper and allied products .....	+ 39%
36	Petroleum products and refining .....	+ 24%
34	Electrical equipment, radio and TV .....	+ 24%
28	Drugs, soaps, cosmetics .....	+ 12%
12	Tobacco products .....	+ 12%
41	Food products and beverages .....	+ 6%
26	Other transportation equipment .....	--- 13%
608	Total manufacturing .....	+ 65%
55	Railroads .....	+ 125%
20	Service and amusement .....	+ 43%
19	Mining and quarrying .....	+ 37%
5	Telephone and telegraph .....	+ 24%
39	Trade (retail and wholesale) .....	+ 21%
62	Electric power, gas, etc. ....	+ 10%
808	Total .....	+ 56%



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union members organized into 18 international unions and 600 local and state councils will attend the scheduled Building and Construction Trades Department sessions which will take place at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel September 9 to 11.

AFL-CIO President George Meany is scheduled to speak the morning of September 10. The convention is expected to devote major attention to methods of combating the rising tide of anti-labor legislation.

President Richard J. Gray's report is expected to include a detailed survey of the operation of the AFL-CIO plan for adjusting disputes between building trades unions and the industrial department affiliates.

Other scheduled speakers include Irving Manger, Chief of Labor Relations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Colonel Thomas H. Swan, Labor Advisor for the U.S. Air Force, and Richard Mitchell, Chairman of the National Joint Board for the Settlement of Jurisdictional Disputes.

## Metal Trades Department

The urgent need for a safety program in the nation's atomic energy

installations will be discussed by delegates from 20 international unions attending the Metal Trades Department convention which opens September 14 at the St. Francis Hotel.

Also on the agenda, reports Department President James A. Brownlow, will be discussions centering on the nation's shipbuilding program, the need for further development of the U.S. merchant marine, sharply fluctuating employment in navy yards, and some of the differences between craft and industrial unions.

Scheduled to speak are Meany; Secretary of Labor Mitchell; Atomic Energy Commissioner Oscar Smith; Building Trades Department President Richard Gray; Admiral Robert Cronin of the Navy Department's Office of Industrial Relations; and Executive Director Edward Goshen of the Federal Bureau of Apprenticeship.

## Maritime Trades Department

The Maritime Trades convention at the St. Francis Hotel on September 15-16 will consider the advisability of appealing to both major political parties for the adoption of platform planks next year pledging action to strengthen the American

merchant marine and to halt its dissipation through runaway flag shipping.

Department President Paul Hall stresses the urgent need of legislation to discourage the practice of registering ships under foreign flags to avoid taxes and paying union wages.

About 100 delegates, representing 20 international unions with more than 200,000 members engaged in maritime work, will attend.

Meany is scheduled to address the convention September 15. Other invited speakers include AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzler, Gray, Brownlow, and Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Lewis of the Union Label and Service Trades Department.

## Union Label

The golden anniversary convention of the Union Label and Service Trades Department will be held September 15-16 in the St. Francis Hotel.

The 200 delegates, representing 76 national and international unions, will formulate plans for the department's 1960 Union-Industries Show to be held in Washington, May 6-11, 1960. Also on the agenda will be the election of a president, secretary-treasurer and seven vice presidents for the coming two years.

## International Labor Press Assn.

Some 300 editors of trade union publications affiliated with the AFL-CIO will meet September 14-16 at the Sir Francis Drake.

"The ILPA convention will concentrate on increasing the effectiveness and enlarging the readership of union publications," ILPA President Peter Terzick declared in announcing the program.

A featured speaker will be Representative John E. Moss (D., Calif.), who will speak on suppression of information. He will address the banquet on September 14, at which recognition is given to outstanding labor publications.

Dean Maurice F. X. Donahue of the University College, University of Chicago, will speak on "Can Labor and Its Press Meet the Challenge," and S. I. Hayakawa, world-renowned authority on semantics and communications, will participate in a special workshop session.

# Labor Honored at State Fair

Tens of thousands of workers and their families poured through the turnstiles of the State Fair in Sacramento this Monday, on the day dedicated to organized labor.

Thomas L. Pitts, California Labor Federation President was the major speaker at an annual luncheon affair highlighting the Labor Day observance.

Harry Finks, Sacramento Vice President of the Federation unequivocally proclaimed this year's festivities among the most successful undertaken in honor of "free labor's contribution to our prospering state and nation."

Governor Edmund G. Brown, guest at the luncheon session, proclaimed that the laboring man stands high in the order of things and will stand even higher as the years go by. Brown singled out for praise "the high degree of intelligence in organized labor."

The annual luncheon was shot by Twentieth Century Fox News and carried on statewide radio and TV hookups.

Later in the day Governor Brown made radio tapes with President Thomas L. Pitts and Vice President Harry Finks covering education and social legislation issues.

Other highlights of the day included the California Labor Federation Purse as the ninth race of the day, and a tremendous fireworks display in the evening.

Mrs. Brown and Thomas L. Pitts presented the \$1,800 California Labor Federation Purse, won by a horse named "Yarbo" who paid \$13.40.

The fireworks display featured a hundred-foot long lettering of the AFL-CIO, the California Labor Federation insignia and union label displays.

FORM 3547 REQUESTED

## Farm Labor Proposals Get Mixed Reaction

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contract commitments" before referral to farm jobs. This could "render public employment offices into private detective agencies" with blacklisting potentials.

Haggerty urged retention of three existing standards which would be thrown out by the Secretary as prerequisites to interstate clearance of job orders. The first of these is a specific requirement that local workers be offered daily transportation to and from the job in line with area practices.

The second deletion requires that out-of-state workers be offered terms and conditions of employment at least equal to those granted by farmers from the same area who have successfully recruited and retained domestic workers.

Also strongly opposed by Haggerty was destruction of the "public's right to know" through elimination of current requirements that wage and related information be compiled and made public.

The Federation official further stressed the necessity of considering all conditions offered contract nationals if there is to be a realistic basis for interstate clearance standards. Such conditions include insurance coverage and a guarantee of employment three-fourths of the time.

Haggerty concluded, "The only fully suitable basis for use of federally financed facilities for labor recruitment is that of compliance with adequate and uniform standards prescribed by the U. S. Department of Labor."

## Ike Vetoes Second Housing Bill

President Eisenhower's apparent housing philosophy—"socialism for the rich and private enterprise for the poor"—was given further expression this week when he vetoed the second "watered down" housing bill passed by the Congress.

The vetoed measure was a \$1 billion measure, scaled down from the \$1.4 billion bill vetoed earlier by Eisenhower and pared considerably to meet his wishes.

The President's objections were directed to grants and direct loan features, which did not coincide with his views that the housing needs of the nation should be met only to the extent that they suit the profit motives of bankers and financiers.

These objectionable features included a pitiful 37,000 public housing units and modest proposals for grants and loans for housing for the elderly and college classrooms, plus a higher level of urban renewal grants than the Administration wanted.

In a recent letter directed to California congressmen by C. J. Haggerty, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, it was pointed out that both of the vetoed measures were inadequate in their failure to provide housing to meet the needs of middle income families who cannot participate in the expensive housing market financed through the F.H.A. and conventional loans.

From the point of view of both maintaining the construction industry in California and providing a housing program that meets the needs of the nation's families, Haggerty said a strong housing bill was an absolute necessity this session.

The second veto of the President of even the watered-down version was widely interpreted as an ex-

pression of his lack of concern for both these needs.

The President is continuing to press his demands that Congress act separately in increasing only the Federal Housing Administration's mortgage authority.

In the face of the two vetoes and Congress' failure to override either of them, leaders in both houses are now working on a third measure that may possibly satisfy the President's narrow point of view.

## Safety Order Hearings Scheduled

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1959, at 10 a.m. in Room 204 of the Fresno Memorial Auditorium, 1230 "N" Street.

In Imperial, Friday, November 13, 1959, at 10 a.m. in the Ben Hulse Auditorium at the Fair Grounds.

The proposed revisions affect Article 23 of the General Industry Safety Orders issued by the Division of Industrial Safety. Copies may be obtained from the Industrial Safety Division at 965 Mission Street, San Francisco.

Interested parties are invited to attend the scheduled hearings at which time they will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed orders. Those unable to attend are given assurance that written comments received in the Division's office prior to the hearings will be given the same consideration as those presented in person.

Following adoption by the Industrial Safety Board, and prior to filing of the orders with the Secretary of State, copies of the adopted orders will be mailed to all who attended the public hearings or submitted comment.