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# Weekly News Letter

Vol. 2—No. 3  
Feb. 12, 1960

## Pitts Attacks Dual Standards in National Policy

Federation President Thomas L. Pitts told Panorama City Rotarians recently that the trade union movement will not "sit back and accept national policies and legislation aimed at the isolation of one group of workers from another group of workers," and at the same time watch "the fostering of policies which promote monopoly and oligopoly practices in industry."

The state AFL-CIO president linked the Landrum-Griffin attack on labor with the efforts of corporate giants to undermine the nation's collective bargaining structure in a luncheon address before the Rotarian group on "The Labor Picture for 1960."

The loser, Pitts warned, is "not only the working man, but also the small business man and the public at large," if dual standards of national policy are permitted to continue.

Pitts emphasized the shrinking role of small businessmen "unable to compete with the bigness that seems to have permeated our economy."

From the point of view of what it means for the nation's private enterprise economy, Pitts urged special examination of the growing tendency for capital expansion funds to be obtained through the pricing structure in basic industry where prices can be effectively ad-

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C. J. HAGGERTY  
Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer

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## Rank and File Push for "Forand Bill" Urged

Warning that the enactment of the Forand Bill faces an uphill battle against the slick opposition of the American Medical Association and its allies, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, this week said that the only hope for securing enactment of the measure this session "rests in a mass letter-writing campaign which will indicate the depth of grassroots support for the legislation."

In a communication going out this week directed to all local unions and councils in the state, the state AFL-CIO leader urged mass distribution of an AFL-CIO leaflet, "Can You Afford To Be 65?" designed to explain the issue of the Forand Bill before Congress and to "encourage trade union members to write their congressmen, expressing their wholehearted support of the measure and demanding its passage this session."

The Forand Bill, it is pointed out, does not pretend to solve the whole problem of medical care for the aged. By adding medical care provisions to the federal social security system, it would guard against total disaster as follows:

—By paying in full for 60 days

of hospital care for all persons eligible for old age and survivors' benefits (this would include dependent children of widows).

—By meeting the costs of combined nursing home and hospital care up to 120 days a year and covering certain surgical expenses.

Social security records would be used to establish the right of applicants. The bill includes standard safeguards as to the quality of care, negotiation of rates and the freedom of cooperating institutions from government interference.

Costs would be met by a rise of only one quarter of one per cent in social security taxes on employers and employees, and a three-eighths per cent on the self-employed.

In his letter to all unions and councils, Haggerty enclosed an order form for the labor campaign pamphlet on behalf of the Forand Bill. Supplies of the leaflet for distribution to the entire membership of local unions are available both from the national office of the AFL-CIO, and the California Labor Federation office in San Francisco.

The following is the full text of Haggerty's letter to all local unions and councils:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As you know, high on the legislative priority list of the AFL-CIO is the Forand Bill (H. R. 4700) which would provide minimum health care for the aged under the federal social security system.

Although there is strong and mounting support for the enactment of the Forand Bill this session, the major block remains the

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## SAN LUIS PROJECT ISSUE COMING TO A HEAD

The fundamental issue of whether state water deliveries utilizing federally subsidized facilities in the San Luis Project Authorization Bill shall be permitted to escape the anti-monopoly, anti-speculation protections of reclamation law is rapidly coming to a head in the House of Representatives, it was learned this week.

The specific exemption of these federally subsidized waters is contained in Section 7 of the San Luis Bill presently before the House Rules Committee waiting on a rule for floor debate. The exemption provision was deleted in the Senate-passed bill last year in an historic five-day debate which saw Senators

Morse, Douglas and Neuberger successfully argue the firm position of the AFL-CIO and small farmer groups.

In the House of Representatives, the companion measure, authored by Congressman B. F. Sisk, was sent to the Rules Committee with the specific exemption provision still in the measure.

However, it is reported that Congressman Sisk is now moving to have the provision removed when the measure reaches the floor of the House.

C. J. Haggerty, state AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer, said in San Francisco: "We are pleased to hear

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## Rank and File Push for "Forand Bill" Urged

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American Medical Association and its allies, who are launching a slick Madison Avenue type campaign to prevent the enactment of this most important piece of legislation.

In the face of this opposition, the only hope for securing enactment of the Forand Bill rests in a mass letter-writing campaign which will indicate the depth of grassroots support for the legislation.

Accordingly, I am enclosing a sample of the AFL-CIO leaflet "Can You Afford To Be 65?", which is designed specifically to explain the issue of the Forand Bill before Congress and to encourage trade union members to

## Pitts Attacks Dual Standard In Policy

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ministered by the few dominant corporations.

Referring to the steel industry's ability to obtain most of their funds for plant and equipment expansion, "not from risk capital which would be available from private investors, but from consumers of steel through the pricing practices of industry," Pitts said that the adverse effect on the consumer's pocketbook should be obvious.

"But," Pitts added, "we should ask ourselves also what this means for the small businessman, who, unlike the big corporate counterpart, is subject to more competitive pricing forces in the marketplace."

The state AFL-CIO president concluded that it is "somewhat ridiculous to expect the small businessman to compete for badly needed capital outlay funds under conditions where he must go to an increasingly more competitive money market, while more and more of our industrial giants are finding available to them interest-free capital funds obtained from consumers."

In this fashion, Pitts drove home to Rotarians that dual standards of national policy which are strangling small businessmen are essentially the same as those which are being twisted in an effort to render the trade union movement ineffective.

write their congressmen, expressing their wholehearted support of the measure and demanding its passage this session. **Additional copies of the leaflet for distribution to your entire membership are available from the national office by writing the AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 16th Street N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Our Federation office also has a limited supply available on request.**

The success or the failure of the Forand Bill in Congress this year depends upon your full cooperation in this matter. Nothing is more important to the federal social security system fostered by organized labor than its amendment to provide at least a minimum of health care for our senior citizens who have contributed to the greatness of this nation.

For your convenience we are enclosing an order form for the leaflet.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
/s/ C. J. Haggerty,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## San Luis Project Coming To A Head

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of the steps being taken by Representative Sisk in the direction of cleaning up this important San Luis Project Authorization Bill.

"On three separate occasions we have issued statements to the California delegation detailing a number of objectionable provisions in the bill and urging that they join forces to secure passage of a measure this session authorizing the project without exemption from the taxpayer protections in reclamation law.

"At this time we are again calling upon the California delegation to join in the move to clean up the bill. And on this basis, when and if the necessary floor action is taken, the combined forces of the AFL-CIO and small farmer groups will be on hand to give the clean San Luis Project Bill the necessary push to put it over the top this session.

"I am urging all labor organizations to press this position in communicating with their congressmen in Washington."

## Steelworker Support Applauded

The following letter has been sent to all international unions and state and local central bodies by AFL-CIO President George Meany, commending the labor movement for the strong and effective support extended the Steelworkers during the recent steel strike:

Dear Sir and Brother:

May I extend my sincere thanks to each and everyone of you who played a part in the success of the special AFL-CIO Steelworkers strike defense fund.

Your generous response to this unprecedented undertaking by the AFL-CIO was a moving demonstration of the solidarity and vitality of our cause. It was an eloquent answer to those cynics who disparage the strength of the trade union spirit and its place in the hearts of our members, and I am sure this response played an important psychological part in the outcome.

As you know, the steel strike has ended in victory—a historic victory for the Steelworkers, who stood united in the face of tremendous odds, and a sweeping victory for the entire labor movement over the most formidable attack launched against us in years. You can all be proud of your role in this triumph.

President David J. McDonald of the United Steelworkers of America has announced that his union is able to and will absorb the entire cost of the strike. While expressing the deepest gratitude for the funds you contributed, President McDonald and his associates feel that their own organization, in view of the settlement, can and should make full repayment despite staggering costs to that union's treasury. His action is, of course, in keeping with the tradition of the Steelworkers and the trade union movement.

Accordingly, the United Steelworkers of America will shortly repay to the AFL-CIO special strike fund all monies received from it. We in turn will repay the contributions to those from whom we received them. By far the greater part of these contributions, of course, came to us from constituent organizations which in their turn collected from indi-

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# Fair Employment Conference March 1

A one-day conference on fair employment, presented by the Institute of Industrial Relations at the University of California in cooperation with the state's Fair Employment Practices Commission, is set for March first at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

The conference, featuring Governor Edmund G. Brown as luncheon speaker, will concentrate on:

1. Practical Problems and Methods of Employment Integration, and
2. Achieving Compliance with the Fair Employment Practices Act.

C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation in San Francisco, this week urged widest possible attendance of the one-day meet by trade unionists. The conference fee for the entire day, including lunch, has been set at \$5.00 per person for this purpose.

Advance registrations may be made by writing to the Department of Conferences, University Extension, University of California, Berkeley 4, enclosing a check or money order in the amount of \$5.00 per person, payable to The Regents of the University of California.

The following is the conference program:

**9:00 - 9:30**—

Registration—Fairmont Hotel Lobby.

**9:30 - 12:00**— Venetian Room

## Welcome Remarks

ARTHUR M. ROSS, Director  
Institute of Industrial Relations,  
University of California, Berkeley

## Practical Problems and Methods of Employment Integration

Speaker—WILLIAM J. CAPLES,  
Vice President Inland Steel  
Company, Chicago.

## Panel Discussion

Chairman — JOHN ANSON  
FORD, Chairman California  
Fair Employment Practice  
Commission.

Participants — THOMAS P.

WHITE, Secretary-Treasurer  
Warehousemen's Local 860.  
ELMER NELSON, Asst. to the  
President Aerojet-General  
Corporation, Sacramento.  
JOHN ROBERTS, Director  
Guidance Services, City of San  
Francisco.

# The Forand Bill and the Record of the AMA

*(A Bill of Particulars to Judge  
the Opposition of the Medical Association)*

The American Medical Association is leading the opposition which threatens the enactment of the Forand Bill to provide medical care for the aged under the federal social security programs.

The motives of the Medical Association can be judged only on the basis of its record on health issues facing the nation. The following bill of particulars has been compiled by the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education:

- A generation ago the AMA opposed the requirement that all cases of **tuberculosis** be reported to a public authority—the foundation for all TB-control methods.

- The AMA opposed the **National Tuberculosis Act** a week before Congress passed it unanimously.

- The AMA fought **compulsory vaccination for smallpox.**

- The AMA attacked provisions for **immunization against diphtheria** and other **preventive measures against contagious diseases** by public health agencies.

- The AMA opposed the bills to grant federal aid to the states to reduce **infant and maternal deaths.**

- The AMA opposed the **Social Security Act**, passed in 1935.

- In 1939, on behalf of the AMA Board of Trustees, Doctor Morris Fishbein **condemned old age and unemployment insurance** as a "definite step toward Communism and totalitarianism."

- The AMA opposed the creation of public **venereal disease clinics.**

- The AMA opposed the creation of free diagnostic centers for **tuberculosis and cancer.**

- The AMA fought the American Red Cross plan to set up a nationwide reserve of civilian **blood banks.**

- The AMA opposed federal aid to **medical education**, even after AMA representatives had testified before Congress that medical schools were in a dire financial emergency, and that there was a serious shortage of doctors in the U.S.

- The AMA attacked **voluntary health insurance plans** as "socialism, communism—inciting to revolution."

- The AMA dismissed **Blue Cross** as "a half-baked scheme."

- The AMA opposed **school health services legislation.**

- The AMA's representatives testified that it would be unwise to **treat sick children** without first subjecting their parents to test to see how much money they had.

- The AMA fought **federal aid to public health units.**

- The AMA blasted a Defense Department request to Congress to give government **medical care to dependents of men in the armed forces**, with particular reference to the men then fighting in Korea, as "unpractical and harmful to national defense."

**AND NOW IT'S THE FORAND BILL ON DECK FOR ABUSE.**

**12:00 - 2:00**— Gold Room

Chairman—ARTHUR M. ROSS

## Social Needs and Public Responsibility in California

Speaker—THE HONORABLE  
EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor,  
State of California.

**2:00 - 4:30**—Venetian Room.

## Achieving Compliance With the Fair Employment Practice Act

Chairman—JOHN F. HENNING,  
Director California Department  
of Industrial Relations.

## "Report on Case Histories and Operating Procedures of FEPC"

EDWARD HOWDEN, Chief

Division of Fair Employment Practices and FEP Commissioners. ELTON BROMBACHER and C. L. DELLUMS.

## Panel Discussion

Participants—RUSSELL CROWELL, President Alameda Central Labor Council.  
TERRY A. FRANCOIS, Attorney and Member San Francisco Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity.

DANIEL E. KOSHLAND,  
Chairman, Executive Committee, Levi Strauss and Company.

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## Steelworker Support Applauded

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**vidual members, to whom the contribution will be returned.**

Of course, you and the many other thousands of union members offered your financial support cheerfully and with no thought of any return except to win the battle in which we all had so great a stake. It should give us all a deep sense of satisfaction that the act of giving helped to make the gifts unnecessary.

With my warm thanks to each of you, I am

Fraternally yours,  
GEORGE MEANY,  
President.

## New study on Productivity Of Older Workers

"Older office workers are as productive as their younger counterparts," Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell said recently in announcing the results of a new U. S. Department of Labor study.

The study covering 6,000 office employees in 21 private companies and five government agencies, Mitchell says, brings out these important facts:

—There is no significant difference in output per man hour among different age groups.

—There is a substantial variation in performance among workers in a given age group, and many older workers out-perform average workers in the younger groups.

—Older workers are more consistent in their output. They have much less variation from week to week than people in the younger age groups.

According to Mitchell, experience appeared to be the major factor in differences in the average performance among age groups. For example, average output per man hour was 7 per cent less for office employees under age 25 than the

## Mitchell Putting Minimum Wage Up to Ike

It was reported this week in the Wall Street Journal that Labor Secretary Mitchell is facing an uphill battle selling the White House on proposing that Congress increase the present \$1.00 per hour minimum wage from \$1.10 to \$1.15 per hour.

The AFL-CIO is demanding a minimum of \$1.25, plus broad extension of coverage.

The proposal of Mitchell, it is reported, will probably be put before the Cabinet late this month, and it is expected to touch off a major policy debate within the Eisenhower Administration.

The labor chief is now reported to believe that a higher minimum is economically justified, besides making good political sense in an election year.

A U. S. Senate Labor Subcommittee has approved a bill to raise the minimum gradually to \$1.25 per hour over a two-year period for workers now covered, and to raise it to \$1.25 over a four-year period for some ten million workers that would be brought under the protection of the law.

It is expected that the full Senate Labor Committee will take up this proposal within a matter of a few weeks.

As indicated recently, Mitchell is also leaning toward coverage for agricultural workers under the federal minimum wage, and this is certain to provoke bitter intra-Administration debate, especially between Mitchell and Secretary of Agriculture Benson.

## Ex-Farm Service Chief Takes Grower Post

Edward F. Hayes, former head of the state Farm Placement Service, last week announced that he was quitting his job as chief of the Service's technical section, effective February 15, to become secretary-manager of the Imperial Valley Farmers Association.

Hayes was head of the Farm Placement Service for 12 years until he was demoted last August in a shakeup following investigations under the Brown Administration, which produced evidence of grower domination of the state agency.

News of Hayes's resignation was greeted with applause from the AFL-CIO Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, whose charges helped spur last year's shakeup.

Norman Smith, director of AWOC, issued the following statement:

next older groups, but only 2 per cent less than workers who had been employed on the job for nine months.

"Agricultural workers are glad to see Mr. Hayes return to his first love—the growers. In our view he consistently represented grower interests while he was a state employee. The growers can now pay him for doing that same job.

"His leaving would indicate also that the Farm Placement Service is coming more into line with the purpose for which it was established: the service and good of agricultural workers.

"His disappearance from the official scene culminates a long, hard fight by representatives of agricultural workers. We count this as a victory, and as an indication of the growing power of the AFL-CIO in agriculture.

"Long before we came on the scene, dedicated individuals were carrying on the battle against Mr. Hayes and what he represented. These people, too, will rejoice at his going, and join us in the hope that agricultural workers may now receive their basic rights and services from state agencies."