

Legislative Notes

URGENCY JOBLESS BENEFITS

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Financial Institutions finally gave clearance this Wednesday to an amended version of SB 133 (Shaw), designed to speed up the payment of extended unemployment insurance benefits for jobless workers who have exhausted their regular benefits.

The amended version would convert the quarterly extended benefits program adopted in 1959 (Miller-Collier Act) to provide extended benefits on a month-to-month basis as unemployment reaches the six per cent level. The effect is to provide for extended benefits in closer relationship to a high unemployment period. Upon passage of the bill, extended benefits would immediately become available to jobless workers exhausting benefits in the months of February and March. From then on, it would be on a month-to-month basis.

The bill, however, now goes to the Senate Finance Committee before reaching the Senate floor, and then to the Assembly side for urgency processing. It is hoped (barring further roadblocks) that the bill will be on the Governor's desk before the end of the month.

This state bill would be independent of the Kennedy urgency proposal on the federal level, but should a federal law

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San Joaquin Valley Farmers

St. Valentine's Day Awakening

On Valentine's Day, 1961, potential San Joaquin Valley water users under the state's water program appeared to find a moment of truth. They discovered that during the water bonds campaign, the valley's giant landowners and the Department of Water Resources sold them down the river.

The awakening was disclosed at lengthy hearings of the Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Water, concluded this Tuesday, on the state's water delivery contract with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The MET contract, signed just four days before the November general election, is generally credited with having put Proposition No. 1 over the top.

Valley farm interests paraded before the Fact Finding Committee to plead their fears that the state has "priced them out" of the \$1.75 billion water bond program which had promised a major portion of the water for irrigation use in the San Joaquin Valley.

Under the pattern of the MET contract, which must be followed in other water contracts, farmer



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Executive
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CHANGING ECONOMY COMPELS SOCIAL INSURANCE PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

Social insurance and employment security programs are "in the throes of major adjustment to the changing demands of our increasingly complex economy," according to Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation.

Addressing a weekend legislative conference on state problems called

by Assemblyman Gus Hawkins (D., Los Angeles), the state AFL-CIO leader warned that "programs born in the depression of the 30's and earlier are showing grave signs of inadequacy in the American economy of the 60's, characterized by rapid technological advancement, mounting problems of skill obsolescence, hard-core unemployment caused by job displacement, changes in living patterns, and far-reaching advancements in the sciences, including medical knowledge."

Pitts said that it is no longer enough to merely adjust the benefit structures of existing programs without subjecting the programs themselves "to equally vigorous review from the standpoint of 'program adequacy'."

Unemployment Insurance Example

In the field of unemployment insurance, Pitts commented that there exists a continuing need for liberalizing the benefit structure to accomplish the limited purposes for which the program was established back in the 30's.

Noting, however, that Federation-sponsored bills to increase benefits, extend coverage and remove other inequities are being strenuously opposed by employers on grounds that unemployment reserves are presently inadequate, Pitts added:

"What the employer groups do not point out is that the financing principle providing for individual firm merit rating has milked the fund of reserves that should have been built up in a period of prosperity, and that the merit rating principle has operated as a means of obtaining unemployment insurance tax cuts... at the expense of adequate benefits and the purpose of the program."

The present "merit rating" system was blasted as a financing principle totally incompatible with a social insurance program. Pointing out that the social insurance principle requires flat contribution rates by all employers, Pitts said that if any experience rating is allowed, it must be "a uniform experience rate for all employers."

In addition to these improvements, the state AFL-CIO spokesman called for program adjustments to meet basic economic developments.

The most important development, according to Pitts, has been "a mounting hard-core unemployment compounded by

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CHANGING ECONOMY

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periodic recession" due to a grossly inadequate rate of economic growth.

Each recession in the last decade, Pitts said, has seen a period of limited production recovery, but only partial recovery from unemployment.

Pitts noted that the mounting level of hard-core unemployment is a measure of the economy's failure to adjust properly to the new technology of industry and automation itself.

Pitts added: "Automation is producing more and more goods with less labor, but our automated machines are unable to purchase the increased production of industry.

"Skill displacement is not being matched by retraining programs for the displaced. As a result, unemployment spells are growing longer and many of the transition hardships produced by the new technological processes are being borne by individual families and in some areas by depressed communities as a whole."

Adjustments of the unemployment insurance program to our changing economy requires a lengthening of the basic duration period of unemployment insurance benefits, according to Pitts. Benefit payments should also be made while a person is engaged in a bona fide retraining program.

But even these reforms, Pitts said, would not provide for the retraining programs themselves, which, in scope, cannot be provided by collective bargaining alone.

Pitts alluded to AB 379 (Waldie, D) before the legislature, establishing a retraining program under the Department of Employment, as "a necessary broadening of our employment security concepts."

Such a program, Pitts pointed out, should be supplemented by broadening the scope of vocational rehabilitation to meet the changing needs of handicapped individuals, and by enactment of a related program to provide comprehensive rehabilitation training for the industrially injured under workmen's compensation.

Health Insurance

In reviewing the state unemployment disability law, Pitts noted that while the program "provides substantial protection for wage-earner families against loss of income while disabled, there remains the large vacuum that results from the inadequacy of health care programs."

Voluntary health and welfare programs were depicted as "leaving the level of coverage of medical expenses disturbingly low."

"Rather than having any confidence that voluntary plans will be expanded to improve health care needs," Pitts said, "our experience has convinced us that there is no alternative to national prepaid health care or at least a state prepaid program."

Recognizing that the rapid advancement of medical knowledge has greatly

GOVERNOR BROWN DINNER

A dinner honoring the achievements of Governor Edmund G. (Pat) Brown is being sponsored by the Central Labor Council of Alameda County.

The dinner will be held March 4, 1961, at 7 p.m., at Goodman's Jack London Hall, Oakland. Tickets are \$10 per person.

In announcing the dinner, Central Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer Robert S. Ash said:

"In the first two years of Pat Brown's Administration, more good legislation has resulted than in any of the three previous administrations, benefiting working men and women and their children. His Administration has also begun enforcing laws long dormant, benefiting us. His appointments to the judiciary have been from the liberal and human side of the law profession."

For these and many other reasons, Ash added, "We should let Governor Brown know we are appreciative of all he has done."

increased the potential for quality care, Pitts warned that the high cost of these expensive in-patient and out-patient procedures has pushed such advancements outside the reach of many people.

"The advancements in medical science have placed a tremendous premium on the efficient organization of health care services," Pitts added.

Pitts said that communities cannot afford the unnecessary multiplication of costs "that results from the duplication of under-utilized facilities installed because of the profit-making incentives that exist for the medical profession in wasteful duplication."

Pointing to the report of the Governor's Committee on Health Care, Pitts said that the advancements in medical care demand the regional planning of medical and health care facilities.

While recognizing that many of the committee's recommendations carry the burden of compromise with private insurance and medical profession interests on the committee, the AFL-CIO spokesman expressed hope that the inadequate measures advanced out of the committee's work "will again revive the major issues of health care that were either swept under the rug or submerged with the development of voluntary plans."

Finally, Pitts warned against being misled by the arguments against "compulsion" advanced by the medical profession to block needed improvements in the health care field, including a social insurance program for the aged.

The compulsion of government, according to Pitts, is much involved in the payment of general taxes for "doling" out medical care as it is in making payments into a social insurance program

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Within the limits of this weekly publication, Newsletter will attempt to inform affiliates of important measures scheduled for hearing under a three-day "hearing notice" required by the legislature.

To be on the safe side, as bill digests are carried in Newsletter, affiliates should drop a note to committee chairmen requesting notice of hearings on bills of interest. Write the committee chairmen, c/o State Capitol, Sacramento. Bill digests carry the committee to which a bill has been referred.

ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, February 21

Social Welfare, Room 4164, 1:30 p.m.

AB 5 (Burton). OAS for non-citizens. Good

AB 96 (Burton). Liberalizes OAS relatives' responsibility. Good

AB 422 (Burton). Disabled assistance for non-citizens. Good

Thursday, February 23

Constitutional Amendments, Room 3188, 3:00 p.m.

ACA 16 (Winton). School text books. Bad

Industrial Relations, Room 4168, 3:45 p.m.

AB 354 (Flournoy). City publishing of prevailing rates. Bad

*AB 500 (Kennick) Repeals filing of prevailing rates with Department of Industrial Relations. Good

Taxation, Room 2170, 3:45 p.m.

AB 521 (Busterud). Repeals drug sales tax. Good

Municipal and County Government, Room 2170, 1:30 p.m.

AB 193 (Hegland). Emergency work by counties. Bad

Monday, February 27

Finance and Insurance, Room 2170, 1:30 p.m.

AB 638 (Rees). Unfair insurance practices—discrimination. Good

AB 732 (Burton). Racial discrimination in auto insurance prohibition. Good

SENATE

Tuesday, February 21

Business and Professions, Room 3191, 1:00 p.m.

SB 145 (Thompson). Nurses' registry. Bad

Thursday, February 23

Public Health and Safety, Room 2040, 1:00 p.m.

SB 282 (O'Sullivan). Health program for seasonal farm workers. Good

Monday, February 27

Revenue and Taxation, Room 3191, 1:00 p.m.

SB 6 (McCarthy). Drugs sales tax exemption. Good

SB 294 (McCarthy). Candy sales tax exemption. Good

Tuesday, February 28

Business and Professions, Room 3191, 1:00 p.m.

SB 213 (McCarthy) Outdoor advertising. Bad

for benefits as a matter of right.

"The issue which society faces," Pitts asserted, "is whether compulsion shall be applied for a social purpose to help many individuals in need of medical care, or whether that compulsion should be employed primarily and essentially to entrench given medical care practices and only incidentally provide medical care."

DIGEST OF BILLS

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Key to Symbols

AG Agriculture
AL Alcoholic Beverages
BC Barbers and Cosmetologists
CR Civil Rights & Civil Liberties
CW Construction & Construction Workers
DI Unemployment Disability Insurance
EA Employment Agencies, Private
EL Elections
FF Fire Fighters
FI Fishing
FL Farm Labor

HA Harbors
HO Housing
IN Insurance (Including Health & Welfare)
IS Industrial Safety
LC Labor Code Changes, General
LI Liens, Attachments & Writs of Execution
LU Labor Unions
MI Miscellaneous
MU Musicians
MV Motor Vehicles
NT Newspapers & Television
OA Outdoor Advertising
PE Public Employees

PH Public Health
PL Prison Labor
PR Printing
RE Recreation
RW Railroad Workers
SC Schools (Including Teachers)
SL State and Local Government
SW Social Welfare
TA Taxation
UI Unemployment Insurance
VT Vocational Training
WC Workman's Compensation
WP Water and Power

*Sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

No bill may be taken up until 30 days after date of introduction indicated in Digest, except by $\frac{3}{4}$ vote.

ASSEMBLY BILLS

- ***AB 912 Munnell** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provisions prescribing low-tax U.I. rate schedule for employers, fixes minimum employer tax rate at 1 percent, and makes various related changes. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 913 Munnell** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes technical change to correct reference to maximum employer U.I. tax rate. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 914 Munnell** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that accrued holiday, vacation, and severance pay paid after layoff is not to be considered as "wages" for purposes of determining whether individual is unemployed in any week for benefit purposes. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- AB 915 House** (Co-author: Senator Cobey) (At request of the Governor) (Agr.) Creates an Agricultural Labor Commission to act as a fact-finding body to ascertain, study and analyze the problems of labor management relations in California agriculture and prescribes its membership and powers and duties. Appropriates \$10,000 to the commission to be used in carrying out its purposes. Jan. 30. **FL—Watch**
- ***AB 918 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates requirement that individual, for U.I. benefit eligibility purposes, have searched for work in accordance with regulations. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 919 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provisions making filing of first U.I. claim for extended duration benefits an election to claim such benefits for the weeks they are subsequently payable to the exclusion of regular unemployment insurance benefits. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 920 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Lowers from .06 to .03 the minimum extension ratio at which an extended duration quarter will be established under U.I. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 921 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provisions disqualifying individual from unemployment insurance benefits when termination of last employment occurs for marital or domestic reasons. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 922 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates from provision excusing liability for return of U.I. benefit overpayment where received without culpability and fault, the additional present condition that liability is excused only if recovery would be against equity and good conscience. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- AB 942 Leggett** (Fin. & Ins.) Provides that it is a misdemeanor to wilfully fail to withhold in trust deductions from remuneration paid to workers for purposes of U.I. act. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- AB 943 Leggett** (C.S. & S.P.) Excepts those who receive disability retirement allowance for industrial disability from provision which requires reduction in retirement allowance to member retired for disability who is gainfully employed in occupation not in state service. Jan. 30. **PE—Watch**
- AB 944 Charles H. Wilson** (Rev. & Tax.) Provides that the seizure of personal property, improvements or possessory interests for the payment of taxes on unsecured property creates a lien on the property seized which has priority over all other liens regardless of the time of their creation. Provides that upon sale of the seized property the purchaser receives a title free and clear of all encumbrances of any kind existing before the sale. Jan. 30. **LI—Bad**
- AB 947 Hegland** (Trans. & C.) Adds truck or truck tractor of certain specifications to those vehicles required to display the name or trademark of the person under whose authority the vehicle is being operated or the name or trademark of the lessor or lessee. Jan. 30. **MV—Good**
- AB 951 Hicks** (Fin. & Ins.) Revises procedure for distribution of deposits in event of insurer's insolvency under workmen's compensation. Jan. 30. **WC—Bad**
- AB 953 Hicks** (Fin. & Ins.) Authorizes the department to reconsider its ruling issued to an employee as to the cause of termination of employment of a claimant for unemployment insurance benefits, and provides that such reconsideration may be made at any time prior to the filing of an appeal. Provides that the receipt of vacation or severance pay by a person does not render a claim for unemployment insurance benefits invalid, though he would be ineligible to receive benefits for any week in which vacation or severance pay equals or exceeds his weekly benefit

amount. Also provides that this shall apply to filing a claim for both unemployment compensation and extended duration benefits. Jan. 30. **UI—Watch**

- AB 954 Hicks** (Fin. & Ins.) Permits the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board to appoint its secretary as a deputy member of the board in the absence of a regular member. Requires any act of the deputy member to be concurred in by a regular member to be valid. Jan. 30. **UI—Watch**
- AB 960 Cameron** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes additional contributions for extended duration benefit purposes payable quarterly, after January 1, 1962, in same manner as regular employer contributions, rather than separately following annual assessment. Makes necessary related changes in provisions pertaining to administration of extended duration benefit account in Unemployment Fund, and requires extension ratio determinations and determinations respecting reductions in additional contribution rates to be filed with Secretary of State. Jan. 30. **UI—Watch**
- AB 961 Cameron** (Fin. & Ins.) Includes as "employing unit," Federal instrumentalities required to make contributions, specifies that Puerto Rico be considered a state for purposes of U.I. code, and specifies that additional employer contributions included in allowable credit against federal tax shall be four-tenths rather than three-tenths of one percent of wages. Revises provisions defining covered employment, to exempt "feeder organizations" for presently exempt non-profit organizations, to specify that exempt non-profit organizations include ones operated for testing for public safety, and that to remain exempt such organizations shall not participate in political campaigns and must be exempt from federal income tax. Eliminates provisions exempting from covered employment services involving dues collection for fraternal beneficiary society, services for agricultural and horticultural organization and services for voluntary employees' beneficiary association. Makes various related technical changes. Jan. 30. **UI—Watch**
- ***AB 967 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Requires employer appealing a U.I. benefit eligibility determination or a benefit award computation to file \$25 deposit, to be returned to him if he prevails or paid to General Fund if he does not. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 968 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provision fixing at \$250 the maximum amount of the penalty to be imposed upon an employer for failure without good cause, to file wage reports within required time under U.I. act. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 969 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that facts concerning individual's U.I. benefit eligibility submitted by employer upon filing of a claim shall be used for purposes of determining eligibility only if, in cases of discharge or voluntary leaving, the employer filed information prescribed by Section 1256 to overcome the presumption that the discharge or voluntary leaving was not misconduct or not without good cause. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 970 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provisions specifying that for U.I. benefit eligibility purposes, if 75 percent of an individual's base period wages were earned in a single calendar quarter, his total base period wages must have been the lesser of his weekly benefit amount or \$750. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 971 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that any U.I. benefits paid to an individual following misconduct discharge or voluntary quit without good cause shall be charged to the employer's reserve account if the position is filled within five days. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- ***AB 972 Elliott** (Fin. & Ins.) Eliminates provisions permitting use of lag quarter earnings for U.I. benefit computation purposes only if, in 12-month period after filing valid claim, individual earns qualifying base period wages for purposes of computing subsequent award. Jan. 30. **UI—Good**
- AB 982 Beaver** (G.E. & E.) Requires competitive bidding on all contracts of Department of Public Works for rental of tools or equipment or for relocation of structures, for state highway purposes, when total consideration of contract exceeds \$1,000, rather than \$500. Jan. 30. **CW—Watch**

ASSEMBLY BILLS (continued)

- AB 983 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Requires Director of Employment to determine the amount of and to assess and recover from employers and insurers excess worker unemployment insurance disability contributions paid under voluntary plans, where such excess contributions are no longer refundable and requires the amounts so recovered to be credited to the excess employee contributions account of the Disability Fund. Creates the excess employee contributions account in the Disability Fund to be made up of the unrefunded excess employee contributions collected by the director from voluntary plans and the amounts retained by the State under Section 1176. Specifies that the Legislature may appropriate money from the Disability Fund for subsequent injuries awards made by the Industrial Accident Commission, which appropriations may not be in excess of the balance credited to the excess employee contributions account. Jan. 30. **DI—Watch**
- AB 985 George E. Brown** (Ed.) Provides for participation in the Federal Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance program, in addition to participation in the State Teachers' Retirement System, of members of such system, who are school district employees, on a district basis. Authorizes division into separate coverage groups; of members in each district, with respect to those who desire coverage and those who do not, and provides for referendum of employees in each district. Jan. 30. **SC—Good**
- AB 992 Rees** (Fin. & Ins.) Provides authority for obtaining insurance to protect the State's interest in any buildings or facilities constructed for the use of the Department of Employment. Gives the Director of Employment, with the approval of the Department of Finance, rather than the Department of Finance, with the approval of the director, the authority to invest or otherwise deal with the Disability Fund, and to handle all transactions with respect to Disability Fund investments in branch office buildings. Jan. 30. **DI—Bad**
- ACA 26 Busterud** (C.A.) Revises Article VI providing for the judicial system of the State. Deletes reference to justice courts and permits the Legislature to establish additional courts. Deletes provisions relating to the distribution and conduct of business and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, leaving these matters to be prescribed by statute. Deletes provisions providing for the organization and jurisdiction of the district courts of appeal. Provides that the number, organization and jurisdiction of these courts shall be prescribed by law. Deletes provisions providing for the jurisdiction of the superior courts and municipal courts, leaving these matters to be fixed by statute. Makes Governor's appointment of municipal court judges subject to approval by Commission on Judicial Appointments. Prohibits judges or justices of courts of record from holding of another public office. Continues as statutes existing provisions of Art. VI, until changed by law. Jan. 30. **SL—Bad**
- *AB 997 Gaffney** (Ind. R.) Deletes provision prohibiting employees of Industrial Safety division from divulging confidential information dealing with safety or employment and violations of rules, regulations and orders, and making violation of section a misdemeanor. Jan. 30. **IS—Good**
- AB 1000 Winton** (Ed.) Effects extensive revision of formula for apportionment of State School Fund for support of public schools, and changes tax procedure involved in providing local financial support. Increases from \$201.10 to \$215.62 per a.d.a. the major fiscal year appropriation to State School Fund, and increases foundation programs for various classifications of school district and allowances for special education and driver training instruction. Establishes countywide tax for support of elementary schools and high schools of 60 cents for elementary purposes and 50 cents for high school purposes, to supplant, to that extent, present school district taxes. Provides for apportionment of these revenues to school districts of county on basis of "weighted units of a.d.a." with districts with higher foundation programs to receive greater proportionate share. Requires state equalization aid to be apportioned to school district on basis of "weighted units of a.d.a." Effects procedure for appropriation to and apportionment from State School Fund directed to eliminating surpluses which must otherwise be distributed to districts. Makes numerous related changes. Jan. 30. **SC—Watch**
- AB 1016 Cusanovich** (Ind. R.) Provides that action to settle controversies arising out of private employment agency operations may initially be brought before any court having jurisdiction, unless action previously brought before Labor Commissioner, in which case review de novo may be had by any court having jurisdiction rather than superior court. Provides further that when action is brought in court prior to action before Labor Commissioner, any party, upon showing that controversy involves more than failure to pay fee, may have action transferred to the Labor Commissioner who will determine controversy subject to de novo review on appeal to the court. Deletes provision that Labor Commissioner may certify that no controversy exists within meaning of section. Jan. 30. **EA—Bad**
- AB 1018 Shell** (Rev. & Tax.) Provides for deduction of federal estate tax in computing California inheritance tax. Jan. 30. **TA—Bad**
- AB 1019 Kilpatrick** (Rev. & Tax.) Exempts drugs sold on prescription and filled by registered pharmacists from sales and use taxes. Jan. 30. **TA—Good**
- AB 1020 Elliott** (Ind. R.) Employment agencies: labor contractors. Deletes exception to definition of labor contractor involving persons employed to render service to third persons and who are paid more than \$200 per month. Jan. 30. **EA—Good**
- AB 1021 Elliott** (Ind. R.) Employment agencies: application by, and placement of, minors. Deletes provision prohibiting employment agencies from accepting application for employment of a minor for employment in violation of child labor laws. Prohibits employment agency from accepting application or making placement of minor under 16 years. Prohibits collection of placement fee from minor between 16 and 18 years. Prohibits employment agency from placing or attempting to place minor in an employment in violation of provisions of Education Code relating to their employment. Jan. 30. **EA—Good**
- AB 1029 Meyers** (C.S. & S.P.) Specifies that the State Personnel Board need not make findings in connection with the establishment or adjustment of classifications, the adoption of rules or regulations, the establishment or adjustment of salary ranges, or in an appeal from the results of an examination on any ground other than bias, fraud or discrimination. Jan. 30. **PE—Watch**
- AB 1036 Meyers** (C.S. & P.S.) Deletes physical or mental disability as a cause for discipline of a state civil service employee. Provides that the employment of a civil service employee may be terminated after medical findings that he is unable to perform the work of his position. Permits employee appeal to the State Personnel Board and authorizes the board to revoke the action or to demote or transfer the employee. Permits reinstatement of the employee upon a determination by the State Personnel Board that the employee is no longer incapacitated. Makes other technical, nonsubstantive changes. Jan. 30. **PE—Bad**
- AB 1045 George E. Brown** (Ind. R.) Adds employee housing to definition of "camp." Provides that area set aside and provided by employer for camping or housing which is occupied or designed for occupancy by 5 or more employees is "camp," rather than area set aside and provided for camping of 5 or more employees. Provides that prescribed health standards apply to all occupants of a camp or employee housing. Requires registration of existing and proposed camps and employee housing with Division of Housing, and prescribes information to be furnished at time of registration. Jan. 30. **FL—Watch**
- AB 1056 Kennick** (G.E. & E.) Makes provision for a manager-cosmetologist who may engage in practice independent of personal supervision. Requires this cosmetological establishment to be under direct supervision and management of a licensed manager-cosmetologist. Jan. 30. **BC—Watch**
- AB 1057 Kennick** (G.E. & E.) Requires applicants for a certificate to operate a cosmetology establishment to show compliance with specified requirements as to floor space and ventilation. Permits inspection of premises by the State Board of Cosmetology. Provides that certificates to operate a cosmetological establishment or school are applicable to one location only. Requires a new certificate for a new location. Jan. 30. **BC—Good**
- AB 1064 McMillan** (G.E. & E.) Provides for conduct of examinations to determine equivalent education of certain prescribed grades in school by examining agency prescribed by State Board of Barber Examiners, rather than by board itself. Deletes provision permitting barber colleges to admit persons applying on or before December 31, 1959, who have only completed eighth grade or equivalent. Deletes provision for issuance of certificates of registration to persons who ceased practicing prior to 1927. Authorizes board to deny applicant permission to enroll in barber college if convicted of crime involving moral turpitude, and requires barber college to have written authorization from board to enroll person whose application shows conviction of a crime. Provides procedure for such denial. Jan. 30. **BC—Watch**
- AB 1065 McMillan** (G.E. & E.) Makes various changes re regulation of practice of cosmetology, including examinations and licenses of junior operators; limiting of certificate of registration to operate cosmetological establishment to location shown on certificate; requirements re officers of corporations holding cosmetology school licenses; and fees charged for applications and inspections re schools of cosmetology or electrology. Jan. 30. **BC—Watch**
- AB 1066 Kilpatrick** (Soc. Wel.) Increases from \$3 to \$13.50 the monthly premium deposit payable into the Medical Care Premium Deposit Fund in behalf of each recipient of old age assistance, aid to the blind, and aid to the totally disabled. Increases the federal share of such deposits for old age assistance recipients from \$3 to \$3 plus an amount equal to one-half of the medical expenditure made in behalf of those recipients. Changes rate of county payments for medical care from an amount, payable monthly, determined by the Department of Social Welfare on the basis of the statewide average amount of income or supplemental aid available to recipients for medical care, to an amount, payable quarterly, equal to \$1 multiplied by the number of recipients authorized to receive old age assistance, aid to the blind, or aid to the totally disabled. Provides for establishment of special accounts in the Medical Care Premium Deposit Fund and corresponding accounts in the Medical Care Revolving Fund of each county, based on contributions for children and adults, respectively. Provides that if the Medical Care Premium Deposit Fund is dissolved, the entire balance shall be transferred to the General Fund, instead of only the amount remaining after

ASSEMBLY BILLS (continued)

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- reimbursement is made to the federal government for its share of the contributions made to the fund. Jan. 30. SW—Good
- ***AB 1091 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that only one U.I. disqualification for benefits can be assessed as to each set of facts. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1092 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes presumption that individual was not discharged for misconduct or did not voluntarily leave without good cause, in connection with last work, a conclusive presumption if the employer fails to submit the required written information sufficient to overcome the presumption within the required five-day period. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1093 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Provides that an individual with seniority who is on lay-off and recalled less than 14 days prior to any leaving because of a trade dispute is not disqualified for such leaving from receiving U.I. benefits. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1094 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that individual shall not be ineligible for unemployment insurance on basis of unavailability for work, if it is caused by flood, fire, earthquake, pestilence, tornado or other act of God, or because of physical detention or prevention by any other person. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1095 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Revises provision fixing U.I. disqualification for misconduct discharge or voluntary leaving without good cause at the week in which individual first registers for work and the 4 weeks which immediately follow, to fix it at the week in which he first registers for work and for not more than the 4 weeks immediately following. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1096 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that to disqualify for unemployment insurance benefits an individual's willful misstatement, representation, or failure to report material fact, must have been made with intent to defraud. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1097 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes applicable to all work, rather than "new" work, the provisions specifying that an individual shall not be disqualified from U.I. benefits as having refused suitable work where the position offered is vacant because of a labor dispute, the work conditions are less favorable than those prevailing, and joining a company union or resigning from a labor union would be required. Jan. 30. UI—Good
- ***AB 1098 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes a misdemeanor, the employer's failure to comply with requirements concerning the posting of employees' U.I. benefit rights and other prescribed information, or failure to supply new employees with printed information statements and materials relating to benefit claims. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1099 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Increases from 3 percent to 6 percent the interest rate payable from the otherwise applicable delinquency date, on employer U.I. contributions in connection with which the director has, for good cause, granted a 60-day extension on payment. Jan. 30. UI—Good
- ***AB 1100 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Makes presumption that individual claiming U.I. benefits was not discharged for misconduct or did not voluntarily leave without good cause, in connection with last work, a conclusive presumption if the employer fails to submit the required written information sufficient to overcome the presumption within the required five-day period. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1101 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Specifies that new work conditioned upon violation of union constitution or by-laws shall not be deemed suitable work for benefit eligibility purposes, in addition to work conditioned on joining company union or worker's resigning from labor organization; and provides that such shall be the case where imposed as a condition for remaining employed, as well as being employed. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1102 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Limits trade dispute benefit disqualification for U.I. benefits to first four weeks after leaving work, rather than throughout the progress of dispute at the establishment. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1103 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Requires unemployment insurance benefits to be paid for the one-week waiting period, if period of unemployment exceeds that week. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1104 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Requires employer's work record to show employment status of each worker; and requires employer to immediately notify employee of status change, and makes such notification prima facie evidence of termination. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1105 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Imposes charges against employer's reserve account of from 2 to 10 times maximum U.I. weekly benefit amount of claimant for employer's willful misstatements or withholding of information for purpose of causing claimant to be denied benefits, and provides additional charge of 8 times weekly benefit amount for each successive violation. Jan. 31. UI—Good
- ***AB 1106 Unruh** (Fin. & Ins.) Authorizes "freezing" and re-establishment of unexpired benefit rights by an individual, following an industrial disability with a duration of at least 60 days but not more than two years. Jan. 31. UI—Good

SENATE

- SB 390 Stiern** (Agr.) Requires poultry plants to be maintained as well as operated in sanitary condition. Deletes requirement that application for renewal of poultry plant license be made at least 30 days prior to expiration. Requires instead that application be made at least on date of expiration. Provides for \$10 penalty fee for late filing. Specifically requires poultry meat inspection to be in accordance with regulations. Makes it unlawful to sell or mark as inspected poultry meat that has not been inspected and passed for wholesomeness. Authorizes Director of Agriculture to inspect or reinspect poultry meat or poultry meat food products being processed or stored in licensed poultry plants. Provides for condemnation of any found unwholesome. Jan. 26. PH—Good
- SB 391 Cobey** (Elec.) Eliminates presidential primary election, and provides for the selection of delegates to the national party conventions by the state central committees. Jan. 26. EL—Bad
- SB 404 Collier** (Jud.) Provides for payment of additional fee sufficient to reimburse witness for time lost from his business or employment. Jan. 30. SL—Watch
- SB 412 Burns** (Pub. H. & S.) Defines term "color additive" to include designated substances which are capable of imparting color to food when added or applied thereto. Authorizes the State Board of Public Health to except any material from the definitions if it determines the material is used solely for purposes other than coloring. Requires that a food be deemed adulterated if it bears or contains a color additive, rather than a coal tar, other than one listed or certified by the Federal Food and Drug Administration. Requires that a food be deemed adulterated if it contains mineral oil or saccharine or other non-nutritive sweetening agent only if that is contrary to the provisions of the California Pure Foods Act. Jan. 30. PH—Watch
- SB 414 Burns** (Soc. Wel.) Provides for loans of state funds to private individuals and to public and private corporations for the construction, acquisition, and development of low cost and low rent housing for elderly persons of low income. Authorizes issuance of state bonds therefor. Jan. 30. HO—Good
- SB 415 Byrne** (Ins. & F.I.) Specifies that the use of the word "group" in codes or laws of this State other than the Insurance Code does not authorize any person licensed or certified by the Insurance Commissioner to represent any policy, certificate or contract as a group policy, certificate or contract unless it is so defined as a group policy, certificate or contract by the Insurance Code or by the laws of the state in which it was issued. Jan. 30. IN—Good
- SB 430 Stiern** (Agr.) Deletes requirement that chief of division having jurisdiction over dairy inspection and control be veterinarian. Jan. 30. AG—Bad
- SB 433 Short** (Gov. Eff.) Provides that, with the exception of the construction authorized for the new State Fair site, the unused and unneeded balance of any amount heretofore or hereafter authorized or appropriated by the Legislature for state building construction pursuant to the State Building Construction Act of 1955 may be transferred by the Director of Finance, with the approval of the State Public Works Board, to augment any authorization or appropriation made for any other building or buildings authorized under the act. Provides that the board, after first obtaining the written consent of certificate or bond holders, may pledge amounts which are in excess of amounts necessary to pay principal and interest due on buildings authorized at any one session, to the payment of principal and interest on any other buildings authorized under the act. Jan. 30. SL—Watch
- SB 438 Christensen** (Lab.) Adds provision that real property whose ownership is sufficient to except logging and sawmill operations from wage security requirements, must have value sufficient to pay wages of employees. Provides further that security shall not be commingled with other funds or property, shall be held in trust, used only to pay wages, and shall not be subject to garnishment, attachment or execution by other creditors of employer. Jan. 30. LI—Watch
- SB 439 Christensen** (Jud.) Deletes provision limiting lien to period when logs, lumber or other manufactured timber products are in the county in which labor was performed or service rendered. Deletes provision that if the property subject to lien is removed from county, lien continues on balance of property remaining in county. Jan. 30. LI—Good
- SB 447 Teale** (Gov. Eff.) Creates the Division of Aeronautics in the Department of Public Works, as successor to the California Aeronautics Commission; and transfers to the division all functions, powers, property, unencumbered funds, and civil service employees of commission. Creates the State Aeronautics Board consisting of five members as an advisory agency to the division and the Director of Aeronautics. Abolishes the California Aeronautics Commission and the position and the present office of Director of Aeronautics. Authorizes the Division of Aeronautics to classify airports according to their facilities and the types and number of aircraft which they are capable of handling and to make regulations and minimum standards for each class. Authorizes division to investigate expenditure of money allocated from Motor Vehicle Fuel Fund to political subdivisions for aviation purposes and prohibits a political sub-

SENATE BILLS (continued)

- division from expending such funds for hangars or other revenue producing sources unless and until the airport which it operates satisfies at least the minimum safe airport standards which are prescribed by the division for airports of its class. Prohibits any state agency or department from expending any public funds for any airport or airstrip unless and until the site is approved by the division. Jan. 30. **SL—Watch**
- SB 456 Gibson** (B. & P.) Provides for biennial licensing by the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners. To become operative on October 1, 1961. Jan. 31. **PH—Watch**
- SB 458 Gibson** (B. & P.) Provides for biennial licensing by the State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers. To become operative on February 1, 1962. Jan. 31. **PH—Watch**
- SB 468 Gibson** (B. & P.) Provides for biennial licensing by the State Board of Barber Examiners. To become operative on October 1, 1961. Jan. 31. **BC—Watch**
- SB 471 Gibson** (B. & P.) Provides for biennial licensing by the State Board of Cosmetology. To become operative on October 1, 1961. Jan. 31. **BC—Watch**
- SB 473 Gibson** (B. & P.) Provides for biennial licensing of contractors. To become operative on October 1, 1962. Jan. 31. **CW—Watch**
- SB 482 Rattigan** (Lab.) Provides that regulation of maximum hours for women shall not apply to the harvesting, curing, canning, drying or processing of perishable agricultural, horticultural, egg, poultry, meat, seafood, rabbit, or dairy products rather than certain enumerated perishable products. Jan. 31. **LC—Bad**
- SB 500 Dolwig** (Trans.) Provides that allocations from the State to counties or cities for railroad grade separations shall be based on the cost of that portion of the project being constructed which can be attributed to the presence of the railroad facilities. Provides that no allocation shall be made in case of new grade separations unless railroad contributes 10 percent of cost attributable to presence of railroad facilities, plus capitalized computable benefits. To be operative on January 1, 1962, for funds budgeted for local agency projects for 1962-63 fiscal year. Jan. 31. **CW—Watch**
- SB 512 Rodda** (Inst.) Repeals duplicating provisions relating to establishment of county forestry camps for juveniles and clarifies certain provisions relating to work by, and payment of, boys in forestry camps to make clear that camps referred to are Youth Authority camps. Makes other technical and clarifying changes. Jan. 31. **PL—Watch**
- SB 520 Grunsky** (Ed.) Creates a graduate study fellowship program under which awards are granted by the State to students for graduate study in California colleges and universities accredited by the Western Colleges Association. Declares that the purpose of the program is to produce competent scholars for leadership in the scholarly world and in all subject fields, particularly where shortages exist. Jan. 31. **SC—Good**
- SB 521 Grunsky** (Ed.) Establishes a program whereby award winners of state competitive scholarships and junior college reserve scholarships are entitled to receive subsistence grants for room and board, subject to certain qualifications. Specifies that the State Scholarship Commission shall administer the program. Jan. 31. **SC—Good**
- SB 523 O'Sullivan** (Agr.) Authorizes Director of Agriculture, with approval of the Governor, to appoint special committees to study and advise on agricultural problems without compensation but to be paid necessary traveling expenses. Jan. 31. **FL—Watch**
- SB 533 Fisher** (L. Gov.) Authorizes county sanitation district, after publication of prescribed notice, to make and perform joint agreements with any private corporation or person regarding any property or works which might be owned or operated by the district; to enter into agreements for the purchase of facilities which provide for the payment of the purchase price wholly from the net operating income from such facilities; and to agree to reimburse persons for facilities which they have installed if the district board determines that the facilities will be used by other persons and the facilities are dedicated to the public or become the property of the district. Jan. 31. **SL—Watch**
- SB 536 Fisher** (L. Gov.) Authorizes county sanitation district to make and perform joint agreements with any public or private corporation or person regarding any property or works which might be owned or operated by the district, to enter into agreements for the purchase of facilities which provide for the payment of the purchase price wholly from the net operating income from such facilities, and to agree to reimburse persons for facilities which they have installed if the district board determines that facilities will be used by other persons and the facilities are dedicated to the public or become the property of the district. Jan. 31. **SL—Watch**
- SB 546 Fisher** (B. & P.) Makes willful failure or refusal because of race, color, religion or national origin to provide any person fully and equally with any service authorized by a license or certificate issued under the provisions of the Business and Professions Code, a cause for the revocation or suspension of the license or certificate if the licensee or certificate holder willfully refuses to provide such service or assistance after written notice by the applicable agency ordering him to cease and desist from such conduct. Jan. 31. **CR—Good**
- SB 547 Rodda** (Ins. & F.I.) Requires employers to pay a fee of \$100 for a certificate of consent to self-insure, as well as to furnish proof of ability to self-insure and to pay any compensation that may become due to employees. Requires self-insurers, as a condition of continuance of the certificate of consent to self-insure, to pay annual fee of \$100. Provides for deposit of such fees in State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund. Jan. 31. **WC—Good**
- SB 548 Short** (Lab.) Specifies that Division of Industrial Welfare may investigate and ascertain wages, hours, and working conditions of persons employed in any occupation, may supervise payment of unpaid minimum wages and unpaid overtime compensation, and may commence and prosecute civil actions to recover such wages and compensation. Specifies that acceptance by woman or minor of sum found due by division or consent to action by division to recover sums due constitutes waiver of right to collect sums in own civil action. Specifies that an action may be brought by the division or by a woman or minor to recover the unpaid balance of minimum wages or overtime compensation due, plus costs and, if the woman or minor brings the action, liquidated damages. Provides for injunctions against violations of law relating to wages, hours, and working conditions of women and minors. Jan. 31. **LC—Watch**
- SB 554 Miller** (L. Gov.) Requires, rather than permits, a school district board to adopt a salary schedule for substitute teachers. Requires the schedule to be adopted each year and to show the daily rates. Jan. 31. **SC—Good**
- SB 559 Geddes** (Gov. Eff.) Creates the office of Housing Administrator for the Elderly within the Governor's office to advise the Governor as to matters affecting the interests of the aged in low-cost housing and other housing developments for the aged. Provides that the administrator shall make reports and recommendations to the Governor and to the Legislature with regard to housing projects for the aged. Provides for appointment of the administrator by the Governor at a salary fixed by the Governor up to an unspecified amount. Appropriates \$150,000 to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Feb. 1. **HO—Good**
- SB 568 Farr** (Soc. Wel.) Increases maximum aid grant for needy children confined in institutions or boarding homes from \$75 to \$85 per month. Feb. 2. **SW—Good**
- SB 572 Rodda** (Ed.) Specifies that if a person takes a leave of absence from a state college for the purpose of teaching or research, he shall be entitled to any merit increase in salary he would have received had he not taken the leave of absence. Feb. 2. **SC—Good**
- SB 575 McCarthy** (Trans.) Makes various changes in laws re rapid transit districts, and particularly San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District. Feb. 6. **SL—Watch**
- SB 580 Dolwig** (Ins. & F.I.) Provides that in preparing and amending a schedule for determining percentage of permanent disabilities and in determining percentage of permanent disability apart from the schedule no account shall be taken of subjective symptomatology not supported by manifest compatible physical impairment. Feb. 6. **WC—Bad**
- SB 581 Dolwig** (Ins. & F.I.) Provides that upon establishing of prejudice of referee in I.A.C. proceedings, the matter shall be assigned to another referee. Provides method and requirements for establishing prejudice. Feb. 6. **WC—Watch**
- SB 582 Geddes** (Gov. Eff.) Provides that such vending stands may be used in public buildings for vending hot and cold foods, in addition to present purposes, and specifically authorizes use of vending machines as well as vending stands. Feb. 6. **PH—Watch**
- SB 589 Short** (B. & P.) Declares unlawful the payment of rebates, refunds, commissions, discounts and the like by automotive repair shop to any person purchasing services, parts or equipment to the injury of a competitor or destruction of competition. Defines a repair shop as a place where vehicles are repaired, rebuilt, reconditioned, repainted or in any way maintained for the public at a charge. Feb. 6. **MI—Watch**
- SCA 9 Gibson** (Gov. Eff.) Changes provisions re review of decisions of Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control by Alcoholic Beverage Control Appeals Board and judicial review of decisions of board. Provides for staggered 6-year terms for members of board, rather than service at pleasure of Governor, and restricts power of Governor to remove members to removal for cause. To become operative Sept. 1, 1962. Jan. 23. **AL—Bad**
- SCA 10 Burns** (Soc. Wel.) Provides for issuance of \$100,000,000 of state bonds for the purpose of making loans to individuals, private corporations, and public agencies for the construction, acquisition, and development of low cost and low rent housing for elderly and handicapped persons of low income, subject to such legislation as the Legislature may from time to time enact. Validates issuance and sale of bonds and appropriations provided for in a proposed Housing for the Elderly Law. Jan. 23. **HO—Good**
- SCR 17 Christensen** (Nat. Res.) Requests all state and local public agencies to assist in reducing unemployment in the lumber industry by using, and requiring the use of, California hardwood and lumber products on all public works projects and by encouraging the citizens of the State to use such products whenever possible. Jan. 30. **SL—Good**
- SJR 10 Christensen** (Nat. Res.) Memorializes the President and Congress to provide relief to the lumber products industry of the United States, particularly that segment of the industry in northern California, from foreign imports under Trade Agreements Act, by import quotas or any other appropriate action. Jan. 30. **MI—Watch**

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

(Continued from Page 1)

water or leave it alone, depending upon the price, as their speculative interests dictate. Already more scheming is afoot to create a "master water district" designed to force non-project water users in the area to subsidize a lower water price through a general ad valorem levy on taxpayers.

The small farmers, however, are trapped. They fear loss of needed water to the south because of a declared inability to contract with the state at the high prices. Under the MET contract, if valley users don't contract for their promised share of the water by December 1963, MET is entitled to take the water if it so desires.

The Senate Fact-Finding hearings added another chapter to the history of water development in the state. San Joaquin Valley farmers who could enjoy cheaper water by completion of the federal government's comprehensive plans for the Central Valley project once again have been victimized by the monopoly interests.

These interests in the lower end of the valley have prevailed upon the state thus far to assume the financial burden of delivering their water in order to avoid the taxpayer protections in federal reclamation law against monopoly and speculation.

The price of this folly goes far beyond the small farmers trying to hold on in the valley. It extends to every taxpayer, the general public and particularly to populous Southern California.

The front organization for the big land interests—the Feather River Project Association—insists that the state lay its credit on the line for water deliveries free of federal reclamation law, regardless of available federal financing.

A good portion of the general obligation bonds authorized by Proposition No. 1 will be used to meet these demands.

As a consequence, in the current tight budget situation, state general obligation bonds are not available to finance a larger portion of state capital outlays or to develop sorely needed programs to halt the decay of metropolitan areas.

No significant amount of revenues can be freed to increase school aid, develop financing programs for housing, health facilities, or meet other mounting state needs in the social welfare fields.

The awakening of valley groups this Tuesday may well lead to the awakening of the general population to the real price the public is being asked to pay for the demands of the monopoly interests.

A group of state senators has already issued an appeal that California join the Kennedy "New Frontier" in a federal-state coordinated program for western water resource development.

Must California continue to wait for an authorization from the big land holders?

NEW L-G PAMPHLET

A 32-page pamphlet on the Landrum-Griffin Act has been published by the AFL-CIO in Washington, D.C. (Pamphlet No. 111).

Based on four articles that appeared in the AFL-CIO American Federationist, May through August, 1960, and authored by AFL-CIO Counsel J. Albert Woll, the pamphlet covers the four major areas under the law: bill of rights, reporting, internal controls and Taft-Hartley amendments.

The publication should be ordered from the Pamphlet Division of the AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 16th St. N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Up to 100 copies, they are priced at 15¢ per copy; in bulk, \$9 per 100.

Economists Ask Study Of Disarmament Impact

Thirty professional economists from universities and trade unions have asked President John F. Kennedy and the Joint Economic Committee of Congress to analyze the impact which disarmament might have on the U. S. economy.

Such a study, the petition asserted, would help achieve these objectives:

- "Anticipate and thus minimize the the inevitable problems of adjustment;
- "Remove the uncertainty and fear with which some regard the likely effect on them of disarmament;
- "Assure the world and ourselves that we can face the prospect of disarmament with confidence."

The group proposed that the Kennedy Administration "undertake a serious analysis of the alternatives to arms spending." They urged the Joint Committee to sponsor studies and take public testimony on the economic effects of disarmament and possible public policies.

The signers included author Robert Heilbroner and professors Seymour E. Harris of Harvard University and Adolph Lowe of the New School for Social Research.

Union signers included: Solomon Barkin of the Textile Workers Union of America, Irving Beller of the Machinists, Ralph Bergmann and Roy A. Ockert of the Rubber Workers, George W. Brooks of the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, Harry Chester and Woodrow L. Ginsburg of the Auto Workers.

Also Charles W. Morton and Elwood Taub of the Woodworkers, Otto Pragan of the Chemical Workers, Ben B. Seligman of the Retail Clerks and Sumner M. Rosen of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department. Rosen drafted and circulated the petition.

Legislative Notes

(Continued from Page 1)

be enacted, extended benefits would then become payable under the federal law. The work of the Governor's office was very much in evidence in helping to shake loose the Shaw bill from Senate committee this week.

ELECTION REFORMS

Assemblyman Rex M. Cunningham (D., Ventura County) has introduced a pair of bills to prevent harassment of minority group voters. The measures are an outgrowth of charges of intimidation of Mexican-Americans in the Presidential election.

One measure would provide that the ability of voters to read the English language must be ascertained at the time of registration, thus prohibiting cross-questioning at the polling places.

The other bill is designed to prohibit poll watchers from sitting with precinct officials in polling places to give the impression that they are election board members.

The "ability to read bill" was recommended by Attorney General Mosk, who noted:

"If one can establish his ability to read at the time of registering, it is not very likely he is going to lose it between the time he registers and the time he votes."

During the general election campaign, thousands of Mexican-Americans were registered under the Citizenship Program of the Community Service Organization.

OPERATION ABOLITION

The major enactments of the Brown Administration at the 1959 session would be repealed under measures sponsored by Clark Bradley (R., Santa Clara). These include AB 1396, repealing the FEP law; AB 1397, abolishing the office of Consumer Counsel; and AB 1398, junking the Economic Development Agency.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Commencing this week, News Letter is carrying announcements of committee hearings on bills of interest to affiliated organizations. These are listed on Page 2. As the session gets rolling, the weekly listings will be longer. However, the problem remains that it is impossible to give advance announcement to all hearings as there is only a three-day rule on bill settings. Affiliates are encouraged to write committee chairmen for notice on bills of special interest.

FARM LABOR COMMISSION

The Governor's recommendation for creation of an Agricultural Labor Commission has been introduced by Assemblyman Leverette House (D., Imperial County). The Commission would be a tri-partite party appointed by the Governor to ascertain, study and analyze the problems of labor-management relations in California agriculture.

Although specifically concerned with labor matters, the bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

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FORM 3547 REQUESTED

EXPANDED INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROGRAMS URGED BY PITTS

Concerted efforts against the increasing hazards to industrial health and safety stemming from the growing presence of radioactive materials, chemicals, complex machinery and noise were urged last week in Los Angeles by Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

Addressing the 1300 delegates to the Governor's Conference on Industrial Safety, Pitts warned against the danger of inertia which historically has caused the postponement of progress until the national conscience has been shocked by sensational tragedies.

The potential value of worker participation in plant safety programs is often overlooked by management, Pitts declared, pointing out:

"While a corporation can always recoup any financial losses incurred through accidents, workers cannot recover an eye or limb. Safety is therefore that much more personal and meaningful to the machine operator or the construction worker."

Accident Rate Rises

Pitts pointed to California's 1958-59 job-safety record as proof that "progress is not automatic." Lost time work injuries in the state rose 14 per cent during 1959, far outstripping the concurrent 4 per cent employment increase in the industries covered by workmen's compensation.

The spokesman for organized labor in California also saw an effective safety program as a potential source of tangible benefits for all workers through reduction of workmen's compensation premiums. "Such savings, he declared, could be utilized in financing new state programs "such as prepaid health care."

Worker Education Urged

Calling upon unions to "lead as well as to represent" workers in this area, the Federation official asserted that safety precautions are worthless unless understood and utilized by workers. To prevent such situations, he expressed support for more vigorous programs of education harnessing labor's publications, films, posters, and awards together with "integration of the subject into its leadership and apprenticeship programs."

A continuous effort by all parties concerned to keep safety programs "alive and moving" was advocated instead of the frequent "one-shot crisis type of approach."

The Federation's top executive cited a recent AFL-CIO survey which revealed that about 97 per cent of the safety clauses contained in the labor agreements studied required higher standards than those set forth by law. This demonstrated, he said, that exclusive dependence upon state law to protect workers' interests generally did not prove entirely satisfactory.

Safety Skimped

Pitts emphasized labor's position placing "at least as much worth on the conservation of human resources as on any given technological or production process." Expressing labor's doubt that a proper balance of values exists in this area, he declared:

"In our consumption-oriented economy, there exists an unhealthy tendency to become preoccupied with the consumption-production process as an end in itself...."

"Our nation has demonstrated a lack of concern that as much time may be spent in engineering demand as in engineering the product itself. Too freely, and without adequate consideration, there has been a tacit acceptance of planned obsolescence under which manpower, materials and equipment are utilized in production condemning otherwise adequate products to the junkpile.

"When such values are given free rein, other considerations tend to become secondary."

This subordination of safety issues in relation to the demand for production and sales, Pitts declared, is reflected in the product as well as in the production process itself. He told the conference delegates:

"I urge you to recognize that skimping on essential safety services and controls in the face of the vast array of new industrial hazards confronting us is tantamount to assigning priority to technological rather than human considerations. Such priority may have its place in a totalitarian, but, certainly not in a free society that places its highest values upon the dignity of the individual."

Research Needed

Pitts stated that one of the greatest potentials for improvement was that of intensifying research into such subjects as the causes of industrial accidents and illness together with the isolation of

Rules Committee Vote

On January 31, the House of Representatives defeated the power-mad coalition of reactionary Republicans and Dixiecrats and voted to give the entire membership of the House the freedom to pass on legislation which President Kennedy might propose. It did this by approving, 217 votes to 212, a resolution to increase the membership of the Rules Committee from 12 to 15. This allowed the liberal Democrats to add two men to the committee, and thereby form an eight-to-seven majority of the group. A Republican filled the third additional spot.

The Rules Committee decides which bills can be voted on by the House. Since the committee had consisted of four reactionary Republicans, two Dixiecrats and six liberal Democrats, it had often blocked progressive measures by a six-to-six vote. In 1960, for instance, it buried aid-to-education and slum-clearance measures. The year before it stymied action on legislation to help areas which were in economic distress.

Voting for enlarging the committee and against the reactionary coalition were 195 Democrats and 22 Republicans. All the Democrats opposing the resolution were from the South or border states.

The following are California Congressmen who voted for expansion of the committee:

Miller, Clement W. (D), Johnson (D), Moss (D), Shelley (D), Baldwin (R), Cohelan (D), Miller, George P. (D), McFall (D), Sisk (D), Hagen (D), King (D), Holifield (D), Gorman (D), Doyle (D), Roosevelt (D), Sheppard (D), and Saund (D).

man from hazards through machine and plant design.

The need for strong governmental initiative in safety matters is buttressed, Pitts noted, by the presence of about four million unorganized workers in California.

The Federation spokesman urged the concentration of primary responsibility for establishing and enforcing standards in the Division of Industrial Safety. If the Division's performance is to measure up to the need, he stressed the necessity for expanding its engineering, inspection, enforcement, educational and promotional functions.