

## Calif. Joblessness Soars To 7.4% In June

The ranks of jobless workers grew to 493,000 or 7.4 per cent of California's civilian labor force in June although employment in the state reached its second highest peak during the month, according to Director of Industrial Relations John F. Henning and Employment Director Irving H. Perluss.

The two state officials noted that the month's performance, marked by the addition of 36,000 workers to May's 457,000 or 7 per cent unemployment level, was dominated by seasonal changes. About half of the additional workers found jobs in agricultural and related industries, Henning explained.

The seasonal elements in the unemployment picture, Perluss explained, were largely related to the normal June influx of students into the labor market.

The state's employment total rose by 82,000 during June to 6,177,000, second only to the all-time high of 6,205,000 registered last September when seasonal activities were at their annual peak.

The June count of jobholders topped that for the same month in 1960 by 60,000 or 1 per cent. Employment continued below year-earlier levels in manufacturing, agriculture, transportation-communication-utilities, construction and

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THOS. L. PITTS  
Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer

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## AFL-CIO Executive Council Brands Unemployment No. 1 U.S. Problem

The primary threat to the nation's economic health and its ability to offset communist advances around the world is the combination of 5.6 million unemployed workers together with the idling of one-fifth of our productive capacity.

This was the highlight of the analysis of our economic and political problems which emerged early this month from the meeting of the AFL-CIO Executive Council at Unity House in Pennsylvania.

Condemning attempts to revive the false specter of inflation stemming from necessary wage increases, the council specifically attacked the "wage restraint" policies advocated by White House aide Walt Rostow and Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon as "untimely and unnecessary." It added that the "example of the previous Administration should be lesson enough," with its resulting "unemployment,

economic stagnation and not much stability."

The council's economic statement asserted that organized labor's ability to maintain and "even increase wages has been an indispensable element in softening the impact and shortening the duration of every recession since World War II."

The council reviewed the movement of various economic indicators demonstrating that consumer prices rose by an average of only one per cent annually since 1958 and that the wage gains registered in recent years have been subnormal. It also observed that high level profits even during recession periods have helped divert an increasing share of America's wealth into the hands of the upper fifth of our population.

Although a "number of important preliminary steps" toward real recovery have been successfully advanced by the Kennedy Administration, the council declared "much more needs to be done this year." It called again for further reduction of long-term interest rates, immediate cuts in withholding tax, and a public works program to stimulate \$1 billion in quick-starting, short-term projects already planned by state and local governments.

Reiterating its position that the struggle with communism is the overriding issue of this era, the council stated:

"But we repeat what we have said many times before — our most indispensable weapon in that contest

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## Pitts Names Fred Smith to Calif. Labor COPE

A quickening of the tempo of labor's political activities was indicated Wednesday when Thos. L. Pitts, executive secretary-treasurer of California Labor Council on Political Education, announced the appointment of Fred C. Smith as his full-time assistant, commencing as of September 1, 1961.

Smith is presently serving as president of the Federated Fire Fighters of California. He will resign this post at the organization's state convention on August 12-13 in order to devote his entire attention to the COPE position.

In making the appointment, Pitts declared:

"Labor has learned the hard way that it must more thoroughly educate its membership regarding the qualifications of political candidates, regardless of their political label, while bringing home a greater awareness of the issues confronting working people.

"I feel great confidence in Fred Smith's ability to build a COPE organization which will stimulate the

thinking of our people in relation to the legislative scene.

"One of his main objectives will be to increase participation at local levels, and to bring about increased liaison between the state COPE organization and its local units. A corollary aim will be the development of closer relationships between the labor movement and political organizations.

"We know where we want to go in our COPE activities, and the specific policies and programs will be fully hammered out when Smith assumes his duties in September."

As legislative advocate for the

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# Eleventh Annual Scholarship Award Winners

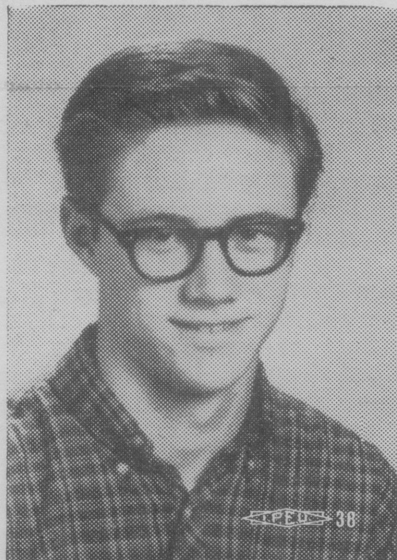
The five boys pictured on these pages have been chosen as winners of the 1961 competition sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, from some 450 participants.

Each of these young men will receive a \$500 award to be deposited at the college or university of his choice, with no restrictions on future course of study.

As there will be no state AFL-CIO convention this year, arrangements for formal presentation of the awards will be made locally in the respective areas of the winners.

The judges who selected the winners, without knowledge of their identity, were: Frederick A. Breier, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics, University of California; Benjamin Aaron, L.L.B., Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Los Angeles; and Leon F. Lee, Ph.D., Department of Industrial Relations, San Jose State College.

Two of these five winners are from trade union families:



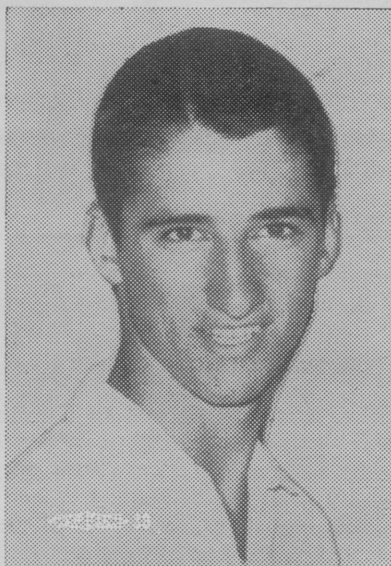
**MARTIN BURKERT** — Abraham Lincoln High School, San Francisco

Martin Burkert, the son of a member of Masters, Mates and Pilots Union, AFL-CIO, Local 90, graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School with high honors.

During the 1960 presidential election, Martin was active in the Youth for Kennedy movement. His interests lie in the areas of politics and history.

He is enrolled at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, where he

is already attending summer session. Martin is considering majoring in journalism.

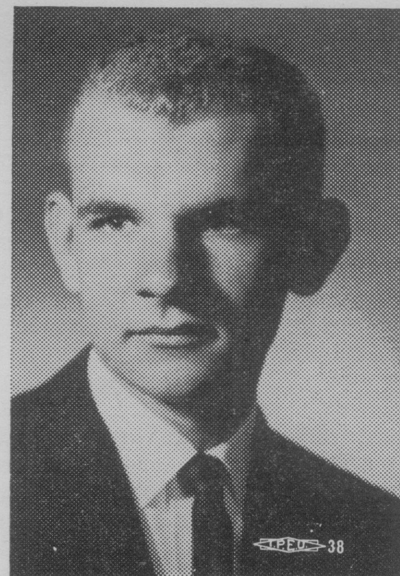


**WILLIAM ARTHUR SOLDWISCH** — Pasadena High School

William Arthur Soldwisch graduated from Pasadena High School where he received a special Faculty Honor in Physics and Chemistry, as well as the American Association of Physics Teachers' Award. His father is a sheet metal journeyman and has been a member of Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 108 in Los Angeles for 18 years.

Bill has chosen Pomona College at Claremont to further his studies and made a perfect score in the math section of the college entrance examination. He was a California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer and has won two other scholarship awards, one from the state and another from Pomona College.

Bill's outside interests include baseball, in addition to participation in dance and concert bands as a trombonist.



**WALTER C. FICKLIN, III** — Madera Union High School

Walter C. Ficklin, III graduated from Madera Union High School with an outstanding record. Claremont Men's College in Claremont, where he plans to continue his education, has awarded him honors at entrance. His plans, tentatively, are to major in some aspect of foreign affairs and eventually to enter the Foreign Service.

Walter is a life member of the California Scholarship Federation and holds three degrees in the National Forensic League. He was a finalist in the 1960-61 competition of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and was named Boy of the Month for January 1961 by the Madera Exchange Club. Walter represented Madera Union High at California Boys' State in 1960. He was chosen as a specific field winner in English and a general field winner in liberal arts for his school in the Bank of America Achievement Awards program.

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## Pitts Names Fred Smith to Calif. Labor COPE

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state fire fighters' organization during the past six years, one of Smith's major achievements was the enactment of state legislation in 1959 rendering his craft the first public employee group in California to win the right to organize into a union of their own choosing.

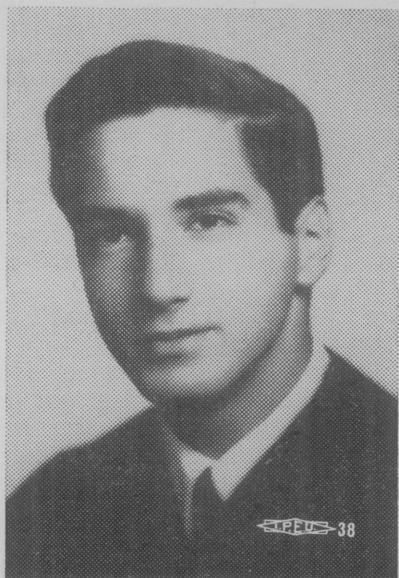
A native of San Diego, the 46-year old Smith will also draw upon a long history as an active trade unionist which began in 1934 as

recording secretary of his local union.

Immediately upon joining the Los Angeles Fire Department in 1942, he became a charter member of Fire Fighters Local 1014. He has served his local as an officer since 1955.

Smith has been a delegate to State Federation conventions since the mid-1930s and has participated in state COPE conventions since 1953.

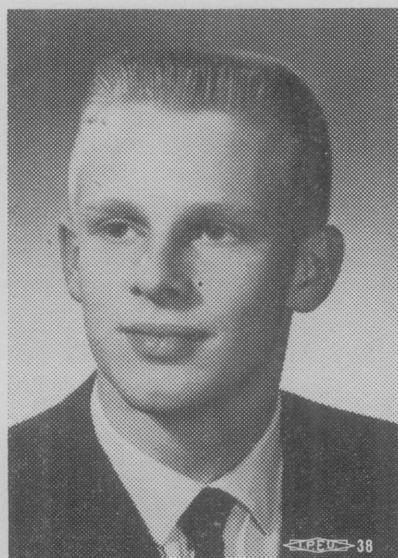




**ALAN BARON — C. K. McClatchy Senior High School, Sacramento**

Alan Baron graduated from C. K. McClatchy High School with a high scholastic record and was selected to deliver the commencement address. As a junior, he won the school history medal. He also won a Letter of Commendation Award from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. He plans to attend Reed College in Portland, Oregon. His chosen career is medicine, with the possibility of later specializing in psychiatry.

Alan's interests are history, forensics and literature, where he displayed a special aptitude. He also enjoys an occasional game of chess.



**MICHAEL WILLIAM BAUGH — Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks**

Michael William Baugh graduated from Notre Dame High School in

Sherman Oaks, ranking fifth in a class of 269.

The university Michael has chosen to further his education is Yale in New Haven, Connecticut. He has won two other scholarships, one from Yale and the other from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Michael has been active in the California Scholarship Federation and has served as president of the San Fernando Valley district. He has been very active in debating and extemporaneous speaking and has won many awards. Just recently he competed in the national championships in Pittsburgh and placed sixth in extemporaneous speaking. He was a member of the Science Club, the Future Engineers of America, and the Great Books Discussion group.

These five young men are a credit to their families, schools and communities. The Federation is proud to be in a position to assist them in furthering their chosen careers.

## Calif. Joblessness Soars To 7.4% In June

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mineral extraction. On the other hand, more workers were employed than a year ago in services, government, trade and finance.

Although half the gain in employment took place in seasonal farm work, together with the transporting, wholesaling and processing of farm products, there was also the usual June increase in construction and retail trade. With the start of summer vacations, employment also rose in camps, parks and other recreational activities.

The unemployment mark of 493,000 for June was 101,000 or 26 per cent above year-ago levels.

The California civilian labor force totaled 6,670,000 in June, compared with 6,509,000 twelve months earlier. The civilian labor force consists of the employed and unemployed available for work and seeking work.

Details of the U. S. employment situation in June are given in a separate article on this page.

## U.S. Unemployment Remains Near 7%

For the seventh consecutive month, there was virtually no change during June in the nation's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate.

U. S. Department of Labor estimates for the month reported the adjusted rate of joblessness at 6.8 per cent (or 7.5 per cent on an unadjusted basis) as the ranks of jobless workers swelled by 800,000 to a level of 5.6 million over the May-June period.

A record influx of teen-agers into the job market at the end of the school year helped boost employment figures by 1.9 million to the 68.7 million high mark achieved in June-July 1960. At the same time, the unemployment total for the month stood 1.2 million over the June 1960 level.

Although the number of persons out of work for at least 15 weeks declined seasonally by 300,000 to 1.6 million, this was still almost twice the level of a year ago. The number out of work for more than a half year rose slightly over the month to 928,000. This compared to a total of only 396,000 in June 1960.

One bright spot was a better than seasonal 500,000 increase in employment of adult men between May and June. Unusually large employment gains were reported in both farm and non-farm sectors.

The Labor Department also reported, "Among the employed in June were 3.2 million non-farm workers on part-time for economic reasons. This was about 300,000 more than in May, because so many young persons under 20 who entered the labor market reported they could find only part-time work."

"The number of regular full-time workers whose hours have been cut below 35 because of slack work or other economic reasons was down by 100,000 over the month to 1.2 million."

The seasonally adjusted 6.8 per cent unemployment rate for June compared with 6.9 per cent during May and 5.4 per cent a year earlier.

The department's report reflected the impact of the higher postwar period birth rate on the scramble for jobs. An estimated 2.5 million teen-agers entered the labor

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## AFL-CIO Executive Council

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is a healthy, growing economy here at home."

The current international crisis was dealt with by the executive body in an eight-point program designed to strengthen the free world's position.

This program endorsed granting emergency presidential powers for mobilizing the nation's resources for "any eventuality" and the creation of a special presidential commission to recommend elimination of policies which have "tended to help the Communist bloc" overcome economic difficulties.

The statement on international affairs also asked congressional approval of the Administration's foreign economic aid program. It particularly emphasized the importance of long-term planning and financing.

It also called for a "democratic counter-offensive of bold and massive economic measures" designed to "correct the deplorable social inequities still plaguing most of Latin America."

### OTHER LEGISLATION NEEDED

Early congressional approval of the McCarthy-King bill was urged by the AFL-CIO governing body. This bill would carry out the Administration's proposal of updating the jobless benefits program while providing a fairer distribution of the social costs of unemployment.

The council also called for an effective national employment service to meet the problems of technological change and high unemployment. Such a measure, it stated, should include a "complete separation of the employment service from the unemployment insurance system" and an end to its discriminatory and "segregationist practices."

While commending Kennedy's "forthright" executive order establishing the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity, the council also called upon Con-

gress to approve enforceable fair employment practices legislation.

The council also urged all AFL-CIO affiliates to join in the urgent task of abolishing all discriminatory practices, "including those vestiges that inexcusably remain within the trade union movement itself."

### INTERNAL PROBLEMS

A substantial portion of the executive council's attention was riveted upon a variety of problems within the AFL-CIO itself.

After accepting a partial progress report of its subcommittee on internal disputes, the council instructed the group to complete the report at its next meeting in October.

AFL-CIO President George Meany publicly announced "a good deal of progress in this area." He indicated, however, that the unresolved problems had to do with disputes and boycotts affecting the Industrial Union Department and the Building and Construction Trades Department.

Responding to a petition from nine affiliates, the council chartered the Food & Beverage Trade Department. This seventh AFL-CIO department will handle the special problems and concerns of the one million members employed in the affected industries.

In a separate action, the council announced that the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee will set up an orderly transfer of its members to an appropriate international union.

Meany stated that AFL-CIO went into the farm worker area to help develop a trade union consciousness and to improve conditions. He indicated considerable success in the latter area, citing wage increases estimated at 25 per cent as a result of the organizational effort.

Meany noted that the AFL-CIO's total expenditure in this area will exceed \$500,000 and that it can spend only a certain amount of money in any one project. He indicated that the Packinghouse Workers and the Meat Cutters are both

active in this field and interested in the AWOC members.

After discussing a report from the director of organization, the council announced that the next meeting of the AFL-CIO General Board will consider organizing problems "in some depth."

### STRIKES AND BOYCOTTS

With respect to strikes in progress, the council assailed the use of "federal courts as a strikebreaking medium" by Television Station KXTV in Sacramento. It pointed to this strike as a "graphic illustration" of how the "most vicious provisions" of Landrum-Griffin can be used to oppose legitimate walk-outs.

In view of the continuing nationwide boycott of Sears, Roebuck Company, the council directed a protest to Commerce Secretary Luther H. Hodges over use of a Sears exhibit in a trade fair abroad.

A nationwide boycott of Peter Paul Candies was endorsed until the firm reinstates workers dismissed due to union activity.

The court decision in the Peyton Packing Company case was welcomed as "greatly strengthening the authority of the Secretary of Labor to prevent importation of strikebreakers." The council stressed that while it wants "no closed borders" in the American hemisphere, North American trade unionists "do not want commuting workers used to undermine wages and working conditions or to act as strikebreakers."

## U. S. Employment

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market in June compared with 2.2 million a year ago and 1.9 million in 1959.

In a companion report on employment in major cities, the department pointed to a slight improvement for the second consecutive month. Of the nation's 150 major labor markets, 88 reported unemployment rates over 6 per cent as compared to 96 in May and an all-time high of 101 during March and April.