

## CLF Joins In Statewide Industrial Meet

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO numbers among a group of statewide business and public agency groups sponsoring the state's fifth annual industrial development conference to be held in San Francisco, Friday, October 20.

Theme of this year's conference will be "Industry's Changing Role in California's Future". The all-day session will feature speakers on the changing problems of industrial development, with particular emphasis on the impact of the state's economy.

The annual conference, which is rotated between southern and northern California, has become a significant event in the state. Labor representatives are urged to attend so that the working man's vital stake in industrial development problems may be fully expressed. Last year's conference held in Los Angeles was attended by over 400 persons.

Besides the CLF, sponsoring organizations include: the League of California Cities; the County Supervisors Association; the California Real Estate Association; the California, Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco Chambers of Commerce, in addition to the host organization, the San Francisco Bay Area Council.

## AFL-CIO Support for Apprenticeship Anti-Bias Bill

AFL-CIO President George Meany, testifying before a special House Labor Committee in Congress, endorsed a bill aimed at reducing racial discrimination in apprenticeship programs, but reminded Congress that the measure was no substitute for a sorely-needed, general fair employment practices act.

The measure is HR 8219, introduced by Representative Adam Clayton Powell (D. New York), which would deny federal assistance to apprenticeship programs where discrimination is practiced.

Meany's testimony paralleled recent endorsement of the Powell measure by the Standing Committee on Apprenticeship Opportunities for Minority Groups of the California Conference on Apprenticeship—a committee representative of labor, management and minority groups which the California Labor



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# Weekly News Letter

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## LABOR DAY MESSAGE

by Thos. L. Pitts

As Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, it is my privilege to extend warmest greetings to the men and women of organized labor and other wage earners outside of the labor movement who make up the work force in this state.

Labor Day 1961 marks a new decade in the celebration of this day set aside each year to honor those whose toil makes possible the great wealth that is heralded around the world for emulation as the "American standard of living." Like most members of organized labor, who have seen this standard emerge out of the bitter struggle for recognition on the picket line and the immense personal sacrifice of strikers to instill a measure of social responsibility in private enterprise, I, too, am inclined to relax in our outstanding achievements and to gaze back on the long, hard road over which the labor movement has journeyed.

No working man who has traveled this trade union road to social and economic advancement should be denied the pleasure of looking back and marveling at the real and substantial progress that has been achieved. The error lies not in looking back, but in becoming absorbed with past laurels and preoccupied with their enjoyment, so that we do not look forward to the even more challenging and many times more dangerous road ahead.

In America...

Those of us fortunate enough to  
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## L-G Report Reminder

Harold D. Huxley, western director of the U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Management Reports, reminds unions with fiscal years ending June 30 that September 28 is the deadline for filing financial reports required by the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act.

The 1959 Act requires unions covered by the law, known as Landrum-Griffin, to file a financial report within 90 days after the close of their fiscal year.

Huxley said reporting forms have been distributed by the Labor Department Bureau, which helps administer the reporting section of the Act. He pointed out that 70 per cent of the reporting organizations can file a simplified form (LM-3). Unions which grossed less than \$20,000 in annual receipts and are not in trusteeship are qualified to use this form.

The remaining larger unions file the long form (LM-2).

Guide books, reporting forms, and personal assistance are available at the BLMR/area offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

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## Labor Day Message

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be working at union-negotiated wages and working conditions and enjoying the standard of living that these conditions afford us remain acutely aware of the deprivation and misery being suffered by the families of unemployed workers. Some optimistic economists and politicians would have us believe that full employment and prosperity for all is just around the corner. But the alert trade unionist knows that the mounting hard core of long-term unemployment resulting from the introduction of new technological processes and automation itself presents a hazard to virtually everyone who is employed.

The trade unionist also knows that huge segments of our population and work force, struggling with all the resources they can muster to catch up with our present economy and to participate in our so-called American living standard, have been left far behind in their economic journey. Over ten million American families with incomes below \$3,000 are fighting for their place in America's economic sun. Their needs, their aspirations cannot be ignored with social conscience, for these are frequently the victims of cruel injustice—the family whose skin color has closed for them the door of equal opportunity; the senior citizen whose reward for a productive life is the demeaning hand of charity or public assistance; the farm worker whose cry for economic and social justice has largely escaped the moral conscience of society; and many more whose tragedy is that of a wealthy 20th century industrial society.

### And in Half the World . . .

We can, of course, look backward and marvel at the ingenuity of mankind — at the scientific and technological progress that has been the concomitant to our economic rise as a nation. Indeed, America and the world has the scientific and technical knowledge to eliminate poverty. But to the trade unionist, it is something more than ironical that, in this age of high scientific and technical skill, half the world still goes to bed hungry at night. It is also a great discomfort to us that, in our desire to extend this knowledge of mankind to these starving peoples, we should be confronted at

the same time with the frailties of man that threaten a holocaust in a nuclear war. The paradox stands, but we should not be surprised that both the challenge to progress and the danger of mass destruction come together in the under-developed areas of the world where hunger is a common occurrence.

That poverty is the breeding ground for totalitarian movements both of the Right and Left is a challenge to action that goes beyond mere recognition of the fact. The American worker's stake in this struggle to make the benefits of 20th century knowledge available to the vast under-developed areas of the world is not far removed from the bread-and-butter issues of California trade unionists when these problem areas can fulminate into wars threatening world genocide.

### Neither the Left Nor the Right

The interest of the American worker lies in urgent action to promote the reforms — the peaceful revolutions—which will develop the resources of these areas for the people who produce the wealth. The technical and scientific advancement of these emerging areas and nations is inevitable, but whether the benefits accrue to the people for the elimination of poverty without sacrificing the dignity of the individual to a new colonialism of the Soviet state or to totalitarianism of the Right is the issue of immediate and direct interest to the working man.

We do not deceive ourselves that the struggle within the trade union movement to bring immediate focus on this pervasive problem is any different from the challenge to America to promote the kind of revolutionary development that will produce the environment for the starving peoples of the world so essential to world peace.

### Economic Democracy Must Be Won

The modern day trade unionist in California is mindful that the prevailing standard of living among the organized sector of our economy has been made possible by extending a measure of economic democracy to the industrial scene. Economic democracy is equally the struggle of the emerging nations. Without economic and land reforms in these areas, we know in our hearts that the declared objectives of American foreign policy cannot

## Some New Publications

**THE SEVENTEEN MILLION — A labor program for rehabilitation.** This is a pamphlet on how to organize an effective rehabilitation program to aid the physically handicapped. AFL-CIO Publication No. 119. Eight pages, published July, 1961. Price: 10 cents per copy; \$7.50 per 100.

**MEDICAL CARE DOLLARS FOR BETTER HEALTH.** This is a booklet on how to make health insurance dollars provide financial protection and quality medical care. Nine pages, published June, 1961. AFL-CIO Pamphlet 118. Price: 15 cents per copy; \$12.00 per 100.

**HOW YOUR COPE VOLUNTARY DOLLAR IS USED—**A national COPE flyer showing how each dollar contributed voluntarily to COPE by trade unionists for political action is spent. This is a handy mailing insert in the solicitation of voluntary COPE contributions. COPE publication No. 85. A limited supply is available through California Labor COPE in San Francisco.

These are only a few of many pamphlets, booklets, leaflets and flyers available at a minimum cost to AFL-CIO organizations. Copies of the **AFL-CIO Publications List** containing a long list of these materials may be obtained by writing the Pamphlet Division, AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 - 16th Street N.W., Washington, D. C.

be accomplished. And as trade unionists, we know that this is a continuing struggle which has its sequel even in the advanced society of the United States where, in California, for example, we battle huge monopolies to make it possible for economic democracy to exist in vast areas of this state. If we need any more proof to demonstrate the affinity of issues in the pockets of poverty in America with the mass poverty of the vast underdeveloped areas of the world, then let us look at our own agricultural workers.

Poverty in agriculture, both for the hired worker and the family farmer, has gone hand in hand with the monopolization of land in this state and other parts of America. The as yet unsuccessful efforts of labor to extend to farm workers the benefits commonly accepted by other workers in our society is eloquent testimony of the need for basic reforms which will remove some of the near-dictatorial powers enjoyed by monopoly of so-called agri-business which makes a mock-

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## Apprentice Support

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against the opposition of the union," he said.

In urging action on the broad problem of discrimination in employment, Meany stressed that "progress has been much too slow and much too limited in scope."

A similar criticism might be made of HR 8219, the AFL-CIO leader indicated.

"What we need in this country is a genuine equality of opportunity for all citizens, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin," he said. "Let's grant that apprenticeships are a problem; fine, let's act on that problem. But apprenticeship is only a part of a much broader problem."

"The first element in that problem is full employment. . . . If there aren't enough job opportunities for the population as a whole, there obviously won't be enough for Negroes and other minority groups—either as apprentices or anywhere else. There will be widespread unemployment among the entire labor force—no matter what racial bars we lift. . . .

"Next only in importance to full employment is the need for a national Fair Employment Practices Act, with full powers of enforcement. We take the position that if we're going to tackle this evil of job discrimination, as we should, we ought to do a thorough job of it. I can assure you that an FEP bill such as HR 262, already introduced again this year by Congressman Powell, has and will continue to have the full and energetic support of the AFL-CIO."

Meany also cited a decline in the number of apprentices being trained in the nation as a whole.

"We have a similar set of circumstances here, in the case of apprenticeship, to those that apply to job opportunities generally," he said. "In order to insure—as we must and we should—full opportunity for Negroes and other minorities to enter these skilled trades, we must have full opportunity for all candidates."

"Let me put it this way. We are opposed to the exclusion of any candidate for apprenticeship on grounds of race, creed, color or national origin. We are also opposed to the selection of any candidate on those grounds. We want

## Migrant Labor Bills Reach Senate Floor—P.L. 78 Fight Imminent

Five modest bills advanced by Senator Harrison A. Williams (D. New Jersey), chairman of the Senate Migratory Labor Committee, have reached the U.S. Senate floor, providing reserve fuel for what is expected to be a bitter floor fight on another bill, HR 2010, which would extend Public Law 78 without adequate reform in the bracero importation program.

In contrast with the bracero extension bill, the Harrison bills represent the beginning of a positive program to alleviate the growing plight of farm workers and their families.

Numbering among the bills is a child labor measure (S 1123), which would ban youngsters under 14 from working in agriculture during non-school hours. Under its provisions, children between 12 and 14 years of age would be permitted to work on their parents' farms or farms within 25 miles of their homes, if they have their parents' written consent. This bill also makes the employer of children under 18 liable for disability or death arising out of agricultural employment.

In another bill, Senator Williams has combined two proposals on child and adult education into one measure, (S 1124). This bill provides (1) payments to states to defray the cost of regular school attendance by migratory children; (2) grants to a maximum total of \$300,000 for five years for summer schools for migratory children; (3) grants to a maximum total of \$250,000 annually for five years for state and interstate planning in coordination of programs concerning educational problems of migrant children; and (4) grants to a maximum total of \$200,000 annually for five years

a place for every qualified candidate, on an open and equal basis."

In general, Meany concluded, the problem of job discrimination "demands much more than a piecemeal approach. It demands vigorous action to stimulate employment; it demands a strong, enforceable Fair Employment Practices law."

"The legislative branch of our government has lagged far behind the executive and judicial branches in recognizing the imperative need for wiping out segregation and discrimination. It is our hope that the present bill represents only a first step in redressing the balance."

for pilot projects of basic practical education for adult migrants.

The remaining bills are: S 1126, a national crew leader registration bill requiring certification by the Secretary of Labor of every person who recruits, for a fee, ten or more migrant workers for farms or processing plants, other than his own; S 1130, a health services bill authorizing up to \$300 million annually in federal grants to stimulate and support local health programs in areas seriously affected by the influx of migrants; and S 1132, establishing a national advisory council on migratory labor to advise the President and Congress on migratory labor matters, especially federal laws, regulations, programs, and policies.

While all the bills are of vital concern to Californians determined to do something about the migrant labor problem, the health services measure (S 1130) is of immediate interest because of federal funds which would be made available to beef up Governor Brown's state pilot program in providing health care for migrant families. This California program was enacted this year by the legislature (SB 282, O'Sullivan), and is just getting started with limited funds amounting to \$75,000.

### P. L. 78 FIGHT

Although delayed by other Congressional problems, the bitter floor fight in the Senate over Public Law 78 remains imminent.

As reported previously in *News Letter*, the Senate Agricultural Committee sent HR 2010, the House-passed two-year extension bill, to the floor with some minor changes. These minor reforms would prevent Mexican farm workers from being employed on (1) year-around jobs and (2) power-driven machinery.

As reported by the committee, HR 2010 would, however, leave the major abuses of Public Law 78 untouched. The importation program would still be a means of depressing farm labor wages and cutting down job opportunities for citizen farm workers.

Senator Eugene McCarthy (D., Minnesota), sponsor of the bill which would have reformed Public Law 78, will lead a floor fight to add the most important reforms of his measure to the extension bill on the floor.

Specifically, McCarthy will offer an amendment requiring growers hiring Mexican farm workers to pay them at least the state or national average farm wage, whichever is lower. Although less than adequate, this is considered the keystone of the effort to prevent Public Law 78 from further depressing United States farm labor conditions.

Another amendment to be offered by McCarthy would require that U. S. farm workers employed by growers using Mexicans receive comparable benefits (wages, work guarantees, insurance, free transportation, supervised housing, etc), to those given imported braceros.

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## Chambers Mfg. Anti-Labor

By action of the state AFL-CIO Executive Council at a recent meeting, the California Labor Federation calls the attention of union members to the anti-labor charges being leveled against the Chambers Manufacturing Corporation by the Steelworkers Gulf States Organizing Area.

The Chambers Corporation, which ran away to Mississippi a few years ago to escape union conditions in Indiana, produces the "Fireless Cooker" baked enamel sidings for service stations and all types of kitchen equipment such as ovens, built-in ranges, and working areas.

In urging trade unionists not to purchase Chambers products, the Steelworkers group points to an average wage of \$1.17 an hour paid by the firm.

After fleeing Indiana and a contract with Local No. 35 of the Stove Mounters International Union of North America, the Chambers Corporation immediately instituted run-away wages, hours, and working conditions, it is charged.

An NLRB representation election four years ago resulted in a majority authorizing the Steelworkers to serve as the collective bargaining agent for the company's workers in Oxford, Mississippi.

Despite NLRB and Circuit Court directives to bargain in good faith, the company has maintained its refusal to make any concessions whatsoever.

Strike action in this situation has

## LABOR DAY MESSAGE

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ery out of both economic and political democracy.

As we give serious consideration to these major issues on Labor Day, we should also remember that many of the struggles involving the fate of the world are taking place in areas which once cradled advanced civilizations. Just as these areas struggle for their resurgence, so we face the struggle against decay.

The vitality of our industrial society in California and in the rest of America is no greater than the vitality of the socio-economic forces and groups whose dedication, not only to the production of wealth but to its proper distribution for the improvement of the conditions of life and labor, is a major driving force in our economy. As such a group, organized labor has a major responsibility to America in the vigorous pursuit of its dedicated purpose.

### The Changing Labor Force

Thus, while we can look back with satisfaction and pride on how we have carried this responsibility to date, it would be suicide to fix our eyes on the past. Our labor force is growing; its content and its

been made impractical due to the state's "right to work" law which enables the Chambers Manufacturing Corporation to flaunt the threat of effective scab recruitment with state and community cooperation.

skill requirements are changing. The dominant blue collar production workers of yesterday, where organized labor has its base, have become a minority, a shrinking portion of the labor force, with the advent of technological processes and automation itself.

Every thinking trade unionist, out of self-interest and duty to society, must take an active interest in this changing composition of the work force. We have a responsibility to examine these changes, to demand planning for the skill requirements of industry and for training programs to match those requirements in an ever more technically efficient economy. In these terms, we must accept either the challenge of the future, or the handwriting on the wall that spells decay of a vital movement.

It is no secret that, despite growth in actual numbers, organized workers in our changing work force complex are also becoming a shrinking portion of the work force. This cannot continue unless we are willing to sap the vitality of the greatest force in society which has been the bulwark for the operation of economic democracy and rising living standards.

On Labor Day, 1961, therefore, let us accept our honors, but let us also resolve to accept the challenges of this decade with courage and imagination, and with understanding of the real issues that confront us and all free men.