

L-G Bond Costs Dropping

As a result of Secretary of Labor Mitchell's recent interpretation of the Landrum-Griffin bonding provisions, such bonds for union officers and agents are now available at greatly reduced cost.

It was learned this week that at least one California insurance company has taken Secretary Mitchell at his word in his interpretation that faithful discharge of duties, as imposed by the Act, is limited to faithful accounting of money and property.

Based on the Secretary's opinion, the 50 per cent surcharge for faithful performance of duties is now being eliminated. For example, a \$1,000 bond, without the faithful performance of duties surcharge, will now cost \$7.50. With the surcharge, the cost is \$11.25 for the same \$1,000 bond.

On blanket bonds, which are now permissible, the same rating formula is being applied. As an example, a blanket bond with a basic rate of \$500, now costs \$750. Without the surcharge, the price available is \$500. Experience credits are also applicable when the schedule type of bond is \$250,000 or more.

Regarding bonds on behalf of trustees of health and welfare and pension funds, the new rate available is \$2.50, with net rates ranging from \$2.25 down to \$1.25 based on experience credit.

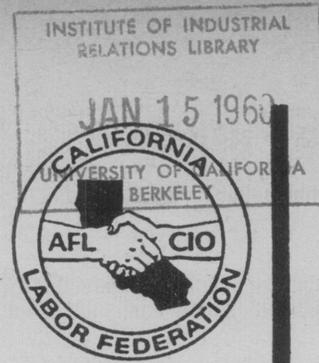
A further savings is offered in all cases, position schedule, blanket or trustee bonds, purchased for three years at a price based on 2½ times the annual rate.

Public Employee Organization Moves Ahead

The disenchantment of public employees with independent associations as organizations for the advancement of wages and working conditions of civil servants is mounting rapidly throughout the state.

A major breakthrough for organization into bona fide unions was scored this week when some 2,000 civil servants and members of the Contra Costa County Employees Association joined the State, County and Municipal Employees Union en masse.

The Contra Costa development is being watched closely for possible encouragement to other employees in government who have been look-



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California Congressmen Urged to Push Civil Rights Legislation; "Clean" Water Bill

California congressmen, back in Washington for the convening of the second session of the 86th Congress on January 6, were urged this week to rally behind the "Celler Discharge Petition" for the enactment of "meaningful" civil rights legislation, and to uphold the nation's 58-year-old law against monopoly and speculation in the development of basic water resources.

On the eve of the New Year, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, directed separate letters to the state's thirty congressmen, calling on them to:

(1) "Join together in a spirit of unity to extend at the national level a measure of the progress made in California . . . in the enactment of civil rights legislation by the California legislature."

(2) "Support a 'clean' San Luis Project authorization bill which would permit early development of water for thirsty lands on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley, and block efforts to use the state as a

pawn for delivery of federally-subsidized water to giant landholders and speculative interests without the protection of reclamation law.

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION

The state AFL-CIO leader expressed labor's concern over "procedural roadblocks" which stymied meaningful civil rights legislation at the first session of the 86th Congress in 1959.

The Celler Discharge Petition was filed in the closing days of the 1959 session to shake loose an effective civil rights bill bottled up in the Republican-Dixiecrat-controlled Rules Committee of the House of Representatives.

The partial text of Haggerty's letter, urging all California congressmen to sign the Celler Discharge Petition, is as follows:

"The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, through our Standing Committee on Civil Rights and close working relationships with various civil rights groups in the California Committee for Fair Practices, is actively seeking the extension of full and equal rights to all individuals in our communities, our places of work and in our unions.

"Enclosed is a pamphlet issued by the Federation, entitled 'Labor and Civil Rights' which contains the statements of policy and resolutions on civil rights adopted

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by the California Labor Federation convention held in San Diego, August 10-14, 1959. I wish particularly to call your attention to pages 4, 5 and 9, which express the need for effective civil rights legislation on the national level.

"I am forwarding the above material at this time because of our concern over procedural roadblocks which thus far appear to have stymied meaningful civil rights legislation by the 86th Congress. I sincerely hope that each member of the California delegation in Congress will join together in a spirit of unity to extend at the national level a measure of the progress made in California this year in the enactment of civil rights legislation by the California legislature.

"Because of the state AFL-CIO's active support of effective civil rights legislation, we are keenly interested in the success of the Celler Discharge Petition now pending before the House of Representatives. As a minimal step forward, we are hopeful that if you have not already done so, you will join with approximately 110 Congressmen who have signed the Petition to ensure early and appropriate action in support of a meaningful civil rights bill on the floor of the House.

"Unfortunately, since the Discharge Petition was filed in the closing few days before adjournment of the 1959 session in September, many dedicated friends of civil rights did not have an opportunity to sign the Petition. It is our considered opinion that every supporter of civil rights should sign the Discharge Petition to put it over the top early in the 1960 session of the 86th Congress.

"On behalf of civil rights, your most thoughtful consideration of this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ C. J. HAGGERTY,
Secretary-Treasurer."

WATER MONOPOLY

On the water issue, the San Luis Project authorization bill is sched-

uled to reach the House floor early in the session.

In the U. S. Senate last year, the Federation, backed by the AFL-CIO, was instrumental in securing passage of the San Luis bill without emasculating amendments on monopoly and speculation protections. In a five-day debate on the Senate floor, Senators Morse, Douglas and Neuberger succeeded in eliminating a provision designed to allow state deliveries of federally-subsidized water to escape reclamation law.

The House version, as it was moved out of committee during the latter part of the 1959 session, still contains the emasculating provision removed in the Senate.

The San Luis Project is intricately bound up with the California water program, as the federally-subsidized water from the San Luis Project would be delivered under the state program that goes before the voters at the November 1960 general election.

Last year the Federation sent three statements to Congress on the San Luis issue. In his letter to California congressmen this week, Haggerty re-issued the last of these earlier statements, which warned of a "three-pronged attack in Sacramento and Washington to thwart the aims of federal water policy and allow future irrigation projects in California to fall under the control of a few corporate absentee owners who hold huge tracts of land in the San Joaquin Valley."

The state AFL-CIO leader told congressmen that the statement is just as pertinent today as the San Luis bill heads for the floor as it was last July when it was first issued by the Federation.

Haggerty's letter concluded: "I sincerely hope you will read this statement carefully, and vote for a clean San Luis Project bill without any provisions which would allow federally-subsidized water delivered by the state to escape the anti-monopoly, anti-speculation provisions of reclamation law."

California Union Membership At New High in 1959

The number of union members in California reached an all-time high in 1959, John F. Henning, California Director of Industrial Relations, announced this week.

The annual union membership survey issued by the Department's Division of Labor Statistics and Research revealed there were 1,741,100 union members in the state in 1959. This compares with 1,706,200 members in the recession year 1958 and with 1,736,700 in 1957, the previous peak.

The increase in union membership between July 1958 and July 1959 amounted to a 2 percent rise, but was less than half the 5 percent rise experienced in nonfarm employment.

The failure of union organization of workers to keep pace with employment is indicative of the growing percentage of unorganized white collar workers in the labor force.

Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan Area

The number of union members in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan Area totaled 756,800 in July 1959, an increase of 0.7 percent over the previous July. Non-agricultural employment in the area rose by 6.5 percent from July 1958-July 1959.

San Francisco-Oakland Metropolitan Area

Labor unions had 468,700 members in the San Francisco-Oakland Metropolitan Area in July 1959, 1.6 percent more than in July 1958. The number of nonfarm workers in the area increased by 3.4 percent during this period.

San Diego Metropolitan Area

There were 89,700 union members in the San Diego Metropolitan Area in July 1959. This total was 5.6 percent higher than the 84,900 members recorded in July 1958. Employment in nonagricultural establishments in the area rose by 7 percent between July 1958 and July 1959.

In the remaining part of the state outside of the Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego areas, the number of union members rose by 4.3 percent between 1958 and 1959.

POLITICAL NOTES

Public Employee Organization Moves Ahead

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WHY POLITICAL ACTION?

AFL-CIO President George Meany has laid it on the line:

"We are in politics for the same reason that our people have taken the beatings from the company goons, for the same reason that our people have gone to prison in order to defend their union.

"This is the reason we are in politics; not to run the country, not to turn it over to any foreign system—but we are in it to preserve the American trade union movement and, by doing that, to make a tremendous contribution to preserving the American way of life."

POLITICS AND STEEL

The substantial victory won by the Steelworkers this week was all but smothered in the eagerness of the daily press to build up the settlement as a major coup for presidential candidate Richard Nixon. Whether warranted or not, it is recognized that the steel settlement will become a major Republican plank in the Nixon campaign for the top spot.

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell appears to be going along with the political "coup" or "fiction," whatever it may be. The dailies are still quoting Mitchell as saying: "Without the Vice President, we would not have had a settlement. His influence, his leadership and his prestige were very significant."

Of course, the fact that the candidacy of Mitchell is being openly advanced as a vice presidential running mate for Mr. Nixon might possibly have something to do with Mitchell's statement. Also, Mitchell might like the idea of continuing as Secretary of Labor should Nixon become President without Mitchell as his running mate.

Political fact or fancy, people are beginning to ask what Nixon could have told the steel industry to get them back down from their phony "anti-inflation" position and to give in on their attempt to gain absolute control over work rules.

Could it be that Nixon told the industrial giants that it would be better to have him in the White House as "their boy" than win the steel strike? The dramatic shift in Big Steel's position gives this thought a ring of plausibility.

are currently dominant are frequently nothing more than the equivalent of "company unions" in private industry, dominated by the equivalent of management in the public service.

At the present time, Firefighters are the leading organized group among public employees. Significantly, their organization has won them wage advancements and fringe benefits far exceeding those in other public employment fields.

At the state legislature last year, the Professional Firefighters Union made important advancements in their legislative program, including the passage of a bill declaring their right to organize for effective representation without interference by fire chiefs.

Indicative of hard core opposition, however, some chartered cities and counties are still refusing to recognize the Firefighters' rights.

The right of public employees generally to organize for collective bargaining has become a major issue in recent months as a result of hearings on the subject held by the Assembly Committee on Industrial Relations headed by Assemblyman Lester McMillan from Los Angeles. Liberal-minded Assemblyman George Brown, also from Los Angeles, is pushing a bill to give public employees a policy bill and machinery to ensure effective organization.

The company-union type of associations are out in front, with the League of California Cities opposing the Brown-sponsored measure as well as all other legislation which would declare public employee organizational rights.

Remember! Vice President Richard Nixon cast the deadlock-breaking vote in the Senate which laid the groundwork in the upper house for acceptance of the Landrum-Griffin bill.

LYNDON JOHNSON AND LABOR

Washington columnist Drew Pearson apparently let the cat out of the bag on the subject of Senator Lyndon Johnson's views toward labor. The Senate majority leader is being vigorously advanced as the Democratic presidential nominee in some quarters.

Pearson disclosed the contents of a letter by Johnson, written during

On the state level, evidence is also mounting that the dominant California State Employees Association is losing its grip on state civil servants. In a recent referendum, the CSEA succeeded in denying state employees their privilege under federal law to coordinate their state retirement system with Social Security to obtain a higher level of benefits as well as survivors' insurance under OASDI.

More than 30,000 state employees who expressed their desire for such coordination are looking for assistance to a newly formed Committee for Social Security among state employees.

Legislators in Sacramento are beginning to awaken to the fact that the interests of state employees on Social Security are not being represented by the CSEA. Petitions and letters from thousands of CSEA members have been flooding Sacramento.

The new Social Security Committee has a close working relationship with the State, County and Municipal Employees Union, which has been pressing the Social Security rights of state and public employees generally.

On another important matter, the CSEA has been effectively blocking health and welfare benefits for state employees by entrenching their health and welfare programs as a means of holding their grip on state employees.

The Federation and public employee unions in the field are working for health and welfare legislation which will assure state employees of the best possible selection of health insurance programs available.

the closing days of the last session to business friends who supposedly didn't like his stand on the Kennedy-Ervin labor bill. According to Pearson, Johnson went overboard in the letter to emphasize a long record of opposing labor, while lining himself up with Republican Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona, and even claiming credit for the McClellan committee investigations.

The following are quotes from the Johnson letter in Drew Pearson's column:

"Throughout my public life," Johnson wrote, "I have favored

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FORM 3547 REQUESTED

POLITICAL NOTES

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strong, effective, regulatory legislation to protect Americans from improper labor practices, having voted for the Vinson bill, the Smith-Connelly Act, the Taft-Hartley Act, and, in the last two instances, having voted to override a Democratic President to make these measures law.

"As leader of the Senate, I asked the Democratic 84th Congress to create the McClellan committee and give it ample funds to conduct its investigations. I recommended Senator McClellan for the post of chairman.

"Last year the Senate, at my urging, passed an effective labor bill by a vote of 89 to 1. This year, after weeks of hearings, I motioned up the Kennedy-Ervin bill and after nine days and nights we passed it 90 to 1. It was the fairest and most effective bill we could have. I am attaching a statement by Senator Goldwater in which he gives his analysis of the Senate-passed labor bill and the Landrum-Griffin bill. Senator Goldwater is the ranking Republican member on the McClellan committee.

"In some respects, the Senate bill is stronger. In other respects, and some of these are very desirable to me, the House bill is stronger. I have asked the experts in the House, headed by Congressmen Landrum, Griffin, Barden, et al., to sit down with a Senate committee headed by Senators Kennedy and Goldwater, minority leader Dirksen, et al., and produce the most effective bill possible in conference."

ROCKFELLER AND KNIGHT

In the minds of some Republicans, the withdrawal of Governor Nelson Rockefeller as a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in favor of Vice President Nixon smells of much the same deal which former Senator William

Lag in Economic Growth Means Trouble

"America needs a much faster rate of economic growth than in the past six years" or the nation will face increasing troubles at home and abroad, the AFL-CIO warned this week.

Labor's Economic Review, a monthly publication of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, pointed out that "the goal of America's economic policy should be an average yearly growth of total national production of about 5 percent a year—approximately twice the pace of the past 6 years" under the Eisenhower Administration.

The step-up in the growth rate is needed, the Review added, "to provide the extra margin for adequate national defense, public services for a growing population, social and economic adjustments to automation and rapid technological change, the elimination of poverty in the U.S. and economic and technical aid for the less-developed uncommitted nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America."

The publication proposed a series of actions designed to speed up economic growth. These included:

- "Balanced growth of 5 percent a year and full employment should be established as the goal of national economic policy."

- The Federal Reserve Act should be amended to include consumer, small business and labor representation in the federal banking system and to end the Administration's tight-money and high-interest rate policies.

- The tax structure should be overhauled, closing loopholes of privilege for wealthy families and corporations and reducing the burden on low- and middle-income families.

- A better balance should be sought between the economy's ability to produce and to consume, chiefly through improved wages and salaries and special measures such as federal wage-hour coverage for millions more workers and a \$1.25-an-hour minimum.

- A comprehensive analysis of the price structure was asked with attention focused on administered-price areas and low-productivity parts of the economy.

F. Knowland forced on Goodwin J. Knight in the 1958 Republican primary nomination for governor of California.

At least one Republican looked at it this way in a letter written to the editor of the San Francisco Chronicle this week. This individual claims that Republicans are disgusted with their party's efforts to deny them a voice in nominations for important offices. Like many other Republicans who voted against Knowland in the California gubernatorial race, the irate GOP member said he was voting Democratic this year in the presidential race.

BIGOTRY AND THE DAILY PRESS

A good portion of the nation's

daily press and popular weekly magazines are apparently doing their best to alert all bigots on the "Catholicism" issue in the possible candidacy of Senator John F. Kennedy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

If anyone doesn't know that Kennedy is a Roman Catholic, it is not the fault of the daily press.

It would almost appear that the daily press is trying to make Catholicism an issue in the presidential campaign this year by constantly writing about whether or not it is going to be an issue.

While the news columns are flashing the bigotry S.O.S., the editorials are talking about selecting the best man on the basis of his qualifications.