

Pitts and Carman Named to Farm Labor Commission

Four of the five members of the newly created and potentially productive Agricultural Labor Commission have been appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown.

Labor is to be represented by Thos. L. Pitts and Newell J. Carman, secretary-treasurer and vice-president, respectively, of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

Grower spokesmen on the Commission will be Holtville rancher Keith Mets and Richard Johnsen, executive-secretary of the Agricultural Council of California.

In announcing the appointments, Governor Brown said:

"Each of these men is experienced in the field of agricultural management-labor relations. They are well qualified to fulfill the mission with which the legislature charges them, that is, to determine and study problems in this area and recommend solutions.

"I have asked them to recommend to me a candidate for the remaining position on the Commission, the public representative. When the membership is filled, the Commission will report to me on January 31, 1963."

Creation of the Commission was
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House Passes Retraining Bill; Pinpoints Need For State Manpower Commission

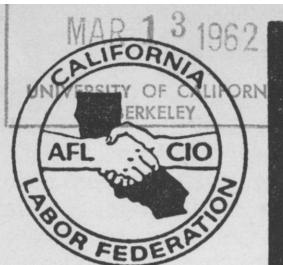
The prospects for unemployed Americans brightened this week when the House of Representatives, by a 354 to 62 vote, passed a two-year \$263 million bill to retrain some 410,000 workers.

This measure is now headed for a Joint Conference Committee where it is to be reconciled with the Senate version enacted last August. The Senate Bill called for a \$655 million program over a four-year period of time.

The development gave new urgency to the Federation's November 1961 recommendation to Governor Edmund G. Brown that a coordinated state program for projecting skill and job training requirements in an automated age be made the subject of a special session call in 1962. The Governor's office is reportedly giving the matter serious consideration.

The Federation's action program to match men and jobs calls for:

1. Establishment of a state manpower utilization commission representative of labor, management, educators and agencies with job training functions to assume



THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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AFL-CIO Launches National Register - and - Vote Drive

A major registration and get-out-the-vote campaign has been launched by the AFL-CIO to assure the greatest possible participation in the 1962 elections by union members, their families and friends.

Initiated by last week's AFL-CIO executive council meeting in Bal Harbour, Florida, the effort is designed to overcome "off-year" voter apathy. It is expected to exceed the Federation's 1960 register-and-vote drive which produced successful results in the presidential elections despite a late start.

To insure its success, the executive council approved a formula whereby coordinated state-local registration campaigns will receive \$2 from the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education for every dollar raised in the states.

Together with the funds raised

in the states, the 1962 campaign will be financed by \$250,000 in federation funds and the returns from the AFL-CIO's recent call upon affiliates for a contribution of three cents per member.

Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of California Labor Council on Political Education, hailed the development as an important step toward furthering good citizenship practices throughout the nation. He stated:

"Our faith is in democracy, and we want to make certain through this non-partisan effort, that every union member is registered to vote so that the will of the people may be brought to bear on the many pressing issues confronting the nation.

"In California, this will mean stepping up efforts already well under way toward working closely with county and local COPE organizations in developing a constructive and effective approach to registration."

The AFL-CIO's register-and-vote drive two years ago was launched in August throughout key states where registration rolls were not closed. Sharp increases in registration resulted in those areas.

Despite the registration efforts by organized labor and other groups, over 37 million citizens of voting age failed to participate in the 1960 elections.

These were prime factors leading to AFL-CIO COPE's recommenda-

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Credit Unions On Rise

Labor union members in the United States formed 80 new credit unions in 1961, according to the Credit Union National Association (CUNA). The number of U. S. labor-sponsored credit unions rose to 1,156, with a potential membership of almost one million persons. In addition, 110 credit unions serve Canadian labor union members.

Credit unions are basically composed of people who save money together and extend low-cost loans to each other.

The bulk of labor-sponsored credit unions are owned and operated by members of AFL-CIO affiliated unions.

Most credit unions are small, with two-thirds of the 21,000 in the U. S. enjoying less than 100,000 in assets. Labor credit unions have an average membership of about 720 persons. Share accounts average less than \$600.

Due to their non-profit status, earnings remaining after necessary reserves are set aside are returned to members as dividends. Loan interest rates are limited by law to one per cent monthly on the unpaid balance. In many cases, loan costs are reduced by refunds of part of the interest paid by borrowers.

Credit unions are owned by their members, and their officers are elected by the membership. Each member gets one vote at the annual meeting.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has stated:

"By organizing credit unions, labor unions have accomplished the double objective of helping their members save and invest their money, and of affording them the opportunity to borrow funds at reasonable interest rates. We firmly believe in encouraging this desirable and beneficial form of self-help."

Register-and-Vote

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tion to the executive council for a more ambitious campaign in 1962.

If all unions meet the requested three cents per member contribution, a potential \$375,000 would be realized in addition to the \$250,000 AFL-CIO contribution and an anticipated \$125,000 from state and local bodies.

The campaign will be primarily aimed at areas where union members live. Studies have clearly demonstrated that there is a tremendous potential for expanding registration in such communities.

Registration lists will be checked to determine the non-registered persons. Posters, sound trucks and other information devices will be used in the effort to enroll these persons in the political party of their choice.

The campaign will be aug-

Information Kit on Civil Rights Available

Trade unionists active in the civil rights field will find the bargain of the year in the "Information Kit" available for only \$1.00 from the California Committee for Fair Practices. (The fair practices group is strongly supported by organized labor throughout the state and received full endorsement by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO convention in August 1960.)

The subject matter of the kit materials ranges from local to national problems and covers everything from discriminatory housing practices to the minority potential in the 1962 elections. The titles of the materials are:

Discrimination in Housing in Los Angeles — Compilation of testimony submitted to U. S. Civil Rights Commission by Community Relations Conference of Southern California.

Scoreboard—Laws affecting discrimination in housing by states.

In a Nutshell — A summary of Hawkins' Fair Housing Bill.

Summary of 12 Recommendations for Legislation — To promote equal housing opportunity.

Opinion by Attorney General Stanley Mosk — Coverage of the Unruh Civil Rights Act.

Applicability of the Unruh Civil Rights Act to real estate brokers.

Civil Rights Record of the 1961 session of the California legislature.

Analysis of U. S. Census Statistics — Patterns of housing in Los Angeles, prepared by County Commission on Human Relations.

Statement of Edward P. Eichler of Eichler Homes, Inc. to Assembly Interim Committee regarding housing needs.

Statistical Summary of the minority potential in the 1962 elections.

An Admission of Discriminatory Practices — Excerpts from testi-

mented by a new COPE film, now in the process of production, to be used at union meetings. The half-hour film deals with why unions are in politics, how to run a successful registration campaign, and how to conduct an effective get-out-the-vote campaign.

Tentatively titled "People and Politics," the film will be completed in mid-March. It is being produced in three segments which can be used separately or as a unit.

mony of Charles Shattuck, past president, California Real Estate Association.

Documentation of Discrimination in Santa Monica area.

In addition, two other publications on the Hawkins Fair Housing Act and the Unruh Civil Rights Act are included.

The kit can be ordered from the California Committee for Fair Practices, Labor Temple, 2940 16th St., Room 212, San Francisco. The southern office of the organization is located in Room 256, 590 North Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles 4.

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authorized by the 1961 session of the legislature in response to initiative exerted by Governor Brown. Under terms of this legislation, the Commission goes out of existence early in 1963 when its report to the Governor is due.

In addition to their capacities with the Federation, both Pitts and Carman have broad backgrounds especially qualifying them to cope with difficult problems in the farm labor area.

Pitts, a labor official since 1937, is a member of the U. S. Department of Labor's Labor-Management Manpower Committee for Region 7. He also serves on the Department of Employment's Advisory Committee and the National Defense Executive Reserve. In addition to other functions, he was recently appointed to the Citizen's Advisory Council of the President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Crime.

Carman, who attended Harvard University's School of Business Administration, is a trustee of the International Union of Operating Engineers. He has also been appointed by the Secretary of Labor as a member of the National Defense Executive Reserve.

Mets is president of both the Council of California Growers and the Imperial Valley Farmers Association.

A University of the Pacific political science graduate, Johnsen has farmed in Alameda County and joined the staff of the California Farm Bureau Federation in 1953.

Aller Named to State Social Welfare Board

The appointment of Dr. Curtis C. Aller Jr. as a member of the state Social Welfare Board has been announced by Governor Edmund G. Brown.

Dr. Aller is chairman of the Economics Department of San Francisco State College. He replaces Mrs. George Bowman of San Francisco, who resigned when her term expired in January. The new appointment, subject to Senate confirmation, will be effective until early 1966.

In making the announcement, Governor Brown declared:

"Dr. Aller is an eminent scholar, economist and expert on labor relations. Hence, he has intimate knowledge of the economic and social processes which so strongly affect the subject of the Board's deliberations.

"I am pleased that Dr. Aller has consented to serve in this crucial position and I know his powerful intellect and wise understanding will enrich the functions of the Board."

A native of Seattle, Dr. Aller served as a price economist for the Office of Price Administration. After a year as lecturer in the Economics Department of the University of Washington, he was named acting wage stabilization director of the Territorial War Labor Board in Honolulu. He then served in the U. S. Army until 1950, when he went to Antioch College in Ohio as assistant professor of Economics. From then until 1959, when he came to San Francisco State, he was with the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington, D. C., as director of the Office of Economic Analysis as well as the Office of Case Analysis. He also served as assistant director of the Institute of Industrial Relations in Berkeley and as an associate of Michigan State's Institute of Industrial Relations.

Together with Clark Kerr, he edited a series of 11 monographs on collective bargaining systems on the West Coast. He also has published studies of Hawaiian labor relations.

Among other associations, Dr. Aller is a member of the Board of Governors and treasurer of the San Francisco State College Foundation; trustee of the Northern California Council on Economic Education; advisory board member of a savings and loan association in San Francisco; member of the Program Committee of the Western Economic Association; and a member of the Employment Subcommittee of the San Francisco Program on Aging.

Dr. Aller is also a member of the

URBAN AFFAIRS PLAN DEFEATED

The Kennedy Administration has suffered a setback at the hands of a conservative House coalition of Republicans and Democrats via a 264 to 150 vote rejecting the President's proposal to set up a cabinet level Department of Urban Affairs and Housing.

Aimed at giving the 70 per cent of the nation's population living in cities a direct voice at top policy-making levels, passage of the measure had been termed "long past due" by AFL-CIO.

In the vote against the President's reorganization plan, all but 13 of the Republican representatives once more found themselves in the company of the most conservative Dixiecrats.

On this issue, however, they were also joined by some moderate Southerners and several Democrats from Northern rural areas. Only 137 Democrats backed the Administration, while 111 opposed the President's program.

The House vote set the stage for a double-barreled political issue in November's congressional elections. While directly rebuffing city dwellers, the coalition also blocked appointment of the nation's first Negro cabinet member. Kennedy had earlier announced his intention to place Housing and Home Finance Administrator Robert C Weaver at the head of the new department.

President Kennedy told his news conference that the defeat is not "so much the Administration's loss as it is a loss for the cities and the country."

Despite the setback, Kennedy expressed confidence that "we are going to have an Urban Department."

"It may not come this year," he said, "but in my opinion it will become as necessary and inevitable as the Department of Agriculture or Health, Education and Welfare."

Blaming the defeat on "sectionalism," Kennedy warned that the nation would "come to a grinding halt" if people from the cities voted against measures to help farmers, if rural areas voted against urban programs, and if those living outside the Tennessee Valley voted against TVA.

A resolution backing the reorganization plan had been passed last week as the first order of business at the AFL-CIO executive council meeting. President George Meany stated that the department was needed to "prevent our cities from becoming cemeteries or ghost towns."

The labor body had noted earlier the urgent need to coordinate the multiplying federal services available to cities. It declared:

"At present, these varied programs are administered by many different agencies in the executive branch. The city or state official who seeks aid under

panel of arbitrators of the California State Conciliation Service.

these programs is faced with a bewildering complexity of administrative operations and policies.

"An important function of a Department of Urban Affairs and Housing could be to serve as a clearing house for information and services, thus substantially increasing the usefulness, availability and efficiency of government functions in these areas."

DiGiorgio Urges Fight Against Organization

Intensified resistance by California growers against organization of farm labor was indicated this week by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce President Philip DiGiorgio.

In addressing the Chamber's Agricultural Committee, the executive vice president of the giant DiGiorgio Fruit Corporation declared:

"California agriculture has ahead of it the toughest battle against outside forces that it has yet had to face. . . . It will make the last two years look like child's play."

The Chamber spokesman called for an "intensified struggle in the fight against political, labor, religious and other highly organized pressure groups."

He urged growers to close ranks in anticipation of an increase in farm labor strikes this year. Corollary precautions advocated for individual growers included purchase of strike insurance policies and getting their houses in order "price-wise and labor-wise."

Major responsibility for the growers' apprehensions over the continuation of their cheap labor supply was placed upon recent State Supreme Court and U. S. Department of Labor rulings. Speaking of the court's decision validating organizational picketing, DiGiorgio said:

"This decision was extremely important to the farmer because the state Department of Employment is not able to refer domestic workers to farms being picketed, and other agencies will not refer braceros."

The corporate farm representative also denounced federal rulings on bracero importation and picketing of struck farms as constituting "launching pads" for major farm worker organizational activity.

DiGiorgio claimed the Labor Department was in the process of making the Mexican National program so unworkable that agricultural employers would themselves abandon it.

"And we can anticipate even stiffer demands," he declared.

Kennedy Administration farm labor proposals in areas such as housing, health and education also came under attack as a "paternalistic scheme that would put tremendous financial burdens on the backs of farmers."

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New Kennedy Appeal Strengthens Aged Health Care Prospects

A new appeal to Congress by President John F. Kennedy for prompt passage of the Anderson-King Bill to provide health care for senior citizens backed up growing AFL-CIO optimism as to the legislative outlook in this area.

In recommending various measures for improving the nation's health, Kennedy devoted major attention to filling this "gap in our self-financed contributory social insurance system."

Kennedy's message this week urged financing of the program, which still faces stiff opposition in the House Ways and Means Committee, through a social security tax increase of one-fourth per cent on workers and their employers. Together with the President's proposal to lift the maximum earnings base from \$4,800 to \$5,200 annually, it is expected that more than enough funds would be realized to meet the estimated \$1.6 billion cost of the program's first year of operation.

The Kennedy plea came on the heels of AFL-CIO President George Meany's statement that the prospects of this legislation were now much brighter than a few months ago. Meany last week pointed to pressures building up all over the nation in favor of such a program. He saw confirmation of these pressures in the fact that a rash of compromise approaches had recently been developed by the program's opponents.

If the measure clears House and Senate committees, Meany predicted that it will pass on the floor of both chambers by a "substantial vote."

His comments came as the AFL-CIO executive council adopted a statement declaring that recent developments "confirm our contention that the enactment of the Anderson-King bill is the most impor-

AFL-CIO Foreign Trade Publications Available

With the foreign trade debate raging in Congress, National AFL-CIO has published three pamphlets designed to set forth the basic issues for trade unionists:

1. **Analysis of the Kennedy Trade Program** — highlights the major points in the Administration's bill (H.R. 9900). It analyzes the main provisions designed to accomplish the two goals considered inseparable by AFL-CIO—expanding trade and safeguarding Americans against import injury.

2. **Why More Trade?**—prepared primarily for those who do not have any overall background on the issue. Without detailed technical data, it sketches briefly the five major reasons international trade is so important to Americans.

3. **The Common Market and the U.S.**—a reprint from **The Federationist** dealing with the new economic and political challenge developing in Western Europe — the common market. The history, achievements, goals and implications of this new economic force are set forth.

Single copies of these publications are available free. The first is available at 5 cents per copy in quantity or at \$3.50 per 100. The second costs 10 cents a copy or \$7.50 per 100. The third is priced at \$10 per 100, but up to 50 copies of this reprint are available without cost.

They can be obtained from the Pamphlet Division of AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Checks should be payable to William F. Schnitzler, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO.

tant and immediately necessary step toward the development of well-rounded protection for older citizens in meeting the cost of health care."

The statement analyzed five proposed substitutes for the Anderson-King bill and concluded that substitutes are "unacceptable as alternatives, but contain elements that can be made to work usefully as supplements to the basic social security coverage."

RETRAINING BILL

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tions, and on the quantity needed and when.

4. **Training programs to be expanded, revamped or developed as necessary to meet these projections on a planned basis.**

Early reports indicated that under the federal-state program proposed by the House bill, eligible workers would be granted an allowance equal to their normal unemployment compensation benefits.

To be effective on July 1 of this year, the program would give priority to training older workers unemployed for long periods of time. It would also be available, however, to youngsters under 16 years of age who were school drop-outs.

The program's proponents had pointed to its need in view of the fact that unemployment is increasingly caused by total elimination of jobs rather than to temporary business slumps.

U.I. Fact and Fiction

Certain employers' associations in the state are alleging that the Federation's success during the 1961 session of the California legislature in winning liberalization of unemployment insurance benefits has caused the unemployment insurance tax rate to skyrocket to a rate of 4.3 percent of payroll for most California employers.

Propaganda to this effect is being distributed to employers throughout the state to mobilize employer opposition to needed, further liberalization of unemployment insurance.

The Federation has riddled the employers' false charge by pointing out that only about 58 per cent of total payrolls fall under the federal tax and about 69 percent under state tax. U.I. taxes actually paid average closer to 2.9 percent of total payrolls than to the fictitious 4.3 percent average.