

COPE Issues Call To Endorsement Confab on Sept. 11

The official call to delegates to the California Labor Council on Political Education's pre-general election convention, which will be held in the Gold Room of the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco on Tuesday, September 11, 1962 starting at 10:00 a.m., was issued today by Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer.

After a review of the results of the June 5 primary, the COPE delegates will issue endorsements for the general election to be held November 6 in those instances where the position of COPE has not been recorded to date and where COPE endorsed candidates failed to qualify in the primary election. The delegates will also dispose of such other relevant issues that they deem important.

To be represented at the convention, organizations must be in good standing, with per capita tax paid in full up to June 1, 1962. No organization that has not applied for affiliation prior to June 1, 1962, may be represented, except organizations chartered after that date.

All delegates must be in good standing with the organization issuing their credentials and no delegate may represent more than one organization, except (1) a delegate from a Central Labor Council or political organization may also represent the affiliated local union of which he is a member if he has credentials from that local, or (2) a delegate may represent up to three affiliated local unions which are affiliates of the same national or international union and which have a combined per capita vote of not more than 1200 if the delegate is a member in good standing in at

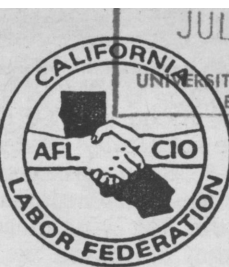
(Continued on Page 2)

Support Urged for Improved Health Care Bill By State AFL-CIO Leader

Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, this week wired California's two U. S. Senators to urge them to give their wholehearted support to the new version of the King-Anderson bill.

A showdown vote on the new version is scheduled to be taken in the Senate next Tuesday.

The original King-Anderson bill was stymied in the House Ways and Means Committee. To prevent the issue from dying in this session of Congress, Senator Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.) introduced an amend-



THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

Weekly News Letter

Vol. 4—No. 25
July 13, 1962

Published by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

151

Pitts Stresses Urgency to Sign Up All Pro-Union Voters to Re-Elect Gov. Brown

"Whether we have the wallop to re-elect Governor Brown and to knock Nixon into political oblivion will be determined within the next 60 days," Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, warned today in an appeal to union members to sign up immediately as deputy registrars to help qualify and mobilize the voters for the November 6 general election.

Danes Offended By Nixon Speech

Despite Richard Nixon's avowal on his arrival in Copenhagen to take part in a Fourth of July celebration that "I am on a non-political trip and am not making any political comments," the Copenhagen Daily Politiken felt called upon to editorialize as follows:

"What many people have warned against and quite a few had feared happened at Rebild—the politician Richard Nixon used the festival to strike an attitude in the worst way imaginable.

"He spoke in an election meeting style which belongs to an older American tradition, but never mind—with all his tactical experience he will always be the same—a first rate man of generality.

"We are ready to forget about his flattery and cajoling, although

(Continued on Page 2)

In releasing a list of 52 more community leaders and labor officials who have volunteered to serve on the California Labor Committee to Re-Elect Governor Brown which now includes more than 100 officials, Pitts asserted:

"We've got a President and a Governor who are trying to enact legislative programs that will benefit the citizens of this state and of the nation at large, but they can't do it

(Continued on Page 4)

DEADLINE FOR CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS—AUGUST 6

In accordance with the Federation's constitution, all resolutions submitted by local unions and councils to the August 20-24 convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, must reach the office of Secretary-Treasurer Thomas L. Pitts by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 1962.

The only exception to this deadline will be resolutions submitted by regularly constituted and affiliated statewide organizations at conferences held between August 5-19, which must be filed with the secretary-treasurer not later than 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 19, 1962.

Resolutions delivered to the secretary-treasurer subsequently will be reported by him on the first day of the convention as late resolutions, and will not be referred to a committee for consideration unless the convention so orders by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.

All resolutions must bear the signature of an executive officer or the seal of the affiliated organization.

(Continued on Page 3)

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(Continued from Page 1)

least one of these locals from which he has credentials.

Representation is based on the number of members in each affiliated local union as follows: 2 delegates for the first 500 members or less; 1 delegate for the next succeeding 250 members or a major fraction thereof; 1 delegate for each succeeding 500 members or fraction thereof. The total number of delegates from any local union may not exceed 10.

The number of members on which the representation and voting strength of each local union are based will be ascertained by dividing the total amount of per capita tax paid during the 24 month period, July 1, 1960 through June 30, 1962, by 72 cents.

Central labor or similar bodies or councils and political organizations in specific areas are entitled to 2 delegates.

Pitts explained that credentials and lists of authorized delegates will be mailed as soon as the computation of per capita membership and voting strength of each local has been completed.

Complete details on voting procedures and credentials are included in the Convention Call bulletins now in the mail, Pitts added.

The deadline for receipt of COPE resolutions and proposed amendments to the Constitution by the Secretary-Treasurer is Monday, August 27, 1962, except for those approved by regularly constituted and affiliated statewide organizations at conventions or conferences held during the 15 days preceding the convention, which must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer not later than 9:00 p.m. on Monday, September 10, 1962.

Each resolution must be presented in triplicate, and bear either the signature of an executive officer or a seal of the affiliated organization introducing it.

The COPE executive committee will meet at the Fairmont Hotel on Monday, September 10 to make their recommendations to the convention.

Information on hotel accommodations, rates, and reservations will be mailed with credentials, Pitts added.

Senator Richards Warns Workers of Perils of Automation; Lauds Pitts' Action

Senator Richard Richards, COPE-endorsed nominee for United States Senator, has warned workers throughout the State that "automation is like a powder keg lying close to the heart of every employed person in California."

Speaking before a joint session of the San Francisco Committee on Political Education and the San Francisco Labor Council, the State Senator added:

"And the fuse leading toward that powder keg is burning inexorably as technological advances take place day after day after day.

"As a matter of fact automation—the replacement of man by the machine—is going on at such a dizzy pace that no one can measure it and few understand it.

"Among those who didn't and don't understand this continuing and mounting problem are Dick Nixon and the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, neither of whom have even mentioned it.

"Along with other issues of such vital importance in California and nationally, they seem content to sweep it under the rug.

"On the other hand, both Pres-

ident Kennedy and Governor Brown have taken the lead in trying not only to solve the current situation, but to plan ahead for the problems that are bound to face us in the future.

"The President's manpower training bill was just recently supplemented by Governor Brown's farsighted decision to establish a 24-member Committee on Automation and Technological Development to investigate the impact of automation on California's economy and employment.

"Governor Brown should be commended by labor for that decision, and I am proud to say that the committee was set up almost exactly as provided in Senate Bill No. 36, which I introduced at the last special session.

"Thomas Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Federation of Labor, should also receive the thanks of every laboring man for vigorously initiating and supporting the bill and appealing to Governor Brown on April 25 to create the committee.

"What the Republicans obviously ignored and continue to ignore is this:

"Each month, the machine is extending its work, controlling bigger and more complex operations, and that with automation and improved technology has come unemployment.

"It has hurt almost every sector of the labor force—including the executive.

"The meaning of all this seems to be that the nation and California in particular is faced with a permanent group of unemployed and underemployed that will grow larger and larger as our population increases and new automated techniques and technologies are created.

"These are problems that all of us must face, and the administration in Washington and the Democratic administration in Sacramento have not ducked the issue," Richards concluded.

Danes Offended By Nixon Speech

(Continued from Page 1)

it must have made many of those present at the festival uneasy.

"But the fact that he chose this country and this occasion to strike an attitude . . . revealed that this clever politician is a man of small caliber, after all.

"What a blessing for the world that there are 100,000 American citizens who two years ago assured that this man did not become the political leader of the United States and of the Western world."

The joint Danish-American celebration of American Independence Day was held at Rebild, Jutland. Nixon was invited by the Rebild Park Board to take part in the celebration as a private citizen. He was not, as his campaign headquarters in Los Angeles tried to maintain in a press release, the official U.S. representative.

Support Urged For Revised K-A Health Care Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

not protected by a Federal program and allows participation by private insurance carriers without jeopardizing the social security funding of the program.

Some GOP leaders, however, although they have indicated they will go along with the new version, are also backing an amendment to the amended bill which would give the private insurance companies a plum under the plan, Pitts asserted.

Commenting on the bill in San Francisco, Pitts said: "The GOP-sponsored proposal would open the door for the private carriers to raid the federal insurance funds by electing to insure only those individuals who constitute minimal risks. This throws the burden of support for the maximal insurance risks on the federal funds and on the taxpayer. In California we are very familiar with this problem because we have been long engaged in a fight with the private carriers over just such a situation in connection with the State Disability Insurance Fund."

AFL-CIO legislative director Andrew J. Biemiller wired all members of the Senate urging support of the health care bill as amended by Anderson.

The text of Pitts' wire to the State's two U. S. Senators read as follows:

"The California Labor Federation, on behalf of the more than 1,400,000 AFL-CIO members in the state, urgently requests your active support of Senator Anderson's amendments to the House-passed Public Welfare bill to expand and improve the King-Anderson program of health care benefits to the aged. We have studied the amendments carefully and fully agree with the national office of the AFL-CIO that they warrant your complete support. This is one of the most important issues to come before Congress in years. Our membership which has worked so hard over the years to obtain broad public support for medical care under Social Security now looks to our Senators to fulfill their responsibilities to the citizens of California. A "yes" vote on the Anderson amendments is a step in the direction of fulfilling these responsibilities."

Here Are Key Improvements in New Version of Health Plan Bill

As we go to press there are reports that further amendments to the Health Care bill involving the participation of private carriers are under consideration in the Senate, but the details and impact of these changes are not known now.

1—Blanketing in present non-insured:

A provision has been made under the amendments providing coverage for health benefits for all those who are presently aged and not protected by a Federal program. People who reach age 65 before 1967 and who do not meet the regular insured status requirements of the social security system would be deemed insured for health insurance purposes. Uninsured people who will reach age 65 in 1967 would be deemed to be insured for social security health benefits if they had earned as few as 6 quarters of coverage in covered work at any time. For people who reach age 65 in each of the succeeding years, the number of quarters of coverage needed to be insured for health insurance protection increases by three each year. Thus, people reaching age 65 in 1968 would need 9 quarters of coverage; people reaching 65 in 1969 would need 12 quarters of coverage, and so on. By 1972, the special insured status requirements for health insurance would have caught up with the regular insured status requirements for other social security benefits for both men and women and will wash out. The cost of health insurance benefits for these individuals would be paid into the federal Health Insurance Benefits Trust Fund from the general funds of the Treasury.

2—Separate Trust Fund provided:

The amendment establishes a new Federal Health Insurance Trust Fund, completely separate from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, into which an amount equal to the taxes collected for health benefits would be deposited and from which health insurance benefit payments would be made.

3—Use of voluntary organizations such as Blue Cross plans:

A new provision has been added authorizing the Secretary to enter into agreements with an organization designated by any group or association of providers of services to perform certain administrative functions in connection with the program, including determination of the amount of payments due and making the payments. These provisions would make it possible for Blue Cross Plans, the Kaiser plan or similar organizations, to participate substantially in the administration of the program.

4—Use of State agencies in administration:

The amendment provides for the use of State agencies to determine eligibility and to provide consultative services to providers of services and payment for such use, including Federal sharing in the costs of planning and other activities directed at coordinating these services with other activities of the State related to health and medical services and the personnel and facilities required for this purpose.

5—Supplementation of benefits by States and private insurers provided:

The amendment contains a new provision disclaiming any intention to preclude supplementation of the basic protection provided by the bill through other health and medical care provided by States or through purchase from private carriers or otherwise.

6—Accreditation of hospitals:

Under the amendment, accreditation of a hospital by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (AMA and AHA) would automatically make it eligible to participate if it had a satisfactory plan for utilization review by doctors on the hospital staff.

Moreover, any health and safety requirements added by the Secretary to those spelled out in the bill could not exceed the requirements of the Joint Commission for Accreditation.

7—Provisions for beneficiaries to continue private health insurance protection:

1. At the time of first eligibility for social security health benefits, beneficiaries who for a period of time, had private insurance protection under plans which include the same benefits as provided under social security would be able to choose between having the statutory benefit paid for directly by social security or, if they wish to continue the private plan, they could have the statutory benefits paid for through the private carrier. (Of course, those who did not elect to continue such a private plan could buy private policies completely separate from, but supplementary to, social security protection.)

2. Carriers would be reimbursed for the statutory benefits they paid for and for their administrative costs.

3. The beneficiaries could elect to have their benefits paid by a private carrier only if they have had the required plan in effect for a period before they become entitled to health benefits under social security. The required period of prior insurance would be brief at first, to allow for a change in private plans and then gradually lengthen until five years of previous membership is ultimately required. The required period of membership would be 3 months for persons entitled when the plan goes into effect on January 1, 1964, and would remain at 3 months until the end of March, 1964. From then until the end of 1968 it would require continuous membership from January 1, 1964, until entitlement. After 1968, 5 years would be required.

4. Any carrier would be approved to participate for its group health insurance plans and all non-profit plans would be approved.

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(Continued from Page 1)

unless we get off the dime and back them up."

The registration deadline for the general election is September 13.

"Barry Goldwater," Pitts noted, "is already predicting a 'conservative sweep' and William Miller, the national GOP chairman is confident that Nixon will oust Governor Brown in California. What they're counting on is the traditional loss of power by the majority party in non-presidential election years.

"We cannot afford to underestimate this factor," Pitts declared.

"In the 1960 presidential election, California had 7,464,626 registered voters. Despite the influx of more than one million people since then, about 625,000 of whom are of voting age, the registration for the June 5 primary vote totaled only 7,051,589.

"This is a loss of 413,037 registered voters despite the State's tremendous population growth.

"Moreover, the vast majority of these unregistered voters are laboring people, the nation's nomads who move frequently in search of better housing and better employment opportunities. They know Nixon is no friend of theirs.

"They know Nixon voted to remove one million people from protection of the minimum wage law and to remove 625,000 from social security coverage and that time and time again Nixon voted against public housing and public power development.

"They know too that he voted consistently for the special interests, the wealthy and the corporations on tax bills and on four separate occasions opposed efforts to close tax loopholes.

"The only thing they don't seem to know is that their vote is critical-

ly important this year and if they don't register now and make a point to go to the polls in November their apathy, not their ignorance, may resuscitate a political life which they would be sorry they hadn't laid to rest right now.

"Both President Kennedy and Governor Brown are counting on us to send them more liberal thinking men of courage and vision to enact legislation which for the present is either bottled up or being scuttled by the fat-walleted lobbyists for special corporate and professional interests such as the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Medical Association."

The California Labor Committee to re-elect Governor Brown is currently working with local community groups throughout the state to assure the continuation of truly representative government in both Sacramento and Washington, Pitts said.

"Right now the hard working deputy registrars are our front line troops and they urgently need reinforcements.

"Anyone interested in helping defeat the man with the wash-and-wear voting record may do so by contacting the county clerk or the central labor council in the county in which they live. The county clerk or the councils can provide information and direction on how to become a deputy registrar.

"Voters who simply wonder what's wrong with Nixon should take note of the number of leading members of his own party who have intimated severe reservations about his candidacy. Former Governor Knight, for example, when asked if he would support Nixon in the forthcoming campaign replied, No comment at this time.

"Earl Warren, Jr., the son of the previous Republican Governor of California, has changed his registration and is now actively stumping the state in behalf of Governor Brown's candidacy and he intimates that he believes his father would do the same thing today, if he were in a position to do so.

"President Kennedy's legislative program, which may be significantly affected by the outcome of the congressional races in California, particularly in view of the eight new congressional districts in our state, is presently hamstrung by just such organizations as the NAM and the AMA," Pitts said.

President Kennedy commented on this recently, saying: "You can water bills down and get them by but important legislation—medical care for the aged and other bills, like farm legislation—they're controversial and they involve great interests and they are much more difficult."

"Under Governor Brown's Administration, unprecedented gains in social insurance and social welfare legislation have been made," the state AFL-CIO COPE leader declared.

"Through Governor Brown's creation of the office of Consumer Counsel, an effective voice to bring the complaints of the consumers in this state to the attention of the legislature has been established.

"Bold programs to advance opportunities for economic growth in the state, to extend equal rights to all of the state's citizens and to guarantee equal educational opportunities to all have also been launched.

"This is an administrative record that deserves the active support of working people throughout the state. It needs it right now," Pitts concluded.

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