

Legislative Notes

Automation Commission

In weakened form, the State Assembly this week finally approved legislation (AB 49—Elliott) creating a California Commission on Manpower, Automation and Technology.

The Commission's basic authority in the original bill to undertake coordinated labor market surveys for the projection of skill needs (essential to the development of sound job training and retraining programs) has been modified to provide only the authority to "recommend" such surveys. In other respects also, the Commission's authority has been reduced to "study and analyze."

The functioning of the Commission would be almost totally dependent upon the availability of federal funds under the US Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962. Such funds, however, are reportedly available.

Fed Bills

Progress on Federation-sponsored bills is still slow, but not altogether lacking.

*AB 661 (Petrus), prohibiting the imposition of personal income taxes by municipalities, has been approved by the Assembly and sent to the upper house.

*AB 1531 (Williamson), providing for time off from work for jury

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IWC Boosts Minimum Wage to \$1.30; Votes to Reopen Farm Labor Order

The minimum hourly wage for women and minors was boosted five cents an hour more than previously announced yesterday when the State Industrial Welfare Commission adopted a \$1.25 minimum with an escalator clause raising that minimum to \$1.30 per hour in the fall of 1964.

The additional nickel was approved by a three to two vote at an executive session held just prior to a public meeting scheduled to formally adopt revisions in wage orders tentatively approved on March 21, 1963, without the escalator clause.

Currently the minimum wage for women and minors in California is \$1.00. The \$1.25 minimum will become effective 90 days after publication of the new orders. Commission Chairman John W. Quimby and Commissioners Mae Stoneman and Frances Larsen voted for the escalation and Commissioners Daniel E. Koshland and Norman S. Lezin voted against it.

The same split prevailed during

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State 'Medicare' Bill for Aged Introduced in California Legislature

Legislation to establish a State program to provide health care benefits for the State's senior citizens under a social insurance principle has been introduced by Senator Randolph Collier (D) of Yreka.

The bill, SB 1150, is solidly backed by the State AFL-CIO. It would provide hospital, nursing and surgical care to aged persons in the State receiving social security benefits under the federal OASDI program.

The State program, which would be financed by employers through a one percent contribution of pay rolls up to \$6,000 annually, would become inoperative if a medicare program is enacted by Congress.

SB 1150, however, would provide broader benefits than the medicare proposal sponsored by the Kennedy administration.

"Congress has procrastinated long enough in this area of most urgent need," Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts said in support of the Collier measure. "This bill would bridge

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JFK Plea Helps Revive House Public Works Bill

Following an indignant appeal by President Kennedy, the House of Representatives last week voted 228 to 184 to overrule the powerful Appropriations Committee and restore \$450 million in emergency public works funds for job creating projects.

In a surprise move that caught House democratic leaders off-guard, the Committee had voted 22 to 19 to kill the appropriation and, thereby, to terminate the emergency program initiated by Congress in 1962.

On learning of the Committee's action, President Kennedy declared that it was "inconceivable... that people can make speeches against unemployment and then vote to de-

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AWOC Asks For Cal-Pak Products Boycott

"Don't Buy Del Monte Brands!" is the appeal being issued to "Mr. and Mrs. Consumer" by C. Al Green, Director of the AFL-CIO Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee in connection with a long drawn out strike against the California Packing Corporation at a Stockton area labor camp.

A leaflet giving the background to the boycott request is being circulated by AWOC.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Assembly

Monday, April 22

Civil Service and State Personnel,

Room 2117, 1:30 p.m.

AB 1564 (Burton) Public officers and employees. **Bad**

*AB 793 (Kennick) Public employees: collective bargaining. **Good**

AB 1584 (Meyers) State employees: polygraph exams. **Bad**

Judiciary, Room 2170, 3 p.m.

AB 1909 (Ryan) Mechanics' liens. **Watch**

AB 1087 (Cologne) Apportionment of mechanic's lien and prior encumbrance. **Watch**

AB 1328 (Willson) Mechanics' liens. **Bad**

AB 1511 (Cusanovich) Mechanics' liens. **Watch**

Tuesday, April 23

Criminal Procedure, Room 2133, 1:30 p.m.

AB 927 (Knox) Lie detector tests for employees. **Watch**

Wednesday, April 24

Elections and Reapportionment,

Room 5168, 1:30 p.m.

AB 499 (Winton) Campaign contributions and expenses. **Watch**

AB 1537 (Danielson) Time for opening and closing of polls. **Good**

AB 1761 (Petris) Voting by late registrants. **Good**

Finance and Insurance

Subcommittee on Disability Insurance, Room 4164, 1:30 p.m.

AB 997 (Bane) Disability compensation benefits. **Bad**

AB 1369 (Knox) Elective coverage: self-employed. **Watch**

AB 1684 (Cologne) Unemployment insurance: contributions. **Bad**

*AB 361 (Crown) Disability insurance: voluntary plans. **Good**

*AB 369 (Crown) Unemployment disability insurance. **Good**

*AB 372 (Crown) Unemployment disability insurance. **Good**

Governmental Efficiency and Economy,

Room 2170, 1:30 p.m.

AB 1786 (Henson) Contractors' bonds. **Watch**

AB 1789 (Henson) Contractors' bonds. **Watch**

AB 1847 (Henson) Contractors: financial statements. **Watch**

AB 1813 (Quimby) Contractors. **Good**

AB 1815 (Quimby) Contractors. **Good**

AB 2009 (Kennick) Private employment agencies. **Watch**

AB 774 (Beilenson) Contractors. **Good**

AB 775 (Beilenson) Contractors. **Watch**

SB 36 (Gibson) Bar pilotage rates for Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun. **Good**

AB 1782 (Porter) Alcoholic beverages. **Watch**

Industrial Relations, Room 5168, 3:45 p.m.

AB 980 (Warren) Firefighters—labor disputes. **Watch**

AB 1373 (Kennick) Relating to payment of wages. **Good**

AB 822 (Elliott) Relating to employment of aliens. **Bad**

AB 804 (Mills) Relating to wages: public works contracts. **Good**

AB 1294 (Dannemeyer) Relating to the Labor Commissioner: employees' actions. **Good**

Livestock and Dairies, Room 2117, 3:45 p.m.

SB 488 (Stiern) Slaughtering of animals. **Good**

Thursday, April 25

Education, Room 4202, 3:45 p.m.

AB 1161 (Stanton) Establishes California State College Press. **Watch**

SB 287 (Grunsky) Certification of school personnel. **Bad**

AB 310 (Casey) Medical and hospital care for school district employees. **Good**

SB 718 (Grunsky) School organization and government. **Watch**

Finance and Insurance

Subcommittee on Unemployment Insurance, Room 4168, 3:45 p.m.

AB 623 (Waldie) Hearing procedure. **Watch**

AB 624 (Waldie) Employers' reserve account. **Good**

AB 1282 (Foran) Employers' reserve account rulings. **Watch**

*AB 192 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance. **Good**

*AB 195 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance work test. **Good**

*AB 196 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance. **Good**

*AB 200 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance. **Good**

*AB 206 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance benefits. **Good**

*AB 220 (Elliott) Disqualification for unemployment compensation. **Good**

*AB 247 (Elliott) Unemployment insurance. **Good**

SB 704 (Sturgeon) Nonprofit organizations. **Bad**

Monday, April 29

Municipal and County Government,

Room 2133, 3:45 p.m.

AB 1489 (Knox) State Housing Law. **Bad**

AB 1697 (Carrell) Law enforcement employees. **Bad**

AB 1819 (Dymally) Local police and firemen. **Good**

Tuesday, April 30

Natural Resources, Planning, and Public

Works, Room 2133, 3:45 p.m.

AB 2037 (Winton) Public works and purchases. **Good**

AB 2068 (Winton) Public works and purchases. **Watch**

Public Utilities and Corporations,

Room 2117, 1:30 p.m.

AB 1988 (Bagley) Contractors' License Law. **Good**

Senate

Monday, April 22

Business and Professions,

Room 4040, 9:30 a.m.

AB 986 (Bane) Practice of barbering. **Good**

AB 988 (Bane) Practice of barbering. **Good**

*AB 418 (Knox) Weight of packaged goods. **Good**

SB 975 (Gibson) Contractors. **Good**

SB 1000 (Miller) Regulating dry cleaning industry. **Bad**

SB 1001 (Miller) Regulating dry cleaning industry. **Bad**

Judiciary, Room 4203, 9 a.m.

SB 958 (Farr) Mechanics' liens. **Watch**

AB 1467 (Thelin) Claims against local entities. **Watch**

Labor, Room 5007, 11 a.m.

AJR 31 (Allen) Equal rights for women. **Watch**

SB 12 (Collier) Wages for employees. **Good**

SB 651 (Nisbet) Payment of wages. **Bad**

Revenue and Taxation, Room 4040, 1:15 p.m.

AB 316 (Veneman) Taxation of imported raw materials. **Bad**

Tuesday, April 23

Insurance and Financial Institutions,

Room 4040, 1:45 p.m.

SB 910 (Dolwig) Workmen's compensation: physicians. **Watch**

AB 463 (Waldie) Savings and loan associations. **Watch**

SB 784 (Rees) Disability insurance voluntary plans. **Bad**

Legislative Notes

(Continued from Page 1)

service without loss of pay, has been given a "do pass" recommendation by the Assembly Judiciary Committee. Its application, by amendment, would be restricted to employers of ten persons or more.

Fair Housing Bill

The Rumford Fair Housing Bill (AB 1240) was scheduled for hearing before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee this Thursday at 1:30 p.m., as News Letter goes to press. Approval by the Assembly floor is almost assured, provided the anti-bias measure passes this crucial test.

The measure was referred to Ways and Means because it carries an implied appropriation for enforcement by the State Fair Employment Practices Commission. Although the policy provisions of the bill have already been approved by the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Economy, this has not hindered the Ways and Means Committee in the past.

Consumer Front

Legislation to implement Governor Brown's far-reaching proposals for the enactment of consumer-protection laws are finding their way into bill form. Assemblyman Charles Warren (D) of Los Angeles is the author of the Governor's "Truth in Lending" bill which

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Wednesday, April 24

Education, Room 5007, 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. if necessary

SB 247 (Grunsky) Required percentages of school district funds to be allocated for certificated salaries. **Bad**

SB 883 (Grunsky) Apportionment of state funds to school districts. **Watch**

AB 155 (Winton) Public school employee organizations. **Bad**

SB 638 (Rodda) Public school testing program. **Good**

Fish and Game, Room 3191, 1:30 p.m.

SB 135 (Farr) Fish handling privilege taxes. **Good**

SB 652 (Cameron) Fish and Game Commission. **Good**

Monday, April 29

Business and Professions,

Room 4040, 9:30 a.m.

SB 845 (Rattigan) Sunday selling. **Watch**

SB 1037 (Gibson) Employment agencies. **Bad**

Revenue and Taxation, Room 4040, 1:15 p.m.

SB 1072 (Rees) Taxation of motion pictures. **Watch**

SB 1035 (Grunsky) Taxation of real estate investment trusts. **Bad**

AB 1442 (Cologne) Bank and corporate franchise and income tax exemptions. **Bad**

SB 270 (Cobey) Personal income taxes. **Watch**

DIGEST OF BILLS

Key to Symbols

CR Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
DI Disability Insurance
EA Employment Agencies, Private
ED Education
EL Elections
HO Housing

IN Insurance (Incl. H & W)
LC Labor Code Changes, General
LI Liens, Attachments & Writs
LS Labor Unions, Individually
LU Labor Unions, General
MI Miscellaneous
PE Public Employees
PH Public Health

RE Recreation
S Industrial Safety
SL State & Local Government
TA Taxation
TR Training & Retraining
UI Unemployment Insurance
WC Workmen's Compensation
WP Water and Power

* Sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

No bill may be taken up until 30 days after date of introduction indicated in Digest, except by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote.

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 2184 Bane (Fin. & Ins.) Unemployment insurance. Conforms provision relating to exclusion from wages for purposes of unemployment insurance, to provision of federal law excluding from wages payments under an annuity plan or a bond purchase plan. April 3. **UI—Watch**

AB 2245 Z'berg (N.R., P., & P.W.) Prohibits, with certain exceptions, the placement of highway advertising within 800 feet of the edge of the right-of-way of any highway in the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways and State Highway System. Provides for the licensing, restriction and regulation of highway advertising permitted within such 800-foot area. April 4. **LS—Watch**

***AB 2249 Gaffney** (Ind. R.) Labor. Authorizes Labor Commissioner and Division of Labor Law Enforcement to issue awards consistent with decisions and findings in actions prosecuted by the division for collection of wages, penalties, and demands of persons who, in the judgment of the commissioner, are unable to employ counsel. Provides for filing of awards and the entering of judgments in conformity therewith. Authorizes the division or the commissioner to stay the execution of such judgments upon good cause and to impose conditions on the stay. Adds related provisions. April 4. **LC—Good**

***AB 2250 Gaffney** (W. & M.) Deletes provisions in the State Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act referring to contributions toward cost of health benefits plans by state employees and requires State to pay full cost of such plans for employees covered by the act. April 4. **PE—Good**

AB 2265 Foran (Ed.) School personnel. Requires all school districts with an average daily attendance of 9,000 or more to adopt the merit system provided by existing law for school district employees in positions not requiring certification qualifications. Permits other districts to do so, or to use other provisions of law with an annual review of a county school district's personnel commission and with disciplinary action appealable to such commission. Revises, clarifies and makes other technical changes in provisions concerning employees in positions not requiring certification qualifications. April 4. **PE—Bad**

AB 2267 Bane (C.S. & S.P.) School employees O.A.S.D.I. coverage. Requires division without election of retirement system provided school district classified employees through contract membership in the State Employees' Retirement System, and designated system covering employees of two or more public agencies, for purposes of participation in coverage under Federal Social Security Act. Requires modification of agreement with federal authorities to afford such participation on or before December 31, 1963, to afford retroactive coverage for participants after January 1, 1960. To take effect immediately, urgency measure. April 5. **PE—Good**

AB 2268 Gonsalves (Mun. & C.G.) Requires a district organized under the Fire Protection District Law of 1961 to provide a civil service system for the employees of the district, subject to the approval of a majority of the qualified electors of the district voting on the proposition at a general or special election, if petitions signed by at least 10 percent of the qualified electors of the district are presented to the district board. Permits employees of the district to circulate such petitions at any time when they are not on duty. April 5. **LS—Watch**

AB 2269 Gonsalves (Mun. & C.G.) Fire protection districts. Requires the county in which a district organized or reorganized under the Fire Protection District Law of 1961, or the principal county if such a district includes territory in more than one county, to establish and maintain a civil service system for the employees of the district if the county provides a civil service system for at least a majority of the employees of the county. Requires the district to repay any costs incurred by the county in establishing or operating the civil service system for the employees of the district. Abolishes any existing civil service system for employees of a district upon establishment of such a system by the county or principal county. Provides, however, that any change in the agency which administers a civil service system of a district shall not affect the civil service status of the employees of the district. April 5. **LS—Watch**

AB 2278 Foran (Jud.) Attachment and execution. Revises law on exemption from attachment and execution for earnings for personal services. Exempts, in case of head of family (as defined in law on homestead exemption), first \$40 of week's earnings, plus 75 percent of balance, and, in case of any other person, first \$30 of week's earnings plus 75

percent of balance; whereas present law provides for exemption of one-half of earnings received for services rendered in 30 days preceding levy, and all of the earnings if necessary for debtor's family, residing in this State, supported in whole or part by debtor, unless debts are for necessities or for personal services rendered by employee of debtor. April 5. **MI—Watch**

AB 2285 Henson (Crim. Pro.) Arrest. Provides that a peace officer may make an arrest without a warrant whenever he has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a misdemeanor within four hours prior to the time of arrest, although not in his presence, and whether or not a misdemeanor has in fact been committed, provided that such arrest shall not be made on property upon which the private residence of the person to be arrested is situated, whereas at present an arrest may be made without a warrant for a misdemeanor only if the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed the offense in his presence. April 5. **CR—Bad**

AB 2287 Meyers (M., O., & M.I.) Public contracts. Requires that any contract for the manufacture or furnishing of manufactured wood cabinet work of an indeterminate amount to a public agency provide that contractor does business in the State, that wages paid by him are not less than the prevailing minimum wages as determined by the Director of Industrial Relations, that employees of the contractor do not work in excess of 8 hours per day and 40 hours per week, unless allowed by a collective bargaining agreement, and that the working conditions will comply with applicable law. Provides that violations of the provisions give rise to liability and that when a contractor violates a provision he shall not be awarded another contract by a public agency for a period of three years. April 5. **LS—Good**

AB 2288 Warren (Fin. & Ins.) Truth-in-lending bill. Requires finance rates, such as interest and other charges, to be uniformly stated on credit transactions and establishes procedures for carrying out this purpose under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Corporations. Provides civil and penal liability for violations, as well as subjecting violators to any other penalties provided by law. Permits lenders to give a breakdown on the various charges and interest making up the finance rate on the loan, as long as the total rate is set forth in the prescribed manner. April 5. **MI—Good**

AB 2291 Knox (Fin. & Ins.) Health care service plans. Authorizes the Attorney General to investigate any health care service plans suspected of engaging in deceptive practices and to issue cease and desist orders and to seek court injunctions. Exempts insurance companies holding a certificate issued by the Insurance Commission and qualified nonprofit hospital service plans. Requires registration of health care service plans with the Attorney General. April 8. **IN—Watch**

AB 2308 Gonsalves (Fin. & Ins.) Motor vehicles: liens. Provides that portion of lien over \$200 for work or services rendered on vehicle at request of person other than holder of legal title is invalid unless prior to commencing such work the person claiming the lien gives actual notice to the legal owner named in the registration certificate and no written objection is received from the legal owner within three days after receipt of the written notice. Provides that when garage keeper sells a vehicle in order to satisfy lien and the sum realized from such sale is less than the lien, the garage keeper may proceed against the owner for the difference between the sum realized and the value of the lien. April 8. **LI—Watch**

AB 2331 Veysey (Fin. & Ins.) Retraining benefits. Revises prohibition against paying retraining benefits when federal law affords such benefits, to make prohibition applicable where the federal entitlement extends to individuals generally, rather than the particular individual. April 9. **UI—Bad**

AB 2332 Foran (Jud.) Attachment. Provides that all of a person's earnings for personal services shall be exempt from attachment without filing claim therefor; whereas at present one-half of such earnings are exempt without filing claim and other half is exempt only if necessary for use of debtor's family, residing in this State, supported in whole or part by debtor, except that second half is not exempt at all if debts were incurred for certain described purposes. April 9. **MI—Watch**

ASSEMBLY BILLS (Continued)

AB 2339 Flournoy (Ed.) Recomputation: basic, equalization aid. Revises provisions relating to proportionate reduction in equalization aid when the total amount provided for basic state aid and equalization aid is less than the total of the allowances computed therefor, to require instead that reductions be computed for school districts in direct proportion to district aid factor and in inverse proportion to equalization aid allowances. April 9. **ED—Watch**

AB 2348 Kennick (Trans. & C.) Automotive repair dealers registration. Enacts the "Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Law" which creates a Bureau of Automotive Repair Dealer Registration in the Department

of Motor Vehicles and an advisory board to the bureau; prescribes the powers, duties, and functions of the bureau and of the advisory board and the number and manner of appointment of the members of the advisory board; and makes it unlawful for any person to engage for compensation in the business of repairing motor vehicles on or after January 1, 1964 without first having registered with the bureau. Prescribes fees for registration and penalties for violations. April 10. **MI—Good**

AJR 37 Chapel (Rls.) Court of the Union. Petitions Congress to propose, or call a convention to propose, an amendment to the United States Constitution to establish a Court of the Union. April 3. **SL—Bad**

SENATE BILLS

SB 1136 Rees (Ins. & F.I.) Provides that a nonprofit organization may elect to become an employer for purposes of unemployment insurance coverage if the Secretary of Labor certifies that the provision is in conformity with federal law, rather than when Congress enacts legislation exempting such organization from Section 3303 of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. April 5. **UI—Watch**

SB 1139 Rees (Ins. & F.I.) Unemployment insurance. Requires unemployment compensation benefit checks to have printed thereon that payment is provided from taxes paid by employers. April 5. **UI—Bad**

SB 1140 Rees (Ins. & F.I.) Unemployment insurance. Provides that instructions of public employment office re requirement that applicant conduct proper search for suitable work, must include requirement that applicant report the places where application for work was made. Requires such information to be made available to interested parties. April 5. **UI—Bad**

SB 1141 Rees (Gov. Eff.) World trade center authorities. Codifies the World Trade Center Authorities Act without substantive change. April 5. **LS—Watch**

***SB 1150 Collier** (Ins. & F.I.) Aged health care. Establishes a program of hospitalization, nursing, and surgical insurance for persons entitled to receive federal social security benefits; to be administered by the Director of Employment. Provides for payments, pursuant to agreement, to institutions and others providing the various types of medical care. Adds various provisions relating to administration, types of medical care services covered, benefit claims and payments, administration and related matters. Requires employer contributions; establishes a fund in the State Treasury to consist of such contributions and other money; and provides for payment of the cost of administering the program from the fund. To be suspended if similar federal program is established. April 5. **IN—Good**

SB 1155 Holmdahl (Ins. & F.I.) Workmen's compensation: state employees. Increases from \$400 to \$600 the burial expense benefits which may be paid to certain members of the State Employees' Retirement System. April 8. **WC—Good**

SB 1158 Schrade (Lab.) Maximum working hours: women. Provides, as an exception to authority of the Industrial Welfare Commission to establish maximum hours for females and to statutory maximum hours provisions, that females employed in specified industries may, if paid for time and one-half for the overtime, be employed 10 hours in one day or 54 hours in one week. April 8. **LC—Bad**

SB 1170 Williams (Gov. Eff.) County welfare directors. Establishes California Conference of County Welfare Directors, and requires approval of conference as a prerequisite to adoption by State Social Welfare Board of rules and regulations on matters of concern to counties and over which federal government exercises no control. April 8. **SL—Bad**

SB 1172 Grunsky (Ins. & F.I.) Unemployment and disability compensation. Provides that "employment" for purposes of unemployment and disability compensation does not include services performed by a noncitizen nonresident. April 9. **UI—Bad**

SB 1181 Gibson (Gov. Eff.) Surplus United States property. Creates Surplus Property Authority in each city, to become operative upon resolution of need adopted by its legislative body, to acquire, own, manage, operate, improve and dispose of surplus property of the United States. April 10. **SL—Watch**

SB 1193 Dolwig (Ins. & F.I.) Annuity contracts. Provides that provisions relating to transferability of annuity contracts do not apply to certain annuity contracts constituting qualified pension or profit-sharing plans under the Internal Revenue Code. April 10. **IN—Watch**

SB 1195 Short (Ed.) Vocational education classes. Permits high schools within a junior college district to contract with that junior college to send 11th and 12th grade pupils, upon payment of costs, to vocational classes conducted by the two-year junior college until July 1, 1966, giving such pupils high school credit for work completed and crediting the high school district with their attendance. Makes similar arrangement to permit junior college students to attend vocational classes conducted by high schools. April 10. **TR—Watch**

***SB 1201 Miller** (Ins. & F.I.) Unemployment insurance. Revises statement of public policy regarding unemployment insurance to provide that a person claiming benefits shall make a search for work in accordance with instructions of a public employment office, rather than make a reasonable effort to secure employment. April 10. **UI—Good**

SB 1202 Miller (B. & P.) Engineering. Revises the Civil and Professional Engineers Act to provide, among other things, for the regulation of professional engineering, rather than providing for the regulation of civil engineers and professional engineers, to include in the branches of professional engineering, mining engineering and nuclear engineering, to change the exclusions from the act, and to eliminate use of title "structural engineer." April 10. **LS—Watch**

Legislative Notes

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would require that all interest and other charges be stated in simple annual interest terms so that consumers may know how much they are paying for credit.

This and other legislation dealing with packaging and labeling, TV and auto repair, and household moving will be the subject of discussion at a one-day conference sponsored by the State Consumer Counsel this Saturday in Sacramento at the Hotel Senator.

A similar conference is scheduled for the following Saturday, April 27, in Los Angeles at the Roger Young Auditorium, 936 West Washington Boulevard.

Sales Tax on Food

Apparently in desperation, Assemblyman Charles B. Garrigus has proposed a one percent State sales tax on groceries to finance increased State school aid. The Fresno legislator is sponsor of AB 888, currently in Ways and Means, which would hike State school apportionments by an estimated \$101,000,000, plus \$25,000,000 in additional funds which local school districts would receive through a proposed county school equalization tax. The Governor's budget provides for only a \$30,000,000 increase in State funds, in addition to the \$25,000,000 in county equalization tax money.

A food tax is perhaps the worst form of regressive taxation. Those least able to pay would be hit the hardest. In this connection, it is significant that virtually all tax increases being proposed, either in lieu of or supplemental to the Governor's tax reform program (supported by labor), are regressive consumer taxes or excises. The one percent food tax probably has no chance of passage, but it does drive home the point.

Recreation

In another important special message to the Legislature, Governor Brown has called for a long-range beaches and parks program involving \$19,000,000 now and \$150,000,000 later in a bond issue for the acquisition of recreation lands.

Brown warned lawmakers that vast acres of prime beach and park properties "may well be lost to the people as a result of mushrooming subdivisions and rising prices" unless immediate land acquisition funds are provided by the Legislature.

State 'Medicare' Bill for Aged Introduced in California Legislature

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the gap and, at the same time, give priority to federal legislation when and if Congress acts."

The Collier bill would be administered by the State Department of Employment, and contains provisions to insure free choice of doctor and to maintain a high quality of medical care under the program.

Hospital benefits for a qualified person would include up to 60 days of hospitalization in a 12-month period. These hospital benefits would include bed and board and customary services furnished in a hospital to bed patients, such as nursing services, laboratory services, ambulance services, use of the operating room, staff services, drugs, medicines and appliances. The hospital services are defined also to include medical care as it is generally furnished by hospitals as an essential part of hospital care for bed patients. Nursing services would be available to eligible persons for up to 120 days in any 12-month period, less the number of days of hospital services received by the individual.

Nursing services would include skilled

nursing care, related medical and personal services and accompanying bed and board furnished by an approved facility.

Protection against the present low standards and "gouging" that exist in the home nursing field today would be provided by requiring that the nursing care (1) be operated in connection with a hospital, or (2) that the skilled nursing care and medical services be prescribed by or performed under the general direction of physicians.

Oral surgery required by a dentist is also covered under the Collier bill if medically necessary.

Surgical services provided in the Collier bill would include surgical procedures provided in a hospital, but not those that are elective surgery on the part of the patient.

In the case of an emergency or for minor surgery, surgical procedures in the out-patient section of a hospital or in a doctor's office are also covered.

Physicians, hospitals and nursing establishments participating in the program would be those that contract with the Department of Employment under circumscribed rules and regulations of the department, as well as the provisions and standards of the bill itself.

JFK Plea Helps Revive House Public Works Bill

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stroy a program the object of which is to attack the unemployment problem by providing jobs."

John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House, accused the Republicans of "blind opposition" and warned that the public would be closely watching the House vote "to see who is for jobs and who is for mere talk." Other Democratic leaders charged the Republicans with being willing "to risk a recession to win an election."

Andrew J. Biemiller, AFL-CIO legislative director, had dispatched a letter to all Congressmen in which he pointed out that the restoration of the public works funds was "absolutely essential to stimulate the American economy and to open up more job opportunities for American workers." A similar wire was sent by State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts to the entire California Congressional delegation.

Congress authorized a \$900 million emergency program in 1962 and appropriated \$400 million last year to start it. A total of \$500 million was to have been appropriated this year but a subcommittee trimmed \$50 million off of the second year's appropriation.

California's 23 Democrats all voted in favor of restoring the funds.

Republicans voting against creating more job opportunities were: Baldwin of Martinez; Bell of Santa Monica; Clausen of Crescent City; Gubser of Gilroy; Hosmer of Long Beach; Lipscomb of Los Angeles; Martin of Riverside; Smith of Glendale; Talcott of Salinas; Teague of Ojai; Utt of Santa Ana; Bob Wilson of San Diego; and Younger of San Mateo. Mailliard of San Francisco was recorded as paired against the bill but not actually voting.

In appealing to the House to save the program, President Kennedy declared that if the full amount were appropriated, it would mean jobs for 500,000 unemployed men and women either on construction sites or in supporting activities. Communities that take part in the program put up local money to supplement federal grants for the various projects.

KEYNOTES ON LABOR

Collective bargaining, the keystone of industrial democracy, was born in 1799 when Philadelphia shoemakers negotiated a trade agreement with their employers. A full century, however, passed before collective bargaining was protected by law. Today more than 100,000 labor-management contracts are negotiated each year!

AFL-CIO Rejects "Reform" Bracero Program Proposals; Urges P.L. 78 Repeal

Asserting that organized labor "seeks no cut-rate food and fibre prices if they are based upon the exploitation of anyone," the AFL-CIO has rejected U.S. Department of Labor proposals for a one-year renewal of a "reformed" Public Law 78, and called for termination of the bracero importation program this year.

In recent testimony before the Gathings Subcommittee of the House Agriculture unit, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller argued that the "very existence of this law creates an inevitable adverse effect which no amount of reform will ever obliterate." He stated:

"The Mexican contract labor program serves no defensible national purpose. . . . Worst of all, the cost of the governmentally-sanctioned subsidy it gives to the growers is directly imposed on Americans who are least able to bear it, the domestic farm workers and their families."

As expected, however, the Gathings subcommittee has rejected both "reform" and "termination" of P.L. 78, and has stamped its approval on a straight two-year extension bill.

In vigorously reiterating labor's charges that severe adverse effects have accumulated under Public Law 78, Biemiller introduced extensive documentation presented at other hearings by Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation. Capsulizing the major point of Pitts' testimony, the AFL-CIO spokesman stated:

"Actually, while wages and fringe benefits in many labor-surplus industries in California have doubled since Public Law 78 was enacted, these benefits for domestic farm workers, piteously low to begin with, have lagged tragically behind in an allegedly labor deficient industry. At the same time, productivity has risen faster in agriculture than in any other segment of the economy."

Branding the concept of an alien labor force, stripped of normal

rights, as "repugnant," Biemiller stated that this "system of colonialism" has lessened this nation's stature abroad.

He also condemned the program for victimizing the small farmer, destroying "any incentive on the part of employers to develop a stable source of domestic agricultural labor based on American wages and American conditions," and severely taxing entire communities with tremendous social costs stemming from "swollen public assistance caseloads, blighted areas, broken families, emotional disorders, child labor, retarded educational achievement, juvenile delinquency, and shrunken revenues of local governments and community institutions."

Biemiller's position for outright repeal of Public Law 78 was supported by national spokesman for the Meatcutters and Packinghouse Workers, both AFL-CIO affiliates. Conceding that in the past his organization believed strict enforcement of the law could have corrected existing abuses, Meatcutter representative Arnold Mayer confessed:

"Today, we are sadder, but wiser."

He invoked a recent succinct observation of California's State Senator Albert S. Rodda concerning the bracero program's impact upon farm wages:

"Supply and demand cease to operate in the normal sense and the market fails to act as a determinant of the price for labor. An equivalent situation from the farmer's point-of-view would be to have a 'supplemental' supply of Mexican strawberries hanging over each

IWC Boosts Minimum Votes to Reopen Fari

(Continued from Page 1)

the public meeting an hour later on a motion to adopt all previous revisions tentatively agreed to in Wage Orders 1-57 through 12-57 and Wage Order 13-61.

Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, noted that:

"Although the escalation to \$1.30 represents a victory of sorts for the Federation's efforts to improve minimum wages and working conditions for California's women and minors, it is still far short of the minimum wage demanded by the Commission's own minimum budget for a self-supporting working woman, the so-called 'Minnie Budget' which fully justified \$1.50 an hour."

Just a few weeks ago when the Commission announced it was going to adopt a minimum wage of only \$1.25, Pitts had severely criticized the Commission for flouting its own budget.

By a unanimous vote, the Commission also decided to reopen Wage Order 14-61 covering the wages and working conditions of women and minors in agricultural occupations. This order, promulgated in 1961, was not reopened with the other existing 13 orders involved in the current decision updating the minimum wage.

day's strawberry market. Perhaps, in the long run, there might not be any but supplemental Mexican strawberries in the market."

Grower representatives urged a two-year renewal of the bracero program and called for amendments designed to further weaken existing legislative safeguards for domestic farm workers.

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