

California Unemployment Rate Remains Above U. S. Level

Despite a less than seasonal increase in the number of unemployed Californians between May and June, the state's rate of joblessness once again compared unhappily with the picture presented by the nation as a whole.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, recently released state and federal statistics revealed a 6.0 percent rate of June unemployment for California as compared to 5.7 percent nationally. This reflected a slight widening of the gap in relative performance over the month-earlier situation when California more closely approximated the national dilemma with a 6.1 percent jobless rate for the state as compared with 5.9 percent nationally.

The unemployed in California rose to 440,000 in June compared to 401,000 in May and 426,000 a year earlier. The upswing in the number of unemployed individuals for the May-June period was attributed largely to the entry of students and school graduates into the labor market. The amount of deterioration, however, was held down by greater-than-seasonal hiring of workers in agriculture and many other outdoor activities.

An over-the-month advance in California's manufacturing employment was well under normal ex-

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Gov. Brown Presents Tax Reform Plans To Special Session of Legislature

Governor Edmund G. Brown, in his special session message on Monday, made a renewed attack on the "special privilege accorded banks and corporations" and advanced a revised version of his revenue proposals to finance essential state services and programs.

In his message to the legislature, Brown outlined recommendations which would provide both temporary and permanent increases in state revenue by requiring the payment of taxes on a current basis and relating collections more closely to the incidence of growth. The revised program follows closely the Governor's recommendations to the general session which were endorsed by labor.

Pointing up the necessity of pay-as-you-go taxation, the Governor said that the skeleton budget passed by the general session "was totally inadequate to the needs of the fastest growing state in the nation, whose population has increased 600,000 and its school enrollment



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Fed. Exec. Council Urges Civil Rights Push; Reviews Legislative Session

The Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, meeting in Long Beach this Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9-10, concluded its two-day session with the adoption of a strong statement calling for "the initiation and development of positive programs at all levels of community action to eliminate the blight of discrimination from American life."

The 36-member executive body of the State AFL-CIO extended its full cooperation to President John F. Kennedy, Governor Edmund G. Brown, national AFL-CIO and the many community groups pressing for civil rights action. Governor

The full statement on civil rights is printed on Page 2.

Brown was commended for having announced recently that he would use the full authority of his office to "give leadership in translating policy from paper to practice."

In advancing its statement on civil rights, the Executive Council

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Congressional Roundup

Congress returned to Washington this week after an extended Independence Day holiday to tackle a massive backlog of legislation, including the bulk of President John F. Kennedy's proposed programs.

National AFL-CIO observers indicate that civil rights legislation alone is expected to extend the session well into autumn. The Administration's tax cut and reform bill, a central feature of the President's proposals to stimulate a lagging economy, has still to be hammered into shape by the House Ways and Means Committee.

Also clamoring for priority is the annual skirmish over foreign aid. Opponents of the program have already made clear their objective of severe cutbacks in appropriations and new authorizations.

Federal aid to education bills are still pending before committees of both Houses. Although college aid and expanded vocational education bills have received the nod from House committees, they have not as yet been scheduled for floor action. Aid to medical education has passed the lower body and is expected to gain approval from the Senate.

The youth employment opportunities bill has passed the Senate but this Administration proposal has been sidetracked in the House Rules Committee. Mass transit legislation has been stalled in similar fashion.

Committee hearings are tentatively slated on the bill to provide

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Statement on Civil Rights

Adopted by Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO in Long Beach on July 10, 1963.

The Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, in accordance with convention directives of long standing, pledges and reaffirms the active support of the California AFL-CIO movement in the initiation and development of positive programs at all levels of community action to eliminate the blight of discrimination from American life.

Toward this end, we extend our full cooperation to President John F. Kennedy, Governor Edmund G. Brown, the national AFL-CIO and the business, religious, minority and community groups that have demonstrated their dedication to the free society, democracy, and the inseparable drive for equal rights and opportunities.

We are proud of the fact that our state AFL-CIO organization has been, and continues to be, in the main stream of this equal rights drive that has resulted in considerable civil rights progress in recent years at the state level. It was labor and the community of civil rights, religious and other dedicated groups, working through the California Committee for Fair Practices, that together secured the enactment of FEP legislation in 1959, the Rumford fair housing bill at the recent session, and other legislative advancements. All of these were accomplished over the opposition of many business and industry groups who would today have the public believe that labor is dragging its feet on the civil rights front.

Let the record be straight, for it was also this Federation that initiated the action at a California Apprenticeship Conference a few years back that led to the creation of a standing state-wide committee to promote more apprenticeship opportunities for individuals of minority groups. This committee now has official state recognition and is pressing for the implementation of the "California Plan" which is recognized nationally as a model for the development of job training opportunities.

We concur wholeheartedly with AFL-CIO President George Meany,

in his statement supporting President Kennedy's civil rights program, that "there is no public issue of greater importance to America than equal rights and equal opportunities of all citizens."

Specifically in response to President Kennedy's request of labor, President Meany has communicated with local central labor bodies throughout the nation urging them to take an active part in forming biracial committees "to accelerate the destruction of racial barriers at the local level."

We commend our local central labor bodies and urge them to even greater efforts. At the state level, the Civil Rights Committee of the Executive Council, functioning through the office of Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts, is prepared and anxious to lend all possible assistance to local affiliated organizations in the achievement of immediate and positive results.

It must be recognized, however, that equal opportunity can have meaning only if there is opportunity for all. Maximum support must also be rallied, as President Kennedy has requested, to secure the adoption of economic programs at the national, state, and local level to reduce unemployment, spur economic growth and achieve full employment with the cooperation of government to satisfy social and community needs.

In the same vein we extend our full cooperation to Governor Brown, who recently announced that he will use the full authority of his office to "give leadership in translating policy from paper to practice."

However, while fostering the necessity of recognizing the rights of minority groups, we must point out the requirement of the correlative obligations that such groups must assume as equal participants in the accomplishment of the over-all community good.

Status does not give rise to special privilege in any segment of our society.

While we press for equal opportunity for all, the minority groups must realize that special privilege for them is equally repugnant to the concept of democratic treatment for all.

FEP Commission Offers To Aid Cities

Mayors of all California cities have been offered advisory assistance by the State Fair Employment Practice Commission in carrying out President Kennedy's proposals concerning local human rights action.

In a letter mailed to each mayor, FEPC Chairman John Anson Ford, urged establishment of interracial committees and a series of steps to eliminate discrimination, in line with the President's recommendations in a recent speech to the United States Conference of Mayors.

Purpose of the program, approved in a resolution passed by the mayors' conference, is to find ways in which local government may speed the resolution of interracial tensions and help end the inequities which give rise to them.

"Your State FEPC stands ready to assist you," Ford told the California mayors in his letter. "FEPC personnel have already provided useful information and counsel of this nature to various local government bodies in fulfillment of the Commission's educational and advisory responsibilities."

President Kennedy's five proposals at Honolulu were that every city: (1) establish an interracial human relations committee; (2) review city practices carefully and eliminate any instance of officially supported discrimination. (3) make sure that municipal hirings and promotions are wholly free of discrimination; (4) enact measures protecting equal access to all places of public accommodation; and (5) campaign against school dropouts so young people may qualify themselves for job opportunities.

A number of FEPC complaint cases and investigations have been concerned with public employment in California cities, and the agency has participated in conferences with municipal officials at which far-reaching changes of policy and procedure have been drafted. It is on the basis of that experience that the Commission plans to counsel cities which request help.

California Unemployment

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pectations for this time of year, even though the 1,449,000 employed in this area represented a June record and exceeded by 12,000 the previous all-time peak achieved in September 1962.

Since June 1962, total civilian employment in the state had grown by 220,000 or 3.5 percent to a level of 6,507,000 out of a total labor force of 6,947,000. Over a third of the May-June increase in jobs was registered in agriculture which, in line with long-term trends, was also the only industry to record an absolute decline in employment over the year. All-time employment peaks were realized in the construction, service, government and finance-insurance-real estate fields.

For the United States as a whole, the number of unemployed persons grew by 800,000 during June, swelling the total to the 4.8 million level, about 400,000 in excess of the year-earlier figure. Both employment and unemployment changes for the month were dominated by the influx of 1.9 million teenage job seekers into the labor force. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates of 4.4 percent for adult men and 5.4 percent for women were unchanged from May. The national rate of teenage unemployment dropped to 16 percent in June, roughly equal to the situation in April, but still well above the rate of a year ago.

Long-term unemployed individuals, those looking for work 15 weeks or more, declined seasonally to 1.0 million. About half of this group had been out of work for at least six months. Both categories of long-term unemployed were close to year-ago levels.

Total employment passed the 70 million mark for the first time, reaching 70.3 million in June. However, the 1.3 million increase over the month was about in line with the usual May-June movement and, on a seasonally adjusted basis, total employment was no higher than in March.

A pickup of about 800,000 in farm employment was generally in line with the usual May-June increase. Total agricultural employment of 6.0 million was down by 300,000 over the year, again reflecting the long-run decline of employment in this industry.

The number of non-farm workers on short work weeks for economic

U.S. Congressional Roundup

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hospital care for the aged under Social Security after action on the tax bill is completed. President Kennedy recently voiced his conviction that this measure can win adoption if it ever gets to the floor for a vote.

One of the significant setbacks already suffered by the Administration was registered recently when the lower house defeated a bill to expand the area redevelopment program. Although the Senate has

"GREEN CARD" ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TIGHTENED

New procedures established by the Labor Department early this month concerning Mexican immigrants appeared to hold hope for further safeguards against employer abuses detrimental to American workers as well as the immigrants themselves.

Developed in cooperation with the U. S. State Department, the new regulations apply only to those persons in Mexico who apply for visas under the McCarran-Walter Act for permanent entry into this country on the basis of a job offer from an American employer.

Aimed at more effective coordination of the steps leading to the issuance of immigration visas, the new procedure requires that the employer's job offer be endorsed by the local office of the State Department of Employment in his area.

The Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security and affiliated state employment agencies will be authorized to determine in each case whether domestic workers are available for the jobs and whether "green card" employment will adversely affect domestic workers' wages and working conditions. If so, the Departments of State and Justice would be notified before the immigrants are granted visas.

reasons duplicated the levels recorded a year ago by increasing somewhat more than expected for this time of year.

The total labor force reached 77.9 million in June. Although the May-June increase of two million was a little less than seasonal, the labor force continued one million above a year ago.

revived the measure, its fate remains uncertain in the House.

On the other hand, a number of constructive accomplishments have been recorded already even though the first session of a new Congress is traditionally slow-paced. Falling into this category were the following actions:

- Retention of an enlarged House Rules Committee.
- Increasing the ceiling on the national debt limit.
- Enactment of an equal pay for women law, a step urged by organized labor since 1945.
- Refusal by the House to extend the Mexican farm labor program.
- Overriding a House Appropriations Committee recommendation to slash \$450 million from public works funds. An effort to further extend the public works program is expected later in the session.

In general, only comparatively modest cuts in funds have been recommended by the House Appropriations Committee despite vociferous GOP threats earlier this year to wield a heavy axe after Kennedy submitted a deliberately unbalanced budget.

One of the new Kennedy proposals moving rather easily through Congress is a 10-year mental health program. Calling for an expenditure of \$848.5 million, it passed the Senate by a 72-1 vote. Somewhat more difficult sledding is anticipated in connection with his proposal for a National Service Corps—a domestic version of the Peace Corps.

Speculation is rampant in Washington as to the over-all impact of the civil rights fight upon the remainder of the Administration's proposals.

During the unsuccessful effort to change the Senate rules to facilitate closing debate and breaking filibusters, Kennedy took the traditional stand that the executive is barred from interfering with internal Senate procedures. As for the forthcoming phase of this battle, however, the President has emphatically advised Congress that it is "imperative" to enact the civil rights program at this session "however long it may take and however troublesome it may be."

Fed. Exec. Council Urges Civil Rights

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warned however that "while fostering the necessity of recognizing the rights of minority groups, we must point out the requirement of the correlative obligations that such groups must assume as equal participants in the accomplishment of the over-all community good."

The labor leaders said that "status does not give rise to special privilege in any segment of our society."

Local central labor bodies were urged to respond to a request from AFL-CIO President George Meany that they take an active part in forming bi-racial committees to "accelerate the destruction of racial barriers at the local level."

The Executive Council indicated that at the state level the Federation's Civil Rights Committee, functioning through the office of Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts, "is prepared and anxious to lend all possible assistance to local affiliated organizations in the achievement of immediate and positive results."

On other fronts, the Executive Council:

- Received a lengthy preliminary report from Secretary-Treasurer Pitts on the 1963 general session of the Legislature (Pitts' preliminary report will be printed in the News Letter at a later date.)

- Hailed the recent Congressional action terminating the bracero importation program under Public Law 78 and called upon the Secretary-Treasurer to continue labor's vigilance against efforts of agribusiness to revive the defeated legislation.

- Elected Stanley Lathen, Executive Secretary, Retail Clerks Local No. 373, Vallejo, to the office of vice president in District No. 12, replacing Lowell Nelson who resigned to accept an appointment to the State Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

Gov. Brown Presents Tax Reform Plans

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amendment in the Senate during the general session;

(3) Ending the present system of installment payment of income taxes by individuals in the upper income brackets;

(4) Raising the exemption level on income tax liability to exempt single persons with an income of less than \$2,200 and married couples with less than \$5,000. (Some 850,000 individuals and families in the low-income range would be relieved of income tax obligations);

(5) Placing the existing personal income tax on a withholding basis on January 1, 1965, with a 50 percent cut in the taxes on income earned in 1964; requiring quarterly payment of taxes on income from non-withholding sources.

With the elimination of the two-thirds vote requirement on the bank and corporation tax measure, opposition has focused on the income tax withholding proposal.

Commenting on the defeat of his revenue proposals at the general session and the necessity of the special session, Brown pointed out:

"The revenue reform proposals themselves had the support of a ma-

In connection with Pitts' report on the legislative session, the Executive Council expressed strong dissatisfaction with those Democrats, elected to office with labor's support, who turned their backs on working people and the interests of the general public. Pitts told the Executive Council that the "session reflected a divided and confused legislature, lacking in orientation toward social and economic objectives."

There were strong indications, after lengthy discussion of the results of the session, that labor would look more closely at candidates from both parties in 1964 before making endorsements.

jority of both the Senate and Assembly. Only the special privilege requiring that certain changes in our bank and corporation franchise tax laws must have a two-thirds majority forces us to have this extraordinary session at all. I might point out at this time that, by contrast, a change in tax laws covering individuals and consumers needs only a simple majority.

"Were it not for the special privilege accorded banks and corporations, we would now have an adequate budget. We would now have adequate assistance to local school districts. And, perhaps most important of all, we would now have adequate revenues to finance state services not only through this year but at a minimum through next year as well."

The Governor's program, embodied in six bills co-authored by Senator Virgil O'Sullivan and Assemblyman Nicholas Petris, was introduced on Tuesday. Passage would provide an estimated \$147.3 million increased revenue for fiscal 1964, \$61.4 million for fiscal 1965, \$78.6 million for fiscal 1966 and \$95.7 million for fiscal 1967.

The tax program is urgently needed to provide revenue for \$114 million in essential items deleted from the "skeleton" budget enacted at the end of the general session. The Governor's proposals for additional expenditures include the following: \$40 million in additional aid to local school districts; \$30 million in salary increases for state employees; \$5,828,900 for the Santa Cruz campus of the University of California; \$2,864,000 to local clinics and hospitals for the hospitalization and rehabilitation of crippled children; \$850,000 for books for public libraries; and \$2 million in additional funds for the Short-Doyle mental health program.

The Governor emphasized his willingness to accept any feasible alternative proposal by the legislature.

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