

Labor Law Unit Nets \$3.61 Million For Employees

California workers are more than \$3.61 million richer than they might have been thanks to the efforts of the Division of Labor Law Enforcement of the State Department of Industrial Relations which collected that sum in unpaid wages for them during the past fiscal year.

In a report to Ernest Webb, Department Director, state Labor Commissioner Sigmund Arywitz noted that this is the second successive year in which unpaid wage collections have topped the \$3 million mark. The recovery of \$3,612,813 last year exceeded the previous year's collection by \$568,000.

Arywitz said the Division handled 56,041 complaints involving California labor laws during the year of which 42,228 involved unpaid wages. The Division's 55 deputy labor commissioners had to hold 26,089 individual hearings to handle the complaints. The Division's staff attorneys also filed 694 civil suits in behalf of 4,110 wage claimants.

In the area of contract enforcement, the Division handled 1,713 complaints regarding failure of employers to make payments to employee benefit funds as called for

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Brown Issues Code of Fair Practices; Urges Action on Strong Civil Rights Bill

Governor Edmund G. Brown took action on both the state and federal levels during the past week in efforts to wipe out "any and all vestiges of discrimination in all operations of state government" and to assure equality of treatment for Californians travelling in other states of the

Union.

On Sunday he issued a sweeping executive order, comprising a state Code of Fair Practices, that sets forth in 15 articles a comprehensive policy of non-discrimination and directs state licensees to follow non-discrimination policies.

Licensees failing to do so "shall be subject to such disciplinary action as is consistent with the legal authority and rules and regulations of the appropriate licensing or regulatory agency," the code states. Presumably this could mean suspension or revocation of the licenses of those failing to comply.

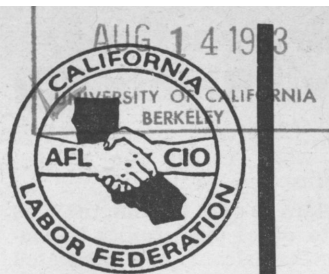
The following day, the Governor appealed to Congress to enact legislation to ban discrimination in pub-

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Write Now To Help Kill Bracero Bill

The Allott bill to revive the bracero program (S. 1703) by extending the program one year has been returned to the Senate floor and is expected to be taken up within the next week.

Letters and wires should be sent immediately to Senators Thomas H. Kuchel and Clair Engle, Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D.C., urging them to oppose passage of the measure, Thos L. Pitts, State AFL-CIO leader said.



THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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Pitts Urges 'Torrent of Mail' Now To Win Passage of King-Anderson Bill

"A continuing torrent of mail from all segments of the public demanding enactment of President Kennedy's proposal to provide medical care for the aged under social security is vital to offset the massive propaganda campaign being mounted against it by the American Medical Association. And the time for the torrent to start is right now," Thos. L. Pitts,

secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, warned union members throughout the state this week.

Noting that Representative Wilbur Mills, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, has announced that hearings on the measure will start soon after Labor Day despite Congressional preoccupation with such issues as taxes and civil rights, Pitts said:

"Union members must carry the ball on this issue by contacting

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GAP WIDENS

Jobless Rate In State Tops U.S. Average Again

The gap between the state and national unemployment rates widened still further in July as the seasonally adjusted U.S. rate dipped from 5.7 percent to 5.6 percent while the state's adjusted rate rose from 6.0 percent to 6.2 percent.

This means that out of every thousand people in the labor force, 62 Californians are unemployed while in the nation as a whole 56 are jobless.

Although unemployment nationally declined as expected in July and the number of job holders increased, there were, nonetheless, 300,000 more jobless in July 1963 than a year earlier, the Labor Department's report said.

U.S. employment totaled 70.9 million and unemployment dropped 524,000 to 4.3 million. The national jobless rate in July 1962 was 5.4 percent.

The over-the-year rise in both the state and national jobless rates reflects the fact that both the state and the nation's economic growth rates are continually failing to keep pace with the growth of the labor force.

Unemployment in California declined less than normally expected to 417,000. A month earlier it was

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Brown Issues Code of Fair Practices; Urges Action on Strong Civil Rights Bill

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lic accommodations in a statement forwarded to the U. S. Senate's Committee on Commerce.

Both the order and the statement to Congress were prepared and signed before the Governor left on his trip to Europe.

In his congressional statement, Brown noted that the 1959 Unruh Civil Rights Act which has a strong public accommodations section was upheld by the state Supreme Court last year. Among other things the act stipulates that:

"All citizens within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever."

As a result, the Governor said, "overt discrimination in public accommodations is clearly illegal and rarely resorted to" although "Negroes and other minorities still suffer indignities from overt discrimination in California as they do everywhere."

But, the Governor stated, federal legislation in the public accommodations sector is needed not only because of the present moral effect it would have on the entire civil rights problem but because Californians traveling in other states "are entitled to the protection of federal laws governing civil rights."

"They do not receive that protection now. Motels, restaurants and other public accommodations are closed to Negroes, Mexican-Americans and others in many states, an insult and denial of their rights which are protected by law in California.

"The Constitution does not permit states to invoke discriminatory tariffs against citizens from other states. Why should any state be permitted to penalize a citizen of another state in other clearly unconstitutional ways?" the Governor asked.

Pointing out that the basic issue in the civil rights fight "is not property rights versus human rights" because "the American system recognizes and protects

both," the Governor attacked those Americans who "called the struggle Communist-inspired," saying:

"Is the right to vote Communist? Is the right to equal opportunity in employment unAmerican? Are integrated schools the work of Moscow plotters? they are not, of course. Long before the foolish doctrine of Communism was laid down our Constitution has spelled out the rights of American citizens. Those rights are inimical to Communism, a fact to which hundreds of millions of oppressed people living behind the Communist curtains, denied both property and human rights, attest daily."

"If Communists support the struggle of Negroes and other minorities in this country, they do so for only one reason: for world propaganda in support of their own false dogmas. And those who link our social revolution to the Communist revolution serve the Communists, not America. . . .

"It has been argued by some witnesses before this committee that property owners are deprived of their 'rights' by the proposed legislation. But the only 'right' which is being taken away—if that expression can be used at all—is the 'right' to commit a wrongful act—to discriminate—to deny someone service, or the use of public facilities because his skin is a different color or for reasons of religion, ancestry or national origin. To defy the U. S. Constitution is not a 'right' which any citizen should be allowed to invoke with impunity," the Governor declared.

The Code of Fair Practices, he said, "will serve as a guide of conduct to all departments of the state in their relations with minority groups and individuals. I will expect from all departments of state government not only nondiscrimination but affirmative action to assure the equality of opportunity in every activity the state engages in."

All state agencies will be required to submit annual reports on programs undertaken each preceding year to assure adherence to the code.

The code declares that:

"Nondiscrimination is the policy of the State of California in all of its activities. Employees shall not only vigorously enforce that policy, they shall also take affirmative action to assure equality of opportunity in the internal affairs of state government and in its relations with the general public."

Among other articles in the code are those dealing with employment policies of state agencies, state contracts and sub-contracts, state education, counseling and training programs, private educational institutions, housing accommodations, and state licensing and regulatory agencies.

Here's Why It Pays To Look For The Union Label

Why look for the union label?

Because it's your guarantee of quality workmanship. Besides, your insistence on it helps assure progress and a rising standard of living.

This is the gist of what AFL-CIO President George Meany said recently in endorsing Union Label Week September 2-8 and urging all union members, their families and friends to make a habit of demanding organized labor's emblems—the union label, shop card, store card and service button—when they buy goods and services, not only during Union Label Week, but all year round.

Joseph Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO's National Union Label Week, announced that the Department will furnish sample radio and TV script and "spot" announcements to labor organizations that are able to get free public service broadcast time in their areas.

Sample proclamations will be distributed to state and local central bodies to help get official recognition from governors and mayors in honor of Union Label Week, he added.

"The United States is the leading nation in the world with the highest standard of living in history. Americans live better, dress better, have more household conveniences, more automobiles than any other people in the world. One of the chief reasons is, of course, America's trade unions and the good wages and good working conditions they have established.

"One way trade union members and all other consumers can insure continued American progress is by Buying Union. Look for the union label, the union shop card, and the union service button. That way you can be sure of a quality product and you can help keep our country prosperous," Meany said.

New Booklet On Investing Issued

A new 24-page booklet to help union leaders handle the investment of general treasury, strike benefit and pension trust funds has just been published by the AFL-CIO.

Titled "The Investment of Labor's Funds," the booklet describes various short and long-term investments available and discusses the characteristics of each.

Single copies of the pamphlet, publication No. 130, are free. Up to 100 copies cost fifteen cents each. Orders of 100 or more cost \$12 per hundred. Orders should be sent to the AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 Sixteenth Street N.W., Washington (20006), D.C.

Hospital Costs Double in Decade, AHA Study Finds

Hospital costs have doubled in the last 10 years and are going still higher, according to a cost study appearing in the American Hospital Association's official journal.

A patient's average daily hospital costs rose from \$18.25 to \$36.83 in the decade, and the total expense of an average hospital stay of slightly more than a week climbed from \$148 to \$279, the AHA reported.

State Jobless Rate

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442,000, but in July 1962 it was 381,000.

The state's employment dipped slightly in July. It totaled 6,506,000 compared with 6,507,000 in June and 6,312,000 in July 1962, according to Ernest B. Webb, director of the Department of Industrial Relations.

The less than seasonal decline in California's unemployment "reflected the sluggishness in manufacturing that has persisted over the first half of the year, especially in the aerospace-electronics complex of Southern California, a report by Albert B. Tieburg, director of the Department of Employment, said.

The decrease in the state's total labor force, which was 6,923,000 in July compared to 6,949,000 a month earlier, resulted primarily from temporary job seekers leaving the labor market, the report stated. In July 1962 the total labor force was 6,693,000.

Earlier this week Maurice Gershenson, the state's chief labor statistician said the persistent sluggishness in the manufacturing sector of the economy indicates a growing shift from blue to white collar work and increased use of automated equipment. The result is that manufacturing is now generally requiring fewer workers to produce more goods.

Included in the 4.3 million jobless nationally are 900,000 people who have been out of work although seeking it for 15 weeks or longer. A month earlier this long-term jobless figure totaled 1 million.

The jobless rate for adult men was 4.3 percent and for adult women 5.3 percent, in both cases about the same as a year ago.

The teenage jobless rate nationally was 16.2 percent compared with 16.0 percent a year earlier.

The nation's total labor force was 77.9 million, the same as a month earlier but 1.5 million more than in July 1962.

The increase in employment to 70.9 million indicated a 500,000 increase in jobs but included in the 70.9 million figure are 2.5 million non-farm workers on short work weeks for economic reasons.

Non-farm jobs totaled 64.9 million and farm jobs remained constant at 6.0 million, the Labor Department reported.

Few Get ANC Funds Who Don't Merit it, U.S. Probe of State's Recipients Finds

A special federal-state probe of the eligibility of recipients of aid to needy children funds has disclosed that only about one percent of the 91,163 family units receiving aid were legally ineligible.

The investigation, ordered by the U. S. Senate Appropriations Committee as part of a nationwide review, and monitored by federal officials, found 18 families (1.2 percent) totally ineligible for aid and another 16 families (1.1 percent) partially ineligible because one or more of the persons in the family failed to meet eligibility requirements although the rest of the family remained eligible.

In announcing the results of the investigation, state Social Welfare Director J. M. Wedemeyer said:

"California's review of a random sampling of 1,615 cases, or two percent of the state's entire ANC case load, showed only 34 cases (2.3 percent) with any ineligibility. Of this number, 11 were suspected of deliberately attempting to conceal information from welfare authorities. Indications are that our ineligibility factor will rank as one of the lowest in the nation."

The results of the probe repudiate charges often made by taxpayer groups to the effect that large numbers of aid recipients are illegally receiving funds.

The survey found the stated average nationally for totally ineligible recipients to be 5.4 percent. The highest rate of ineligible recipients was discovered in West Virginia where the rate was 17.3 percent. The rates for other West Coast states were: Washington, 4.6 percent; Oregon 5.4 percent; Arizona 6.8 percent; and Nevada 12.4 percent.

Labor Law Nets \$3.6 Million

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in collective bargaining agreements. As a result, an additional \$500,000 was recouped by such funds.

Although each state maintains an agency responsible for collecting unpaid wages, California for many years has maintained a record of equalling the total amount of money collected through the combined efforts of all other states.

The California investigation was conducted from February through April of this year and involved 164 state social welfare department staff workers and a total of 8,069 man-days for the review.

The investigation cost \$286,500. The aid payments to all ineligibles found in the 34 cases totalled only about \$6,000 a month.

"The fact that 98.8 percent of the cases were found eligible to receive help is a tribute to the effectiveness of the work being done by county welfare departments on eligibility determinations ... California taxpayers demand and are getting good work in this aspect of administration. They are entitled to expect continuation of the type of performance demonstrated, but can expect little return in tax dollars saved from any increase of effort focused only on eligibility," the report stated.

Wedemeyer said that the investigations, which were conducted without prior notice, discovered a number of instances of child neglect, parental inadequacy, school dropouts, and serious medical care problems.

"Even though some of the blame for these conditions rests on inefficient operation by some local welfare agencies, much of the trouble lies in the fact that county welfare workers are overloaded with cases and have little time to devote to the recipients beyond a mere surface review of their eligibility to a monthly assistance grant. Many county workers lack adequate professional training to do a rehabilitative job if time were available.

"We in California, as well as on the federal level, are hopeful that these conditions will be changed. A new emphasis has started in public welfare to salvage these dependent human resources and return them to the productive stream of self-sufficiency. This takes more staff, and more funds to accomplish. Some of this is being provided under our new rehabilitative services program which was launched this year, and more is anticipated in the years ahead," Wedemeyer concluded.

'Torrent of Mail' Urged for Passage of King-Anderson Bill

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their relatives, neighbors and friends and urging them to write their representatives in both Houses of Congress in behalf of this urgently needed program. The senior citizens can't do it by themselves.

"The AMA's president, Dr. Edward R. Annis, has been bleating about the nation for months trying to intimidate those who favor the revised King-Anderson bill by flailing a red paint brush and charging that all proponents of the measure are 'political quacks and charlatans.' Dr. Annis particularly attacked an editorial in the Catholic Star Herald favoring the social security approach and charged the Catholic press with being 'firmly fixed in their socialist philosophies.'

"This is poppycock and he knows it. But much more dangerous is the pressure that the AMA can apply to key members of Congressional committees handling the bill.

"The best way to counteract such big money pressure tactics is by demonstrating to our representatives that there is an insistent and compelling public demand for an adequate hospital insurance plan for the aged," Pitts said.

"So don't let the AMA intimidate you—write those letters," he urged.

The AFL-CIO leader repudiated contentions that the present Kerr-Mills program of medical assistance to the aged (MAA) is all that's necessary. He pointed out that even in California, which has the most liberal MAA program in the nation, substantially less than two percent of the state's aged population has qualified for benefits.

"Even with the liberalizations enacted at the last general session of the legislature, the state MAA program does not, in any meaningful manner, reach beyond the state's aged assistance recipients. It barely touches the group of so-called 'medical indigents' beyond the public as-

sistance category who are supposed to be covered by the Kerr-Mills alternative to aged health care under social security. In short, the MAA program will never be more than a supplement to a general hospitalization insurance program for the aged such as is provided in the King-Anderson bills," he asserted.

The bills presently before Congress (HR 3920 and S 880), if enacted would be known as the Hospital Insurance Act of 1963. They would provide hospitalization insurance for all persons 65 or over, including those not covered by social security.

Financing of the program would be accomplished by a one-quarter of one percent increase in the social security taxes on employers and employees. The cost to the typical worker would be about \$12 a year.

"The program would not meet all of the health costs of the aged; it would not pay doctors' bills, for example," Pitts pointed out. "But it would prevent the elderly from being utterly impoverished when illness strikes and prolonged hospitalization or nursing home care is necessary," he said.

"This type of program benefits all Americans," Pitts declared, "because it not only helps the elderly get the care they need as a matter of right instead of as a matter of public charity as is the case under all MAA programs, it also relieves their children of potentially crippling financial burdens.

"Attempts by private health insurance plans to meet this need have failed. Just last month a spokesman for Blue Cross was quoted as conceding that 'insuring everyone over 65 is a losing business that must be subsidized somehow.'

"The 'over 65' plans that have been offered cost from \$10 to \$20 a month or 10 to 20 times the cost of the King-Anderson program, and the benefits available under them are admittedly minimal," Pitts asserted.

"New laws such as those just passed in the 1963 general session of the California Legislature (SB 1122) and similar proposals pending before other state legislatures to permit the establishment of vast interstate regional cartels of insurance companies to let the com-

panies make one last vain attempt to meet this public need are steps in the wrong direction.

"Such legislation, referred to by its sponsors here as the 'Western 65' plan, is just a last ditch effort by the insurance industry to block health care for the aged under social security. It would not only exempt participating insurance companies from anti-trust laws but would still leave more than 40 percent of the nation's 17 million senior citizens unable to afford adequate health care.

"Experience with such plans in the east indicates that the cost of coverage would approach \$500 a year which is far beyond the reach of the average aged person or couple. The Connecticut State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, has issued a report critical of a similar plan operating in that state pointing out that only 11 percent of Connecticut's aged have been able to afford coverage," Pitts explained.

"The patent inadequacy of such so-called '65 plus' plans is further underscored and tacitly acknowledged by the companies themselves by virtue of the fact that they are open for health insurance buyers for only very limited times each year, generally just 30 days.

"This is because the insurance industry wants to limit its risks in providing coverage for those over 65.

"One Blue Cross spokesman quoted recently in the Wall Street Journal frankly admitted that trying to provide coverage for this group meant that the industry was adopting the general merchandising technique of using 'loss leaders' to promote general life insurance sales.

"Traditionally the American economy has operated on the principle that the public sector of the economy should move into those areas of social need that the private sector has indicated an inability or an unwillingness to meet. The years of study and debate are behind us. The provision of basic medical care for the aged as a matter of right clearly belongs in the public sector. I urge all Americans to get wholeheartedly behind it by writing their congressmen today and urging them to vote for it," Pitts concluded.

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