

## Letters Needed To Halt Extension Of Bracero Law

"Pressure to extend Public Law 78, the Mexican bracero program, is mounting," Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, warned this week.

"Our May 29 victory in the House of Representatives in which an initial House bill to extend Public Law 78 was defeated is in danger of being wiped out. On August 15 the Senate voted 63 to 24 in favor of S. 1703 which would extend the program for one year with an amendment giving American workers the same working conditions and protections now given braceros.

"On August 21 the House Agriculture Committee voted out a bill (H.R. 8195) that would extend Public Law 78 without even the weak reform amendment contained in S. 1703.

"Letters are needed to members of the California congressional delegation to prevent passage of H.R. 8195 when it gets to the floor in the very near future," Pitts said, and he appealed to all local unions and central labor bodies to take action to get such letters in the mail.

A one-year extension of this program now will not be the last, Pitts warned.

"The plight of the unemployed and under-employed American farm workers will only be worsened by any extension whatever. I therefore urge you to write a letter to your own congressman now asking him to vote against any extension of Public Law 78. Ask your friends to do likewise," Pitts added.

## Human Values Must Be Kept Supreme, Fed Aide Says at S. F. Jet Port Dedication

"Every citizen in a prosperous and progressive industrial society . . . must constantly assert the supremacy of human values," Thomas A. Small, Vice President of District 8 of the California Labor Federation AFL-CIO, declared this week while taking part in ceremonies dedicating a new \$14.5 million jet terminal at the San Francisco International Airport.

## State's Jobless Rate Rises Again

Unemployment in California stubbornly continued to buck a declining trend nationally last month when the state's seasonally adjusted jobless rate rose from a revised 6.1 per cent in July to 6.2 per cent in August while the national rate

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THOS. L. PITTS  
Executive  
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## Thousands of U. S. Workers Denied Jobs As Braceros Work, AWOC Chief Reports

Thousands of domestic farm laborers are being denied jobs while braceros work, C. Al Green, director of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and a Vice President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, reported last week.

"Since April 24, 1963, AWOC has conducted a daily count of the number of people left on the streets without work at the Stockton farm labor pool area," Green said. "By August 1 the total had reached 56,682 jobless workers," he said.

"This number is not to be taken lightly because it represents very real and individual persons who early each morning gather on Market, Main, El Dorado, Center and Commerce Streets. In hundreds they mill around for hours at dawn in hopes of finding employment on the farms around just one area.

"By 6:30 in the morning when most people are just arising, they either have found a day's employment or have hopelessly lost an-

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## Meany Issues Call for AFL-CIO's Fifth Convention

The official convention call to the Fifth Constitutional Convention of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations was issued last week by AFL-CIO President George Meany.

The biennial convention will be held at the Americana Hotel in New York City starting at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, November 14, 1963 and will remain in session until the business of the convention has been completed.

Noting that government leadership and government action—bold, imaginative and far-ranging—are essential to avert a job crisis, Meany pointed out that no single measure can meet the nation's present needs.

"Consumer purchasing power must be increased by cutting taxes on lower and middle incomes; by extending the wage-hour law to the millions now excluded from its protection; by establishing realistic federal standards for unemployment compensation; by safeguarding the solvency of retired citizens through a federal system of hospital insurance under social security; by comprehensive federal aid to education and by a broad spectrum of other undertakings, all of great social value apart from their economic impact," he said.

Asserting that "unemployment is

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# Human Values Must Be Kept Supreme, Says Fed Aide

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our complicated industrial society, and that shows evidence of planning for the future in the complex of metropolitan and urban life."

Noting that many of America's top economists have pointed out that "many of America's most basic needs are today community in nature," Small said that labor's interest is not confined to the jobs created by this project.

"Our mounting community needs in the transportation field are paralleled in other areas of urban life today. . . . These mounting community needs extend to our public school systems and higher education facilities; the expansion of health and welfare facilities; the redevelopment and renewal of our core cities; the impact of the new technology on leisure and the necessity of vastly expanding recreational facilities and opportunities; the need for projects and programs for the coordinated economic development of basic natural resources; and a myriad of other social needs requiring public investment in projects and programs of lasting worth that increase the nation's wealth.

"It is important to recognize that transportation facilities, schools, health facilities and other essential improvements in public services add to the nation's wealth no less than business investment in plants and machines," Small observed.

Small spoke as the representative of the California Labor Federation in the absence of Thos. L. Pitts,

## Braceros Work; Domestic Wait

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other day. The buses and trucks are gone.

"Meanwhile, the Mexican Nationals are furnished not only with work but are guaranteed such work and the camps which once housed domestic workers are now occupied with imported Mexican contract laborers," Green said.

"This is precisely why the bracero program should not be allowed to continue," he declared.

"It undermines wages and standards for American farm workers on a wholesale basis," he asserted.

State AFL-CIO leader, who was unable to attend the ceremonies due to other duties.

"American's job and public service needs have a common pattern: a great backlog in growing needs," Small declared.

"The scope of the current job deficit problem in the job needs of tomorrow demonstrate why the exercise of greater community responsibility in meeting public needs is a must for a successful economy in the 1960s.

**"It has been pointed out repeatedly that over three million job openings are needed now for full employment. Moreover, in the seven years between 1963 and 1970, more than 26 million job opportunities must become available to assure full employment in the 1960s. That amounts to approximately 4.2 million job opportunities a year, or about 80,000 jobs a week.**

"Yet in our partial recovery from a series of recessions, the number of unemployed this year has remained close to four million with an additional two million who can find only part time jobs. Moreover, the President's Council of Economic Advisors conservatively estimates that some 800,000 in past months have given up looking for work because jobs were not available," Small said.

"In California . . . our unemployment rate has remained consistently higher than for the nation as a whole. Projecting ahead the best estimate . . . indicates that we will need to find at least 300,000 new jobs a year," he said.

Small, President of the San Mateo County Central Labor Council and Secretary-Treasurer of the Bartenders and Culinary Workers Local 340 which represents many of the workers at the airport, explained that the essential link between mounting community needs and the state's unemployment problem is that community action to supply the needed services and facilities serves in a major and constructive way both directly and indirectly to reduce joblessness.

"The nation's progress," Small declared, "obviously demands community investment in job-creating programs of lasting worth that increase the nation's wealth. Such public investment creates jobs directly for unskilled and semi-skilled workers as well as for skilled workers. An effective program of increased community investment to meet real and pressing public needs, as in the case of this facility, can help employ many workers whose job needs are greatest and whose job chances are dimmest in this period of spreading automation.

**"Simply stated, public construction uses large numbers of workers at many different kinds of jobs and skills. Public works programs also use large amounts of building materials and equipment. Intelligent, economic and social action, therefore, would help to put to work the idle men, plants and machines in building and improving needed public services,"** he pointed out.

Referring to studies undertaken by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Small reported that these studies found that "the direct job-creating impact of projects such as this amounted to about 220 man hours of work per \$1,000 of expenditure."

If these figures are adjusted for price and productivity increases that have taken place since the studies were made a few years ago, it is estimated that the direct labor needs at present would be about 200 man hours of work per week per \$1,000 of community spending, Small explained. On this basis a direct expenditure of \$1,000,000 would create about 100 jobs, approximately 40 of them at the construction site and 60 in various supply and distribution industries, he added.

Although jobs at the building site obviously call for experienced, skilled craftsmen, the BLS study showed that public construction projects also create jobs for unskilled and semi-skilled workers, the component of our labor force most severely affected by unemployment.

"About 25 to 30 per cent of the jobs at the building site are for unskilled and semi-skilled workers," Small said.

Moreover, he noted, economists estimate that for every 100 jobs directly affected by community construction projects, another 50 to 100 are created indirectly.

**"This then is the nature of the chain reaction that sets in when a community, a state or a nation, works together to satisfy the needs of both the individuals and society in a manner compatible with our private enterprise structure,"** he said.

The new economic era into which we are moving, Small said, "is as much a challenge as it is a promise" to labor. "It is a challenge in the sense that all scientific and technical progress is meaningless unless it is made to conform to human values, and to meet human needs, whether these needs are private or public. It will remain a promise unless we make this (human values) our ultimate criteria in measuring progress."

"It is organized labor's hope that the experience here can be translated into action in many other areas of pressing community needs," Small concluded.

## US Aid Vital To Help Ease Growing Doctor Shortage

Federal aid to medical schools and a program of scholarships to supplement or replace the loan provisions now contained in a House-passed bill are vital to meet the nation's growing shortage of doctors, Clinton M. Fair, AFL-CIO legislative representative, told a Senate labor subcommittee recently.

In testifying on a Senate bill to provide federal aid to medical education, Fair pointed to figures compiled by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare which disclosed that last year the United States slipped from 10th to 11th place in infant mortality rates among countries with populations of more than 300,000.

"Public Health experts tell us that infant mortality rates are the health index that is most sensitive to differences in the quality of medical care," Fair said.

"When we in the U. S. . . . lag behind 10 other nations . . . it is perfectly clear that not all Americans are receiving the benefits of the excellent care that the medical profession of this country is able to provide," Fair said.

The U. S. has cut its infant mortality rate by about 13 percent since 1950, Fair said, but five other nations with rates that were lower than the U.S. rate in 1950 have since cut such deaths from 20 to 40 percent.

"The gap between the best kind of care that is available in this country and the care that large numbers of people actually receive will grow larger, rather than diminish, unless we increase our supply of practicing physicians. That cannot be done without federal aid to medical education," Fair declared.

The measure approved by the House would provide \$105 million for the construction of medical schools and facilities over a three year period and another \$35 million for loans to medical students over a three year period.

The Senate measure at present would provide \$170 million for a medical school construction program over a 10 year period and \$72 million for student loans over a five year period.

## Meany Issues Call for AFL-CIO's Fifth Constitutional Convention

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as malignant in its own way as cancer," Meany warned that "the nation has been lucky to escape a more rapid spread of the disease, but luck may be running out.

"The accelerating growth of the labor force and the constant shrinkage of job opportunities due to automation and other technological changes continue on their inexorable course. There is no visible prospect that rich new sources of employment will arise spontaneously from private enterprise," he said.

Meany said the nation's economy has again reached a point—as it has so often done in the past—when a shorter work week is essential to insure its stability and growth. . . .

"Even if every . . . item on the AFL-CIO legislative agenda were enacted, full employment could not long be maintained without a reduction in the basic work week to 35 hours with penalty pay of double time beyond that standard," Meany declared.

While "the American trade union movement has for many years been in the forefront of the struggle for the full and equal rights of all Americans, at this moment when the struggle is at a climax, the reaffirmation of longstanding principles is not enough. Equal rights is no longer a goal for tomorrow; it is a matter of here and now.

"It is not enough for us to keep our own country strong and to help strengthen old ties with other democracies," Meany said. "The labor movement has a unique task to carry out in the new nations emerging from centuries of colonial rule, and in the many others newly freed from the grip of local tyrants.

"People throughout the world hunger for liberty, for democracy, for self determination at every level of life. But this cannot be attained without democratic institutions, among which a free labor movement is pre-eminent. The AFL-CIO must see to it that the people of these new nations have a fair chance to build the framework of a free society, in whatever pattern they choose, so long as it is free and they are free to change it," Meany declared.

Representation at the convention will be distributed as follows. Each national or international union and organizing committee shall be entitled to the number of delegates indicated in the following scale: less than 4,000 members one delegate; over 4,000 members two delegates; over 8,000 members three delegates; over 12,000 members four delegates; over 25,000 members five delegates; over 50,000 members six delegates; over 75,000 members seven dele-

gates; over 125,000 members eight delegates; over 175,000 members nine delegates; plus one additional delegate for each 75,000 members over 175,000.

Each directly affiliated local union and each national and industrial department shall be entitled to one delegate as is each state or local central body.

Delegates to the convention shall be elected or otherwise designated by the affiliate at least 30 days prior to the convention except where the convention of the affiliate meets within the 30 day period. Delegates' names should be forwarded to the secretary-treasurer immediately after their selection.

The complete details on representation, credentials and resolutions are spelled out in the convention call. The deadline for the return of the original credentials to the secretary-treasurer's office, AFL-CIO Building, Washington 6, D. C. is not later than Friday, October 25, 1963. The duplicate of the credential is to be retained by the delegate-elect to present to the credentials committee.

All resolutions, petitions, memorials and appeals to be considered by the convention must be received by the secretary-treasurer 30 days before the opening of the convention except in instances where such matters have been approved at a regular convention of a national or international union or state central body or national trade and industrial department during this 30 day period in which case such proposals shall be received up to the opening date of the convention. Three copies of each such resolution etc. should be furnished the secretary-treasurer by the affiliated union.

An AFL-CIO Housing Bureau has been set up at the Americana Hotel, 52nd Street at 7th Avenue, New York 19, New York. Since requests for rooms are handled in chronological order, delegates-elect are urged to send in their applications as quickly as possible.

## KEYNOTES ON LABOR

On March 25, 1911, 146 workers died in a fire at the Triangle Waist Company of New York City. Flames, feeding on cloth scraps and goods, quickly spread. There had been no fire drills and exits were locked. Ladders from the fire trucks were two stories short of the blaze. Public outrage and indignation over the existence of such "sweat shops" helped launch the drive toward today's modern labor standards that protect the health and safety of workers.

# California Bucks National Trend as State Jobless Rate Rises Again

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dipped from 5.6 percent in July to 5.5 per cent in August.

The state rate reflects the fact that 387,000 workers in California were jobless last month. Although this figure is 23,000 below the July jobless figure it is 36,000 above the state's total unemployed in August 1962 and the over-the-month decline in unemployment was less than seasonal. Moreover, the jobless rate in August 1962 was 5.9 per cent.

Albert B. Tieburg, director of the Department of Employment, attributed what decrease there was in the ranks of the state's unemployed primarily to strong activity in seasonal food processing and to the ending of the labor dispute in the lumber industry.

Despite the improvement on the national level, government experts conceded that unemployment is still far too high. The national rate indicated that 3,857,000 were jobless in August compared to 4,322,000 in July and 3,932,000 in August 1962 when the jobless rate was 5.7 per cent.

The Labor Department reported that the jobless rate for men which has been dropping steadily since February, declined from 4.3 per cent in July to 4.1 per cent in August. Last February it was 5.1 per cent.

The jobless rate for teenagers, a somewhat more mercurial statistic, dropped from 16.2 to 14.1 per cent between July and August but the rate for adult women soared from 5.3 to 5.7 per cent last month, the highest level it has reached so far this year.

Total employment nationally dropped about 300,000 in August to 70,561,000 or about 800,000 above the figure for August, 1962. The Labor Department said that the drop resulted from a sharp decline in farm employment—from 5,969,000 in July to 5,469,000 in August. Non-farm employment at 65,065,000 was only slightly above the 64,900,000 total of a month earlier.

Surprisingly the nation's total labor force—the sum of the unemployed and the employed—declined by 750,000 to 77,167,000 in August, a greater than seasonal drop. But the Labor Department pointed out that the gain in the total labor force over the year was about 600,000 and said that it would be erroneous to conclude on the basis of a single month's figures that the nation's labor force growth has slackened.

The year-to-year gain in previous months this year has been averaging a little over a million.

Indicating virtually no improvement in the ranks of the chronically unemployed, the Labor Department said that persons out of work for 15 or more weeks remained virtually unchanged in August at about 949,000, approximately the same number in this category in August, 1962. However, the number of workers jobless for half a year or more dropped from 557,000 in July to 510,000 in August. In August, 1962, the figure was 593,000.

The number of workers employed part time for economic reasons (the underemployed) rose by more than 300,000 from 2,483,000 in July to 2,791,000 in August and the August figure was 166,000 higher than it was a year earlier. This category includes employees who work less than 35 hours a week because work is slack, materials are short, their jobs began or ended in mid-week or because they are unable to find full time work.

On the state level total civilian employment rose by 58,000 to 6,565,000 in August, an all-time record, according to Ernest B. Webb, director of the Department of Industrial Relations. Three-fourths of the over-the-month increase was in manufacturing, principally due to the usual summer influx of cannery workers, Webb said. Employment in the aerospace industries, notably missiles and aircraft, rose slightly despite a continued decline in electronics.

Although 167,000 more persons were employed in California last month than a year earlier, the 2.6 per cent increase represented the

# Becker Named to Civil Rights Post

William Becker, a man who Governor Edmund G. Brown describes as one who has "devoted his entire life to civil rights," has been appointed Assistant to Governor for Human Rights.

In announcing the appointment, the Governor said:

"Bill Becker will assist me in translating our public policy of non-discrimination from words to action and his first assignment will be to see that our new Code of Fair Practices is carried out, and that we cooperate with public and private agencies who are working to eliminate discrimination."

As secretary and legislative advocate for the California Committee for Fair Practices, Becker was closely associated with Assemblyman W. Byron Rumford of Berkeley in winning enactment of the labor-backed Fair Housing bill (AB 1240) during the 1963 legislative session.

He is also area representative for the Jewish Labor Committee, a member of the California State Advisory Committee to the United States Civil Rights Commission, and is associated with the San Francisco Federation of Teachers and Cemetery Workers Union Local 265, the NAACP, the San Francisco Council for Civic Unity, the Urban League, the Youth For Service, and the Community Service Organization.

smallest rise between year ago and current employment levels since mid-1961.

Aside from agriculture, all major job categories in the state added workers over the year. Services were 54,000 higher than a year earlier and set an all time record of 1,194,000. Employment in government climbed 42,000 to an August record of 983,000 and trade employment increased by 40,000 to 1,360,000, a record for the month.

The state's total civilian labor force was 6,952,000 in August compared to a revised figure of 6,917,000 in July and 6,749,000 in August, 1962.

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