

"Pass HIS By"

Yule Shoppers Get Double Duty from Union Label Gifts

"Union members who 'Buy Union' during their Christmas shopping — as well as throughout the year—get double-duty out of their gifts because, by supporting only fair employers they not only assure themselves of quality products and services but also help assure fellow workers of job security and other union benefits," Thos. L. Pitts, State AFL-CIO leader, pointed out this week.

In calling attention to the massive nationwide Christmas buying campaign which seeks to channel millions of union-earned dollars toward the purchase of union made goods, Pitts urged California union members to heed the appeal issued by Joseph Lewis, AFL-CIO Union Label Department leader, to give the national campaign their fullest support.

"All union members and their families and friends should add the symbols of organized labor — the union label, the shop card, the store card and the service button—to their shopping lists during this holiday buying period," Lewis declared.

"In this manner we will know that the gifts we give are the finest available and that we are helping make more secure the jobs of those who produced the gifts we buy and the services we patronize," he added.

To assist trade unionists and friends of the labor movement in shunning non-union brands, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, AFL-CIO, has

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Governor Asks for 'People's Lobby' To Help Attain Consumer Assn. Goals

More than 200 delegates from throughout California marched into the Thunderbird Hotel in Millbrae early last Saturday to pound out federal and state legislative goals and other targets for the Association of California Consumers to shoot at during the coming year.

Principal speakers at the Association's fourth annual convention were

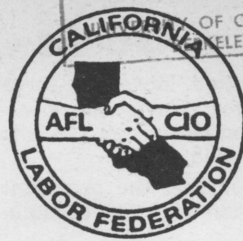
DI Benefit Ceiling Rises To \$77 Jan. 1

Effective January 1, 1964, the maximum weekly benefit payable for off-the-job sickness or other non-occupational disability will rise from \$75 to \$77, according to Albert B. Tieburg, State Director of Employment.

The unemployment disability insurance benefit hike is due to an increase in the average weekly wage in covered employment, he explained.

The boost results from legislation sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in 1961 which provided for automatic annual adjustment

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THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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State Labor Conference Airs Plans For Legislative and Political Action

"AFL-CIO leaders in the state are united in their determination to press for special session action in 1964 to correct some of the major shortcomings of the 1963 general session of the California Legislature," Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, said that this was the "clear cut consensus" that came out of the special meeting on legislative and political problems, attended by some 150 representatives of central labor bodies, craft councils and international unions at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco on December 5.

"The labor leaders present represented the strongest possible cross-section of AFL-CIO leadership in California," Pitts declared, "and they didn't mince any words in expressing the deepseated unrest and dissatisfaction that exist within the ranks of labor up and down the state."

In the face of labor's highly publicized criticism of the Legislature's perform-

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State Jobless Rate Jumps Up to 6.4%

Unemployment registered a disturbing rise in California last month when the state's seasonally adjusted jobless rate—at 6.4 percent—was a full half of one percentage point above November 1962.

For the nation as a whole, the jobless rate jumped to 5.9 percent in November, .4 percent higher than a month earlier and about the same as a year ago.

On the state level, the result reflected an over-the-month rise of 71,000 in unemployment. Total jobless in the state last month was 406,000, official state reports said.

One year ago 360,000 Californians were jobless and the state's seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 5.9 percent.

The three-tenths of one percent jump in the state's jobless rate between October and November apparently cancels out the dip recorded in October and falls in line with the dreary upward spiral reflected in the 6.3 percent seasonally adjusted rates recorded in August and September of this year.

The State's total civilian employment — at 6,488,000 — was higher than any previous November but it reflected an increase of only 172,000 or 2.7 percent although the state's total labor force showed an increase of 218,000, thus stripping the over-the-year increase in jobs by 46,000 persons.

For the nation as a whole, the increase in joblessness to 3.9 million from 3.5 million a month earlier was accompanied by a 566,000 drop in total employment to 69,325,000.

The incidence of joblessness among adult men, which has been declining most of the year, rose last month for the first time since February to 4.3 percent. Likewise the jobless rate for

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Governor Asks for 'People's Lobby' To Help Attain Consumer Assn. Goals

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15, 1962." The President also commended Governor Brown "for his leadership in developing effective consumer representation at the state government level."

Noting that he felt "in some ways responsible" for the Association, Governor Brown called on the delegates to spread the word to other members of their organizations at the local community level that:

"Your Governor and your legislators need help in Sacramento and Washington. We need a people's lobby to represent the consumer and that representation must come from the people and your organizations."

In reviewing the Association's accomplishments, Governor Brown said:

"In four years we have gone a long way toward realizing the consumer's bill of rights. We now have laws to assist consumers in installment credit, referral sales, sales tax collection and exemptions, cosmetics and insurance.

"This year, we moved into new fields—household moving, TV and radio repair, packaging, and deficiency judgments. The work we have done will mean savings of many millions of dollars to consumers . . ." But, he added: "There's work ahead, and plenty of it."

Among the targets the Governor suggested were: A state "price of credit" law to permit the buyer to know the exact and full cost of his credit purchases; further reforms in packaging laws on the state level as well as national packaging legislation to enable consumers to compare the contents and prices of packaged goods; and continued participation by consumer groups in the "massive new struggle for human rights in this country."

"The rights of the consumer are a part of this struggle," Brown declared. "Too often those who can least afford it—our minorities, the ignorant and the poor—are the worst victims of the marketplace."

Senator Hart called the delegates' attention to the pressures brought to bear on congressional committees when bills to protect consumers, such as his own truth-in-packaging bill, are under consideration.

"Bear in mind that the industries opposing truth-in-packaging represent a minimum yearly sales of \$100 million—or approximately one-fifth of the gross national product," he said. "In this case, money is power," he added.

A degree of censorship by omission was implied when Senator Hart told the delegates that only three major national publications carried factual stories on truth-in-packaging and they were magazines of select circulation—Harper's,

Progressive and Nation. Moreover, three of his own scheduled television appearances were cancelled because of protests by advertisers, he said.

The senator urged that the president appoint a special assistant for consumers' affairs.

In the course of their deliberations, the delegates approved a number of resolutions. On the Federal level they called for:

- Establishment of a full-scale U. S. Department of Consumers.
- Enactment of the Douglas "Truth-in-Lending" bill.
- Passage of the Hart "Truth-in-Packaging" bill.
- Strengthening of 1962 drug legislation to curb pricing and patent abuses.
- Enactment of the King-Anderson bill.

And on the state level the delegates resolved to seek:

- A substantial increase in the state Consumer Counsel's budget.
- Legislation to limit the fees chargeable for job placement by private employment agencies.
- Continued opposition to so-called "fair trade" or "quality stabilization" measures and support for such legislation as is needed to restore price competition.
- Legislation to invalidate so-called "referral sales" and to cut the maximum allowable finance charge on new and used automobile installment sales, coupled with a "truth-in-lending" provision in auto financing. (The Association's resolution urged the Governor to place both of these items on special call at the budget session of the legislature next year.)
- Action to support the Rumford Fair Housing Law and to preserve it from attacks such as the current initiative petition campaign which seeks to nullify it.
- Immediate action by the state legislature to mobilize the state's resources to supplement federal housing programs and provide low and middle income housing without discrimination or income stratification.

Substantial support of the consumer association by organized labor was strongly in evidence among the delegates who attended the convention. State AFL-CIO President Albin J. Gruhn, a member of the Association's Executive Board, assured Convention delegates in behalf of Federation Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts that the battle for consumer rights is also labor's battle.

The convention re-elected Jackie Walsh President and George Brunn Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.

State Industrial Safety Conference Slated Feb. 6-7

The 14th statewide meeting of the Governor's Industrial Safety Conference will be held at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco on Thursday and Friday, February 6-7, 1964, George A. Sherman, Chief of the Division of Industrial Safety of the State Department of Industrial Relations, has announced.

Registration for the conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, February 6. No registration fee is charged for the conference.

State Jobless Rate Jumps Up to 6.4%

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teenagers—at 17.2 percent—in November was an alarming 1.8 percent above a month earlier and exceeded the 14 to 16 percent range in which it had fluctuated this year.

Labor Department experts said that although their standard adjustments for seasonal factors for November might be faulty, they did not think the entire rise in the unemployment rate could be attributed to seasonal factors. Frankly they said they could not fully explain the rise in joblessness in November but said it appeared to be at variance with other measures of the economic situation.

The labor force time lost rate which indicates the degree of efficiency at which the economy is operating in terms of its available manpower worsened by rising from 6.6 percent in October to 6.9 percent in November, the same rate prevailing in November, 1962.

The nation's total labor force last month was 76 million compared to 74.5 million a year earlier. Total employment was down 600,000 to 69.3 million compared to 69.9 million a month earlier and 67.9 million in November 1962.

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of the maximum benefit to assure a top benefit equal to two-thirds of average weekly wages in covered employment.

In the same year another Federation-sponsored measure extended disability insurance coverage to farm workers.

The State Disability Fund, financed solely by employees, is presently maintained by a one percent tax on the first \$4,600 of annual earnings. Effective January 1, 1964, the taxable earnings base will rise to \$5,100 and on January 1, 1965 to \$5,600 to finance the additional benefits authorized in 1961.

Yule Buyers Asked To Seek Union Gifts

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just revised its list of non-union apparel and urges shoppers to check the list before making any purchases.

The clothing workers union is intensifying its drive against products made by the Henry I. Siegel Company of Tennessee under the brand name of H. I. S. The slogan for the union's drive is "Pass HIS By." The firm's largest non-union plant is in Bruceton, Tenn., where plant manager Siegel is the town mayor.

Despite company intimidation, community pressure and racial appeals, almost half the workers at the plant voted for the union. A new NLRB election has been ordered and the continued support of the labor movement in this fight is vital, a union official said.

Special N.Y. Times Section On Unions Available Free

Single copies of the special 44-page magazine supplement carried in the New York Times November 17, 1963 in conjunction with the AFL-CIO convention in New York City are available free from the Pamphlet Division of the AFL-CIO Department of Publications.

The supplement contains major articles on AFL-CIO objectives, the state of its 130 affiliates and their 60,000 locals, the Federation's fight for equal rights for all Americans, as well as articles discussing labor's role in community services and voter registration drives. Other articles discuss the impact of automation on jobs and the AFL-CIO's function as "the people's lobby" in pressing for state and federal legislation to benefit the nation.

Quantity orders of less than 1,000 copies cost 10 cents per copy. Orders for 1,000 or more copies cost \$75 per thousand. Orders should be addressed to Lawrence Rogin, AFL-CIO Director of Education, 815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Nation's 100 Biggest Pension Plans' Assets at \$2.1 Billion

The nation's 100 largest employee welfare and pension benefit plans held total assets of \$2.1 billion at the end of 1961, according to a study of reports filed with the U. S. Labor Department under the Welfare and Pension Funds disclosure Act.

Assets of the 100 largest plans topped the combined assets of all other plans having privately held funds for which reports were filed with the Department. The 100 largest plans had assets of \$16 billion or 53 per cent of the total assets of all plans filed, in 1959. The assets of the 100 largest plans rose to \$17.8 billion, or 53.3 per cent of the total assets of the more than 120,000 plans covered in the study in 1960.

State Labor Conference Airs Plans For Legislative and Political Action

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ance in vital areas affecting the welfare of working people and the prosperity of the state, the special conference was called to find ways and means of assuring unity of action in the crucial legislative and political year ahead.

The morning session was devoted to a review "in depth" of the Legislature's performance, based on the 1963 "Sacramento Story," which was issued on the eve of the conference by Pitts and distributed to all conference participants.

Pinpointing responsibility for failures, Pitts carefully depicted how on several broad fronts, including social insurance programs, labor relations legislation, and economic housing programs, "the session was turned into a field day for conservative and reactionary forces seeking to stem the tide of socio-economic progress."

The afternoon session of the December 5 meeting, with the focus on programming ahead to "more effectively relate endorsements and campaign efforts to the achievement of legislative goals," produced this consensus among the labor leaders:

1—It is a matter of urgency, in view of continued high levels of hard core unemployment in the state, that the Legislature be called into special session concurrently with the 1964 budget session to strengthen socio-economic programs that were either ignored or given inadequate attention by the 1963 session. Particular emphasis was given to social insurance legislation, including state programs in unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation, and unemployment disability insurance.

2—The entire AFL-CIO movement must close ranks in pressing both the Governor and the Legislature to take constructive action on the specific legislative program that the Executive Council of the California Labor Federation advances to implement the consensus that special session action is necessary.

3—The evaluation of performance records of individual legislators should take into consideration not only floor votes, but also the legislators' activities and performance behind the scenes and in legislative committee operations. Prior to actual endorsements, the records and activities of individual legislators should be reviewed with closer communication between the state and local labor movements.

4—Particular attention must be given to making endorsements more meaningful under California's closed primary system, to the end that the strongest possible candidates are developed, with special attention to the composition of the electorate in each Assembly, State Senatorial and Congressional district.

5—Closer coordination of endorsement procedures through the official

COPE structures is essential at both the local and state levels to preclude the fragmentation of labor's strength, which invites legislators to play off one labor organization against another to the detriment of the labor movement as a whole.

6—Vigorous adherence to the principle of labor's non-partisan political action is an absolute necessity to guard against the possibility of either party directing labor's political activities.

Pitts assured the conference participants that although the meeting had no official standing, the consensus developed would be carried to the Executive Councils of both the California Labor Federation and the California Labor Council on Political Education, and that the opinions of such a strong cross-section of the labor movement would be given very serious consideration in the development of official policy.

New Union Pact Calls For Free Trips Abroad

An enticing new issue — free trips abroad—may soon be injected into collective bargaining sessions around the nation as a result of a contract negotiated by Local 434 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union of Philadelphia.

Local 434's new contract provides for four or five employees of a restaurant chain to be sent abroad each year at the employer's expense to cement relations between American wage-earners and working people overseas.

Under the contract, the program calls for the employees themselves to select the employees to make the trip.

The idea was conceived to permit average U. S. wage earners to visit foreign lands despite their modest incomes to give the world a more realistic view of Americans and to mitigate a frequently bad impression left by more affluent U. S. tourists.

Report on 'American Women'

"American Women," the first report of the President's Commission on the Status of Women, represents the results of a broad, 22-month survey of major aspects of women's activities in American life. It ranges through health, longevity, marriage and birth rates, educational attainments, employment and earnings to protective labor legislation, tax laws and women's civil and political rights. Copies may be ordered from Mrs. Madeleine Coddington, Regional Director of the U. S. Labor Department's Women's Bureau, Room 308, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco.

Gov. Brown Names 15 Appointees to New State Commission on Automation

Fulfilling the legislative mandate of a Federation-backed measure enacted last Spring, Governor Edmund G. Brown has named 15 prominent Californians to the newly established California Commission on Manpower, Automation and Technology.

The Commission, an outgrowth of the Governor's 24-member Committee on Automation and Technological Development, is charged with making a broad study of the impact of technological change on manpower needs in the state.

Perhaps the most widely known appointee, Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, President of the Fund for the Republic and the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Santa Barbara and former Chancellor of the University of Chicago, was the last to be named. He was appointed last Tuesday, nearly a week after other commission members were announced.

Named to head the new 29-man Commission was Father Andrew C. Boss, 52, Director of the Labor-Management School at the University of San Francisco.

In announcing the appointees, Governor Brown called for "a comprehensive analysis of automation's great challenges."

In addition to Father Boss, the Governor appointed Louis E. Davis, Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, and Edgar A. Jones, a law professor at UCLA, as public representatives.

The Governor's six labor representatives are:

Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Wilbur Fillippini, Secretary of the Building and Construction Trades Council, Santa Barbara; Raymond W. Tucker, Vice President of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor; Hal Shean, Grand Lodge Representative of the International Association of Machinists, San Diego; Einar O. Mohn, President of the Western Conference of Teamsters, San Francisco; and William S. Lawrence of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, San Pedro.

Management representatives are:

Charles R. Able, general manager of Douglas Aircraft Corporation; General James H. Doolittle, Board Chairman of Space Technology Laboratories, Los Angeles; J. Paul St. Sure, president of the Pacific Maritime Association; H. Leslie Hoffman, president of Hoffman Electronics Corporation; W. J. Mazzetti, president of the Blue Banner Company of Riverside who will also represent agriculture; and Dr. Hutchins.

In addition to the 15 gubernatorial appointees, the Commission is composed of four Senators, four Assemblymen and six ex-officio members. These are: Senators Robert J. Lagomarsino; J. Eugene McAteer; Allen Short; Alvin C. Weingand; and Assemblymen Edward E. Elliott; John F. Foran; Philip L. Soto; and Mervyn M. Dymally.

The ex-officio members are the following directors of state departments: Charles A. Paul, Agriculture; Ernest B. Webb, Industrial Relations; Albert B. Tieburg, Employment; and Jack M. Wedemeyer, Social Welfare; and Lew Holland, commissioner of the Economic Development Agency and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Max Rafferty.

The measure creating the new Commission (AB 49—Elliott) provided only \$75,000 for administrative costs but substantial federal grants will be available for the Commission's use.

The Commission is directed to:

- Study modern industrial technology and its affect on manpower, including displacement of individuals and skills.
- Study the effect of automation on the state economy.
- Study and analyze public and private programs for job training, retraining and skill development.
- Recommend surveys for projecting skill requirements which can be used to develop programs for job training and retraining.

• Encourage management and labor to make joint surveys within their respective industries to analyze the impact of anticipated technological change.

The Commission is directed to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the legislature not later than December 31 of each year.

Birchers Guilty In Civil Rights Case

Three admitted officers of the John Birch Society who pleaded guilty to charges of disturbing the peace stemming from their heckling, shouting and booing tactics that broke up a public forum on civil rights at a high school in Torrance last August 17 have been fined \$225 each and placed on probation for two years.

In passing sentence on the trio, Torrance Municipal Judge William B. Keene said their conduct at the forum, which was called to discuss problems highlighted by civil rights demonstrations at an all-white housing tract "violated every basic principal of freedom of speech."

Convicted were Robert Cadle of Torrance, James Rea of Rolling Hill Estates and Jacob M. Sacks of Palo Verde estates.

LABOR UNIONS TURN DREAMS INTO REALITY

"Fifty years or so ago the American labor movement was little more than a group of dreamers, and look at it now. Nearly 14 million men and women belong to unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO. From coast to coast, in factories, stores, warehouses and business establishments of all kinds, industrial democracy is at work.

"Employees, represented by free democratic trade unions of their own choosing, participate actively in determining their wages, hours and working conditions. Their living standards are the highest in the world. Their job rights are protected by collective bargaining agreements. They have fringe benefits that were unheard of less than a generation ago.

"Is there any better monument to the unlimited ability of Americans to turn dreams to reality than the American labor movement?" — John F. Kennedy.

Civilization's One Question

"There has never been but one question in all civilization—how to keep a few men from saying to many men: you work and earn bread and we will eat it."

—Abraham Lincoln

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