

COPE Issues Call To Endorsement Parley Sept. 18

The Pre-General Election Endorsement Convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education will be held in California Hall at 625 Polk Street at Turk in San Francisco on Friday, September 18, 1964, according to Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the State AFL-CIO's political arm.

In issuing the official call for delegates to the convention, Pitts explained that the delegates will review the results of the June 2 primary and decide on endorsements to be made in the November 3 General Election in those instances where the position of California Labor COPE has not been recorded to date and where COPE candidates failed to qualify at the Primary Election. The delegates will also tackle any other relevant issues they deem important.

To be represented at the convention, organizations must be in good standing with per capita tax paid in full up to June 1, 1964. No organization that has not applied for affiliation prior to June 1, 1964 may be represented, except organizations chartered after that date.

All delegates must be members in good standing with the organization issuing their credentials and no delegate may represent more than one organization except (1) a delegate from a Central Labor Council or political organization in a specific area may also represent the affiliated local union of which he is a member in good standing if he has credentials from that local, and (2) a delegate may represent up to three

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Gruhn Urges Defeat of CREA Initiative In Fourth of July Speech at Bakersfield

"Too many of our citizens today tend to satisfy themselves as Americans, proud of their democratic tradition of freedom and equality under the law, with the forms rather than the substance of democracy," Albin J. Gruhn, President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, reminded hundreds of Kern County residents who turned out for a community In-

dependence Day picnic at Bakersfield.

"Too often," Gruhn said, "the message and the principles contained in the Declaration of Independence and in our Constitution have been inadvertently forgotten by many of our citizens." Then, quoting from the Declaration of Independence, Gruhn said:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The state AFL-CIO official pointed out that "there was nothing light or

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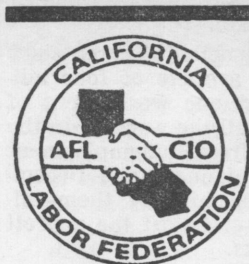
Pitts Flies to Bonn On German Tour

State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts flew to Bonn this week for a 14-day tour of West Germany as a guest of the German government.

Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is one of 10 labor representatives from throughout the nation chosen by the U. S. State Department to participate in the tour.

Plans for the trip originated during the late President John F. Kennedy's tour of West Germany last year. At that

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Secretary-Treasurer

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Meany Tells GOP Platform Committee Labor's Views on Nation's Key Needs

Asserting that "the voters have a right to know what each party proposes to do about each issue that affects the lives of any considerable number of people," AFL-CIO President George Meany this week submitted organized labor's views on the nation's needs to the Republican Party Platform Committee in San Francisco.

In oral testimony presented to the Committee in the St. Francis Hotel on Wednesday, Meany emphasized that although organized labor is vitally concerned about a broad variety of measures, two "indivisible . . . fundamental issues . . . overshadow all the rest."

"They are," he declared, "first, the security of the United States and the rest of the free world in the continuing struggle against totalitarian communism; and second, the progress of our own American society toward universal abundance and unqualified social justice . . .

"One cannot be met without the other.

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Action Urged To Implement New Civil Rights Law

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called on all central bodies to exert maximum leadership to bring about massive compliance with the new civil rights law in every phase of community life.

Noting that little more than a year ago in June 1963 he had appealed to central bodies to set up bi-racial committees or councils in every community to speed the elimination of racial barriers, Meany urged all central bodies that have established civil rights programs to intensify their efforts and called on those that have thus far failed to act "to delay no longer."

He particularly urged the leadership of central labor bodies to bring about "the fullest possible involvement of the employers" in their communities.

"Employers as a whole have stood aloof from the law," the AFL-CIO President said.

Pointing out that the AFL-CIO has a special obligation "to implement the law we supported and the principles it represents," Meany pledged the full assistance of his office in providing whatever advice, counsel or technical assistance the central bodies may need.

He also announced that he would ask the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its scheduled August 3 meeting to call a national conference of affiliated unions and state central bodies "to work out a program through which the AFL-CIO can best help to implement the terms of the civil rights law."

GOP Committee Hears Labor's Views on Nation's Key Issues

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This country cannot be secure against the communist threat unless it overcomes its own economic and social shortcomings. Nor can Americans maintain and improve their way of life if the free world falls before the forces of totalitarianism."

PROPOSALS LISTED

To correct some of these shortcomings, Meany urged the Platform Committee to adopt planks calling for, among other things:

- Revision of the wage-hour law to protect all low-paid workers presently exempt.
- A boost in the minimum wage to \$2 an hour.
- Steps to reduce the standard work week to 35 hours, with penalty pay of double time for overtime.
- Repeal of the "right to work" provisions (Section 14 (b)) of the Taft-Hartley Act along with a general overhauling of the Act "to eliminate other obvious injustices."
- Adoption of a hospital insurance program for the aged as part of the social security system.
- Federal aid to education at all levels.
- Substantial expansion of federal housing and urban renewal programs.

These programs, as well as a host of others are vital, Meany declared, to "the progress of our own American society toward universal abundance and unqualified social justice."

BOOKLET SUBMITTED

The full scope of organized labor's programs was spelled out in a 24-page booklet entitled "Platform Proposals of the AFL-CIO to the Republican and Democratic National Committees" which Meany filed with the committee for its consideration. The same document will be submitted to the Democratic Platform Committee at its convention in Atlantic City in August.

Citing the recently enacted Civil Rights Law as just "a beginning, not an end to the drive for meaningful equality in America," the AFL-CIO leader stressed the fact that "for equal opportunity to be realized there must be full opportunity as well."

That means, he declared, "jobs at good wages for all."

"The civil rights battle," he said, "was not waged to win equal rights to unemployment, or an equal distribution of poverty."

Calling the committee members' attention to the fact that the nation's jobless rate has been five percent or more for nearly three years, Meany said that "the true scope of unemployment is far

broader than bare statistics can show." For example, he said:

"When the government figures show an unemployment average of four million over the year, one worker out of five, 20 percent of all the workers in the country, suffer from unemployment sometime between January and December. And almost a third of them—almost five million—were off the payroll for at least 15 weeks.

Moreover, he added, "a substantial number of workers listed as 'employed' have part-time jobs, many by necessity rather than choice. Our economists estimate that when their involuntary lost time is added in, the true unemployment rate—measured in available work-time lost—is something like eight percent."

Thus, he pointed out, while the nation has enjoyed its longest uninterrupted peace time boom in at least a generation it has been a "lopsided boom—prosperity for the 80 percent who make up the affluent society; hard times for the rest."

PROFITS SOAR SINCE '61

While corporate profits have soared 42 percent since 1961 and the weekly

LBJ Wins Out as House Passes Foreign Aid Bill

A \$3.3 billion foreign aid appropriations bill won House approval last week by a vote of 231 to 174 after an attempt by the conservative-Dixiecrat coalition to cut it back an additional \$247.8 million was rejected 208 to 198.

The action, a victory for President Johnson, would provide the administration with all but \$200 million of the \$3.5 billion it had requested.

Final Senate action on the money bill is apparently some distance off. The Senate is currently in the process of passing the authorizing legislation that sets ceilings on separate categories of aid. Its action on actual appropriations will follow the authorization measure.

California representatives joining the conservative-Dixiecrat bloc in the effort to slash an additional \$247 million from what President Johnson had described as a "realistic, barebones" budget for the foreign aid program to effectively wage the cold war were: Bell; Don Clausen; Del Clawson; Gubser; Hosmer; Lipscomb; Martin; Smith; Talcott; Teague; Utt and Younger. Rep. Bob Wilson was recorded for the cut but did not actually vote.

GOP Congressmen Baldwin and Mailiard joined 26 California Democrats in voting against the additional slash. Rep. Hanna was recorded as against the cut but did not actually vote.

earnings of employed workers have set new records, the income of the work force as a whole has risen only 16 percent because that total includes those millions the boom has left behind, Meany said.

"Worst of all," he declared, "the private, profit-making segment of the economy—the largest segment, and the one traditionally associated with 'opportunity' in America—is providing fewer full-time jobs today than it did 10 years ago."

This "shocking fact," he explained, is because jobs in those sections of the economy which historically have provided mass employment—manufacturing, mining, agriculture and the railroads—have been melting away under the pressure of technological progress.

AUTOMATION FACTOR

Although production goes up to meet the needs of a growing population, that production more and more each year, is the work of machines, not men. As a result, he said, some two million jobs simply vanish every year.

In addition, he added, where private employment has increased—in retail and wholesale trade and in the service trades—a heavy proportion of the jobs are part-time and badly paid.

These factors, coupled with the inadequacy of the education and training of the nation's youth that is reflected in the high unemployment rates among young people and minority groups, add up to "chronic unemployment, and therefore chronic poverty, in the midst of abundance," he said.

PUBLIC INVESTMENT

To combat this "weakness within our own boundaries—the weakness of unemployment, of poverty, of inadequate opportunities," the federal government must meet its responsibilities established by Congress under the Employment Act of 1946 by undertaking "a broad systematic program of public investment—a massive investment in America," the AFL-CIO leader asserted.

The question, he warned, is no longer "What will it cost?" or "Can we afford it?" but rather, "Can we afford not to do it?"

On international issues, Meany emphasized that the AFL-CIO still strongly opposes suggestions that trade relations be resumed with communist states because such a course "offers the prospect of substantial profits for American business."

"The AFL-CIO is not willing to help perpetuate a dictatorship in the name of corporate profits—or even to make jobs for American workers. To make the further suggestion that trade with the Communists should be financed by government credits—as some have done—is an outrage to common sense," Meany declared.

Big Victory For Building Trades

Davis-Bacon Fringe Benefits Bill Wins Final Passage, Awaits LBJ's Signature

The Davis-Bacon fringe benefits bill, a major AFL-CIO legislative goal for nearly a decade, has been approved by a voice vote in the Senate and sent to President Johnson for his signature.

The measure, approved by the House last January by a 357 to 50 vote, requires contractors on federally financed construction projects to match prevailing area standards of fringe benefits as well as wages or to add the cash equivalent to hourly pay.

Before the vote, AFL-CIO President George Meany had written each Senator to explain that the bill "is essential to protect local wage rates and local community living standards."

When the Davis-Bacon Act was adopted in 1931, "fringe benefits such as health, welfare, insurance and pension plans scarcely existed," Meany pointed out.

But currently, he noted, there are "more than 5,000 health, welfare and pension funds covering more than 70 percent of the building and construction trades workers. . . . These fringe benefits are as much a part of the wage structure as the cash wage payment itself," he said.

The employer who does not pay fringe benefits "clearly has an unfair advantage in bidding on federal construction contracts over a contractor who does provide such benefits for his workers," Meany pointed out.

C. J. Neil Haggerty, President of the AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Department, hailed final passage of the fringe benefit bill as "the greatest legislative victory for the building trades in the past decade."

Labor Force Rises Faster Than Jobs

The increase in the nation's labor force outstripped job growth in 1963 resulting in more unemployment last year than in 1962, according to the Labor Department's monthly Labor Review.

Despite average employment of 69 million in 1963, a special report in the publication's June issue noted that while the U. S. labor force expanded by 1.1 million in 1963, employment rose only by one million.

Moreover, the 1963 employment gains were significantly larger than the average annual increase in jobs of 700,000 registered between 1955 and 1962.

White collar employment last year climbed about 300,000 and blue collar jobs rose 700,000 with all the increase taking place among skilled and semi-skilled workers, the report said.

The new legislation directs the Secretary of Labor to include in prevailing wage determinations the area pattern of employer costs for benefits, including medical or hospital care; pensions; life, disability, and sickness and accident insurance; vacation and holiday pay, unemployment benefits, and apprenticeship or similar training programs. Other benefits may be included if they are the pattern in the area.

If benefits are not matched in kind, their cash value is added to the hourly wages for straight time. It is not added for overtime work.

Despite strong bipartisan support for the bill, Senators Barry Goldwater (R. Arizona) and John G. Tower (R. Texas) both members of the Senate Labor Committee, filed a minority report objecting to any liberalization of the Davis-Bacon Act unless the Secretary of Labor's wage determinations were made subject to judicial review.

But when the bill moved to the Senate floor, no effort was made to attach a judicial review amendment to it. The House had beaten down such an amendment 297 to 105.

In the House the bill was sponsored by Rep. James Roosevelt (D. Calif.) and in the Senate its sponsors included Democrat Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and Republican Minority Whip Thomas H. Kuchel of California.

Humphrey told the Senate that the existing law was "an open invitation to outside contractors to bring low wages and cheap labor into higher wage communities because these lower labor costs give them a successful bidding advantage on government work."

Pitts Flies to Bonn On German Tour

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time the German Minister of the Treasury, Dr. Werner Dollinger, invited the President to send 100 top U.S. leaders to West Germany to permit the German government to present a token of its thanks to the people of the United States for their aid in the reconstruction of Germany after World War II.

The 100 invitations were divided into 10 groups having special interests in common and participants were selected with an effort to include representatives of all shades of public opinion in the United States.

Pitts and the nine other guests in his civic leadership group are scheduled to visit Bonn, Köln, Hamburg, Munich and Berlin. Special receptions are scheduled for them in both Bonn and Berlin.

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affiliated local unions that are affiliates of the same national or international union and which have a combined per capita vote of not more than 1200 if the delegate is a member in good standing in at least one of these locals from which he has received credentials.

Representation is based on the number of members in each affiliated local union as follows: two delegates for the first 500 members or less; one delegate for the next succeeding 250 members or major fraction thereof; and one delegate for each succeeding 500 members or major fraction thereof. But the total number of delegates from any local union may not exceed 10.

The number of members on which the representation and voting strength of each local union is based will be determined by dividing the total amount of per capita tax paid during a 24 month period extending from July 1, 1962 through June 30, 1964 by 72 cents.

Central labor or similar bodies or councils and political organizations in specific areas are entitled to two delegates.

Credentials and lists of authorized delegates, Pitts said, will be mailed as soon as the computation of per capita membership and the voting strength of each local has been completed.

Complete details on voting procedures and credentials are included in the Convention Call bulletins now in the mail, Pitts added.

The deadline for receipt by the secretary-treasurer of COPE resolutions and proposed amendments to the constitution is Thursday, September 3, 1964 except for those approved by regularly constituted and affiliated statewide organizations at conventions or conferences held during the 15 days preceding the convention. Such resolutions must be received by the secretary-treasurer not later than 9 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 1964.

Each resolution must be presented in triplicate and bear either the signature of an executive officer or the seal of the affiliated organization introducing it.

The COPE executive committee will meet at convention headquarters at the Del Webb TowneHouse on Thursday, September 17 to make their recommendations to the convention.

Information on hotel accommodations, rates and reservations will be mailed with credentials, Pitts added.

Navy Ship To Be Named The U.S.S. Samuel Gompers

President Johnson has announced that a new destroyer tender, the keel of which was laid this week in Bremerton, Washington, will be named the USS Samuel Gompers in honor of the founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is fitting that a U. S. naval vessel bear the name Samuel Gompers," the President said in making the announcement.

"Few men represented more effectively the American idea of individual right and responsibility.

GOMPERS SET COURSE

"A leader in the struggle for recognition of workers' rights, including the right to organize and bargain collectively, Gompers set the course for American labor by rejecting outright the concept of the 'class struggle' so prevalent at the time. He determined that working men and women would achieve social justice within the free enterprise system and under the shelter of democratic institutions — not by throwing them down but by improving them, Johnson said.

"The social and economic position of American workers today is to a large extent attributable to the efforts of Samuel Gompers," he added.

Gompers, born in London in 1850, was a cobbler's helper when he was just 10 years old. In 1863 he came to the United States with his parents, became a cigar maker and held various posts in the Cigar Makers' union. In 1881, when he was 31, he was one of the founders of the American Federation of Labor and was elected its first president, a position he held most of his life until his death in San Antonio, Texas, in 1924.

NATIONAL POSTS NOTED

During World War I he served on various boards and was a member of the Commission on International Labor Legislation which drafted Part XIII of the Versailles Peace Treaty.

He was also a guiding force in the founding of the International Labor Organization and of the International Federation of Trade Unions, a precursor of the present International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).

The tender, the first ship of its type constructed since 1945, will be 644 feet in length with a beam of 85 feet and a displacement of 20,500 tons. It is expected to be two years in the making.

Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz and AFL-CIO President George Meany as well as other governmental and labor union officials were on hand for the keel-laying ceremony.

Gruhn Urges Defeat of CREA Initiative In Fourth of July Speech at Bakersfield

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frivolous about this affirmation (by the signers of the Declaration of Independence), of their belief in liberty, equality and the right to self-government."

"This irrevocable commitment on their part," Gruhn said, "stood an excellent chance of costing them their lives on the gallows."

Linking their actions to the civil rights movement and particularly to the segregation initiative being sponsored by the California Real Estate Association today, Gruhn suggested that all citizens should "soberly examine our own individual commitment to the concept of freedom and equality regardless of race, creed or color.

"This examination should separate fact from fiction as to our individual day-to-day practice of the fundamental civil rights principles that are so eloquently outlined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution," he said.

Pointing out that the effect of the CREA initiative would be "to consign certain Americans to restricted geographic sections of our cities where already vastly overcrowded conditions are destined by population growth for even more intolerable crowding," Gruhn said:

Three Labor Reps Named to Pension Plans Advisory Unit

Appointment of 13 persons, including three labor representatives, to the Advisory Council of Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans has just been announced by U. S. Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz.

Wirtz appointed six new members and re-appointed seven present members with new members to serve two years and those re-appointed one year. Future appointees will serve two years to provide for continuity of experience in the Council's activities.

Two of the new appointees and one of the re-appointees are labor representatives. They are: Albert S. Epstein, Associate Research Director, International Association of Machinists, AFL-CIO, Washington, D. C.; Howard Young, Actuarial Consultant, Social Security Department, United Automobile Workers, AFL-CIO, Detroit, Michigan; and, Richard E. Shoemaker, (the re-appointee) Assistant Director, AFL-CIO Department of Social Security, Washington, D. C.

The Advisory Council, required by the Welfare and Pension Plans Disclosure Act, meets at least twice annually to advise the secretary regarding his functions under the Act.

"The inevitable and demonstrated consequences of such action would be to compound slum conditions and their attendant problems affecting the entire community while, on the other hand, creating a bonanza for the real estate interests who are thus enabled to charge luxury rentals for housing that is third-class in quality and in quantity."

Moreover, he warned, if the initiative is not defeated, the people of California will be placed "in clear spiritual alignment with the racists of Mississippi and Birmingham, Alabama.

"The impact of such action by California's electorate upon two-thirds of the world's people who are non-white would be beyond calculation," he observed.

The picnic was sponsored by the Kern County Committee against Proposition 14 (the CREA Initiative) in cooperation with the Kern County Central Labor Council.

Gruhn reviewed the provisions of the Rumford Act which has been in effect since Sept. 20, 1964, and pointed out that, despite the realty interests' arguments that it creates so-called "forced housing," the fact that only one out of the 40 complaints filed during the law's first seven months of existence went to a public hearing for resolution demonstrates the workability of the conciliatory approach embodied in the Rumford Act.

In effect, Gruhn observed, the realty interests promoting Proposition 14 are trying to get the people of California "to forfeit their right to deal statewide and locally with the problems of their community as and when they see fit, even though those problems are clearly recognizable as a primary source of increasing taxes, growing ghettos, aggravation of public health conditions, rising rates of crime and juvenile delinquency, obstacles to urban renewal and a general mushrooming of racial discord."

He also refuted claims that the state's existing fair housing legislation interferes with the profits of real estate interests. An article published in the journal of the Apartment House Owner's Association of Los Angeles County in October 1963, which surveyed nine other states in which comparable fair housing legislation is in effect, concluded that there is "no evidence of any economic loss, vacancies or lowered land values as a result . . . just the contrary."

In short, Gruhn urged that the maximum possible resources of organized labor be thrown into the fight to defeat the CREA initiative and appealed to all thinking citizens to **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 14.**