

T. Lottery Scheme Loopholes Peril Public: Cranston

Proposition 16, the proposed state-wide, privately controlled lottery, was attacked this week by State Controller Alan Cranston "as a poor substitute for taxation which would shift a greater share of the tax burden to the very families who can least afford it."

As Controller, Cranston said he is seriously concerned that the language of the proposed constitutional amendment appears to bypass established fiscal controls in setting up the privately operated lottery.

"I am particularly disturbed by provisions which might restrict the legislature's power to review budgets and control expenditures," he said.

"The language seems to permit unbridled administrative discretion in use of the revenue received.

"In California we have a carefully devised system of checks and balances which has resulted in a record of sound and honest management of public funds. This must not be jeopardized."

He also challenged the reliability of a lottery as a source of revenue to support education.

"A function as vital as education should not be subject to the fickle whims of gambling. Our schools should be firmly supported by a solid, reliable tax structure," Cranston declared.

AFL-CIO Refutes Reader's Digest Story Attacking U.S. Employment Service

An article in the October issue of Reader's Digest attacking the U.S. Employment Service is a compilation of fractured facts and distorted statistics that result in a wholly false picture of the federal employment service. That's what emerges from a close examination of the magazine's third attack in four years on the U.S. Dept. of Labor in general and on aids to the jobless in particular.

Time-Off-To-Vote Law Explained

Under California law, any employee eligible to vote may take time off for voting during regular working hours, regardless of what kind of job he has, so long as he gives his employer at least two working days' notice. Among other things, the California law stipulates that:

1—No deductions from pay can be made for two or less hours time off. Deductions are permitted for any time off exceeding two hours.

2—Time off must be taken at the beginning or at the end of the employee's

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THOS. L. PITTS
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Pitts Refutes 3-Men-In-Cab Argument Peddled by Promoters of Prop. 17

"The claim put forth by promoters of Proposition 17 that present state law requires three men to ride in the cab of freight trains is patently untrue and the railroad interests know it," State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts charged today.

"The Prop. 17 peddlers like to pretend that opponents of the measure claim that safety requires the presence of three men in the cab in order to set up a straw man to knock down," he explained.

"First of all, brakemen when not on their rounds of inspection generally ride in the trailing unit of the locomotive or wherever the conductor places them to watch their train, not in the forward cab as the railroad

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If You Plan To Vote By Absentee Ballot, Act Now!

The deadline for voting by absentee ballot is 5 p.m. next Tuesday, October 27.

"Union members and other voters in their families who merely expect to be unable to vote in their precinct on election day should take advantage of their right to vote by absentee ballot," State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts suggested this week.

To do so, he explained, "just jot a note to your County Clerk saying:

"I expect to be absent from my election precinct on election day November 3 and therefore request that an absent voter's ballot be sent to me at (your address.) Then date it, sign your name in full and below it the address at which you are a registered voter and mail it to the County Clerk.

"When your absentee ballot arrives, mark the ballot immediately and send it back to the County Clerk," Pitts urged.

The deadline for the return of absent voter ballots to the County Clerk is 5 p.m. Monday November 2nd.

However, if a voter enters the hospital, a sanitarium or nursing home on the day before election or on election day itself, he may apply for, obtain and return his ballot up to the time the polls close on election by messenger.

"Far too many liberal votes are lost," Pitts said, "because union members, their wives and children of voting age

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Pitts Refutes 3-Men-In-Cab Argument Peddled by Promoters of Prop. 17

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barons would like you to believe," Pitts said.

"The brakeman's job is to detect and repair incipient mechanical defects such as sticking air brakes, hot boxes or dragging brake gears to prevent wrecks on freight trains that frequently haul as many as 12 diesel units pulling 100 to 150 or more cars.

"When viewed with a knowledge of the complexities of modern railroading, the bill of goods the railroad interests are trying to sell is about as sensible as suggesting that an army's rear guard unit should also serve as its forward scouts and service artillery units in its spare time," he declared.

Proposition 17 would wipe out the state's minimum crew law and strip the state Public Utilities Commission of authority to set minimum safety standards.

"In addition, it will wipe off the books the PUC's present authority to prevent so-called featherbed practices.

"Few people know it but in California more than 40 percent of railroad employees have been dropped from the payroll in the last 10 years alone due to increasingly efficient work practices.

"In short," Pitts said, "featherbedding has been eliminated but now the railroads want to sacrifice public safety to boost profits. Yet last year alone, the net income for all Class 1 railroads in the state was \$651 million, more than 14 percent higher than the previous year," Pitts said.

"If we permit the railroad interests to dupe the voters of California into giving them a free hand to operate with skeleton crews, we can look forward only to greater delays at rail crossings and a soaring increase in lives lost and property damaged in railroad wrecks.

"Look at the record. When the minimum crew law was suspended during World War II casualty rates more than doubled and they did not decline until the state's minimum crew law was reinstated," Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, asserted.

"The longer delays at rail crossings, coupled with the reduction in surveillance stemming from the use of skeleton crews, will almost certainly result in a sharp rise in the number of children who, impatient to get to school or to get home, are maimed or killed when they attempt to crawl under the trains," Pitts warned.

"The railroad barons are also trying to mislead California voters into believing that last year's federal arbitration

board ruling on the size of train crews was meant to apply to California.

"This is also totally false. The United States Congress in August 1963 stressed the fact that the Board's generalized rulings were not intended 'to supersede or modify any existing state law relating to the manning of trains,' Pitts pointed out.

"Since then, he added, the Board itself has upheld this point and court rulings in Nevada and New York have upheld the validity of the minimum crew laws in those states.

"California voters should consider this carefully. If Congress, the courts and state legislatures, after due deliberation and thorough study, reject the railroad lobbyists' argument, why should California voters accept it?

"If the people of this state are sufficiently informed about the true nature of Proposition 17, they will know that the brakeman is not competent to relieve the engineer, that he doesn't always ride in the cab as the Proposition's promoters try to contend.

"Section 6904 of the Labor Code — which would NOT be eliminated by Prop. 17 recognizes the firemen's job has become a misnomer and that his duties have evolved into those of an assistant engineer by requiring engineers to have had at least 3 years' service as a fireman or one year's service as a locomotive engineer," Pitts explained.

"In short, anyone who cares a nickel about his own skin or that of his family will vote NO on Proposition 17," Pitts said.

Governor To Seek Curb on Abuse of Initiative Process

Governor Edmund G. Brown attacked the abuse of the initiative process by special interest groups and said he would sponsor legislation next year to forestall such abuses in the future.

The Governor singled out Propositions 14, 15, 16 and 17 on the November 3 ballot and said that all "are the result of special interests."

To curb the misuse of the initiative process, the Governor said he would ask for legislation to ban the practice of paying for signatures to qualify an initiative for the state ballot and to require special interest groups backing an initiative to identify themselves more honestly instead of hiding behind a meaningless citizen's committee title.

Proposition 14 would legalize segregation and ban future state laws to discourage racial discrimination in housing; 15 would ban pay TV; 16 would authorize a privately run state lottery that would net its promoters \$500 million over a 10-year period; and 17 would wipe out the state's minimum crew laws and place the state's railroads outside the regulatory authority of the Public Utilities Commission to the detriment of public safety.

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is opposing Propositions 14, 16 and 17 and made no recommendation on Proposition 15.

APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT

Date.....

I hereby apply for an OFFICIAL BALLOT of my Precinct and District for the November 3, 1964, General Election because I expect to be absent from my Election Precinct on the day of the above election or unable to vote therein by reason of physical disability.

Ballot to be mailed to me
(Name)

at
(Address)

Sign Name in Full

Registered Address of Applicant

NOTE: This application must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. Oct. 27, 1964.

AFL-CIO Refutes Digest Attack on U.S. Employment Service

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has voted wrong 54 times in 58 chances.

The piece is entitled "The Great Manpower Grab," and carries a subtitle reading "Almost unnoticed, the U.S. Employment Service is undermining one of our basic freedoms — the right to choose one's life work."

That charge, like others in the article, is utterly without foundation, according to the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security.

Here are some of the charges in the Digest article, compared in each instance to the truth:

BUDGET RISE

Digest: The USES budget "is around \$200 million—double what it was in fiscal 1959." This is festooned with rhetoric about "skyrocketing expenditures, designed to suggest a ballooning bureaucracy.

In actual fact, the budget increase since 1959 has been 62 percent. More than half of this is accounted for by higher salaries and office costs in the 1,900 employment offices—items that are basically determined by the 50 states. The increase in personnel since 1959 has amounted to 30 percent.

Even more relevant, 1959 was the low point of a 10-year period in which USES suffered a steady decline in resources—a total cut of 14 percent, while the nation's work-force was growing 20 percent. From 1959 on, Congress awoke to the fact that mounting manpower problems—automation, faster expansion of the work-force, greater demand for youth services and many more—required a bigger and stronger employment service.

With all this, the USES in 1963 was actually smaller in relation to the size of the national economy than was the USES in 1948.

'MONOPOLY CHARGED'

Digest: "If it (USES) succeeds, every working man and woman in America

will one day be forced to seek work through government employment offices."

This is the magazine's basic theme. Some of its supposed "proof" is cited below. But in general, the fact is that USES—now 31 years old—accounts for only 16 percent of job placements today. If its goal is a "monopoly" (which of course it is not) the USES has been highly unsuccessful.

Moreover, contrary to the article's innuendos, no one is forced to use USES services. Those who apply for unemployment insurance benefits automatically are listed as job applicants and avail themselves of the free guidance, counselling and placement services USES offers. No employer, no college, no high school, no union is obliged to use USES services.

The employer who has a so-called "exclusive agreement" with USES may do all his hiring from among workers who show up at the gate. And the union which has dropped its hiring hall in favor of USES screening will in the same way accept as members those who are hired.

The college and high school graduates whose USES tests suggest that they should be scientists may well become bus drivers, and vice versa. No one—least of all USES—claims that test results are absolute. And no one—least of all USES—proposes that the results should be binding on the individual.

Digest: "Walter Reuther has gone so far as to suggest a form of fiscal pressure to whip recalcitrant employers into line."

What Walter Reuther suggested, as chairman of the AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee, was a financial inducement for employers who listed their unfilled jobs with USES. This would not impose any obligation on employers to hire through USES; it would simply help the agency to learn how many and what kind of jobs are available. Inasmuch as unemployed workers must register with USES to get benefits, it seems reasonable to ask employers to list the help they need.

Digest: "The USES has turned its back on the unemployed. Instead of concentrating on helping our jobless, the agency is expanding more and more into fields where it is neither needed or wanted."

NOT A WELFARE AGENCY

This refers to the fact that USES services are available to employed workers who want better jobs, or jobs more in keeping with their skills or preferences. The law that established USES in 1933 specifically provided for this sort of service, and rightly so; the graduate engineer who is scrubbing floors to keep

himself off the unemployment rolls is surely entitled to apply for something better. And the employer, when he turns to an agency he helps to finance through his taxes, should be able to ask for an accountant as well as a dishwasher. USES is not and should not be a welfare agency.

Yet in fact, 97 percent of USES placements are unemployed persons. How can this be described as turning the back on the jobless? In view of the national need for an upgrading of skills, the USES might better be criticized because only 3 percent of its placements could be placed in that category.

Digest: "USES is now finding new jobs for more than a quarter million professional and managerial personnel each year."

To the Digest, to Bow and to the fee-charging employment agencies, this is the rub. For if USES places a \$70 a week stenographer, the agencies will lose only \$140; but if USES places a \$300 a week engineer, the agencies will lose at least \$1,000 and maybe more.

MISCAST HERO

Finally, of course, the Digest insists that USES cannot possibly be doing what it says it is doing—that there must be hanky-panky.

Digest: "One state administrator, Willard P. Dudley, employment director of the Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, has courageously stood up to USES' ambitious bureaucrats."

The gist of this is that the Cleveland office was padding its placement figures and that Dudley heroically published an exposé. What really happened was that Dudley was repeatedly prodded by USES to investigate a charge that the Cleveland figures were phony. Finally he re-

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Absentee Voting

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have the notion that you have to be flat on your back to apply for an absentee ballot. This is not the case at all. All one needs to do to get an absentee ballot is to state that they 'expect' to be absent from their election precinct during the period that the polls are open on election day. This does not mean that they must be absent from their precinct on election day. In short it is perfectly all right to vote by absentee ballot and subsequently be in your election precinct all day on election day," he explained.

For those who don't want to write a letter, an Application for Absent Voter's Ballot form is printed on page 2. Clip it out now and send it in to make sure your vote is counted on November 3.

Time Off To Vote

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regular working shift unless the employer agrees otherwise.

3—For at least 10 days prior to a general, direct primary or presidential primary election, each employer is required to keep conspicuously posted a notice setting forth the provisions of the pay-while-voting law.

Copies of a booklet entitled "Time-Off-For-Voting Under State Laws" (Bulletin No. 138) which spells out the details of California's time off for voting law as well as those of 29 other states may be ordered from the Bureau of Labor Standards of the U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. as long as the supply lasts.



LABOR BOOSTS JFK LIBRARY — State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts (center left) and Cyril Magnin, Northern California co-chairman of the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library Fund Drive help Joseph P. Mazzola, business manager of Plumbers Union Local 38 of San Francisco (left) pass along a \$3,000 check to film star Peter Lawford, the late President's brother-in-law. The check, which, it is hoped, will serve to spur additional union contributions, was presented during a four-day Kennedy library exhibit at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium. The virtually unanimous response of all who viewed the exhibit was simply: This was a man who died too soon.

AFL-CIO Hits Attack on U.S. Job-Service

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luctantly complied, and then told the press that federal people had "begged me not to release" the results. A day later he retracted that statement.

In essence, the Digest hero was in reality the villain. And so it goes throughout the article. Yes, there are incompetents in USES, as there are in every walk of life. Yes, there are shortcomings in USES, just as there are in the editorial offices of the Reader's Digest and everywhere else.

But it is clear that the USES has infinitely less interest in controlling the job choices of American workers than the Reader's Digest has in controlling the political choices of American voters.

The AFL-CIO is not entirely happy with USES. It ought to be stronger. The AFL-CIO regrets that workers paid over \$100 million last year to private, fee-charging employment agencies, that this kind of tribute, exacted from the jobless, represents a failure by our public employment service. There is a place for the private agencies, but they cannot and should not substitute for USES.

The undeniable facts of life—a rapidly-growing labor force and an unprece-

dented technological revolution—demand the utmost public and private efforts to promote full employment; and further, the needs of the time require the fullest utilization of the nation's skills.

The AFL-CIO does not call for abolition of private employment agencies. They, too, can help fill the nation's needs. The statement of principle adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council still stands:

"American workers, whether they work for wages or salaries, whether they are unemployed or employed, whether they are physically well or partially disabled, and whether they have had job experience or are just getting out of school, all should be able to choose counseling, guidance and placement help when they need it without having to commit their future earnings for the privilege.

"The nation has an obvious interest in the best training, placement and utilization of its manpower in an age of rapid technological development. The services of a well-equipped and staffed public employment service are indispensable to meeting that objective."

Use of Presidents' Pictures in Prop 17 Fight Attacked

Brazen misuse of the pictures of three U.S. Presidents on billboards and pamphlets by railroad interests attempting to wipe out California's minimum crew laws have been attacked by both Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz and Governor Edmund G. Brown.

Wirtz, who played a key role in the long railroad work rules dispute, said in Cleveland recently that there "was no indication that either President Eisenhower or President Kennedy ever took a position regarding safe crew laws in any state."

And Governor Edmund G. Brown disclosed this week that President Johnson had informed him that the use of his picture in this context was without his knowledge and "unauthorized."

4 More Counties To Use Voting Machines Nov. 3

More than 17 percent of California's 8.1 million registered voters will be able to vote on machines in the November 3 general election. This is nearly twice as many as voted by machine in the June 2 primary.

Joining San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, which for years have been the only counties mechanized for election day, are San Joaquin, Riverside, Orange and Contra Costa Counties. In addition, Monterey County will provide voting machines for the 7,500 voters in the City of Monterey.

Use of the machines results in lower costs and a faster count of the votes.

Publishers Play 'Angel' for Right Wingers

The Reader's Digest and its publishers, DeWitt and Lila Wallace, have been leading financial "angels" to several right-wing organizations.

The Wallaces are listed as having given \$10,350 to Americans for Constitutional Action. The Reader's Digest Foundation reported grants totaling \$10,500 to the American Economic Foundation during the 1959-61 period, and smaller amounts to such conservative causes as Freedoms Foundation, Liebman's American Afro-Asian Educational Exchange, Harding College—a center of right-wing propaganda—and the Foundation for Economic Education.