

Korean Bracero Plan Scotched, Labor Dept. Says

A plan advanced by Korean and U.S. business interests to bring thousands of Korean farm laborers to California to replace the Mexican braceros was scotched by a Labor Department spokesman last Saturday.

"Our policy is to cut back on the use of foreign labor in agriculture rather than to accept new ones or expand any such programs. We are for diminution of foreign labor, rather than an increase. There is nothing to it (the report carried by Korean newspapers in Seoul)," the Labor Department aide said.

The Korean newspapers said that Korea was negotiating with the United States to send more than 20,000 farm laborers to California but U.S. officials said no such negotiations were in progress and added that the proposal has not even been put forward formally by the Korean Embassy.

The Labor Department spokesman declared:

"We can safely say that we are not going to increase foreign workers of any type and that is about it. We certainly are not going to start any new programs."

Despite the firm comments of the unidentified Labor Department spokesman, agribusiness interests in California are understood to be intensifying their efforts to utilize Public Law 414 to replace Public Law 78 which expires December 31, 1964.

In testimony submitted to both the Democratic and Republican Platform Committees, the AFL-CIO suggested that "a reasonable ceiling . . . be placed

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Pilot Study Points Up Need to Expand State Compensatory Education Project

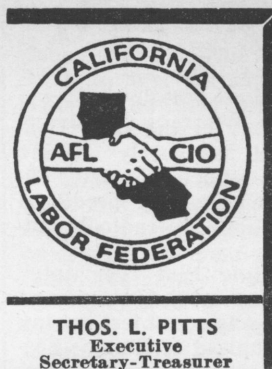
Some 677,000 California children are culturally disadvantaged because their parents earn less than \$4,000 a year and a significant expansion of programs to give them special educational aid is essential not only to help them help themselves but to minimize future social welfare costs to the state's taxpayers.

Local Action Urged On Fed Program

Two booklets—one dealing with resolutions adopted at the fifth convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, last August that call for local action on various union issues and the other with resolutions calling for local initiative on civil rights—were dispatched to all AFL-CIO affiliates this week.

"Therefore Be it Resolved," the first booklet, spells out local action called for to meet the aims of the resolutions

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Executive
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Demand an End to Farm Labor Import Schemes, Pitts Urges State Taxpayers

"California's taxpayers must wake up to the fact that they will continue to foot the bill for the foreign farm labor import program that corporate interests are presently attempting to drum up to replace the congressionally discredited bracero program," state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts declared today.

"This fact was brought home forcibly just this week at a meeting of the state's Compensatory Education Advisory Committee in San Francisco when it was disclosed that a \$29 million program is essential to help some 677,000 culturally disadvantaged California children," he asserted.

"A major portion of these children," Pitts said, "are the offspring of migrant or non-migrant California farm worker families. Their educational and cultural disadvantages are directly attributable to the fact that their parents earn substantially less than \$4,000 a year."

Pitts, a member of the Citizen's Ad-

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State-U.S. Jobless Rate Gap Persists For Third Month

The 1.1 percent adverse gap between California's 6.3 percent jobless rate and the national 5.2 percent rate persisted for the third consecutive month in October and numerically, the state's jobless ranks, although 11,000 less than a month earlier, were 20,000 higher than in October a year ago.

Nationally the unemployed totaled 3.3 million, which, although better than a year ago, reflects no recent improvements. Last year the U.S. rate ranged between 5.5 and 5.9 percent but for the past six months, the Labor Department noted, the U.S. rate has fluctuated between 4.9 and 5.3 percent.

The state's civilian employment, at 6,743,000, is 131,000 higher than October, 1963, but shows only a 2.0 percent increase for the year.

Although total employment normally declines between September and October, the 86,000 drop off this year was larger than usual. State officials attributed the decline to sharp reductions in employment in agriculture and fruit and vegetable canning and to labor-management disputes.

On an over-the-year basis, the largest job gains were made in services and government employment. Both agriculture and manufacturing had fewer workers in October than a year earlier and, within manufacturing, the cutback in major aerospace industries had amounted to 37,000 jobs over-the-year as of last month.

In the San Francisco-Oakland metro-

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Pitts Urges End To Farm Labor Import Schemes

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visory Council of The President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Crime, said:

"These children represent the hard core of California's snowballing welfare crisis. If nothing is done to aid them they will find themselves socially isolated and useless in the highly automated economy presently evolving and the tax cost to cope with the increase in juvenile delinquency and crime is certain to become even more burdensome in the years ahead.

"Their parents desperately need aid now. They don't want aid in the form of handouts but rather through fair treatment under state and federal laws that will assure them a decent wage for the labor they perform.

"Assertions by the state Chamber of Commerce and an influential banker this week that there are not enough domestic farm workers belie the facts gathered in an objective, impartial six-month survey conducted by the Institute of Industrial Relations of the University of California at Los Angeles.

"This study, which the agribusiness interests who demanded it last year now would prefer to forget, demonstrates that jobless California workers are available and willing to do the so-called stoop labor done by braceros. It is often overlooked," Pitts pointed out, "that California's 240,000 domestic farm workers have been doing most of this stoop labor over the years anyhow."

Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, urged all Californians to call on Governor Brown to prevent the institution of any substitute foreign farm labor program in the interest of minimizing their own tax burden and of helping to curb juvenile delinquency and crime.

"Anyone seriously concerned about crime in the streets must recognize that it won't be curbed until sensible steps are taken to eliminate its cause. Permanent termination of foreign labor import schemes would constitute a major step toward their end," he pointed out.

"The impartial UCLA study spells out the details of what needs to be done to recruit an adequate farm labor force," he explained.

"These steps are substantially those long-advocated by the California Labor Federation. It is high time they were implemented to open the door of the nation's economy and of first class citizenship for our domestic farm workers," Pitts declared.

Medicare Bill May Pass Early

Hospital insurance for the elderly under social security and improvements in benefits will be the first order of business in the 89th Congress and "will pass early" in the session, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Nelson Cruikshank predicted on a recent nationwide radio broadcast.

While conceding that "certainly" both the social security tax rate and the amount of wages subject to tax will have to be raised to finance hospitalization benefits, increased benefits or both, Cruikshank pointed out that if the same proportion of wages were subject to tax now as in 1935, when the Social Security Act became effective, the base would be \$12,800 a year instead of \$4,800.

"And if we kept the tax in the same proportion to wages as in 1935, without raising the rate, you would have enough to pay for the whole hospital cost," he said.

Unions' Right To Fine Scabbing Members Upheld

A union has the right to fine a member who crosses a picket line and scabs, the National Labor Relations Board ruled recently.

The decision stemmed from a strike by two locals of the United Automobile Workers, Locals 248 and 401 at the Allis Chalmers plants in West Allis and La Crosse, Wisconsin, respectively. Both unions were on strike early in 1959 when a number of their members crossed the picket lines and worked in the struck plants. Under provisions of their constitutions, both unions imposed fines ranging from \$20 to \$100 but the fines were disputed in court.

The fines were determined to be legal by both the NLRB trial examiner and the majority of the Board although one member, Boyd Leedom contended the union went beyond its legal authority.

"We cannot conceive of a subject which would be more within its competence since it involves the loyalty of its members during a time of crisis for the union," the majority decision said.

"The Labor Relations Act does not deprive a union of all recourse against those of its own members who undermine a strike in which it is engaged. When the strike is lawful and the picket line is lawful, we cannot hold that a union must take no steps to preserve its own integrity."

The ruling augments a previous decision holding that unions also have the right to fine members who exceed production quotas.

Study Shows Need To Expand State Education Project

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culturally deprived children in 24 school districts.

Senator Eugene McAteer (D-S.F.) who introduced the federation-backed Compensatory Education Act in 1963, explained:

"What we are talking about is a reduction in crime, of social welfare beneficiaries, about creating desires for learning within the child who is now part of the 'nothing' class."

Meeting in San Francisco this week, the Advisory Committee discussed the final details of the report it will submit to the 1965 Legislature and disclosed that it will seek a \$29 million program to make an effective assault on the problem. The report will ask the state to provide 22 million and local school districts to provide \$7 million.

If enacted, the Committee's proposed program would reach 75 percent of the state's 1,500 districts and serve some 677,000 children.

In general terms culturally deprived children, the Committee indicated, are the offspring of migratory workers, children attending one room rural schools, children of Spanish parents and those with incomes below \$4,000.

"They are the potential drop-outs, the delinquents (present or future) and the unemployed men and women of tomorrow," McAteer said.

The Committee's report calls for programs to reduce the teacher-pupil ratio to permit intensified instruction; after-school tutoring programs; remedial and corrective programs and school-parent cooperation projects. Also included are self-study programs and research centers at state colleges.

Such a program, McAteer declared, "is an investment in the future."

Dr. Ronald Thomas, a special consultant, said that the figure of 677,000 California children presently affected "errs if anywhere, on the conservative side."

Prop. 10 Wins Approval After See-Saw Battle

Late returns indicate that Proposition 10, a technical measure to eliminate the necessity of maintaining a separate state school lands fund has won the approval of California voters.

With all but 141 of the state's 31,498 precincts reporting, the measure is now winning by a vote of 2,793,039 to 2,676,046, a margin of 116,993. Last week's News Letter had reported the measure defeated.

The California Labor Federation had recommended "Yes" on Propositions 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and "No" on Propositions 14, 16 and 17.

'Labor Looks at 88th Congress' Now Available

"Labor looks at the 88th Congress," the AFL-CIO's biennial evaluation of the job done by the nation's lawmakers and the unfinished business to be sought next year, is now available from the AFL-CIO Department of Legislation.

In a foreword to the booklet, AFL-CIO President George Meany says, the 88th Congress has been quite properly compared with the 73rd and 74th Congresses in the first term of Franklin D. Roosevelt but it "is even more remarkable" because it was not faced with a nation prostrated by depression.

On the plus side, Meany points out, the 88th Congress not only succeeded in passing the civil rights law and the tax cut, it also enacted the anti-poverty bill, thereby expressing for the first time the federal governments determination to bring about a fair standard of living for everyone, and adopted nearly half a hundred other programs of basic importance. Among the latter were:

- Amendment of the Davis-Bacon Act to include fringe benefits in wage standards.
- The Equal Pay for Women Act.
- Improvements in the National Defense Education Act.
- Federal pay raises averaging 4.3 percent for classified workers and 5.6 percent for postal employees.
- Amendment of the mass transit bill to provide protections for the rights and economic gains of workers affected by mass transit facilities.
- A vocational education measure geared to the job skills needed in a rapidly changing economy, including funds for work-study programs to curb high school dropouts.
- Senate ratification of the nuclear test ban treaty.

Among the major legislative issues to be sought from the 89th Congress, the booklet says, are:

- Hospital insurance for the aged through Social Security.
- Job-creating, full employment measures.
- Repeal of Taft-Hartley Sec. 14 (b) which authorizes so-called "right to work" laws in the states. (In this connection trade unionists should bear in mind that the Democratic Platform specifically pledged that "the industrial democracy of free, private collective bargaining and the security of American trade unions must be strengthened by repealing Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act." It further pledged that "the present inequitable restrictions on the right to organize and to strike and picket must also be eliminated.")
- Fair Labor Standards Act improve-

Korean Bracero Plan Scotched

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on the total aid any farm receives in the form of cash or loans under governmentally sponsored programs," and declared:

"There is no economic or moral justification for the continued exploitation of farm workers. The AFL-CIO believes farm workers must now be covered by federal minimum wage. . . . Their right to organize must be protected, as it is for others, under the National Labor Relations Act. Denial of the benefits of unemployment and workmen's compensation under state laws must be ended. Their children must be protected by adequate child labor laws.

"In addition, special aids for migrant workers are imperative: federal licensing of the labor contractor; special education, health and housing aids; a voluntary farm employment service to recruit, train and place agricultural workers at favorable wages and under decent conditions of employment.

"Finally, Public Law 78 . . . and all other foreign labor import programs must be ended."

In response, however, the Democratic Platform contains only the following related pledges:

"Agricultural and migratory workers must be given legal protection and economic encouragement."

"The coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act must be extended to all workers employed in industries affecting interstate commerce."

In view of the Labor Department official's firm statements, perhaps California's 240,000 domestic farm workers, most of whom have total annual incomes of less than \$1400 have grounds to hope that President Johnson's Administration will prove stronger than his platform.

ments including broader coverage, a \$2 minimum hourly wage, a 35-hour standard workweek, and double time for overtime.

- Unemployment compensation improvements.
- Aid for health, education and welfare.
- Consumer protection, including "truth in packaging" and "truth in lending" legislation.
- Reform of congressional rules and procedures.

In short, for a brief review of the broad outlines of the AFL-CIO's congressional legislative goals, of the immediate past and future, this pocket-size, 74-page booklet is excellent. Copies may be ordered from the AFL-CIO Department of Legislation, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

State-U.S. Jobless Rate Gap Persists For Third Month

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politan area, both unemployment and civilian employment declined last month. Joblessness in the major population areas in San Francisco, Contra Costa, Marin, Alameda, Solano and San Mateo Counties fell from 59,300 to 57,600 in October. The Bay Area seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 5.3 percent last month compared with 5.4 percent in September and 5.5 percent in October, 1963.

State officials disclosed that the San Francisco-Oakland Metropolitan area is being redefined due to population growth and will be confined to a five-county area excluding Solano County within the next few months.

LOS ANGELES AREA

Both employment and unemployment also declined in the newly re-defined Los Angeles-Long Beach labor market area covering all of Los Angeles County. Previously the Los Angeles area had included Orange County.

Unemployment in Los Angeles in October was 153,800, 5,200 less than a month earlier but 7,500 higher than in October, 1963. The Los Angeles jobless rate dropped from 5.5 percent to 5.3 percent in October. It was 5.2 percent in October, 1963.

For the nation as a whole, the jobless rate for men 20 to 24 years old climbed from 8.2 percent in August to 9.0 percent in September and 9.1 in October. In October, 1963, it was 8.5 percent.

LONG-TERM JOBLESS

And the status of the long-term unemployed—those jobless 15 weeks or more—was also unimproved at 800,000, the same as in September. This total, however, was 150,000 lower than a year ago.

The nation's total labor force grew by 250,000 to 77.1 million, about on a par with the anticipated seasonal change. During the four months since July, the total labor force has averaged 1.1 million above the same period in 1963, somewhat less than the average over-the-year rise of 1.4 million for the first half of 1964.

The jobless rate for married men—the family breadwinner group—was 2.8 percent compared with 2.9 percent a year ago. For adult men, it was 4 percent and for adult women 5 percent, both slightly improved.

Likewise, the teenage jobless rate of 14.4 percent compared to 15.7 percent a year earlier reflected some improvement.

Radiation Risks In Dental X-rays Reduced

Have you had your teeth X-rayed recently?

Then you may be relieved to know that the possibilities of being exposed to unnecessary splatterings of radiation have been substantially reduced since 1960. Surgeon General Luther L. Terry of the U. S. Public Health Service disclosed this week that the number of X-ray machines in dentists' offices that meet recommended standards has been increased from 25,000 to approximately 75,000 since 1960.

Terry noted, however, that approximately 100,000 of the more than 200,000 X-ray machines in the nation are owned and operated by dentists who expose 185 million dental films a year.

"There is reason to believe, he added, "that an important part of the total radiation to which the population is exposed may be accounted for by medical and dental X-ray."

While it is reassuring (isn't it?) to know that, as Dr. Terry says, "long range efforts are being made . . . toward increasing efficiency in the use of X-ray by elimination of unnecessary radiation exposures," it is also a bit unsettling to realize that despite these efforts we still run a risk—possibly as high as 25 per cent—of getting splattered with harmful radiation dosages any time we have our teeth X-rayed.

In the past lobbyists for the medical and dental professions have dragged their feet on proposed legislation to set up public health safeguards in this area and have successfully opposed legislation to require the licensing of X-ray technicians.

Since there can be radiation leakage from the pointer cone, in the direction of the patient's face, maybe we had better start asking our doctors and dentists if their X-ray machines have been tested and met the Public Health Service's recommended standards.

Local Action Urged On Fed Program

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and includes the texts of the resolutions themselves.

Intended as a reminder for local unions and central bodies, it contains resolutions calling for:

- Support of the union label, shop card and union button and urging affiliates and their members to shun non-union H.I.S. men's and boys' wear made by the Henry I. Siegel Company.
- Handling insurance matters through members of the Insurance Workers International Union.
- Continued opposition to proposals to merge community police and fire de-

LBJ Sets Nov. 15-21 As Freedom From Hunger Week

President Lyndon B. Johnson has proclaimed November 15-21 as National Freedom From Hunger Week and called on "all Americans to cooperate with the (American Freedom From Hunger) Foundation and to participate actively in the observance of that week."

The Foundation, a non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization, is working to eradicate the age-old problems of hunger and malnutrition which presently afflict half of the human race.

The President's proclamation pointed out that the United States, as a member of the Food and Agricultural Organizations of the United Nations (FAO) is participating with more than 100 other nations in the National Freedom From Hunger campaign.

It directed departments and agencies of the federal government having responsibilities in the fields of food, nutrition and international relations to cooperate with private groups in observance of National Freedom From Hunger Week.

Local unions and central labor bodies may write to the Foundation and ask for an action project to sponsor to help increase food production in some food-deficit area in the world. Such requests should be addressed to American Freedom From Hunger Foundation, Inc., 1815 8th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

AFL-CIO president George Meany and vice president Walter P. Reuther are on the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Headquarters for the Northern California Freedom From Hunger Committee are at 740 Hilmar Street, Santa Clara, California.

partments into so-called Departments of Public Safety.

- Encouragement of labor representation on school boards and other advisory bodies.

- Action to stimulate programs to provide low-cost public housing.

- Support of City of Hope fund raising efforts as well as for federated fund raising drives of the type approved by the labor movement.

"Labor and Civil Rights 1964," the title of the second booklet, contains the convention's policy statement on civil rights as well as the text of six related resolutions.

Policy on Arms Control Printed To Aid Debaters

A 16-page pamphlet setting forth the official AFL-CIO policy on arms control, the national high school debate topic for 1964-65, is now available from the AFL-CIO Department of International Affairs, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Pointing out that selection of the arms control issue as a debate topic will help "to focus thinking about the kind of world we want to achieve, and the best ways of obtaining it." Jay Lovestone, AFL-CIO International Affairs director, said the pamphlet contains statements made by the AFL-CIO in its executive council sessions, in convention, and in congressional testimony.

"These statements were adopted over a period of many months when the United States was shaping its national policy in regard to the test ban treaty and the creation of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. These are statements of principle, rather than comments upon affairs of the moment," Lovestone explained.

High school teachers and students are invited to order limited quantities of the pamphlets from the national office.

ILPA Censures Oregon Paper

Censure of the Oregon Labor Press for supporting a secession move against two AFL-CIO unions in the West Coast paper industry has been voted by the executive council of the International Labor Press Association.

Stories in the Oregon Labor Press, an ILPA member, the executive council said, were heavily slanted in favor of the secessionist group. This constituted a violation of Point I in the ILPA Code of Ethics which requires member publications to serve the best interests of the AFL-CIO.

Since the weekly paper returned to objective coverage shortly after a directive by AFL-CIO President George Meany called upon all AFL-CIO organizations to support the two unions against the secessionists, censure was voted instead of the maximum penalty of suspension.

Richard A. Estep, editor of United Paper, brought the charges before the council. James W. Goodsell is editor of the Oregon Labor Press.