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Candidate Hit For Ignorance On U.I. Issue

California gubernatorial candidate George Christopher was attacked last week for confusing "unemployment insurance with welfare" by Gerald Maher, chairman of the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

Asserting that Christopher's "deliberate effort to equate the two" (unemployment insurance and welfare) demonstrates "his ignorance of state government," Maher explained that unemployment insurance "is precisely what it says it is—insurance. It is not paid on the basis of need. It is paid to individuals who qualify under strict provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Code.

"The purpose of that Code is to assist those who are unemployed through no fault of their own into softening the impact of unemployment on the economy as a whole. It protects both employee and employer. Payments under it are financed by contributions from employers based on the size of their payrolls. Those contributions are much like the premiums we all pay on other forms of insurance."

Pointing out that there is "absolutely no insurance involved in welfare payments," which are

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Boos Drown Out Ex-Mayor's Advice to GOP

Ex-San Francisco Mayor George Christopher, described by ultraconservatives as a "moderate," tried to address the state convention of the California Republicans in San Jose last Saturday.

At the outset, he said he was not seeking the CRA's endorsement because CRA officers indicated months ago "that another candidate was their choice for Governor."

Asserting that "there is some question as to the propriety of expressing choices before all the candidates are even an

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Look Out For Interest Rates

If you are going to need a loan to pay off your income tax next week, shop around for interest rates before you sign the loan.

This is the advice of California's Consumer Counsel, Mrs. Helen Nelson, who warns that many Californians may be shocked to discover that "few, if any, lending institutions charge as little as 6 percent simple interest on a personal or 'consumer' loans.

"Many lenders quote their

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COPE Acts Today On Primary Races

More than 750 delegates from AFL-CIO organizations throughout California met in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco today to decide which candidates in the forthcoming June 7 Primary will receive COPE's support.

The delegates, gathered for the pre-primary endorsement convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education, the political arm of the State AFL-CIO, will decide what action to take in regard to a total of 38 congressional and 131 state posts.

While attention is focused primarily on the races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and State Attorney General, Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of California Labor COPE, emphasized in a report to the delegates that close attention to all races this year is essential "because the entire character of both houses of our legislature will be drastically altered by the impact of last year's reapportionment act."

"As trade unionists," Pitts said, "we must insist on adherence to labor's traditional non-partisan approach to political action.

"Organized labor in California has nothing to gain by permitting itself at any level to be subordinated to the

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Meany Spurs Drive to Elect More Liberals

Labor will shun party labels and work harder than ever to elect Democrats and Republicans who support its programs and principles, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared recently in stressing labor's traditional non-partisan political stance in a major address to 4,000 delegates to the building trades legislative conference.

If a two-thirds vote is needed to pass a labor bill in the Senate, where a Dirksen filibuster blocked 14(b) repeal, "we have to go out and get the two-thirds vote," Meany said. "We are going to concentrate on more and better political action. We are not going to spend a lot of time crying over spilt milk."

He called for strengthening of COPE — the AFL-CIO's committee on Political Edu-

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How Do State Benefits for On-Job Mishaps Shape Up?

If you had been one of the 340 workers killed while working in jobs covered by California's Workmen's Compensation Act during just the first half of 1965, what sort of benefits would have been provided for your wife and children?

Or, suppose you had been one of the 88,724 workers injured on jobs covered by the Act during the first half of last year, what sort of benefits would you have received?

A general idea of the inadequate benefit levels cur-

rently available under the State's Workmen's Compensation Program may be obtained by reviewing some of the fatal accidents reported in a statistical summary titled "Work Injuries in California" produced by the Division of Labor Statistics and Research of the Department of Industrial Relations. For example:

"A big tractor was carrying four pipeline construction workers down a 60 percent mountain grade. The

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How Do State Benefits for On-Job Mishaps Shape Up?

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vehicle was traveling backwards with a forward gear engaged. There were no mechanical brakes. All the power equipment suddenly failed when a torque converter pump went out of control. Three of the four passengers and the operator jumped to safety, but one man's clothes caught on a water can bracket. He fell onto a track which pulled him under and crushed him to death."

Suppose the victim earning

\$4.25 per hour had a wife and three children ages 8-6-4 to support. How well would California's program provide for his survivors?

(a) Under California law, the total maximum benefit amount would be \$20,500.

(b) But if the victim had been an employee of Uncle Sam, benefits would have been different. By the time the three children were 18 years of age, Uncle Sam would have paid to the widow and the three children \$84,000; and thereafter \$315 per month to the widow for life or until remarriage.

In another case:

"Two painters were painting a ceiling from an aluminum scaffold platform six and one-half feet above the floor. The scaffold had adjustable threaded-leg extensions, and when the workers set up the scaffold, a lock on one leg failed to engage properly. The threaded leg suddenly slipped up into the upper leg, the scaffold tipped, and both men fell. One man struck cross-bracings on the way down, and his head hit the concrete floor. He died of internal injuries. His partner sustained a broken foot."

If you had been the unlucky painter earning \$4.25 per hour ... what benefits would be provided for your dependents.

(a) Under California's law the painter's wife, one 10-year-old child and a mother wholly dependent for support, would be paid a maximum of \$20,500.

(b) But, if the painter had been working for Uncle Sam by the time the child aged 10 years became 18, the federal program would have paid \$50,400; and thereafter \$420 per month during the total dependency of the mother or until the remarriage or death of the widow.

Or suppose you were the luckier of the two earning \$4.25 per hour and just broke your foot and were laid up for six weeks, what benefits would the program provide?

(a) The lucky painter under California law would have been paid a maximum temporary disability indemnity of \$420. But if he had been working for Uncle Sam

he would have been paid \$848.05.

If that couldn't happen to you because you're a machinist, consider this case:

"A machinist was 18 feet up on a ladder welding a fixed crane runway when another machinist on the floor actuated the bridge crane to lift some material from his lathe. The machinist on the ladder was caught between the traveling bridge crane and the vertical column supporting the runway. His head and chest were crushed and he fell to the lathe below when the crane was moved."

Suppose this machinist earning \$4.25 per hour, was married with no children but his wife was pregnant. What benefits would California's program provide?

Assuming the machinist's unborn child were to live to 18, again the monotonous answer so far as the State's program goes is:

(a) Under California law the maximum benefit amount is \$20,500.

(b) But if the machinist was an employee of Uncle Sam and the child lived until 18, Uncle Sam would have paid \$83,160 and thereafter \$315 per month to the widow for life or until remarriage.

Or suppose you're an electrician, how about this case:

"A utility company was stringing new wire along one side of the crossarm on a new pole. An energized 66-kv line circuit conductor was located about five feet out from the pole on the opposite side. A lineman, wearing a safety belt, who was working on the side next to the 66-kv line, was trying to throw his hand line around the end of the lower crossarm. While holding the metal sheave block of his hand line, he flipped the line out behind him, and the metal hook on the line came close enough to the energized line to cause an arc to the worker and the pole. The lineman died a week later with third degree burns over 75 percent of his body."

The lineman's wife and two children under California law are eligible for a maximum of \$20,500.

But if the lineman had been an employee of the fed-

eral government, the widow and two children would have received 70 percent of \$700 per month until the oldest child was 18; 55 percent of \$700 per month until the youngest child was 18; and to the widow thereafter 45 percent of \$700 per month until death or remarriage.

These are just a few of the reasons why the California Labor Federation is pressing for a substantial boost in benefits in the State Workmen's Compensation program.

Major Drive Planned for 'Truth' Laws

Representatives of nearly 50 million consumers will gather in Washington this month to push for enactment of a broad program of consumer legislation.

The AFL-CIO and six international unions are among 30 national organizations serving as a steering committee for "Consumer Assembly '66," the largest consumer-oriented gathering ever to be held in the capital.

In addition to organized labor, representatives of business, cooperatives, credit unions, church and social clubs and senior citizens groups are mapping the three-day conference, April 25-27.

David Angevine of the Cooperative League of the USA, chairman of the program's steering committee, said delegates from hundreds of organizations in all states would attend and participate. The conference will hear from congressional sponsors of consumer legislation, government experts and nationally known authorities.

Their subjects will be truth-in-packaging, truth-in-lending, automobiles, tires, medical and drug quality and costs, utility rates and air and water pollution.

Among those scheduled to participate are Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) and Sen. Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.).

Joblessness High In Half of Major Manpower Areas

Four of California's eight major manpower centers still suffer from substantial (6 to 9 percent) unemployment, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's January-February report on "Area Trends on Employment and Unemployment" in which was released Wednesday.

The four areas are Fresno, San Bernardino-Riverside-Ontario, San Diego, and Stockton.

In addition, the cities of Oakland and San Diego are separately designated as having "persistent" unemployment.

Manpower areas with either "persistent" or "substantial" unemployment are eligible for assistance under various federal programs aimed at easing localized joblessness. Areas with "persistent" unemployment are also recommended to the Department of Commerce for designation as redevelopment areas under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 which is designed to stimulate the economy of depressed areas through public works, grants and loans, business loans and technical assistance.

San Jose which had suffered from "substantial" joblessness almost steadily since 1963, climbed to the "moderate" category (3.0 to 5.9 percent) due to a rebound in manufacturing activities particularly in aerospace and electronic industries and a steady growth in services, government and trade, the report said.

Boos Drown Out Ex-Mayor's Advice to GOP

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nounced," Christopher counseled his fellow Republicans that:

"... We will not win if our nominee refuses to reject the radical right as well as the radical left."

A roar of boos from the delegates shook the hall.

As they diminished, the ex-Mayor resumed saying:

"... or if we insist on America's withdrawal from the United Nations."

Again a roar of boos expressing disapproval of the United Nations resounded through the rafters.

Outside in the lobby enjoying brisk sales at 25 cents each were bumper strips that read:

"Fluoridate Earl Warren."

The next day the 600 CRA delegates thundered their approval of the gubernatorial candidacy of Ronald Reagan.

So at least we know who's on his side!

Candidate Hit

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paid on the basis of need from state and county funds raised by general taxes, Maher declared:

"Christopher also is guilty of outright falsification in his statement that the number of benefit payments rose from five million in 1957 to 10 million in 1965.

"The truth again is that the rise occurred between 1957 and 1958, the last year in which we had a Republican governor. The number rose from 5,327,854 in 1957 to 10,251,453 in 1958. It has remained almost constant ever since, with the exception of one year when it was considerably lower. And by 1965, despite the tremendous growth of California in the intervening years, the number had risen only 10,786,651. In other words, virtually all of the increase of which Christopher spoke occurred under a Republican governor.

"If Christopher wants to return us to the \$33 a week in the maximum unemployment insurance benefit which was the law in 1957, let him tell us so. Maher concluded.

Meany Spurs Drive To Elect More Bipartisan Liberals

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cation—so that "we can defend ourselves against those who would use the legislative process to hamper or destroy the trade union movement."

While most liberals in Congress are Democrats, the party label is also worn by some who are "100 percent against everything we stand for," Meany said.

And the Democratic Party as a whole has shown it "can't deliver."

"I don't buy the idea... that labor needs the Democratic Party. I am sure it is the other way around."

There are some progressive Republicans in the House and Senate, Meany noted, but the party line is still set by "financial interests" and the filibuster against 14(b) repeal was led by the GOP leader, Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen, "the new darling of the conservatives."

"This means," he emphasized, "that we work with COPE, that we don't work with any political party, whether it is Republican, Democratic or anything else."

WARNING NOTED

He warned the delegates that employer organizations are spearheading "a vicious propaganda campaign" against the trade union movement.

"The public is being told, from editorial pages, from slanted news, from articles in our slick paper magazines that American labor is too powerful, that it has too much political power, that it is a bad influence on the economy of the country as a whole. They hold over the heads of the American people the threat of inflation and they tie that to what they call the unrestricted power of unions to exact exorbitant wage demands."

To some "jitterbug" economists, Meany said, "there are two kinds of money in this country."

ONE-SIDED VIEW

In their view, the money that goes into "astronomical profits" of corporations and "fabulous salaries" of executives is not inflationary "It is only the

money that the fellow in overalls gets in his pay envelope that is inflationary."

The "inflation" scare, Meany noted, is even used as an argument against a substantial increase in the minimum wage because the lowest paid workers would receive increases above the "guidelines."

With indignation, he told the delegates:

"We have tens of thousands of people in this country who are fully employed . . . but also on relief. Put that little fact in your pipe and smoke it. Fully employed—tens of thousands of them—and still on relief in order to feed their families."

The labor movement, he said, knows what power is. "We meet it across the bargaining tables. We see it in the management structure from one end of this country to another."

POWER FOR GOOD

So far as union power is concerned, Meany said, "I have no objection to a powerful trade union movement and I don't see why anyone else would have an objection so long as that power is directed toward the good of the country as a whole."

Labor is using its power for good, he declared, by raising living standards for all, by building up purchasing power that keeps the economy growing, by struggling to extend the minimum wage law to millions who do not belong to unions, by spending its money to strengthen democracy in Latin America, Africa and Asia, by its support of charitable organizations.

"When we do all these things, I submit that we are using our power for the good of the country as a whole, not selfishly for ourselves."

Despite setbacks, despite some anti-labor laws, Meany said, the pattern of the American trade union movement over the years has been "constant improvement in the conditions of life and of work for the American wage earner and his family. And I am sure that it is going to continue to be that way."

If You Resign But Are Let Go Earlier You Rate UI Aid

A worker who quits but who is terminated by his employer prior to the effective date of his resignation is not ineligible for unemployment insurance according to a ruling of the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

In a decision approved unanimously by Chairman Gerald F. Maher, and members Lowell Nelson, and Norman J. Gatzert, the Board held that the employer became the moving party in the claimant's termination although the employer's action came just two days prior to the effective date of the worker's resignation and the employer paid wages in full through the latter date.

"The rendition of services should be the determining factor in establishing the claimant's eligibility for benefits and an employer's entitlement to relief from benefit charges," the Board explained.

The decision pointed out that a 1961 amendment to the Code provides that for purposes of determining a valid claim an individual is deemed to be unemployed even though wages are paid to him for a period subsequent to termination of performance of services.

The case involved an ice-pulver for the Oceano Ice Company in Oceano in San Luis Obispo County who lost part of a finger in an industrial accident.

On his return to work, the worker found that the cold and the ice caused severe pain in his finger. On June 15, 1965, he gave notice of resignation effective July 27, 1965. But on July 24, the employer told the worker he was no longer needed and paid him through July 27.

The Appeals Board pointed out that the worker had intended to continue working beyond July 24, but that his services were refused by the employer. It held that notwithstanding the "technical" continuance of the employment relationship by payment of wages and vacation pay, his unemployment was voluntary.

Board Sets New Rule On Challenging

The National Labor Relations Board, in a change of policy, has ruled that an employer challenging an incumbent union's bargaining rights must have "some reasonable grounds for believing that the union has lost its majority status since its certification."

The new rule was applied to a petition by the United States Gypsum Co. for an election in its Montevallo, Ala., quarry, mine and lime plant to decide whether employees still want to be represented in collective bargaining by the Steelworkers.

A three-member panel of the board dismissed the petition after concluding that there is "no objective evidence" that could "furnish a reasonable basis for the employer to believe that the union might have lost its majority status."

The Steelworkers have since 1958 held bargaining rights at Montevallo. The former plant owners, United Cement Co., Inc., sold out to U.S. Gypsum a year ago.

The board noted that the new owner "produced the same products as United, used the same property and machinery, and continued the same terms and conditions of employment." But it refused to check off dues, declined to deal with the union on grievances, and asked for an NLRB vote.

Under the old rule, the employer could go to the NLRB without any showing of a good-faith doubt and had the choice of deciding whether to ask for an election or to fight a refusal-to-bargain charge. Said the board:

"In either case the rights of the employees to be represented are jeopardized, and the union is put to the choice of utilizing the time-consuming unfair labor practice route" or be compelled to "engage in endless election campaigning" at the end of each contract term or whenever the company changed hands.

Under these circumstances, it said, "uninterrupted and stable bargaining relationships would be impaired."

COPE Acts Today On Primary Races

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whims and ambitions involved in party politics.

"We must look at the candidates' records, their careers their philosophy and choose those who have demonstrated or indicated a capability to place public interest above power and profits," he declared.

Thirty-two of the total of 47 candidates for the state's seven statewide offices — Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Controller, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Public Instruction — were interviewed by the Executive Council and an 18-member advisory committee at the Sheraton-Palace Wednesday. The Executive Council's recommendations stemming from those interviews are to be submitted to the delegates for action today.

Two Republican gubernatorial candidates, Ronald Reagan and William Penn Patrick, informed state COPE that they would be unable to be interviewed. Patrick sent a representative in his stead. Reagan sent word that he was "not scheduled to be in northern California on that date and therefore will be unable to attend." Efforts to encourage him to send a representative in his stead were not answered.

Other candidates with commitments in southern California the same day, however, managed to fly up for the interviews.

Earlier this week, Reagan won the endorsement of the conservative California Republican Assembly whose delegates had all but hooted and booed former San Francisco Mayor George Christopher out of the San Jose Civic Auditorium. Elected President of the CRA was Richard Darling, a Riverside real estate developer who was an early backer of Barry Goldwater's presidential campaign.

Pitts' report to the delegates, which included an analysis of the 1964 election and subse-

quent special elections and a review of election code changes and the 1965 Reapportionment Act, warned that:

"Despite the electorate's overwhelming rejection of the 18th century economic and social policies espoused by Senator Goldwater, the well-heeled ultra-conservative forces in California and throughout the nation made it clear shortly after the November 1964 election that they were not about to abandon their efforts to shift the gears of the nation's economy into reverse and plunge backward toward the 'good old' robber baron days."

The fact that "the Birchers and other reactionary groups" ignored the 15.6 million plurality amassed by President Johnson's 42.3 million vote victory and "resorted to simplistically chanting '26 million Americans can't be wrong,'" Pitts said, made it clear that steps were necessary to strengthen the COPE structure throughout the state.

Toward this end, he reported, 19 workshops had been conducted from one end of the state to the other in the past year, and a north-central area COPE unit has been created to help coordinate the actions of the eight central bodies in the north central region of the state.

In his analysis of the 1964 elections, the report noted that Pierre Salinger who did not receive state COPE's endorsement in the primary, was able to muster only 48.5 percent of the total vote in the general election compared to 59.2 percent for President Johnson who polled more than 750,000 more votes than Salinger.

In concluding his report to the COPE convention delegates, Pitts asserted that:

"The immediate task for us at the conclusion of this convention will be to redouble our registration efforts in the few days remaining before the April 14 registration deadline for the June 7 primary, and to mobilize the most effective get-out-the-vote operation we have ever put together."

Look Out for High Interest Rates on Loans for Taxes

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charges to conceal the fact that the going rate may be at least three times as much," she explained.

Finance companies are allowed by law to charge a maximum of 2½ percent per month on the unpaid balance for loans under \$200.

"They nearly always do," Mrs. Nelson said, pointing out that this works out to a simple annual interest rate of 30 percent.

No maximum rate has been established by law for bank loans so banks can legally charge what they like. Common rates currently quoted in "Consumer Loan" departments are eight or nine percent 'discount' or 'add on' which figures out to 14-16 percent simple annual interest," the Consumer Counsel observed.

Loans on bank credit cards typically run about 18 percent a year, she added.

Credit unions have the lowest maximum legal interest rate and this is one percent a month on the unpaid balance, or 12 percent a year.

To avoid the high cost of personal or 'consumer' loans, Mrs. Nelson suggested that those obliged to seek a loan borrow from their insurance company against the cash value of a life insurance policy, or from a credit union against credit union shares, or from a bank by putting up shares of stock as security.

"If the borrower uses the bargaining power that ownership of some shares of stock or other securities gives him, he can shop among lenders and is not forced to borrow at 'consumer' loan rates," she explained.

The Internal Revenue Service lets taxpayers in some cases pay their federal income tax over an extended period, charging six percent true annual interest on the unpaid balance. Such arrangements have to be worked out on an individual basis. If the taxpayer can satisfy the IRS that they are in genuine hardship, they may get a reasonable time to pay (generally up to a year) at the rate of 6 percent, she added.