



California AFL-CIO News

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Management Urged To Back Hike in Benefits

While significant improvements have been made in California's Workmen's Compensation laws during the past seven years of Governor Brown's Administration, the time has now come for management to show its willingness to pass along to the workers a share of their record profits by supporting legislation to improve benefits for on-the-job injuries, according to Thomas N. Saunders Administrative Director of the Division of Industrial Accidents.

In a speech before a joint meeting of the San Diego Bar Association and the Self Insurers' Council, Saunders said that workmen's compensation

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Jobless Data Shows 316,000 Rise In Employment

Even though there were 244,000 more persons in California's total labor force last month than a year earlier, there were 72,000 fewer Californians jobless than in May, 1965 and the state's 4.7 percent jobless rate was more than a full percentage point less than the 5.9 percent rate tallied in May, 1965.

The state's total employment, at 7,121,000, was 316,000 or 4.6 percent higher than a year earlier and 101,000 above the previous month.

State Employment Director Ernest B. Webb said that the bulk of the over-the-year job growth occurred in government and manufacturing although all major categories except con-

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State AFL-CIO Hits Ruling That Undercuts Youth Pay

Want to Help Keep Drug Prices Down?

Prices on prescription drugs have outraged many U.S. consumers for years and recent congressional hearings have disclosed that both prices and profits have been "extraordinary."

So now the drug industry wants to tidy up its public image.

With this transparent aim in mind, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association this week distributed a copy of an advertisement — boasting that "prescription drug prices are down nine percent from the 1957-59 base period" — to communications media large and

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The state AFL-CIO went to bat this week to press for a nickel an hour pay boost for California youths working in federal agencies through Youth Opportunity campaign.

At issue is a government ruling that federal agencies

hiring youths under the YOC program need only pay the federal minimum hourly wage of \$1.25 even though California's private employers taking part in the same program must pay the state's minimum of \$1.30.

"This is obviously inequitable," Tom Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO declared.

In a letter sent to U.S. Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz, Monday, Pitts strongly protested the government's ruling that undercuts the state's minimum wage for minors.

Pitts said he understood that the principle of paying youth

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Fed Halts BNA Publications To Aid Guild Strike

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO has cancelled all subscriptions to the various publications of the Bureau of National Affairs Inc.

The action was taken after the firm, a privately owned

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Hopes Rise for Action on Truth-In-Packaging Bill

Hopes for action on a meaningful "truth-in-packaging" act to protect consumers from deceptive packaging and labeling practices brightened this week in the wake of the U.S. Senate's 72 to 9 roll call vote approval of the measure — but don't thank California's junior Senator George Murphy.

Cut Urged In Rail Workers' Hours

Shortly after the turn of the century—in 1907 to be exact—Congress set 16 hours as the maximum permissible time for railroad employees to be on continuous duty.

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Senator Murphy, a Republican and a strong supporter of fellow hooper Ronald Reagan's drive to become governor of California, tried to cut the guts out of the bill.

On June 8, the day before the final vote, Murphy voted in favor of an amendment by Senator Norris Cotton (R-N.H.) that would have eliminated the

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July 25 Deadline For Resolutions At Convention

In accordance with the Federation's constitution, all resolutions submitted by local unions and councils to the 6th convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, opening in San Diego on August 8, 1966, must be in triplicate and reach the office of Secretary-Treasurer Thos. L. Pitts by 5 p.m. Monday, July 25, 1966.

The only exception to this deadline will be resolutions submitted by regularly constituted and affiliated statewide organizations at conferences held during the period July 24 - August 7, 1966, which must be filed with the

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July 25 Deadline For Resolutions To Convention

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Secretary-Treasurer in triplicate not later than 9 p.m. on Sunday, August 7, 1966.

Resolutions delivered to the Secretary-Treasurer subsequently will be reported by him on the first day of the convention as late resolutions, and will not be referred to a committee for consideration unless the convention so orders by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.

All resolutions must bear the signature of an executive officer or the seal of the affiliated organization.

'Not . . . Much Hope,' N.Y. Times Says

"Mr. Reagan's candidacy does not hold much hope of enlightening California voters about their many state problems. He is innocent of experience in government, and his speeches suggest he is equally innocent of knowledge. There is nothing wrong with a candidate entering politics from another career, but he is not contributing anything helpful if—as Mr. Reagan does—he simply denounces the size of government, ridicules politicians, deplores planning and inveighs against high taxes. Big government and big budgets are here to stay in California and in every other state.

"Governor Brown has a solid record of substantial accomplishment. Since he is not a glamorous or exciting figure, he may be at some initial disadvantage in a campaign against Mr. Reagan who, if not much else, is an accomplished stage performer. But a majority of California voters are likely to realize by November that running a state government is not like going to the movies on Saturday night; it is more like going to work on Monday morning. Substance, not glamour, is the essential requirement."—**New York Times Editorial, June 9, 1966.**

Job Data Shows 316,000 Rise In Employment Over May '65

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struction reflected gains over May, 1965.

More than half of the 101,000 rise in employment took place in agriculture.

Total state unemployment was 338,000, 1,000 higher than the previous month. The civilian labor force, comprised of the employed and the unemployed available for and seeking work, was 7,459,000 in May compared to 7,215,000 in May, 1965.

ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, unemployment rose 140,000 over the month to 2.9 million, boosting the U.S. jobless rate from 3.7 to 4 percent. In contrast, the state's 4.7 percent rate was just one-tenth of a percentage point higher than the previous month.

U.S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics Arthur M. Ross attributed the boost in the national rate principally to more women and student job seekers and predicted that "unemployment will resume its decline later in the year."

Undercutting of Youth Pay Hit

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working for federal agencies more than \$1.25 an hour when a state's minimum wage is above this figure has been followed in Alaska and declared that "to follow an opposite course in California works a major hardship on California youth."

He urged the Secretary to take "the necessary steps to insure that California youth employed by federal agencies are paid at least the state minimum wage of \$1.30 an hour.

The nickel an hour difference could mean an extra \$24 in the pockets of youths working 40 hours a week for 12 weeks during the summer. The broader issue that of the federal government undercutting a state's minimum wage, would, if allowed to stand, mark a serious departure from past general policy that held that whenever a differential existed between state and federal minimums, the higher minimum applied.

Job-seeking students may have accounted for one or two-tenths of the three-tenths rise in the jobless rate, Ross said. The rate for the 14-17 year-old group jumped from 12.5 percent in April to 14.7 percent in May, and accounted for 690,000 of the 2.9 million jobless last month, he explained.

The jobless rate for all teenagers climbed from 12 percent in April to 13.4 percent in May and the jobless rate for adult women rose from 3.6 to 4 percent.

IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, unemployment, at 130,600, was 20 percent or 32,900 less than a year earlier and produced a jobless rate of 4.5 percent compared to 4.6 percent a month earlier and 5.7 percent in May, 1965. It is at its lowest level since April, 1960. Employment in the county, at 2,881,000, was 117,700 or 4.3 percent higher than in May, 1965. Manufacturing jobs, sparked by the resurgence in aerospace employment, climbed 54,000 to a record high of 823,700 and accounted for 45 percent of the over-the-year growth.

IN THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND metropolitan area, the seasonally adjusted jobless rate of 4.1 percent remained at the eight year low recorded in April and was well below the 5.0 percent rate posted in May, 1965. Employment in the area, at 1,256,100, was 42,800 or 3.5 percent higher than a year earlier and 7,600 higher than in April.

Extremist Pamphlets Available Free

"They're Playing for Keeps," a pamphlet stressing the tactics and techniques being employed by extremist groups in California in their grasp for power in the 1966 elections, may be ordered free from California Labor COPE at 995 Market Street, Suite 310, San Francisco 94103.

The pamphlet details the methods by which the John Birch Society and other ultra-conservative groups are attempting to wreck the United Nations, discredit the Supreme

Want to Help Keep Drug Prices Down?

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small throughout the nation.

But lacking in the ad is any indication of from what stellar heights prescription drug prices may have declined.

Significantly, however, the bottle of capsules used to illustrate the ad is only two-thirds full, a fact that may lead many consumers to wonder if price reductions have been effected by selling smaller quantities in larger packages or by smaller quantities in the same size package.

Just last week the Senate passed and sent to the House a truth-in-packaging bill that would authorize the government — where manufacturers are unable to agree on voluntary standards — to regulate the variety of weights and measures in which a product may be packaged.

Although this measure may exclude prescription drugs, its enactment could contribute greatly toward improving the general public's factual knowledge of what's really going on in the drug industry price-wise and would probably have a rub-off effect on prescription drugs as well.

Since the PMA's ad also claims that "... the drug industry is proud of being able to keep the prices of ... drugs down," shouldn't we all give them a helping hand by writing our Congressmen to urge him to vote for the truth-in-packaging bill?

Court and block long-overdue social welfare legislation such as improvements in social security benefits and expansion of the medicare program.

Only an active, alert and informed electorate armed with the facts can detect, expose and correct the distortions, half-truths and smears being employed by the extremists. This pamphlet is designed to help you do that job.

Orders for quantities of more than 2,000 copies should be sent directly to National COPE.

Fed Halts BNA Publications To Aid Guild Strike

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labor-management reporting service, denied its employees, members of the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild, a union shop on grounds that to do so "might offend" BNA's management customers.

Asserting that the Federation could place "no credence or reliability in the publications of a company that has apparently let itself be intimidated and dominated by a fear of offending the anti-labor views of some of its management customers," the Federation's Secretary-Treasurer Tom Pitts wrote the firm early this month saying:

"If such fears can force the Bureau of National Affairs Inc. to deny its employees the basic union security clause commonly agreed to in more than 60 percent of the nation's 50 states, it is well within the realm of possibility that far smaller fears or pressures could lead to the slanting, distortion or omission of facts vital to a full understanding of the subjects of your publication."

In addition to cancelling the Federation's subscriptions to a number of BNA publications, Pitts demanded a rebate of the unexpired portions of those subscriptions and removed the BNA from its mailing list.

More than 60 international unions have already indicated support for the Guild's BNA boycott and a number have sent copies of their cancellation orders to all their affiliates.

Other steps taken against the anti-union firm include calls to all local unions to prevent BNA from getting their arbitration reports by signing refusal-to-release forms and sending them to the American Arbitration Association.

The Guild has filed a total of six unfair labor practice charges against the firm with the National Labor Relations Board and has protested BNA's use of moonlighting federal employees as strikebreakers to John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman of the Civil Service Commission.

Hopes Rise for Action on Truth-In-Packaging Bill

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provision authorizing the establishment of package weight and quantity standards. In Senator Cotton's words, the amendment would have transformed the bill into a mild "clarity-in-labeling" bill.

But the amendment was killed on a 53 to 32 vote with 49 Democrats and 4 Republicans voting against it and 25 Republicans and 7 Democrats voting for it. Senator Kuchel was recorded as "not voting" on the Cotton amendment.

On the roll call vote on final passage, Sen. Murphy voted for the bill. Sen. Kuchel was again recorded as "not voting."

As sent to the House, the measure, while somewhat milder than the original bill introduced by Senator Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.), is still regarded as a bill that will make a significant contribution to the inter-

est of the consumer" by the AFL-CIO.

At present its two main sections call for:

- Setting standards for labeling so that a consumer won't need a magnifying glass and lots of perservance to find out how much a package weighs or be confronted with misleading labels such as "jumbo half pint."

- Granting the government authority — where manufacturers are unable to agree on voluntary standards — to regulate the variety of weights and measures in which a product may be packaged. Such standards would be imposed only when the multiplicity of sizes makes it difficult for shoppers to compare prices.

Authority to regulate the shape of packages was deleted earlier in a compromise held necessary to get the bill out of a Senate committee. Regulatory authority would be divided between the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) which would have jurisdiction over food, drugs and cosmetics, and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which would regulate other consumer products.

These agencies would be empowered to ban "cents off" markings when there is no assurance that the retailer would pass the savings on to the consumer and to draw up uniform definitions of "servings" when packages have claims such as "serves four."

The fact that the companion measure to the Hart-Magnusson bill (S. 985) was introduced on June 2 by Rep. Harley O. Staggers (D-W. Va.) chairman of the House Commerce Committee which will hold hearings on the bill, has substantially improved chances for its enactment during the current session.

California representatives serving on the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee which is expected to take up the Staggers bill (HR 15440) in the near future are: Reps. John E. Moss (D-Sacramento); J. Arthur Younger, (R-San Mateo); and Lionel Van Deerlin (D-San Diego).

Fed Urges Cut In Top Hours For Rail Workers

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And although considerations of public health and safety have long since banished the 16-hour day and the 12-hour day and the 10-hour day from the vocabulary of most workers, the 16-hour day for employees on common carriers is still on the books.

But the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is looking into it. It will open hearings on HR 8476 and similar bills aimed at reducing the permissible hours of continuous time on duty from 16 to 12 hours per day on June 24.

In anticipation of these hearings, Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, has written California's Congressional delegation to urge action on the measure.

Pointing out that the bill provides adequate exclusions to take care of emergencies such as wrecked or relief trains and that it applies only to employees actually engaged in or connected with the movement of trains, Pitts' letter stated:

"I urge you in the name of public safety, as well as for the personal welfare of our railroad employees, to support in all ways possible the proposed legislation."

The bill would also make it unlawful for common carriers to permit or require an employee to continue or to go on duty when he has not had at least 8 consecutive hours off duty during the preceding 24 hours.

'Let's Serve Our Vision'

"We are no longer content in America with achieving only the greatest good for the greatest number. What we have done in the past in the service of our conscience is only a prologue to what should now be done in the service of our vision." President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Final Primary Vote Tally On Top State Posts

Here are the final semi-official results of the vote for principal candidates for statewide partisan offices at the June 7 primary election as obtained this week from the Secretary of State's office:

FOR GOVERNOR

*Brown (D)	1,334,286
Yorty (D)	994,821
Goodlett (D)	101,241
Reagan (R)	1,385,550
Christopher (R)	663,199

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

*Anderson (D)	1,294,813
Braden (D)	682,093
Hand (D)	568,473
Finch (R)	1,190,867
Davis (R)	327,950
Foster (R)	169,227
Smart (R)	191,341

SECRETARY OF STATE

Jordan (R)	1,586,583
Wagner (R)	354,572
Schlei (D)	763,993
Wm. J. Williams (D)	433,421

STATE CONTROLLER

*Cranston (D)	1,817,976
Burke (D)	429,144
Flournoy (R)	622,372
McDavid (R)	478,047

TREASURER

*Betts (D)	1,860,458
Priest (R)	1,683,221

ATTORNEY GENERAL

*Lynch (D)	1,723,109
Bennett (D)	438,594
Williams (R)	957,372
Leatham (R)	385,656

* COPE-endorsed Candidates

Management Urged To Back Hike in Benefits

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benefit levels have not kept pace with "wages, earnings, corporate profits, cost of living or any other measure you care to use" and that legislative action in this field has been blocked by management's opposition.

"During the first two legislative sessions under the present administration the weekly benefit was raised from \$50 to the present \$70 maximum for the temporarily disabled worker," Saunders said, "but since 1961 there has been no increase."

"As a result, less than half the workers injured on the job now receive the statutory compensation of 61.75 percent of earnings while unable to work."

Saunders said that at management's behest the Legislature in 1963 appropriated \$100,000 and the Governor appointed a Blue Ribbon Commission to study the Workmen's Compensation system in California and to recommend changes to improve our system.

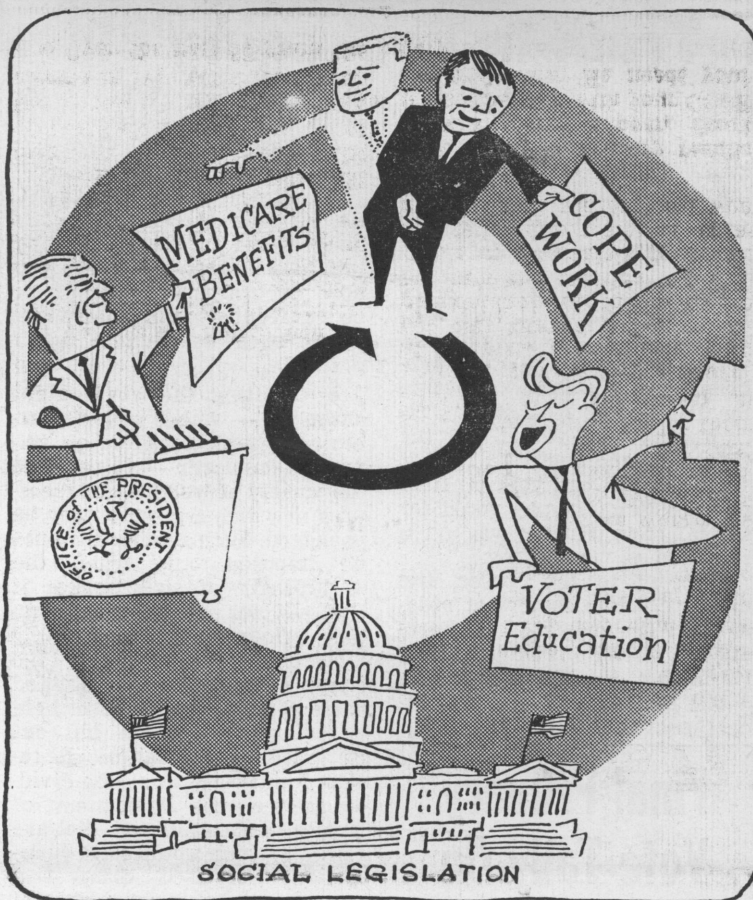
"The 1965 Legislature enacted into law many of the Commission's recommendations and we have, in my opinion, a vastly improved system as a result," Saunders said.

"However, despite the unequalled prosperity of this State, every sort of roadblock was placed in the path of a modest proposal to boost the weekly maximum to \$80 at that same legislative session, and the increase asked for was substantially lower than that recommended by the Study Commission."

"This administration will urge passage by the 1967 Legislature of a program of benefit increases to improve the lot of the injured worker with kids in school and mortgage payments to meet.

"I feel," Saunders added, "that it would be good business and good for business to raise benefits to a level at which the disabled worker could meet his financial obligations and provide for his family's day-to-day needs."

Full Circle



Hear That Alarm June 7?

To get a little perspective on how important it is for all trade unionists to pitch in actively to help elect liberal legislators to win enactment of long overdue public interest legislation such as Medicare, consider the following facts:

- Ninety percent of the Republicans in the House of Representatives opposed Medicare; but 94 percent of the Democrats in the House supported it.
- California's Republican nominee for governor cut a special propaganda record to promote the American Medical Association's attempt to block Medicare.
- When the House voted 221 to 203 to repeal Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, 48 of the 51 new liberal Congressmen elected in 1964 voted for repeal.
- Over the past 60 years the

party in control of the White House has lost an average of 37 House seats and 5 Senate seats in non-presidential years.

Any such loss this year could strangle hopes for the next two years.

And in California where the National Right to Work Committee and the John Birch Society and other extremist groups are gearing up for their strongest push for power in years, a conservative takeover of the state government could not only prevent effective implementation of the Medicare program and overdue improvements in other state programs but jeopardize many of organized labor's earlier hard won gains.

The June 7 primary results show it could happen. Don't let it. Check in with your COPE chairman now. He needs your help.

COPE Leaflets To Spur Votes Yours for Asking

Three new COPE leaflets, designed to encourage more trade unionists to lend a hand in the crucial 1966 general election, have just rolled off the press and are available for mass distribution.

"The Biggest Number of Them All," COPE publication No. 168C, spells out the importance of the votes provided by liberal congressmen elected in 1964 in winning passage of medicare and other progressive legislation but it doesn't call on the reader to support COPE-backed candidates as the other two do.

Both "What Happens in Off-Year Elections," publication No. 170C, and "Keep Progress Coming," No. 167C, not only call on the reader to register and vote but to support candidates who will "guarantee our children good schooling and better futures," as No. 168C puts it.

If inserted with regular local union or central body correspondence, these leaflets could help generate some of the additional active support by trade unionists that the California's primary results indicate is going to be vitally needed to combat the zealous efforts of right-wing extremists.

The pamphlets should be ordered by publication number from AFL-CIO COPE, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Co-Author of L-G Act Named To Senate

Michigan's Governor George Romney, a Republican contender for the 1968 presidential nomination has named Rep. Robert P. Griffin, co-author of the Landrum-Griffin Act, to succeed the late Senator Pat McNamara, a liberal Democrat.

According to AFL-CIO COPE records, Griffin's voting record is almost diametrically opposed to McNamara's. On key issues through 1964 Griffin cast 36 wrong votes and only 8 right ones. In contrast, McNamara cast 52 right votes and no wrong votes.