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Who OK'd Medicare Bill?

Medicare, the center of a bitter 20-year battle against the American Medical Association and self-serving insurance interests to assure the nation's 19 million senior citizens freedom from fear of pauperizing hospital and medical expenses in their declining years, went into effect today.

But ironically, many Californians already seem to be on the verge of forgetting who and what made it possible as well as only slightly aware

of the protections it affords for today's wage earners.

What made it possible was the election of 51 new liberal congressmen in 1964. Their election altered the composition of the House Ways and Means Committee which had long been the graveyard for earlier medicare legislation.

But the election of these 51 new liberals and
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Council Backs Meany on ILO Protest Action

Full support and endorsement of AFL-CIO President George Meany's position and the protest walkout of U.S. worker delegate Rudolph Faupl from the International Labor Organization Conference in Geneva was voted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at a recent meeting in Washington.

The Council adopted a resolution which noted that the protest against the election of a Communist nation's delegate as chairman of the annual conference was not a "withdrawal from the ILO."

The protest, the council declared, was "the most effective means available to indicate the reaction of the free workers of America to the election as President of the Conference of a representative of a totalitarian regime whose record and practices are a standing denial of everything that the ILO stands for and was created to achieve."

The action was taken at a special one-day meeting called by Meany after AFL-CIO Vice President Walter P. Reuther had protested the walkout of the worker delegation in reac-

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Protests Mount Over Di Giorgio Farm 'Election'

Charges of election fraud and voter intimidation were leveled against the Di Giorgio Corporation this week in the wake of a company-staged "election" last Friday that at least made one thing clear: Di Giorgio's farm workers, contrary to the firm's repeated claims, want union representation.

And the AFL-CIO and the independent National Farm Workers Association went back into Superior Court in San Francisco Tuesday in an effort to assure the workers a new chance to select a bargaining agent.

Specifically, the unions' suit charged that the election was "clearly improper" because the Di Giorgio Corp. had "intim-

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Court Rules on Piece Rate Issue

The right of a union to send representatives into an employer's place of business to check the fairness of piece-rates paid to its members has been upheld by the United States Court of Appeals in a decision that could have broad ramifications in industry and in farm labor.

The decision, the first affecting a union's rights in the area

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Rules To Protect Injured Workers' Rights Adopted

Action to speed up benefit payments to workers hurt on the job was disclosed this week when the Division of Industrial Accidents announced that rules requiring insurance carriers to notify injured workers of the status of their claims have been adopted.

The new rules, stemming from enactment last year of AB 2023, a Federation-backed bill which effected the first major overhaul of the administrative procedures in the state's workmen's compensation program in 20 years, require the insurers to inform injured workers in writing of the payment or non-payment of benefits with copies to the Administrative Director and to send the employee a statement accounting for all

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Winners of 16 Fed Scholarships Announced

Winners of 16 \$500 college scholarship awards offered in the 16th annual high school scholarship competition sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO were announced today.

The winners, chosen from a field of 1,317 competing seniors in public and private high schools throughout the state, are scattered through 11 California counties with three from Santa Clara County, two from Los Angeles, Marin and Riverside Counties, and one each in Alameda, Contra Costa, Madera, San Bernardino, San Diego, Sonoma and Tulare Counties.

Listed alphabetically by counties, the winners are:

Alameda — Joshua Smith,

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Even Barry Says Ron's a Goldwaterite

Barry Goldwater's description of Ronald Reagan as a conservative in the Goldwater image was cited this week by state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts as "a true confession that will haunt Reagan to election day."

Goldwater gave Reagan his conservative blessing Monday night on a television broadcast in Los Angeles over Channel 9. The interview, conducted by William F. Buckley, conservative editor, was recorded in New York.

Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federa-

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tion to the election of Leon Chajn of Poland. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 18 to 6.

After the Executive Council meeting Meany told a press conference that he had received a call from Faupl from Geneva in which Faupl said that he could not "in good conscience sit in a conference presided over by representative of a totalitarian country" and that he was withdrawing the delegation.

Meany said he told Faupl, "You are the delegate, you are in a position to weigh the situation. If I were in your position I would do the same thing, but don't do anything that would commit the AFL-CIO to withdraw from the organization—which is a decision that neither you nor I can make but only the Executive Council."

It was "absolutely untrue" that either President Johnson or Secretary of State Dean Rusk exerted any pressure to change the AFL-CIO position, Meany said.

AFL-CIO policy for many years, which was reaffirmed at the 1965 convention in San Francisco, is that the Federation will not support in any fashion exchanges of trade union delegations with Communist nations because they do not have free trade unions but government, state-directed agencies posing as unions.

If this differs from the so-called "bridge building" sometimes expressed by the Administration, Meany said, it is nevertheless the AFL-CIO position.

Meany said that Reuther had at no time contacted him about the Geneva situation and that Reuther's letter appeared first in the press before he received it.

Meany also emphasized that the real problem was the Communist plan to take over the ILO and make it another governmental agency rather than a tripartite group representing workers, management and governments. The free nations have the votes in the ILO to stop this, he stressed.

16 Fed Scholarship Winners

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Berkeley High, of 908 Indian Rock Avenue, Berkeley.

Contra Costa—Ronald Piper, Campolindo High, Moraga, of 4 Hammond Place, Moraga.

Los Angeles—Catherine Marie Gorchels, Palo Verdes High, of 2928 Via de la Guerra, Palo Verdes Estates; and Scott M. Simpson, Rolling Hills High, of 27243 Eastvale Road, Rolling Hills.

Madera—Velma Lopez, Madera High, of 838 Washington Street, Madera.

Marin—Claire Broome, Marin Catholic High, of 335 Fawn Drive, San Anselmo; and Melissa Boussy, San Domenico School for Girls, of 121 Woodbine Drive, Mill Valley.

Riverside—Frederick L. Nebeker, Riverside Polytechnic High, of 4665 Norton Place, Riverside; and Robert W. Harding, Riverside Polytechnic High, of 6182 Del Ray Court, Riverside.

San Bernardino—John Clay, Redlands High, of 27390 Brookside Avenue, Redlands.

San Diego—Alan D. Smith, Hilltop High, Chula Vista, of 4375 Acacia Avenue, Bonita.

Santa Clara—Henry Thomas James, Gunn High, Palo Alto, of 812 Mayfield, Stanford; Toni Klimberg, Fremont High of 807 Selkirk Place, Sunnyvale; and Martin Vanderlaan, Los Gatos High, of 17830 Bruce Avenue, Los Gatos.

Sonoma—Myra Rutherford, Santa Rosa High, 2222 Grahn Drive, Santa Rosa.

Tulare—Karen K. Roper, Porterville High, of 667 Division Street, Porterville.

In addition to the \$500 cash awards, this year's 16 winners will receive an expense-free trip to the Federation's week-long statewide convention to open in San Diego on August 8. They will be honored guests at the convention and will receive their scholarships at a special presentation ceremony, Thos. L. Pitts, the Federation's Secretary-Treasurer said.

The \$500 awards may be applied by the winners at any accredited college or university of their choice. No restrictions whatever are placed on the future course of study undertaken by the winners, Pitts explained.

The winners were selected on

the basis of a two-hour written examination held April 15 with the cooperation of the high schools of the competing students. The exam was designed to explore the student's knowledge of the structure of the AFL-CIO, labor movement history, social legislation, political and economic problems, labor union programs, and labor-management-government relations.

The contest was open to all graduating seniors in all California high schools, both public and private. As of the March 21 deadline, a total of 1,830 students had applied to compete.

Of the 16 scholarships awarded this year, 13 were made available through the direct cooperation of the following Federation affiliates:

Butchers Local No. 498, Sacramento; Carpenters Ladies Auxiliary, California State Council—Velma Lane Memorial Scholarship; California Legislative Board of Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; California State Council of Carpenters; California State Council of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel and Motel Service Employees; California State Council of Lathers—Lloyd A. Mashburn Memorial Scholarship; California State Council of Retail Clerks—Warren G. "Pop" DeSepte Award; Communications Workers of America, Bay Area Council—William M. Gruwell Scholarship, Oakland; Los Angeles Building and Construction Trades Council; Los Angeles County District Council of Carpenters; Painters District Council No. 36, Los Angeles—Roderick MacKenzie Scholarship Award; Studio Utility Employees, Local 724, Hollywood—Henry C. Rohrbach Memorial Scholarship; and the Western Federation of Butchers.

The examination papers were graded by competent University personnel who had no knowledge of the students' identities.

Sitting on the Judges Committee for this year's examination were: Frederick A. Breier, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, University of San Francisco; Leon F. Lee, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Industrial Relations, San Jose State College; Arthur Carstens, Coordinator of Labor Programs,

Even Barry Says Ron's a Goldwaterite

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tion, AFL-CIO, commenting on Goldwater's statement, said:

"This is a major set-back for Reagan's attempt to change his image from right-winger to moderate.

"The man who knows Reagan best says he is not a moderate but a Goldwaterite."

Declaring Reagan's California primary election victory made him a potential national conservative leader, Goldwater said, "I would very, very gladly serve with him, under him or along side of him" in national Republican politics."

Pitts commented:

"We welcome Goldwater's candid description of Reagan's political coloration but he did not go far enough. If he had been completely truthful, Goldwater could have described Reagan as a fellow traveler of the most reactionary forces in America.

"These forces are financing Reagan's campaign right now. They are tolerating his love affair with the moderates only because they know he has to crawl into the middle of the road to win.

"Win or lose, the day after the election, Reagan will remain exactly what he is today—the darling of GOP fanatics who equate Eisenhower moderation with pro-communism."

Strike Idleness Low

During the first three months of 1966 idleness due to strikes was at its lowest level for any first quarter since World War II, Ernest B. Webb, State Director of Industrial Relations has reported.

Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Los Angeles; and Don Vial, Chairman, Center for Labor Research and Education, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Berkeley.

Local central labor bodies, unions and school officials throughout the state cooperated with the Federation to encourage participation in the scholarship competition.

Who OK'd Medicare Bill?

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the re-election of many others was accomplished only by the dedication and self-sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of campaign workers—trade unionists, senior citizens, liberal organizations and other concerned civic groups.

That's who passed medicare. That's who made it possible to transform the makeup of the House Ways and Means Committee which had shelved the bill in June of 1964 into a committee that approved it by a 17 to 8 vote, with Democrats supporting it and Republicans opposing it, on March 23, 1965.

And that's who made it possible to defeat a Republican motion to send the bill back to committee by a 236 to 191 vote, a margin of 45 votes, just before the House voted 313 to 115 to approve the measure.

With the 1966 congressional elections in the offing, maybe you'd like to know which California congressmen voted against it. After all, if it hadn't been enacted and your mother or your wife's mother or other close relative over 65 required extended medical care, it could have wiped out your savings.

Instead, thanks to the enactment of Medicare, workers earning \$6,600 or more will pay a maximum of only \$24.10 a year in additional social security taxes to provide a basic hospitalization program for themselves at 65 and which affords coverage for the bulk of any elderly relative's bill and conserves their estate. Workers earning less, pay less.

And if the senior citizen is among the 17.2 million of the nation's 19 million senior citizens that signed up for the \$3 a month voluntary medical plan, most of the bills for physicians and surgeon's services, diagnostic tests, x-rays, dressings, ambulance services, etc., will be covered too.

So what California congressmen voted to send the bill back to committee to scrap the medicare program? They were:

Reps. Don Clausen; Charles S. Gubser; J. Arthur Younger; Burt L. Talcott; Charles M. Teague; James B. Utt; Bob Wilson; H. Allen Smith; Del Clawson; Glenard P. Lipscomb; Ed

Reinecke; Alphonzo Bell; and Craig Hosmer. In addition, William S. Mailliard was paired wrong. All of the foregoing congressmen are Republicans.

All 23 Democrats in California's 38-man congressional delegation voted against the motion to kill the Medicare bill.

In the Senate, where the measure was approved by a 68 to 21 vote on July 9, 1965, Senator Thomas H. Kuchel voted for Medicare, but the state's junior senator, George Murphy, a big tub-thumper for fellow actor Ronald Reagan's bid to play the role of Governor, voted against Medicare.

And Reagan did his bit to block it too. He made a special record for the American Medical Association in which he urged listeners to write their congressmen to oppose medicare.

Just to keep the record straight, seven of the congressmen who voted in April 1965

to kill Medicare by sending the bill back to committee, later turned around and voted for final concurrence. They are Reps. Mailliard, Bell, Gubser, Hosmer, Reinecke, Talcott, and Teague.

Since the really basic reason why the AMA poured millions of dollars into propaganda to fight medicare just came to light this week in reports from the AMA's convention in Chicago — the fear of government insistence that physicians' fees be somewhat reasonable — you may want to bear in mind who voted for the public interest and who against it when you go to the polls next November.

Better yet, pitch in to help COPE elect State and Congressional representatives who will fight for programs like Medicare, fair jobless insurance standards and bargaining rights for farm workers.

After all if you don't, who will?

An Outline of New Benefits

Here's a brief summary of the benefits made available by enactment of Medicare and other amendments to the Social Security program by passage of Public Law 89-97, last year. The original House version of the bill was introduced by Rep. Cecil R. King (D-Los Angeles):

Basic Health Plan—Provides benefits for more than 19 million senior citizens including up to 90 days of hospital care, 100 days of nursing-home care, and 100 home health visits and out-patient diagnostic services.

Supplemental Health Plan—Provides benefits for more than 17.2 million senior citizens who volunteered to pay \$3. per month for coverage which pays 80 percent of the cost of a variety of health services including the services of doctors after a \$50 annual deduction.

Kerr-Mills—Provided for expansion of medical assistance to the needy aged, to needy persons under public assistance programs and increased federal funds for such programs, resulting in benefits for about 8 million people.

Child Health Care—Increased

federal funds for existing programs and created new programs.

Social Security — Boosted cash benefits for about 20 million persons and liberalized regulations to provide further benefits. Extended coverage to self-employed doctors.

Public Assistance — Liberalized income exemptions and increased federal funds for public assistance.

Effective dates—The 7 percent boost in Social Security benefits was made retroactive to January 1, 1965. Most of the other benefits became effective September 1, 1965. The additional federal funds for child health care programs was made retroactive to July 1, 1965. The additional funds for the new Kerr-Mills program and the public assistance programs became available January 1, 1966. Most of the benefits under the basic and supplementary health plans went into effect today, July 1, 1966. The remainder become effective January 1, 1967.

Costs—The basic health plan during its first full year of operation (1967) will cost \$2.5 billion; the supplementary

Rules To Protect Injured Workers' Rights Adopted

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benefits paid on termination of benefits.

It also requires the insurer to include in the forms or letters used to notify the injured workers a notice that the worker "may consult an attorney or representative" of his choice.

This last point was bitterly opposed by carriers—and vigorously supported by the California Labor Federation—at a hearing in Los Angeles early last month.

In deciding the issue, Thomas N. Saunders, administrative director of the DIA, said the "scale was tipped" by the Federation's statement that:

"... If you are going to err, in one way or the other, isn't it incumbent on you, under the original admonition of workmen's compensation laws, to err in such a fashion that will provide a better opportunity rather than a lesser opportunity for the injured worker to get the benefits due him..."

In concurring with this view, Saunders explained that his first duty, as he saw it, "is to secure substantial justice for the injured worker."

The new rules go into effect August 15.

90% of Hospitals Ok'd

More than 90 percent of California's 610 eligible hospitals have been approved under Title 6 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for participation in the national Medicare program which goes into operation today. A total of 554 or 90.8 percent have been approved as of June 17, 1966, according to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

health plan \$1.2 billion; the expanded Kerr-Mills program \$200 million; Social Security benefits \$2.3 billion; child health and public assistance \$339 million for a total of \$6.5 billion. Some \$4.5 billion will be collected through payroll taxes; \$1.4 billion from general revenue; and \$600 million from individual contributions.

Independent Piece Rate Studies Upheld

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of piece goods operations, came in a case involving the Fafnir Bearing Company of New Britain, Conn., and Local 133 of the United Automobile Workers. It stemmed from the company's rejection of union requests to permit a union representative to make an on-the-spot study to determine the fairness of the piece-rate wages.

The employer argued that such a study would constitute an invasion of privacy and cause a disruption in normal business. But the court rejected this view. In its decision, written by Judge Irvine R. Kaufman, and concurred in by Judges J. Joseph Smith and Wilfred Feinberg, the Court upheld the union's right to make its own study but qualified it, saying:

"Independent time studies should be authorized only when essential for the union to function intelligently in behalf of employees and only when such studies will not unduly disrupt the productive operations of the company."

The Court's decision upheld an earlier ruling by the National Labor Relations Board that the union could conduct independent studies.

Ward Named to HEW Advisory Committee

Paul D. Ward, California's Health and Welfare Administrator, has been named to a nine-man national advisory committee to strengthen relations between the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the 50 state health agencies.

In announcing creation of the committee, U.S. Secretary of HEW John W. Gardner explained its functions would be three-fold:

1. To examine the nature of the existing relationships between the Department and the state health agencies.

2. Identify existing problems and develop proposals for their solutions.

3. Report its findings to the Secretary.

Protests Mount Over Di Giorgio Farm 'Election'

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idated" its workers, ordered them to vote, told them how to vote, and infringed on their right to choose their own bargaining agent.

Backing up the unions' charges were the election results themselves. The corporation had unilaterally decided that 732 present workers, excluding strikebreakers, would be eligible to vote. Hundreds of grape workers who have been on strike against the firm for nearly 10 months were denied voting rights.

In response to appeals from AFL-CIO and NFWA pickets to boycott the election, 347 Di Giorgio workers refused to vote even though they were driven to the polls in company buses. Another 41 cast blank ballots, 9 wrote in NFWA and 3 wrote in AWOC.

In short, even though voter eligibility was determined solely by the Di Giorgio Corporation, the votes or non-votes of about 400 workers could be considered as reflecting preference for the NFWA. Only 60 workers cast ballots for no union while 281 voted for the Teamsters.

NFWA director Cesar Chavez charged that "a substantial number of those who did vote were not field workers but office employees, kitchen help and others which we have never even tried to organize."

Although the AFL-CIO Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee had struck the majority of the growers in the Delano area, the strike against Di Giorgio had been initiated by the NFWA. Since the grape strike began early in September 1965, the AWOC and the independent NFWA have been working jointly to win union recognition.

At a press conference in San Francisco last week, AFL-CIO Director of Organization William Kircher explained that it was the AFL-CIO position that NFWA was the only union that had a legitimate claim to be on the ballot.

After the Di Giorgio Corporation secretly abandoned efforts to work out terms for a representational election that

was mutually acceptable to the NFWA and the firm and proceeded to set all the rules itself, the AFL-CIO and the NFWA obtained a restraining order from the Superior Court in San Francisco June 23 to prohibit the use of the names of either NFWA or AWOC on the ballot.

This step was taken because the company-set election procedures allowed the workers barely 48 hours notice of the election and, in addition to denying voting rights to the striking workers, denied any time for effective campaigning.

Throughout the long strike, union pickets have been denied access to the sprawling 4,400 acre Sierra Vista Ranch in Tulare County even though many of the Di Giorgio workers both live and work on Di Giorgio property.

On Monday, Governor Edmund G. Brown agreed to select an "impartial investigator of national prominence" to look into the election. On Wednesday he announced that Ronald Haughton, co-director of the Institutes of Industrial Relations at Wayne University and the University of Michigan, had agreed to conduct the investigation.

Both Governor Edmund G. Brown and Senator Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor, had called on the Di Giorgio Corporation to hold up discussions with the Teamsters pending an investigation of the election. As of press time, the Di Giorgio Corporation had not responded to these requests.

Support for the unions' charges of irregularities was mirrored in the action taken by the Rev. John Desmond, a Roman Catholic priest who supervised the election at Di Giorgio's Borrego Farms in San Diego County at the Corporation's request. The Rev. Desmond refused to sign a statement that balloting was "fairly and accurately conducted."

Further support for the farm workers came from the Inter Faith Committee for Just Farm Labor - Management Relations

Some Tips on Listening to The Birchers

"How to listen to a John Birch Society Speaker" is a handy little 36-page pamphlet that zeroes in on some of the Birchers' operational techniques and ways to combat them. Posing questions that anyone inquiring about the Birch Society might ask, the pamphlet provides the probable Birch reply, and comments on it. The comments are particularly effective in clearing away some of the fog enshrouding the Society's operations.

Single copies may be obtained from the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith at either 40 First Street, San Francisco, or 590 N. Vermont Street, Los Angeles. Single copies cost 35 cents. A ten percent discount applies for orders of 100 copies or more.

which wired Di Giorgio "to join with the farm workers in calling for an immediate investigation of this election by an impartial government body" because, the clergymen said, they had testimony from Di Giorgio workers indicating that there may have been "elements of intimidation and fraud."

The Committee said that testimony received Sunday from 28 Di Giorgio workers, none of whom were members of the NFWA, indicated that:

- Di Giorgio supervisors openly campaigned for the Teamsters while voting was in progress and warned they would be fired if they spoke up for the NFWA.

- Workers were forced to vote whether they wanted to or not and in some cases were actually shown how they should vote—either against unions entirely or for the Teamsters.

- Supervisors, plumbers, cooks, the children of workers and others who are not legitimate field workers of Di Giorgio's were permitted to vote.

The foregoing charges, all denied by Di Giorgio, were spelled out by Rabbi Saul J. Berman of Congregation Beth Israel in Berkeley and the Rev. Thomas McCullough, a Roman Catholic priest of Brentwood.