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Executive Secretary-Treasurer
THOS. L. PITTS 151

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It's Not What's Up Front That Counts

"If President Johnson's call this week for a 10 percent hike in social security benefits is to win enactment at the next session, Californians must reject those congressmen who have done their utmost to kill the program over the years.

"And if our state government is to meet the educational needs of its children and the job needs of its citizenry, Californians must remind themselves that these needs cannot be met by any discredited 'soak the worker' tax schemes or potentially disastrous proposals to ar-

bitrarily slash governmental services being advocated by the GOP nominee for Governor."

So declares state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts this week in an open appeal to union members throughout the state to plunge into the urgent task of reelecting Governor Edmund G. Brown and other progressive congressional and state legislative representatives.

Pitts urged "all workers—union and non-union alike—not to buy a pig in a poke."

The actor's supporters, Pitts said, "like to pretend that

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Employment Up; Jobless Ranks Down

Employment in California hit an all-time high of 7,331,000 last month and unemployment was at its lowest level in four years, Governor Edmund G. Brown announced last week.

The state's seasonally adjusted jobless rate, at 4.9 percent, was nearly a full percentage point below the 5.8 percent rate posted in September, 1965, and also below the 5.2 percent rate last August.

The record total civilian employment last month represented an increase of 79,000 over the previous month and was 287,000, or 4.1 percent, higher than in September, 1965, reflecting an impressive gain in jobs over the year.

Unemployment, at 309,000, was at its lowest level since October, 1962.

Although unemployment was 42,000 below year-ago levels, more than 37,000 construction workers—substantially more than a year ago—are jobless. State Employment Director Albert Tieburg attributed the depression in the construction industry to the tight money market and high interest rate, but noted that recent state and federal actions promise to ease

• A 1961 law increased pen-

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A Look at The 1966 Registration Figures

A total of 8,340,868 Californians are registered to vote in the critical November 8 general election next month, figures from the Secretary of State's office revealed this week.

The total compared with 8,184,143 in the 1964 Presiden-

tial election, 7,531,211 in November, 1962, and 7,464,626 in November, 1960.

These figures seem somewhat at odds with the Secretary of State's report that "for the first time more Californians are registered to vote in a contest for Governor than for President," since more Californians were registered in 1962 than in 1960, just as more are registered in 1966 than in 1964.

On a party basis, Democrats still outnumber Republicans by roughly a 3-to-2 margin—4,720,597 Democrats to 3,350,990 Republicans.

Between November, 1964, and November, 1966, the report added that the Republicans gained 169,718, or 1.3 percent, and Democrats lost 17,289, or 1.3 percent.

It also noted that between 1964 and 1966 in vote-heavy Los Angeles County, Democrats

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Get-Out-Vote Rallies Set in S.F. and L.A.

Two workshop rallies to clarify and coordinate final plans for a massive get-out-the-vote effort on November 8 were announced this week by state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts.

The North and South state sessions—the first in San Francisco on Friday, October 21, and the second in Los Angeles, Monday, October 24—are designed to dovetail the get-out-the-vote efforts in each region.

National COPE Director Al Barkan and Assistant Director Walter Davis will participate in the sessions which will be conducted by the California Labor Council on Political Education.

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LBJ Asks 10% Hike in Social Security Pay

Congressional action to boost Social Security benefits at least 10 percent to all 22 million beneficiaries will be sought next year, President Johnson announced this week.

The President's proposals, a number of which are in line with improvements in the Social Security program urged in a policy statement adopted by delegates to the California Labor Federation's convention last August, also called for:

• Guaranteeing a minimum monthly payment of \$100 to every worker who has participated in the Social Security program for 25 years.

• Providing medical and hospital care for disability insurance beneficiaries.

• Provisions to increase the maximum amount (usually \$1,500 a year) persons over 65

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What's State Consumer Counsel Done for You?

Real wages are determined by more than an hourly rate in dollars and cents plus health and welfare benefits. The cost of consumer goods and service to the wage earner and his family is almost of equal im-

portance in figuring how much of your pay check you actually use for either spending or saving.

Early in his administration, Governor Brown saw this and

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LBJ Asks 10% Hike in Social Security Pay

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may earn and still draw maximum Social Security benefits.

The Federation's policy statement calls for a boost of at least 50 percent "over the next few years," an increase in the contributory base (presently \$6,600) to about \$15,000; creation of a flexible retirement zone from 60 to 65 with benefits increasing for each succeeding year; and computation of benefits for men based on the period up to age 62, as is now the case for women, instead of 65.

It also calls for basic hospital and medical insurance for all social security beneficiaries.

The President's recommendations, announced at Social Security headquarters in Baltimore on Wednesday at a ceremony saluting the successful launching of the Medicare program, were understood to be incomplete and subject to expansion.

At present the minimum benefit is only \$44 a month. The Social Security tax rate is 4.2 percent on employees and employers alike, but will rise to 4.4 percent next year.

If approved, the President's new recommendations would probably go into effect January 1, 1968. Average benefits at present for male beneficiaries are about \$85 monthly, so a 10 percent increase would average about \$8.50.

Jobless Ranks Ease In San Diego County

For the first time in six years, unemployment in San Diego County has moved from a "substantial" to a "moderate" classification.

One of 150 major manpower centers in the U.S. canvassed monthly by the Labor Department, San Diego County showed a jobless rate of 5.2 percent in July and was placed in the "C" or moderate unemployment category which ranges from 3.0 percent to 5.9 percent.

Other California areas with a "C" classification included Los Angeles-Long Beach, Sacramento, San Francisco and San Jose.

What's State Consumer Counsel Done for You?

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acted. A broad program of consumer protection has developed since, centered around the office of Consumer Counsel, created as part of Governor Brown's progressive program.

The Consumer Counsel's basic job is to help Californians get fair value for their dollars and to protect legitimate business. The office is so organized that any consumer or businessman with a complaint may get prompt investigation through contacting the Consumer Counsel.

SCOPE OF ACTION

Since this office was created as part of Governor Brown's progressive program for people, the Consumer Counsel has represented the buying public before the legislature and congress, as well as various boards and commissions, wherever regulated industries have proposed to increase the price to the consumer of their goods and services.

Around this, the Brown administration has constructed a whole series of regulations and statutes to curb unreasonable profit taking and misrepresentation of shoddy merchandise for California consumers. Consumer protection is an issue in this campaign because of flat differences of opinion between Governor Brown and Ronald Reagan on the state government's responsibility.

Because Brown and not Reagan has been Governor for the past seven years, Californians have seen these safeguards, among others, to the purchasing power of their hard-earned dollars:

- Prescription drugs have been exempted from state sales tax and collection schedules have been revised to save consumers money.

SAVED \$27 MILLION

- A State Department of Agriculture inspection program dramatically reduced short-weighting of packaged foods for an estimated saving of \$27 million a year. In addition, the Department of Professional and Vocation and Standards has "beefed up" product testing programs and corrected mislabeling.

- The Public Utilities Com-

mission conducted investigations and took aggressive action resulting in rate reductions, saving Californians close to \$150 million over the seven years.

- Sharp practices and cut-throat competition in the television repair and sales business brought Governor Brown into the picture. In 1963 he backed a law creating the TV Repair Bureau to crack down on the racketeers in the business. In the first year, \$11.5 million was saved by the customers; countless small, independent businessmen were protected from unscrupulous competition and annual savings are now estimated at \$15 million.

- With growing emphasis on recreation, many Californians—along with citizens of other states—were being bilked into long-term, exorbitant contracts with health "clubs" and dance studios. In 1961, Governor Brown backed legislation to outlaw the so-called "lifetime" contracts, to limit the contracts to \$500 and to enable the state Attorney General to prosecute violators.

10 PERCENTERS CURBED

- A 1961 law strengthened controls over second trust deed financing and action has been taken by the Brown administration against the fraudulent activities of "ten percenters" who were swindling small investors in trust deed manipulations.

- A rash of promotions for out-of-state land sale schemes resulted in many Californians, including older people seeking retirement homes or income, being bilked out of their savings. In 1963, the Governor backed and signed a new law permitting the Real Estate Commissioner to investigate offerings of out-of-state lands within California to determine if they are fair, just and equitable.

- A recent law has the double barreled effect of stopping a racket and saving lives by forbidding the sale of worn tires which have been recut or regrooved to make them look newer and better than they are.

- Most of us have run into

Get-Out-Vote Rallies Set in S.F. and L.A.

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In a letter to all affiliates, Pitts summed up the current situation bluntly, saying:

"Organized labor urgently needs Brown in Sacramento—and for him to stay there another term, Governor Brown urgently needs organized labor!"

Asserting that "the election of his opponent would be disastrous," Pitts warned that "campaign developments show that his opponent could be elected November 8, and will be, unless we go all out from now on."

Emphasizing that the workshops will "get down to the brass tacks of labor's political drive for 1966," Pitts urged local union leaders and their membership to "be there."

"Organized labor has never had a more important political job than this one, and no meetings of the campaign are more important to getting that job done than these," he said.

The San Francisco meeting will be in the Concert Room at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel. The Los Angeles meeting will be held in the International Hotel opposite the Los Angeles Airport. Both meetings will start at 10 a.m. and are expected to run all day.

the "going out of business," "insurance salvage" and "direct from the factory" promotions offering merchandise at sharply reduced prices. These open opportunity to many sharp operators to "milk" the buying public. A 1963 law makes it illegal to misrepresent the nature, volume and extent of a business.

- California law now forbids sale of adulterated cosmetics, curtails a horrible rash of cancer cure quackery, has moved to curb "ballooned" credit costs. Meaningless package labels ("Jumbo pounds," "Giant pints," etc.) have been outlawed and oversized false bottom packaging is being reduced toward elimination.

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Employment Up; Jobless Ranks Down

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these problems and spur building.

At 7,640,000 in September, the state's total civilian labor force was 245,000 greater than a year earlier.

NATIONAL PICTURE

On the federal level the jobless rate declined from 3.9 to 3.8 percent between August and September, leaving 2.5 million jobless.

Negro joblessness at 7.8 percent was one-tenth of a percentage point below the previous month but still 2.4 times the jobless rate for whites. Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner Arthur M. Ross said this rate reflects the fact that skilled Negroes are not getting a proportionate share of new jobs.

IN S.F. AREA

In the San Francisco-Oakland area, civilian employment, at 1,286,000 last month, was 18,100 higher than the record set in August and 36,000 above September, 1965. The jobless rate, at 4.5 percent, was below the 4.7 percent posted both a month and a year earlier. Joblessness in the area totalled 50,800 last month compared to 58,200 a month earlier and 52,300 in September, 1965.

L.A. COUNTY

In Los Angeles County employment climbed to an all-time high at 2,923,800 and unemployment posted a greater-than-seasonal drop to 127,400, its lowest level since April, 1960. The county's 4.5 per cent jobless rate last month was just a shade below the 4.6 percent posted in August but better than a full percentage point below the 5.6 percent that prevailed in September, 1965.

A Look at The 1966 Registration Figures

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lost 36,830 and Republicans gained 13,285, and that in San Francisco, the only county where registration for both parties declined, there were 12,012 fewer Democrats and 5,481 fewer Republicans.

But comparing a Presidential year with a gubernatorial election year is somewhat like comparing apples and oranges since there is a significant dropoff in non-Presidential years.

A look at the gains or losses of each party's registration between November, 1962, and November, 1966, the two gubernatorial years, puts a somewhat different slant on things. A check of the 16 counties having 100,000 or more registered voters as of November, 1966, shows twice as many new registered Democrats in Los Angeles as Republicans and ten times as many in Alameda. In

San Francisco, the Democrats are down over the same period only one vote for every three lost by the Republicans.

In Orange County, the home of the Birch Society and the ultra-conservative Santa Ana Register, the Republicans gained three votes for every two by the Democrats.

And in San Diego, which until recently was suffering substantial unemployment, the registration gains of the Republicans were better than three to one, as the table below illustrates.

The significance of this more mixed picture of registration gains and losses than was suggested in the official report is heightened by the fact that these 16 counties contain a total registration of 7,237,165, or 86.7 percent of the total eligible to vote next November 8.

Registration—Sixteen California Counties

	1962-66 Democratic Gain or Loss	1962-66 Republican Gain or Loss	1966 Total Registration
Alameda	+34,399	+3,542	504,950
Contra Costa	+16,222	+18,012	239,668
Fresno	+6,905	+7,320	165,251
Kern	+2,877	+5,902	129,119
Los Angeles	+85,429	+40,052	3,111,516
Orange	+61,491	+91,237	518,004
Riverside	+22,011	+16,038	177,320
Sacramento	+23,260	+14,342	273,320
San Bernardino	+18,467	+18,357	259,027
San Diego	+7,850	+27,343	507,560
San Francisco	-3,352	-10,379	372,123
San Joaquin	+861	+2,045	111,538
San Mateo	+18,053	+6,791	253,210
Santa Barbara	+10,352	+9,923	103,700
Santa Clara	+45,572	+33,110	386,384
Ventura	+15,871	+16,846	124,475
Total registration in 16 counties			7,237,165
Total registration (all of 58 counties)			8,340,868
Percentage of total 16 counties registration to total state registration.....			86.7%

On-Job Trainees To Double This Year: Brown

On-the-job training programs under the federal Manpower Development and Training Act will be more than doubled in California this year, Governor Edmund G. Brown announced this week.

Federal allocations to California will provide on-the-job training opportunities for 15,500 this year," the Governor said. Last year 6,000 were in the MDTA on-the-job training programs. Major emphasis on these training programs will be in the Los Angeles, San Diego, Fresno, Bakersfield and San Francisco Bay Areas.

In addition, the Governor pointed out, 11,803 Californians will receive classroom training under the MDTA program.

The Governor also said he would call upon the 1967 legislature to expand the Governor's Job Training and Placement programs which is designed to move welfare recipients into training programs that will help them find jobs.

A total of \$41,360,000 has been allocated to California for MDTA programs. Of this, \$14,288,000 is tagged for on-the-job training for 15,500 persons. The balance, \$27,072,000 is earmarked for classroom training programs.

Real Strength

"I have always believed that the real strength of America lies in the fact that men and women can organize into unions and, through the democratic process of collective bargaining, meet with their employers for the purpose of negotiating better wages and working conditions." — Congressman Roman C. Pucinski.

What's State's Consumer Counsel Done For You?

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alties for wilfully forging or counterfeiting a trademark and the Consumer Counsel has an ongoing campaign against crooks who counterfeit records, perfumes and other goods with inferior merchandise.

The broad spectrum of consumer protection is an important part of Governor Brown's total program. These are but a few of the steps taken in this important field and more are developing daily. This phase of the program gets the direct,

personal attention of the Governor—growing out of a deep concern developed during his years as District Attorney, Attorney General and as Governor of California.

In contrast, actor Ronald Reagan told newsmen last week

that he hasn't regarded the Consumer Counsel's office "with too much favor" and added:

"I must say, I haven't seen much accomplished."

It's also pretty obvious that he hasn't looked.

Out-of-State GOP Dough Flows to Ron

A Republican state party officer is not at all pleased with the campaign of Ronald Reagan for Governor of California. Apparently the Reagan campaign has sent word to its out-of-state well wishers, "Don't come; send cash!"

Frank O. H. Williams, finance chairman for the Republican Party in Connecticut, complained in a letter to potential contributors in his state that a "small but affluent" group within the party there has seen fit to send more than \$400,000 out of the state in "support of Reagan in California and the GOP gubernatorial candidates in Texas and Georgia."

Williams acknowledges these people may spend their money where they want to but notes "it does seem unreasonable for them to deny support of the Republican ticket in their home state."

While denying any personal knowledge on the subject, State Republican Chairman A. Searle Pinney said he thought the finance chairman was basing his statements on reliable information. The identity of the wealthy contributors who are by-passing the Connecticut race to support the right-wing drive in other states was not revealed.

Building Trades Pay Scales Show Rise

Average wage scales for union building trades workers rose 2.8 percent in the second quarter of 1966, according to a quarterly survey of seven major building trades in 100 U.S. cities.

The survey, conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, shows that the estimated average scale for these workers was \$4.59 on July 1. Carpenters, with a 16.6-cent increase, showed the greatest gain during the quarter.

It's Not What's Up Front That Counts

no experience is necessary to govern a state with an economy that ranks sixth largest in the world. They say as long as a candidate gets good advisors around him, anyone can run the state.

"That's false and you and I know it. But even if it were true—who are his advisors?"

"Does anyone know?"

"Look," Pitts urged, "at the voting records of the congressmen supporting the actor's gubernatorial bid — and I'm talking about the voting records of Don Clausen of the 1st Congressional District; William Mailliard of the 6th in San Francisco; Charles Gubser of the 10th in Santa Clara; J. Arthur Younger of the 11th in San Mateo; Burt L. Talcott of the 12th in the Monterey-San Luis Obispo area; Charles Teague in the 13th covering Santa Barbara and Ventura; H. Allen Smith of the 20th, Del Clawson of the 23rd, Glenard Lipscomb of the 24th, Ed Reinecke of the 27th, all in Los Angeles; James B. Utt of the 35th in Orange and San Diego Counties; and Bob Wilson of the 36th in San Diego.

"All of these Reagan supporters voted to kill medicare, a program that Reagan himself campaigned against in behalf of the American Medical Association.

"They all voted against passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide federal aid to school districts with large numbers of children from low income homes, a measure that helps more than 90 percent of the school districts in the nation and digs into the root causes of racial unrest and discrimination.

"They all voted against repeal of Section 14(b), the infamous, anti-union provision that permits states to impose compulsory open shop laws on employers and employees alike, encouraging states to compete to see which can pay its workers the least.

"And they all voted in favor of slashing urgently needed anti-poverty funds and against

a job-creating increase in funds for public works—such as hospitals, bridges, roads, sewers and dams—which not only serve local community needs but create local employment as well as employment in industries providing equipment and material.

"That's the record of Ronald Reagan's backers," Pitts declared, "and I urge you to urge your members to weigh it well. "Governor Brown was not only outspokenly in favor of each of these items of public interest legislation but exercised the powers of his office as Governor both by directly testifying before Congress in their behalf and by every other means at his disposal to win their enactment," Pitts said.

"Consider too that California's senior Senator, moderate Thomas H. Kuchel, despite tremendous pressures and threats of being ousted from his post as Senate minority whip, has thus far declined to endorse his own party's gubernatorial nominee.

"In short, Californians, whether union members or not, simply must not bestow their highest office on any man totally inexperienced in government whose principal asset is an engaging TV image, an image previously employed to improve the public relations of a giant corporation caught not too long ago in one of the most outrageous price-fixing scandals in the nation's history," Pitts declared.

"We are not electing an image," Pitts added, "we are electing the highest elected administrative officer in this country aside from the President."

Pitts' statement was contained in an unusual open letter to union members which was sent to all AFL-CIO affiliates in the state. It concluded with an appeal to all trade unionists "to pitch in right now to help re-elect Governor Brown and other forward-looking candidates by getting the facts to their friends and neighbors and assisting in getting out the vote on November 8."

Funds Asked For Kingsport Press Strikers

An appeal for donations to the Christmas Fund to benefit the children and families of the 1200 workers who have been on strike against the Kingsport Press at Kingsport, Tennessee, since March of 1963 has been made to the entire labor movement by the AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department.

Many of these children "have been on strike all their little lives and have done more than their share of doing without the necessities most people consider commonplace," the appeal said. They have shared with their parents "the hardship and sacrifice which are part of the struggle of working men and women against the ravages of unfair and unjust management," it added.

Contributions, made out to the Kingsport Press Strikers Christmas Fund, should be sent to the AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department, Room 402, 815 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Delegates to the California Labor Federation's convention in San Diego last August roundly condemned the "archaic attitude of management" at the Kingsport Press and urged that every effort be exerted to prevent printings by Kingsport Press or the purchase of printed matter of any nature from Kingsport Press.

The resolution also noted that the Kingsport Press had recently established a regional sales office in Palo Alto and warned that this meant that this "non-union firm will be increasing its efforts to obtain printing from Northern California to the disadvantage of locally owned, locally financed fair employers.

Drawing The Line

"I earn my living in front of a camera—pretending to be somebody I'm not. But one of my colleagues is having trouble separating phantasy from reality . . ."—Dan Blocker, who plays Hoss on the Bonanza TV series.