



# California AFL-CIO News

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## 'Yes' Vote on Prop 1-A Urged For Better Govt.

The California Labor Federation urgently recommends a "Yes" vote November 8 on the lead-off Proposition 1-A on the General Election ballot. Here's why.

This measure would be the first step in bringing our cumbersome, disorganized State Constitution up to date, to make it a sound working instrument of government. The wisdom of this is emphasized by the fact that Governor Edmund G. Brown and Ronald Reagan are honorary co-chairmen of "Californians for Yes on 1-A."

The U. S. Constitution contains about 6,000 words and since adoption in 1789 has been amended only 24 times. California's state constitution contains (Continued on Page 3)

## Los Angeles Co. Sheriff Opposes Proposition 16

Los Angeles County Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess charged this week that promoters of Proposition 16, a vaguely-worded anti-obscenity measure on the November 8 General Election ballot, have implied that he favors the measure by using his name without authorization on their letterhead when, in point of fact, Pitchess opposes it.

Although he favors the measure's intended objective to (Continued on Page 4)

# Drop Everything To Get Out The Vote, Pitts Urges

"Drop everything to concentrate on getting out the vote next Tuesday, November 8," state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts, urged union members throughout the state today.

"Nothing is more important," he emphasized.

"California's success in winning a lion's share of the nation's job-creating federal defense and aerospace contracts is directly

attributable to Governor Edmund G. Brown's experienced, foresighted and effective leadership.

"So too is the state's pre-eminent free educational system. Similarly under Governor Brown's leadership, giant strides have been made in providing for the state's recreational and public service needs such as flood control projects, and assuring

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## Record of 89th Congress Mirrors What's at Stake at Polls Tuesday

What's at stake in next Tuesday's general election is mirrored in the unprecedented record of the 89th Congress which just wound up its second session late last month.

Described by AFL-CIO President George Meany as the "best" in the nation's history and credited by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller in a radio interview this week with producing the "greatest volume of progressive social and economic legislation . . . in the history of the country," the 89th racked up such an imposing array of accomplishments that it is difficult to condense.

But here are the highlights, and in reviewing it, California voters should bear in mind that it was made possible principally by the election of some 51 new liberal congressmen—including a number from California—two years ago and by strong leadership from the White House.

Here is what was accomplished once these liberals were on hand to break the congressional log-jam:

- A meaningful medicare

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## 38% Rise in Work Force by 1970

By 1980 there will be more than 100,000,000 Americans 14 years old or over either working or looking for work—30,000,000 more than in 1960. And while the increase nationally for the decade of the 1970s will be about the same as during the '60s—15,000,000 per decade—some sections of the country, particularly California and the west, will grow faster than others.

This is the outlook reflected in "Labor Force Projections by State, 1970 and 1980," a report just published in the U. S. Labor Department's Monthly Labor Review for October.

California's labor force will increase by 2.5 million workers during each decade, rising from 6,436,000 in 1960 to 8,926,000 in

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## Brown Vows To Fight for Tax Relief

A pledge to fight in the 1967 Legislature for a new tax relief program to benefit both property owners and renters has been issued by Governor Edmund G. Brown.

The Governor unveiled his tax relief program while campaigning in Los Angeles County last Saturday in the course of which he appealed to the voters to fight for his reelection.

"I fight for the people," he declared. "Now I ask you to fight for me."

The Governor said his tax plan would save the average homeowner \$150 a year and provide "comparable" relief for those who rent. The Governor's program would call on the Legislature to grant homeowners a rebate on 50 percent of the property tax paid on the first \$15,000 of the market value of their homes.

Cost of financing the program, the Governor said, estimated at \$400 million, would be met either from funds rebated from the federal govern-

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Be Sure To **VOTE** Tuesday, Nov. 8

## Court Upholds Indiana's Full Crew Law

A major victory for two railroad operating unions was scored last month when the U. S. Supreme Court rejected an appeal by 16 railroads that sought reversal of an Indiana Supreme Court decision upholding that state's "full crew" safety law.

Under the Indiana law, a fireman (helper) is required on every diesel locomotive; a conductor and two brakemen on every freight train of less than 70 cars; and a third brakeman on every train of more than 70 cars.

Prior to the U. S. Supreme Court's action, a lower court in Indiana had decided the case in favor of the railroads but the Indiana Supreme Court reversed the decision on appeal from the AFL-CIO Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Railway Conductors and Brakemen.

In 1964, California's corporate railroad lobby, using high-powered advertising techniques and spending some \$2 million or eight times as much as organized labor was able to muster to fight it, succeeded in eliminating California's full-crew law. This action wiped out the power of the State Public Utilities Commission to insist on minimum freight train manning requirements to protect the public's safety.

## Brown Vows to Fight For Tax Relief Plan

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ment under the proposed Heller plan or by increased state income and luxury taxes.

The Governor said his tax relief proposals were aimed at "eliminating the present bias against home-owning (that is) built into our tax laws."

### To The Point

"I wouldn't dream of saying I'm the only Californian qualified to be Governor. I'm sure there are many who are much better qualified. However, **THEY'RE** not running."—Governor Brown, quoted by Herb Caen in the San Francisco Chronicle, September 23, 1966

## Record of 89th Congress Mirrors What's at Stake at Polls Tuesday

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program was enacted for our elderly citizens.

- Social security cash benefits were boosted seven per cent.

- The bottleneck on federal aid to primary and secondary schools was broken. Congress authorized more than \$1 billion to enrich the education of children from low-income families in the first session. In the second session, it voted a major expansion of it.

- Federal aid to higher education was vastly expanded by providing interest-free loans to students from low and modest income families and low-interest insured loans for students in higher income brackets. A three-year, \$4 billion grant and loan program for the construction of colleges, junior colleges, and graduate schools was also authorized.

- Spearheaded by the AFL-CIO, a permanent GI bill, with eligibility retroactive to 1955, was enacted this year to benefit all who serve in the armed forces in peace or war.

- The federal minimum wage law was extended to eight million more workers, including for the first time farm workers, and the minimum wage was boosted from the present \$1.25 in steps to reach \$1.60 by February 1, 1968.

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a new cabinet-level department, was set up to coordinate housing and mass transit programs.

- 60,000 new public housing units a year were authorized as part of a \$2.9 billion, four-year extension of the urban renewal program.

- The historic voting rights bill enacted in the first session last year, ending a century of disenfranchisement for Negroes in the South.

- A truth-in-labeling bill to enable consumers to make price comparisons more easily was enacted this year.

- During the first session excise taxes were slashed \$4.7 billion to pump new purchasing power into the economy.

In the second session, congress acted to curb "profit inflation" by suspending part of the excise tax cut and by suspending the seven percent investment tax credit passed in '64.

- The War on Poverty program was significantly expanded.

### OTHER ADVANCES

In addition the 89th Congress acted to set safety standards for all new cars; extended the federal mine inspection program to all types of mining instead of just coal mining; and authorized grant and loan programs for medical training to help overcome the nation's acute shortage of doctors, dentists, nurses, and other technicians in the health fields.

This is just a partial listing of the accomplishments of the 89th Congress.

And it doesn't even include what Biemiller described as perhaps "the most important accomplishment of this session," the defeat of the Dirksen amendment which could have nullified the labor movement's long struggle in the courts to win implementation of the "one-man, one-vote" concept which is essential to end the domination of state legislatures and congressional districts by rural minority special interest groups.

### MORE TO BE DONE

But much more remains to be done: The repeal of Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act; enactment of the so-called Situs Picketing legislation to give workers in the building trades picketing rights at construction sites comparable to the rights of workers in other industries; and passage of effective federal standards for the amount and duration of unemployment insurance benefits, for example.

In short, what's at stake next Tuesday is whether this and similar unfinished business is to be finished and whether the 89th's impressive record of progress and effective, responsive and responsible government is to continue or be scuttled by apathy and conservative reaction.

## Leaflet Spells Out Changes In F.L.S.A.

Major provisions of 1966 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act are outlined in a new Labor Department publication, a leaflet entitled "Highlights of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as Amended 1966." It spells out the:

- New minimum wage rates that will apply to about 30 million employees now subject to the act.

- Minimum wage and overtime pay standards for some 8 million workers brought under the law for the first time by the amendments.

Copies of the leaflet—WHPC publication 1158—may be obtained from the Division's regional and field offices or from the national office in Washington, D.C.

## Skill-O-Rama Plans Mapped

What's the Carpenter's Apprenticeship program about? Is it working? How well?

These are just a few of the questions that "Skill-O-Rama '67," being planned by the 42 Counties Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee to be held in Fresno May 23-24, 1967, will be designed to answer.

The program, to include displays, contests, and a banquet, is conceived both as a showcase for the results being achieved and as a laboratory to test and seek further improvements in the apprenticeship program.

Vocational education counselors and instructors in junior high schools, high schools and junior colleges are invited to plan field trips to the "Skill-O-Rama" for students interested in pursuing a career as a skilled carpenter.

The "Skill-O-Rama '67" contest is open to any present apprentice who begins his fourth year before January 1, 1967. Further information may be obtained by writing 42 Counties Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, 1702 Corby Ave., Santa Rosa, California 95401.

## Rabbis Back Union Vote at L.A. Hospital

“... We believe union representation and collective bargaining are a positive good. In modern society union representation is a requisite for safeguarding the dignity of labor. Union membership and collective bargaining secure for the worker a voice in determining the circumstances of his working life—wages, hours, working conditions, and a means for assuring redress of grievances. Paternalism — no matter how benevolent it may claim to be—is no substitute.

“Hence we do not merely affirm the right of collective bargaining. We vigorously urge workers to join a union of their choice . . . particularly . . . hospital workers, who are among the most deprived and underprivileged in our society, living in poverty or on the margins of poverty.”

This ringing affirmation of the need for union representation in general and for union recognition at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles in particular was made in a statement signed by 13 Los Angeles area Rabbis which urge the hospital's management to “enter into the spirit of collective bargaining” and let their workers choose a bargaining agent “in an atmosphere of freedom and security.”

For months now, AFL-CIO Hospital Workers Union Local 399 in Los Angeles has been authorized by a substantial majority of the hospital's workers to bargain for them but the management at Cedars of Lebanon “has consistently refused to recognize the desire of their employees to be represented by a union,” Michael McDermott, the union's director says.

The union is currently circulating the Rabbis' letter among Los Angeles physicians and urging the doctors to inform the hospital's management that they endorsed the Rabbis' stand.

“The basis of this dispute is the adamantly anti-union attitude of Cedars of Lebanon

## ‘Yes’ Vote Urged on Prop. 1-A For Better Government

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tains over 80,000 words and has been amended more than 300 times since 1879.

Four years ago, the voters of California created a Constitutional Revision Commission to clean up this mess. The first phase of their task is complete and Proposition 1-A is the result. It revises one-third of the State constitution, reducing the number of words from 22,000 to around 6,000. It puts this basic law into modern, concise, easily understandable language.

In brief, these are some of the major reforms which will be achieved with the passage of Proposition 1-A:

- Stronger conflict of interest regulation would be instituted, prohibiting outside activities of legislators relating to pending legislation, with provisions for enforcement and penalties.

- Clear-cut rules are established to regulate refundable expenses of legislators. Legislative pensions are restricted to conform to a prescribed formula.

- Annual legislative sessions are instituted, eliminating the odd-year budget sessions which are invariably extended by “special” session calls.

Organized labor has always believed that workmen should be worthy of their hire and should receive compensation commensurate with services rendered. Proposition 1-A provides sensible salary schedules for legislators (\$16,000) to permit them to render the service their constituents demand of them. Some opponents criti-

hospital, which has been manifested at every opportunity for the past 20 years,” the union's cover letter to the doctors asserts.

Signers of the forthright, pro-union statement were Rabbis: Ben Zion Bergman; Marvin Bornstein; Harry Essrig; Henry Fisher; Meyer Heller; Herschel Lyman; Meyer Mereminsky; Hillel Silverman; Mathew Simon; Edward M. Tenenbaum; Bernard Wechsberg; Abraham Winokur; and Bert A. Woythaler.

cize this measure because it sets up a system for future adjustments in legislative salaries, contending it permits members to fix their own pay.

This is not so. Proposition 1-A stipulates that future salary raises must be limited to 5 per cent per year. They can be approved only by a two-thirds vote of each house and are subject to the Governor's veto and to a referendum by the people.

The legislative salary provision is a minor part of the total reform package.

For instance, the judiciary is strengthened by doubling the experience requirements for superior court judges and those on higher courts from five years to 10 years of admission to the practice of law in California.

It permits smaller counties to share the services of superior court judges.

Reacting to the theory that members of the court should be above suspicion, 1-A provides for the suspension of judges charged with a felony or recommended for removal by the Qualifications Commission. Now they continue to be eligible to handle cases until convicted or until actually removed from the bench.

To eliminate partisan or “lay” politics from the judicial chambers, Prop. 1-A would require superior and municipal court judges to take a leave of absence without pay when seeking a non-judicial office in an election.

To preserve the goal of simplicity in the Constitution, it would reduce the number of signatures needed for a statutory initiative from eight to five per cent of the votes last cast for Governor, while retaining eight per cent for initiative amendments to the Constitution. This would have the side effect of making it easier for the people to legislate directly.

The legislature is authorized by Prop. 1-A to grant extensive powers to the Governor for flexibility in reorganization of the executive branch, to keep it in line with modern requirements. It also would clarify the line of succession to the Governor's office and

## Aid Our Friends, Meany Asks

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called on trade unionists throughout the state to “do everything humanly possible” to get-out-the-vote next Tuesday.

“Labor's get-out-the-vote drive is of crucial importance this year. Certain groups are trying to divide and confuse the voters by substituting emotional appeals for sound judgments.

“Their intent is to destroy the gains we made in the 89th Congress and defeat pro-labor candidates endorsed by COPE. I urge you to do everything humanly possible on election day to get out the vote for labor's friends. They need and deserve our wholehearted support,” Meany declared.

empower the Supreme Court to determine if a vacancy exists in the Governor's office because of the disability of the incumbent to function. These two areas now could seriously hamstring the operation of state government unless corrected and 1-A sets out to do this.

The reforms embodied in Proposition 1-A on your November 8 ballot are essential to the most effective operation of state government.

And that's why the California Labor Federation urges an overwhelming “Yes” vote.

## Gruhn Appointed To Housing Board

Albin J. Gruhn, President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, has been named to a bipartisan 15-member commission charged with drafting recommendations for possible changes in the Rumford Fair Housing Act by Governor Edmund G. Brown.

Co-chairmen of the commission, which will submit its final report to the public and to the Governor, are retired Superior Judge Lewis Drucker of Los Angeles and John A. Sutro, Sr., of San Francisco.

The commission's findings will be submitted to the 1967 legislature, the Governor said.

## Los Angeles Co. Sheriff Opposes Proposition 16

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eliminate pornography, the sheriff said he was "opposed to it as presently written" because "Proposition 16 would completely preempt local government in this field and prevent us from enacting ordinances to contend with problems purely local in nature and peculiar to our area."

Pitchess said he had seen his name on the letterhead of the organization promoting the measure, the California League Enlisting Action Now (CLEAN) but emphasized that "I am not a member of their Advisory Committee" and that he had not authorized use of his name.

He also pointed out that both the Legislative Committee of the State Peace Officers Association and the Legislative Committee of the State Sheriffs Association have considered Proposition 16 and refused to endorse it.

"Law enforcement almost unanimously has opposed this in its present form," Pitchess pointed out.

The use of the sheriff's name to promote a measure he is known to oppose may well be a measure of the total irresponsibility being employed by the proposition's promoters.

Last August the delegates to the California Labor Federation's Sixth convention recommended that the measure be rejected because, among other things, it "appears to fix criminal liability on a basis not heretofore countenanced under our system of law" and because many of its other provisions "appear to be presently unconstitutional."

Since then scores of other statewide organizations including the Northern California Council of Churches, the California Broadcasters' Association and the California Association of School Librarians have announced their opposition to it.

The measure is also opposed by Governor Brown and scores of newspapers, including the Sacramento Bee, the San Francisco Chronicle and the Los Angeles Times.

# Drop Everything To Get Out The Vote, Pitts Urges

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a better deal for workers hurt on the job and in developing federal-state-local retraining programs to help workers cope with the onrushing impact of automation," Pitts pointed out.

"These are just a few of the areas in which Governor Brown has demonstrated an exceptional capability of getting things done and moving the state ahead.

"As trade unionists, we all know it is axiomatic that you don't send a green apprentice to do a journeyman's job. Yet that's just what the forces pushing actor Ronald Reagan's candidacy are asking California voters to do," he said.

"Just look at the contrast:

"Reagan has not only attracted but deliberately carried the support of practically all of the most reactionary, anti-labor, autocratic and extremist forces not only in our state but in the nation at large.

### FOE OF PROGRESS

"He fought for the American Medical Association against Medicare.

"He opposes repeal of Section 14(b).

"He opposes the Consumer Counsel's office which was set up by Governor Brown to protect the consuming public's interests.

"And just this week he blandly exonerated all the middle men and the huge grocery chains from responsibility for excessive food price hikes and chose to try to lay the blame on federal fiscal policy, the favorite scapegoat of corporate

### Safety at Sea Bill OK'd

Spurred by the Yarmouth Castle tragedy, a safety at sea measure won final House approval last week and was sent to the White House. The bill will require operators of both farm and domestic passenger ships to meet new safety standards if they pick up American travelers in U.S. ports.

interests for their own excesses.

"But beyond and overriding all of these anti-public interest shortcomings in his social and economic philosophy, Reagan has stooped to attempting to exploit the state's racial problems for his own personal aggrandizement.

"And almost in the same breath, he has maintained that morality was the overriding issue of the campaign.

"I am confident that Californians, particularly trade unionists and other workers who are always the first to suffer when a demagogue takes power, will not be taken in by such shabby duplicity.

### JOB CLEAR CUT

"But others may. So our job on election day is clear cut: We must all turn to en masse to get out the vote in behalf of Pat Brown and all other statewide, congressional, and state legislative candidates endorsed by our state and local COPEs.

"Failure to mount such an effort in every community in our state could result in sweeping away legislative and con-

### Total of Apprentices In State at 22,934

There were 22,934 apprentices registered with the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards in September, 116 higher than the previous month and 464 above the July total of 22,470, the State Department of Industrial Relations has reported.

"Apprenticeship appears to be on the upswing again after recent declines. The figures reflect intensified effort by the Division of Apprenticeship Standards to develop more apprenticeship training positions in cooperation with labor and management," Ernest B. Webb, the Department's director, said.

Slight decreases in the number of apprenticeships, however, were reported in Redding, Sacramento, San Francisco, Stockton and Fresno.

tractual safeguards for California workers that have taken literally years of hard work and sacrifice to win.

"It would be a tragedy of the first magnitude if these hard-won gains were now to be sacrificed on the altar of apathy," Pitts declared.

"Don't let it happen!

"Contact your local COPE office immediately and plan to pitch in to get out the vote next Tuesday," he urged.

## 2.5 Million More Workers in State Every 10 Years

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1970 and to 11,412,000 in 1980. This figure works out to a 38.7 percent labor force increase between 1960 and 1970 and a 27.8 percent increase between 1970 and 1980.

Noting that "then as now, California's labor force, along with its population, will lead all states," Max B. Kossoris, Regional Chief of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, pointed out that:

"Of the 100,000,000 in our nationwide labor force by 1980, California will have 11.5 million. Runner-up will be New York with 9 million."

During the 1960s half a dozen Western States will show labor force increases of at least 30 percent but the growth rate is estimated to slow down some during the 1970s.

Nationally the labor force increase from 69,877,000 in 1960 to an estimated 85,257,000 in 1970 represents a 22 percent increase for the decade. The rise to 100,670,000 by 1980 works out to an 18 percent increase over the 1970 figure.

The report also noted that the non-white labor force is expected to grow at about the same rate as the white labor force in the West but will grow at twice the rate of the total labor force in the Northeast and North Central regions.