



# California AFL-CIO News

Published weekly by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.  
995 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103—Second Class  
Postage Paid at San Francisco, Calif.—Subscription: \$3.50 a year

Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
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Jan. 27, 1967  
Vol. 9—No. 4

## Labor Urges Regents To Bar Tuition

"Organized labor in California is inalterably opposed" to proposals to impose tuition charges on state college and university students and "deeply alarmed by the suggestion implicit in the developments of the past few weeks that America's greatest university should be subjected to political shifts in Sacramento unrelated to the economic realities of the state's higher education needs," state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts declared yesterday.

Asserting that there has been "a great deal of heat but little light shed on the tuition controversy to date,"

Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, sent an open letter to the University of California's Board of Regents spelling out the Federation's views on the tuition, budget and tax issues and urging the Board to reject the tuition proposal.

Specifically, he emphasized:

1. That "imposition of tuition would hit families earning less than \$10,000 a year hardest, maximizing instead minimizing economic discrimination in higher education

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## Legislative Committees Announced

Organization of the state Legislature was nearly completed this week with the announcement of committee appointments in both the Assembly and the State Senate.

The distribution of committee chairmanships and the make-up of various key committees clearly reflects both the impact of the 1965 legislative reapportionment act and Republican gains at the polls last November.

In the Senate, southern California legislators now hold 10 committee chairmanships compared to only two in the 1965 session before reapportionment.

On a party basis Republicans

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## Fed Spells Out Action Vital To Curb Rural Poverty in U.S.

Farm workers must be accorded the same rights and protections enjoyed by all other U.S. workers, the nation's reclamation law must be enforced, and programs must be developed to improve the annual employment prospects of rural workers if any meaningful progress is to be achieved in eliminating rural poverty.

These were the highlights of a wide ranging statement presented by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, to a hearing held by President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty in Tucson, Arizona, today.

The statement, presented in behalf of state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts, summed up the

## UFWOC Offers Way To End Dispute

In an effort to resolve an organizational dispute involving farm workers at the Perelli-Minetti vineyards in Delano, the AFL-CIO United Farm Worker's Organizing Committee has proposed that the dispute between the UFWOC and the Teamster's union be submitted to binding arbitration.

UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez said last Friday that the UFWOC would be willing to stop picketing the vineyards

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## 20% Boost In Social Security Benefits Asked

President Johnson called on Congress this week to boost social security benefits by an average of 20 percent this year, with the biggest boost to go to the 2.5 million beneficiaries presently getting the legal minimum of \$40 a month for single persons and \$70 a month for married couples.

The President's proposal, considerably above the 8 percent increase proposed earlier by

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## '67 Legislative Roster is About To Go to Press

As soon as all legislative committees have been named, and their meeting schedules posted, the Federation will go to press with its 1967 Roster of California's Legislative Representatives.

One copy of this Roster will be sent to each Federation affiliate. Central labor bodies and other organizations interested in obtaining quantities of the Roster at their own cost should make arrangements with the Federation's office in San Francisco immediately. The Rosters will cost about \$15 per 100 copies.

Inquiries or orders should be addressed to Rosters, California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 995 Market Street, San Francisco 94103.

## Rehabilitation Conference Set

A California Conference on Rehabilitation to explore the full scope of California's rehabilitation needs and resources will be held at the Mansion Inn in Sacramento on Friday and Saturday, February 17-18, 1967.

The conference, which will include representatives from labor, business and industry, government and the medical profession, is jointly sponsored by the following organizations:

The California Labor Federation

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## Digest of Bills To Start Soon

A digest of bills of major concern to organized labor will begin in the next issue of the California AFL-CIO News. The digest will provide a brief description and evaluation of all such bills introduced.

# Rehabilitation Conference Set Feb. 17-18

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tion, AFL-CIO; the California Department of Rehabilitation; the California Medical Association; the National Institute on Rehabilitation and Health Services; the Sacramento Chapter of the National Rehabilitation Association; the Western Conference of Teamsters and the Institutes of Industrial Relations at the University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles.

The three principal subject areas to be covered are:

- 1—The concept and orientation of rehabilitation.
- 2—Environmental settings for rehabilitation.
- 3—Overcoming barriers to rehabilitation.

Specific areas of the rehabilitation process to be explored will include:

- Who needs rehabilitation and how do you identify them?
- What organized rehabilitation programs presently exist and how do they relate to each other?
- And to what extent are the barriers to rehabilitation economic? institutional? or individual? and how can they be minimized or overcome?

The conference will also tackle the problem of how rehabilitation can be made an integral part of health care planning.

All affiliates of the California Labor Federation have been invited to send representatives to participate.

Registration will open at 8:00 a.m. Feb. 17 and the conference itself will convene at 9:00 a.m. The \$10.00 registration fee covers lunch and dinner on Feb. 17 and miscellaneous conference expenses.

Checks should be made payable to the California Conference on Rehabilitation and sent to the Center for Labor Research and Education, University of California, Institute of Industrial Relations, Berkeley, California 94720.

Registration forms and the program for the conference, which will adjourn at noon Saturday, were sent to all Federation affiliates last week.

# State Senate Committees Named

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picked up seven more chairmanships and now head 10 of the 22 Upper House Committees, reflecting the narrowing of the Democratic majority from 25 to 14 with one vacancy to 21 to 19 as a result of the last election.

In the Assembly where committee appointments were just announced yesterday, southern California lawmakers now head 11 of 26 committees, one less than in the 1965 session, but Republicans now hold 11 chairmanships compared to only one in the 1965 session.

Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh announced plans this week to eliminate two lower house committees and to create two new ones: the State Personnel and Veterans Committee; and the Retirement Systems Committee. They will replace the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and the Civil Service and State Personnel Committee.

Last week veteran State Senator J. Eugene McAteer was replaced on the upper house Rules Committee by Senator Joseph M. Kennick, a former Long Beach Assemblyman, so that McAteer could chair one of the upper house committees.

The composition of Senate Committees is listed below: Assembly Committees will be reported next week.

## AGRICULTURE (9)

Way (R), Chairman; Coombs (R), Vice Chairman; Cologne (R), Lagomarsino (R), Marler (R), Mills (D), Richardson (R), Walsh (D), Wedworth (D).

## BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS (9)

Short (D), Chairman; Walsh (D), Vice Chairman; Cologne (R), Coombs (R), McCarthy (R), Sherman (R), Song (D), Stevens (R), Whetmore (R).

## EDUCATION (13)

Rodda (D), Chairman; Wedworth (D), Vice Chairman; Alquist (D), Burgener (R), Dymally (D), Grunsky (R), Harmer (R), McAteer (D), Miller (D), Richardson (R), Schmitz (R), Stiern (D), Whetmore (R).

**ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT (7)**  
Mills (D), Chairman; Sherman (R), Vice Chairman; Danielson (D), Dymally (D), McCarthy (R), Schmitz (R), Teale (D).

## FINANCE (13)

Miller (D), Chairman; Teale (D), Vice Chairman; Burns (D), Collier (D), Dolwig (R), Grunsky (R), Lagomarsino (R), McAteer (D), Rodda (D), Schrade (R), Short (D), Stiern (D), Way (R).

## FISH AND GAME (9)

Marler (R), Chairman; Dills (D), Vice Chairman; Alquist (D), Carrell (D), Danielson (D), Harmer (R), Sherman (R), Walsh (D), Wedworth (D).

## GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY (11)

McAteer (D), Chairman; Burns (D), Vice Chairman; Collier (D), Dolwig (R), Kennick (D), Lagomarsino (R), McCarthy (R), Schrade (R), Short (D), Stiern (D), Teale (D).

## INSTITUTIONS (5)

Cusanovich (R), Chairman; Dymally (D), Vice Chairman; Bellenson (D), Song (D), Stevens (R).

## INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (9)

Dolwig (R), Chairman; Schrade (R), Vice Chairman; Bradley (R), Burns (D), Collier (D), Grunsky (R), Miller (D), Short (D), Stevens (R).

## JUDICIARY (13)

Grunsky (R), Chairman; Stevens (R), Vice Chairman; Bellenson (D), Bradley (R), Cologne (R), Danielson (D), Deukmejian (R), Dolwig (R), Harmer (R), Lagomarsino (R), Moscone (D), Sherman (R), Song (D).

## LABOR (5)

Petris (D), Chairman; Harmer (R), Vice Chairman; Cusanovich (R), Deukmejian (R), Song (D).

## LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION (5)

Carrell (D), Chairman; Bradley (R), Burgener (R), Deukmejian (R), Dills (D).

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT (11)

Bradley (R), Chairman; Moscone (D), Vice Chairman; Alquist (D), Bellenson (D), Burgener (R), Coombs (R), Richardson (R), Rodda (D), Schmitz (R), Walsh (D), Wedworth (D).

## MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS (5)

Schmitz (R), Chairman; Whetmore (R), Vice Chairman; Burgener (R), Cusanovich (R), Danielson (D).

## NATURAL RESOURCES (11)

Lagomarsino (R), Chairman; Alquist (D), Vice Chairman; Coombs (R), Deukmejian (R), Dills (D), Marler (R), Mills (D), Moscone (D), Petris (D), Way (R), Wedworth (D).

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY (7)

Bellenson (D), Chairman; Song (D), Vice Chairman; Cusanovich (R), Kennick (D), Petris (D), Sherman (R), Whetmore (R).

## PUBLIC UTILITIES (7)

Danielson (D), Chairman; Kennick (D), Vice Chairman; Carrell (D), Cologne (R), Dills (D), Moscone (D), Whetmore (R).

## REVENUE AND TAXATION (13)

Stiern (D), Chairman; Deukmejian (R), Vice Chairman; Bradley (R), Burns (D), Carrell (D), Collier (D), Coombs (R), Grunsky (R), McAteer (D), Miller (D), Schrade (R), Teale (D), Way (R).

## RULES (5)

Burns (D), Chairman; McCarthy (R), Vice Chairman; Kennick (D), Schrade (R), Teale (D).

## SOCIAL WELFARE (7)

Burgener (R), Chairman; Richardson (R), Vice Chairman; Bellenson (D), Dymally (D), Rodda (D), Schmitz (R), Stevens (R).

## TRANSPORTATION (13)

Collier (D), Chairman; McCarthy (R), Vice Chairman; Alquist (D), Carrell (D), Cusanovich (R), Dills (D), Dolwig (R), Kennick (D), Marler (R), Mills (D), Moscone (D), Short (D), Walsh (D).

## WATER RESOURCES (9)

Cologne (R), Chairman; Petris (D), Vice Chairman; Dymally (D), Harmer (R), Marler (R), Mills (D), Richardson (R), Rodda (D), Way (R).

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION—Joint Rules (7)\*

Casanovich (R), Petris (D).  
\*Includes the five Rules Committees members.

# New Guide Tells How to Set Up Apprenticeships

Publication of a new, 40-page booklet aimed at helping private industry set up and conduct apprenticeship programs has been announced by Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz.

Entitled "Setting Up an Apprenticeship Program," the booklet is a step-by-step guide for employers and joint employer-labor committees. It was prepared with assistance from both the AFL-CIO and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Wirtz said that the booklet fills a growing need for apprenticeship information created as a result of shortages in trained manpower and industry's subsequent reliance on on-the-job and other work training programs.

The booklet provides information on the qualifications, requirements and attainments of apprentices, the organization of employer and joint committees, minimum training standards, job instruction, cost factors, examples of records and occupations, apprenticeship agreements, and federal and state government assistance available. It also lists offices of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, state apprenticeship agencies, and state directors of Vocational Education.

The booklet is available free to employers and labor organizations.

# \$1.40 Floor Asked for Walsh-Healey Pacts

Establishment of a \$1.40 an hour prevailing minimum wage determination for all industries subject to the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act except those industries where the present determination is higher has been proposed by U.S. Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz.

The Walsh-Healey Act applies to workers on government supply contracts in excess of \$10,000.

# Fed Spells Out Action Necessary to Curb Rural Poverty in U.S.

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social and economic consequences of the rural workers' present plight, saying:

"The legacy left by the exclusion of domestic farm workers from the nation's social legislation and by the annual massive importation of foreign contract labor is clearly visible. Rural slums exist throughout the state's agricultural areas. Public health hazards in many rural areas are glaring as are malnutrition and the lack of proper medical attention.

"Low levels of educational attainment and a paucity of occupational skills are much in evidence. Inevitably, juvenile delinquency and more serious crimes are encouraged by the climate of want and the sense of hopelessness that prevails. By default or design, domestic farm workers are considered 'second-class' citizens in a society committed to eliminating such citizenship."

## CLAIM REFUTED

To shoot down agribusiness claims that collective bargaining won't work in agriculture because the grower produces a perishable product, Pitts' statement pointed out that collective bargaining has worked successfully for nearly 30 years in the canning industry which handles a perishable product.

"Ironically," it noted, "it is the failure to provide farm workers coverage under the NLRA which causes harvest-time strikes. When there is no legal machinery to peaceably resolve questions of union recognition, there will be strikes, bitterness, and divided communities," it said.

The Federation, which was the only labor organization scheduled to testify at the two-day hearing at the Pioneer Hotel, further underscored the need to assure farm workers collective bargaining rights by pointing out that farm worker earnings have risen only half as rapidly as farm worker productivity over the past 10 years and that "the gap between the earnings of production workers and domestic farm workers in California increased from 77 cents an hour in 1960 to \$1.64 an hour in 1966."

Last year, according to the

latest statistics available, average hourly earnings of production workers in California were \$3.16. The earnings of farm workers were only \$1.52.

Compounding the plight of the rural worker, Pitts' statement said, is the fact that they are not only excluded from coverage under the nation's basic labor laws but are also denied paid vacations, overtime pay, pension plans and health and welfare programs.

## SIX PROPOSALS

In summing up its position on the farm labor aspect of rural poverty, the Federation urged the Commission to include the following six basic recommendations in its report to the President's Committee on Rural Poverty:

1. Extension of the National Labor Relations Act to cover farm workers.
2. Full coverage for farm workers under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
3. Termination of all foreign farm labor importation programs.
4. Extension of unemployment insurance to farm workers.
5. Workmen's compensation coverage for farm workers hurt on the job in every state of the union. (California's workmen's compensation law already covers farm workers.)
6. Extension of public welfare systems to migratory farm workers and their families without regard to state residence requirements.

Warning that at present "fed-

eral reclamation programs are tending to be just another large federal subsidy to corporate farmers and absentee investors," and that "as presently administered, federal reclamation programs tend to 'perpetuate rural poverty,'" the state AFL-CIO said:

"One of the most meaningful ways to attack rural poverty in California would be to rapidly break up the approximately 900,000 acres of federally financed irrigated land presently held in violation of reclamation law.

"This land could be subdivided and then settled by family farmers if aided by low-interest federal credit programs. A particularly beneficial result . . . would be establishment of small farm communities and the subsequent growth of jobs for building tradesmen, service employees, retail sales personnel and others."

Pointing out that "the same special interest groups which benefit from the non-enforcement of reclamation law, continue to drive small farmers out of business," the state AFL-CIO urged the Commission to recommend:

1. That U.S. reclamation law be amended to bar any appropriations for reclamation projects until all excess land owners within the project area have signed recordable contracts to sell off their excess holdings (holdings exceeding 160 acres for an in-

dividual; 320 acres for man and wife).

2. That a new revolving fund be set up in the U.S. Treasury to facilitate federal purchase of excess land at pre-project prices and its later sale to family farmers.
3. That the Department of Interior be required to develop plans to dispose of excess lands in a manner that encourages family farming whenever a reclamation project is proposed.

## CHANGE FAVORED

It also urged consideration of the suggestion put forward last year by Varden Fuller, professor of Agriculture Economics at the University of California that the Farm Placement Service should be replaced by a Rural Industries Manpower Service.

Such a service could help rural workers arrange and schedule annual work programs composed of both farm and non-farm jobs and also help develop training programs to complement these efforts.

The fact that the average California farm worker is employed little more than 1,100 hours a year at wage rates that would yield barely half of the poverty line budget set by the National Administration underscores the need for such a service if the nation is to "help rural workers join the mainstream of American economic life," Pitts' statement noted.

## FIRST OF THREE

The hearing was the first of three hearings scheduled by the Commission throughout the nation. The other meetings, one to take testimony from the South and Midwest and the other to take testimony from the East and Northeastern states, will be held February 2-3, in Memphis, Tennessee, and February 15-16-17, in Washington, D.C. Governor Edward Breathitt of Kentucky is Commission Chairman.

Among other things the Commission, created by a Presidential Executive Order last year, is charged with exploring "new and better means of eliminating the causes which perpetuate rural unemployment and underemployment, low income, and poor facilities. . . ."

It is required to submit its final report to the President's Committee on Rural Poverty by September 27, 1967.

# U.S. to Study Assured Income Plans

President Johnson announced plans this week to create a special commission to carry out a two-year study of various proposals to guarantee a minimum income to all U.S. citizens.

One such proposal is the so-called "negative income tax" under which families below a certain minimal income level would receive automatic payments from the Treasury instead of paying taxes.

Another is to create public employment for all who lack jobs in private industry.

The President pointed out that there are also several other plans and that advocates

of such proposals "include some of the sturdiest defenders of free enterprise."

The President also called on Congress to overhaul the nation's public assistance program which is "now 30 years old and (contains) obvious faults."

Johnson noted that at present the federal government contributes 59 cents of every welfare dollar while the states contribute only 41 cents yet each state is free to set up its own standards of eligibility and to determine its level of payments to the needy.

## 20% Boost In Social Security Benefits Asked

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Republicans, would boost the minimum monthly benefit levels to \$70 for single persons and \$105 for couples.

The remaining 20.5 million persons receiving social security benefits would get increases of at least 15 percent.

The increased benefits would be financed almost entirely by workers earning \$550 a month or more and their employers.

The social security tax, presently 4.4 percent on the first \$6600 in annual earnings, would be boosted in steps to 5.8 percent and applied ultimately to a taxable wage base of \$10,800.

The President's proposals, presented to Congress Monday, also called for extension of Medicare benefits to 1.5 million disabled workers who are under 65 years of age and for an overhaul of income tax laws applying to persons over 65.

At present the maximum benefit for which a worker who retires at 65 can qualify is about \$165 a month.

## Farm Union Offers Way To End Dispute

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and boycotting the products of the Perelli-Minetti firm if the Teamster's union and Perelli-Minetti would agree to arbitrate the issue.

Meanwhile the terms of the contract between the UFWOC and the DiGiorgio Corporation, whose field workers voted for UFWOC representation last August, are in the hands of two arbitrators who concluded four days of hearings in San Francisco last week but have not yet reached a decision. The hearings are scheduled to resume in San Francisco on February 13.

The UFWOC is hopeful that a contract providing substantial improvements in the wages and working conditions of farm workers will result from the DiGiorgio arbitration proceedings.

# State Fed Urges Regents To Reject Tuition Proposal

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at a time when automation is demanding higher skill requirements from all segments of our work force."

2. That "the percentage of revenue that could be raised by imposing tuition could be better raised by increasing the charges for the many services the university presently supplies either free or at a very nominal cost to agriculture and industry."

3. That "tuition would booby-trap the 'brain gain' that the university's present fee policies have won for California—a gain that has been an immeasurable stimulus to the creation of jobs in the state's aerospace and research and development industries."

4. That "no state growing at a rate of more than half a million residents a year can afford to cut its educational budget 10 percent below the budget for the previous fiscal year without virtually abandoning its responsibility to provide high quality educational opportunities at low cost to its youth. The fact of the matter is that the university's budget must be expanded, not contracted."

5. That "imposition of tuition would destroy the tradition of tuition-free education that has existed since 1868—a policy reaffirmed by the Master Plan Survey Team only a few years ago when it stated:

"The traditional policy of nearly a century of tuition-free higher education is in the best interests of the state and should be continued."

6. That "the University of California is recognized as America's greatest university and the furor of the past few weeks, of which the tuition controversy is but a part, greatly jeopardizes this standing because many of the most gifted professors and administrators and students may be lured to other colleges and universities throughout the nation."

7. That "the root cause of the state's revenue problem is that California's total tax structure is far too regressive—that too much of state and local

revenues are sought from sales, property and other consumer taxes and not enough from tax sources based on the 'ability-to-pay' principle."

On the tax issue, Pitts pointed out that the State's personal income tax range of from 1 to 7 percent produces only 12 percent of the state's general fund revenues. In contrast, New York, a similar industrial state, relies on its personal income tax structure for about 40 percent of its revenue, he said.

Current proposals to provide property tax relief by imposing a one cent increase in the sales tax, Pitts said, "amount to simply replacing one regressive tax with another."

Pitts urged the Board of Regents and all other organizations and individuals interested in reforming the state's tax structure to join with the labor movement in seeking at least a doubling of the state's personal income tax rate range to 1 to 15 percent, the rate that prevailed in California prior to World War II.

Digging into the tuition issue, Pitts noted that on a statewide basis it already costs the average U.C. student \$1,850 a year for fees, room and board, books, etc. to get a college education in our tuition-free University system.

"And at the state college level, even though the charges are less, 22 percent of California families with one child cannot even afford to finance a commuter education for their child at a state college.

"A study by the California Coordinating Council on Education conducted in 1965 found that less than 25 per cent of college freshmen came from families earning less than \$10,000 a year but that nearly 75 percent came from families in the \$14,000 or over income bracket.

"Obviously, the imposition of a \$100, \$200 or \$400 tuition charge would hit the educational hopes of youths from families in the lower income

brackets much harder than those from families in the \$14,000 and over bracket.

"Economic discrimination in higher educational opportunities has long existed but, until now, the philosophy of both our state and nation has been to seek in every way possible to minimize rather than maximize it," Pitts observed.

"A study of the total tuition and incidental fees charged at the nation's major public universities discloses that they range from \$82 to \$568.

"The present average incidental fees for California University students is \$220, nearly double what it was five years ago.

"If, say, a \$350 tuition charge were placed on top of that, California's once proud University system would become the most expensive public university system in the nation.

"And instead of continuing to enjoy the 'brain gain' that has made an incalculable contribution to the development of the state's aerospace and research and development industries, California would soon be subjected to a 'brain drain' that could have immeasurable adverse consequences for our state economy and the jobs of thousands of workers.

"In short, imposition of tuition charges would be economically discriminatory, fiscally both irresponsible and unnecessary, and philosophically at odds with the trade union movement's traditional and continuing efforts to expand instead of restrict educational opportunities for all," Pitts declared.

## New Appointee

Governor Ronald Reagan this week filled another key government post. Named as:

Director of the Department of General Services was Andrew R. Lolli, 55, a retired Army Major General who has been serving as assistant to the Vice President of Hughes Aircraft at Fullerton. Lolli has not been affiliated with any political party.