



California AFL-CIO News

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Labor At the Legislature

From the Capitol Office
Of the Executive Secretary

Assemblyman F. James Bear of San Diego has companion bills on education scholarship programs for disadvantaged youth—AB 765 and ACR 65—which are moving through the Legislature with the support of Labor. Both have passed the Assembly and are pending in Senate committees, where they must be approved before going to the Senate for final passage to the Governor's desk. AB 765 is in Education Committee while ACR 65 came out of that committee with favorable recommendation to the Senate Finance Committee. Without overwhelming publicity campaigns, these two bills will help tremendously to meet the problems of young Californians in facing the challenges of the future. Contact your State Senator to vote for Assemblyman Bear's education bills.

* * *

The notoriously reactionary "Liberty Amendment" is constantly raising its head with each legislative session. This regressive measure is a graphic example of why labor and its allies in progress must be ever on the alert. This drastic proposal to completely alter the federal constitution was Senate Joint Resolution 7 in the 1968 session. On May 15, the Senate Governmental Efficiency Committee buried it after the urgent opposition of spokesmen for the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

* * *

Two bills of importance to protection of workers on the job are to be heard in Assembly Industrial Relations Committee Monday, May 27, at 1:30 p.m.

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Unruh-Reagan In Strange Alliance To Gut State Apprenticeship Setup

California's apprenticeship programs, the most successful in the nation, are gravely jeopardized today by some hastily introduced legislation that would create an entirely new super-bureaucracy presided over by a "czar" appointed by Governor Ronald Reagan.

The legislation, embodied principally in AB 1463 and AB 1464, is being pushed by an unusual legislative alliance headed by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh and Assemblymen Robert T. Monagan, Leon Ralph, John Veneman and William Camp-

bell, who joined Unruh as sponsors of both bills.

Essentially, the legislation would create a new Department of Human Resources Development, lump more than a half-dozen existing training and employment programs under it, and give this new agency responsibility for coordinating all job training and placement programs in the state whether they are funded by the agency or not.

However well intended, this legislation,

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State Fed Acts To Fight 'Meat-Axe' Budget Cuts

Vigorous opposition to "a meat-axe" slash in the federal budget called for by a House-Senate Conference report on the excise tax bill is being pressed by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

The \$6 billion in slashes, made in the conference report on the excise tax bill which also contains President John-

son's long-sought 10 percent surtax, would take an estimated \$2 billion out of California's economy, California lawmakers have warned.

Due to the large number of federal projects in California, such "meat-axe cutting of the federal budget" would almost inevitably result in deep cuts in state highway construction, public works, anti-poverty, research and education projects, wiping out thousands of jobs in the process.

State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts wired California's Congressional delegation on May 17 urging them to oppose the conference report. Pitts also alerted AFL-CIO councils

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21 Win State AFL-CIO \$500 Scholarships

Winners of 21 \$500 scholarship awards offered in the 18th annual high school scholarship competition sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, were announced today.

The winners, who triumphed over more than 900 high school seniors who participated in the competitive exam held in pub-

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Election Poses Critical Choice

With the June 4 primary election barely a week away, California trade unionists are confronted with a critical choice in the Democratic primary and virtually no choice on the Republican side.

Basically in the Democratic primary it is a choice between two personalities and an uncommitted delegation headed by Attorney General Thomas C. Lynch.

The Lynch slate has strong labor as well as a well balanced cross-section of business, religious and minority group representation. It is the only slate that affords labor an effective voice at the Democratic convention next August where the real and final decision is to be made.

In the interest of labor unity and in keeping with past policies, the pre-primary endorsement convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education held in San Francisco last month endorsed no candidates for the offices of United States President and Vice President.

Accordingly, a vote for the uncommitted Lynch slate would be most in line with the position of State COPE.

Flash

Two Anti-Labor Bills, AB 1555 and AB 1163, were defeated on the Assembly floor this week.

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Unruh-Reagan in Strange Alliance To Gut Apprenticeship Setup

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particularly the imposition of state control over long-standing and successful programs developed between labor and management over the years, could result in the abandonment of a number of apprenticeship programs in which management is willing to participate only so long as it isn't strangled with bureaucratic red tape.

Two weeks ago, Speaker Unruh explained his legislation to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Unemployment and Manpower in Washington, D. C., saying that "after nearly a year of exhaustive research by the legislative staffs of both political parties in the State Assembly . . . we publicly announced a massive new program in the Manpower and Employment field which immediately gained the unqualified support of Republicans and Democrats alike in both houses of the California Legislature, and of Governor Ronald Reagan."

Glossing over the fact that the Manpower Development and Training Act as well as various Office of Economic Opportunity programs were admittedly no more than pilot projects and were grossly underfunded to begin with, the Speaker maintained that "both levels of government (state and local) have missed the mark quite badly."

The State AFL-CIO believes that this state and our nation

can afford and must initiate a massive and comprehensive job-creating program to reach the hard core unemployed who are largely concentrated in our urban areas. But we do not believe and cannot subscribe to legislation that would gut existing programs to achieve this end. Therefore the Federation is strongly opposed to AB 1463 and AB 1464.

The Unruh bill would transfer the Division of Apprenticeship Standards, which is now in the State Department of Industrial Relations, as well as the State Office of Economic

Opportunity, the California Commission on Aging, the State Commission on Indian Affairs, the State Service Center Program and all functions of the Manpower Development and Training Act (MDTA), now located in the State Department of Employment, to the jurisdiction of a new Department of Human Resources Development.

Changes in federal statutes that prohibit the co-mingling of funds for the various existing programs and pilot projects to aid the hard core unemployed would be necessary to implement the program. This was the

reason for Unruh's appearance before the Senate Subcommittee.

In the course of his testimony in Washington Unruh said that the proposed legislation would require the new Department to develop strict priorities for the use of its job development and placement funds and services on a geographic area basis, taking into consideration the economic deprivation of the area."

Priority would go first to unemployed heads of households, then to underemployed heads of households, to unemployed and underemployed males between the ages of 18 and 45, to unemployed females between the ages of 18 and 45, and finally to welfare and potential welfare recipients.

He also specified that "all funds allocated for job placement and development programs must reflect the characteristics of the unemployed and the underemployed within specified economically disadvantaged areas, with particular reference to the ethnic characteristics of those areas."

Unruh said the proposed legislation would create a so-called "Manpower Development Fund" within the State Treasury and into it would go all the funds, including federal funds for apprenticeship programs. Such a "centralization and de-categorization of funds will," Unruh claimed, "allow us to avoid traditional hardening of the categories" and to develop program priorities based on applicant need, rather than upon bureaucratic mandate."

No mention was made of the fact that such action would destroy the most time-honored and successful method of training workers—our state apprenticeship programs. The fact is, apprenticeship would get lost in bureaucratic red tape.

Engineers Praised

Labor Secretary Williard Wirtz has lauded the Operating Engineers union for having made significant contributions toward helping eliminate poverty in the United States. The union has provided on-the-job training for some 3,700 disadvantaged since 1964.

LABOR At the Legislature

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in Room 2133. These are Townsend's AB 1750, a good bill relating to safety in employment, and AB 1035 by Z'berg and Chappie which would increase protection to workers in trenches and excavations.

SB 576, Rodda, is scheduled Tuesday, May 28, at 3:45 p.m. in Criminal Procedures Committee. This would exempt motion picture projectionists working for wages from liability in cases involving movie censorship. Also on File for that Assembly committee session is SB 397, a good bill by Sherman, to prohibit an employer from discharging an employee for taking time off to serve on jury duty. The same committee will be hearing AB 2013, a bad bill relative to trespass.

The Assembly Committee on Public Health will have before it on May 28 a measure by Assemblyman Powers relative to rest rooms in public establishments. This is AB 1784 and is a good bill.

Monday, May 27, the Senate Committee on Insurance and Financial Institutions will be hearing SB 633, a bad bill on unemployment compensation disability insurance. Also set for that session is AB 576, a good bill by Assemblyman Negri on credit sales.

Senate Labor Committee on

Tuesday, May 28, is taking up SB 1065 and AB 820—both bad bills, opposed by the Federation. SB 1065 deals with minimum wages for women and minors while AB 820 relates to operation of machinery by minors.

Murphy's AB 263, a good bill on mechanics' liens, will be heard in Senate Judiciary Friday, May 31, according to present scheduling. A bad bill on "works of improvement," SB 805, is also on File for that meeting of the Committee.

* * *

SB 393 by Senator Dills and others on tax relief for motion pictures had extensive hearings in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee on May 15. At the close of presentation of arguments, the committee put over further consideration for three weeks. This is a good bill which had Federation support in securing passage through the Senate, placing it before the Assembly committee.

* * *

Just before it was to be heard in Assembly Governmental Efficiency and Economy Committee, AB 544 was taken off the File. This bill, on the weighing and packaging of meat, was opposed by the Federation. It will not progress further in the Legislature unless it is reset later.

Film Workers' Bill Wins Senate OK

On Monday afternoon the State Senate passed SB 440 by a vote of 29 to 0, sending it to the Assembly. This bill by Senator George Moscone is supported by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

SB 440 prohibits direct competition with commercial motion picture houses by student organizations in public colleges. It thus provides job protection to theatrical employees, projectionists and movie operators. Labor has closely assisted Senator Moscone in steering this measure through successful passage in the upper house.

Curbs on OK of Wire-tapping Urged by Fed

Federal legislation that would license wire-tapping in a broad variety of cases is being fought by the state AFL-CIO.

In wires sent last Friday to U.S. Senators Thomas H. Kuchel and George Murphy, Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, urged that the provisions of S 928 be substituted for Title Three of the so-called omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, S 917.

The provisions in Title Three of S 917, according to the Congressional Quarterly, would permit wire-tapping under court orders "showing probable cause" by law enforcement officers investigating a wide range of specified crimes, including murder, robbery, organized crime, drug abuse and other crimes involving danger to "life, limb and property."

In contrast, the language favored by the state AFL-CIO and embodied in S 928 would prohibit wire-tapping and other means of electronic surveillance except in cases involving national security.

Just this week the Senate defeated two amendments to the crime control bill aimed at limiting court-supervised wire tapping.

The amendments, offered by Senator Edward V. Long (D-Maine) would have prevented indefinite delay of notification that a wire-tap had been ordered after it is terminated and restricting wiretapping to cases of crimes being committed or already committed instead of licensing the use of wiretapping where police only suspect a crime is about to be committed.

The first amendment was defeated 61 to 21, the second 63 to 18, margins that seem to reflect a great willingness on the part of the Senate to sacrifice the citizen's right to privacy at the altar of law enforcement.

It also underscores the necessity for strong support for liberal candidates in the forthcoming elections.

Fed Acts to Bar 'Meat-Axe' Cuts in U.S. Budget

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throughout the state on this critical issue and urged them to contact their congressmen immediately.

In his wire to California Congressmen, Pitts said:

"The California AFL-CIO is totally opposed to a wholesale, meat-axe cutting of the federal budget. This nation is in the midst of an urban

crisis and programs to ameliorate this crisis require greater appropriations, not slashes.

"We strongly support a fair and equitable temporary tax increase but oppose totally the proposed wholesale budget slashes. We urge you to defeat the conference report on the excise tax bill which will soon be on the House floor."

LABOR EDITORS' MEET

Expert Gives Critique of Papers at CLPA Parley

Too many labor papers lack stories linking the problems of the local union's membership to the problems of their community or to the labor movement as a whole.

This was just one of the observations of Rod Holmgren, a Monterey Peninsula College journalism professor who zeroed in on the strengths and weaknesses of scores of labor publications during a workshop session at the 1968 convention of the California Labor Press Association in San Francisco May 17-19.

'LITTLE EVIDENCE'

Holmgren, a veteran professional journalist himself with experience in radio and television as well as the daily press, said he "saw little evidence of the great movements of our time about which union members are interested" in a number of the labor publications sent to him for a critique prior to the opening of the convention.

Union members, he suggested, would be interested in stories directed to such questions as:

"Would peace knock our economy into a cocked hat?" and,

"What's labor's interpretation of the riots in the ghettos?"

Noting that the labor movement fought for years to win more leisure time for union members, he asked, "what are the union members doing with that leisure time and how can

they use it more constructively?"

Stories about such community involvement issues would serve to strengthen labor's ties in the community, he said.

Holmgren also suggested readership interest might be sharpened by carrying labor-oriented reviews of TV programs and radio talk shows, particularly since many of the latter appear to be "systematically against labor."

On the more technical side, he praised the idea of the use of a floating "flag" or "mast head" since it gives more flexibility in page one makeup and also suggested editors give more attention to poorly balanced heads and strive to eliminate "tombstoning" — placing heads of the same font and type size adjacent to one another.

COALITION IN PERIL

James Lorenz, Director of California Rural Legal Assistance, told an afternoon workshop on "Labor and the War on Poverty" that the "open housing" issue is being nurtured by conservative forces in the country because it serves to splinter the liberal coalition that has been largely responsible for the social gains made during the past 30 years.

At a business session concluding the convention Sunday, John M. Eshelman, editor of the East Bay Labor Journal, and Mrs. Eleanor J. Moore, editor of Local 37 News, were elected to fill vacancies on the CLPA's Executive Board.

Earlier last week, on May 13, the National AFL-CIO Executive Council announced its determination "to oppose with all our strength all indiscriminate budget slashing." The Council pointed out that:

"America's urban crisis, its housing shortage, its educational needs, its pockets of poverty-stricken citizens and shortages of health-care and anti-pollution facilities require expanded action, not slashing cutbacks."

Moreover, the Executive Council warned, "the actions proposed by the conferees will set the United States on a course that can lead only to chaos in domestic and international policies."

Several California congressmen are already on record in opposition to the budget cuts.

Rep. Jeffrey Cohelan (D-Alameda Co.) warned that the conservatives' budget-slashing drive poses a "serious danger" to the nation and added that such massive reductions in people-oriented programs should be "politically unacceptable" to congressmen from urban areas.

Rep. John J. McFall (D-Manteca), who, like Cohelan, is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, warned that a \$6 billion reduction could "throw us into a recession." He also said it would mean a halt to most public works projects.

Moreover, Rep. John E. Moss (D-Sacramento) pointed out that the provision calling for the 10 percent surtax fails to close any tax loopholes favoring special interest groups.

Announcing that he would probably vote against the measure also because the \$6 billion slash would hurt essential urban programs, Moss observed:

"This legislation perpetuates every inequity in the present tax structure."

The conference report, drafted to resolve differences between the House and Senate, will be subject to only an hour's debate with no floor amendments allowed when it is taken up.

However, efforts may be made to send the bill back to the conference committee with instructions to change its spending provisions.

21 Seniors Win State AFL-CIO \$500 Scholarships

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lic and private high schools throughout the state last month, include 12 from the San Francisco Bay Area and four from Southern California.

They are scattered through 11 California counties, with five in Santa Clara, four in Los Angeles, three in San Francisco, two in Contra Costa and one each in Kern, Kings, Madera, Marin, Placer, San Diego and San Mateo Counties.

Listed alphabetically by counties, the winners are:

Contra Costa—Kevin Bruce Collins, 17, 3231 Withers Avenue, Lafayette, of Pleasant Hill High in Pleasant Hill; and Marsha Frances Wechsler, 17, 59 Kenyon Avenue, Kensington, of El Cerrito High in El Cerrito.

Kern—Carolyn Darlene Carasco, 17, 564 Harris Drive, Shafter, of Shafter High.

Kings—Howard Alan Sager, 18, P. O. Box 456, Avenal, of Avenal High.

Los Angeles—Brian Scott Bentley, 17, 117 S. Meadows, Manhattan Beach, of Mira Costa High; Karl Michael Keating, 18, 6940 Mezzanine Way, Long Beach, of Robert A. Millikan High; Michael John King, 17,

19030 Superior Street, Northridge, of Alemany High in Mission Hills; and Janet Scheuerman, 17, 1920 Queensberry Road, Pasadena, of Alverno Heights Academy in Sierra Madre.

Madera—Philip Hagopian, 17, 725 Willis Avenue, Madera, of Madera High.

Marin—Alice Leone Williams, 18, 136 Marina Blvd., San Rafael, of San Domenico School in San Anselmo.

Placer—Mitchell Edward Abbott, 17, P. O. Box 97, Kings Beach, of Tahoe-Truckee High in Truckee.

San Diego—Judith Ann Fitzgerald, 17, 4860 Oregon Street, San Diego, of Academy of Our Lady of Peace.

San Francisco—Ellen DeLany, 17, 2043 Carroll Avenue, of Presentation High; Robert John Gonella, 17, 1 Harvard Street, Keith Mobbs, 17, 221 Joost Street, of Balboa High.

San Mateo—Dolores Ann McKinnon, 17, 1067 Annapolis Drive, San Mateo, of Hillsdale High.

Santa Clara—Stephen Lee Hartsell, 18, 10450 Mahoney Drive, San Jose, of James Lick High; Timothy W. Lutzweit, 18, 1338 Point Claire Drive, Sun-

nyvale, of Fremont High; Mason Joel Sacks, 16, 1509 Eden Avenue, San Jose, of Campbell High in Campbell; Fred J. Santana, Jr., 17, 1578 Peacock Avenue, Sunnyvale, of Bellarmine College Prep. in San Jose; and Alan Conway Sonne, 17, 3348 Saint Michael Drive, Palo Alto of Cubberly Sr. High.

Thos. L. Pitts, the Federation's secretary-treasurer, explained that the \$500 awards may be applied at any accredited college or university of the winners' choice.

NO RESTRICTIONS

No restrictions whatever are placed on the future courses of study undertaken by the winners, he added.

The winners were selected on the basis of a two-hour written examination held April 5 with the cooperation of more than 300 high schools throughout the state.

The exam was designed to explore the students' knowledge of the structure of the AFL-CIO, the labor movement, its history, philosophy and goals.

SPONSORS NAMED

Of the 21 scholarships awarded this year, 18 were made available through the direct co-

operation of the following Federation affiliates:

Butchers Local No. 120, Oakland; Butchers Local No. 498, Sacramento; Carpenters Ladies Auxiliary, California State Council; California Legislative Board of the 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 Memorial Scholarship; California State Council of Retail Clerks—Warren G. "Pop" DeSepte Award; Cannery Workers Union of the Pacific—James Waugh Memorial Scholarship; Communications Workers of America, Bay Area Council—William G. Gruwell Scholarship; Communications Workers of America, Southern California Council—George W. Gorman Memorial Scholarship; Federated Fire Fighters of California;

Los Angeles Building and Construction Trades Council; Los Angeles County District Council of Carpenters; Los Angeles District Council of Painters No. 36—Roderick MacKenzie Scholarship Award; Studio Utility Employees, Local 724, Hollywood—Henry C. Rohrbach Memorial Scholarship; U. A. W. Local 148, Lakewood—Alex Groulx Scholarship Award; and Western Federation of Butchers.

The three additional scholarships are sponsored by the Federation itself.

JUDGES PANEL

Serving on the judges panel for the 1968 competition were:

Frederick A. Breier, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, University of San Francisco, San Francisco; Leland S. Russell, Chairman, Joint Study Committee (Vocational Guidance) California Association of Secondary School Administrators; and Fred H. Schmidt, Research Specialist, Center for Labor Research and Education, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles.

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

Expand Calif. Grape Boycott, Council Urges

The National AFL-CIO Executive Council called on every affiliated union and every officer and union member to join actively in the national boycott against struck California grape growers.

The council, rallying full labor support for the "newest and neediest" members of the family of organized workers—the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee—reported that the organizational strike against grape growers in the San Joaquin Valley of California is now in its 33rd month.

UFWOC has gained recognition, collective bargaining rights and a standard union contract in 12 situations, the council said in a report on the strike against the Giumarra Co. and allied growers.

"This substantial progress in union organization and structure has occurred for the first time in history," it noted.

"That it has occurred in an atmosphere devoid of legal organizational rights and protection afforded nearly all other workers and amidst hostile elements, both in the public and private communities, makes the progress even more dramatic."

For more than 9 months, virtually all UFWOC organizing efforts have been directed against Giumarra at Edison, Calif., near Bakersfield.

"The company has mounted the most massive union-resisting campaign yet encountered in farm organizing. It is currently facing government action for using Mexican green card holders illegally as strikebreakers," the Council said.

In the boycott against Giumarra, table grapes were found being packed and shipped by Giumarra under competitor's labels as a means of frustrating the union boycott.

"As a result of such company

tactics and industry collusion," the council said, "the boycott against Giumarra grapes was developed into a boycott against all struck California grapes with the exception of DiGiorgio Co. products.

"The response of AFL-CIO unions . . . has been energetic and helpful. Wherever the Farm Workers have sought help, the warm and friendly hand of AFL-CIO affiliates has been available. But in light of Giumarra's "determination to break the strike and deal the union a death blow, and in light of the California grape industry's announced support" of Giumarra's union-busting campaign, the "selective boycotting of the past is not enough," the AFL-CIO leaders said.

They called for widening the Don't Buy campaign to include every union member and his family.