

California AFL-CIO News

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer
THOS. L. PITTS

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Labor At the Legislature

From the Capitol Office of the Executive Secretary

The Legislature is in its closing days for the 1968 session. At this point, legislation tends to move very rapidly. In place of letters you have received on pending bills in the past, your Sacramento office will contact you by telephone. Instant communication is the key to success at this point. All labor organizations concerned with the progress of legislation should take steps to have someone available to receive such calls on an emergency basis. This is the time when a great deal of "game playing" is involved in lawmaking. Now is the time for labor to be particularly alert and vigilant.

Assemblyman Walter Powers presented AB 1010 in the Assembly on Sunday, July 7, as an extension of the Moretti Act's breakdown of the women's eight-hour law. Opposition of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, was clearly spelled out on the floor by Assemblyman Dave Roberti, who asked for a "no" vote. Assemblyman Alan Sieroty also joined the debate in opposing AB 1010. The Assembly passed the bill to the Senate by a vote of 44 to 21. The Federation will continue to work for the defeat of AB 1010 as bad legislation on the Senate side.

The Senate Governmental Efficiency Committee has referred AB 1463 and AB 1464 to sub-committee for further study. These are the Unruh-Reagan bills to revolutionize the California apprenticeship training program which are opposed by the California Labor Federation. Both were passed

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Pitts Raps Rafferty's Stand Against Grape Boycott

"State Superintendent of Public Instruction Max Rafferty's recent denunciation of the embattled California farm workers' boycott of non-union grapes raises serious questions about his capability to represent the rights of California's 20 million residents in the United States

Labor Sets Up Committee For Cranston

Strong union support for former State Controller Alan Cranston's campaign for the U.S. Senate was disclosed to-day with the announcement of the formation of a "Labor Committee for Cranston" composed of a broad cross section of key trade union officials throughout the state.

Thos. L. Pitts, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, who announced the committee's formation, said that the "unusually broad cross section of responsible union officials who have already joined the committee was hardly surprising.

"Alan Cranston has long been a hard-headed realist in the

(Continued on Page 3)

PUC Bows To PT&T Demand

The State Public Utilities Commission this week bowed to the demands of the Pacific Telephone Company for authority to borrow \$330 million.

The action overrode an objection to the application filed by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in behalf of the state's consumers. The Fed-

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Senate instead of just a handful of special interest groups," state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts charged this week.

Pitts said that Rafferty, the Republican contending against Democrat Alan Cranston for the U.S. Senate seat presently held by Thomas H. Kuchel, "voiced some thinly veiled but darkly anti-labor sentiments in talking to a group of growers at a luncheon in Delano on June 24."

(Continued on Page 4)

IWC Teeters on Verge of a Long Backward Step

Should employers be encouraged to hire minors to replace adult women workers?

Should minors be required to work up to 48 hours a week without receiving overtime pay for all hours in excess of 40?

Should female students be (Continued on Page 4)

Anti-Labor 'Marching Band' Bill Gets Assembly's OK

After a faltering journey through the Assembly, the much-amended anti-labor "marching band" bill—AB 1024 by Wilson—barely secured passage in that house in the late evening session on Monday, July 8. The vote was 41 to 29 with 10 not voting. It required 41 votes to pass.

This was the second "run" on the floor for this hotly contested measure. On July 3 it was refused passage but the author was able to have the record expunged and proponents were given a second chance.

Joining Assemblyman Pete Wilson as co-authors were Assemblymen Joe Gonsalves, William Campbell and Jack R. Fenton.

During debate, the opposition of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and of professional wage-earning musicians was presented clearly

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Union Asks Boycott
Of Neuhoff Packing
Plant Products

An appeal for a consumer boycott of the Neuhoff Company packing plants in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, and Florida—all socalled "Right-to-Work" or low wage states — has just been issued by the Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, AFL-CIO.

The appeal, contained in a letter signed by the union's president, Thomas J. Lloyd, and its secretary-treasurer, Patrick E. Gorman, points out that the union's membership is on

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Union Asks Boycett Of Neuhoff Packing Plant Products

(Continued from Page 1) strike at the Clarksville, Tennessee plant where "the company has persisted in unfair labor practice conduct and has refused to comply with an order to bargain collectively issued by the National Labor Relations Board and affirmed by a Federal Court of Appeals."

Members of the union employed at the Neuhoff plant "have been continuously deprived of their rights under the law and have been compelled to work under substandard conditions," the letter said.

Reports submitted to the NLRB indicate that company representatives have been carrying deadly weapons, that strikers have been subjected to brutal attacks; that strikebreakers are being imported from other states; and that strikers have been unlawfully arrested and are being required to pay excessive cash bonds.

The union is urging all trade unionists to refuse to purchase Neuhoff meat products wherever they are sold under the following brand names and inspection numbers which are indicated in parenthesis:

Tennessee Packers (414); Reelfoot Packing (840); Frosty Morn (731); Frosty Morn (576); Frosty Morn (250); Valleydale Packers (34); Valleydale Packers (922); and Valleydale Packers (1778).

Labor at the Legislature

(Continued from Page 1) in the Assembly but met a problem in the Senate committee when witnesses pointed out their provisions would probably bring California into serious conflict with Federal regulations. Meanwhile, AB 1465, relating to summer employment, with a \$5,000,000 price tag, passed the Assembly on Sunday, July 7. Also by Speaker Unruh, AB 1465 is opposed by the Federation and faces an uncertain future in the Senate.

Confidence of the Property

PUC Bows To PT&T Demand for Stock

(Continued from Page 1) eration had urged the Commission to postpone action on the application until after the PUC acts on the phone company's pending demand for a \$181 million rate hike.

The State AFL-CIO filed an extensive brief in the rate hike case as an interested party to protest both the magnitude of the rate hike demanded by the company and its 40-60 debtequity ratio.

Most utilities handle 60 percent of their financing through bonds (debt) and only 40 percent through the sale of stock (equity).

Since stock financing costs substantially more than bond financing, the Pacific Telephone Company's present financial structure imposes higher rates on phone users than is necessary. The Fed-

eration urged the PUC to

require the company to establish at least a 50-50 debtequity ratio.

But on Tuesday the PUC granted the company authority to issue \$165 million in stocks and \$165 million in bonds, an action that largely perpetuates the present inequitable debtequity ratio. In its brief, the Federation objected that the company was seeking "once again to water its common stock and further depress its earnings per share . . . through the issuance of an additional \$165 million in equity."

The Federation said that the Pacific Company's application for additional borrowing authority was "admittedly calculated to impress upon the Commission the need for speedy rate relief" in the earlier case.

PUC commissioners voting for the Pacific Company's expanded borrowing authority were: William Symons Jr., President; A. W. Gatov, and Peter E. Mitchell.

Opposed were Commissioners William Bennett and Fred P. Morrissey.

Bennett, in his written dissent, charged that the majority decision represented "a disregard for basic concepts of a fair hearing."

He said that the Pacific Telephone Company worked out the details of its application with the PUC's director of Finance and Accounts and obtained his approval in advance of the hearing at which the director acted as examiner, heard the testimony and then wrote the opinion signed by the majority.

"This is self-judgment at its worst," Bennett charged.

Labelling the Commission's action on the borrowing application "premature," he said, "it goes against the objective of this Commission that the capital ratios of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company be improved. This decision will, in fact, aggravate a condition the Commission has in the past criticized."

He also said that it was "quite obvious . . . that Pacific deliberately sought by this financing application" to affect its rate case.

"It is myth even in view of rate of return techniques to suppose that the dilution of existing common equity will not have an effect and an impact upon earnings per share and lend credence to the chant of Pacific, ever heard, that its earnings per share are dangerously low," Bennett added.

He also objected to action taken by Commissioner Gatov in excusing Pacific Telephone Company President Jerome Hull from giving testimony despite the fact that Bennett had requested a special day to examine Hull on the complete financing arrangements involved in the application.

"If the public interest is to be met by this Commission and the staff thereof, it should promptly discontinue the highly suspect, indeed improper, practice whereby Commission personnel are assigned to sit in judgment upon cases after having made prejudgments thereon," Bennett said.

S. BOOM IN BUTCHIERDS CO.

Anti-Labor 'Marching Band' Bill Gets Assembly's OK

(Continued from Page 1) by Assemblyman George Zenovich,

Wilson himself highlighted the issues of exploitation of young musicians in tax-supported bands, the interests of professional sports events promoters and the opposition of professional musicians. AB 1024 poses a threat to all men and women who earn their living through entertainment industries by opening the door to the free use of amateur, tax-subsidized competition.

Joining Wilson in defending this bill on the floor were Assemblymen Leo Ryan of San Mateo and Ken Cory of Westminster.

Throughout the bill's progress in numerous committee hearings and in two floor debates, labor's opposition and the reasons for it have been vigorously and plainly pointed out. The record vote on AB 1024 was as follows:

Democrats voting "Aye": Cory, Cullen, Fenton, Fong, Gonsalves, MacDonald, Moretti, Porter, Ryan, Vasconcellos. (10)

Republicans voting "Aye": Badham, Bagley, Barnes, Beverly, Biddle, Briggs, Burke, Campbell, Collier, Conrad, Crandall, Dent, Hayes, Hinckley, Ray Johnson, Ketchum, Lanterman, McGee, Milias, Mobley, Monaghan, Moorhead, Mulford, Priolo, Russell, Schabarum, Stacey, Stull, Veysey, Wakefield, Wilson, (31)

Democrats voting "No": Bear, Bee, Burton, Crown, Davis, Deddah, Dunlap, Elliott, Foran, Leroy Greene, Knox, McMillan, Meyers, Negri, Powers, Quimby, Roberti, Shoemaker, Sieroty, Thomas, Townsend, Warren, Z'berg, Zenovich. (24)

Republicans voting "No": Belotti, Britschgi, Duffy, Murphy, Pattee. (5)

Democrats not voting: Brathwaite, Brown, Bill Greene, Harvey Johnson, Karabian, Miller, Ralph, Unruh. (8)

Republicans not voting: Chappie, Veneman. (2)

For the record, an "aye" vote is considered a vote against labor. A "no" vote or an abstention supported labor's position.

The bill now goes to the Senate, where the California Labor Federation will continue its fight against AB 1024 in protection of the wage-earning, professional musician.

Labor Committee for Cranston Formed

(Continued from Page 1) forefront of the fight for more effective government-for programs and policies that meet the needs of the people of our state," Pitts, chairman of the ad hoc Labor Committee, said.

CRANSTON'S KEY ROLE

"As California's State Controller for eight years, Cranston played a key role in helping to develop California's educational system into the finest in the world, a system now in obvious decline due to the penny-wise, pound-foolish decisions of his opponent and the present state administration," he said.

"Trade unionists are rallying to Cranston's support because they want a powerful, positive and effective voice representing them in the United States Senate, not someone like his opponent who suggests that police-state tactics and retribution and revenge are the only ways to cope with some of our most pressing social and economic problems," Pitts explained.

FEDERAL EXPERIENCE

He pointed out that Cranston, who served as chief of the Foreign Language Division of the Office of War Information, is not only an expert on international affairs with experience in federal government operations but is also an expert on tax matters.

Moreover, Pitts noted, Cranston has "spoken out clearly and effectively in favor of basic improvements in unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation and supports greater social security benefits as well as programs to achieve and maintain full employment and ease the miseries of automation."

FAIR PLAY ISSUE

Cranston has also voiced his support for repeal of Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, Pitts said. This section presently permits states dominated by conservative interests to deny their wage and salary earners the right to job security and decent wages and working conditions by imposing compulsory open shop terms on all union contracts regardless of the desires of the employers or their employees, he explained.

"All this stands in marked contrast to his opponent, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Max Rafferty, the undisputed idol of the reactionaries, who is being promoted for Tom Kuchel's Senate seat by most of the fat cats in Governor Reagan's so-called 'Kitchen Cabinet,' a handful of tycoons with extensive private interests," Pitts said.

With two such diametrically opposed candidates contending for the only U.S. Senate seat at stake in the November 5th general election in California this year, Pitts warned that the campaign is likely to be both "rough and dirty" and that "an unprecedented effort, beginning now, must be undertaken to assure Cranston's election."

A partial list of the labor officials already serving on the "Labor Committee for Cranston" follows:

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Marvin Adair, Lumber and Saw-mill Workers, Northern California District Council, Redding; Robert S. Ash, Vice President, California La-bor Federation, Fort Jones; Joseph Belardi, San Francisco Labor Coun-cil; Leonard Cahill, Redwood Dis-trict Council Lumber and Sawmill Workers, Eureka; B. B. Cooper, North Coast Counties District Coun-cil of Carnenters Senta Rosa: H. M.

Workers, Eureka; B. B. Cooper, North Coast Counties District Council of Carpenters, Santa Rosa; H. M. Cornell, Santa Cruz Central Labor Council, Santa Cruz Central Labor Council, Watsonville.

Bryan P. Deavers, State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, San Francisco; Daniel F. Del Carlo, San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council; Manuel Dias, General Vice President, California Labor Federation, San Francisco; Chas. R. Downey, District Council of Painters, No. 33, Palo Alto; Juel D. Drake, California District Council of Iron Workers, San Francisco; George Faville, Secretary-Treasurer, Central Labor Council of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, Eureka; Harry Finks, Vice President, California Labor Federation, San Francisco; Fred D. Fletcher, San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild, San Francisco Bichard K. Groulx, Alameda County Central Labor Council; Albin J. Gruhn, President, California Labor Federation, San Francisco.

R. W. Hackler, District 9, Commu-Francisco.

R. W. Hackler, District 9, Communications Workers of America, San Francisco; Russell S. Hansen, Mon-terey County Building Trades Coun-cil, Monterey; George Hardy, Build-ing Service Employees International Union, San Francisco; James E. Howe, Brotherhood of Bailroad Trainmen, Sacramento; Jack N. Jenne, Mendocino Central Labor Council, Ukiah; Nelson Jolly, Tri-State Council of California, Arizona and Nevada Sheet Metal Workers,

and Nevada Sheet Metal Workers, San Francisco. F. O. Jorgensen, Santa Clara Val-ley District Council of Carpenters, San Jose: Leon A. Kessinger, Plumbers Local 492, Stockton; Sam Krips, Northern California Joint Board Amalgamated Clothing Work-ers of America, San Francisco; Leona E. LaBarge, Napa County Central Labor Council, Napa.

H. D. Lackey, Kern County Building and Construction Trades Council, Bakersfield; Ted F. Mackjust, California State Legislative-Education board of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Tracy: Robert Months! tion board of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Tracy; Robert Monthei, Solano County Building Trades Council, Vallejo; William O'Rear, Fresno and Madera Counties Central Labor Council, Fresno; John M. Owen, San Joaquin County Building and Construction Trades Council, Stockton.

Anthony L. Ramos, California State Council of Carpenters, San Francisco; John F. Reeves, Central California District Council Lumber and Sawmill Workers, San Francisco; John J. Santen, Jr., Communications Workers of America, Ockland Oakland.

Thomas A. Small, Bartenders and Culinary Workers, Local 340, San Mateo; Frederick T. Sullivan, Printing Specialties Union, Oakland; William P. Sutherland, California State Theatrical Federation, San Francisco; James C. Symes, Union Label Section, AFL-CIO, San Francisco; J. J. Twombley, California State Conference of Operating Engineers, San Mateo; and Larry Vail, California State Council of Retail Clerks, San Francisco. Thomas A. Small, Bartenders and

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Sigmund Arywitz, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, Los Angeles; Harry Block, Southern California Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Los Angeles; E. B. Bratrud, Los Angeles City and County School Employees, No. 99, Los Angeles; M. R. Callahan, Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International han, Hotel and Bestaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union, Long Beach; Q. H. Carter, Barbers Local 1000, Los Angeles; J. A. Cinquemani, Los Angeles Building and Construction Trades Council; Gerald J. Conway, United Steelworkers, Huntington Park; W. L. (Bill) Fillippini, Building Trades Council, Santa Barbara; David O. Fleming, Southern California Typographical Conference, Pomona; Robert Giesick, Los Angeles Joint Executive Board of Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union, Los Angeles; Joe Guagliardo, Roofers Local 72, Long Beach; James Hamilton, Bartenders Local James Hamilton, Bartenders Local

Ardo, Rooters Local 12, Long Beach;
James Hamilton, Bartenders Local
686, Long Beach.
Kenneth D. Larson, Federated
Fire Fighters of California, La Mirada; William H. Lassley, Metal
Trades Council of Southern California, Huntington Park; Thomas
W. Mathew, Building and Construction Trades Council of Orange
County, Santa Ana; John W. Meritt, California State Council of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel/Motel Service Employees, Santa
Monica; G. A. McCulloch, Los Angeles District Council of Carpenters.
Donald J. McNeel, District Coun-

ters.

Donald J. McNeel, District Council of Painters No. 48, Riverside;
Ray Mendoza, International Rep.
Laborers International Union of
North America, Los Angeles; Con
O'Shea, San Bernardino-Riverside
Counties Building and Construction
Trades Council, Riverside; Max J.
Osslo, Western Federation of Butchers. San Diego: Leslie Parker. San Osslo, Western Federation of Butchers, San Diego; Leslie Parker, San Diego; Leslie Parker, San Diego District Council of Carpenters, San Diego; Paul F. Petersen, Chemical Workers Local 1, Compton; B. W. Phillips, Riverside County Central Labor Council, Riverside; Jerome Posner, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Log Angeles.

ca, Los Angeles.

M. P. Quinte, Brick and Clay
Workers District Council No. 1,
North Hollywood; Peter J. Remmel,
Central Labor Council of Orange
County, Garden Grove; R. R. Richardson, San Diego County Central
Labor Council, San Diego; Patrick

500 Expected At State Bldg. **Trades Parley**

Nearly 500 delegates representing California's 400,000 construction craftsmen are expected at the 44th convention of the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, to be held at the Los Angeles International Hotel July 31-August 2.

IMPORTANČE STRESSED

In announcing the convention this week, Council President Bryan P. Deavers said:

"These 1968 sessions will probably be the most important in my 14 years in office. This is due to the depressed state of the California building industry and resultant lack of employment. Our objective is to seek to eliminate negative factors that have contributed to this loss of thousands of jobs."

One negative factor, he noted, is the 10 percent cutback in the state building program imposed by the Reagan administration.

This has "tended to set a lack of confidence attitude on the part of the private sector," he observed.

HOUSING BILL OK'D

On the brighter side, however, he called attention to the Johnson administration's \$5.3 billion, three-year housing bill that won House passage Wednesday on a 295 to 114 vote.

The measure, the most far reaching housing bill in nearly 20 years, is designed to help an estimated 500,000 poor people purchase homes. It will also aid an estimated 700,000 poor and moderate income families to rent clean, modern quarters.

The House-approved version must now go to a Senate-House conference committee to be reconciled with a similar bill that won Senate passage on May 28.

H. Riley, Ventura County Central Labor Council, Ventura; R. W. Rivers, Southern California Area

Rivers, Southern California Area Director, Communications Workers of America, Los Angeles.

Bud Simonson, District Director, Packinghouse Workers, Huntington Park; Edward T. Shedlock, Director, Region 5, Utility Workers Union of America, West Covina; Dean E. Southerland, Carpenters District Council, Camarillo; Robert B. White, Los Angeles Allied Printing Trades Council, Los Angeles; Raymond Wilson, Laborers Local 783, San Bernardino; and Walter J. Zagajeski, District Council of Painters No. 36, Los Angeles.

Meany Urges Action To Aid Farm Workers

A call to all AFL-CIO central bodies to act now to circulate petitions urging Congress to bring farm workers under the National Labor Relations Act has just been issued by AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Noting that H.R. 16014, a measure to extend NLRA coverage to agricultural employees, is now pending congressional action, Meany observed:

"The struggle of America's farm workers - migrants and domestic-goes on. The resistance by employers and employer groups is almost unbelievable. It is hard to comprehend that, in this day of affluence, the vested interests of this richest nation on the face of the earth continue to insist that the farm worker subsidize the prices of vegetables and fruits through low wages and pitiable working conditions."

Sample petitions have been sent to all central bodies but local unions and individual trade unionists who want to assist can make their own petitions. All it takes is a typewriter, a sheet of paper, and a

The petition just needs to be typed to read:

"To the Congress of the United States:

"A petition for justice to farm labor.

"We, the undersigned, support extension of the National Labor Relations Act to cover farm workers so that these most exploited of American workers may enjoy equal rights to organizational and collective bargaining protection under United States Law. We urge passage of H.R. 16014 to accomplish this purpose."

Below that message, draw 20 ruled lines and indicate that each signer should include their name, street address, city and state, on each line,

At the bottom of the petition type, "This petition is being circulated by the (name of local union or central body)."

As soon as the petitions are completed they should be sent to:

George Meany, President, AFL-CIO, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Pitts Raps Rafferty's Stand **Against Grape Boycott**

(Continued from Page 1) A press report of the luncheon said that the Republican candidate insisted that he was not "taking a hard and fast position" on the strike situation but nonetheless he urged the growers to take the farm workers' boycott of non-union grapes to court as quickly as possible

The report, carried in the Fresno Bee, the following day, Pitts said, quoted Rafferty as saying:

"This system of saying that an attempt to organize a strike has failed on a local level, therefore, we go into the East and try to boycott the product of the ranches and farms that grow these particular things-I can't conceive the courts saving this sort of thing is legal."

Rafferty's statement, Pitts said, "caters to the growers' wishful thinking in falsely claiming that the strike has failed and reveals the school man's total ignorance and disinterest in the plight of thousands of California's most exploited and lowest paid work-

"This was underscored when Rafferty said he would listen to union members if they invited him, indicating he had no intention of seeking them out. as a public servant should, to attempt to understand the many legitimate grievances farm workers have against the growers and state and federal agencies that fail to comply with or enforce laws and regulations that are supposed to protect farm workers from the use of imported foreign strikebreakers and require the growers to meet minimum sanitation, health and housing standards."

Pitts said that Rafferty also disclosed a strong anti-labor inclination when the school

Meany pointed out that many church groups have now banded together in an organization known as the "National Campaign for Agricultural Democracy" to assist in the struggle for farm workers' rights.

The AFL-CIO is supporting the N.C.A.D. effort and is coordinating its legislative work on this matter with them.

man told the growers that as a U.S. Senator he would like to know how adequate laws are to deal with problems of this sort (boycotts) and said that if changes are needed it will be his job to do this.

"This clearly suggests that Rafferty would favor laws to curb if not totally prohibit the right of workers to engage in boycott activities of any kind," Pitts said.

"Moreover, Rafferty's entire stance ignores the fact that conservative corporate farm interests have succeeded year after year in denying farm workers the right to collective bargaining machinery afforded practically all other workers in the country under the National Labor Relations Act," Pitts pointed out.

"The farm workers' lack of access to any fairly adjudicated machinery through which to seek redress of legitimate grievances reduces farm workers to only two weapons-the strike and the boycott. And now it seems apparent that the Republican senatorial nominee would like to hamstring the farm workers' right to simply ask others to support their cause," Pitts said.

Beyond this, he added, Rafferty's statement that, unless the matter is straightened out, "California's principal industry, agriculture, is going to be dealt a whale of a body-blow, and as Senator it is going to be my job to keep this from happening" also made it clear that the GOP nominee has aligned himself solidly with the state's corporate farm interests and against the farm workers' rights.

"By resorting to this outlandish exaggeration," Pitts said, "Rafferty is clearly placing the profits of a handful of growers ahead of the social and economic needs of thousands of some of the most persistently exploited workers in our society, the farm workers, whose average annual income, including non-farm employment, is still under \$2,000.

"Is this the kind of representative California's wage and salary earners—union and nonunion alike-need in the United States Senate?" he asked.

IWC Teeters on Verge of a Long Backward Step

(Continued from Page 1) regarded as minors - and therefore eligible for a lower minimum hourly wage than adults-until age 25 instead

Incredible as it may seem to most trade unionists, these are, in essence, the questions that will be taken up at two public hearings of the State Industrial Welfare Commission—the first at the State Building in Los Angeles on July 22 and the second at the State Building in San Francisco on July 23.

'EMERGENCY' ACTION

In an emergency action adopted on a temporary basis on May 10, 1968, the Commission eliminated the overtime pay provision for minors in 11 of its industrial wage orders, largely in response to employer claims that this would stimulate job opportunities for youths.

Needless to say, the employer interests conveniently overlooked the fact that such action also reduces job opportunities for adult workers and encourages employers to pay only poverty-level wages.

FED FILES PROTEST

The California Labor Federation has already submitted a statement to the Commission in opposition to the denial of overtime pay to minors working more than 40 hours a week and urging that the cutoff age for girl students be reestablished at 21.

It will also testify before the Commission at its hearing in San Francisco on July 23.

Perpetuation of these illconsidered, hasty, emergency actions by the Commission would clearly jeopardize adult job opportunities and depress wages of professional, clerical and other workers in the manufacturing, personal service, technical, mercantile, laundry and dry cleaning, transportation, and other industries throughout the state.

Local unions and central bodies are urged to send representatives to either the San Francisco or Los Angeles hearings to oppose such action.