



California AFL-CIO News

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer
THOS. L. PITTS

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'New Farm Pay Floor Should Be Enforced Now'

The boost in the pay floor for women farm workers in California from \$1.30 to \$1.65 should be enforced immediately and retroactively to February 1, 1968 so far as employers who were not involved in the appellate court action in Sacramento last month that upheld the validity of the new minimum.

This was the opinion obtained from the State Attorney General's office this week in response to queries by the California AFL-CIO News regarding the responsibility of the State Division of Industrial Welfare to enforce the new minimum wage and overtime pay provisions of three revised wage orders affecting women

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Scab-Made L.A. Her-Ex Loses Thrifty Drug Ads

The 317-store Thrifty Drug retail chain has stopped all advertising in the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, center of a strike-lockout since last Dec. 15, Thrifty officials announced.

The giant chain's ban on ads in the Hearst-owned afternoon paper, once largest in the nation, came after a meeting in Los Angeles with representatives of nearly 1.5 million union members.

Thrifty president Leonard Straus said the advertising pull-out would be effective at least through Nov. 7.

A labor committee representing AFL-CIO, Teamsters, United Auto Workers, International Longshoremen & Warehousemen and Retail Clerks urged members and all workers to

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Rafferty Ad in Struck Paper Bares Stand, Labor Says

"Max Rafferty bared his total disregard for workers' collective bargaining rights this week by running a big political ad in the strikebound and strikebreaker-operated Los Angeles Herald-Examiner," Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, charged this week.

Pitts said the appearance of the ad on

Monday, October 14, in the Hearst-owned paper, which is the object of a nationwide AFL-CIO consumer boycott, "amounts to a deliberate slap in the face to the 2,000 printing trades workers who have been fighting for more than 10 months now to uphold the basic rights of workers to have a say in determining the wages and con-

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Pitts Tags Reagan Quote A 'Complete Falsehood'

"Governor Reagan is apparently suffering from an acute case of hoof-in-the-mouth disease," Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, said yesterday in flatly refuting a statement attributed to him by the Governor. Pitts said it was a "complete fabrication, a complete falsehood," that he had ever said that "he was tired of paying Unruh to get legislation out of committee."

Governor Reagan's press secretary, Paul Beck, said that when Reagan was asked to explain a charge he had made at a dinner in Anaheim Tuesday night that (Assembly Speaker) "Unruh's price for getting legislation out of committee is a contribution to the Democratic Party," Governor Reagan had said:

"Tom Pitts, head of the State
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Apply Now for Your Absent Voter's Ballot

Don't lose your vote because of a last-minute change of plans.

If there is even a remote possibility that you won't be able to get back to your precinct in time to vote on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, bear in mind

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Election of HHH Held Vital To U.S. Economy

Hubert H. Humphrey's election is the key to continuing the nation's record eight-year economic expansion, organized labor's top economist declared in a network radio interview.

AFL-CIO Research Dir. Nathaniel Goldfinger warned that a Nixon Administration would spell "repetition of the recessions" of the fifties, "very tight money and very high interest rates . . . and a spread of new tax gimmicks to benefit wealthy families and corporations."

The "real purchasing power of the after-tax weekly earnings" of the typical worker has grown twice as fast since January 1961 as it did when Richard Nixon was Vice President,

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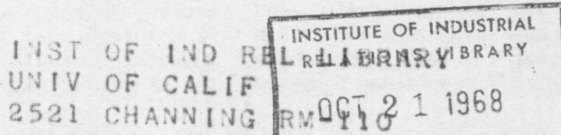
Prop. 9 Perils 500,000 Jobs, State Fed Warns

Passage of Proposition 9, the so-called Watson Initiative, could wipe out more than 500,000 building trades and con-

struction-related jobs and have "a catastrophic effect" on the state's economy, the State AFL-CIO warned Tuesday.

While voicing vigorous support for Proposition 1-A, a ballot measure designed to provide meaningful property tax relief to individual homeowners and renters, a statement submitted to a Joint Hearing of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Revenue and Taxation in behalf of Thos. L. Pitts,

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Prop. 9 Perils 500,000 Jobs Here, Labor Warns

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secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, labeled Proposition 9 as the "entirely wrong approach" to property tax relief because it "would give 'windfalls' to large landowners, apartment house owners and other wealthy groups."

Pitts' statement, presented to the Revenue and Taxation Committees' hearing at the International Hotel in Los Angeles Tuesday, took particular exception to the bonding limitations that Proposition 9 would impose.

The proposition would limit the bonding capacity of local governmental entities to 20 percent of assessed value or 5 per-

cent of market value.

The State AFL-CIO pointed out that California already has a bonded indebtedness some 50 percent above what Proposition 9 would permit and said that, as a result, "much planned construction would never begin and much current construction would be halted if the initiative passes."

To back up its view that the proposition's bonding limitation would "throw thousands upon thousands of California building tradesmen and workers in construction-related fields out of work," the Labor Federation pointed out that U.S. Labor Department data shows that every \$1 billion spent for new construction creates about 103,-

000 jobs.

Noting that some 47,000 of these jobs are in the building trades and the balance of 56,000 are in such related industries as manufacturing (28,000), transportation (4,000), trade (9,000), services (3,000), and finance, insurance and real estate (more than 1,000), Pitts' statement said:

"There are now over \$5 billion of authorized but unsold state and local bonds in California. The bonding limitation in Proposition 9 would mean that if the initiative was successful, these bonds would remain unsold. The result: approximately 500,000 building trades and construction-related jobs would be wiped out. This would

have a catastrophic effect upon the state's economy and every major industry in California would feel the pinch."

The State AFL-CIO also called attention to the fact that over \$3 billion in new bonds will be voted on in the November 5 general election.

"If Proposition 9 succeeds, even if all the new bond issues are approved, there would be no new construction and another 300,000 needed jobs would never exist," it said.

The State AFL-CIO testimony also observed that the bonding limitation contained in Proposition 9 is "already producing an erratic, unstable situation in the bond market" because there are now billions of authorized but unsold bonds in California.

"If Proposition 9 appears likely of passage, many districts will sell authorized bonds ahead of need and glut the bond market. As a consequence, interest rates, already high, would rise even more sharply, meaning greater costs to the taxpayers," it warned.

The Federation's statement also charged that claims made by promoters of Proposition 9 that it would benefit renters, strengthen local government and local control and protect the state's credit rating "are false."

On the contrary, it said, Proposition 9 would hurt renters because renters would be required to pay much more in sales and other taxes while apartment house owners would simply make greater profits.

In short, the State AFL-CIO said, Proposition 9 would greatly aid land speculators, large apartment house owners and others in privileged positions while sharply increasing the amount of taxes paid by middle and low-income wage earners. Asserting that Proposition 9 "is playing with fire" and "would produce chaos" the Labor Federation urged its defeat.

If both Propositions 1-A and Proposition 9 receive more "Yes" votes than "No" votes in the November 5 general election, the proposition receiving the most "Yes" votes will apply. The California Labor Federation is urging a "Yes" vote on Proposition 1-A and a "No" vote on Proposition 9.

Here's an Inkling of Harm Prop. 9 Could Inflict

An inkling of the disastrous impact that passage of Proposition 9 on the November 5 general election ballot could have is provided by a study of unsold state, county and municipal bond issues presently pending in California.

Due to the bonding limitations contained in Proposition 9, most tax experts agree that few if any of these bonds could be sold if Proposition 9 passes. This would mean that all of the jobs in construction and construction-related industries that the sale of these bonds would create would never be created.

A study made by the California AFL-CIO News this week discloses that the State of California itself has a total of more than \$1.8 billion in for the most part authorized but unsold bond issues vital to the state's water project, higher education, parks, harbor improvements, veterans' welfare and junior college construction and that the unsold bonds authorized by county and local municipal districts that would also be for the most part frozen amounts to another \$3.4 billion. This totals \$5.2 billion in unsold bonds.

Moreover another \$3.2 billion in state and county bond issues will be put before the voters for authorization between September 3 and November 5, 1968.

In short, more than \$8.4 billion in vitally needed state, county and municipal improvement programs could be sty-

mied if Proposition 9 receives more votes than Proposition 1A on November 5.

Practically every county in the state has flood control districts, school, sanitation, sewer, public utility, irrigation and other district bonds that contribute substantially each year to the well-being of communities throughout the state. All of these projects create jobs.

Just to get some idea of the impact this could have on some of the state's economy, here is a rundown on the authorized but unsold bonds in a number of California's more populous counties:

Alameda County	— \$153 million
Contra Costa	— \$52 million
Kern	— \$151 million
Los Angeles	— \$1.2 billion
Orange County	— \$107 million
Riverside	— \$110 million
Sacramento	— \$92 million
San Bernardino	— \$54 million
San Diego	— \$129 million
San Francisco	— \$419 million
San Mateo	— \$226 million
Santa Clara	— \$109 million
Ventura	— \$65 million

Bearing in mind that U.S. Labor Department data indicates that more than a hundred jobs are created by every \$1 million spent for new construction, you can get a pretty good idea how many jobs will fail to be created in each of the above counties if Proposition 9 should

win approval by an inadequately informed public.

In Alameda County, for example, it would mean the loss of 15,300 jobs; in Contra Costa 5,200 jobs; in Kern County, 15,100; and in Los Angeles 120,000 jobs.

Moreover, as The State Board of Equalization recently pointed out, passage of Proposition 9, the so-called Watson plan, would "undermine the State's credit, jeopardize the State's water plan, restrict borrowing for necessary buildings, double the personal income tax, triple the cigarette tax, double the sales tax and shift more than \$4 billion in taxes from those able to pay to those less fortunate, like the modest consumer and homeowner."

The main beneficiaries, the board said, "would be owners of commercial properties and large land owners — not single family owners and renters."

Guess Who's Moving Up on Reagan's Staff

Guess who's been named by the Reagan administration to head up the new Program Development Section in the Governor's office?

It's Rus Walton, 47, a founder and first director of the conservative United Republicans of California (UROC) who served 10 years as public affairs director for the National Association of Manufacturers in the 13 western states.

IWC Appoints Wage Board For Domestic Workers

An 11-member wage board to draw up a new wage order to establish minimum wage and working condition standards for household domestic workers was appointed by the state Industrial Welfare Commission this week.

The new wage board was named only after a move by employer representatives on the five-member commission to delay the action was defeated by a 3 to 2 vote at a meeting in Los Angeles Monday.

Named to chair the board and serve as public member was Dr. Margaret Gordon, associate director of the Institute of Industrial Relations at the University of California at Berkeley.

Labor members of the board, which is comprised of five employee and five employer members plus the public member who is chairman, are:

Art Carter, secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa Central Labor Council in Martinez; Mrs. Vivian L. Freeman, president of Local 96 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union of Los Angeles; Mrs. Ursula Gutierrez, president of the Los Angeles Community Services Organization; Richard Liebes, research director of the Bay District Council of the AFL-CIO Service Employees International Union; and Mrs. Gloria Marigny, business representative of Hospital Workers Union Local 399, a division of the Service and Maintenance Employees of Los Angeles.

Employer representatives on the board are: Mrs. Dorothy Elliott, a registered nurse of Santa Barbara; Mrs. Sherman (Amy) R. Hall, Jr., an office manager of San Francisco; Mrs. Charlotte Kolnitz, a member of the Women Lawyers Club of San Diego who has also served with the state Department of Employment; Mildred Mann, a retired executive of the May Company of South Pasadena; and Mrs. Frankie Reynolds, general personnel director of Gottschalk's Department Store in Fresno who also served as an employer representative on the wage

Pitts Tags Reagan Quote A 'Complete Falsehood'

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AFL-CIO has said he was tired of paying Unruh to get legislation out of committee."

Asserting that "this is an outright lie," Pitts said that the only conceivable source for it was a speech he had made to the Pre-General Election Endorsement Convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education in San Francisco on September 4, 1968, when he commented on the way some committees on social insurance legislation report out bills which, while increasing maximum weekly benefits, contain other provisions that chip away at currently existing benefits available to workers under the program.

Pitts said that a certified shorthand reporter had taken down his remarks on that occasion and that the only section that could have served as the source for the Governor's "gross distortion," read as follows:

"The election will occur, it will take place; but what disturbs me is that we cannot continue going on in the labor movement and having these kinds(s) of committees appointed that will shun(t) to the side our bills; or if they are going to let out (sic, should be OUR) bills out, we are going to pay for it on one hand if (sic, should be BY WHAT) they give us on the other hand—balancing always from the employer to the working man who

board for Order 7, involving mercantile trade.

Appointment of a wage board to develop protections for household domestic workers in California has long been sought by the California Labor Federation. Creation of the wage board was authorized by the IWC in September, 1967 but its appointment has been delayed for the past 13 months.

The new wage board is presently scheduled to hold a two-day meeting during the week of December 2-6 in the State Building Annex in San Francisco.

The Commission also chose two alternate public members: Dr. Frederick Meyers, chairman

becomes injured, saying: 'All right. We will give you a few bucks, you poor injured devil, over here. We'll increase the maximum because you are making more money today than you used to; but while we increase the maximum, we are going to take it away on this side over here and put it back in the employer's pocket.'"

"This is the unedited text—not even corrected for grammatical errors—of my remarks at the State COPE Convention," Pitts noted.

"Surely any fair reader can see for himself that there is no suggestion whatever in it that I ever said anything about being 'tired of paying Unruh to get legislation out of committee.'"

Noting that Paul Beck is an experienced, professional newspaper man who has been with the Governor's press section ever since he took office and that Beck had apparently quoted the Governor in this manner to a number of press sources, Pitts said:

"I can only conclude that the Governor has elected to stoop to playing loosely with the integrity of other men as well as the legislature itself in an effort to get a running start for the 1970 gubernatorial election. If this is not the case then I would expect an immediate retraction and apology for this outlandish distortion by the Governor himself."

of the Department of Business Administration at the University of California at Los Angeles who has previous served on the Public Housekeeping wage board; and, as second alternate, Dr. Robert Gray, director of the Industrial Relations Center of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

'Hopeful Signs'

"There are hopeful signs that many nations realize the need to begin shifting resources from military budgets to human development. This is what America wants, and this is what I want."—Hubert H. Humphrey.

Wallace's 'Big' Pension Hike

When George Wallace ran for governor of Alabama in 1962, he promised to raise state old age pensions to at least \$100 a month.

But according to a non-partisan analysis of Wallace's record during his 4-year term by the Congressional Quarterly, old age pensions were raised only 36 cents—from \$69.30 to \$69.66.

Scab-Made L.A. Her-Ex Loses Thrifty Drug Ads

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underscore the Thrifty decision through a mass "Buy at Thrifty" campaign.

"This commitment by Thrifty Drug leadership in an effort to bring the bitter Herald-Examiner dispute to a speedy settlement deserves full recognition by union members and workers everywhere. We urge you to buy whatever you can at Thrifty Drug stores," a statement by the newly-formed Labor Coalition Committee said.

Thrifty operates stores in California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah.

Some 2,000 Herald-Examiner employees have been on strike or locked-out at the paper for 10 months in a dispute over contract terms.

Hearst management has refused to mediate the dispute and has continued limited operation with the aid of imported professional strikebreakers.

Consumer boycott campaigns by the 10 AFL-CIO and Teamster unions involved have resulted in a cut in Herald-Examiner circulation from 725,000 daily before the strike to less than 300,000 and advertising the paper has skidded by about 40 per cent compared with 1967 figures, the labor committee said.

There's a Difference

"We Americans feel things very deeply. Unfortunately, we often mistake it for thinking.—Mark Twain.

'New Farm Pay Floor Should Be Enforced Now'

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and minors in agricultural employment which were adopted in September 1967.

The revised orders were to have become effective on February 1, 1968 but the DIW delayed any enforcement effort against all California farm employers after grower interests early this year filed three suits challenging the validity of the new wage orders.

UNANIMOUS RULING

Last month a three-judge panel of the Court of Appeal in Sacramento unanimously upheld the IWC's revised wage orders and said that the State Division of Industrial Welfare is obliged by law to enforce them.

But there has been no indication yet that the Division of Industrial Welfare is taking steps to do so.

DUTY SPELLED OUT

Deputy Attorney General Jay S. Linderman, who has been involved in the case in behalf of State Attorney General Thomas C. Lynch, said that the Division has a statutory duty to enforce the new orders against all employers not involved in the litigation immediately and against employers who were involved in the litigation as soon as the Division receives a writ of mandate from the Appellate Court.

The strengthened farm wage orders were won last year after the California Labor Federation testified at a long series of hearings and presented voluminous briefs documenting the need for substantial improvement in the three farm wage orders as well as the 11 other orders promulgated by the Commission which cover workers in other industries.

Farm Job Change

Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz has modified the agricultural hazardous-occupations order to permit the employment of 14 and 15 year olds to drive tractors and operate other farm machinery. The change allows hiring the minors after completing safety training.

Rafferty Ad in Struck Paper Bares His Stand, Labor Says

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ditions under which they work."

Pointing out that an impartial mediation panel appointed by Major Yorty denounced the Herald-Examiner management by name last April for refusing to cooperate in efforts to settle the strike-lockout and that Democratic nominee Alan Cranston has respected the workers' boycott, Pitts said:

"All California workers, union and non-union alike, have a vital stake both in the U. S. Senatorial race and in the Herald-Examiner dispute. If a multi-million dollar corporation such as Hearst is to be permitted to thumb its nose at the nation's established policy of encouraging free collective bargaining then the wages and working conditions of all California workers will be gravely jeopardized," he explained.

Moreover, Pitts said, the Rafferty ad is apparently the only political ad placed in the boycotted paper by any candidate of any political party in the general election campaign. "If that isn't proof of Rafferty's anti-worker philosophy I don't know what is," Pitts said.

The State AFL-CIO official said that the ad showed Republican Presidential nominee Richard Nixon saying, "I need Max!" and quotes Nixon as saying that the state School Superintendent, who has been involved in bitter controversy with his colleagues ever since he was elected in 1964, "will

stand for the programs that will bring peace abroad."

In commenting on this, Pitts said:

"This represents the worst sort of political doubletalk by both Nixon and Rafferty. Everybody in California knows that Rafferty played the role of the super-patriot right up until he was accused of seeking a draft deferment from 1A to 4F in World War II on grounds of flat feet, a charge he has yet to disprove.

"And even Nixon knows that during World War II thousands of young Americans with flat feet served in the nation's armed forces. But not Max.

"According to an article that appeared in the Long Beach Independent Press-Telegram recently, Rafferty hobbled around the small town of Trona (California) on a cane until, when the war was over, he threw away his cane.

"In contrast, Alan Cranston turned down a government deferment during World War II, enlisted as a private and was a sergeant when the war ended.

"In short, the man Californians need in the United States Senate is a man of reason and courage and that man is Alan Cranston," Pitts said.

Pitts also said that Holmes Tuttle, co-chairman of Rafferty's campaign, is apparently the same Holmes Tuttle who helped finance the abortive effort in 1958 to impose compulsory open shop legislation on California workers in 1958.

Election of HHH Held Vital To U.S. Economy

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he pointed out.

In that eight-year period "there were three recessions . . . and many weeks without work," Goldfinger said on Labor News Conference, the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program on the Mutual Radio Network.

Goldfinger said there is "no evidence of a 'new Richard Nixon,' in terms of economic policy."

He described as "shocking," Nixon's promise to "Wall Street interests that if elected President, he will end what he calls the 'heavy-handed bureaucratic regulatory schemes' of the Johnson Administration."

He emphasized that the regulations Nixon pledges to relax were adopted after the 1929 stock market crash, a "near-catastrophe for the American people" and the entire nation.

That, Goldfinger asserted, "undoubtedly reveals the 'Old Mr. Nixon.'"

Turning to tax reform, Goldfinger said that in contrast to the stands spelled out by both Humphrey and the Democratic platform, Nixon proposes "new tax gimmicks on top of old ones." At present, "capital gains and other tax gimmicks, such as oil depletion allowances," make it possible for wealthy people and corporations (to) get away with relatively low tax rates on all kinds of incomes," he noted. Nixon supports oil depletion allowances.

Now's Time To Apply for Absent Voter's Ballot

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that you can save your vote by applying now for an absentee ballot.

Any voter who will or "expects" to be unable to vote at his polling place on election day due to illness, disability, or work or business out of town or other reasons may apply for an absentee voter's ballot.

But the last day to file

your written application for an absent voter ballot either by mail or with your county clerk or registrar of voters in person is Oct. 29. So write your county clerk now saying:

"I expect to be absent from my election precinct on election day, November 5, and therefore request that an absent voters ballot be sent to me at (your address)."

The written application must

be signed by you just as you signed it when you registered to vote. Below that signature write the address at which you are a registered voter and mail it to the county clerk.

When your absent voter's ballot arrives fill it out and return it immediately. All absent voter ballots must be received by the county clerk or registrar of voters no later than 5:00 p.m., November 4.