



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

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer

October 10, 1969
Vol. 11—No. 41

U.S. Jobless Rate Jump to 4% Is Biggest in 9 Years

Further evidence that the Nixon administration's "tight-money" policy may be pushing the nation's economy toward a full-blown depression came to light this week when the national jobless rate posted its biggest one-month increase in nine years—rising from 3.5 to 4.0 percent—and a former economic advisor to President Nixon warned that the nation faces "an unnecessarily severe recession next year" unless the Federal Reserve Board promptly relaxes its tight money policy.

The alarming jump in the national jobless rate was downplayed by President Nixon's Assistant Secretary to the Treasury for Economic Policy, Murray L. Weidenbaum, who said "we may be returning from the over-heated, over-employed condition to more sustainable employment levels."

In a speech delivered just
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A Lesson For Mitchell on the New Testament

To the delight of convention delegates, AFL-CIO President George Meany gave U.S. Attorney General John M. Mitchell a lesson on the New Testament last week.

Mitchell had attempted to minimize the seriousness of the opposition to Clement F. Haynsworth's nomination for the U. S. Supreme Court by contending that any nominee would be attacked, even if he were one of the 12 apostles.

Describing Mitchell's attempt as a "rather unfortunate analogy," Meany said:

"If the 12 apostles were all brilliant lawyers, had been ed-
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Meany Rips Into Nixon's Policies In Keynote Address



High Interest Rates, Rising Joblessness and Tax Stand for Rich Hit

AFL-CIO President George Meany lashed into the Nixon administration's economic policies that have resulted in the highest interest rates in a hundred years, rapidly mounting joblessness and massive cutbacks in federal construction, health, education, air and water pollution and other programs in the course of his keynote address to the five-day 8th National AFL-CIO convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, which ended Tuesday.

Stripped of "pious platitudes and blatant baloney," Meany declared, the Nixon administration's economic policies simply mean increasing unemployment and holding down the wage demands of those most in need of a decent standard of living.

Just since the first of the year, he pointed out, unemployment has climbed more than 200,000 and the number of people working part-time because they couldn't find full-time jobs has increased 300,000.

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"OUTSTANDING" — That's how the Award of Merit won by the California AFL-CIO News at the International Labor Press Association Convention in Atlantic City, N.J., describes the weekly publication of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, Thos. L. Pitts, (right), the Federation's secretary-treasurer and editor of the paper, accepts the award for "General Excellence" and "outstanding achievement in the field of labor journalism" from national AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Lane Kirkland. The award was one of 18 made in the ILPA's 1969 journalistic awards competition which attracted more than 400 entries. (For full details, see story on Page 2.)

Wage Hikes Not Inflation Cause, Nixon Aide Says

President Nixon's Secretary of Labor George P. Shultz disagrees with all those newspaper editorials, magazine articles and TV commentators that single out workers' wage increases as the cause of inflation.

Statistics over the past three years make it clear that wage increases are not to blame for the nation's inflationary spiral, Shultz said in an address to the AFL-CIO convention in Atlantic City, N.J., this week.

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U.S. Jobless Rate Jump to 4% Is Biggest in 9 Yrs.

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two hours after the new jobless rate was announced, Weidenbaum declared that "the inflationary momentum is still too strong—far too strong to warrant any complacency or to suggest a change in policy is required."

But Professor Milton Friedman, a noted Chicago University economist who served as a campaign advisor to President Nixon last year took a sharply different view.

In testimony presented to Senator William Proxmire's Subcommittee on Economy in Government on Monday, Friedman said that the nation will be confronted with "an unnecessarily severe recession next year" and that unemployment rates in the vicinity of seven percent, the highest since the 1958 recession, might be expected.

Asserting the Federal Reserve Board "has but little time" in which to reverse its policy, Friedman told the committee that:

"There is a serious danger that the Fed is overdoing the matter."

Friedman, who is internationally known as the principal exponent of the theory that monetary policy is the single most important factor in determining the shape of the economy, presented figures showing that the money supply—currency and checking accounts—which had been increasing at an annual rate of a little more than four percent during the first half of the year—has not increased at all for the past few months.

"That's a very sharp change and it means they (the Federal Reserve Board commissioners) have probably gone too far," Friedman said.

He urged a prompt return to 4 to 4.5 percent rate of growth in the money supply but there was little likelihood that Federal Reserve Board officials would act on Friedman's advice.

During the first three months of this year, unemployment averaged 3.3 percent. It rose to 3.5 percent in the second quarter and to 3.7 percent in the third quarter—a steady upward trend.

Calif. AFL-CIO News Wins Award for 'Excellence'

The California AFL-CIO News has won an "Award of Merit" from the International Labor Press Association for "Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Labor Journalism."

The award, in the form of a handsome 11x14 inch enameled wooden plaque, represents the first prize for "General Excellence" among ILPA-affiliated state and local central body publications of less than 10,000 circulation in the United States and Canada.

Thomas L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and editor of the paper, received the prize from Lane Kirkland, national secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, at an awards ceremony at the biennial convention of the ILPA in Atlantic City, N. J., September 30, just prior to the opening of the National AFL-CIO convention.

OVER 400 COMPETED

The award was one of 18 made in various categories from a field of more than 400 entries which won the praises of a three-man panel of judges for their "high overall standards and performance."

The judges commended the publications particularly for the "scope and breadth" of the subject matter they presented and for "the large amount of space devoted to social, political and economic issues."

The labor press, the judges observed, "fills an important informational gap not met by the public press." And, they added: "Persons outside the labor movement can substantially benefit through reading the labor press."

JUDGES NAMED

Judges for this year's contest were Curtis MacDougal of Northwestern University, Stan Rosen of the Chicago Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, and Norman Dolnick, a former labor editor.

The judges' panel submitted a report citing many areas where the labor press could be improved and made a number of recommendations on coverage and technical matters.

Two other California publications—San Francisco Labor and The Fire Fighter of Local 112 of Los Angeles—were among the 18 winners of ILPA awards.

In a message to the union editors, AFL-CIO President George Meany said that in all too many communities, the labor press is the only medium providing an adequate analysis of the drive for tax justice or the full background on Judge Haynsworth's anti-union, anti-civil rights record.

UNITY HELD VITAL

Michael Harrington of the League for Industrial Democracy, whose book "The Other America" helped arouse the nation to the plight of its poor, called on the labor editors to use their publications to strengthen the unity of American workers.

Harrington pointed out that more than half of the population lacks the income to achieve a "modest but adequate" standard of living as defined by the federal government. Thus, he said, the struggle for social progress affects not just the poor and the Negroes, but the majority of society.

NEED SPELLED OUT

ILPA President Fred Sweet, editor of the St. Paul, Minn. Union Advocate, ended his term with an appeal to fellow editors to help develop new sources of vitality for the labor press.

Community labor papers especially need strengthening, he said, noting that many of them represent the sole outlet for liberal opinion in their areas.

Kenneth Fiester, Public Relations Director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department who has been secretary-treasurer of the ILPA since 1961, was elected to succeed Sweet as president. John M. Barry, Managing Editor of the National AFL-CIO News, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Three California labor editors—Don Harris of the Los Angeles Citizen; E. T. (Buck) Harris of the Screen Actor; and David Selvin of San Francisco Labor—were reelected as ILPA vice presidents.

Wage Hikes Not Inflation Cause, Nixon Aide Says

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Median wage increases for all industries, adjusted for price increases, were 2.4 percent in 1967, the same in 1968 and "a little under" two percent so far in 1969, he said.

"That is not being responsible for inflation," he declared.

Nonetheless, Shultz defended the Nixon administration's tight-money policies and contended that "we can maintain high employment and good earnings without permitting inflation to gnaw away at the real worth, the buying power of these earnings."

Optimistic as this sounds, Shultz' latter statement is not backed up by studies of the recent average weekly earnings of the "typical" non-supervisory worker in private industry, an employee with three dependents.

That study, released earlier this year, showed that although such a worker's weekly pay climbed from \$110.87 in September 1968 to \$112.13 in April 1969 his "real" purchasing power dropped from \$79.86 to \$77.62 during the same period—a drop of \$2.24 a week.

U.S. Unions Operate 1,044 Credit Unions

U.S. labor unions now own and operate 1,044 credit unions with more than 600,000 members, according to the latest report made by CUNA International, formerly the Credit Union National Association.

During the year ended last December 31, the number of credit unions in the nation rose by 510 to 23,053, the non-profit service organization disclosed.

The 1969 CUNA yearbook shows that total membership in U.S. credit unions rose from just over 19 million to 20.2 million and that savings climbed from \$11.1 billion to \$12.2 billion.

Total assets rose from \$12.7 billion to \$14.1 billion.

Time Spent on Strikes Drops In California

Mandays expended on strikes in California amounted to only 0.14 percent of total working time during the first six months of 1969, according to statistics just released by the State Department of Industrial Relations.

Total time involved came to 1.25 million mandays, substantially less than the 1.7 million mandays devoted to winning improved wages and fringe benefits during the first six months of 1968.

The state report said that some 61,000 California workers were directly involved in 162 work stoppages in the January to June, 1969 period.

California's fourteen - one hundredths of one percent loss of total working time during the first half of this year due to strikes was considerably better than the national ratio of two-tenths of one percent, the report said. The report also noted that a record total of government employee strikes in California has already been registered for 1969.

It said that "most of these stoppages have been brief," and have involved comparatively few workers, with the exception of the recent one-day teachers' strike in Los Angeles.

During the first six months of 1969, some 2,800 California government employees, most of them teachers, walked out or failed to report to work in 17 labor disputes.

Seven other strikes in the public sector have occurred since July 1, bringing the cumulative total for the year to 24, well above the previous full year record of 18 recorded in both 1966 and 1968.

October 15 Deadline

October 15 is the deadline for senior citizens having a household income not in excess of \$3,350 for the 1968 calendar year to file their property tax relief claims with the Franchise Tax Board. Claim forms are available from your nearest Franchise Tax Board office or at all State Board of Equalization offices.

Do You Have Some Back Pay Coming?

It's good news if your name's on the list below because it means you've got money coming, thanks to court suits recently won by the U.S. Department against employers who violated the Federal Wage-Hour Law.

Some 252 northern California workers are entitled to sums ranging from a few dollars to several hundred dollars in unclaimed wages.

Although the list of names was initially released seven weeks ago, only a handful of the workers thus far have been located.

In many cases the workers have moved on to other jobs and are unaware that they have back pay coming to them.

All told, the 252 California

workers are entitled to a total of \$16,075.

And that works out to an average of more than \$63 each!

If your name is on the list write or phone the nearest Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division office of the U.S. Labor Department or contact the regional headquarters in San Francisco at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, Rm. 10431, San Francisco 94102. The phone number is (415) 556-1125.

Gerald Abaya, Earl Adams, Jose Alamo, G. D. Allen, Carlos T. Arrendondo, Kenneth Austin, Jackie E. Baker, Nathan Baker, Sharon Baker, Paul Basquez, John Bearden, James E. Bennett, Irish Benson, James Bevilacqua, Wallace D. Birdwell, Linda L. Blair, Andres Bolden, Robert L. Boozler, Henry L. Borey, B. L. Brals, Sidney A. Branch, Grace Brennan, Henry G. Brooker, Cleveland Brooks, Martha Brooks, C. L. Brooksher, Billy D. Brown, Don L. Brown, Beverly Burke, Charles A. Burke, Billy G. Burnett, Joseph Butler, Edward Buzzini, Alfred Calamusa, George Cano, Charles Caradine, Larry Carl-

son, Charles D. Carrick, Thomas Carroll, Ralph Castillo, George Chan, David M. Chavez, Richard Chesser, L. B. Chimpky, Freddie M. Cole, James Colgain, Judy R. Cooper, Louis Coronado, Peter Coronado, Ken Crouch, Anthony M. Cruz, Joseph Cruz;

Charles Davis, Paul Davis, Wilford Davy, Claudell Delaney, Mario Delatone, James Delmer, Robert C. Demare, Robert DeVine, Frank Diaz, Joe Diaz;

Ruben Diaz, Larry Dickson, Leamon Dorsey, B. F. Drobnick, George Eaton, James E. Elliffritt, C. J. Ellison, Ronald D. Ennis, Antonio Escamilla, Samuel B. Evans, F. J. Farrell, Jr., A. Ferris, Antonio T. Flores, Billy Floyd, Jonathan C. Ford, N. V. Foster, Herbert Foutz, D. K. Frisch, Glenn M. Fristoe, James C. Fristoe;

Paster Gallardo, Alta Gann, Alexander Garcia, Bonedacio Garcia, Samuel Garcia;

Bill Gilbert, Dorothy Glaspie, Joe Bill Gilbert, Dorothy Glaspie, Joe Glenn, G. G. Gonzales, A. M. Graham, Barry Gravier, Wilber J. Green, William Greenup, Leon Griffin, Regis Grimmert, Pat Grossahme, Raul Gutierrez, E. L. Haines, C. Edward Hall, Randy Hamilton, Gary Hance, Randy Hardie, E. L. Harper, Karen Hayes, Dean L. Hazelton, Michael Healey, Robert W. Higgins, B. Holland, Dennis H. Holland, M. E. Holland, John Honojos, Chin S. Hop, Jack Humphrey, Charles Hunter, Samuel James, John R. Janonis, Evelyn Jeffers, Harold Johns Jr., Leon Johnson, George Jones, William Henry Jones, Robert Judd, Gunnar Kahke, Billy B. Keller, Robert H. King, Virginia Kirtley, Austin Kitchen, Floyd C. Knight, Harold Kunkler, H. E. Kunsman, Peter K. Kwong, G. Lemos, Joseph E. Lewin, D. Licon, Gene Lindo, Doyal Lisenbee, Robert Lopez;

Alfred Mabrier, Marino Madrid, Richard F. Markham, Fred Marsh, Roylee Marlow, Carol Martindale, Jose Martinez, Lorenzo Martinez, Lydia Martinez, Pomposo Mato, Thelma McCulloch, J. A. McDonald, Roy McDonald, Charles E. McGehee, R. J. McNicholas, Robert McWilliams, Harvey L. Mesusan, Harry Middleton, Lillie K. Miller, John Milner, Cornelia Moens, Paul Molina, Dennis Moody, Robert B. Morse, S. C. Muniz, Donald Murray, L. F. Murray, Norman Neil, Robert Noble, E. V. Norton, B. Olsen, Ted Olsteyn, G. B. Ortiz, Alfred Overholser, Clovis D. Oxley.

Robert Padranos, Boney Patrick, Perry Payne, Raymond Pennington, Fred Perez, Lloyd W. Perry, L. Page Perry, Bill Prater, Eligha Portis, Phillip J. Radley, Gumeraldo Ramos, Oscar Ramos, E. Reyes, Felix Reyna, John R. Richards, Robert B. Rilling, Pete Rios, Frank Rodriguez, Edwin L. Roenspie, Faustianio Rojas, Jess Russell, Vernon Samaniego, Refugio Sanchez, George Sanderson, David M. Schary, Bill Schiavone, Dale S. Schuett, Bernie Sexton, Thomas J. Segravos, Lee Shaffer, M. B. Silveira, Janelle Smith, Ronald Sotillo, Mildred Souza, Oscar Spradling, Ronald W. Stacher, Geraldine Star, Eugene Star, Russell Stevens, Lee E. Stewart, Joe M. Surez, Richard Sutherland, Clifton Swan;

Bruce Thompson, William Tolliver, Isaac Torres, Mariano Vallejo, Victor Vaughn, Fred Veenhuysen, Leo Uilbarr, Thomas Underwood, Thomas Waldman, Melvin Walsh, Jack Waxman, Bob Weathered, J. F. Welch, Stanley White, William Widing, Earl E. Wilbur, Rodney Wilburn, James Willey, Bill Williams, Gary Williams, Harry Williams, Carol Williamson, James T. Wilson, Joseph Wilson, Loyd Wilson, Gary Wooten, Anton West, Tui Yook Yee, and Margaret Young.

AFL-CIO Warns Solons on Phony Labor Papers

The AFL-CIO has warned members of Congress against shady promoters who solicit advertising for bogus or non-existent labor publications.

In response to inquiries from a number of Senators, House members and their staffs about apparently phony solicitations, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller and Kenneth Fiester, Secretary-Treasurer of the International Labor Press Association, AFL-CIO, sent a letter to all members of the 91st Congress which pointed out that these promoters seek a quick profit by setting up a publication with "Labor" or "Union" in its title and then selling worthless advertising to unwary public officials or businessmen.

The letter said that every new Congress is considered fertile ground for exploitation by these racketeers.

"In every case brought to our attention, the alleged 'Labor paper' was without standing in the labor movement," the letter said.

License Barrier

A U.S. Department of Labor study in 26 States revealed that half the cities involved in the study do not honor other cities' licenses for building tradesmen.

Calif.'s 7th in Per Capita Income, RTW States Low

California ranked seventh in terms of per capita personal income for the calendar year 1967, according to the latest figures available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

California's \$3,665 figure was topped by the District of Columbia's \$4,123; Connecticut's \$3,969; New York's \$3,759; Illinois' \$3,750; Alaska's \$3,738; and New Jersey's \$3,668.

It should come as no surprise to trade unionists that many of the 19 states saddled with deceptively labeled "right to work" laws which in reality are compulsory open shop laws that deny workers and their employers the right to negotiate union security clauses, wound up at or near the bottom of the list.

In fact, the four states with the lowest per capita income in the nation were all RTW states. They were: Mississippi, in 51st place with a per capita income of only \$1,896; Arkansas, \$2,099; Alabama, \$2,163; and South Carolina, \$2,213.

Eighteen of the 19 RTW states were among the 30 states with the lowest per capita incomes and 14 of them had per capita incomes of less than \$3,000.

Meany Rips Into Nixon's Policies In Keynote Address

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The administration's economic policies, coupled with Nixon's recently announced 75 percent slash in federal construction, hardly square with the administration's much-talked-about efforts to create employment for minority group members and the hard-core unemployed, he said.

Meany also made it clear that the AFL-CIO will become even more involved in the decade of the seventies in the fight to curb air and water pollution and win stronger protections for consumers.

POLLUTION PERILS

In a report to the Executive Council, Meany noted that "dirty air costs the average American family nearly \$230 a year" and declared:

"The dangers of dirty air are all too obvious in cities everywhere. Congress has recognized the problem since 1963, but federal funds have been too limited and state and local concern too lax to get beyond the pilot project and research stages."

He called for "a comprehensive and integrated federal, regional, state and local air pollution control program" to combat "atmospheric poison."

Similarly, he said, "industrial oil and chemical pollution-control programs" are necessary to stem the tide of pollution presently spoiling the nation's vital water resources. Some 95 million Americans currently drink water which is below federal health standards, he pointed out.

Turning to the AFL-CIO's extensive campaign for tax justice, Meany said that the Nixon administration's position, as presented to the Senate Finance Committee, was to refuse aid to middle-income people and give more tax relief to big business.

The Nixon administration's position, he said "would perpetuate the unfairness in some aspects of the tax structure and in other aspects they would compound this unfairness."

The AFL-CIO does not "propose to accept the proposition that the working people of this

country no longer merit full and fair consideration in the resolution of all issues affecting them, and that includes all the pressing issues of the day—tax reform, interest rates, inflation, urban problems, education, civil rights, the whole works," he declared.

OTHER ACTIONS

Actions taken by the more than 900 delegates to the convention who represented more than 13 million AFL-CIO union members throughout the country, included:

- Expulsion of the 89,000 member International Chemical Workers Union because of its affiliation with the Alliance for Labor Action, an organization set up last May by the Teamsters and the United Automobile Workers. The vote favoring expulsion was overwhelming—12,482,388 to 244,815. It was taken after Meany emphasized that ICWU had been previously advised that the ALA was a rival organization that was engaged in "raiding" other AFL-CIO affiliated unions. He said the ICWU's alliance with ALA constituted an "organizational impossibility." Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers International Union and a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, said that the Auto Workers and the Teamsters were already raiding jurisdictions of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union and the International Association of Machinists.

- Adoption of a resolution calling for a national \$2 minimum hourly wage to be extended to all workers and raised to \$2.50 if inflation continues. "The responsibility of providing a living wage to workers lies not with the taxpayers but with the employers who benefit from the work of their employees," the resolution said. The inadequacy of the present \$1.60 an hour minimum wage is clear in the face of present living costs. The Fair Labor Standards Act still excludes over 13 million men and women. . . . The unchecked rise in living costs may soon make even a \$2 minimum obsolete. Continuation of the rise in

the cost of living will lead to a need for a minimum of \$2.50 an hour," the resolution said.

- Approval of a boost in the per capita tax paid by affiliates from seven cents to 10 cents per month effective November 1, 1969.

- Approval of expansion of the Executive Council from 27 to 33 vice presidents "to recognize new areas" of growth and development in trade unionism and give leaders of affiliates opportunity for greater service to the entire labor movement.

- Reelection of George Meany to his fourth consecutive term and election of Secretary-Treasurer Lane Kirkland to his first full term. Kirkland had been chosen earlier this year by the Executive Council to replace William Schnitzler who retired.

NEW OFFICERS

The nine national union presidents elected to the Executive Council for the first time were: Frederick O'Neal of Actors Equity; Thomas W. Gleason of the International Longshoremen's Association; Charles Luna of the United Transportation Union; Peter Fosco of the Laborers International Union; Peter Bommarito of the Rubber Workers; Floyd Smith of the International Association of Machinists; Louis Stulberg of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union; John Griner of the American Federation of Government Employees; and Jerry Wurf of the State, County and Municipal Employees Union. Total membership on the Council, including Meany and Kirkland, is 35.

Three Council members retired, namely: David Dubinsky of the ILGWU; Paul Phillips of the Papermakers and Paperworkers; and P. L. (Roy) Siemiller of the I.A.M.

TAX REFORM

- Adoption of a resolution on tax reform calling for:

1. Complete removal of the impoverished from the tax rolls.

2. A meaningful cut in the relative tax burdens of low and middle-income families.

3. Elimination of loopholes affording special tax privi-

A Lesson For Mitchell on the New Testament

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itors of the Harvard Law Review and clerks to Supreme Court justices and were recommended by the Bar Association, Mr. Mitchell still would not have regarded any of them as eligible for the post," he said.

The apostles, Meany pointed out, were all poor, "preached the philosophy that a rich man could no more enter the kingdom of heaven than a camel could pass through the eye of a needle." They followed "a humble carpenter" and were dedicated to the cause of "the meek, the lowly, and the underprivileged." They were quite obviously unsuited for the post—"any post under this administration," Meany said, adding:

"And with their ethnic background they would have had a tough time getting by Strom Thurmond."

leges to wealthy families and businesses.

The resolution termed the House-passed bill (H. R. 13270) "a major step . . . toward tax justice" but emphasized that it does not go far enough. It said that "all special tax privileges must be eliminated, particularly those, such as the capital gains tax, which discriminates between earned and unearned income. It denounced the "triple standard" under which income earned through work is taxed in full, but only half of the profit from stocks and other capital assets is taxed, and income from tax-free bonds, oil depletion allowances, and book-keeping farm losses "completely escapes taxation."

WELFARE STANDARDS

- A call for establishment of a federal welfare system to provide adequate financing of welfare costs, federal standards of eligibility and national minimal standards for assistance payments.

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE

- Adoption of a resolution reiterating the 1967 convention's call for a national health insurance system to assure "quality health care for all people."