

Boycott Blue Shield

*** * * make the Big Switch!**

MAKE THE BIG SWITCH to alternative health insurance carriers by boycotting Blue Shield is the appeal telescoped into a bumper strip being distributed by Office & Professional Employees Local 3 of San Francisco which is fighting to protect the wages and working conditions of more than 1,100 largely women and minority workers at Blue Shield of California's San Francisco headquarters. Blue Shield's management has spurned efforts by the union's negotiating committee to reach a settlement, including a recent union offer to yield the existing

cost-of-living language that's been part of the last two Blue Shield contracts if Blue Shield would agree to a 14.4 percent raise now with cost-of-living hikes in the second and third year ranging between an eight percent minimum and 12.5 percent maximum. Instead Blue Shield's management has insisted on no retroactivity, the imposition of written tests for promotions without regard to seniority, denial of pay increases to a majority of workers who are already above the pay scale in the second and third years of the contract and other "take-

away" issues, George Davis, Local 3's secretary-treasurer, said. The California AFL-CIO has called for a federal performance audit at Blue Shield on grounds that the firm "has seriously reduced its quality of performance in processing medicare claims" as a result of the strike which began December 9, 1980. A Casino Night, that will include games, music, food, drinks, dancing and prizes will be held by Local 3 tomorrow night from 8:30 p.m. on at the ILWU Hall at 400 North Point in San Francisco. For further information phone Local 3 at (415) 777-3444.

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Brown Opposes Labor Bill for Split Roll on Property Taxes

Governor Brown told delegates to the California Federation of Teachers 39th Annual Convention in Los Angeles last week that he could not support California AFL-CIO-backed legislation to permit business and commercial properties to be taxed at a higher rate than residences and farms to correct some of the inequities created by Proposition 13.

Brown, who once supported the split-role property tax concept, told the CFT delegates Saturday that the concept needs to be thoroughly analyzed.

The next day the CFT delegates voted unanimously to support the split roll legislation.

All public employee unions in the state, including the CFT and the independent California Teachers Assn., are strongly supporting the split-role legislation to help provide support for public services.

The California AFL-CIO announced its total support of the legislation, **Assembly Constitutional Amendment 22** carried by Assemblyman Tom Hannigan (D-Fairfield), at a press conference in Sacramento earlier this month.

The measure, which immediately provoked strong opposition from business interests — including a threat by one lobbyist to

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Agribusiness Opens Fight To Repeal Farm Labor Law

The opening salvos in a renewed battle by California's \$14 billion agribusiness industry to destroy California's historic 1975 Agricultural Labor Relations Act will be fired at a state senate committee hearing next week when a bill to repeal the act sponsored by Republican Senator William A. Craven of San Diego is scheduled to be taken up.

Both the Craven bill, **S.B. 50**, and an identical measure, **A.B. 34**, introduced on the Assembly side by Assemblyman Richard Lehman (D-Clovis), would replace the 1975 act with a so-called

Agricultural Labor-Management Relations Act that would continue the existence of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board but require it to be governed by "decisions of the United States Supreme Court interpreting or applying" the anti-labor Taft-Hartley Act (the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947), which was passed by a Congress dominated by big business interests over the veto of President Harry S Truman.

Among other things, both bills would empower the Governor to appoint a board of inquiry any

time "in the opinion of the Governor a threatened or actual strike by or lockout of employees affecting a substantial part of agriculture in the state will, if permitted to occur or to continue, imperil the public health or

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High Court OKs State Employees' Wage Increase

The legality of a \$207 million retroactive pay hike for state employees, which had won the approval of the legislature despite a veto by Governor Brown, was reaffirmed by the State Supreme Court this week.

At the same time, the court rejected a suit that sought to add \$25 million in interest that had accrued on the sum over a two-

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Farm Workers' Union Racks Up 32 Victories

The AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Union has won 32 representational elections in Santa Clara and San Benito Counties since its victory in the big Gilroy garlic strike six months ago.

"When farm workers throughout the area saw how that strike, within a couple of weeks, raised wages in the garlic fields more than they had been raised in the past 10 years, there was no holding them back," John Brown, director of the UFW's Hollister field office, said.

The farm workers union received 1,727 votes compared with

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JOBLESS BENEFITS DUE

BART Management Locked Workers Out, Judge Rules

The management of San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit system — not its more than 1,600 union employees — was responsible for the BART shutdown on August 31, 1979 that stranded thousands of commuters during the afternoon rush hour, according to a ruling issued by a state administrative law judge after a lengthy review of the dispute.

The ruling by Judge Justin Rockwell of the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board reverses an earlier state Employment Development De-

partment finding that a "significant number" of BART's workers and their union leaders took part in "concerted job actions" that caused BART administrators to shut the system down.

In practical effect, the ruling means that BART's 1,655 workers were locked out, not on strike, and are therefore eligible for an estimated \$2 million in unemployment insurance benefits which, until now, had been denied them.

Judge Rockwell's decision said that unilateral, bad faith and confusing changes in terms and conditions of employment imposed by BART management amounted to clear evidence of provocation.

The evidence clearly points to a pattern of provocation and to lockout, Rockwell found.

In a 15-page "Statement of Facts" which details repeated instances of unilateral and coercive actions taken by BART's management against its employees in its apparent efforts to force the workers to go on strike, Judge Rockwell noted that "BART's Manager of Train Operations himself testified that during management's discussions, it was agreed, 'we have got to be careful not to do anything that might look like a lockout.'"

Moreover, the decision said: "The shutdown of the BART system on August 31, 1979, at 7:00 p.m. was without written notice to the unions until after the close of business, though the President/Business Agent of 1555 had been

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ALPA Calls Off March 2 Air Traffic Shutdown

The AFL-CIO Air Lines Pilots Assn. (ALPA) called off its proposed March 2 nationwide suspension of service after Drew Lewis, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, expressed a willingness to work with the airline pilots on aviation safety concerns.

After meeting with the ALPA's Executive Board, Lewis said that the seriousness of the air safety issues raised by pilots in their Operation U.S.A. (Unity for Safe Airtravel) public awareness campaign warranted an effort by the new administration to examine these issues as soon as possible.

The pilots have voiced grave concerns for sometime about the inadequacies of existing air traffic control systems, airport safety facilities and proposals to cut the flight crews from three to two man-operations in certain new aircraft. Lewis said a special Task Force would be appointed to resolve the crew complement issue.

Labor's Legislative Parley Set in Sacramento April 6-8

California's top legislative leaders have been invited to address the three-day Joint Legislative Conference to be held in Sacramento April 6-8 by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, the State Building & Construction Trades Council of California and the California State Council of Carpenters.

Featured speakers expected to address the conference include: Governor Edmund G. Brown,

Jr.; Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr.; Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti; Assembly Minority Floor Leader Carol Hallett; and Senate Minority Floor Leader William Campbell.

The first general session of the conference will convene at 9:30 a.m., Monday, April 6 at the Woodlake Inn at 500 Leisure Lane in Sacramento.

Conference participants will review labor's position on scores of

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Fed Council to Join Tribute To Furuseth & Lundeborg

The Executive Council of the California Labor Federation will hold its next meeting in the headquarters of the Sailors Union of the Pacific at 450 Harrison Street in San Francisco to take part in the rededication of monuments to

two heroic and historic former leaders of that union — Andrew Furuseth and Harry Lundeborg.

The two-day meeting of the Executive Council will convene at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 5

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BART Management Locked Workers Out, Judge Rules

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 in touch with the Director of Field Services, BART's chief transportation officer responsible for all employees assigned to the movement of BART riders, as late as 4:00 p.m., and BART's Public Relations Officer had notified the news media at 3:00 p.m. that commuters should find alternative means of returning home that evening.

"Neither (Locals) 1555 nor 390 had ever set a strike date and, in fact, 1555 had not been authorized to strike, being prohibited from even taking a strike vote until a request had been made of BART for arbitration.

"Notwithstanding, the General Manager, in consultation with his subordinates on August 31, made the decision at 3:00 p.m. to shut down the system. The publicly stated reasons were the alleged refusal of train operators to work and the 'negative financial impact of continuing the low level of service' to the public. . . . By 7:00 p.m. the unions had been informed that members would no longer be permitted to work and would be notified when next to report to work.

"The shutdown affected every

Many Still Rate D. I. Refunds Due Last Year

More than three million California taxpayers may have refunds due for unemployment disability insurance (DI) contributions made in 1979, the state Employment Development Department has disclosed.

The Department reported that although more than five million persons have already applied for and received refunds totaling \$396 million, the 1979 estimate of workers eligible to claim the refund amounted to 8.6 million.

Legislation passed in September 1979 provides that a surplus in the unemployment disability insurance fund be returned to the workers through a one-time refundable income tax credit of 80 percent of the worker's D. I. taxes withheld during the 1979 calendar year. The maximum refund is \$91. The average payment is about \$76.

Those who paid D. I. contributions in 1979 and failed to claim the refund in 1980 can still receive it. They should file an amended 1979 California personal income tax return (Form 540X) with the Franchise Tax Board.

Most employees are entitled to this refundable tax credit, but the Employment Development Department cautioned that certain small groups of workers are not eligible: namely employees of a voluntary plan employer; the self-employed or employers who have elected coverage; employees of the state of California, public entities, public school districts, American Red Cross chapters, and employees whose employers who do not withhold D. I. but, instead, pay it on behalf of their employees as a fringe benefit.

Claims filed by employees of church schools operated by church corporations will be held in suspense pending outcome of a class action suit now in United States District Court.

The Department said that those who have not yet filed claims for their refundable tax credit have a statutory period of four years in which to do so.

employee, those working, and those ready to work, those on vacation, on military leave, those disabled, those permitted sick leave—everyone. All who reported to work the following day were turned away by BART officials or BART police. It is uncontradicted that claimants who were able to work, who wanted to work, were denied work."

In concluding his decision, Judge Rockwell said:

"But a lockout did occur at 7:00 p.m. on August 31, 1979, and all of the claimants identified in Appendices C and E to this decision . . . are entitled to benefits under section 1262 of the code."

The judge's ruling noted that BART's management ended its day-to-day extension of previous union contracts July 10, 1979 to coincide with a 3:00 a.m. "final" offer on a new contract and denied the union's request for a 24-hour delay so that members could vote on the new offer. The judge also noted that BART announced that workers would not be given time off to attend such meetings.

The contracts of the AFL-CIO Public Employees Local 390 of the SEIU and the Amalgamated Transit Workers Union Local 1555 expired on June 30, 1979. A major issue in the dispute was management's insistence on eliminating an historic cost-of-living formula that had been won earlier.

"As the controversy wore on, the imposition of more and more provocation and unreasonable conditions took place," Judge Rockwell said.

"Disciplinary sanctions were made more severe, vacations were eliminated and holiday pay was conditioned upon attendance at work the day before. If an employee was ill, his or her first three days of absence were to be non-compensated," he noted.

Moreover, the judge continued, "seniority was eliminated and mandatory overtime enforced. The joint Union-Management Safety Committee was abolished by BART and the unions were forbidden access to work stations."

While the union was acting in good faith to seek to avert a complete breakdown in collective bargaining and to induce conciliation, Judge Rockwell observed that "BART adamantly insisted that its final offer was just that, to be accepted or even more severe disciplinary procedures would be invoked, including wholesale suspensions."

Judge Rockwell cited a recorded conversation between the manager of train operators and the director of field services that showed that "no real options had been available to the unions from the time negotiations began."

"Just hours before the system ground to a halt, the manager said: 'I think right now that our best strategy is just to come down to a soft landing.'"

"Just shut it down?" the director asked.

"Well, not without forcing people, force something to happen," the manager said.

"This was obviously part of the script which one supervisor admitted had to be followed," Judge Rockwell observed.

"One looks in vain through the entire administrative record for evidence of union concerted action which should have resulted in a denial of unemployment compensation benefits to the claimants," the judge declared.

In commenting on the coercive actions taken by BART's management, the judge said:

"It is found that elimination of most of these provisions had nothing to do with alleged deterioration in employee efficiency or lowered car-count or had anything to do with the operations generally of the BART system, but were punitive and taken against all employees, the innocent as well as the alleged guilty."

He noted that there was no ground for almost 300 maintenance workers' suspensions including 115 for attending a union meeting.

The latter group included some members of the union's negotiating committee.

Noting that another 65 suspensions imposed by BART's management were due to alleged refusals to work overtime, Rockwell said:

"It is difficult to imagine a more unreasonable or callous demand of any employee than the one made by BART when mothers of minor children who had no time to arrange for child care or who had sick children at home or who themselves were physically exhausted and could work no more than their regular shift were ordered to work."

Paul Varacalli, secretary-treasurer of Public Employees Local 390 of the SEIU, which represents 1,130 maintenance workers, custodians, clerks and staff assistants, said that the decision amounted to "a total vindication" for the workers and their unions.

The decision means that the locked-out workers are entitled to unemployment benefits up to a maximum of \$104 a week for each week they were locked out up to Nov. 22, 1979 when they went back to work.

At the time of the lockout 17½ months ago, Varacalli had declared:

"It's ludicrous for BART to try and cover up its lockout. Although our members OK'd a strike weeks ago, we actually kept delaying one, hoping BART would agree to arbitrate, as state law says it should. But they chose to lock us out, (and) increased the guerrilla war they've been carrying on for months."

BART's General Manager Keith Bernard said that BART will challenge the ruling before the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

Meanwhile, the workers have been informed that they have the option of claiming their unemployment insurance benefits, which average about \$1,320 each, immediately or awaiting a final decision, according to Joel Contreras, chief counsel for the State Employment Development Dept., said.

Responding to questions posed by the California AFL-CIO News, Lyle Riave, Chief Counsel of the CUIAB, explained that if BART appeals the case to the full Board and Rockwell's ruling is upheld, then the workers would be entitled to keep their unemployment insurance benefits even if later, BART sought and obtained a reversal in a Superior or higher Court.

Publisher's Notice

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Consumers Warned of Rocky Road Under Reagan

AFL-CIO Vice President William H. Wynn warned consumer leaders from around the country that implementation of the conservative economic policies of the Reagan Administration will mean "a rocky road ahead" for both labor and consumers. He called for strengthened ties between the two groups.

Noting the long tradition of cooperation between the labor and consumer movements, Wynn said that while "we have written a record in which both labor and consumers can, and should, take great pride . . . I fear much of the progress for which we fought so long and so hard is in danger of being sacrificed on the altar of supply-side economics."

Wynn, who is president of the Food & Commercial Workers, told some 300 delegates to the annual Consumer Assembly of the Consumer Federation of America that he was concerned over the rightward swing of the political pendulum in Congress.

"Neither labor nor consumer groups can match the money which special interests and their political action committees can pour into lobbying efforts and elective politics. Surely we have learned that by now," he said. "Surely we now know that if we do not hang together, we will most assuredly hang separately. Let us join together to make sure that doesn't happen."

Wynn expressed concern over reports that the Reagan Administration plans to cut back the nation's food stamp program, restrict student loans, and reduce other "people" programs in the fiscal 1982 budget.

Oil has been decontrolled ahead of schedule, and this can only pump up the price of gasoline and home heating oil, he noted.

Addressing another sectoral cause of inflation, Director Henry B. Schechter of the AFL-CIO Office of Housing & Monetary Policy warned that the Federal Reserve Board's determination to maintain a tight-money, high-interest-rate policy practically assures a significant decline in housing construction in 1981.

"While the Federal Reserve policy is intended to fight inflation, it will be self-defeating," Schechter warned, adding that credit policies that restrict housing construction fuel inflation in the rest of the economy.

Schechter reiterated the federation's call for reactivation of the 1969 Credit Control Act to regulate credit.

Used for the first time early last year, the measure's credit control mechanisms helped bring the prime rate down from 20 percent to 11 percent over a four-month period, and aided in the housing pickup that followed, he observed. Since then, interest rates have again climbed and housing is about to decline, he pointed out.

Labor Editor Harry Hollins Succumbs at 77

Harry Hollins, editor of the Kern, Inyo and Mono Counties' Union Labor Journal for 27 years, died last month just two weeks short of his 78th birthday.

"Harry Hollins devoted his substantial journalistic skills to the labor movement with fervor and conviction. He was a thoughtful and generous but probing editor whose counsel was valued by trade unionists and public figures alike. His passing is a real loss to the state's labor press," John F. Henning, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, said.

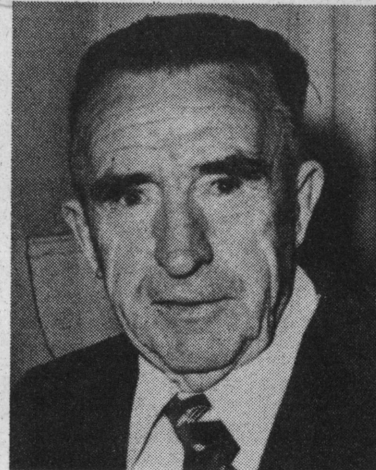
Brother Hollins, a native of Richmond, Va., grew up in British Columbia. He became editor of the Union Labor Journal in 1946 and retired in 1971. But two years ago, at the request of the Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council of Kern, Inyo and Mono Counties, he picked up his green eye shade and went back to work. He worked on the paper up to his last day, Jack Brigham, who succeeded him as editor of the paper, said.

In a special spot on Hollins' desk was a letter from former Bakersfield Mayor Donald M. Hart that said:

"As you are probably aware, I am preparing to leave the office of mayor and I wanted to express my appreciation for the many years of friendship that we have enjoyed and to thank you for the support that you have given me through the years we have toiled in the political pits together.

"I honestly believe that I could not have achieved many of the things I have undertaken without your encouragement and support. In other words, Harry, I am trying to say 'thank you' for all of the things you have done to help me to achieve what we both felt was good for this community and, for that matter, the state and, hopefully, this nation."

Brother Hollins is survived by his wife, Viola, a daughter Sandi, a son John, and two granddaughters, all of Bakersfield.



GRAND MASTER of the St. Patrick's Day parade in San Francisco Sunday, March 15 will be Joseph O'Sullivan, past president of the Bay District Council of Carpenters and the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council. O'Sullivan, who also served for years as financial secretary and business representative of Carpenters Local 22, said that a flag-raising ceremony commemorating Saint Patrick's Day will be held in the San Francisco Mayor's office at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, March 13. The parade Sunday will start at 12:30 p.m.

Ward to Head New Oakland Committee

William Ward, business representative and secretary-treasurer of the Alameda County Building Trades Council has been elected President of the New Oakland Committee.

Ward, who is also a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, described the NOC as "a unique organization" aimed at making Oakland a better city.

Agribusiness Opens Fight To Repeal Farm Labor Law

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safety."

On receiving the board of inquiry's report, the Governor would be empowered to petition any Superior Court to forbid the strike.

Because of the short harvesting season for many crops, any such "cooling off" period would effectively cripple the bargaining powers of farm worker unions, union

officials said.

The Craven bill would also eliminate the right of union organizers to reasonable access to farm workers and to company property, an access that is vital if farm workers are to have a real freedom to choose, union spokesmen said.

It would also wipe out existing provisions that require prompt certification elections and exist-

ing bargaining unit definitions that were developed explicitly to meet the special characteristics of the agricultural industry.

In fact, the first paragraph in the proposed new law states that intent flatly:

"It is the intent of the legislature and the purpose of this part to conform the law of this state regulating relations between employees and employers in agriculture to federal law regulating relations between employees and employers in other industries, in order that all employees and employers in the private sector in this state may be treated similarly, without regard to the industry in which they are employed or engaged." (Emphasis added.)

The California Labor Federation alerted all Federation affiliates to the introduction of the bill last week.

"The growers have never accepted the state ALRA (Agricultural Labor Relations Act) any more than they have accepted the UFW (United Farm Workers Union)," John F. Henning, the California AFL-CIO's executive officer, said.

SB 50 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Industrial Relations Committee chaired by Senator Bill Greene (D-L.A.) on Wednesday, February 25.

Other committee members include: John Schmidt (R-Newport Beach); Dan Boatwright (D-Concord); Alex P. Garcia (D-L.A.); Ray Johnson (R-Redding); Joseph Montoya (D-Rosemead); and Newton R. Russell (R-Glendale).

Organizing of Retired Union Members Vital, Patton Says

Retired union members can play an effective and forceful role in forcing action on community issues that affect retired trade unionists and workers alike but in many communities they need to be organized, James G. Patton, director of the California Labor Federation's Retired Members Department, emphasized in a recent address to the Stanislaus and Tuolumne Counties Central Labor Council's Labor League lunch in Stockton.

"You always need someone to keep track of the Board of Supervisors. This is a job the senior citizens could do very well," said Patton, who served as president of the National Farmers Union for 26 years.

Patton suggested that the Labor Council set up a senior citizens FORUM (Federation of Retired Union Members), to aid the council in its efforts to protect and improve the economic and social conditions of all trade unionists, working or retired.

Establishment of a FORUM by the Council would "add a great deal of prestige and provide a power base," Patton, the son of an itinerant farmer who had him passing out union pamphlets at organizing meetings as a boy, said.

He also pointed out that the FORUMs can play an important role in the educational and lobbying efforts needed to win enactment of an effective and comprehensive national health insurance program because "they have been through the mill and know the need for it more personally than many younger workers."

Rejecting the claim that a national health care insurance plan

would be "too expensive" Patton observed:

"We can put \$450 million into a company such as Chrysler and yet grouse about meeting the needs of senior citizens.

"We don't need to be bailed out, we just need to be paid for what we've done all our lives," Patton declared.

In the course of his leadership of the National Farmers Union, Patton developed it from an organization with 78,000 members and a \$25,000 annual budget to a 750,000-member organization with 416 employees and a \$2.6 million budget headquartered in Denver with offices in Washington, D.C., as well.

Patton was appointed to a number of boards and commissions by Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson and served as chairman of the Committee for Adoption of the Full Employment Act (of 1946).

Among other things, he served as a consultant to the United Nations' Second World Conference on Land Reform and was a member of the Consumers Panel of the Johnson Administration's Health Manpower Commission.

He is currently associated with the National Council of Senior Citizens and is a member of the board of directors of the American Freedom from Hunger Foundation. He also serves on the Advisory Council of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Fed Council to Join Tribute To Furuseth & Lundeborg

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and recess later that morning to attend the rededication ceremonies that will involve the placement of two new polished granite plaques on the statues of Furuseth and Lundeborg which stand on either side of the entrance to the union's headquarters, John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, said.

The Furuseth plaque, which will replace an inscription in concrete that time and weather have made illegible, will read:

"You can put me in jail. But you cannot give me narrower quarters than as a seaman I have always had. You cannot give me coarser food than I have always eaten. You cannot make me lonelier than I have always been."

—Andrew Furuseth
1854 - 1938

Emancipator of seamen.

Erected by

Sailors Union of the Pacific
Dedicated September 1, 1941.

The Lundeborg plaque, which

will replace a similar worn inscription, reads:

HARRY LUNDEBERG
1901-1957

He was indeed a man who crowded into a short life no glittering promise but unselfish service and general achievement for the cause he called his own.

Erected by

Sailors Union of the Pacific
Dedicated January 28, 1958.

Paul Dempster, president of the SUP and a vice president of the California AFL-CIO, said that parking spaces would be reserved for executive council members in the rear of the building for those driving to the meeting.

The SUP plans to host a luncheon for the executive council at the Apostleship of the Sea following the rededication ceremonies.



Labor Vows Battle Against Attempts to Weaken OSHA

The AFL-CIO regards the Occupational Safety and Health Act as an "indispensable" worker protection and will vigorously oppose any attempts to weaken it," AFL-CIO legislative director Ray Denison, has declared.

Denison's strong defense of OSHA came in response to a query from Congressman Mario Biaggi (D-N.Y.), who is soliciting union views on the effectiveness of OSHA and on legislation that would permanently exempt establishments with 10 or fewer workers in supposedly less hazardous industries from OSHA safety inspections in the absence of a "reasonable complaint" or serious accident.

A similar restriction is currently in effect through an appropriations bill rider.

In commenting on OSHA's enforcement, Denison said that it

Farm Workers' Union Racks Up 32 Victories

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369 for "no union" in secret ballot elections conducted by the Agricultural Labor Relations Board at ranches employing more than 3,500 workers during the harvest season, Brown noted.

The votes at a number of the ranches, he said, clearly demonstrated the appeal of the United Farm Workers Union: at Vessey, the vote was 128 to 4; at Christopher it was 188 to 5; Castle, 122 to 61; Gubser, 116 to 9; Sansing, 133 to 8; Rossi, 33 to 0; and Alpine, 23 to 0.

has been vastly improved over the past four years because it has been administered "by a Labor Department that believes in the law and tries to make it work."

For the first time, workers and their unions have been consulted on the administration and enforcement of the law, he said.

Further, OSHA helped fund programs to train union members "in assessing and dealing with job hazards" and they, in turn, have trained others, he said.

Long-delayed health and safety standards have been issued, he noted, hazardous areas have been identified, and serious injuries have been reduced in targeted areas.

The so-called small business exemption is mere camouflage for "an all-out attack" on the job safety law, he warned.

The original intent of Congress was to protect all workers from occupational hazards, "not merely some categories defined by occupation, or the number of employees at a work place, or in an arbitrary determination that some work places are more hazardous than others," he said.

U.S. unions, he pointed out, were united in their opposition to a bill introduced in the last Congress by former Senator Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), now Secretary of Health and Human Services in the Reagan cabinet, to exempt establishments with acceptable safety records, regardless of size.

Forty-one percent of work place deaths came in these supposedly safe establishments, Denison

pointed out.

"OSHA's existence and strong implementation has meant the difference between life and death for thousands of U.S. working men and women," he said. "We want to keep the law intact," he declared.

High Court OKs State Employees' Wage Increase

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year period to the \$207 million pay boost.

Denial of the accrued interest suit was "without prejudice," meaning that the suit could be initiated again in a lower court.

Howard Jarvis, who sued State Controller Ken Cory to bar the \$207 million pay hike to state employees who had been denied any wage increase for two years, said he may appeal the issue to the federal courts.

The State Controller's office said this week that about \$167 million of the retroactive pay has already been dispensed and that the remaining \$40 million will be paid out early in March.

Chief Justice Rose Bird and Justice Mathew Tobriner disqualified themselves from the case. State Appellate Court Justices Gordon Files and Gerald Brown replaced them in considering the case.

**Protect Your Job:
Look for Union Label**

Brown Opposes Labor Bill for Split Roll on Property Taxes

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set up phone banks in Hannigan's district to turn his constituents against him — would generate an estimated \$750 million in its first year to help ease the financial crunch of local and county governments and supplement the state's dwindling revenue sources.

It would require all residential, agricultural and rental property, including property sold after Prop. 13 was passed in 1978, to be assessed at 1975-76 levels. Properties built since 1975 would be assessed as if they had been constructed in 1975 and then two percent per year in increased assessments would be added up to their construction date.

The measure, which would save California property owners an estimated \$1.7 billion, is aimed at ending the imbalance created by

Proposition 13 which requires property to be reassessed upward when sold.

Since businesses like Standard Oil and PG&E sell their properties far less frequently than homeowners, Prop. 13 has meant that a higher and higher share of the property tax burden is being shifted over to homeowners while the tax burden on business and commercial properties has eased.

ACA 22 would raise the assessment of all business and commercial properties immediately to full market value and increase the tax rate from one percent to 1.35 percent. Each year thereafter the tax rate on commercial and business property would be allowed to rise .05 percent until 1989 when it would cap out at 1.75 percent.

Labor's Legislative Parley Set in Sacramento April 6-8

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measures affecting workers rights and consult with state legislators on a wide range of issues of importance to workers both as trade unionists and as consumers, John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, said.

He urged all local unions and councils to be adequately represented at the conference.

Delegates' credentials for the conference were sent to all Federation affiliates last week. The duplicate credential should be returned to the Federation's San Francisco headquarters as soon as possible.

All credentials must be accompanied by a registration fee of \$25

per delegate, which includes the cost of a dinner on Tuesday evening, April 7.

The Woodlake Hotel has set aside a block of rooms to accommodate delegates. Rates are \$31 and \$37 single or \$37 and \$43 double. All reservations should be made directly with the hotel.

Reservations should be made as soon as possible, however, since they are handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Further information and additional credentials may be obtained by writing to: The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 995 Market St., Suite 310, San Francisco, Ca. 94103 or by phoning (415) 986-3585.

THE CALIFORNIA AFL-CIO's DIGEST OF BILLS

The measures below introduced in the 1981-82 regular session of the California Legislature are classified by the California Labor Federation as "Good," "Bad," or "Watch†". An asterisk (*) indicates a bill sponsored by the California Labor Federation. A "Watch†" designation indicates that the Federation will defer to the wishes of affected affiliates on the ultimate classification of the bill. Such bills are printed in the digest to inform affiliates involved. No bill may be taken up until 30 days after the date of introduction indicated in the digest, except by a three-quarters vote. When the abbreviation (H.A.D.) appears in the digest following the author's name, it means that the measure has been held at the Speaker's desk in the House of origin and has not yet been assigned to a committee.

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 65 — Rosenthal (L. E. & C. A.) — Under existing law, a grocery store or grocery department which uses an automatic checkout system and which sells consumer commodities at retail is not required, after January 1, 1980, to have a clearly readable price indicated on each consumer commodity offered for sale.

This bill would reinstate the requirement, to be effective for an indefinite period of time: December 2, 1980. **Consumers—Good**

AB 70 — Young (Crim. J.) — Existing law regulates the use, handling, transport, and disposal of hazardous wastes. Existing law makes initial violations of these provisions a misdemeanor of specified penalties and provides for increased penalties for a second or subsequent conviction.

This bill would make any person who willfully and knowingly disposes of hazardous waste at an unauthorized site guilty of a felony. . . . December 2, 1980. **Environment—Good**

AB 77 — N. Waters (Agri.) — Under the California Environmental Quality Act, all public agencies, state and local, are, generally, required to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on any discretionary project they propose to carry out or approve which may result in a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in the environment.

This bill would exempt any action or activity governed by specified provisions of the Food and Agricultural Code relating, generally, to pesticides from the requirements of the act. . . .

The bill would . . . do the following:

(a) Make legislative findings regarding the importance of pesticide use to California agriculture and the advisability of environmental review of such use.

(b) Make legislative declarations regarding environmental review of the pesticide regulatory program by means of existing law.

(c) Specify procedures and requirements to be included in the pesticide regulatory program. . . . December 2, 1980.

Ecology—Bad

AB 80 — Rogers (Rev. & Tax.) — Under the existing Inheritance Tax Law and Gift Tax Law, a tax is imposed on the transfer of property as specified. If the tax imposed on transfers under the Inheritance Tax Law is less than the credit authorized under federal estate tax law for state death taxes, there is imposed an additional inheritance tax equal to the difference between the federal tax credit and the state inheritance tax.

This bill would repeal the existing Inheritance Tax Law and Gift Tax Law and would prohibit the imposition by the state or local agency of a tax on transfers due to death, except as specified, and would impose a state estate tax on the estate of any decedent

KEY TO SENATE ABBREVIATIONS

Committee Abbreviations	Committee
(Agr. & Wat. Res.)	Agriculture and Water Resources
(B. & C.)	Banking and Commerce
(B. & P.)	Business and Professions
(C.A.)	Constitutional Amendments
(Ed.)	Education
(E. & R.)	Elections and Reapportionment
(E. & P.U.)	Energy and Public Utilities
(Fin.)	Finance
(G.O.)	Governmental Organization
(H. & W.)	Health and Welfare
(I.R.)	Industrial Relations
(I. & I.)	Insurance and Indemnity
(Jud.)	Judiciary
(L. Gov.)	Local Government
(N.R. & W.)	Natural Resources and Wildlife
(P.E. & R.)	Public Employment and Retirement
(Rev. & Tax.)	Revenue and Taxation
(Ris.)	Rules
(Trans.)	Transportation

KEY TO ASSEMBLY ABBREVIATIONS

Committee Abbreviations	Committee
(Aging)	Aging
(Agri.)	Agriculture
(B. & P.)	Business and Professions
(C.A.)	Constitutional Amendments
(C. P. & T. M.)	Consumer Protection and Toxic Materials
(Crim. J.)	Criminal Justice
(Econ. D. & P.)	Economic Development and Planning
(Ed.)	Education
(Elec. & Reap.)	Elections and Reapportionment
(E. & N. R.)	Energy and Natural Resources
(F., I., & C.)	Finance, Insurance, and Commerce
(G.O.)	Governmental Organization
(Health)	Health
(H. & C.D.)	Housing and Community Development
(Human S.)	Human Services
(Jud.)	Judiciary
(L. & E.)	Labor and Employment
(L. Gov.)	Local Government
(P.E. & Ret.)	Public Employees and Retirement
(Rev. & Tax.)	Revenue and Taxation
(Ris.)	Rules
(Trans.)	Transportation
(U. & E.)	Utilities and Energy
(W.P., & W.)	Water, Parks, and Wildlife
(W. & M.)	Ways and Means

ASSEMBLY BILLS (Cont'd)

dying on or after the effective date of this act which is equal to the federal estate tax credit for state death taxes if a federal estate tax is payable, to be administered by the Controller, as specified.

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy. December 3, 1980. **Taxes—Bad**

AB 98 — Harris (L., E., & C. A.) — Existing law makes it a misdemeanor for an employer to forbid or prevent employees from participating in politics or to control or direct the political activities or affiliations of employees.

This bill would make it a misdemeanor for an employer to interfere with, restrain, or coerce employees with respect to their communications to public officials. . . . December 4, 1980. **Civil Rights—Good**

AB 103 — Robinson (L., E., & C. A.) — Existing law requires the Commission of Housing and Community Development to adopt fire safety and fire-resistance standards relating to the manufacture, composition, and use of foam building systems. . . .

This bill would provide for regulation of the sale or installation of urea formaldehyde foam insulation, as defined, on or after January 1, 1982, in residential or commercial structures, as defined. The bill would specify the requirements for installers and manufacturers, including licensing for installations and for the maximum formaldehyde emission from, and concentrations caused by, such insulation.

The bill would also require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to ascertain whether installations of urea formaldehyde foam insulation cause consumer problems, as defined, from emissions of formaldehyde from such insulation. The bill would provide the procedure for the commission to order remedial action for such consumer problems. . . . December 4, 1980. **Consumers—Good**

AB 104 — Robinson (Fin., Ins., & Com.) . . . This bill would prohibit the registration or renewal of registration of any vehicle unless the owner satisfies the Department of Motor Vehicles that he or she has in force one of specified forms of financial responsibility. The bill would require the owner of a vehicle applying for registration to furnish the department the name and address of his or her insurance or surety company and the number of the insurance policy or surety bond, as the case may be.

This bill would require the department to suspend the registration . . . and license plates of any vehicle whenever it is established that the owner of the vehicle does not have in force, for such vehicle, one of the forms of financial responsibility or that neither the owner nor the lessee has provided financial responsibility information. Such suspension would remain in effect until the owner establishes that he or she has in force, for such vehicle, one of the forms of financial responsibility. . . .

The bill also requires every person who operates a vehicle registered in this state to carry, at all times, evidence of financial responsibility. The department with the assistance of the Insurance Commissioner would be required to determine what constitutes evidence of financial responsibility. . . .

The bill would require the operator of any motor vehicle to present evidence of financial responsibility for examination upon demand of a peace officer enforcing the provisions of the Vehicle Code. . . . December 4, 1980. **Automobile Insurance—Watch**

AB 105 — Lockyer (P. E. & Ret.) — Existing law expressly prohibits firefighters from striking but there is no similar express statutory prohibition for other public employees. The courts have generally held that in the absence of legislative authorization public employees do not have the right to strike. Certain statutory provisions relating to transit district employees have been construed by the courts as permitting lawful strikes by such employees.

This bill would authorize the Governor, after specified investigation, to direct the Attorney General to petition in court for an injunction against a strike or lockout for 60 days where the strike or lockout would significantly disrupt public transportation services and endanger the public's health, safety, or welfare. At the end of the 60-day period and upon receipt of a specified investigation report, the Governor could require the parties to engage in last-best-offer arbitration which will result in a final, binding agreement. . . . December 4, 1980. **Public Employees—Bad**

AB 106 — Lockyer (L. Gov.) — Existing law provides that when building permits are required by cities and counties, whether chartered or general law, that a specified notice containing, among other things, certain information regarding the conditions under which an applicant may be deemed to be an employer, and an owner-builder verification form, be provided to the applicant. One provision of existing law requires that the notice and form be mailed to the applicant while another permits the city or county to give the notice and form to the applicant at the time he or she applies for the building permit. . . .

This bill would clarify the law by deleting the provision which requires the city or county to mail the notice and form to the applicant, would revise the statement of conditions in the notice under which an applicant may be found to be an employer, and would require the applicant to respond to a statement on the owner-builder verification form that he or she will or will not employ or otherwise engage for compensation any other person in constructing the proposed improvement. December 4, 1980.

State and Local Government—Watch

AB 107 — Lockyer (L., E., & C. A.) — No provision of existing law prohibits the Director of Consumer Affairs from granting continuing education credits for a course designed in whole or in part to teach skills or practices for the prevention of a collective bargaining agreement or the decertification of a collective bargaining unit. This bill would enact such prohibition. December 4, 1980.

Miscellaneous—Good

AB 113 — Frazee (H. & C. D.) — The California Coastal Act of 1976, generally, provides for the planning of and regulation of development under coastal development permit process within the coastal zone, as defined, which shall be based on various coastal resources planning and management policies set forth in the act.

The act requires a coastal development permit or any development or action approved on appeal, pursuant to designated provisions, to be subject to reasonable terms and conditions to ensure that such development or action will be in accordance with the act.

This bill would provide that no such permit nor any development nor action shall be conditioned upon, or subject to, any housing qualification or requirement, if a local government has adopted a housing element under a designated provision of state law. December 8, 1980. **Housing—Bad**

AB 116 — McAlister (Elec. & Reap.) — Existing law provides that the presidential primary election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June of each even-numbered year divisible by 4 and the direct primary election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June of each even-numbered year.

This bill would change the date of the presidential primary to the second Tuesday in April of each even-numbered year divisible by 4, and the date of the direct primary election to the second Tuesday in September of each even-numbered year. . . . December 8, 1980. **Elections—Watch**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

SCR 1 — Ayala (Rls.) — This measure would declare that it is the sense of the Legislature that annual cost-of-living increases provided for under state law for recipients of the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment program should not be reduced. December 1, 1980. **Welfare—Good**

SCR 6 — Greene (Rls.) — This measure directs the Office of State-wide Health Planning and Development to temporarily halt public hearings and the development and preparation of the master plan for services to California children and youth so that the Legislature may examine whether the direction, scope, and manner of the preparation of the plan is in compliance with law. December 4, 1980. **Youth—Watch**

SCR 9 — Speraw (Rls.) — Under the current Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly any standing committee may pass a bill out of committee by a majority of those present and voting, a quorum being present.

This measure would require a two-thirds vote of the membership of a fiscal committee of either house for passage of a bill from the fiscal committee, if the bill would require a two-thirds vote of each house for final passage. December 17, 1980.

Miscellaneous—Bad