



EDITORIAL

Graveyard Economics

The Reagan Recession is looking more and more like the Great Depression. A few examples:

1. It was revealed this week that the giant Safeway food chain is closing 47 of its supermarkets in Nebraska and shutting down an additional 13 in Iowa. This is the so-called heartland of U.S. conservatism.

2. General Motors this week announced closure of four more plants. This time in Michigan, New Jersey and Ohio. The midwest closings followed almost immediately upon announcements of G.M.'s California closings in South Gate and Fremont.

3. Also this week General Electric announced it would close its plant in Ontario in San Bernardino County as the first of other planned shutdowns. This will make a total of 143,000 G.E. workers on indefinite layoff.

4. Soon to be announced reports from Ford and Chrysler are expected to exceed the 248,000 indefinite layoff figure of August 1981.

5. National automobile production this year is 35.3 percent below 1981, according to Ward's Automobile Reports.

6. National housing starts in January were 55 percent below the 1981 figure, the Department of Commerce has announced.

The resultant collapse of worker purchasing power has created inevitable inventory surpluses that have lowered the rate of inflation. Unemployment and deflation were the Disaster Twins of the Great Depression.

Cheering for Reagan's inflation control is akin to mortuary boasts of increasing business. America needs a president.

Saxon Hits Reagan's Student Aid Cuts as 'Catastrophic'

David S. Saxon, president of the nine-campus University of California, has charged that the Reagan Administration's public statements in support of scientific research and the Reagan budget that would slash federal student aid by 75 percent by 1984 are "fundamentally inconsistent" and will be "catastrophic" both for hard-pressed students and the nation at large.

Speaking at a meeting of the UC Board of Regents in San Francisco last Friday, Saxon noted that the University received about \$130 million in federal student aid in 1980-81.

"By 1984, changes already adopted or proposed for these programs would decrease this sum by more than 75 percent

from \$130 million to \$30 million, a decline which can fairly be described as catastrophic," he said.

Saxon pointed out that students have not yet felt the effect of these cuts in the current academic year because these programs are forward funded — that is, the fiscal year 1982 appropriations apply to the 1982-83 academic year.

Noting that George Keyworth, Reagan's science advisor, has "explicitly stated that the Administration is committed to support basic science and, further, that the support of scientific and academic research to sustain our national capacity and to overcome serious obsolescence in

(Continued on Page 2)

Housing Starts in Calif. Drop To Lowest Level in Over 20 Years

California suffered its lowest number of housing starts in more than 20 years in 1981, according to a report released Tuesday by the Bank of America.

Total housing starts in the state last year were pegged at 94,491 units, or 27.5 percent below the total of 130,300 in 1930.

The lowest number of housing units constructed between 1961 and 1980 came in 1966 when 105,180 units were constructed.

For the month of December 1981, the report said, new housing starts in California were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of

66,000 units, representing a 32 percent increase from the previous month but 52 percent below the level for December 1980.

Nationally, new starts on all types of housing construction declined to an annual rate of 894,000 units, according to the U.S. Commerce Department.

This marked the sixth consecutive month that housing starts were below the 1 million mark.

In January 1981, housing starts were at annual rate of 1.6 million.

According to a new report just issued by the Association of Bay

(Continued on Page 2)

Waters Introduces Fed's Bill to Curb Plant Closures

Legislation to curb the disruptive economic and social impact of sudden plant closures on workers and communities alike by requiring wage compensation and up to 20 months advance notice of such actions from businesses employing 50 or more workers was introduced yesterday by Assemblywoman Maxine Waters (D-L.A.).

The measure, AB 2839, sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and known as the Employment Stabilization Act of 1982, includes provisions to assure income maintenance benefits for affected workers equal to 85 percent of their average wage in the year preceding the reduction or shutdown as well as permanent preference in hiring at the firm's other workplaces in California without loss of seniority, vacation benefits or health, welfare and pension benefits.

"With plant shutdowns and workforce reductions approaching epidemic proportions, California must take the lead in insuring that employees and their communities receive advance notification, compensation, public services and technical assistance to minimize or avert the economic and social upheavals resulting from plant closures," Waters said.

"We can no longer ignore the grave consequences of corporate decisions," she declared.

The legislation would also provide compensation to affected communities for lost taxes and require employers planning a shutdown to make a "good faith" offer of sale of the firm to community organizations.

The legislation would require a business planning a reduction in

operations to provide written notice to all affected employees, their union, local elected officials, the Department of Industrial Relations and the Governor's office. "Employees and local commu-

nities have a vital stake in major businesses which must be protected from the unilateral decisions of corporate officials," John F. Henning, executive officer of the

(Continued on Page 4)

Demand Rising for Action To Control Plant Shutdowns

The need for legislation to protect workers and local communities from massive layoffs and plant closures was underscored this week when more than 200 workers turned out at a General Electric plant in Oakland to protest the closure of a G.E. plant in Ontario in San Bernardino County and other planned G. E. plant shutdowns and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted to join Fremont Mayor Leon Metzetti in protesting General Motors' plans to shut down its Fremont auto assembly plant on March 6.

Newton Kamakami, financial secretary of U. A. W. Local 1364, pointed out that the pending closure of the Fremont G. M. plant

has already started to reverberate throughout the plant's 1,400 suppliers and said that a number of local firms that hold G. M. contracts have already announced a number of layoffs.

The U. A. W. Local has scheduled another demonstration to protest the closure of the G. M. plant in Fremont for 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 1 at the U. A. W. Hall directly across the street from the G. M. plant on Fremont Blvd., he said.

"Keep General Motors Open and Stop Plant Closings," he urged.

Major legislation sponsored by the California AFL-CIO to reduce

(Continued on Page 4)

Ford Workers in Milpitas & Richmond OK UAW Pact

Auto workers at the Ford Motor Co. assembly plant in Milpitas gave overwhelming approval to a national contract that calls for a pay freeze and reduced benefits in exchange for a 24-month moratorium on plant closings and contract language guaranteeing job security.

"The economy is such that we had to make some concessions," Jesse Contreras, bargaining chair-

man for Local 560 of the United Auto Workers Union, said.

"Let's face it. We have to be realistic. We're in the middle of an economic depression," he declared.

Contreras said that the Local's members voted 92.8 percent in favor of ratification.

Workers at a Ford parts plant in Richmond approved the con-

(Continued on Page 4)

Unions Acting to Win Spot On Ballot for Split Roll Tax

Mounting support for the California AFL-CIO's call for help in gathering the signatures needed to place a split roll property tax initiative on the November 1982 ballot was evidenced by reports coming into the Federation's San Francisco headquarters this week.

Loretta Mahoney, secretary-treasurer of the California State Council of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel/Motel Service Employees, has appealed to all California members of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union

"to get involved in obtaining signatures to this most important initiative."

"We must help bring California closer to a more equitable system of tax justice," she said.

The measure would cut taxes on residential and agricultural property purchased after 1978 and provide a net revenue increase of about \$1.2 billion to hard-pressed local governments throughout the state.

It would also increase the minimum renters' tax credit to \$100 for single people and \$200 for

couples.

The measure is needed to correct flaws in Proposition 13 that now oblige owners of residential and farm property purchased after 1978 to pay up to twice as much or more in property taxes than those who purchased their property before 1978.

Existing Prop. 13 property tax limits on all residential and agricultural property would be retained. Moreover 50 percent of the increase in the value base on

(Continued on Page 2)

State Farm Insurance Office In Rohnert Park on Unfair List

The State Farm Insurance Company's regional office on State Farm Drive in Rohnert Park in Sonoma County has been placed on the California AFL-CIO's "We Don't Patronize" list.

The action, approved by the Executive Council of the California Labor Federation which represents the state's 1.8 million AFL-CIO union members, was taken at the request of Local 87 of the S.E.I.U.

It means that all union members and friends of organized labor are urged to avoid patronizing the firm.

Robert C. Parr, president of Local 87, said that the management at the State Farm Insurance office has removed union janitors and gone non-union.

The action has the support of the Central Labor Council of Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake Counties.

Fed Digest of Bills Starts In This Issue

The California Labor Federation's Digest of Bills of interest to Federation affiliates during the 1982 legislative session begins with this issue of the California AFL-CIO News.

The Digest is printed in a manner to allow affiliates to clip it from each issue and maintain a file of the bills for ready reference. See Pages 3 and 4.

Unions Acting to Win Spot On Ballot for Split Roll Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

change of ownership on residential property sold since Prop. 13 went into effect would be exempt from taxation so long as it is occupied by the new owner.

A similar call to action in behalf of the split roll initiative has been issued by J.L. (Jim) Evans, state legislative director of the United Transportation Union.

Evans has urged all California legislative representatives and

secretaries of UTU Locals to circulate initiative petitions and mail them to: **Taxpayers for California, 1228 1/2 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814** as soon as possible.

The initiative campaign seeks to gather 800,000 signatures by May 1.

The split roll initiative is aimed at reducing the enormous windfall property tax savings garnered by giant oil, gas and other commercial enterprises as a re-

sult of the enactment of Prop. 13 in 1978.

It would remove the limit on the annual increase in the value base on all non-residential and non-agricultural property and raise the maximum tax rate on such properties by one-third of one percent to one and one-third percent.

In addition to the net revenue increase of \$1.2 billion for local governments, the measure would save the state's general fund about \$400 million in 1983-84 and more in later years, according to the state's Legislative Analyst and the State Director of Finance.

Anyone wishing to help with the signature gathering campaign should phone Taxpayers for California at (916) 446-0145 to order copies of the petition.

Building Trades Act to Tap Pension Funds to Spur Jobs

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. has announced a program to place some \$500 million of union-negotiated pension funds in job-creating investments.

Dept. President Robert A. Georgine said the money would come from the various local, regional and national pension funds of the 15 building trades unions.

There are about 10,000 building trades locals spread throughout the United States, and multi-employer pension plans in the construction industry have about \$50 billion in assets, Georgine estimated.

He said about \$4 to \$5 billion is being added to these funds each year.

The stimulation of construction activity, both residential and commercial, through the use of union pension funds is a self-help

approach to an industry where the unemployment rate is 18 percent or more nationally and even higher in many areas of the country.

The new program will try to achieve its objectives, Georgine said, by making available coordinated investment opportunities.

These will be presented at a series of two-day pension investment expositions to be held regionally, bringing together management and union trustees and their legal counsel. They would hear presentations from the sponsors of job-creating investment vehicles.

Large local trust funds could undertake projects by themselves. Georgine noted, while the pooling of investments would be appropriate for smaller funds. He said the program would operate within the framework of federal regulations.

Action to Revitalize U.S. Merchant Marine Urged

The need for government action to revitalize the U.S. merchant fleet was the dominant theme at the winter meeting of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept.'s executive board in Bal Harbour, Fla., last week.

Some 200 representatives of MTD affiliated unions approved a program putting special emphasis on port development to handle burgeoning coal exports and other dry-bulk cargoes and legislation to assure a fair share of these cargoes for U.S.-flag ships.

The program was outlined in 26 statements adopted by the board and in reports of the department's officers; President Frank Drozak, Vice President Stephen J. Leslie and Executive Sec.-Treas. Jean Ingrao.

Drozak announced that in the months ahead the MTD will sponsor a series of one-day seminars on port development in the nation's major port cities, bringing together representatives of labor, business and industry, and state and local governments.

"These forums will address the need for port development legislation to enhance the capability of the United States to compete successfully in the expanding dry bulk trades," Drozak said.

He called on the Reagan Administration to support an amendment to pending legislation on port development to require bilateral shipping agreements assuring an equitable division of cargo carriage between the U.S. and its trading partners.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, in an address to the board, observed that "the government—year in and year out—has been long on promise and short on performance" in its approach to the merchant marine.

Instead of redeeming his cam-

paign pledge of a seven-point program to rebuild the U.S.-flag commercial fleet, President Reagan and his Administration are planning sharp cutbacks in operating subsidies to the liner trade — "which could lead to the beaching of what is left" of those ships, Kirkland said.

"What the American maritime industry lacks," Kirkland said, "is what all other maritime countries possess — a keen and constant attention by the government to the role of shipping in relation to their own economies and their own national security."

Kirkland said the comparison of the U.S. merchant fleet with those of the Soviet Union and Japan is "shocking." Over the past decade, he noted the Soviet merchant fleet has doubled in size and carries about half that country's commerce, while Japan's fleet has grown by 50 percent and carries more than 40 percent of its foreign commerce.

"Japan has tonnage which is three times that of the United States to transport a trade that's only half the size of ours," Kirkland pointed out.

He cited the decline of the U.S. merchant fleet from nearly 25 million gross registered tons in 1960 to about 17 million tons today, carrying "a dismal 3.6 percent" of U.S. foreign commerce.

The potential for restoring the merchant marine as a major arm of American commerce and national security, Kirkland suggested, lies in achieving a fair share of the bulk trades, particularly the international coal trade.

He pointed out that the United States has enough coal reserves "to make us more than a match for the OPEC nations" in an energy hungry world.

McEntee Elected New AFL-CIO Vice President

Gerald W. McEntee, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), was elected an AFL-CIO vice president at the Executive Council's winter meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla.

His election fills the council vacancy left by the death last December of AFL-CIO Vice President Jerry Wurf, who was McEntee's predecessor as president of the million-member public employee union.

McEntee, 46, had been elected president of AFSCME by the union's executive board for the remainder of Wurf's term, which is up in mid-1984.

At the time of his election, McEntee was executive director of the union's 75,000 member Council 13 in Harrisburg, Pa., a post he had held since 1973.

Six-State CWA Parley to Focus on AT&T Divestiture

The impact of the divestiture agreement reached by AT&T and the Justice Department on communications workers in six western states will be discussed by Glenn E. Watts, president of the AFL-CIO Communications Workers of America, at a conference at the MGM Grand Hotel in Reno on March 3.

The CWA has already called on AT&T immediately to renegotiate a successor provision in the current collective bargaining contract to address the effects of divestiture, Watts said in a recent radio interview.

Representatives from more than 65 CWA local unions in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Hawaii are expected to take part in the conference which will focus on the CWA's bargaining stance in upcoming negotiations.

"This year's conference takes place at a time when unemployment is at its highest level since 1939 and the present administration in Washington is making an all out effort to dismantle programs that affect the lives of workers and the American poor," a CWA release announcing the conference said.

"We in the CWA are a vital part of the history of the trade union movement and our efforts will be aimed toward turning the economy around to assure a decent standard of living for all Americans," it said.

GOP Outspent Demos 5 to 1 In 1980 Election Campaigns

The Republican Party outspent the Democratic Party by nearly a 5 to 1 margin in the 1980 elections, according to a report just released by the Federal Election Commission, which also documents the enormous growth of New Right Political Action Committees.

The report said that Republican national, state and local committees, which started with \$2 million in cash on hand, raised \$161.2 million and spent \$170.4 million.

In contrast, the Democrats started with \$700,000, raised \$37 million and spent \$35 million.

The report, which covers contributions and expenditures between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1980, found that Political Action Committees spent a record total of \$131 million.

Six of the 10 biggest PACs were conservative New Right organizations.

The biggest PAC was the National Congressional Club controlled by Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), which raised \$7.9 million. It also spent more than any other PAC, laying out \$4.6 million for Ronald Reagan's presidential campaign.

In second place was the National Conservative Political Action Committee which spent \$3.2 million, a large chunk of which was used in a negative advertising campaign targeted to defeat liberal senators.

During the 1977-78 campaign Democratic Committees spent \$26.9 million while Republicans spent \$85.9 million or more than three times as much.

Saxon Hits Reagan's Student Aid Cuts as 'Catastrophic'

(Continued from Page 1)

equipment and facilities is an important investment in the future," Saxon said.

"At the same time, however, the Administration is clearly and deliberately set on reducing federal support of higher education in the form of student assistance and other science education programs. These two courses of action seem to me fundamentally inconsistent.

"It does not make sense to acknowledge the important role science plays in our national well-being while at the same time reducing support that enables students to attend college, and particularly to continue their studies as graduate students," Saxon said.

By fiscal year 1983, Saxon noted, the Reagan budget proposes to totally eliminate the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) and National Direct Student Loans (NDSL) and to cut the College Work Study (CWS) program by 30 percent, he said.

Moreover, he emphasized, graduate students will no longer be eligible for Guaranteed Student Loans, regardless of need, effective this year.

Instead, Saxon explained, they will be eligible for a much more expensive Auxiliary Loan program that has yet to be accepted

by the banks.

The cost of the loans has already increased because of a five percent loan fee and proposals now call for doubling that fee to 10 percent.

Saxon said that one pattern that emerges clearly from the budget cuts of the Reagan Administration is that they call for large increases in funding for the Department of Defense but slash research funding for projects in the social sciences and humanities.

"What this means is that the University of California will find it much more difficult to maintain past levels of support to students with financial need, much less make increases for inflation," Saxon said.

U. S. Output Drops 5.2% In 4th Quarter

The nation's economy, mired in the depths of its second recession in two years, declined at an annual rate of 5.2 percent in the final three months of 1981, the Commerce Dept. has reported.

Gross national product — the total value of all goods and services — rose slightly over the quarter to a seasonally adjusted annual level of \$2.985 trillion in current dollars.

But the government said "real" GNP — expressed in 1972 dollars — totaled only \$1.496 trillion.

It was the economy's worst showing since a 9.9 percent plunge at the deepest point of the 1980 recession, and confirmed the belief that the current downturn accelerated rapidly during the October-December quarter. For all of 1981, inflation-adjusted GNP rose 1.9 percent, mostly due to an unusually sharp first-quarter gain of 8.6 percent.

Equal Pay

The Equal Pay Act of 1963, signed by the President on June 10, prohibited wage differentials based on sex for workers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. On July 1979, responsibility for the act was transferred from the Labor Department to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Housing Starts in Calif. Drop To Lowest Level in Over 20 Years

(Continued from Page 1)

Area Governments titled "Housing Needs Report," the San Francisco Bay Area alone will need nearly 217,000 more housing units by 1985.

Fred Napolitano, new president of the National Association of Homebuilders, commented on the depression in the housing industry saying:

"The housing industry is at rock bottom and it isn't going anywhere under present conditions and policies."

Asserting that the housing industry cannot be relied on to help

the nation out of the depression until some changes are made, he said:

"That's not possible until long term interest rates decline, the budget deficit is brought under control and the administration and Congress enact an emergency stimulus program and give housing a much needed shot in the arm."

The NAHB, he said, is now predicting that 1982 will produce only 1,073,000 housing starts. Last year the total was 1,103,000.

In contrast, in 1978 2.4 million housing units were constructed.

400 at Dinner Honoring Veteran S. F. Carpenters

More than 400 people turned out to honor veteran members of the Carpenters' Union — including one who's had his union card for 77 years — at a service awards dinner sponsored by San Francisco Carpenters' Local 483 last Friday.

Russ Pool, the Local's financial secretary and a lifelong member himself, recalled that when the Local was chartered on December 17, 1888, carpenters were earning just \$2.75 a day for nine hours of work with no fringe benefits.

Noting that union carpenters in San Francisco today earn about \$136 for an eight hour day and enjoy fringe benefits that include

complete medical protection, paid vacations and pension benefits, Pool said:

"The progress that we have made in the 94 years since our charter would make those founding members smile with pride."

Asserting that "the grand experiment in American trade unionism that began a century ago has been an unqualified success," Pool added:

"This is a proud and fitting legacy, one that must not be allowed to be forgotten in times of economic discomfort, in an age when unions are increasingly on the defensive both at the bargaining table and in the halls of our legislature."

Other featured speakers at the dinner included Anthony Ramos, executive officer of the State Council of Carpenters, and State Senator Milton Marks (R-S.F.).

Ramos emphasized that the honored guests at the dinner also deserve the thanks of their friends, neighbors and their community as a whole because, through their membership in the Carpenters' Union, they have contributed to the effectiveness of the labor movement, the only force that works for the welfare of all workers.

One of the highlights of the dinner was the presentation of a 77-year membership pin to Douglas L. Bruce of San Mateo.



77 YEARS IN CARPENTERS' UNION—Douglas L. Bruce, 95, of San Mateo, who has been a member of the Carpenters' Union for 77 years, expresses his pride in being a part of organized labor's on-going battle to protect and improve workers' living standards at a dinner honoring veteran members of San Francisco Carpenters Local 483. Grouped around Bruce are (from left) August Muru, president of the 94-year-old local; Russ Pool, the Local's financial secretary; and State Senator Milton Marks (R-S.F.).

February 26, 1982



A 75-YEAR PIN is placed on the lapel of Ernie Crowe of Carpenters' Local 36 of Oakland by Anthony Ramos, executive officer of the State Council of Carpenters, at a dinner in San Francisco honoring veteran Carpenters' union members. Looking on is Russ Pool, financial secretary of Local 483 and president of the Bay Counties District Council of Carpenters. Some 400 carpenters and their families and friends attended the event at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway on February 19.

Bruce, whose father died when he was five, leaving his mother with six children to care for, recalled that his oldest brother encouraged the younger boys to get into the building trades. Three subsequently became carpenters and one a plumber.

After the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, he said, his brother urged him and another brother to move to San Francisco because there was "a lot of rebuilding going on."

Bruce, who had become an apprentice carpenter in Brookline, Mass., in 1905, said:

"I brought my membership card with me and joined Local 483 of the Carpenters' Union. It has been a long time since I joined. The slogan at that time was 'United Brotherhood of Carpenters — United We Stand, Divided We Fall.'"

"I am pleased to have been a part of Labor's struggle to make wages more equal and life better

for American labor. I have watched the union raise the standards of the American home. They have helped make this a land of great opportunity with more money and freedom for all," he said.

Other veteran members of the Carpenters' Union honored included: Ernie Crowe of Carpenters' Local 36 of Oakland, who received a 75-year membership pin; George Ruetz and C. H. Davis, both of San Francisco 60-year pins; Carl Schilbred, of Coopers-town, N.D., Axel Matzer of San Francisco and Lyal Ingersoll of Eureka who received 55-year pins; and Eric Johnson of San Carlos who received a 50-year pin. Schilbred and Davis, however, were unable to attend the dinner.

Scores of others who have served the union for more than 25 years were also honored at the dinner held at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway in San Francisco.

Waters Introduces Fed's Bill to Curb Plant Closures

(Continued from Page 1)

California Labor Federation, said.

The bill would require the employer to list the reasons for the shutdown, estimate its duration, and describe the rights and benefits guaranteed to workers under collective bargaining agreements or the firm's personnel policies.

In addition, the legislation would require the Dept. of Industrial Relations to provide services to individuals and communities adversely affected by reductions in

operations, including training programs, relocation assistance and job search services.

Firms failing to provide notice of a planned reduction in operations would be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 for each affected employee.

Firms failing to provide notice of an unplanned reduction would be subject to fines of up to \$1,000 for each affected employee for each day such failure continues.

San Jose Dinner to Raise Funds To Organize the Unorganized

Daryl Anderson, better known as "Animal" on the "Lou Grant" TV show, will be a special guest at the first annual dinner dance to be held Friday, March 12 by the Santa Clara County Organizing Committee to raise funds to help organize the unorganized

workers in Santa Clara County.

Featured speakers at the event at the Italian Gardens at 1500 Almaden Road in San Jose will be: Jack Henning, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Jim Baker, the AFL-CIO's western regional director; Jimmy Lee, president of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California; and Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers union.

Tickets, at \$25 per person or \$150 for a table of six, may be ordered by writing to: Santa Clara County Organizing Committee, 2102 Almaden Road, Room 104, San Jose, CA 95125 (408) 264-6007 or 266-3790.

Serving as co-chairmen of the committee are: Joe Gadano of Laborers' Union Local 270, and Ron Lind, of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 428.

**DON'T BUY
COORS BEER**

Four Other States Weigh Calif.'s Athletes' Law

Bills similar to pioneering legislation sponsored by the California AFL-CIO and enacted last year to protect professional athletes in their dealings with their agents are now being considered by state legislatures in New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, Washington as well as Canada, according to the National Football League Players Association.

The California law, carried by Assemblyman Bill Lockyer, set up a program under the state Labor Commissioner's jurisdiction requiring the registration and regulation of independent athletes' agents in all professional sports.

The development of specific regulations, including the drafting of notice requirements and enforcement procedures, is expected to be completed before the National Football League Player draft begins on May 1.

The California law is similar to other California laws governing talent agencies in the entertainment industry. It empowers the state Labor Commissioner to investigate sports agents and to refuse to grant licenses or revoke an agent's license for cause.

The California law requires players' agents to provide samples of contracts, copies of fee schedules and to keep records of athlete clients and the amount of fees received from each.

John F. Henning, the California AFL-CIO's executive officer, said that the support of the NFLPA and its President Gene Upshaw was a major factor in winning enactment of the bill.

Demand Rising for Action To Control Plant Shutdowns

(Continued from Page 1)

the disruptive impact of abrupt plant closures or workforce reductions was introduced by Assemblywoman Maxine Waters (D-L.A.) yesterday. (See separate story on Page 1.)

The rally at the G.E. plant at 53rd and East 14th Street in Oakland Wednesday was held to heighten public awareness of the devastating impact that plant closure decisions dictated by multinational corporations are wreaking throughout California and to emphasize the need for legislation to curb it, Dick Groulx, executive officer of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, said.

Participants at the rally included representatives of Culinary Workers Local 50, Hospital Workers Local 250 of the SEIU, Paintmakers Local 1975, the Glass Bot-

tle Blowers Assn., the United Auto Workers Union and others.

In commenting on the General Motors plant closure, Willie Mays, president of U. A. W. Local 1364, noted that G. M. is terming it an indefinite layoff rather than a shutdown but pointed out that the company is already assembling railroad boxcars and trucks at the plant, apparently to move assembly equipment to other plants in the east.

John Scrempo, Local 1364's first vice president, noted that the G. M. plant's payroll totals about \$10.5 million each month and said that the loss of these paychecks will be felt by retailers and other businesses throughout the county.

"It is not just a battle by the union to save jobs but also a battle for you to save your communities," he stressed.

Ford Workers in Milpitas & Richmond OK UAW Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

tract by a vote of 101 to 7 on Monday.

The new 30-month contract will require the union to forego a previously negotiated 3 percent wage increase and cost-of-living increases of up to 60 cents an hour and eliminate nine annual floating holidays.

These measures are estimated to save the Ford Motor Co. as much as \$1 billion in labor costs over the next 30 months.

On the positive side, the contract includes a promise by Ford to supplement the union's unemployment fund with \$70 million and an additional three cents per

hour for each employee and other provisions limiting the practice of subcontracting work overseas and to non-union U.S. firms.

The Milpitas plant is one of 94 Ford facilities throughout the country where ratification votes were taking place this week.

The proposed contract also calls for the initiation of a profit-sharing plan next January and provides a lifetime income guarantee for workers with at least 15 years of seniority.

Acceptance or rejection of the contract will be determined by the total national vote which is expected to be tallied Sunday.

February 26, 1982

Publisher's Notice

The California AFL-CIO News (ISSN: 0008-0802) is published weekly except during the weeks of the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 995 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94103. Second class postage paid at San Francisco, Calif. — Subscription: \$3.50 a year. USPS Publication Number 083-400. John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer; Glenn Martin, editor. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: California AFL-CIO News, 995 Market St., Suite 310, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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

SPECIAL NOTES

AB 145, as amended in Assembly January 25, 1982—Hallett, printed in this week's Digest of Bills, was carried in the March 6, 1981 issue as originally introduced.

The rating of **AB 2089 — Baker**, published in the Digest of July 10, 1981, has been changed from "Watch†" to "Bad."

AB 145, as amended in Assembly January 25, 1982 — Hallett (Rev. & Tax.) — Existing law governing wage withholding by employers for tax purposes excludes wages paid for agricultural labor from the withholding requirement.

This bill would instead exclude wages paid to part-time or seasonal employees for certain agricultural labor in connection with seasonal agricultural crops, from the withholding requirement. December 12, 1980. **Taxes—Bad**

AB 2334 — Tucker (U. & E.) — . . . This bill would include muscular dystrophy patients among the specified classes of customers for whom the (Public Utilities Commission) is required to designate an increased lifeline allowance in consideration of their greater heating requirements. January 5, 1982. **Utilities—Good**

AB 2343 — Moorhead (L. & E.) — . . . This bill would require the (Industrial Welfare Commission) to take final action on any petition requesting a wage order amendment within 90 days and without appointing a wage board if the petition is filed by a trade association recognized in the industry affected by the wage order. January 6, 1982. **Labor Code—Bad**

AB 2344 — L. Stirling (P.E. & Ret.) — The Public Employees' Retirement Law presently: authorizes cost-of-living adjustments not to exceed 2% per year and, in addition, authorizes contracting agencies to elect to increase this adjustment to 5% per year; requires income earned on the retirement fund, in excess of the interest credited to contributions during the year, to be retained as a reserve against deficiencies in interest earned in other years, losses under investments, and other contingencies.

This bill would require the establishment of an undistributed earnings reserve; would require any reserve for deficiencies to revert on September 30 of each year to the undistributed earnings reserve; would require allocation of that reserve equally between annual supplemental retirement benefit payments and the payment of contributions to employer accounts for the sole purpose of reducing liabilities. January 6, 1982. **Public Employees—Watch†**

AB 2345 — L. Stirling (F., I. & C.) — The State Teachers' Retirement Law and the Public Employees' Retirement Law presently provide that

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
(Ins. & Ind.)	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
(Rls.)	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
(Rls.)	Rules
(Trans.)	Transportation
(U. & E.)	Utilities and Energy
(W.P., & W.)	Water, Parks, and Wildlife
(W. & M.)	Ways and Means

ASSEMBLY BILLS (Cont'd)

the control and investment of the Teachers' Retirement Fund and the Public Employees' Retirement Fund are exclusive to the respective boards.

This bill would require those boards to retain at least five separate investment companies, by contract, to invest the assets of those funds, as specified. January 6, 1982. **Public Employees—Watch†**

AB 2347 — Hughes (Ed.) — Under existing law, the Student Aid Commission administers a program of planning grants and pilot projects designed to increase the accessibility of postsecondary educational institutions to low-income students. Pilot projects are prohibited from continuing beyond June 30, 1983, without additional action by the Legislature. . . .

This bill would delete the provision prohibiting the pilot projects from continuing beyond June 30, 1983.

This bill would provide that the program be operative in any fiscal year only if the Budget Act for that year specifically appropriates funds for the program, as specified. The bill would prohibit the costs of administering the program by the Student Aid Commission from exceeding \$30,000 in any fiscal year. January 6, 1982. **Education—Good**

AB 2368 — Lockyer (Rev. & Tax.) — Under existing Personal Income Tax Law and Bank and Corporation Tax Law, no deductions are permitted to a taxpayer on any of the taxpayer's gross income directly derived from illegal activities as defined in specified state criminal statutes or derived from any other activities which directly tend to promote or to further, or are directly connected or associated with, those illegal activities.

This bill would provide for a similar prohibition against deductions applicable to any taxpayer convicted of deriving any of its gross income from illegal activities as defined in specified federal criminal statutes or additional state criminal statutes or any activities which directly tend to promote or to further, or are directly connected or associated with, those illegal activities. . . .

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy. January 11, 1982. **Taxes—Good**

AB 2370 — Frizzelle (L. & E.) — Existing law requires the body awarding any contract for public work to obtain from the Director of Industrial Relations the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the public work is to be performed, and to pay that amount to all workers employed on the public work.

This bill would permit the body awarding the contract for public work, if unsatisfied with the validity of the general prevailing rate of per diem wages obtained from the director, to conduct its own prevailing wage survey and determine the general prevailing rate of per diem wages to be used on the public work project.

This bill would also prohibit the use of wage survey data or a collective bargaining agreement obtained from either a metropolitan area, or a rural area, in making a wage determination for the other, and would define terms used in the prevailing wage law. January 11, 1982. **Labor Code—Bad**

AB 2376 — Deddeh — (C. P. & T. M.) — . . . This bill would require that all new mobilehomes sold in this state after January 1, 1983, be tested for formaldehyde vapors at the time of installation and would require the enforcement agency to declare the mobilehome unfit for occupancy if the level of formaldehyde vapors exceeds a specified standard. The bill would require manufacturers to either bring mobilehomes which cannot meet that standard into compliance within a specified period of time or provide a replacement mobilehome of comparable value.

The bill would also require that all new mobilehomes sold in this state have a specified notice relating to the release of formaldehyde vapors affixed thereto. . . . January 12, 1981.

Housing—Good

AB 2383 — Floyd (L. & E.) — Existing law prohibits an employer from requiring submission to a polygraph or lie detector test as a condition of employment, and exempts federal, state, and local public agencies from the prohibition.

This bill would remove the exemption for state and local public agencies. January 13, 1982. **Labor Code—Good**

AB 2398 — Bane (F. I. & C.) — Under existing law, unemployment compensation benefits paid to an unemployed individual are charged

against the reserve account of the employer. An unemployed individual is disqualified for benefits if he left his most recent work voluntarily without good cause or was discharged for misconduct.

This bill would provide that the employer's reserve account shall not be charged for benefits paid if the unemployed individual left the employer's employ voluntarily without one week of notice to the employer and without any fault attributable to the employer. The bill also would provide that any otherwise qualified individual shall be disqualified from receiving one week of benefits for each time the individual voluntarily left a base period employer without one week of notice. January 14, 1982. **Unemployment Insurance—Bad**

AB 2413 — Kapiloff (W. P. & W.) — Existing law prohibits the taking of anchovies for any purpose in Humboldt Bay except under specific conditions. One condition is that anchovies may only be taken by the operator of a vessel for use in his or her own fishing operation, except that the operator may make incidental sales of anchovies so taken to local sport fishermen for bait.

This bill would state that this condition shall not prevent the cooperative effort of 2 or more vessel operators or their crews working together with 1 net if each operator has notified the Department of Fish and Game of the bait-taking operation. . . . January 19, 1982. **Labor Unions—Watch†**

AB 2414 — Kapiloff (G. O.) — Existing constitutional and statutory laws prohibit lotteries in this state.

This bill would provide that the purpose of the State Lottery Act is to provide for the organization and administration of state lottery, the net proceeds of which shall be applied solely and irrevocably to the support of primary, secondary, and postsecondary education.

This bill would be operative only if ACA . . . of the 1981-82 Regular Session of the Legislature is approved by the voters. January 19, 1982. **Taxes—Watch†**

AB 2428 — Wray (L. & E.) — Existing law prohibits requiring or knowingly permitting any trainman to work more than 16 consecutive hours or to work thereafter until he has had 10 consecutive hours off duty. It also prohibits requiring or permitting any trainman to work more than 16 hours in the aggregate in any 24-hour period until he has had at least 8 consecutive hours off duty.

This bill would change these 16-hour limitations to 12 hours. . . . January 20, 1982. **Labor Code—Watch†**

AB 2443 — Sher (U. & E.) — Existing law, designated as the Miller-Warren Energy Lifeline Act, requires the Public Utilities Commission to designate minimum energy or lifeline requirements for gas and electricity based on the needs of the average residential user. . . .

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations regarding these provisions and revise them to instead require the commission to designate a baseline quantity of electricity and volume of gas necessary for the reasonable energy needs of the average residential user. The bill would delete the special additional allowances for customers dependent on life support equipment, paraplegic and quadriplegic persons, and multiple sclerosis patients. It would specify the baseline amount as that established by the commission at not less than 500 kilowatt hours of electricity and not less than 120 therms of gas per month for residential consumption. . . . the baseline rates would be required to constitute the first or lowest block of an increasing block rate structure and to be set at exactly 20% below the system average rate for residential consumption. . . . January 21, 1982. **Public Utilities—Watch†**

***AB 2477 — Agnos (F. I. & C.)** — Existing law provides that an asbestos worker injured as a result of asbestosis who makes a claim for workers' compensation may seek the payment of workers' compensation temporary disability and medical benefits from the Asbestos Workers' Account if the responsible employer cannot be located or fails to provide workers' compensation within 30 days. Among other things, the claimant must submit to an independent medical examination.

This bill would redesignate the benefits as workers' compensation total disability and medical benefits. It would exempt the claimant from the independent medical examination requirement if there exists adequate medical evidence that the claimant developed asbestosis from the employment. January 27, 1982.

Workers' Compensation—Good