## OKER IN PORTAL PAY **LEGISLATION THREATENS** OTHER WAGE CLAIMS

Washington, D. C. - A bill to expectation of reward." pash portal-to-portal pay suits The American Federation of and restrict every form of Labor urges all wage earners to by claim under the minimum raise their voices against the apcange laws was given overwhelm- proval of the "discriminatory and ing approval in the House by a victous" Gwynne Bill by the Senwote of 346 to 56.

The legislation, avowedly intended to restrict portal-to-portal CONSTRUCTION JOBS SHORT claims, in effect opens the door to legalized violations by employers of all wage and overtime pro- on the seasonal drop in construcwisions of the Wage and Hour Law, the Walsh-Healey Law, and S. Labor Department, showing the Davis-Bacon Act.

Provisions, sweeping away all isting minimum wage and prevailing wage laws previously enacted by Congress are contained in the January-about 25 per cent beportal claims.

The Gwynne Bill sets up a oneyear statute of limitations on all wage claims under the Wage and Hour Law due to the failure of the employer to pay an employe minimum wages or overtime compensation required by the Congressional statute. This gives wage discriminatory treatment as the prevailing statute of limitations under state laws provides for a six to eight year limit on written claims and a two-year Bimit in courts. Property claims are therefore given special adwantage over wage claims.

In addition, the Gwynne Bill prohibits all suits based on activsties not required to be paid for by contract, custom, or practice. One aspect of this provision is to make it possible for the employer to set up his own standard as to what constitutes custom or prac-

According to the Gwynne Bill, goes out like a lamb. At least that's the old saying. Your weatherman and your own experience may give you cause either to believe or disbelleve its truth. When it comes to United States Savings Bonds, there is no dispute as to their lion-strength

of a court decision arising out of because U. S. Savings Bonds ar that law. The Bill does not men-

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tion portal-to-portal claims as such, but contains a long statement discussing the effect of all back pay claims upon employers and describes back pay as "wind-fall payments for activities performed by employes without any

Washington, D. C .- A report tion jobs has come from the U. some 145,000 fewer workers employed in the industry in January effective enforcement of the ex- than in the preceding month. Total construction employment was estimated at 1,728,000 for Gwynne Bill which purports to low the 1946 peak of last August, deal solely with the portal-to- but more than 40 per cent above the level of a year ago.

> When you have read The Journal pass it on to your neighbor.

## **Uncle Sam Says**



tom, administrative ruling or a court judgment.

These far-reaching provisions are made applicable, not only to the Wage and Hour Law itself, but also to any of the contents of a court decision arising out of

















## **HUTCHESON DECLARES EMPLOYERS HOLD KEY** TO BETTER RELATIONS chaos.

of the employer.

of William L. Hutcheson, Presi- with human beings. dent of the Brotherhood of Carican Federation of Labor.

heson said:

"When the 80th Congress tion had blundered along under labor-once dissipated in the strug-

"By November 5, 1946, the ity." American people were satisfied that a planned economy was not the answer to their problems. They said so at the polls by the millions.

"If the new Congress received any mandate from the people, it was a mandate to bring to an end the era of government domination of human relationships. Through a great depression the people had tolerated ever-increasing direction from Washington in the interest of the common welfare; through a long and bitter war they had submitted to ever-growing regimentation because national safety dictated it. But now that the depression had passed and the war had been won, they wanted no

"It can be truthfully stated that in no field of human endeavor has government control been more of a failure than in industrial relations. Ironically enough, in no field has there been a greater degree of government control. At one time during the war there were as many as 225 agencies dealing with one phase or another of labor matters. Every normal hemmed in on all sides by a welter of rules and regulations and orders and edicts. Yet never in

history have industrial relations understanding and downright HIGHER PAY

"If America is to meet its destiny, if government of the people Washington, D. C .- Legislation is to endure, the element of self- crisis was precipitated by the imnot the answer to major prob- determination, consistent with the pact of the inflation upon their The pathway should be smoother, maintained and preserved, not the local and state governments but the key rests in the hands only in labor relations but also to recognize their full responsiin all other fields of human en- bility towards the teachers and This is the considered judgment deavor where human beings deal towards the community. But the

penters and Joiners of America any other one class. They strike | correction of inequities or costand Vice-President of the Amer- only when necessity compels them of-living bonuses. to. Remove the necessity for In a formal statement to the strikes and you automatically re-American Federationist, Mr. Hut- duce the strike situation to an irreducible minimum.

opened, a great experiment came manship today is to direct the only for teachers' pay but also to an end. For 14 years the na- vast social energy of organized her work-load, and the hours she a system of planned economy. gle for union survival—into collab-For 14 years edicts and directorative productive functions. Latives and bureaus and agencies bor is ready and eager for such had flourished and grown and a creative future. Obviously, the ure essential to the teacher for spun an ever-tightening web of rich contribution which organ- reading, recreation and rest, the government control around our ized labor can bring to our econ- three R's which the average industrial, economic and even so- omy will not be achieved in an atmosphere of distrust and hostil- to learn and without which she

WOLL WARNS OF DANGER to a teacher.

(Continued From Page 1) New Guianeans are kept in slavery for wealthy Australian plantation owners, the freedom and welfare of the workers in London, New York, Paris, Brussels, Sydney and Prague are in mortal

danger."

The continuation of "any form of slavery," according to Mr. Woll, "is in outright conflict with the moral and judicial foundations of the verdict reached at Nuremberg against the Nazi war criminals."

He specifically pointed out that the Allied judges had condemned to death Fritz Sauckel, director of Nazi forced labor enterprises

Smokey Says:



been more ineffctive; never has GREEN ASKS AL UNIONS TO there been so much unrest, m's- BACK TEACHERS' PLEA FOR

(Continued From Page 1) necessity, not preference. The ssue reaches far deeper. It is "Workers like strikes less than not going to be solved by the

"The time has come to reassess the entire role of the school teacher in the community, to establish fair and firm standards. "The duty of industrial states- Proper standards must be set not devotes to her school duties, both in and out of the schoolbuilding. Above all, there must be standards for amount of leisteacher has never had a chance cannot attain the emotional balance and mental poise so crucial

"The teachers themselves must recognize their responsibility as citizens to make sure that their program for the rehabilitation of the American school teacher and

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as the source of funds for school not." improvement. The teacher is one of those, among the wage and

the nation-wide reform of the salary earners upon whom the school systems is carried out sales tax falls most heavily. Is within the framework of sound there any justification in makeconomic policy. For example, ing the teacher herself the most it is the duty of the teacher to heavy contributor to her own ecoppose the use of the sales tax onomic rehabilitation? Of course

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