

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Reagan, Ronald: Gubernatorial Papers,
1966-74: Press Unit

Folder Title: Issue Papers – Courts

Box: P30

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

Wright

By DEIF ERICKSON
Associated Press Writer
SAN FRANCISCO AP -

"The courts should not be beg-
gars for crumbs," California
Supreme Court Chief Justice
Donald R. Wright said Wednes-
day.

He declared that state and
county budget officers block
adequate financing for the judi-
cial system's fundamental
needs.

"The judicial system cannot
effectively function without
adequate staffing and sufficient
financial support," Wright told
a joint luncheon of San Fran-
cisco bar associations.

The meeting marked the first
anniversary of a joint bench
and bar program to clear the
backlogged trial calendars in
San Francisco's Superior
Courts.

Wright said the San Fran-
cisco courts were under fi-
nanced. He said the related of-
fices of the district attorney,
public defender and the staffs
of the probation office and
county clerk also were under-
financed.

The problem is not confined
to San Francisco, he said.

"At the state level, we find
that the fundamental needs of
the judicial system are also
being routinely ignored or blue-
penciled by the budget officers
of the executive department,"
Wright said.

"Insofar as state financing is
concerned, the Judicial Council
has taken the position that the
financial needs of the judicial
branch of government should
be placed before the legislature
without advance restrictions or
deletions imposed by the execu-
tive branch in advance of legis-
lative action.

03-29-72 06.57pps

For information contact:
National Center for State Courts
1616 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Alice O'Donnell, Acting Secretary
(202) 393-1640, ext. 501-502

*Legal
Courts*

For release September 27, 1971

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUSTICE WINSLOW CHRISTIAN NAMED DIRECTOR OF
NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

Justice Winslow Christian of the California Court of Appeal has been named the first Executive Director of the new National Center for State Courts ^{at its temporary headquarters} in Washington, D. C., it was announced today by Justice Paul C. Reardon, of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Center. Justice Christian will serve on leave of absence from his present post.

The new organization was established, at the urging of United States Chief Justice Warren Burger at the National Conference on the Judiciary held at Williamsburg, Virginia earlier this year, to develop proposals for reform of state court systems.

"The critical question facing our judicial system today is how we can provide justice, promptly and fairly, to the increasing numbers of citizens who are bringing their disputes to the courts," said Justice Reardon, who was active in founding the Center.

"We must reduce delays in the courts and improve the administration of justice, in both criminal and civil cases, if our state courts are to continue to serve effectively as institutions for the peaceful and rational settlement of disputes in this time of turmoil.

"The purpose of the National Center is to provide assistance to state courts in planning and carrying out changes that are urgently needed."

Prior to his appointment to the Court of Appeal in 1966, Christian served as Administrator of the State Health and Welfare Agency of California. Christian also served as a trial judge and as a state prosecutor.

He received his bachelor's and law degrees from Stanford University and taught law in Rangoon, Burma, on a Fulbright Fellowship after graduation from law school. He is married and has three children.

Christian is presently a member of the California Judicial Council, the rulemaking body for the California courts, and is on the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society and the Executive Board of the Appellate Justices' Conference of the American Bar Association.

The National Center for State Courts will be funded by private foundation grants and federal funds appropriated for improvement of state courts. A Ford Foundation grant financed the establishment of the Center. Justice Reardon is chairman and Justice Louis H. Burke of the Supreme Court of California is vice-chairman of the Center's governing board. The members of the Board, all of whom are state court judges selected on nomination of the eighteen national organizations active in state court administration and reform, are representative of the nation's state courts of every level. They are:

Hon. David Brofman, Judge of the Denver Probate Court, Denver, Colorado.

Hon. Louis H. Burke, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of California, San Francisco, California, Vice-Chairman.

Hon. James A. Finch, Jr., Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Missouri, Jefferson City, Missouri.

Hon. M. Michael Gordon, Judge of the Municipal Court of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Hon. Frank R. Kenison, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of New Hampshire, Concord, New Hampshire.

Hon. Bernard S. Meyer, Judge of the Supreme Court of New York, Mineola, New York.

Hon. Paul C. Reardon, Associate Justice, Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, Boston, Massachusetts, Chairman.

Hon. William S. Richardson, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii.

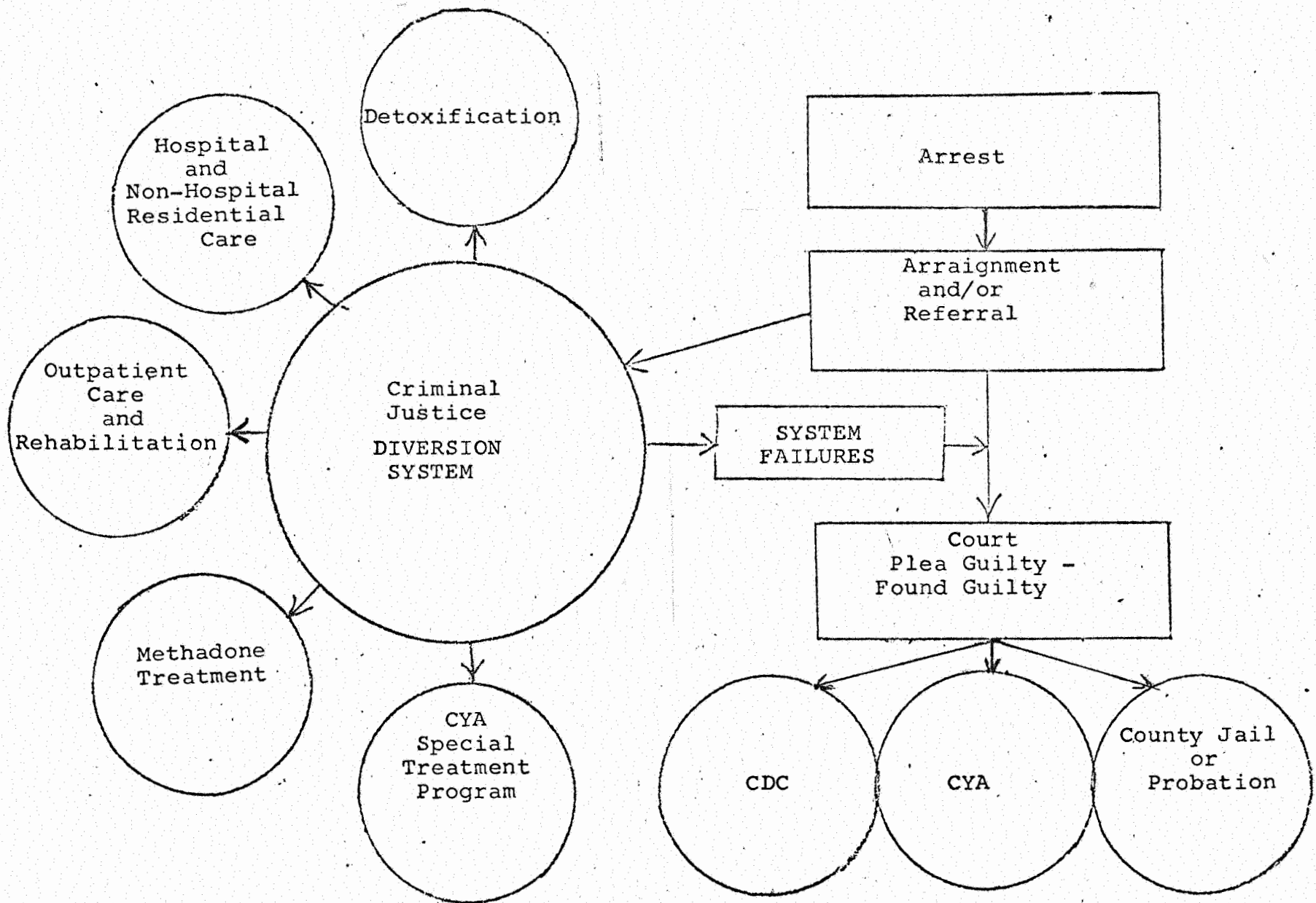
Hon. Morell E. Sharp, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Washington, Olympia, Washington.

Hon. Harold Stevens, Presiding Judge, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of New York, First Judicial Department, New York, New York.

Hon. Joseph A. Sullivan, Presiding Judge, Wayne County Circuit Court, Detroit, Michigan.

Hon. Curtis V. Tillman, Judge of the Dekalb County Juvenile Court, Decatur, Georgia.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVERSION SYSTEM



Lieutenant Governor Urges State Bar to Work for Reform

Courts

RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

SEP 28 9 24 AM '71

Excerpts from CALIFORNIA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION speech delivered by
Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke
San Diego, California
September 15, 1971

The State Bar of California is recognized throughout the nation as one of the most prestigious, and the innovations of our system of justice are envied by most of the other states.

My own professional education was in engineering. My experience is in business and engineering - only recently in government. As a citizen and elected official, I am nevertheless deeply concerned that our system of justice and law is working to serve the people of California in protecting those rights and freedoms granted to all of us under the Constitution.

It is a cornerstone of our society that government and law are ordained and enacted to insure protection of rights of property and of the individual. We protect property rights by punishment for theft; protection against confiscation by the State without due compensation; provision for the orderly transfer of property from generation to generation; and provide rules by which we may exchange goods and services. The law further provides a mechanism for the compensation for damage. However, the thing most unique about our American system of law is the protection and extension of personal liberty through law.

As stewards of this responsibility, how has the legal profession done? What is your record of accountability?

I speak now as one looking at the system, not a part of it. I speak as a layman involved in government who has the opportunity to talk and correspond with people throughout this State. I speak as one sincerely interested and concerned in the operation of an orderly and just society. In talking to people, I have heard expressed this common concern: Has something gone wrong with our society? Is there a malfunction in the machinery of government? And, especially, they are deeply distressed by problems involving the administration of justice - both criminal and civil.

In the area of crime, the decade last passed has seen its greatest increase in the history of this or any other nation. Crimes of violence against individuals are on the increase. Crimes against public property, until recently almost non-existent, are the order of the day. In an era when government finds it increasingly difficult to finance services, we must expend millions to repair broken school windows, reconstruction of hundreds of public offices and buildings and tremendously increased security costs to protect public property from destruction.

The man in the street is unable to fathom the turning back on society those charged with theft, murder and the sale of narcotics because of some action of a policeman who is not trained in the intricacies of the law has made a technical mistake.

People are frustrated when they read of criminal trials that last for months which appear to have as their objective not the determination of truth but rather to bring the whole judicial process to a grinding halt.

When we look at the system of criminal justice we must include everything from the causes of crime, to the detection of crime, to the arrest of the accused, to the operation of the courts, to the operation of our penal institutions and parole system.

While the causes of crime are complex, the solutions are monumental and insoluble without the participation of men like yourselves.

Crime prevention, I feel, has been neglected. As members of the legal profession you have been and must be leaders in solving the problems of inadequate housing, inferior education, corrupt government, unemployment, discrimination, and despair. Take on responsibility in the community to aid and assist and help self-help projects.

One area in which the organized Bar might be of greater assistance and support to our police force would be a voluntary plan of instruction for police officers in procedures permitted under our legal decisions.

Perhaps the most important problem is the operation of the criminal courts. It takes twice as long to try the average criminal case as it did a decade ago. More defendants seek jury trials. The staffing and planning for our courts have always been predicated on a premise that 90% of the defendants in criminal cases will plead guilty, thus obviating the necessity for trial. That premise is no longer reliable. This means that only a reduction of 10% in the number of guilty pleas would require the assignment of twice the judicial manpower and facilities that we now plan for. Expansion of our system is not the total answer. The system itself must be made more efficient.

It would appear to me proper that traffic violations and public drunkenness could be totally eliminated from the criminal system without jeopardizing our basic constitutional safeguards. Serious study should be given to the restructuring of our court system by the abolishment of the distinction between Justice, Municipal and Superior Courts and the consolidation into a single unified court. We should study the departmentalization of courts by responsibility and the selection and training of judges in accordance with these departments.

We should be willing to explore and experiment with every innovation produced by modern technology. Electrical transcribers, video tapes, systems analysis, and computerization. In our fast moving age, we can no longer say that the methods of the past give greater assurances of promoting justice. I would suggest that the State Bar of California respond to Chief Justice Berger's recommendation for the establishment of a national research center for the improvement in court administration. With a history of excellence in court administration here, we should seek to have it located in California.

I know that your Bar is actively working in the area of improving the standards of practice in the criminal courts. I feel it imperative that some system of special training and certification be instituted for those who so serve.

You must be ever watchful and deal harshly with those few in your profession who would use the criminal court for the espousal of their particular political philosophy or who intimidate the judicial process with a conscious plan of bringing our legal system to its knees.

Also involved in the system of justice is the problem of corrections. The penal institution and the system of probation and parole.

Incarceration too often means a degrading experience without any meaningful type of rehabilitation leading to increased recidivism.

Only this year the American Bar Association has taken action to deal with the specific problems of corrections. The State Bar of California should be a leader in penal reform.

The numbers of shocking and violent crimes committed by those under the probation and parole system brings into sharp question the present criteria for releasing from custody those who remain unrepentant without rehabilitation and bent on further careers of crime and violence.

That part of our judicial system which has its greatest exposure to the largest numbers of its citizenry is the civil side. It is especially troubling to find among our citizens the conviction that equality of justice does not exist. There are those who believe that adequate legal services are available only to the wealthy and that the interminable delay in bringing a grievance to trial prevents any true and proper resolution.

Competent civil legal assistance should be available to all within the means of their ability to pay.

It would appear to me that certain quasi legal areas might well and more inexpensively be handled by para-professionals under the direction of lawyers and that law students be required to engage in an apprentice or internship type of program.

In our highly complex and urbanized society the role of the family lawyer, like the family doctor, has been greatly diminished. You are required to have a high degree of expertise training and knowledge to handle specialized areas of the law. The legal profession is still behind in establishing specializations and setting standards and requiring certification for practice in these highly sophisticated areas.

The public is displeased with the court congestion and the interminable time in obtaining audience. The Bar can ill afford to indiscriminently block legislative change of the judicial system and the method of compensation for those injured by the automobile. If you do not take the leadership and promote meaningful changes in these areas in the near future, public pressure will result in a proliferation of hastily conceived and ill thought-out legislation which may, rather than improve, destroy the means of civil justice as we now know it.

Ladies and gentlemen, your profession is very much a part of this State's future. You are a part of a system which demands change and improvement in the resolution of conflict and the preservation of order—not tomorrow, but today. The protection and improvement of the rights of the individual has been cast upon you and you cannot shy away. Now, as never before in our history the very foundations of our society are being challenged. I urge you, who are a part of the high calling known as the legal profession, to be willing to take the risk of leadership in improving our system of criminal justice and assuring that means of legal redress are available to all, swiftly and without regard to economic station. I think that I speak for the people of this State that we look to you, the lawyer, to provide the wisdom, experience, insight, competence and dedicated commitment of your time to the preservation and improvement of this form of government which gives to each individual the hope for dignity and security never before attained in the history of mankind.

28 June 68

file

Contra

from RHF by phone, re: statements made by him on Supreme Court
199

he did not put out any statement

when he was at Lincoln University in San Francisco last Sunday, June 23,
to make commencement address and receive honorary degree, media people
were there, and he was asked the question

did he think there was political motivation behind Warren sub-
mitting his resignation at this time

in response, "Apart from any difference I may have with the Court
and their decisions, I think it is a great mistake, particularly with
the climate we have now, to inject partisan politics as far as the
judiciary is concerned." He went on to say he didn't want to engage
in questioning President Johnson's motives, but he felt "we need now
more than ever to uphold the Court as an institution," and Johnson
should handle himself and his actions with that responsibility in
mind.

* * *

attached copies of press stories are all that we have seen with
regard to the interview in San Francisco; we have received no
inquiries from the sacramento bee, or anyone else, concerning the
statements attributed to RHF in the articles.

San Jose, Calif.
News
(Cir. D. 73,322)

JUN 24 1968

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Reagan, Finch, Murphy All Critical Of Warren

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gov. Ronald Reagan has criticized Chief Justice Earl Warren for reportedly retiring from the Supreme Court at this time to allow President Johnson to name his successor.

"I don't really think he has that right," Reagan, a Republican favorite son presidential candidate, said Sunday.

In San Francisco Lt. Gov. Robert Finch says it's a mistake to inject partisan politics into the question of who will be chosen to succeed Chief Justice Earl Warren when he leaves the U.S. Supreme Court.

"We need now more than ever to uphold the court as an institution," Finch declared Sunday.

Whoever President Johnson selects to replace Warren, he will not get the backing of California Sen. George Murphy.

Murphy said he is "shocked" that Warren would step down now.

Murphy said he would vote against a Johnson appointee as a matter of principle, even if he might approve of the choice personally.

Watsonville.

"The plan sets up a judicial oligarchy by transferring the power of appointment from the elected governor, who is responsible to the people to a faceless commission responsible to no one," said the trio in a joint statement.

Claims Strong Backing

Alquist charged the Reagan plan is getting strong backing from the oil, insurance, utility and a number of other corporate bodies, plus "ultra-conservative Texas oil men," whom none of the opponents named.

Cartwright said both the Sacramento and San Mateo County Bar Associations opposed the plan once they heard both sides of the argument.

"We continue to believe that

So far the chairman, Vice Mayor Albert J. Talkin, has not set a date for such a meeting.

Asks For Help

He said today City Atty. Joseph E. Coomes has been asked to research the case and prepare a summary for councilmen who will conduct the review. He said he will set the date for the review after Coomes is finished.

Johnson, a Negro, was discharged from his position as a patrolman by the unanimous vote of the City Council in 1962 on a recommendation of the then city manager, Bartley W. Cavanaugh, and the then police chief, James V. Hicks.

Johnson was accused of being present at the home of a Caucasian woman whose neighbors complained of a disturbance by several men. The officer was off duty at the time.

Seeks Counsel

Brown stated in a letter to the council today his law firm has been approached by Johnson with a request that the firm represent the ex-officer.

However, Brown pointed out that the city attorney's office in March submitted an opinion to the council which indicates the council is without power to reinstate Johnson. Brown said he believes the city attorney's ruling is legally erroneous.

Describing the present status of the case as "confusing," Brown suggests the council should ask the attorney general for a clarification of Johnson's rights.

Burglars With Torch Get Cash, Valuables

Reubin Ginsburg of the Ace Loan Co., 1214 J St., notified the police today that burglars who used acetylene equipment store \$2,617 in cash and checks from a safe and also took 30 wedding rings and collector coins.

The value of the rings and coins was undetermined. The safecrackers entered by drilling holes in the room.

Negroes had made in recent years and the more favorable attitude toward them that he said had developed in the white community.

What he feared, the governor said, was that a lack of restraint among the Negroes would set off violence between the races, in which case the 20 million Negroes would have little chance against the 180 million whites.

This could happen, he said, because "there is a limit beyond which any people will be provoked." But so far, he said incidents of violence had not been true "race riots" because whites had not been fighting with Negroes.

As he has done repeatedly, Reagan ruled himself out of contention for the vice presidency because he did not prefer to be governor of California.

GOP Party Strength

He said he believed Republican Party unity was strong enough to guarantee support for any candidate nominated at the convention. For one thing, he said, such issues as "law and order" had strengthened the conviction of Republicans that the party could recapture the presidency and this feeling, in turn, strengthened their determination to unite behind the nominee.

He described Nixon as "far ahead" and said Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York had a "pretty uphill fight." Nevertheless, he said, the convention would be open and the delegates would "look at me and all the other favorite sons" as well as at the two declared candidates.

Reagan said the nomination of Sen. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota by the Democrats would cause the Republicans the most trouble because McCarthy is a critic of the Johnson administration and offers a less inviting target than a candidate who defends it.

The governor was in Washington briefly to speak at a "school" for new Republican congressional candidates.

er the average citizen wants to be free to be a guinea pig for inadequately tested, overpriced drugs of questionable value.

Disservice To People

"To constantly attack, as Reagan does, the very concept of regulation in the public interest — regulation designed by duly-elected lawmakers to protect the average citizen from dangerous drugs, excessive utility rates or whatever — is a clear disservice to the people of California and to the high office of public trust Reagan holds."

Pitts also noted that the AFL-CIO supports a proposal to include prescription drugs under Medicare but limit reimbursement for them under federal programs to the price for the generic official product — not by brand name.

"Such legislation would be of obvious and enormous benefit to taxpayers in California and throughout the nation, yet Gov. Reagan opposes it," said Pitts.

Finch Says Keep Politics Out Of Top Court

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Lt. Gov. Robert Finch said it is a mistake to inject partisan politics into the question of who will be chosen to succeed Chief Justice Earl Warren when he leaves the U.S. Supreme Court.

"We need now more than ever to uphold the court as an institution," Finch declared yesterday in a television interview.

"Apart from any difference I may have with the court and their decisions, I think it is a great mistake, particularly with the climate as we have now, to inject partisan politics as far as the judiciary is concerned."

Gov. Ronald Reagan and several other Republican officials have said Warren should not resign until a new president takes office.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids, in triplicate, will be received by the General Manager of Sacramento Municipal Utility District, State of California, at the Purchases and Stores Department Office of the District, 1708 - 59th Street, Sacramento, California, until 3:00 p.m., Pacific Daylight Saving Time, July 30, 1968, for the purchase by this District of one Aerating Tank Sewage Treatment Plant and one Hypochlorinator and Accessories, for Loon Lake Powerhouse, Upper American River Project, in accordance with Specification No. 2517 which may be obtained from the Manager, Purchases and Stores Department.
SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
By: /s/ Paul E. Shaad,
General Mgr. &
Chief Engineer
(1 time, 6/24/68)

Action On Bills

The Senate has approved:

DISTRICTS—SB 922, Rodda—To authorize the treatment of employees of a district as county employees for various insurance and benefit purposes.

SANITATION—SCR 53, Coleone—Requests the Department of Health and Community Development, in cooperation with the Department of Parks and Recreation, to submit a report on minimum sanitation standards in private and public campgrounds and in state parks.

BREAD—SB 896, Short—Would require that a standard loaf of bread weigh 16 ounces.

VETERANS—SB 1123, Whitmore—Would permit the Department of Veterans Affairs to waive occupancy requirements in Cal-Vet farm and home purchases for a period not to exceed four years.

AMBULANCES—SB 535, Dills—Would require emergency ambulances to be equipped with resuscitators.

Gov. Ronald Reagan has

signed into law:

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES—AB 168, Badham—Allows community services districts to provide for conversion of existing overhead electric and telephone lines of a public agency or utility, with its consent, to underground locations.

RETIREMENT—AB 153, Barnes—For advisors and recreation specialists in forestry job corps conservation centers to be defined as forestry members for retirement purposes.

VOTING—AB 810, Cory—Requires that a ballot pamphlet be sent with each absentee ballot.

WINE AND BEER—AB 853, Belotti—Permitting wine growers and beer manufacturers to give for sale in products below established prices to a non profit charitable corporation or non profit incorporated trade association, the members of which are alcoholic beverage licensees. In the second instance, the wine or beer must be used solely for an association convention or meeting.

PAY RAISE—SB 15, Collier—Increasing the salary of the Siskiyou County district attorney from \$7,200 to \$15,000 a year and prohibits him from engaging in private law practice during his term of office.

EQUAL PAY—SB 232, Grunsky—Extending provisions of California's equal pay law to all employees in a business establishment, rather than limiting its application to women. The bill is intended to prevent discrimination on the basis of sex where employees are doing work on jobs requiring equal skill, effort and responsibility performed under similar working conditions in the same establishment.

CENTERS—SB 349, Short—Permitting use of funds from school override taxes to purchase land, buildings and furniture for development centers for handicapped minors.

FEE INCREASE—SB 386, Sherman—Increases fees paid by subdividers to the State Division of Real Estate in connection with the filing of applications by subdividers for investigations and issuance of public reports.

The Senate has defeated:

TEACHERS—SB 1266, Richardson—Would have authorized the dismissal of teachers for falsification or concealment of material facts in applications for employment, assignment or promotion.

IT'S TIME TO MOVE

to the Bank that offers You More!

4% NEW AUTO LOANS

(\$4 per hundred per annum)

THE NAME
IS UNIQUE,
SERVICE
COMPLETE



SUMITOMO BANK

Broadway and 14th Street • Sacramento • 443-5761

Warning on Naming Chief Justice

Lieutenant Governor Robert H. Finch declared here yesterday that "it's a mistake . . . to inject partisan politics" into the selection of a successor to

resigning Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren.

The Lieutenant Governor, who was here to address the graduating class at Lincoln University, said in an inter-

view: "We need now more than ever to uphold the Court as an institution.

Several Republican figures, including Governor Ronald Reagan, have indicat-

ed since the Chief Justice's departure was disclosed Friday that he should not resign while President Johnson was in office.

Finch said in an interview

with KRON TV that: "Apart from any difference I may have with the Court and their decisions, I think it is a great mistake, particularly with the climate we have now, to inject partisan politics as far as the judiciary is concerned."

tune in to Macy's
music center values!

see your favorite shows in action on RCA TV!

Exposition Deserves Support Of Everyone

There are several reasons for Californians, and particularly Sacramentans, to be proud of the new California Exposition which will open at noon Monday on its new site off the Elvas Freeway north of the American River.

The first and foremost is that it represents a remarkable change from the old to the new, a venture in fairs unprecedented in the United States and a beginning toward a future which will bring great economic benefits to the local area and renown to all of the Golden State.

It is not simply the old State Fair lifted from the 100-year-old site on Stockton Boulevard and moved to a different location. It is a brand new enterprise, incorporating modern design and adventuresome planning which eventually will rank the California Exposition as the best in the world. This is true because it is being built to the standards of a World's Fair.

Already nearly \$23 million has been spent in capital outlay to provide the nucleus of this outstanding exposition. In the short time since construction began, the once-dry sheep pasture has been turned into a busy, bustling complex of excitement.

The modern race track and grandstand with air-conditioning and restaurant, the acres of convenient parking spaces, a spectacular indoor-outdoor floral exhibit, a fair activities area for the presentation of the wares of California's many counties, an amusement plaza, an animal compound and art show hall also will be on view.

Later, the agricultural shows will be ready for the displays of the 4-H Clubs and Future Farmers of America.

What the first visitors will see represents the beginning of better things to come. They will be able to witness the birth of an exposition which will fulfill the dreams of countless people who fought many legislative battles before the enterprise was authorized.

Cal Expo, the place to go, will operate this year from Monday through Sept. 10. It promises to be one of the most

Finch Pulls Reagan Up Short On Court

Lt. Gov. Robert Finch proved a constructive countervailing force to Gov. Ronald Reagan's purely partisan reaction to the resignation of Earl Warren as chief justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The day before Reagan said Warren would show lack of faith "in this system of ours" if he resigned so Democratic President Lyndon B. Johnson could name his successor before leaving the White House.

Finch said we need now more than ever before to uphold the court as an institution. Not a Democratic or Republican institution but one of the coequal branches of the system of American government.

"Apart from any difference we may have with the court and its decisions," Finch said, "I think it is a great mistake, particularly with the climate we now have, to inject partisan politics as far as the judiciary is concerned."

Reagan was thinking the election should determine the composition of the court, that a Republican would win and that a chief justice of his own reactionary persuasion might get the nod. Finch was thinking more broadly — about government as an institution, not as a political playpen.

It is a fact of American life that Johnson is President of the United States until January 1969, and has a right to fill judicial openings as they occur. It is equally true Warren has a right to resign when he chooses. Nothing contrary to the American system, about which Reagan complains, is involved in the exercise of these two rights.

It is Reagan who needs education about the American system, as Finch seems to imply. It is Reagan and others who want the court to become just another spoils of victory; these need a refresher in American history.

If Reagan would read such history he would discover the founding fathers never contemplated political parties but did contemplate a court free from political pressures.

If Reagan would just read he might stop giving Californians lectures on what the system of this nation is not.

'The Pill'



News Behind The N

From Washington

By Clayton Fritchey

REAGAN — Some of our greatest presidents have been known to stumble over their syntax from time to time (especially in the give-and-take of press conferences), but who would have dreamed that Ronald Reagan would ever be at a loss for words? He may have presidential qualities after all.

The usually glib governor of California was asked (on NBC's "Meet The Press") if there was any significant difference between his views and those of former United States Sen. Barry Goldwater, the Republican presidential nominee of 1964. It hardly seems possible that such an old, shop-worn question of

state, has accused the United States of "barefaced aggression" against Rhodesia.

QUESTION — Both Reagan and Goldwater have questioned reports that they advocated the invasion of North Vietnam, but they needn't be defensive about it. After all, Vice President Ky of South Vietnam is for invading the North and the United States government is for Ky. The difference is that Ky wants to use United States troops, while some administration officials think it would be unfair to deprive the South Vietnamese army of this honor.

Like President Johnson, Goldwater has a pithy way of saying things. Speaking of the