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THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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Kennedy Wins Calif. Labor COPE Endorsement— Heads Labor Slate

The pre-general election convention of California Labor COPE Thursday named Senator John F. Kennedy to head its slate of labor-endorsed candidates for Congress and the state legislature in the November general elections.

More than 600 delegates to the state AFL-CIO political meet, held in San Francisco, shouted their approval of an executive council recommendation which urged "labor's enthusiastic and all-out support" of the Democratic Party's presidential ticket.

In an endorsement statement that tied the Republican hopeful, Richard Nixon, to the "brinkmanship" and "big business-banker-oriented economic policies" of the Eisenhower Administration, convention delegates contrasted the "constructive" record of Senator Kennedy.

Kennedy's "capacity" for meeting America's challenge at home and abroad, the convention said, "is spelled out in his record, his party's platform, and his intelligent, articulate and forceful advocacy of proposals to strengthen the forces of freedom and democracy throughout the world." (See full text of endorsement statement on page 4.)

Action on the presidential endorsement followed a brilliant description of the "homogenized fail-

ures" of Ike's Republican Administration by Senator Eugene McCarthy, featured speaker at the COPE meeting.

Delegates applauded their approval as the Minnesota Democrat supplied the details to his broadside attack.

By "homogenized," McCarthy said he meant "balanced failure."

Failures, he pointed out, have been "balanced" by other failures—the "rising levels" of unemployment are equaled only by the "magnitude" of the farm depression, for example.

McCarthy likened the Eisenhower Administration to a sinking ship, but one that is "gradually going down" into the water on an even keel.

"There is water in the hold and in the tourist cabins," McCarthy elaborated, "but the first-class quarters are in good shape," referring obviously to the wealthy who have benefited by Ike Administration policies.

District Endorsements

Delegates made endorsements in 26 of the state's 30 congressional races.

In the state Senate, where 20 of 40 seats are up in this general election, AFL-CIO endorsements were made in 16 districts.

Endorsement action was taken in 74 of the state's 80 Assembly districts.

The following lists the endorsements by appropriate categories:

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Political Action, Or Else . . .

Delegates to the pre-general election endorsement convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education this Thursday were issued a sharp "challenge to effective political action" in the November general election.

Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the state AFL-CIO political action arm, said seven years of "drift and indecision" under the Eisenhower Administration has been "compounded by major setbacks for the free world internationally and a debasing of our national economy in a period of unprecedented social and economic challenge."

In a statement outlining the major election issues, Pitts bluntly warned delegates:

"... Every trade unionist shares in a solemn responsibility to replace apathy with carefully planned action to make certain that our membership and the general voters understand the implications of state and federal elections in 1960."

The challenge, this election year, Pitts added, "begins at the national level in the Presidential election. It reaches into the thirty Congressional races in California and into every State Senate and Assembly district on the ballot. . . . Those in our ranks who persist in ignoring the compelling necessity of labor political action risk not only the growth and future effectiveness of the labor movement, but also the future course of our national growth, our peace and prosperity and that of the entire world."

The following is the full text of Pitts' warning to California labor: "California labor is confronted with a major challenge to effective

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Court Intervenes After Braceros Join AWOC Strike

An unlimited injunction prohibiting the state Department of Employment from withholding the use of Mexican Nationals as strikebreakers, and completely suppressing AWOC's right to picket a Tracy-area corporate farm, was issued on Wednesday by Superior Court Judge George Buck of Stockton.

Confronted with strike action by both braceros and domestic farm workers, tomato-grower Lindsay Cochran is the most recent agricul-

tural employer to get strikebreaking assistance from the courts.

The scope of the "ex parte" injunction is virtually unprecedented. It not only prevents state employment director Irving Perluss from making a finding on the existence of a labor dispute, but also prohibits all picketing in direct contradiction of all case law in California.

Legal observers have branded the court action as an outright invasion

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Political Action, Or Else . . .

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political action in the general election of November 8.

"Nationally, seven years of big business and banker domination under the Eisenhower Administration has been aided and abetted to the detriment of the people and the general public by a reactionary coalition of ultra-conservative Republicans and bigoted Dixiecrats who have dominated the United States Congress.

"The result has been seven years of drift and indecision, compounded by major setbacks for the free world internationally and a debasing of our national economy in a period of unprecedented social and economic challenge.

"U.S. leadership for peace and prosperity in the world, within a positive framework of human dignity for the individual, has been sidetracked by ineptness on the part of the present national Administration in succumbing to a 'cat and mouse' game with Soviet treachery.

"Banker and big business-oriented economic policies have stunted the growth of the nation's economy, coupling stagnation with periodic recessions and ever-rising levels of unemployment, and leaving the economy teetering on the brink of another recession in 1961. Social balance in our production goals has given way to the elevation of private profits and the exploitation of the consumer as the foremost concern of our national government.

"Amid an illusion of abundance at the market place, millions of under-privileged families at the low rung of our economic ladder remain the forgotten stepchildren of our 'wealthy' America. In the face of lagging buying power of workers and the illusion of surpluses glutting the market, millions are being spent annually to 'create' and 'engineer' consumer demand for products in surplus while government is denied the authority to develop sound programs to satisfy the major unmet needs of our population.

"Millions of the nation's low and middle income families are being forced to live in substandard dwellings—the slums and ghettos of

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Court Intervenes After Braceros Join AWOC Strike

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of both the administrative process and the constitutional rights of workers.

Deputy Attorney General Walter Wiesner of Sacramento announced that he will file a challenge against the restraining order on Friday. AWOC attorneys are also prepared to ask that the picketing restriction be lifted.

Wiesner stated that the grounds for his action are that the injunction prohibits Perluss from performing his legal duties. Under state labor laws, the Director of Employment is empowered to investigate labor disputes to determine whether they are bona fide.

The Cochran strike erupted last Sunday after more than 40 domestic workers were hired on a 150-acre field, which is only a small part of the 900-acre tomato operation owned by the Lindsay-Cochran Company, Inc., in the Tracy area alone.

The domestic workers presented the field superintendent with a demand for a piece rate of 20 cents per box containing 48 pounds of tomatoes. Last year's tomato picking rate was about 12 cents a box.

Although the union's target generally this year is 17 cents, the poor picking conditions in the Cochran operation necessitated a 20-cent rate if minimally decent earnings were to be maintained.

After the superintendent refused to bargain, the 43 domestic workers walked off the field and were joined by 70 of the 125 Mexican Nationals employed at the same location.

The dramatic bracero action was reported by AWOC representatives as having been based upon their bitter experience with employment conditions. It was reported that for six hours of labor, they averaged earnings ranging from \$2.00 to \$4.00 daily.

The attempt to implement the large growers' determination to prevent any wage increase takes the form of stranding up to 800 domestic workers daily in the Stockton shape-up area, according to AWOC representatives.

The secret to the depression of wages in agriculture, they point out, is found in the statistics of the Department of Employment estimat-

ing the number and nature of tomato harvest workers expected at peak season in late September.

Of the 29,780 tomato harvest workers forecast for the peak of the season in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys during September, it was expected that 26,880 would be Mexican Nationals, while only 2,900 would be domestic seasonal workers.

This continues from previous years the pattern of a labor force dominated by braceros, AWOC charges. It represents little, if any, increase in the employment of domestics over 1959, when canning tomatoes, grapes and peaches entered the harvest stage at the same time. The fact that peaches are now in their terminal stage, while tomatoes and grapes are barely getting under way, clearly mitigates the need for braceros and should have provided much greater employment opportunities for domestics.

AWOC Successes Mount

Other than the harassing effect of the several recent temporary court orders, AWOC Director Smith has reported that the organizing effort remains in high gear.

Although the canning tomato season is just getting underway, Smith announced that a number of labor contractors have agreed to the union's demands for 17 cents per box.

The union has just concluded successful negotiations with a grape harvest contractor for a rate of 10 cents a bucket or 20 cents a box, with no differential for varieties. The harvesting crews working under his direction are now picking about 400 of the several thousand acres under contract with this employer.

In the pear orchards surrounding Placerville, AWOC had sought a piece rate of 23 cents a box or \$1.25 hourly wage. It exceeded this initial target by forcing the rate up to 25 cents a box, with very few exceptions. The job actions preceding these wage gains resulted in substantially increasing the total earnings of some 600 or 800 pear harvest workers employed in that area.

In Lake County, AWOC reported some 3,000 to 3,500 workers won similar wage increases as at least 75 per cent of the pear growers complied with AWOC's proposed wage rates.

Endorsements

President

John F. Kennedy (D)

Vice President

Lyndon B. Johnson (D)

Representatives in Congress

District

1. Clement W. Miller (D)
2. Harold T. Johnson (D)
3. John E. Moss, Jr. (D)
4. Phillips S. Davies (D)
5. John F. Shelley (D)
6. Douglas R. Page (D)
7. Jeffery Cohelan (D)
8. George P. Miller (D)
9. John D. Kaster (D)
10. Russell B. Bryan (D)
11. John J. McFall (D)
12. B. F. Sisk (D)
13. L. Boyd Finch (D)
14. Harlan Hagen (D)
15. No endorsement
16. Jerry Pacht (D)
17. Cecil R. King (D)
18. D. Patrick Ahern (D)
19. Chet Holifield (D)
20. Open
21. Rudd Brown (D)
22. James C. Corman (D)
23. Open
24. No endorsement
25. George A. Kasem (D)
26. James Roosevelt (D)
27. Harry R. Sheppard (D)
28. Max E. Woods (D)
29. D. S. (Judge) Saund (D)
30. Walter Wencke (D)

State Senators

1. Stanley Arnold (D)
3. Carl L. Christensen (D)
5. Edwin J. Regan (D)
7. Ronald G. Cameron (D)
9. John C. Begovich (D)
11. Samuel R. Geddes (D)
13. Charles M. Geller (D)
15. No endorsement
17. George Miller, Jr. (D)
19. Albert S. Rodda (D)
21. William F. Gately (D)
23. Open
25. Fred S. Farr (D)
27. Robert D. Williams (D)
29. Open
31. Open
33. James J. McBride (D)
35. James V. Dutzi (D)
37. Clifford V. Dean (D)
39. Aaron W. Quick (D)

State Assemblymen

1. David D. Wofford (D)
2. Pauline L. Davis (D)
3. Lloyd W. Lowrey (D)
4. Reginald M. Watt (D)

5. Robert L. Leggett (D)
6. Paul J. Lunardi (D)
7. Everett A. Matzen (D)
8. W. A. "Jimmie" Hicks (D)
9. Edwin L. Z'berg (D)
10. Jerome R. Waldie (D)
11. John T. Knox (D)
12. Guard C. Darrah (D)
13. Carlos Bee (D)
14. Robert W. Crown (D)
15. Nicholas C. Petris (D)
16. Wilma B. Hackett (D)

17. William Byron Rumford (D)
18. Edward R. FitzSimmons (D)
19. Charles W. Meyers (D)
20. Phillip Burton (D)
21. George R. Moscone (D)
22. Frank Brann (D)
23. John A. O'Connell (D)
24. Edward M. Gaffney (D)
25. Robert H. Hardgrove (D)
26. Alan L. Baldwin (D)
27. Glenn E. Coolidge (R)

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Political Action, Or Else . . .

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America. Basic facilities and services for the education of our children in our free society are being held back as our population grows and our education needs mount in staggering proportions.

"Health facilities and services are being effectively denied major segments of our aged and general population in order to satisfy the inordinate and selfish demands of the American Medical Association and the insurance interests.

"Essential planning services for balanced community and industrial growth are being subverted to the interest of speculators and other interests who would deny us the essential economic and physical planning base for full employment and a prospering system of private enterprise that is socially responsible to the people.

"Federal responsibility for sound, basin-wide resources development has been all but forsaken to make room for the uneconomical schemes of monopoly and speculative interests seeking to satisfy their insatiable appetites for feeding at the public trough.

"In the field of labor, social security and welfare legislation, national programs of previous 'New Deal' and 'Fair Deal' administrations have likewise been undermined and prevented from accomplishing their essential social and economic purposes. The enactment of the anti-labor Landrum-Griffin measure by Congress last year only dramatizes this unhealthy situation and the utmost importance of taking effective political action.

"The challenge begins at the national level in the Presidential election. It reaches into the thirty Congressional races in California and into every State Senate and Assembly district on the ballot.

"On the state level, despite the

gains made at the 1958 election, progress for the people in California has been marred by some serious setbacks in major areas of labor concern for the public welfare. Further, the 1961 session of the legislature holds the key for the next ten years to the issue of fair representation of the people in the reapportionment of the State Assembly and Congressional districts that is to take place at the forthcoming session.

"We are here in convention to endorse candidates for office, but endorsements in themselves will not measure up to the challenge we face. Between now and the general election on November 8 every trade unionist shares in a solemn responsibility to replace apathy with carefully planned action to make certain that our membership and the general voters understand the implications of state and federal elections in 1960. Those in our ranks who persist in ignoring the compelling necessity of labor political action risk not only the growth and future effectiveness of the labor movement, but also the future course of our national growth, our peace and prosperity and that of the entire world.

"Our basic task is the obligation we owe to education of voters so that the millions of working men and women may achieve all of the economic and social benefits to which they are entitled in a free society.

"This challenge of education we must accept, and give practical application at every level of political action. Labor's future and that of California, the nation and the freedom-loving people of the world, demand the election of candidates who are responsible to the compelling human needs of the people and the socio-economic needs of our society."

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Endorsements

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28. Alfred E. Alquist (D)
29. Bruce F. Allen (R)
30. Ralph M. Brown (D)
31. Gordon H. Winton, Jr. (D)
32. Bert DeLotto (D)
33. Charles B. Garrigus (D)
34. Alan G. Pattee (R)
35. Myron H. Frew (D)
36. Clell W. Whelchel (D)
37. Rex M. Cunningham (D)
38. Jack T. Casey (D)
39. John C. Williamson (D)
40. Edward E. Elliott (D)
41. Tom Carrell (D)
42. Tom Bane (D)
43. Open
44. Joseph M. Kennick (D)
45. George E. Brown, Jr. (D)
46. Charles P. Sohner (D)
47. Open
48. Dore Sharpe (D)
49. Paul Egly (D)
50. Ronald Brooks Cameron (D)
51. William A. Munnell (D)
52. George A. Willson (D)
53. Fletcher R. Flynn (D)
54. Herbert E. Selwyn (D)
55. Vernon Kilpatrick (D)
56. George E. Danielson (D)
57. Charles Manfred (D)
58. Bob Moran (D)
59. Thomas M. Rees (D)
60. James K. Rocks (D)
61. Lester A. McMillan (D)
62. Augustus F. Hawkins (D)
63. Don A. Allen, Sr. (D)
64. Galal (Gale) Kernahan (D)
65. Jesse M. Unruh (D)
66. Charles H. Wilson (D)
67. Clayton A. Dills (D)
68. Vincent Thomas (D)
69. Carley V. Porter (D)
70. Ora G. Knudson (D)
71. David N. Strausser (D)
72. Eugene G. Nisbet (D)
73. Phil Dreyer (D)
74. Open
75. Richard T. Hanna (D)
76. Leverette D. House (D)
77. Open
78. Open
79. James R. Mills (D)
80. Open

Why California Labor Backs Kennedy

(The following is the full text of the statement adopted by the California Labor COPE endorsing the candidacy of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson for President and Vice President, respectively, in the November 8 general election.)

In the forthcoming national elections, the choice confronting California labor is clear-cut. The voting records of both major presidential candidates, together with the party platforms to which they and their running mates are pledged, warrant labor's enthusiastic and all-out support for Democratic candidates John F. Kennedy for President and Lyndon B. Johnson for Vice President.

The record shows that Senator Kennedy has a 100 per cent favorable score on key labor-management issues analyzed by AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education. His opponent, Richard M. Nixon, has only a 6.7 per cent favorable voting record on key labor bills.

In COPE's appraisal of voting records on broad social legislation affecting the welfare of the entire nation and free world, Kennedy has voted constructively 91.6 per cent of the time—Nixon only 13 per cent of the time. Included in these votes are measures dealing with civil rights, consumer welfare, education, housing, health, taxes, social security, minimum wages and foreign policy.

We agree wholeheartedly with the AFL-CIO that "the American people must select in November an administration which can best meet the twin problems of our time—the protection of our country and the rest of the free world from the menace of totalitarian Communism, and the strengthening of our own society, both socially and economically, to insure our position as the bastion and the exemplar of freedom as a way of life."

Senator Kennedy's capacity for meeting this two-fold challenge is spelled out in his record, his party platform, and his intelligent, articulate and forceful advocacy of proposals to strengthen the forces of freedom and democracy throughout the world.

Nixon, on the other hand, is tied to the Administration's record of brinkmanship, bluster and ineffectual personal diplomacy which has presided over the decline of American prestige in the far corners of the world.

On the basic domestic issue of economic growth and full employment, Nixon has again associated himself with the big business-banker-oriented economic policies of the past seven years which have combined periodic recessions with ever-increasing levels of unemployment and a near-stagnant rate of economic growth.

Kennedy, on the other hand, has given leadership to the economic programs of a liberal and progressive America.

Finally, we have full faith in the moral integrity of Senator Kennedy, while we cannot forget Nixon's sorry record as a "mudslinger" and "opportunist" in his political career. He has not been able to repair the damage which his unscrupulous tactics have inflicted on good Americans.

We have no confidence that Nixon has changed—that he will conduct himself with integrity in the campaign or in the White House.

We urge working men and women of California to vote for Senators Kennedy and Johnson in the November election.