

Promoters of Prop. 17 Accused Of Deception

Proponents of Proposition 17, the initiative aimed at eliminating California's minimum crew law, were assailed yesterday for "dishonestly exploiting" the names of two former United States Presidents in connection with the measure on the November 3 ballot.

John Anson Ford and Roger W. Jessup, Southern California co-chairmen of the California Committee to Preserve Railroad Safety, termed use of the names of Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy on behalf of Proposition 17 as "an irresponsible attempt to confuse people into voting against their own best interests."

"The simple facts are that neither President took a stand on the minimum crew issue, and that both actually favored railroad safety to the fullest," Ford and Jessup said. "Recent awards and decisions relating to train crews were the work of federal commissions and arbitration boards, not the Chief Executive's office."

"Any implication that President Eisenhower or President Kennedy favored the elimination of safe crew laws is totally misleading."

"Powerful railroad interests backing Proposition 17 have failed several times to persuade our State Legislature to back their objectives," the co-chairmen continued. "Now, they are playing on

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Pitts Hails Medicare Bill's Initial OK as Tribute to LBJ; Urges Drive To Pass It

"The U. S. Senate's 49-44 vote approval this week of a medicare bill to provide health insurance for the aged under social security serves as a terrific tribute to President Johnson's effective leadership," state AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts declared today.

"But," he cautioned, "despite this major breakthrough—the first time

Deadline Nears For COPE Parley

Local COPE recommendations for district offices in the forthcoming general election must be in the hands of the Executive Council of the California Labor Council on Political Education not later than Monday, September 14.

A reminder of this deadline was contained in a letter dispatched this week to all Central Labor Councils and local COPEs by State AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts as preparations went forward for the pre-general election convention of California Labor COPE to be held in San Francisco in California Hall at 625 Polk Street on Friday, September 18.

Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO's political arm, explained that

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THOS. L. PITTS
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

Weekly News Letter

Vol. 6—No. 36
Sept. 4, 1964

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Second Class Postage Paid at San Francisco, California

Published by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
995 Market Street, San Francisco, California, 94103

AFL-CIO Board Votes Unanimously To Back Johnson-Humphrey Ticket

The AFL-CIO General Board unanimously endorsed Lyndon B. Johnson for President this week and its members then trooped over to the White House to give him the news themselves. The unanimity of the endorsement accorded President Johnson on Tuesday was unusual since some members of the 29-member executive council, which recommended the action to the general board, normally work for Republicans.

Maurice A. Hutcheson, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, for example, said it was the first time he had endorsed a Democratic candidate. Two other board members were on record earlier as being unable to back Goldwater. They are Lee Minton, president of the Glass Blowers Union who worked for New York Governor Nelson A.

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Extremists Cast Pall of Peril Over Labor Day Fete

By THOS. L. PITTS
Secretary-Treasurer

The national setting for Labor Day 1964 causes us to temper our celebration of labor's gains with a sober appraisal of the formidable problems on the horizon.

No worker can escape the grim prospect that our free society and all the

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gains achieved by labor today stand in danger from extremism.

Few, if any, Labor Day occasions have lacked some substantial threat to the relative security won by organized labor over the years. But these individual dangers, ranging from Taft-Hartley's right-to-work sanction to the menacing encroachments of unplanned technological change, cannot be compared to the devil's brew that is now fermenting.

This explosive concoction mixes racism, rightism, rugged individualism and international irresponsibility into its base. The over-all impact leaves the gullible with a false sense of security stemming from illusions that 20th Cen-

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Register To Vote Before Sept. 10

in the 15-year fight for medicare that the measure has been passed by either House of Congress—the big battle for final enactment of the program lies immediately ahead.

"And all union members, indeed all citizens interested in averting the financial catastrophe that can befall themselves or their loved ones if they are suddenly confronted by a major illness or accident, can play a real role in this fight," Pitts declared.

"Just by writing letters, lots of letters, to our own congressmen and to Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D.-Ark.) chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, we can all help generate the political heat necessary to overcome the pressures again being exerted by the American Medical Association to kill this vital, long overdue program to benefit all Americans," Pitts said.

Mills is the leading House opponent

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Rockefeller during the primaries, and James A. Suffridge, president of the Retail Clerks International Association.

In thanking the union leaders for their support, President Johnson said that present U. S. prosperity was not an accident or mere good luck but resulted from labor-management co-operation and the unmatched vitality of the American free enterprise system.

"Today again men of faulty vision cry 'halt . . . we have done all we can do.'"

"And today again the American people will reject these fear-filled slogans," the President asserted.

Declaring that if the country stays on its present course, the nation's economic growth during the next four years would break all records, the chief executive added:

"The growth of the next four years will be the greatest in all our history. And every person in this country will benefit from expanding prosperity."

Following adoption of the Democratic platform and selection of the Johnson-Humphrey ticket last week, AFL-CIO president George Meany noted that the Democratic platform presented a "sharp contrast" to the Republican platform in that the Democrats adopted a "sound,

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public sympathy by misrepresenting the attitudes of Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy, when the chief executives had not the remotest connection with the issue.

"With further disregard for the facts, proponents are also throwing up a smokescreen regarding the intent of a 1963 arbitration board award by claiming it was meant to apply to California. Both the board and the Congressional Record clearly state that the award does not apply to California because this state has a minimum crew law already on the statute books.

"For the safety of California citizens, our state's individual railroading hazards can be best decided by our legislature and State Public Utilities Commission. No other state has the automotive traffic, dangerous crossings, and the total miles of track in mountainous terrain that California does. Because of these conditions and for the public safety, we must retain our minimum crew laws and defeat Proposition 17," they concluded.

liberal and progressive" program of action for 20th Century Americans.

Noting that the Democrats incorporated "many of the major proposals" the Federation had presented to both party conventions, Meany also pointed out that the Democratic platform showed no reticence in condemning extremism "whether from the right or the left, including the extreme tactics of such organizations as the Communist Party, the Ku-Klux-Klan and the John Birch Society."

The Democratic platform also set forth specific pledges of vigorous federal activity in a broad range of labor and social fields including repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act's Section 14(b) (the "right to work" clause), a massive increase in aid to education, and improvements in the minimum wage and unemployment compensation laws, the anti-poverty program, manpower training program and the social security system including hospital care for the aged.

The platform also contained an unprecedented statement based on the Employment Act of 1946 which declared that every man or woman "willing and able to work is entitled to a job and to a fair wage for doing it" and that "full employment is an end in itself and must be insisted on as a priority objective."

And on automation the Democratic platform declared that "radical" technological changes "must not penalize" some workers while benefiting the many and that any person "displaced" by such changes "should have the opportunity, without penalty, to another job."

U.C. Savant To Head New Farm Wage Study

Dr. Earl Cheit of the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Berkeley, has been named chairman of a joint employer-employee wage board selected by the California Industrial Welfare Commission to study the adequacy of wage rates for women and minors working in agricultural jobs.

The 15-member wage board was named in Los Angeles recently in an action looking toward revision of the Commission's Wage Order No. 14-61 which in 1961 established a \$1.00 per hour minimum for women and minors aged 16 and 17.

The Board is composed of seven employer and seven employee representatives. Its solitary public member serves as the chairman. The new wage Board's first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 29, but its recommendations are not expected to be submitted to the commission till late October or early November.

Extremists Cast Pall of Peril Over Labor Day Fete

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tury problems can be readily solved by drifting backwards.

American workers cannot entrust their futures to such mentalities. Conscious as we are of the growing complexity of our world and our economy, it is obvious to us that satisfactory solutions lie only in forward-looking leadership.

Trade unionists on Labor Day 1964 must rededicate themselves to the highest degree of unity and action. Everything lending dignity to our lives as working people is at stake as never before. But no less important is the unprecedented attack upon the foundations of peace and freedom that could be unleashed after November 3 by an electoral victory for the Birchers and their allies.

Labor Cites Need For Stronger U.N.

Stressing the vital impact the nation's civil rights struggle has on foreign policy, delegates to the recent state AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco approved a foreign policy statement urging increased unity of action "with the Atlantic democracies," strengthening of the United Nations, and an end to the so-called "modern Soviet colonialism based upon seizure."

Meeting in the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco, the union delegates called for "the development of the United Nations into a world body with sufficient authority to play a decisive role in fostering true harmony and mutual aid among the nations of the globe."

In upholding the U.N. as "the best hope for world peace," the delegates favored granting the U.N. the "authority to implement its decisions on vital international problems." They also called for defense of the U.N. against attacks from within the United States.

While suggesting that the nation's recent victories against racial discrimination be used "as an example to the rest of the world," the policy statement observed:

"The free world cannot hope to win the full trust and support of Africa, Asia and Europe's captive peoples without living up to the ideals of full integration."

The statement also urged "utilization of every channel of diplomacy" to reach a disarmament pact that provides "full and untrammelled international inspection."

In addition, it called for full support of the Alliance for Progress program.

Leadership Urged To Set Standards In Welfare Field

Pointing out that "the nature of welfare problems transcends state boundaries" while the cost of adequate programs "outstrips state and local resources." AFL-CIO delegates from throughout the state have called for federal leadership to develop minimum standards in the welfare field and action to extend the scope and quality of medical care available under the programs.

The delegates, participating in the recent convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in San Francisco, also urged a number of improvements in California's public assistance program and pledged to continue to fight any "unwarranted attacks" aimed at subverting the extension of Aid For Dependent Children (AFDC-U) to families in which the unemployed father lives at home.

In approving a policy statement on social welfare, the delegates, among other things, pledged organized labor's support of action to:

- Provide automatic cost of living adjustments of AFDC and ATD (Aid to the Totally Disabled) benefit levels.
- Liberalize medical care benefits for public assistance recipients.
- Reduce residence requirements.
- Ban the setting-up of labor camps for destitute, unattached and unemployed persons.
- Establish statewide minimum standards to assure health and decency.
- Require admission to county and district hospitals without restrictions of any kind. "No person should be denied such care if his property holdings do not exceed those authorized for adult categorical aid recipients," the statement said.

Recalling the State AFL-CIO's protest against "indiscriminate mass night raids on the homes of AFDC welfare recipients," the statement said organized labor was pleased that its defense was vindicated by the special study on eligibility conducted in 1963 at the direction of the U. S. Senate Appropriations Committee.

"This \$286,500 study of California cases disclosed that only 1.2 percent of families on AFDC were totally ineligible for aid, while another 1.1 percent were found to be partially ineligible.

"These findings constitute a resounding mandate for halting violations of the spirit of a free people by dragnet methods of harassment," the State AFL-CIO asserted.

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of the medicare provisions and is expected to play a key role in the anticipated Senate-House conference committee's action determining the final version of the measure, Pitts, secretary-treasure of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, explained.

The Senate vote Wednesday did not constitute the Senate's final action on the measure but it did firmly plant the medicare provision into the Senate version of the bill.

The Senate must act on a number of amendments involving technical aspects of the social security system before the measure can be moved either to the Senate-House Conference Committee or to the House floor for a vote. The latter course would require a special rule allowing the amendments that were not a part of the earlier House-passed measure, which called only for a 5 percent hike in benefits, to be voted on by the full House.

GOP Presidential nominee Barry Goldwater, who flew to Washington to vote against the medicare proposal, took no part in the Senate debate on the medicare issue beyond rising to say "My vote on this will be No" and inserting a written argument into the Congressional Record. The junior Senator from Arizona claimed that the medicare proposal 'reveals a contempt for the intelligence and judgment of our people' and declared:

"I face with deep foreboding the consequences of our embarking on this course."

The Senate-approved plan would provide 45 days of hospital care a year for illness for all persons 65 or over or 180 days if the patient agrees to pay part of the cost. It would provide 60 days of nursing home care and, in addition, home nursing visits and outpatient diagnostic services. The measure calls for a straight \$7 hike in monthly social security benefits instead of the flat five percent across-the-board boost contained in the House bill.

To finance both the medicare provisions and the increase in social security benefits, the Senate plan would raise the social security tax in stages to 5.2 percent on a worker's first \$5,600 of earnings. When fully effective in 1971, this would amount to an annual tax of \$297 compared to the present annual rate of \$174, based on a tax rate of 3.625 percent on a worker's first \$4,800 in earnings.

"In short, the combined cost of the increase in benefits and the medicare provisions, amounts to only \$117 a year or \$2.25 a week, far less than any private insurance plan offering com-

parable coverage that's available today," Pitts pointed out.

The Senate version also contains provisions to let private insurance companies pool their risks to offer relatively low-cost insurance policies covering additional medical expenses such as doctors' and surgeons' fees which are not included in the social security-financed medicare provisions.

Addition of the private insurance participation features to the bill, which would exempt such insurance pools from federal anti-trust laws, swung five key Republican votes to win passage for the measure. These were the votes of Senators Thomas H. Kuchel, Jacob K. Javits, Kenneth B. Keating, Clifford P. Case and Margaret Chase Smith.

California's newest representative in the Senate, Senator Pierre Salinger also voted for the medicare bill.

Opposed to the measure were 28 Republicans and 16 Democrats. All but one of the latter, Sen. Frank Lausche of Ohio, were southern Democrats.

IBEW Man To Aid LBJ's Campaign

George A. Mulkey, a veteran field representative for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has just been named Northern California labor coordinator for the Committee to Elect President Johnson by State Democratic Central Committee Chairman Roger Kent and Assemblyman Nicholas Petris, co-chairmen of the Johnson committee.

In accepting the appointment, Mulkey noted that "although organized labor solidly supports the Johnson-Humphrey ticket, the fear and smear tactics being employed by the extremists backing the junior Senator from Arizona already guarantee that this campaign will be one of the bitterest and dirtiest of the century."

"To save our jobs, our self-respect and assure progress instead of a long step backward toward Never Never land, we've all got to pitch in to defeat decisively the Know-Nothings backing Goldwater who impugn the patriotism and integrity of all who dare disagree with them," he added.

Mulkey, 59, the IBEW's international representative for five western states, will help mesh organized labor's activities to elect President Johnson from the Tehachapis northward. He has been active in political campaigns in labor's behalf for nearly 30 years. His office will be at Johnson headquarters, 45 Second St., San Francisco (Sutter 1-1700). His southern California counterpart has not yet been named.

Changes Sought In State's Off-Job Injury Program

AFL-CIO union delegates from throughout the state have called on the legislature to take urgency action as soon as it convenes next January to assure the solvency of the worker-financed unemployment disability insurance fund which provides benefits for covered employees for off-the-job injuries.

The need for action, they said, stems from the 1963 legislature's failure to enact a financing program urged by labor to match the benefit program won by the Federation in 1961.

Delegates to last month's State AFL-CIO convention adopted a policy statement on unemployment disability insurance in which they called on the state's lawmakers to:

1. Boost the taxable wage ceiling on which the one percent employee contribution is paid from the \$56000 ceiling scheduled to take effect in January to \$7500;
2. Require monthly employer remittance of worker contributions as is the case under the social security program; and,
3. Provide for annual escalation of the taxable wage ceiling to maintain a tax base of about 90 percent of total wages in future years.

The statement pointed out that such an adjustment would be "fully consistent" with the social insurance concept underlying the program. By maintaining the present one percent worker contribution rate, the annual escalation of the maximum weekly benefit amount, which accrues solely to the advantage of those with high incomes, would be paid for by those it benefits.

In addition to the foregoing urgency action, the union representatives called for, among other things, the following improvements in the program:

1. Retroactive compensation of the one-week waiting period whenever a disability extends beyond seven days in non-hospitalization cases.
2. Dependency benefits, in addition to the basic weekly benefits of \$7 for the first dependent and \$5 for each additional dependent not to exceed a total dependency allowance of \$37.
3. Extension of coverage to all workers presently excluded, including domestic workers, employees of non-profit organizations, and both state and local public employees.
4. Payment of benefits for injuries or illnesses arising from pregnancy.
5. Extension of the benefits payment period from 26 to 39 weeks.
6. An increase in the additional allowance while hospitalized from \$12 to \$20 per day for the present

Film Premiere Set For Labor Days Fete

"When the Day's Work Is Done," a new, 30-minute AFL-CIO TV documentary showing how union members donate their time and talents to public service, will be premiered over the Labor Day weekend by at least seven California TV stations.

"The film, narrated by Dave Garroway, will be shown on nearly 140 stations throughout the nation with telecasts scheduled in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The following California stations will show the film:

Bakersfield	KBAK (29)	Check local listing
Chico	KHSL (12)	Sept. 7 —12 noon
Eureka	KIEM (8)	Sept. 6 —after ball game
Los Angeles	KABC (7)	Sept. 6 2:00 p.m.
Sacramento	KVIE (6)	Sept. 7 —7:30 p.m.
San Diego	KOGO (10)	Sept. 6 —5:30 p.m.
San Francisco	KQED (9)	Sept. 7 —8:00 p.m.

Films on Civil Rights and Right Wing Are in Demand

Two new AFL-CIO films that bear on the two foremost issues in the current presidential campaign—right-wing activities and civil rights—are already in great demand and any local union or central body desiring to show either one of them should get their bookings in now.

That's the word from George T. Guernsey, Assistant Director of the AFL-CIO Department of Education.

The films, "Case History of a Rumor" dealing with right-wing groups and "No Hiding Place" depicting discrimination in housing in a suburban area, are both 55 minutes long and rent for \$7.50 per showing.

Local unions or central labor bodies desiring to show the films should get their requests in now, including their preferred date and a second and third choice of dates. Checks covering rental fees should be made payable to William F. Schnitzler, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO, and the requests for billing dates should be directed to George Guernsey, AFL-CIO Department of Education, 815 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

allowable 20 days.

7. Repeal of the present provision allowing assignment to a hospital of the present additional benefit payable while hospitalized.

Deadline Nears For COPE Parley In San Francisco

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the business of the convention will be to review primary endorsements and to consider endorsements for the general election in those instances where no position has been recorded or where previously endorsed candidates failed to qualify in the primary election.

The State COPE's Executive Council will meet Thursday, September 17, at the Del Webb TowneHouse to review local COPE recommendations and to determine the recommendations to be made to the convention the following day.

In cases where COPE-endorsed candidates for Congressman, State Senator or State Assemblyman have qualified in the primary election, Pitts noted, it is not necessary to re-submit a recommendation for endorsement in the general election.

In congressional districts involving the jurisdiction of more than one local COPE, the Executive Council may receive recommendations only from the Congressional District COPE involved, he added.

The deadline for mailing the list of authorized delegates for the State COPE convention to the secretary-treasurer fell on Thursday, September 3.

The deadline for the receipt of resolutions and proposed amendments to the Constitution was also September 3, except for those approved by regularly constituted and affiliated statewide organizations at conventions or conferences held during the 15 days preceding the convention which must be received by the secretary-treasurer not later than 9 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 1964. All resolutions must be presented in triplicate and bear either the signature of an executive officer or the seal of the affiliated organization introducing it.

Convention headquarters will be at the Del Webb TowneHouse.

Ocotillo Lodge and Autry's Melody Ranch on Unfair List

Gene Autry's Melody Ranch and the Ocotillo Lodge, both in Palm Springs, have been placed on the "We Do Not Patronize List" of the Riverside Central Labor Council, according to Burnell W. Phillips, the Council's secretary-treasurer.

The action was taken because the two establishments "have, over a long period of time, refused to bargain in good faith with Culinary Workers Local No. 535, Laborers' Local 1184 and Operating Engineers Local No. 501," Phillips explained.