



California AFL-CIO News

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer
151 THOS. L. PITTS

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Labor At the Legislature

From the Capitol Office
of the Executive Secretary

The 120 members of the California State Legislature have now left Sacramento. The parliamentary process by which each house separately concluded its work was unique in the history of the State. They will gather again at the Capitol on September 9—Admission Day—to consider veto messages from the Governor, any Special Session items the latter may place before them and such other business as may legally come before them.

Since the Assembly departed on the evening of August 6, the Executive Secretary of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and his Sacramento staff have been working to summarize the results of the session relative to the wage earning men and women of the State. Many very important affirmative measures affecting Labor were sent to the Governor by the Legislature. At the same time, positive action by the Federation and its friends resulted in the killing or modification of a large number of concentrated assaults on Labor's rights and protections. Taken in broad view, there was a large volume of excellent achievement from Labor's standpoint.

Three factors can be credited for this: first, hourly vigilance in keeping up with details on pending legislation; secondly, prompt and clear communication among all elements of labor on the latest legislative developments; and, thirdly, the outstanding cooperation of the entire Labor movement in solidifying a united front on the Federation program.

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Legislators' Dispute Deals Blows to Labor

For only the second time in California's history, a Governor has ordered the legislature out of session, the first being a special session and not a regular session in 1886.

A severe blow was dealt to labor with the adjournment order, especially in the field of social legislation. AB 1045 would

have granted increases in weekly temporary disability benefits, death benefits and burial expenses for workers hurt on the job. Even though the Federation opposed some of the technical language in the bill, it was definitely for the increases and would have attempted to change that lan-

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GOP Platform Ducks Specifics In Labor Plank

The Republican Party, in striving to establish a tone of moderation at its national convention in Miami Beach last week, adopted a platform designed to be broad enough to allow room for party members of all stripes. The trouble is it doesn't have any nails in it—specifics, that is.

Despite specific recommendations delivered personally to the GOP platform committee by AFL-CIO President George Meany for language pledging the GOP to safeguard the rights of all workers to organize and bargain collectively, the Republican Party's labor plank not only fails to contain any such pledge but suggests support for the deceptively labeled "right-to-work" issue—more objectively described as compulsory open shop laws—when it declares:

"We strongly believe that

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Baseball Great Quits GOP; 'Nixon Sold Out'

Baseball great Jackie Robinson, who has served as a New York State Republican Party official for the past two years, announced this week that he would resign that post and support the Democrats in November because Republican nomi-

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Labor Support For Cranston is Snowballing

U. S. Senate candidate Alan Cranston won strong additional labor support this week with the announcement that more than 275 additional elected union officials have joined the statewide ad hoc "Labor Committee for Cranston" since its formation less than five weeks ago.

"This avalanche of support for Alan Cranston reflects an increasing awareness by California workers that Cranston's extensive experience in federal and state government posts coupled with his thorough understanding of the problems of California workers makes him clearly the only U.S. Senate candidate worthy of election on November 5," state

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Rafferty Accused of Using 'Distortions and Untruths'

"Is a candidate who masquerades on the white horse of 'truth' while engaging in a campaign of . . . contrived untruths and misrepresentations fit to serve California in the United States Senate?"

That's the question put to

California voters by a bi-partisan group headed by Mayor Joseph Alioto of San Francisco that accuses Republican U.S. Senate candidate Max Rafferty of using "distortion, deception, and outright falsehoods" in his primary campaign last June to

defeat Senator Thomas H. Kuchel.

The charges are spelled out and documented in a 58-page "white paper" containing extensive reproductions of congressional records, reprints of ads used by Rafferty in his campaign and other papers that clearly and directly contradict the charges made by Rafferty in his primary campaign ads.

For example, one widely pub-

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Turn On & Tune In 'World of Labor' In California

"World of Labor," an award-winning, five-minute labor news cast sponsored by the AFL-CIO International Association of Machinists, is now being aired in most of the principal metropolitan areas in California.

Turn on and tune into the program nearest you. The program is sponsored by IAM Districts and Lodges in each community. IAM Districts and Lodges interested in sponsoring the program in their community may get complete information and a sample tape recording by writing to "The World of Labor," 909 Machinists' Building, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Here are the California communities already airing the program:

Barstow—KIOT (1310 kc) Tuesday, 6:45 a.m., and Thursday, 2:45 p.m.

Los Angeles - Riverside - San Bernardino Counties—KGRB (90 kc) Monday 6:30 a. m.; Wednesday 2:30 p. m.

San Diego—KOGO (600 kc) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:25 a. m.

San Francisco - Oakland - Richmond - San Rafael—KEEN (1370 kc) Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 6:55 p.m.

San Jose—KEEN (1370 kc) Monday and Wednesday, 6:55 p. m. Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00 p.m.

Santa Maria—KCOY (1440 kc) Monday, 6:50 a. m. and Wednesday, 3:25 p. m.

Stockton—KWG (1230 kc) Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00 p. m.

Labor at The Legislature

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A detailed report of the "Sacramento Story" for the California Labor Federation is in its final drafting stages, on its way to the printer.

As bills affecting the Labor movement are signed or vetoed by the Governor, we will advise.

Legislators' Dispute Deals Blows To Labor

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guage in the next session of the legislature.

AB 1045 was scheduled for concurrence in Senate amendments when Acting Governor Burns adjourned the legislature prompted by a resolution from the Senate by a vote of 17-9 on August 3.

Unfortunately, also needing concurrence in Senate amendments was AB 2034, which would increase weekly disability insurance benefits from \$80.00 to \$87.00, even though the Federation sought an increase to \$90.00. The Federation was able to take out some of the features it opposed through negotiations between Secretary Pitts and Assemblyman George Zenovich, the author of the bill, and it passed the Senate late Friday afternoon but had to go back to the Assembly for concurrence on the amendments.

The question now is the sta-

tus of AB 1045 and AB 2034.

In writing the Sacramento Story, a more detailed outline of actions taken on the social legislation will be given.

The Assembly went into session on August 5, under call from Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh, but the California legislative counsel and Acting Governor Burns stated that any bills passed would be illegal.

On Tuesday night, August 6, the Assembly passed both AB 1045 and AB 2034.

"The question of whether these bills will have to be the subject of a law suit remains to be seen because of the sine die adjournment by Acting Governor Burns," Assemblyman Zenovich said.

It is to be hoped that at the five-day veto session starting September 9, a request will be made to Governor Reagan to place the social legislation on special call.

AFL-CIO Urges Funds To Make New Housing Law a Reality

While hailing enactment of the new landmark \$5.3 billion housing law as a "heartening victory," an AFL-CIO spokesman has called on the Congress to provide the funds needed to make the law a reality instead of a promise.

Unless the money authorized to implement the new law is forthcoming, "America's needy will have been cruelly hoaxed, by being held out a promise of housing, only to have it denied them by failure of the appropriations process," declared Ray Denison, legislative representative for the AFL-CIO.

Denison appeared on Labor News Conference, an AFL-CIO-produced public affairs program broadcast Tuesdays on the Mutual Radio Network, in Washington, D.C.

Denison said that if the various programs in the new law are fully funded, some 1.8 million housing units can be built during the next three years to

help ease the nation's immediate and critical housing needs.

The union spokesman said that the first objective will be congressional approval of the \$700 million needed to get such programs as low- and middle-income home ownership and rent subsidies under way during the current fiscal year. This request is expected to come by when Congress reconvenes next month.

The major thrust of the new housing law will come in fiscal 1970, Denison said, when some \$4 billion will be needed to get other features of the law, such as urban renewal, model cities and new communities fully operative. Funding needs for the third year will be considerably less, he said.

Denison expressed the hope that such incentives as tax credits and government assistance for interest charges will encourage stepped-up participation of private industry in low-income housing. This, he

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AFL-CIO leader Thos. L. Pitts, the ad hoc committee's chairman, said.

"It indicates too that California workers don't want any Texas oil billionaire trying to dictate who is to represent California voters in the U.S. Senate."

HUNT'S BOAST

In that connection, Pitts was referring to an Associated Press report from Dallas on July 27 that quoted right-wing Texas oil billionaire H. L. Hunt as boasting that he "was instrumental in Max Rafferty's defeat of Kuchel" in the June 4 primary. Hunt is reportedly the financier of a number of rabidly right-wing operations, including the reactionary radio program "Life Lines."

"Cranston's opponent has repeatedly belittled efforts to win collective bargaining rights for farm workers," Pitts charged, pointing out that as recently as June 24, the State's School Superintendent dismissed any discussion of the merits of the bill to extend the National Labor Relations Act to farm workers by referring to it as "a transparent political gesture."

REALISM NEEDED

"Cranston is attracting the support of California workers in growing numbers," Pitts added, "because we want a hard-headed realist speaking for us in the United States Senate, not a man like his Republican opponent who has attempted to undermine the Paris peace talks on Vietnam by referring to them as 'a propaganda stunt.'"

The list of more than 275 more labor officials throughout the state who have joined the "Labor Committee for Cranston" since its formation was first announced on July 11 was released to communications media yesterday.

said, would be an important source of "technological knowledge and expertise" for the various programs, as well as help meet the "need for many billions of dollars from the general mortgage market and corporate sources."

Rafferty Accused of Using 'Distortions and Untruths'

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lished Rafferty ad accused Kuchel of voting in favor of using American tax dollars to help Red China build steel plants. In the ads, which were published widely throughout the state, the question put to California voters by the Rafferty ad was:

"Do you feel your tax dollars should be used to assist Red China in building steel plants? (S. 3584)."

The Rafferty ads said Senator Murphy voted "No" and Senator Kuchel "Yes," clearly implying that Senator Kuchel had voted in favor of using U.S. tax dollars for Red China's steel mills.

'ABSOLUTELY FALSE'

The "white paper" prepared by the bi-partisan "Californians for Cranston" Committee, and distributed to the press this week states flatly that:

"This is absolutely false."

It points out that on July, 1966 Senator Kuchel did vote against an amendment by Senator Byrd but the amendment "had nothing to do with the expenditure of U.S. tax dollars for steel mills in China."

The facts are that the Byrd amendment was directed against the West German government because, according to Senator Byrd, the West German government had given some form of official approval to a consortium of private firms from West Germany, France and Italy which was undertaking to build steel mills in China.

NO TAX MONEY

No use of U.S. tax money was involved in any way, the "white paper" pointed out.

Moreover, it explained, the amendment involved nothing more than the censure of the West Germany government for allowing private firms in Europe to undertake the construction of facilities in Red China. Senator Kuchel voted against the measure because he felt that a protest should be made properly through diplomatic channels and not by a Senate vote, the "white paper" said:

Some eight other charges involving foreign aid, federal aid to education, and Kuchel's position on crime and lawlessness and the Supreme Court were similarly documented to be

"riddled with inaccurate statements, misrepresentations, and fabrications," the "white paper" said.

'CRIME ISSUE'

On the crime in the streets issue, for example, the "white paper" cited an ad for Rafferty that appeared in the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner late in the campaign containing many statements distorting Kuchel's voting record and including the following language:

"Crime: Tuesday, May 21, 1968: With taxis afraid to enter Washington, D.C. streets at night, Senate majority acts to limit authority of Supreme Court—but not Kuchel!"

"Last week, Kuchel backed Democrat Tydings' attempt to kill the vital Title Two of the Safe Streets-Crime Control bill. Title Two limits the authority of the Supreme Court. With Murphy's help, the Tydings-Kuchel attempt was overwhelmingly defeated by a Senate vote of 51 to 21."

The clear implication of the ad was that an overwhelming majority of Senators, not including Kuchel, had voted to restrict the authority of the Supreme Court, the "white paper" said.

'WHOLLY MISLEADING'

"This implication is wholly misleading," it declared.

It said the majority vote against striking Title Two was "not a vote in favor of limiting the authority of the Supreme Court" as implied in the ad, but was a vote against eliminating Title Two in its entirety.

Although Sen. Kuchel did vote with the minority for the Tydings amendment to eliminate Title Two entirely, neither Kuchel nor the Senate majority voted to limit the authority of the Supreme Court as the ad claimed.

On the contrary, after the Tydings amendment was defeated by a 51-31 vote, not 51-21 as the ad claimed, Kuchel "voted with an overwhelming majority of the Senate as did the majority of Republicans in the Senate" in favor of three amendments striking those provisions of Title Two that would have limited the Supreme Court's authority.

For example the Senate

adopted by a vote of 52-32 an amendment deleting language from Title Two that would have denied the Supreme Court and lower Federal Courts jurisdiction to review the determination by a State Court trial judge that a confession was "voluntary" if the judge's determination had been upheld by the state's highest court.

On this vote Senator Kuchel voted with the majority as did a majority of Senate Republicans, the "white paper" said.

Thus, the assertion in the Rafferty ad that "Senate majority acts to limit authority of Supreme Court—but not Kuchel" was "patently misleading," it said, because the majority of the Senate, including the majority of Republicans voted just the opposite—to strike from Title Two all provisions aimed at limiting the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

The report, 21 pages long with 37 pages of additional documentation, was released at a press conference this week at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

EX-GOP AIDE FOR ALAN

Among a number of Republicans taking part in the press conference was Mrs. Lee Sherry of Fairfax, former Vice Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee and one of the sponsors of the "white paper."

Although she said she thinks Dick Nixon is "a fine man," she said:

"I don't think Mr. Nixon needs Mr. Rafferty in the Senate."

Mrs. Sherry was co-chairman of the Women's Division in Senator George Murphy's 1964 campaign.

Although she said she had never "supported a Democrat in my life," she said she would work full time for Democratic nominee Alan Cranston against Rafferty.

11TH COMMANDMENT

Asked if she thought her attack on Rafferty violated the Republican so-called "11th commandment" which is designed to discourage Republicans from saying bad things about each other, Mrs. Sherry said:

"I think Mr. Rafferty's distortion of Senator Kuchel's record violated the 11th command-

Baseball Great Quits GOP; 'Nixon Sold Out'

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nee Richard M. Nixon "has prostituted himself and sold himself out to the bigots in the South."

The Republican Party's nomination of Nixon, Robinson said, "in my view has the same effect that the Goldwater nomination in 1964" had for Afro-Americans.

"If they'll have me," Robinson added, "I'll support the Democratic nominee to the best of my ability."

U.S. Probe of Corporate Mergers Asked

A congressional probe of conglomerate corporation mergers and their impact on social and political institutions has been urged by the executive council of the Textile Workers Union of America.

"The influence wielded by the small group of men at the top of these new industrial pyramids is awesome," the resolution said, with their decisions affecting "the welfare of entire communities and the nation as a whole."

Yet, it added, "their entrenched position permits them to operate with no obligation to consider the interests of workers, the stockholders, or the public at large."

The resolution adopted at a meeting in Atlantic City, noted that conglomerate mergers—consolidating of businesses which have no market or product connections with each other—have gobbled up 382 firms with \$17 billion in assets in the last five years.

ment."

Among other Republicans sponsoring the "white paper" were: William Nelligan, former President of the California Republican Assembly; Republican Attorney Robert Gordon Sproul, Jr.; and Republican Richard Goldman, a member of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

GOP Platform Ducks Specifics in Its Labor Plank

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the protection of individual liberty is the cornerstone of sound labor policy. Today, basic rights of some workers, guaranteed by law, are inadequately guarded against abuse. We will assure these rights through vigorous enforcement of present laws, including the Taft-Hartley Act and the Landrum-Griffin Act, and the addition of new protections where needed."

Although the Republican labor plank credits organized labor for having "contributed greatly to the economic strength of our country and the well-being of its members" and says the Republican Party "vigorously endorses its (organized labor's) key role in our national life," it also leveled an oblique attack on the National

Labor Relations Board, condemned "government coerced strike settlements" and called for new measures to crack down on "crippling work stoppages."

For all its generality, the traditional GOP slogans show through as the platform attacks "an endless expansion of federal programs" and calls for greater reliance on private enterprise, spurred by tax incentives, to solve such problems as manpower training and air pollution.

The Republican Party's platform statement that "we will be vigilant to prevent any administrative agency entrusted with labor law enforcement from defying the letter and spirit of these laws" was generally interpreted as a swipe at the National Labor Relations

Board although the Board was not mentioned by name.

In addition, the GOP platform continued to perpetuate the myth that increases in minimum wages result in increased unemployment among those on the lowest rung of the economic ladder despite repeated studies that have demonstrated this to be untrue.

In this regard, the GOP platform stated:

"We support an equitable minimum wage for American workers — one providing fair wages without unduly increasing unemployment among those on the lowest rung of the economic ladder — and will improve the Fair Labor Standards Act, with its important protections for employees."

In weighing whether this is

just political doubletalk, California trade unionists should bear in mind that in 1967 Senate Republican leader Everett M. Dirksen, the chief architect of the 1968 GOP platform, joined 29 other senators in introducing S 2281 which would have denied Fair Labor Standards Act coverage to some one million workers employed in retail and service enterprises with gross annual sales between \$250,000 and \$500,000.

It would also have removed from coverage an additional one million workers employed in individual retail and service establishments with gross annual sales ranging between \$250,000 and \$500,000 who already had been accorded Fair Labor Standards Act coverage. Fortunately no action was taken on the Dirksen bill.

Her-Ex Strikers' 'Truth Squad' Touring Country

Publisher George R. Hearst, Jr., won't talk to his 2,000 striking and locked-out employees at the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner so the employees will talk about Hearst—coast to coast.

Members of the 11-union Strike-Lockout Council, frustrated after seven months of effort to get Hearst to meet them around the bargaining table, have sent a "truth squad" on a 12-week tour of 16 states to "tell it like it is" to audiences all the way from Los Angeles to New York and back.

FIRST STOP

The four man team stopped first at state AFL-CIO conventions in Nevada, Utah and Montana before heading for the Steelworkers convention in Chicago and the Teachers convention in Cleveland Aug. 19-22.

The "truth talkers" are scheduled to bring their message to the convention of the Association for Educators in Journalism and the Hearst Journalism Professors dinner Aug.

25 in Lawrence, Kan.

They are due in New York Sept. 2 for the City Central Labor Council's big Labor Day parade; back to Chicago Sept. 3-5 for the Machinists convention; East again for conventions of the New York State, Connecticut and West Virginia federations. After that: conventions of the Tobacco Workers and the Broadcast Employees in Chicago, the Rubber Workers in Denver, the Missouri AFL-CIO in Kansas City and the Illinois AFL-CIO in Springfield.

October targets include the Delaware and New Hampshire state conventions; the Flight Engineers in Miami Beach; the Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers in Hollywood, Fla., and the Air Line Dispatchers in Miami Beach, and the Indiana and the Kentucky state federations.

TEAM NAMED

The cross-country travelers include Michael Mulcahy of the Printing Pressman, Stan Progar and Dick Houdek of the Newspaper Guild, and Jack Dyer of the Mailers. Each has 2 to 20 years of Herald-Examiner service and all have been out since last Dec. 15.

The strikers have launched a nationwide Don't Buy campaign, and AFL-CIO Pres.

George Meany and Thos. L. Pitts, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, have notified all affiliates that the employees and their families "urgently need financial assistance." A special strike fund was approved by the Federation's Executive Council, which primed it with a \$25,000 contribution.

LOS ANGELES SENDOFF

A rally at strike headquarters in L.A. gave the "truth team" a cheering sendoff. The four men left in a station wagon with a documentary film of the strike-lockout and thousands of handbills, pamphlets, brochures and picket signs telling the Hearst story.

As the labor team took off, a major television and radio campaign was launched in Southern California for a six-week run. Strike Coordinator W. R. Robertson said the double thrust was triggered because "Hearst has refused to discuss the issues" and continues putting out a scab product with the help of professional strikebreakers escorted by city police.

"We feel the public should know about 2,000 Americans who lost their jobs because of one man's refusal to bargain in good faith," Robertson declared.

Union Label's Flying High

Don't be surprised if the uniforms worn by TWA stewardesses on your next flight look particularly well tailored.

There's no mystery about it. They all just carry the union label of the AFL-CIO International Ladies Garment Workers Union — a label that both guarantees fine craftsmanship and assures that the clothes weren't ground out under sweatshop conditions.

Actually all consumers have an opportunity to get double duty from the dollars just by demanding to see the union label on any product they buy.

This is because the appearance of the union label on a product assures consumers first-rate workmanship and secondly, it assures them that the dollar votes they cast in the marketplace are not going to subsidize unscrupulous employers who deny their workers decent wages and working conditions.

And with Union Label Week to be marked September 2 through 8, 1968, what better time than now is there to let the firms you patronize know you're going to demand union-made products.

**Registered To Vote
Yet? Deadline
Falls Sept. 12**