



California AFL-CIO News

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JOHN F. HENNING 151
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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JOSEPH ANGELO
Veteran Unionist Dies

Joseph Angelo, Fed VP, Dies On Trip East

Joseph Angelo, a leading force in organized labor in California for more than 25 years and a Vice President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, died this week.

Mr. Angelo, 56, was director of the AFL-CIO United Steelworkers' District 38 which encompasses 14 western states. He was stricken while aboard a plane enroute to Washington, D.C. where he was to serve as chairman of the National Can negotiations, a post to which he had been appointed by I. W. Abel, President of the United Steelworkers Union.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., the son of a miner, Mr. Angelo worked for Weirton Steel as a teenager and was fired in 1936 for union activities when the Steelworkers' Organizing Committee attempted to organize the plant.

Later he worked at Republic Steel and in 1937 participated in the 18-month "Little Steel Strike."

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'State Shifts Burden to Counties'

Unruh Hits Reagan Cut In Welfare Job Training Fund

Jess Unruh, labor-endorsed candidate for Governor, sharply attacked Governor Reagan Tuesday for slashing funds for programs designed to help welfare recipients find jobs.

In an address to a Town Hall luncheon meeting at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, Unruh recalled Reagan's 1966 cam-

paign promise that "there will be no welfare for the able bodied unless they accept job training" and asked: "How has the Governor kept this noble promise?"

"Well," Unruh answered, "there has been a federally-sponsored program in being called 'Work Incentives,' designed to

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PG&E's \$67 Million Rate Hike Demand 'Unfair,' Labor Says

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company's demand for a \$67.4 million rate hike is about \$20 million high or 30 percent more than it needs, the State AFL-CIO charged this week.

In an opening brief prepared under the guidance of John F. Henning, Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, which represents 1.3 million AFL-CIO union members in California, the labor organization said that PG&E's demand for a 7.8 percent rate of return was "exorbitant, unfair, and most importantly, unnecessary."

The State AFL-CIO reminded the five-member State Public Utilities Commission that PG & E's power control manager had boasted about the adequacy of

PG&E's reserve capacity earlier this year.

It pointed out that Elmer Kaprielian, the PG&E official, told newsmen that PG&E "already has such adequate reserve capacity that on May 21, 1969 when the system had an even greater sudden failure than that which blacked out much of the northeastern United States in 1965, you didn't even know it had happened."

The labor Federation's brief (Continued on Page 2)

Frontlash Raps Radicals, Signs 80,000 Voters

"So-called student 'radicals' are no more than phony frontmen for the conservative forces in America who use the issue of campus unrest as a springboard to power."

That's the view of David Jessup, Western Regional Coordinator of Frontlash '70 who announced Wednesday that more than 1,000 students and other youth who took part in the three-month drive succeeded in registering more than 80,000 voters between the June primary and the September 10th voter registration deadline.

Jessup explained that Frontlash is a nationwide student-youth project initiated in 1968

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Meet Fed's Two New Vice Presidents

Two veteran California labor officials—Steve Edney and Lloyd Lea—were elected to their first full two-year terms as vice presidents of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, at the Federation's biennial convention in San Francisco earlier this month.

Edney, the first Black ever

elected to the State AFL-CIO Executive Board, joined the Cannery Workers Union at Terminal Island near Los Angeles in 1945 after working earlier as a member of the old CIO Shipyard Workers Union. His first union post was that of shop steward in 1947. A year later he was chairman of the

shop stewards council and in 1951-52 was commissioned by the union to write a booklet titled "The Cannery Workers' Union Story."

After serving as liaison officer for the union's health and welfare program in 1954, he was elected business agent of the union in 1955 and became director of the health and welfare plan in 1956. After serving two three-year terms as vice president, Edney was elected presi-

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Joseph Angelo, Fed VP, Dies On Trip East

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Mr. Angelo was appointed to the staff of the United Steelworkers of America by the organization's first president, Phillip Murray, in 1941. In 1943 he was sent to the West Coast to assist in organizing basic steel plants.

For the past 27 years he worked as a USW organizer, staff representative, and Assistant Director of District 38 until his election as Director in June, 1969.

In Alameda County Mr. Angelo was influential in bringing about the merger of the AF of L and the CIO organizations on the county level after the national merger in 1955. As a result, Alameda County was one of the first county central bodies in the nation to be organized on a merged basis.

In commenting on his death, John F. Henning, executive officer of the State AFL-CIO, said:

"Few men have dedicated their lives so selflessly to the improvement of the economic and social life of all workers as did Joe Angelo. His approach to virtually every problem was both constructive and self-effacing and he will be long remembered and deeply missed by all of us lucky enough to have known him."

During World War II Mr. Angelo was a member of the National War Labor Board and the War Manpower Commission. During the Korean war he served as a member of the Federal Wage Stabilization Board. He was also active in the Allied War Relief Program, the United Crusade and the Community Chest and served as treasurer of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, and Vice President of the County's Committee on Political Education. He was also serving on the USW's International Executive Board in a variety of capacities.

Survivors include his wife, Edy, and a son, Tom, who is presently attending law school at Willamette, Oregon.

Funeral services were scheduled in Austin Town, Ohio, at the Austin Town Chapel Saturday.

'State Shifts Burden to Counties'

Unruh Hits Reagan Welfare Job Aid Cut

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do just this—to get people off welfare onto jobs, to make taxpayers out taxeaters."

But noting that the Reagan Administration itself boasted earlier this year that the program saved the State's taxpayers \$20 million by getting people off welfare and into productive jobs during its first 18 months of existence, Unruh said:

"So what did our Governor do? In July of this year he cut the state budget for this work incentive program by more than a million dollars, almost in half."

PG&E's \$67 Million Rate Hike Demand 'Unfair,' Labor Says

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also noted that PG&E, in seeking a 7.8 percent rate of return on its electric services, is asking for a higher rate of return on its electric services than either the 7.5 percent rate of return it sought or the 7.3 percent rate of return actually authorized for its gas division even though the company concedes that the electrical service facet of its operations is "admittedly less risky."

If the PUC should establish a higher rate for the Electric Division than for the Gas Division, the state labor Federation's brief said, it would "raise very real questions of legality."

The State AFL-CIO also attacked the "evidence" presented by PG&E to support its rate hike demand, saying it was comprised of "an abundance of obvious generalities" and "vague economic conclusions."

In fact, the labor organization said, while PG&E claims its earnings in relation to companies of "comparable risk" are inadequate, the figures show that while returns on common equity declined in general for utilities in question, the decline was less severe for PG&E than for its competitors. In addition, it challenged the reality of comparability of the companies PG&E cited.

Unruh said that this \$1 million "saving" could cost the taxpayers most of the \$20 million they had been getting.

He also said it will "cost the state \$12 million in matching federal funds we cannot now get."

Unruh noted that the counties are now faced with picking up the difference by hiking property taxes, a move that Governor Reagan "claims to be against."

Unruh said the Governor "kept his promise to substitute training for welfare for the able bodied . . . by cutting way back on the program that did

just that; he kept it by saving a million at a cost of up to \$32 million. He did it by shifting the burden to the property tax."

Unruh charged that as Governor for the past four years, Ronald Reagan "has presided over the greatest growth ever in welfare costs."

He called on the voters to consider the following facts of welfare growth in California under Ronald Reagan:

- "The number of people on welfare has increased more than 663,000 or 57 percent.

- "The cost of welfare to the State of California has increased nearly one-half billion dollars or 68 percent.

- "The number of children on welfare in California has doubled.

- "One out of 10 Californians is now on welfare."

But Unruh stressed that the place where the growth of welfare "really hurts is at the county level" and pointed out that under the Reagan Administration more and more of the costs of welfare are being shifted from the state level to the local property tax.

"When the supervisors of Los Angeles County criticized this approach not long ago," Unruh said, "Ronald Reagan complained that, 'the supervisors are displaying a Chicken Little syndrome. Maybe if the supervisors would quit yelling 'the sky is falling!' and start listening instead of talking, they'd find out what's happening'."

Directing attention to "what is happening in Los Angeles," Unruh pointed out that:

- 842,000 people are on welfare, one out of every nine county residents.

- The county cost of welfare is up \$54 million this year.

- That means that 57 cents out of the 94 cent county property tax increase goes to pay for welfare.

- The total cost of welfare in Los Angeles County will be about \$200 million more this year than last.

Those "are the facts behind what the Governor calls 'a Chicken Little' syndrome," Unruh said.

Delegates Urge Updating of Jobless Pay Setup

"With joblessness in California now at 558,000, the highest level in at least 30 years and 41 percent above the level in July of 1969, the need for a number of major improvements in the state's unemployment insurance program is painfully evident."

So stated delegates to the California Labor Federation's Eighth Convention in adopting a policy statement on unemployment insurance at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium.

Pointing out that the purpose of the jobless pay program was to replace in part the wages lost due to involuntary unemployment and to help stabilize the economy by maintaining purchasing power, the delegates said that the program has "become seriously outdated."

They pointed out that the taxable wage base supporting the program has not kept pace with the rise in wage levels or the inflated cost of living.

"In both the nation and in the state of California, wage levels are five-fold what they were in the 1930's when the terms of the original law were set," the delegates' statement said. Yet the wage base, which was originally pegged at \$3,000 and is scheduled to be raised to \$4,200 by 1972 under Congressional legislation passed early this month has risen only 40 percent.

To remedy these defects, the delegates called on the California Legislature "to act promptly" to:

- Hike the maximum weekly benefit to conform to rising living costs.

- Extend the duration of benefit payments to 39 weeks.

- Limit the trade dispute disqualification provisions to a five week maximum.

- Extend coverage to farm workers, household domestics and public employees.

- Boost the taxable wage base to \$15,000.

- Increase the amount of wages a worker may earn without a reduction in weekly benefits from \$12 to \$25.

- Make cash tips and gratuities subject wages in computing both unemployment and disability benefits.

Meet Fed's Two New Vice Presidents

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dent of the union in 1965 and re-elected in 1968.

In the course of his union service he developed and helped negotiate the union's health and welfare plan as well as the union's pension plan and is currently vice chairman of the pension plan's Board of Trustees.

Lea was first elected financial secretary and business agent of

Local 2907 of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers in Weed, California in 1958 and has been repeatedly reelected ever since.

He first joined the Lumber and Sawmill Workers in 1948 and became president of Local 2774 in Yreka in 1956. When the three Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union Locals in Siskiyou County merged in 1958, Lea became an Assistant Business

Agent of the new local, Local 2907, and has been working full time for the union ever since.

Among other things he was deeply involved in the strike with the F. Sharp Lumber Co. in Yreka, one of the key issues of which was the establishment of the union's health and welfare plan.

Lea has also been elected Conductor of the State Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers and serves on the Executive Board of the Western Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers headquartered in Portland, Oregon. His business address is P. O. Box 567, Weed, Calif.



STEVE EDNEY



LLOYD LEA

Frontlash Raps Radicals, Signs 80,000 Voters

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with the aim of providing a constructive avenue of action for students and other youth who reject campus confrontations in favor of direct participation within the democratic process.

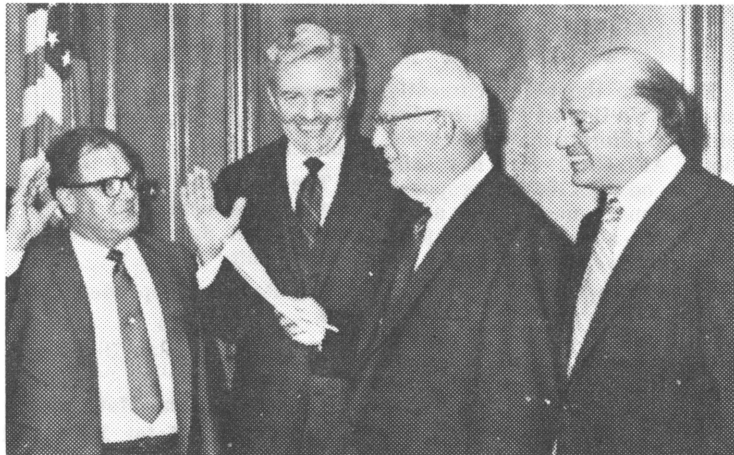
Though exact figures are not yet known, the four leading county projects were Santa Clara and Los Angeles with almost 20,000, and Alameda and San Francisco with over 15,000 registrations each.

Jessup said that Frontlash "emphatically rejects the violence and totalitarianism of the campus new left, and strives to bring students into grass roots coalitions with other progressive forces in society, particularly labor unions and minority groups."

Jessup said that Frontlash organizers plan a major expansion of activities in California this Fall. Over 40 campuses will have Frontlash projects and Frontlash organizers are confident that thousands of students "will join in voter education efforts to bring the issues to the voters and the voters to the polls on election day," he said.

Serving on the Advisory Committee for Frontlash are such nationally known figures as Cesar Chavez, Michael Harrington, Bayard Rustin and Al Barkan.

Further information about local Frontlash projects may be obtained by phoning 415-986-3585 in San Francisco or 213-381-5611 Los Angeles.



JOSEPH P. MAZZOLA, a Vice President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and Business Manager of Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Local 38 (at left), is sworn in as a member of the newly created San Francisco Airport Commission by Earl Warren (third from left), retired Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court along with William E. McDonnell (second from left) as San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto looks on. Mazzola, who was named to a three year term, is also a former chairman of the San Francisco Housing Authority and a former Director of the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District.

Huge Sums at Stake in Fight Over Water, Labor Warns

Hundreds of millions of dollars are at stake in the battle over retention and enforcement of the 160-acre water limitation and the public stake "is enormous."

That's the focus of a policy statement on Natural Resources adopted by delegates to the California Labor Federation's Eighth Convention in San Francisco recently which warned that "special interest groups are in full assault upon the nation's natural resources, seeking exploitation for private profit at the expense of public well being and the wealth of future generations."

Declaring that "natural resources exist for the benefit of all of the people of the nation" and that they are "not properly to be treated as objects of private monopoly, speculation and exploitation leading to unjust enrichment of the few," the delegates denounced a bill being pushed by California's U.S. Senator George Murphy (S. 1631) which, they said, would "give large landholders an easy option to escape the 160-acre law by the simple sleight-of-hand device of remitting to the treasury a small portion of the subsidy received, retaining the rest plus all the windfall profits."

The Federation's policy statement noted that just 34 landholders "own three-quarters of a million thirsty acres" in the arid and semi-arid southern and western San Joaquin Valley, an area nearly the size of the State of Rhode Island.

It said that the central purpose of the Murphy bill, which is backed by large landholding interests, is to destroy U.S. Reclamation Law but that this fact is "screened from the public by leaving the words of the law on the books for those landholders, if any, who may not choose the escape hatch offered by the bill and by raising the figure 160 to 640, i.e., by increasing the subsidy allowed to each landowner from \$160,000 to \$640,000."

The State AFL-CIO policy statement also attacked a recommendation made by the U.S. Comptroller General calling for adoption of Murphy's bill. Such action, the labor organization said, would destroy the "anti-monopoly 160-acre

law, with the unspoken result of enabling giant landowners to grab about four-fifths of the subsidy and the windfall profits."

If the California environment is to be protected, the statement said, "public planning of water development to improve the environment must be substituted for the present incentive of private planning for the

biggest speculation and windfall profits."

Noting that there are 900,000 acres of land owned in excess of the legal limit in California alone, the State AFL-CIO suggested that "a generous share of the revenues (available) from resale or lease" of these excess lands should be assigned to public purposes, particularly education.

Labor Attacks Anti-Worker Farm Bill, Hails UFWOC Victories

Vigorous opposition to an anti-worker farm labor bill pushed by U. S. Senator George Murphy and Governor Reagan to prohibit farm workers' strikes at harvest time was voiced by delegates to the California Labor Federation's Eighth Convention in San Francisco earlier this month.

In adopting a policy statement on Agricultural Labor, the delegates said:

"We oppose the attempt to establish a separate Farm Labor Board bypassing the National Labor Relations Board.

"The specious plea for Senator Murphy's bill to outlaw strikes at harvest time makes as little sense as the long since repudiated 19th Century legal 'justification' for jailing sailors leaving their ships as 'deserters' on the plea that otherwise the

ship would be left 'to rot in her neglected brine.'

"The way to avoid strikes at harvest time is to extend social legislation and legally protected collective bargaining to agricultural labor. Harvest time also is earning time. Laborers employed under equitable conditions are without interest in disrupting either," the delegates pointed out.

They also pledged their commitment to the continuing progress and success of the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and saluted the UFWOC, its Director Cesar Chavez, the labor movement of the nation and its friends on the success of the international table grape boycott.

"We rejoice with and congratulate the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee,

Among other things, the delegates:

● Concurred "heartily" in the recommendations of the National AFL-CIO that the government purchase excess lands at the pre-water price set by present law;

● And urged creation of a public authority with powers sufficient to plan land use effectively in reclamation areas.

AFL-CIO, on the splendid victory achieved during this summer with the signing of contracts covering 90 percent of the table grape industry in California. In the long arduous struggle many sacrifices were made to achieve a result in the finest traditions of American organized labor," they observed.

Pointing to the lack of unemployment insurance for farm workers, the delegates also attacked the fact that farm workers are "denied legal protections for organizing that have been granted to others" as well as the fact that strikes by farm workers are "impeded by the availability of illegal 'wetbacks' and 'greencarders' who flood the labor market and provide ready strikebreakers . . .

"We oppose harboring of illegal entrants by employers and favor denial of 'greencards' where the effect of issuance is to undermine wages and provide strikebreakers," they said.

They also voiced their opposition to "attempts to perpetuate discriminatory treatment of agricultural workers in labor, social or immigration legislation" and pledged support for their inclusion in these protections "as a step toward their achievement of full civil and social rights."

Aguirre Takes Over Key Labor Dept. Post

Edward Aguirre has just succeeded Kenneth C. Robertson as the U. S. Labor Department's Regional Manpower Administrator. Robertson, who is retiring, served in the post since 1964. Aguirre had been serving as Deputy Associate Manpower Administrator for the Labor Department.

"WE DON'T PATRONIZE"

Here are the firms currently on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO. Firms are placed on the list in response to written requests from affiliates upon approval of the Federation's Executive Council.

Affiliates involved are urged to inform the Federation of any future contract settlements or other developments that would warrant the removal of any of these anti-union firms from the Federation's list.

In this connection, it should be noted by all Federation affiliates that Giumarra Vineyards has been removed from the list since it signed a contract with the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee on July 29, 1970. Unfair firms are:

Coors Beer.

MacMillan Ring Free Oil

Company.

Tennessee Plastics of Johnson City, Tennessee.

The Nut Tree and the Coffee Tree Restaurants, on Highway 40 between San Francisco and Sacramento.

San Rafael Independent Journal.

The following San Diego area motels:

Bahia Motel and Motor Lodge
Catamarran Motor Hotel and Restaurant

Islandia Hotel and Restaurant

In addition the Federation is supporting such national AFL-CIO consumer boycotts as those in progress against the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner and the Kingsport Press of Kingsport, Tenn., publishers of the "World Book" and "Child Craft" series.