

California AFL-CIO News

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JOHN F. HENNING 151
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Ashcraft Named Workmen Comp. Board Chairman

Hale Ashcraft, a former Republican Assemblyman from San Diego who amassed a six "Right" and 35 "Wrong" cumulative labor voting record during the 1963 and 1965 regular legislative sessions, was elevated to Chairman of the State Workmen's Compensation Appeals Board this week by Governor Ronald Reagan.

Ashcraft, who was initially named to the Board in 1967,
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Western States Meeting to Air Legislative Needs

A special regional meeting to discuss state legislative action needed to improve the health and welfare of U.S. workers will be held at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco next week, December 11-12.

The meeting, co-sponsored by the National AFL-CIO's Departments of Social Security and Research, will be limited to the principle officers of state and
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Yule Caravan To Delano Set For Dec. 19

If you want to spend a really memorable pre-Christmas weekend helping to advance the farm workers' fight for economic justice, plan now to join the Sixth Christmas Reunion and Food Caravan to Delano on Saturday, December 19.

Different segments of the caravan will depart from Los Angeles, Oakland and other metropolitan areas at about 7:00 a.m. and arrive in Delano between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. Participants
(Continued on Page 4)

Fed Hits State CofC as 'Foe', Urges End to Tax Subsidies

The State AFL-CIO this week labeled the California State Chamber of Commerce as its "constant enemy" in Sacramento over the years and called on AFL-CIO Central Labor Councils throughout the State to oppose the appropriation of any public tax funds to the State Chamber by municipal and county governments.

John F. Henning, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, pointed out that the State C of C "has for many years received subsidy money" from certain county governments.

Calling attention to the fact that the State Chamber "waged successful war
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Reagan, Tunney Join Labor In Vow to Save Film Jobs

"If the Federal Government could give billions of dollars to agriculture, including millions to individual California growers for not growing crops, surely it could give some form of subsidy to the stricken Hollywood film industry," John F. Henning, executive officer of the State AFL-CIO declared this week at a rally held at the Hollywood Palladium to focus public attention on "runaway" film making that has left thousands of talented U.S. workers jobless.

The theme of the rally last Monday night was "Stop Runaway Productions—Save American Jobs For American Workers." It included addresses by Governor Ronald Reagan, U.S. Senator-elect John V. Tunney, Henning, Reps. John Dent (D-Pa.), and Edward Roybal (D-Calif.), John Wise, a producer and director, and Sigmund Arwitz, Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor as well as a letter from AFL-CIO President George Meany. Film star Gene Barry was emcee.

Both Reagan and Tunney pledged their help to efforts to aid the industry.

John Lehnert, President of the Hollywood Film Council
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Martin and Booe Elected Fed V.P.s

Fred L. Martin of the International Association of Machinists and James B. Booe of the Communications Workers of America have just been elected Vice Presidents of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

Both were elected at a meeting of the Federation's 37-member Executive Council at the Spa Hotel in Palm Springs this week.

Martin, 62, is the Directing Business Representative of IAM Lodge 1305 in San Francisco and has held that post since 1962. He was a major force in negotiating his union's first pension program and in recent years radically improved the health and welfare coverage afforded IAM members.

A native San Franciscan, Martin served on the San Francisco
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Exec. Council Draws Up '71 Legislative Plans

A strong legislative program to improve the capability of California workers to cope with the state's mounting economic crisis was drawn up by the Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, this week for presentation to the 1971 session of the State Legislature.

Meeting at the Spa Hotel in Palm Springs, the 37-member State AFL-CIO Executive Board also:

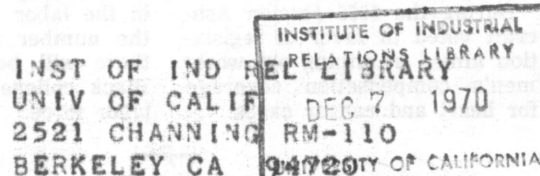
- Elected two new vice presidents (see Story on Page 1).
- Voted contributions of \$2,000
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Muskie Tops Nixon in New Voter Poll

Democratic Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine is running ahead of President Nixon by six percentage points in the 1972 presidential race, according to a Louis Harris poll released this week.

The poll, which ranked Nixon as an underdog for the first time since he entered the White House, was conducted among 1,389 likely voters 21 years of age and over.

It assumed that the 1972 con-
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Reagan, Tunney Join Labor in Vow to Save Film Jobs

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which sponsored the rally, underscored the need to develop broad support within labor and legislative ranks when he pointed out that "runaway" film making had led to unemployment in the film industry locally in excess of 40 percent.

Henning, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, emphasized that everyone "must remember that Hollywood could not be prosperous in a state in which more than 500,000 are jobless or in a nation in which industrial growth has been brought nearly to a standstill.

"What's needed is a full employment economy to provide a solution to the economic crisis facing our state and nation," he said.

Henning also made it clear that "labor doesn't favor the total protectionism of the Smoot-Hawley era of high tariffs which left the consuming public at the mercy of American industry but we do favor Federal government assistance for the stricken film industry."

Don Haggerty, president of AFL-CIO Film Technicians Local 683 of Hollywood, cited statistics developed by the Hollywood Film Council that indicated that in 1946 foreign films made up only 19 percent of the films shown in the U.S. but today account for 70 percent.

In his letter which was read to the rally, Meany said:

"Please assure all of the unions and guilds of the Hollywood

Film Council of the complete support of the AFL-CIO in your fight against runaway films.

"Motion picture and television producers are exporting the jobs of American workers. Even commercials advertising American products are being being filmed abroad to be shown in the United States to American workers, many of them out of work and unable to buy the advertised product.

"There are two possible solutions to this problem—concerted trade union economic action or legislation. But, one way or the other, the solution must be found quickly to avoid further aggravation of this already serious situation."

Pledges of support were also wired to the rally by U.S. Senator Vance Hartke (D-Indiana), Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin, and U.S. Senator Alan Cranston.

Cranston's wire read:

"I wish you success as you launch a renewed campaign for Hollywood's fair share of the production of films shown in U.S. movie theaters and over American television screens. Unemployment in the American film industry and other vital sectors of California's economy has become intolerable. I assure you that I will do everything in my power to help make the American motion picture industry more successful and profitable."

Several of the speakers discussed the need for subsidies for the film industry and con-

sideration of a boycott of foreign films.

Said Lehnert:

"The time for moaning and groaning is over and we must take action now or there will be nothing left to this once great industry."

By their action, the trade unionists indicated they mean that if they do not get congressional assistance in the form of subsidies for the film industry or some form of tariffs or quotas to slow the flood of imported films, massive boycotts will be started against "vulnerable" pictures made overseas and shown in the United States.

A number of other major countries already provide some form of subsidy for film makers from the United States, and there is general agreement among unions and management in the industry that something similar is needed in this country.

Arywitz pledged the support of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor to efforts to halt the runaway films and called on all labor organizations to support the campaign.

The Hollywood Film Council is composed of AFL-CIO unions and guilds representing more than 25,000 craftsmen, technicians and artists within the motion picture and television film industries of Southern California. Recent surveys conducted by the Council indicate that employment levels in 1970 have dropped anywhere from 14 percent to 50 percent below 1969 job figures depending on the

particular craft or class of worker involved.

Moreover, the Council pointed out that thousands of studio workers have already exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits, lost the protection of hospitalization and medical coverage from the Motion Picture Health and Welfare Fund and suffered the elimination of their pension credits under the Motion Picture Industry Pension Plan.

Thousands more, the Council says, will face a similar economic fate unless positive steps are taken immediately to encourage increased domestic motion picture and television film production.

In a fact sheet distributed at the rally, the HFC pointed out that the United States is the only important film-producing country in the world that does not render any form of governmental assistance to encourage the production of films within its borders.

More than 20 other film-producing nations provide cash subsidies or other forms of state aid as an incentive to picture-making on their soil, the Council said.

It also pointed out that "runaway" American film interests are able under certain conditions to get as much as 80 percent of the cost of a single picture made in co-production with foreign interests by qualifying for tri-national subsidies of the United Kingdom, France and Italy. Other countries that have encouraged "runaway" productions are Spain, Greece, Yugoslavia and the Netherlands, the Council said.

Specifically, the Film Council is calling for "more realistic and effective policies" by the federal government:

1—To protect American workers from unfair and discriminatory foreign trade practices in the film field.

2—To provide suitable economic incentives for domestic film production that will offset foreign film subsidies as a factor in choosing "shooting" sites, and,

3—To create a more adequate trade adjustment assistance program to aid U.S. film workers displaced or suffering substantially reduced earning power due to foreign imports.

Ashcraft Appointed Chairman of Workmen's Comp. Board

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succeeds Morton Colvin, who was recently appointed a superior court judge in San Francisco.

The appointment leaves one vacancy on the seven-member board.

During the 1963 session, Ashcraft voted in favor of legislation to weaken the provision requiring the state's workmen's compensation law to be liberally construed (AB 1642), and also supported anti-worker legislation aimed at placing a dollars limitation on the 10 percent penalty provision for unreasonable delay or refusal to pay workmen's compensation bene-

fits (AB 1539).

He also voted against extension of unemployment insurance coverage for farm workers and against repeal of a trades dispute provision in the Unemployment Insurance Code that denies disability insurance benefits to workers suffering off-the-job disabilities during trade disputes if the workers are ineligible for jobless benefits despite the fact that the disability insurance program is paid for by the employee, not the employer.

During the 1965 session Ashcraft voted in favor of legislation aimed at wiping out workmen's compensation coverage for heart and cancer cases.

He also voted in favor of legislation setting up harsh disqualification provisions in the state's unemployment insurance program, weakening extended duration benefits and destroying the principle that jobless workers should receive benefits equal to 50 percent of their lost wages.

Black Grads Double

More than one-half million Black college graduates are now in the labor force, about twice the number in 1960. By 1980, there will be about 1 million Black college graduates in the labor force.

Meany Answers Questions on Trade Unions Abroad

Question 2: Do you believe that through an involvement with the real trade union organizations—especially those that are as successful as the ones in Germany—that officials and members of the Soviet trade unions could be positively influenced?

Mr. Meany: "The officials of the so-called unions in the USSR and other totalitarian countries are not chosen by the workers. These officials are selected by the Communist Party and the government which it runs. In the U.S.S.R. Shelepin was made Chairman of the AUCCU in 1967 by order of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party. Previously he was the head of the dreaded Soviet Secret Police—the Committee for State Security (K.G.B.). This appointment was politically planned and carefully designed. In fact, Communist Party boss, L. I. Brezhnev, in his report devoted to the 50th anniversary of 'Great October', proudly proclaimed that, 'In the conditions of a people's state, the ties of K.G.B. agencies with the working people are especially strong.' Dr. Ley was never that open!

"Free trade unions which en-

Der Spiegel, a weekly news magazine similar to NEWSWEEK published in West Germany, recently put a series of questions to AFL-CIO President George Meany dealing with the Federation's position regarding trade unions and organized labor in Germany, the Soviet Union, and Spain. Since the questions are involved and the answers necessarily lengthy, the California AFL-CIO News will carry one question and one answer in each issue during the next several weeks. Here is the second in the series:

gage in dialogues and exchanges with the Communist Labor Fronts cannot seriously expect to influence their hand-picked officials or reach their rank and file members.

"In such dialogues, the Soviet 'trade union' officials never permit any discussion of Soviet aggression or labor conditions—for instance, the USSR policy of keeping Germany split in two parts, the occupation of Czechoslovakia, and the arming of Egypt and Syria for a war of extermination against Israel, the penal system, or the extent of forced labor and concentration camps.

"Instead, these dialogues are always used by the Soviet 'union' officials for hurling Communist diatribes against so-called German revanchism (desire for national unification in

freedom), 'American imperialism', and Israeli 'aggression'.

"And, when Soviet 'union' officials report on their visits to free countries, they always distort the facts and make caricature 'findings' of a strictly negative nature regarding the conditions they observed abroad. Not one of the various Soviet 'trade union' delegations which have visited the Federal Republic, upon the invitation of the DGB, has made an objective comprehensive report of what they have seen, observed, and learned.

"These reports have uniformly stressed only the negative aspects of what they have found. Only at great risk could they attempt to make a positive and truthful report. Let me illustrate.

"In 1967, the well-known So-

viet poet Andrei A. Voznesenky was denied permission to leave Russia to read his poetry at an Arts Festival in New York. He got into hot water because of the friendship he showed American society and American writers during a tour of the U.S. in May of that year.

"In this case, the role played by the 'Union of Writers', as a self-degrading tool of the CP and government, led Voznesenky to protest that 'the leadership of the union does not regard writers as human beings. This lying, prevarication and knocking peoples' heads together is standard practice . . . What is intolerable is the lying and total lack of scruple . . . I am ashamed to be a member of the same union as these people.'

"And the world-renowned Soviet writer, Aleksander I. Solzhenitsyn, who was recently awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, shed further light on 'trade unionism' in the USSR when he stated that, 'The leadership of the union (writers' union) cowardly abandoned to their distress those for whom persecution ended in exile, camps and death.'"

Fed Executive Council Maps '71 Legislative Plans

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each to aid the embattled trade unionists fighting to preserve free collective bargaining at the strikebreaker-produced Los Angeles Herald-Examiner and the San Rafael Independent-Journal. The strike-lockout of the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, the longest newspaper strike in the nation's history, will be three years old December 15. The San Rafael Independent-Journal strike will be one year old on January 7, 1971.

- Voted to hold a two-day educational conference next March to underscore the need for the National Health Insurance program proposed by the National AFL-CIO.

- Welcomed two unexpected guest speakers, C. J. (Neil) Haggerty, President of the National AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Dept. who led the California State Federation of Labor from 1950 to 1960, and

State Controller Houston I. Flournoy, who expressed his gratitude for the endorsement he received from the AFL-CIO California Labor Council on Political Education in the recent election and spoke briefly on the economic problems confronting the state.

Haggerty commended organized labor for its "fine record" in the recently concluded general elections but warned that trade unionists must begin now to "marshal the forces of labor" to do it all over again "multiplied by two" in the 1972 presidential elections.

Haggerty also warned that in addition to problems involving presently needed legislation there is also a move afoot by reactionary forces in the country to "render impotent by administrative action" a number of legislative gains already won by organized labor.

The Federation's legislative program was developed on the

basis of resolutions adopted at the State AFL-CIO's biennial convention in San Francisco last August.

It includes measures aimed at improving the state's three primary social insurance programs—unemployment insurance, disability insurance and workmen's compensation—as well as measures to insure collective bargaining rights for all employees, prohibit professional strikebreakers and other measures designed to improve the economic and social security of Californians as workers and consumers. Further details of the 1971 legislative program will be reported later.

The concluding session of the two-day meeting was adjourned with a moment's silence in memory of the late Joseph Angelo, a Federation Vice President and a leading force in the AFL-CIO United Steelworkers Union who died last September.

Meeting to Air Legislative Needs

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local central bodies on the west coast and whomever else they designate.

The meeting will take up legislation needed on the state level in various western states to improve unemployment compensation and workmen's compensation programs as well as state and local tax reforms.

It will also discuss the nation's critical need for a national health insurance program, a need that was underscored again this week by an engrossing CBS-TV documentary that pointed up the gross inadequacies of existing convalescent home care for the nation's aged citizens.

Registration fee for the meeting, which will open at 9:00 a.m. December 11 and continue through 4:00 p.m. December 12, is \$10. The registration fee includes a noon meal each day.

Muskie Tops Nixon in New Voter Poll

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test would be a three-way race between Nixon, Muskie and Wallace. If such a race were conducted today, the poll disclosed that Muskie would win 46 percent, Nixon 40 percent and Wallace 10 percent.

The Harris report pointed out that the voters' attraction to Muskie has climbed steadily from a low of 33 percent in May 1969, drawing even with Nixon in September 1970 when 43 percent of the voters backed each.

It also noted that Nixon began with a clear majority of 51 percent in May and October of 1969 but has steadily lost ground. In winning election in 1968, Nixon received 43.3 percent of the vote.

The Harris poll emphasized that its findings "may bear little resemblance to the final outcome" since the actual voting in 1972 is still 23 months away.

In pitting other possible Democratic presidential challengers against Nixon in a similar three way race, the poll found that Nixon presently leads Senator Edward M. Kennedy 45 percent to 39 percent; Senator-elect Hubert H. Humphrey 46 to 39 percent and New York Mayor John Lindsay 45 to 37 percent.

In rating Nixon on the way he campaigned in the recent general election, a total of 35 percent rated him "excellent" or "pretty good" and a total of 55 percent rated him "only fair" or "poor."

The Harris poll pointed out that this suggests that the 46-40 percent split for Muskie may be viewed not only as a sign of Muskie's rising popularity but also as indicative "of an essentially negative public view of the campaign activities of Nixon in 1970."

Laws Protect Youth

The Federal Child Labor Law prohibits the employment of youths under 16 in dangerous farm jobs, such as operating most power-driven equipment, handling or applying insecticides and other chemicals, or using blasting agents.

Fed Hits State CofC as 'Foe', Urges End to Tax Subsidies

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against widows and surviving children of workers killed in industrial accidents" as well as against the injured workers themselves during the 1970 legislative session when it opposed long overdue improvements in the State's workmen's compensation program, Henning declared:

"It is one thing for the California State Chamber of Commerce to be an anti-labor power in Sacramento. It is quite another thing for the State Chamber to have its activities financed in any manner by public funds."

Asserting that "the workers of California must not be compelled to finance the anti-labor, 19th century thinking of the California State Chamber," Henning urged all AFL-CIO Central Labor Councils to determine immediately whether city and county governments within their jurisdiction are granting taxpayer subsidies to the State Chamber and to "seek the immediate elimination of such anti-labor subsidies."

A check with San Francisco's chief administrative officer disclosed that the City and County of San Francisco has been allocating public tax funds totaling \$4,000 a year for each of the past two fiscal years to the State Chamber.

A roster put out earlier this

You May Rate Overtime After 40 Hours Work

A worker does not have to be paid on an hourly basis to be entitled to the overtime pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The act requires that time and one-half for all hours worked over 40 must be paid to covered nonexempt workers, regardless of the method of compensation, whether salary, hourly, piece rate, commission, or other form of remuneration.

Canada's Unions

Union membership in Canada totaled 2,074,000 in January, 1969, an increase of 64,000 or 3.2 percent over the same month of 1968.

year by the State C of C titled, "The Leaders of the California State Chamber 1970" lists the president or executive officer or director of many of the state's biggest businesses, including, Fred L. Hartley, President, Union Oil Company; B. F. Biagini, President, Southern Pacific Co.; J. Floyd Andrews, President, Pacific Southwest Airlines; Dr. A. O. Beckman, Chairman of the Board, Beckman Instruments, Inc.; John E. Countryman, Director, Del Monte Corporation; Robert H. Gerdes, Chairman of the Executive Committee, P.G.&E. Co.; Charles F. Horne, President, General Dynamics, Pomona Division; Jack K. Horton, Chairman of the Board, Southern California Edison Co.; William F. Knowland, Publisher of the Oakland Tribune; Otto N. Miller, Chairman of the Board of Standard Oil Co.; R. A. Pe-

terson, Chairman of Executive Committee of Bank of America; Quentin Reynolds, President of Safeway Stores, Inc.; Peter T. Sinclair, Chairman of the Board of Crown Zellerbach Corp.; William French Smith, Governor Reagan's personal attorney and a member of the University of Calif. Board of Regents; Stanley Ward, president of Kern County Land Co.; and E. Hornsby Wasson, Chairman of the Board of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

Yule Caravan To Delano Set For Dec. 19

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or farm worker supporters desiring to donate food stuffs, should contact their county central labor council or the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee office in their community.

In an invitation sent out to all friends of the farm workers this week, UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez said that the December 19-20 reunion would be "the most significant and meaningful event for all of us because we have so much in common to rejoice about and be happy with together."

The invitation asks caravaners to bring sleeping bags and plan to stay overnight in the Filipino Community Hall at Cecil Avenue and Glenwood in Delano.

Among other things, the farm workers need supplies of jelly, sugar, flour, meat, masa harina, coffee, canned fruit, oatmeal, toilet paper, dry cereals, rice, dry pinto beans, baking powder and detergents.

For further information on how to join the caravan call: Oakland (415-658-4974) or (415-655-3256) or in Los Angeles (213-386-8136).

Financial contributions, which are tax deductible when made out to the National Farm Workers Service Center, Inc. (NFWSC), should be mailed to Delano Food Fund, P.O. Box 130, Delano, California 93215.

Martin and Booe Elected Fed V.P.s

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County Grand Jury in 1963 and has served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army for the past six or seven years. Martin served as an Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate in the Navy during World War II. His office is at 1750 Market Street, San Francisco. He replaces Vice President Chris Amadio, who retired, as Vice President in District 9-C.

Booe, 43, is a Vice President of the CWA and a member of the national executive board. He is executive officer of CWA's District 9, a region encompassing seven western states.

Booe replaces Vice President Richard W. Hackler who resigned to assume duties as Assistant to CWA President Joseph A. Beirne in Washington, D. C.

A native of Pensacola, Fla., Booe has been a CWA full-time union representative since January 1960 and a union member for more than 20 years. He served as assistant to Vice President Hackler for the past two years. Booe has also been a leader in District Nine's educational and organizational efforts.