



California AFL-CIO News

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October 6, 1972

Funds Urged To Defeat Prop. 22

Warning that California's corporate growers can be expected to launch a "massive media blitz" just before the election, the California AFL-CIO reiterated its appeal for contributions to the United Labor Committee to Defeat Proposition 22, the so-called Agricultural Labor Relations Initiative on the November 7 ballot.

In a letter sent to all state AFL-CIO affiliates last week, John F. Henning, the executive officer of the California Labor Federation, said that the response from some affiliates was "heartening."

But, he emphasized:

"We still need substantially more in contributions to offset the massive media blitz that will be launched by corporate growers just before the election."

Proposition 22, he said, would permanently deny more than 90 percent of California's \$235,000

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Solons Override Nixon Veto of Rail Benefit Boost

Legislation to increase railroad retirement benefits by 20 percent was vetoed by President Richard Nixon Wednesday but both the Houses and Senate mustered the two-thirds vote necessary to override the veto and made it law five hours later.

The final House vote was 353 to 29. In the Senate it was 76 to 5.

The measure had won House passage by a vote of 398 to 4 on August 9. It won approval in the U.S. Senate on September 18 by a voice vote.

In vetoing the bill, Nixon said he favored an increase in railroad retirement benefits but claimed that the legislation before him was not adequately financed and would contribute to inflation.

Calif. Labor COPE Slates Special Convention Oct. 19

A special convention of the California Labor Council on Political Education, the State AFL-CIO's political arm, will be held in Sacramento October 19 to consider a directive from AFL-CIO President George Meany which calls on California Labor COPE to rescind a statement adopted at its September 8 convention in San Francisco that called for the defeat of Richard Nixon.

Announcement of the special convention was made by John F. Henning, executive officer of the State AFL-CIO's political arm, in a letter sent to all California Labor COPE affiliates Monday.

The convention is scheduled to open at 10:00 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Woodlake Inn on Thursday, October 19.

Henning said that the convention would be held "for the sole

and exclusive purpose of acting upon the directive from President Meany."

In a letter to the State AFL-CIO dated September 25, Meany noted that the statement adopted at the September 8 State COPE Convention declared that "America cannot afford another four years of the Nixon Presidency," and concluded that "the good of labor and nation requires the defeat of Richard Nixon in the presidential election of November 7."

Pointing out that the AFL-CIO Executive Council "determined on July 19 that the AFL-

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Text of Meany's Letter

The following is the complete text of AFL-CIO President George Meany's letter to John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, which orders the California Labor Council on Political Education to rescind the statement adopted at the State COPE Convention September 8 calling for the defeat of Richard Nixon on November 7:

Sept. 25, 1972

Dear Sir and Brother:

The statement adopted on September 7, 1972 by California Labor COPE has come to my attention. This statement begins:

"America cannot afford another four years of the Nixon Presidency" and concludes:

"The good of labor and nation requires the defeat of Richard Nixon in the presidential election of November 7."

As you know, the AFL-CIO Executive Council determined on July 19 that the AFL-CIO would refrain from endorsing either candidate for President of the United States, and I accordingly advised all AFL-CIO state and local central bodies that it would not be permissible for them to make an endorsement.

In my judgment this action taken by California Labor COPE violated the AFL-CIO policy against endorsing either candidate for President. The California Labor COPE evidently considered that the device it employed, of not mentioning Senator McGovern but calling for the defeat of President Nixon, avoided literal violation of the letter of AFL-CIO policy. However, a call for the defeat of one candidate is equivalent to endorsement of the other, and the substance, as well as the letter, of AFL-CIO policy on national issues must be followed by state and local central bodies.

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is therefore hereby advised that it must rescind the statement adopted by California Labor COPE calling for the defeat of President Nixon.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
George Meany

President
INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL
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Nixon Bloc Bars Action on Pay Floor Hike

A coalition of Nixon Republicans and Southern Democrats this week narrowly defeated a motion to send the minimum wage bill, H.R. 7130, to conference for reconciliation with a stronger Senate-passed bill that contains no sub-minimum wage provision for youth workers.

"The victims of this conservative victory are the nation's youth and low-wage workers throughout the country," John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, said.

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New Appeal Issued to Save Protective Laws

An urgent call for action to save California's protective laws was issued last weekend by the Union Women's Alliance to Gain Equality.

In a letter sent to all state senators September 30, the group which represents hundreds of trade union women

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Hugh Allen Ex-State Fed V.P., Dead at 45

Hugh Allen, a former vice president of the California Labor Federation and a leader in the AFL-CIO Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union for 20 years, died of a heart attack in Burns, Oregon, last Friday, September 29.

Mr. Allen, 45, served on the State AFL-CIO Executive Board from 1960 through 1966.

He joined Lumber and Sawmill Workers Local 2608 shortly after taking a job with the Novoply division of U.S. Plywood in Anderson, Calif., in 1951.

After serving as shop steward and assistant business agent, he was elected secretary-treasurer of the Northern California District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers in July 1957, a post to which he was repeatedly reelected until 1965 when he was elected executive secretary of the Western Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers. He served in the latter post until his death.

Mr. Allen also served as financial secretary of the Five Counties Central Labor Council in 1952-53 and in 1955 was elected president of the Council, a post he retained for nine years.

Survivors include his sons, James of Sacramento and Richard of Portland, Ore., and a sister, Mrs. Helen Bones of 1735 Riviera Drive in Redding.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, October 4, from the McDonald Chapel in Redding.

76% of Firms Found Violating Safety Laws

Some 76 percent of 23,622 firms examined by Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) inspectors or 17,871 firms, were found to be in violation of the act during the 10 month period from July 1, 1971 to April 1972, according to a report by the National Safety Council.

The 17,871 firms not in compliance with the act shared 75,864 violations of OSHA standards which involve proposed penalties totaling more than \$1.7 million, the report said.

Only 5,791 firms (24 percent) were found to be in compliance with the act.

Union officials in California

Four Women Unionists To Be Feted by APRI in L.A.

Four women trade unionists will be honored for their outstanding efforts in labor, community and political activities at a luncheon sponsored by the Los Angeles Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute (A.P.R.I.) at the Olympian Motor Hotel at 1903 West Olympic Blvd., in Los Angeles on Monday, October 9.

Principal speakers at the luncheon will include Mrs. Myrielle Evers, wife of the late civil rights leader Medger Evers of Mississippi; Assemblywoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke who is currently running for Congress in the 37th Congressional District; and Marguerite P. Justice, who serves on the Board of Police Commissioners in Los Angeles.

Honorees at the luncheon, one of a series being held throughout the state by local APRI chapters, will be:

Mrs. Fannie Allen Neal, who helped make labor history as one of the leaders in the organization of employees of the Reliance Manufacturing Company in Montgomery, Ala., as the first southern local of the AFL-CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and who is currently a field director for the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education;

Mary Yunt, Women's Director of the California Labor Council on Political Education;

Gwen Newton, business manager and international vice pres-

ident of the AFL-CIO Office and Professional Employees International Union and a vice president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor; and,

Nellie Crowley, a vice president of Laundry Workers Union Local 52 and an international trustee of the union.

Similar affairs focusing on the importance of women getting more involved in voter education and get out the vote efforts are being held by A.P.R.I. chapters in San Diego on Oct. 6; and in Sacramento on Oct. 8.

Mrs. Neal has served in her present post since 1959 and organized voter registration, voter education and get-out-the-vote drives in key U.S. Senatorial and Presidential elections in 1960, 1964 and 1968.



MRS. FANNIE A. NEAL
Made Labor History

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Donald T. Pickford is Director of the San Francisco Area Office, OSHA, 100 McAllister Street, Rm. 1706, San Francisco, Ca. 94102 (415-556-0536).

Anthony O. Mignano, is Director of the Long Beach Area Office, OSHA, Hartwell Building, Room 401, Pine Ave., Long Beach, Ca. 90802 (213-432-3434).

Vets U. I.

More than 500,000 returning servicemen are expected to receive \$310 million this year in unemployment insurance to tide them over until they find work, the Labor Department reports.

Action Urged To Bar Alien Strikebreakers

Amid reports that more wetbacks than ever before are serving as strikebreakers at White River Farm ranches and vineyards in Tulare and Kern County, spokesman for the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Union this week appealed to trade unionists to write or phone officials of the U.S. Immigration Service to urge them to rout the aliens out.

Fred Ross, boycott coordinator for the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers strike efforts, in the S.F. Bay Area, said that although immigration officials recently arrested 45 suspected wetbacks, more appeared on the scene this week and union farm workers have charged that there is an "outright collusion between growers and the Immigration Service designed to break the strike," a charge denied by Immigration officials.

There were also unconfirmed reports this week that the Butte Gas and Oil Company of Oakland, which owns the more than 25,000 acres of farmlands operated by White River Farms, was planning to send its entire office staff into the area this coming weekend to pick grapes.

Both George Rosenberg, District Director of the Southern California area of the Immigration Service, and Leonard W. Gilman, Regional Director of the Immigration Service for the nine western states, said that they lack sufficient staff to prevent the influx of wetbacks.

The strike began after the Butte Oil Company bought the vineyards from the Schenley Corporation and balked at negotiating a new contract with the United Farm Workers National Union headed by Cesar Chavez.

Rosenberg's offices are at 300 No. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, 90012 (Phone (213) 688-2780 or 688-2840).

Gilman's office is on Terminal Island (Phone (213) 831-9281).

Publisher's Notice

The California AFL-CIO News is published weekly by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 995 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103. Second class postage paid at San Francisco, Calif.—Subscription: \$3.50 a year. John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer; Glenn Martin, editor.

Funds Urged To Defeat Prop. 22

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farm workers the right to vote in their own elections, ban consumer boycott activities and outlaw harvest-time strikes.

"A victory by the state's agribusiness interests on this fraudulent proposition would only open the door to a state-wide right-to-work drive in 1974," he said.

He called on each affiliate to contribute at least \$1 per member to help defeat Proposition 22.

Checks made payable to the United Labor Committee to Defeat Proposition 22 should be sent to the Committee at 995 Market St., Suite 310, San Francisco, Calif. 94103.

An 8-Point Plan To Update Workmen's Comp.

Eight major improvements are needed in California's workmen's compensation program even though the State AFL-CIO last year won the greatest benefit increases since the program's inception 60 years ago.

Stressing the fact that the \$70 a week maximum permanent benefit for industrially disabled workers is far less than the \$105 maximum they can receive before their injury becomes permanent and that California still has neither a mandatory rehabilitation program nor lets an injured worker choose his own physician, delegates to the Ninth Convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, last August adopted a policy statement on "Workmen's Compensation" which called for:

1—Increasing the maximum weekly benefit for temporary total disability to assure most injured workers two-thirds of their pre-injury weekly earnings.

2—Raising the maximum weekly benefit for permanent disability to the level of that for temporary disability, as is the case in most states.

3—Assuring injured workers the right to choose their own doctor.

4—Making death benefits pay-

A Blow to Youth

Nixon Conservatives Bar Action on Pay Floor Hike

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One of the central issues in the debate on the motion was the insistence of Republicans and Southern Democrats on assurances that the Senate Bill would be scaled down before the House agrees to a conference.

The conservative bloc wants to make sure that a provision in the House bill that would require teenagers to work at sub-minimum wages is retained, congressional sources said.

The House bill, supported by the conservatives, would keep the federal minimum wage at \$1.60 for teenagers but raise the basic rate to \$1.80 in two months and to \$2.00 a year later.

In contrast, the Senate bill would raise the pay floor to \$2.00 by the end of the year and to \$2.20 two years later and contains no differential for teenagers. It would also bring 8 million new workers under coverage of the U.S. pay floor law.

Henning wrote to California's entire House delegation Sept. 29 urging them to be sure to be present and to vote for the motion to send the bill to conference "without imposing any preconditions on House conferees that would compromise their flexibility in negotiating with their Senate colleagues."

Noting that conservative forces had narrowly defeated a similar motion on August 1, Henning said:

"Vital labor and youth issues are at stake since the House

able to the surviving spouse until remarriage or death, and to dependents.

5—Extension of coverage to domestic household workers.

6—A statute to include two labor representatives who are not attorneys on the Workmen's Compensation Appeals Board.

7—Establishment of a mandatory rehabilitation program with regular weekly benefits payable during the rehabilitation period.

8—Reduction of the waiting period for benefits from seven to three days and reduction of the retroactive waiting period from 28 to 14 days.

The improvements won last

version presently contains an anti-labor sub-minimum for youth, provides no extension of coverage to millions of presently excluded workers and calls for a clearly inadequate boost in the minimum wage."

As a matter of simple justice, Henning said, "some reasonable compromise of these differences must be permitted."

Following the House vote Tuesday, Congressman John Dent (D-Pennsylvania) said:

"This is a sellout of the worst kind by the Nixon Administration to the conglomerate restaurants, the McDonald chain, the Kentucky Fried Chicken people and the Toddler Houses.

"They want cheap labor to put back youth labor at full-time work at a sub-minimum wage."

Just before the vote, Rep. Phillip Burton (D-San Francisco) reminded farm belt congressmen that major crop legislation is scheduled to expire next year and said that if the minimum wage legislation is dumped, "it will be difficult to get members from the big cities to see and vote for the interests of the rural areas."

The vote was 196 to 188.

Farm belt opposition was based on a provision of the Senate bill that would require agricultural processors to pay overtime to employees. At present most such work is of a seasonal nature and their workers are exempt from overtime pay.

year raised the maximum temporary benefit from \$87.50 to \$105 a week; boosted permanent disability benefits from \$52.50 to \$70 a week; increased death benefits by \$5,000 and cut the waiting period for benefits from 49 to 28 days.

These improvements provided \$71 million a year in additional benefits for California workers.

More than 1,200 delegates from AFL-CIO unions throughout the state took part in the convention at the Los Angeles Convention-Exhibition Center. The State AFL-CIO represents California's 1.6 million AFL-CIO union members.

ITU Local 21 Celebrates 100th Birthday

The oldest union in the west, Typographical Union No. 21 of San Francisco this week marks its 100th birthday.

The union, which was first set up in 1850 but was destroyed three times before it was finally chartered by the International Typographical Union in 1872, is also celebrating the merger of the San Francisco Typographical Union with the Palo Alto and San Jose locals.

The new Bay Area Typographical Union No. 21 is the fourth largest typographical union in the nation.

The union will open new expanded headquarters next week at 785 Market Street in San Francisco.

To celebrate the centennial, the union will hold a dinner-dance at the Bimbo's 365 Club in San Francisco tomorrow October 7.

Speakers at the celebration will include A. Sandy Bevis, first vice president of the International Typographical Union; John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; and State Senator George Moscone, who will be representing both houses of the state legislature.

Film Tells Labor's Job Training Role

"Lost and Found," a film depicting the role of building trades unions in training disadvantaged youths at Job Corp Centers, has been awarded a first prize medal at the Atlanta Film Festival.

The film tells the story of five youths who develop careers in the building trades under the tutoring of skilled union instructors at a Job Corp Center.

Produced by Telenews under a contract from the Painters Union and the U. S. Labor Department, the film is being distributed by the AFL-CIO, the Labor Department and the U. S. Information Agency.

For information on how to obtain a copy of the film write to AFL-CIO Film Library, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Calif. Labor COPE Slates Special Convention Oct. 19

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CIO would refrain from endorsing either candidate for President" and that he had subsequently advised all AFL-CIO state and local central bodies that it would "not be permissible for them to make an endorsement," Meany said that in his judgment the September 8 convention action "violated the AFL-CIO policy against endorsing either candidate."

In elaboration, Meany said:

"The California Labor COPE evidently considered that the device it employed, of not mentioning Senator McGovern but calling for the defeat of President Nixon, avoided literal violation of the letter of AFL-CIO policy. However, a call for the defeat of one candidate is equivalent to endorsement of the other, and the substance, as well as the letter, of AFL-CIO policy on national issues must be followed by state and local central bodies.

"The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is therefore hereby advised that it must rescind the statement adopted by California Labor COPE calling for the defeat of President Nixon."

The decision to call a special convention on the issue was authorized by the California Labor COPE Executive Council.

The number of delegates and authorized vote of each affiliate will be the same as that which prevailed at the Pre-General Election Convention in San Francisco on September 8. Af-

Jim Martin Heads Pipe Trades Council

Jim Martin, business manager and financial secretary-treasurer of Steamfitters Local 342, has been named Executive Secretary and Legislative Advocate of the California Pipe Trades Council.

Martin, a native San Franciscan who has served on the union's executive board for nearly 25 years, took over his new post in Sacramento last month. His offices are in the Forum Building at 721 9th Street, Sacramento.

filiates may designate the same delegates or change them as they choose. The special Convention Call, credentials, and the form for listing authorized delegates and other materials were sent to all affiliates this week.

The list of authorized delegates is to be filled out in triplicate and the original and duplicate are to be returned to California Labor COPE headquarters at 995 Market St., San Francisco, Ca. 94103 as soon as possible. The deadline is October 16, 1972.

Delegates credentials are to be filled out by the secretary of each organization. The original is to be given to the delegate-elect who presents it to the Credentials Committee on checking

in at the Convention.

The duplicate credential should be returned to California Labor COPE headquarters along with the completed list of authorized delegates.

Delegates are urged to check into the Woodlake Inn on Wednesday, October 18. The Credentials Committee will be in session from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on that date.

A meeting of the California Labor COPE Executive Council to consider what action to take in response to President Meany's directive will be held at the Woodlake Inn on October 18. Any recommendation made by the Executive Council on the issue will be submitted to convention delegates for action.

Text of Statement on Need to Defeat Nixon

Here is the full text of the statement adopted by delegates to the Pre-General Election Endorsement Convention of California Labor COPE at the San Francisco Hilton Sept. 8, 1972 which has been challenged by AFL-CIO President George Meany as a violation of national AFL-CIO policy. (See Story on Page 1):

"America cannot afford another four years of the Nixon Presidency. Neither our economy nor our traditional freedoms can long survive the destructive controls that have identified his Administration. Nor can our national unity survive his tactics of racial division.

"His economic policies have been ruinous for workers and consumers. He has doubled the number of unemployed, imposed the highest interest loan rates in 100 years and given our country a losing position in world trade for the first time in this century.

"He has stolen from our unions the right of free bargaining. He has placed controls on wages but none on the soaring profits of industry.

"He has sought to take the right to strike from Teamsters, Seamen, Longshoremen, Railroad Workers, Transit employees and all others in the transportation industry.

"He has menaced the future of the Supreme Court by seeking appointment of judges identified with the White Supremacy doctrines of a dreadful past.

"He has fostered the Administration's divisive Southern Strategy program for the sole and cynical purpose of winning the electoral college votes of the five southern states that were carried by George Wallace in 1968.

"He has directed the rhetoric and influence of the Vice President against the reporters of the news media and the constitutional independence of press and television.

"He has clouded the patriotism of Americans who challenge his foreign policy but he has himself flaunted his pacts of peace with totalitarian powers.

"He has continued his career-long community of interest with the political enemies of labor, the poor and the dispossessed minorities of our land.

"The good of labor and nation requires the defeat of Richard Nixon in the presidential election of November 7."

New Appeal Issued to Save Protective Laws

(Continued from Page 1)

from more than 40 unions, urged all state senators to postpone ratifying the Women's Equal Rights Amendment when they reconvene after the November 7 election until AB 1710, a State AFL-CIO sponsored measure to extend existing protective legislation on labor standards to all workers, wins Senate approval by at least a two-thirds majority vote. AB 1710 was introduced by Assemblyman Willie L. Brown, Jr. (D-S.F.).

"If the ERA is passed before 1710," the letter said, "the door is wide open for California's working women to lose the present safeguards and conditions. Since the vast majority of women workers are not unionized and are at the mercy of employers—except for the protection of these laws—you can see the danger we face," it said.

"Every worker, regardless of sex, has a right to rest periods, safety precautions, toilets, water, ventilation and some 50 decent working conditions. There is no reason for the Senate to sit on this legislation any longer except to bend to the avarice of business interests," it added.

The women trade unionists called on state senators to make a commitment to vote for AB 1710 first and then for ratification of the ERA.

"As working women, we are quite familiar with labor practices of employers in the state of California and we assure you that unless AB 1710 passes by a two-thirds majority before the ERA goes through, the employers will no longer recognize even minimal standards as basic rights of workers. In fact, we may well see the spread of sweatshops and other substandard conditions," they warned.

The letter was signed by Ann Lipow, President, who is a member of Teachers Local 1795 at the University of California at Berkeley, and Luella Hanberry, Vice President, of Office and Professional Employees Local 29 in Oakland.

**Are You Registered
To Vote?
Deadline Is Oct. 8**