

# 'Hound Scabs Unlicensed

Greyhound has at least 160 scabs on the highways at the wheels of its buses without the bus operator licenses the State of California says they must have.

The California Highway Patrol has known about the unlicensed scabs since last month but apparently has taken no action, according to a report released this week by Assembly Member Richard Katz, D-Sepulveda.

Katz called upon the CHP to cite every unlicensed scab.

"The fact that they would let these guys drive for one day, let

alone weeks, without the proper licenses is frightening," Katz declared.

"They are violating the law. It puts the public at risk. It is unacceptable."

Outrage followed outrage as the facts unfolded.

First, there was anger because Greyhound let such people take its huge highway buses out into traffic, exposing untold thousands to death or injury.

Second, the CHP apparently has done nothing to enforce the law

requiring stringent testing of prospective bus operators.

Third, a spokesperson for the corporation claimed Greyhound didn't know about the California law.

Fourth, the California Department of Motor Vehicles appears to be bending over backward to get the unlicensed scabs certified quickly.

The Greyhound spokesperson said:

"The Department of Motor Vehicles has been very helpful in setting up testing for us so we can get our

drivers qualified."

That will be interesting news to anyone who has tried recently to get an appointment for a driving test at the short-handed DMV.

The CHP found last month that more than 90 percent of the Greyhound scabs based in L.A. were driving without the bus operator licenses that were made mandatory after a chartered bus from Santa Monica overturned into the Walker River in Mono County in 1986, killing 22 people.

There is speculation that the

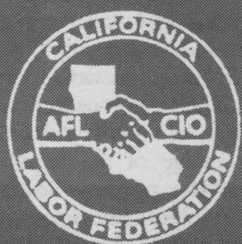
number of unlicensed scabs could be much higher than 160.

The company admitted to the 160 figure after a DMV spokesperson said 334 scabs were known to have taken Greyhound's bus handling course and only 174 of that group had qualified for state bus operator permits.

Uncounted are gypsy truckers and others Greyhound is known to have hurriedly recruited and sent out onto the highways.

The revelations substantiate charges by the labor movement and

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## California AFL-CIO News

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## Worker Memorial Day Focuses on Elections

Political militancy to curb on-the-job death and injury was a theme of Workers Memorial Day observances held in Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego on April 28 of this general election year.

In San Francisco, trade unionists



Ira Reiner

and friends rallying on the spot where a crane collapse killed five workers last November heard Ira Reiner, labor's endorsed candidate for attorney general, call for punishment of employers who put profit above worker safety.

They also heard a moving tribute to the dead workers by the widow of one of the men who plunged to his death there.

Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, delivering the principal address, said: "We are here today to protest occupational murder."

At Los Angeles, Former Gov. Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown, told a Workers Memorial Day Breakfast that the labor movement is the most effective force for positive change in the United States today.

And at San Diego, Dave Gregory, regional director of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education, told a banquet audience that realization of the Workers Memorial Day theme — Mourn for the Dead; Fight for the Living — requires electing officials willing to make hazardous working conditions uneconomic.

It was the second annual celebration of the April 28 observance established last year by the national AFL-CIO, and Californians marked it as an official holiday thanks to legislation sponsored by the California Labor Federation.

The San Francisco crane collapse site at the intersection of California and Kearny Streets was blocked off for the rally that began at 10 a.m. under bright skies.

Reiner, who as district attorney of Los Angeles County established the only prosecutorial team in the country assigned exclusively to worker health and safety violations, was introduced by Fran Schreiber of the State Building and Construc-



Jack Henning

tion Trades Council of California, mistress of ceremonies.

He pledged that as attorney general he will work to curb safety violations as well as to prosecute persons responsible.

"Every year 10,000 workers are unnecessarily killed and 50,000 to 80,000 die prematurely because they were exposed years earlier to chemicals on the jobsite," Reiner declared.

"It is important to understand why this happens. In most cases, it is because a cynical decision has been made to deliberately violate

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### EDITORIAL

## George Deukmejian And Willie Brown

By JOHN F. HENNING  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

The Deukmejian Administration is nearing its close, but the Governor in alliance with Speaker Willie Brown is weaving a possible legacy of greatness.

It promises nothing less than a state health insurance program based on the tri-partite financing of employers, workers and government.

The alliance recalls the Workers' Compensation triumph of last year when George and Willie, with the clincher role of Senate leader Dave Roberti, gave California workers the greatest dollar benefit increase in state annals.

It was an attainment scorned as impossible down to the post-midnight hours of the session's close.

The Deukmejian-Brown health concept would provide coverage for millions of uninsured Californians.

It would be comparable to national health schemes that obtain in every industrial nation, with the shameful exception of the United States.

There will be variations that will acknowledge existing private systems of sole employer sponsorship or employer-union agreements.

There should be no debating the need. A near six million Californians are without private or public coverage. Further, paying for quality health care is more and more beyond the means of the employed middle class. Private medical and hospital costs are beyond personal reach and group plans are at the road's end.

The Deukmejian-Brown proposal will suffer legislative tensions and spats but the public good demands that a way be found.

The political structure is in place. The Governor has designated key agency heads to represent the Administration: Cliff Allenby of Health and Welfare and John Geoghan of Business, Transportation and Housing.

The Speaker has named Assemblyman Burt Margolin as the bill's primary author. Margolin was Willie's swift thinking author of the workers' comp victory.

And so the unlikely duo is moving not to a racing tempo, but to direction of exhaustive procedures that could bestow on both a favored place in California history.

## Living Wage Law Is the Best Yet

San Mateo County has enacted a prevailing wage ordinance covering private construction projects as well as public works.

It is the greatest victory for the living wage concept achieved anywhere in California since the USS-POSCO steel plant remodeling project in Contra Costa County demonstrated the huge costs a community must bear when contractors import

low-wage workers from depressed areas.

"Members of the Board of Supervisors were fully aware of the study commissioned by the Contra Costa supervisors showing the true social cost of the USS-POSCO project," said Robert Gilmore, business manager of the Building and Construction Trades Council of San Mateo County.

The ordinance passed 4-1 at the second reading last Tuesday night. It goes into effect after 30 days. The prevailing wage is that fixed by the state for public works.

The measure goes beyond living wage ordinances passed recently in a number of other jurisdictions — including several of San Mateo County's 20 municipalities — in that it will apply to any private con-

struction project for which a county building permit is required. Projects valued at less than \$250,000 or including fewer than five single family residential units are exempted.

Any project subsidized by public funds is covered, whether or not a permit is required.

About 10 percent of the county is

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# Props 118, 119: It's Life or Death

Anti-labor forces are attempting to radically alter the California reapportionment process through Propositions 118 and 119 in order to gain political dominance that the Republican Party has been unable to win at the ballot box.

That's the warning that the state's AFL-CIO affiliates have received from Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation and head of labor's Committee on Political Education (COPE).

"Once again we are facing a life or death struggle over reapportionment," Henning warned. "Six years ago we defeated the Republican-sponsored Proposition 39 reapportionment measure. Now the anti-labor forces are back with two more propositions, 118 and 119, both of which will appear on the June ballot.

"Boundary lines for Senatorial, Assembly and Congressional districts must be adjusted to conform with population shifts every 10 years following each national census.

The California Constitution requires the Legislature to accom-

## Common Cause Says 'No' on 119

California Common Cause came out against Proposition 119 this week, describing parts of the initiative as "clearly partisan."

The organization, whose slogan is "Citizens Working for Better Government," already had taken a stand against Proposition 118.

The announcement on Proposition 119 stated, in part: "...the measure is so flawed in design and execution that we believe it is not a

fundamental improvement over the current system.

"The so-called 'independent reapportionment commission' is, in fact, merely a selection committee with little authority to alter redistricting plans..."

"The criteria are clearly partisan, overly rigid and needlessly complex."

plish this reapportionment. The Constitution also sets down guidelines which the Legislature must follow in redrawing the lines.

Propositions 118 and 119 would drastically alter the reapportionment provisions of the Constitution to favor the Republicans when the new boundary lines are drawn next year.

Proposition 118 would require a two-thirds vote of the Legislature—rather than a simple majority—to pass a reapportionment plan. Then, to further weaken the power of the legislative branch, Proposition 118 would prohibit the override of the

governor's veto of a redistricting plan.

If a stalemate is reached because a two-thirds majority cannot be achieved or because of a veto, the State Supreme Court would have the authority to adopt a reapportionment plan.

"Proposition 118 thus would give the minority Party an unprecedented amount of control over the redistricting process," Henning pointed out.

"The votes of the minority party would be needed to reach a two-thirds majority, moreover, they will

bargain with the assurance that if no agreement is reached, a Republican-dominated State Supreme Court will end up drawing the new boundary lines."

Appointees of Republican Gov. George Deukmejian hold a 5-2 majority on the Supreme Court.

"No wonder the Republican National Committee contributed half of the money needed to qualify this initiative for the ballot," Henning noted. "It was sponsored by a Republican businessman from Marin County, Gary Flynn."

Proposition 119 represents an even more radical attack on Legislative authority over reapportionment.

It would take reapportionment out of the hands of the elected Legislature altogether and give it to a so-called independent commission.

This 12-member commission would be appointed by three retired appellate court justices chosen by lot by the Judicial Council.

This commission could not itself draw new boundary lines but would be limited to adopting one of the many plans submitted to it by those special interest groups with sufficient money and computer sophistication to draw up plans.

These plans would have to meet specific new constitutional requirements which would work to the advantage of the Republicans.

If the commission could not agree on a plan, a second commission would be appointed to try again; and, if it couldn't agree, the Supreme Court would decide.

"This proposition was sponsored by the Republican Tom Heuning of San Mateo County, and its major financial supporters are California Republican Party organizations, Republican politicians and large corporations," Henning said.

"We should have no illusions about what would happen to labor if these propositions pass and the Republicans gain control of the Legislature.

"During the Deukmejian Administration, Republican legislators have introduced measures which, if passed, would have weakened or repealed labor protections in the following areas:

"Union shop, prevailing wages on public works, health and safety, minimum wages, overtime, collective bargaining and right to strike for public employees, collective bargaining for farm workers, apprenticeship programs, and prison labor."

Henning continued: "These measures were all defeated, mainly in committees with Democratic majorities. But if the Republicans gain control, they would be impossible to stop.

"It is imperative that Propositions 118 and 119 be defeated on June 5. The very existence of labor union freedom is at stake."

## Datebook

Joint Legislative Conference: May 21-23, Sacramento.

Ninth Annual Western Regional Summer Institute for Union Women, July 8-13, Berkeley.

Executive Council, pre-convention meeting: July 18-20, Holiday Inn Embarcadero, San Diego.

Biennial Convention, California Labor Federation, July 23-26, Holiday Inn Embarcadero, San Diego.

## Publisher's Notice

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# Answers on Reapportionment

Here are answers to questions most frequently asked about Propositions 118 and 119, the Republican-sponsored initiatives on the June Primary Election ballot:

**Q. If Propositions 118 and 119 pass and the Republicans gain control of the Legislature, what is likely to happen to our protective labor laws?**

**A.** During the Deukmejian Administration, Republican legislators have introduced measures which, if passed, would have weakened or repealed labor protections in the following areas:

Union security, prevailing wages on public works, health and safety, minimum wages, overtime, collective bargaining and right to strike for public employees, collective bargaining for farm workers, apprenticeship programs, contracting out of public sector work and prison labor.

These measures were all defeated, mainly in committees with Democratic majorities. But if Republicans gain control, they would be virtually impossible to stop.

**Q. If the Republicans controlled just the State Senate, what would have happened?**

**A.** Such anti-labor Deukmejian appointees as Victor Veysey (Director of Industrial Relations), Betty Cordoba (Public Employee Relations Board), and Dan Lungren (Treasurer) would have been confirmed and would be hard at work implementing their anti-union agendas.

Instead, the Senate's pro-labor majority rejected those appointments.

Clearly, if Republicans controlled the State Senate, a Republican Governor would have a free hand to appoint labor's enemies and a Democratic governor would be blocked from appointing labor's friends!

**Q. If the Republicans controlled the Congress what measures would already be law?**

**A.** In the U.S. Congress, only a strong Democratic majority has prevented the implementation of the worst policy objectives of the Reagan/Bush decade.

Democrats stopped major cuts in Social Security, blocked repeal of

NLRB protections, stopped the defunding of OSHA, and blocked a host of bills and federal budget actions aimed against working people and their unions.

California's congressional Democrats are known as progressive leaders. They are a powerful asset for California workers and their unions. As a result, they've also made corporate enemies who say they must defeat California's congressional Democrats in order to grab a national majority in Congress. Labor cannot allow this to happen.

**Q. How does Proposition 118 change the reapportionment process?**

**A.** Proposition 118 would require a two-thirds vote of the Legislature to pass reapportionment plans instead of the current majority vote. This way, the Republican Party in California could stop any plan it wanted to until more Republicans seats were guaranteed.

**Q. How does Proposition 118 directly attack the California Constitution?**

**A.** Proposition 118 prohibits legislative overrides of gubernatorial vetoes of reapportionment plans. Nowhere else is the legislature expressly prevented from exercising its constitutional right as it relates to veto overrides.

**Q. Exactly what does Proposition 119 do to the reapportionment process?**

**A.** Proposition 119 would change the way the State of California is reapportioned by taking the process out of the hands of elected officials who are answerable to the people, and putting it in the hands of a commission and wealthy special interests who are answerable to no one!

**Q. Does Proposition 119 really set up an "independent" commission to redistrict the state as the proponents of Proposition 119 claim?**

**A.** No. While Proposition 119 does establish a reapportionment commission, it is *not* independent and it cannot ever write its own reapportionment plan.

In fact, the commission is specifically *prohibited* from drawing the new district lines. Its role is limited to adopting one of the many plans submitted to it by special interest groups.

If the commission can't reach agreement on one of these plans, it will be dissolved and a second commission will be appointed to begin the process again. If the second commission can't agree, the matter will be thrown to the Supreme Court to decide.

**Q. Can special interest groups actually draw reapportionment plans and submit them to the commission?**

**A.** Yes. Groups whose interests and priorities are not only different from labor, but in many cases quite contrary to labor, will be able to draft plans for new district lines for Congressional, Senate and Assembly districts. It's clear they will do all they can to give *Republicans* every *advantage*, and *Democrats* every *disadvantage*.

**Q. What will this new commission cost California taxpayers?**

**A.** The 12-member commission established by Proposition 119 will cost about \$3.5 million.

**Q. Which groups can draw new district lines?**

**A.** Any groups or individuals who can afford the hundreds of thousands of dollars—perhaps millions—it will take, can draw, submit and litigate reapportionment plans.

**Q. Who would this include?**

**A.** Insurance companies, manufacturers, the oil industry, large corporations, chemical companies, large land developers, banks, wealthy individuals, etc.

**Q. Who would have the complex and complicated data required by Proposition 119 to reapportion the state following the 1990 census?**

**A.** The Rose Institute and certain other Republican groups are the only organizations with the sophisticated computer equipment and data necessary for reapportionment.

The State Legislature would also have the information, but the Legislature will be *prohibited* from participating in the submission of reapportionment plans under the terms of Proposition 119.

**Q. Are the criteria for drawing district lines which Proposition 119 would place in the Constitution fair?**

**A.** No. Proposition 119 would place several very specific criteria

in the constitution for drawing new district boundaries.

One of these criteria would make geographic considerations such as mountains more important than communities of interest in setting district lines.

This would have the effect of reducing the number of coastal districts and thereby the ability of coastal legislators to effectively protect the coast from the oil industry and other environmentally insensitive special interests.

Another criteria could require "competitive districts" based on the statewide percentages of voters represented by the two largest political parties. This is clearly designed to disadvantage the Democrats who, although they represent 49 percent of the voters statewide, vote at significantly lower rates than the Republicans who represent only 39 percent of the voters statewide.

Proposition 119 would prohibit districts from varying more than 2 percent plus or minus from the statewide registration percentages. But voting patterns indicate that districts with a 47 percent Democratic registration are not really competitive for any Democrat! This provision could also work to significantly reduce minority representation in the legislature since many of the current minority legislators come from heavily Democratic districts.

**Q. Who would choose the Reapportionment Commission?**

**A.** The commissioners would be appointed by a panel of three retired State Appellate Court Justices chosen by lot.

More than 90 percent of the retired justices in California are white males.

**Q. Who could serve on the commission?**

**A.** Technically, any registered voter may apply to be on the Commission. But, being chosen is a whole different ballgame. Commissioners may *ONLY* be nominated by interest groups in slates of 12 candidates. Individual citizens must get onto arranged slates or they can't be chosen. That means the average voter is virtually eliminated from participating.



# Our Vanishing Jobs

## Koret Closure Brings Protest

Garment workers whose jobs at Koret of California are due to be exported to Guatemala at the end of this month, called this week for a national consumer boycott of the fashion firm.

Katie Quan, manager of the Pacific Northwest District Council of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, called for public support during a rally at noon last Tuesday in front of the Emporium department store on Market Street in San Francisco.

"We are here today to call upon the American consumers to support us in our struggle to save our jobs at Koret," Quan declared.

"It is an insult to employees, some of whom have been with the company for as long as 40 years and have helped it become a super-profitable corporation, to be told that Koret now wants to close its operations in this country and throw them out.

"Most of these workers are too young to retire and too old to start new careers," Quan said.

"We call upon consumers, most of whom we know share the same American dream as these workers, to support us."

The 300 ILGWU members who



Katie Quan calls for consumer support of Koret workers.

have been told their jobs are gone as of May 29 mostly earn between \$6 and \$8 per hour. Most are female and ethnic minorities. Many are recent immigrants.

Koret will replace them with Guatemalans willing to work for about \$1 a day.

In addition to the 300 employees of Koret's S.F. factory, there are hundreds of additional workers in contract sewing shops whose jobs also will be exported.

Quan said she was making formal application to have Koret placed on the California "We Do Not Patronize" list and would ask her international union to place the company on the national AFL-CIO boycott list.

Steve Nutter, regional ILGWU director and vice president of the California Labor Federation, who was in San Francisco to participate in talks with Koret management, said the boycott request would be

presented to the international union in the coming week.

Quan was armed with official support as she made her plea for consumer backing on Tuesday.

Mayor Art Agnos has attempted to persuade Koret to remain in S.F., where the company was established 53 years ago. The S.F. Board of Supervisors on the previous evening had unanimously approved a resolution backing the mayor's efforts and calling upon Koret to relent.

Handbills distributed by ILGWU members call upon shoppers to ask merchants to keep Koret products off their racks until the company agrees to drop the job export plan.

The union also asks sympathizers to complain to Doug Whiteley, vice president for manufacturing, at (415) 957-2253, and Richard Partida, vice president for personnel, at (415) 957-2037. Their offices are at Koret headquarters, 611 Mission St., San Francisco 94105.

## Green Giant Heads South

Green Giant Corp. says it is going to export hundreds of food processing jobs from Watsonville to Mexico, where the daily wage is about half what the company pays per hour to union members in California.

Chuck Mack, president of Teamsters Joint Council 7, called this latest chapter in the maquiladora story "particularly sinister."

The Mexican government and labor movement appear to be in collusion to establish "white unions"—what we know as company unions—to lure runaway U.S. corporations, Mack said.

U.S. banks seem to be pushing corporations to take advantage of the situation because they want the Mexican government to be able to repay the huge debt it owes to the banks.

"So what we are seeing is wholesale shipment of jobs south of the border," Mack said.

Teamsters Local 912, which represents the affected Green Giant workers, has lost 3,000 jobs since packers began shifting production to Mexico 10 years ago, according to Sergio Lopez, the secretary-treasurer.

Green Giant's announcement this week came as the latest in a series of crushing blows to members of Local 912, many of whom lost homes and possessions, were thrown out of work and lived

***'The agri-business corporations have hedged their bets. They're already in Mexico generating super profits.'***

**—Chuck Mack**

months in temporary shelters following the earthquake last Oct. 17. The members defended their collective bargaining gains in a long and bitter strike that ended in 1987.

"This couldn't have come at a worse time," Lopez declared. "This community was devastated by the quake. The loss of more jobs will be horrible."

Wages are about \$3.80 a day in Mexico compared to at least \$7.61 an hour for Local 912 members in Watsonville.

But that's not the only lure for runaway corporations. There are no occupational safety and health standards in Mexico. Workers' compensation and unemployment costs are nil or minimal. There is no union pension plan, and Mexican social security costs are low.

The runaway corporations also evade environmental protection laws, Mack pointed out.

There are no effective controls over pollution produced by the plants, and there are no curbs on use of pesticides and other toxics on vegetables.

"The agri-business corporations have hedged their bets. They're already in Mexico, generating super profits," Mack said.

"But the small farmers—and the small food processors—are getting killed. They want labeling legislation to make the corporations show the origins of the food they are selling, and we are fully supportive," Mack added.

Green Giant announced Monday that it would shift production to Mexico from Watsonville, where it currently is the town's third-largest food processor.

Later this week company spokespersons told news media that 370 of about 550 Watsonville jobs would be exported. The company also hinted that some jobs might be shifted to other plants in the Midwest.

"We believe that they are going to send about 500 jobs to Mexico," Mack said. "We believe they were reacting to adverse criticism when they came back with the lower figure."

"It appears to us that if they remodel the Watsonville plant as they now say they plan to do, it will only become something like a warehouse facility with few jobs."

## More Sawmill Work Lost

Residents of Northern California's redwood lumber region have been told that more of their jobs are going to be exported to Mexico than previously announced.

The mill being built in Baja California to process logs barged down from Humboldt County is only the beginning, Harry Merlo, chief executive officer of Louisiana-Pacific Corp., said during a rare interview with the Eureka Times-Standard.

"I'm sure we'll expand more in Mexico," Merlo told the newspaper. "We'll probably develop a particleboard plant down there to use the shavings we create when surfacing the lumber. ..."

Merlo also said a deep water port at El Sauzal, the site of the new Mexican mill, makes the runaway operation perfect for serving Louisiana-Pacific's Japanese customers.

The corporation will load rough logs onto barges to be towed to Mexico for processing instead of being sawed into marketable lumber in the mills that have provided livelihoods to generations of Northern Californians.

Merlo again denied that the corporation was sending the work to Mexico to take advantage of impoverished Mexican workers willing to work for a dollar or two a day, or to evade occupational health and safety standards and environmental controls enforced in this country.

In this he did not sound convincing.

"Primarily our movement to Mexico was because I have no faith in the railroad between Eureka and Ukiah," Merlo said. "I've been in this business many years and I've seen that railroad go out so many times, and it's so expensive to fix."

He said barging the logs to Mexico would relieve the company of trucking logs over congested highways. His logic became obscure when he added that finished lumber would be hauled back into California by truck.

But Merlo sounded convincing indeed when he backed away from earlier assurances that nobody will lose jobs when Louisiana-Pacific begins barging logs to Mexico.

In fact, layoffs of 195 workers at three Louisiana-Pacific sawmills already have been announced. Merlo indicated more of the same is in store for Northern Californians.

But he insisted the culprits are environmentalists and the federal government, not the new Mexican mill.

If the spotted owl is declared to be an endangered species, the company will be prevented from chopping some of its old-growth timber, which is the only habitat in which the bird can reproduce, Merlo said.

The trouble with the federal government, he said, is that the U.S. Forest Service is not giving Louisiana-Pacific permission to cut all the timber it wants from national forests.

Merlo said the company is preparing to make wallboard for home construction from waste paper.

He didn't say—and apparently was not asked—whether the corporation would haul the waste paper to Mexico for recycling.

## Cal-OSHA Board Meets May 17

The Cal-OSHA Standards Board is scheduled to hear testimony May 17 at Los Angeles on safety order changes aimed at preventing falls by aircraft maintenance workers.

The Standards Board will meet at 10 a.m. in Room 1138 of the State Building at 107 South Broadway in Los Angeles.

The session will open with a public meeting at which any person will be allowed to speak on occupational safety and health.

## Kirkland: No AFL-CIO Abortion Policy Yet

Copies of a letter from AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland concerning the status of resolutions on abortion issues submitted to the last national convention have been forwarded to all state and local central bodies in Region VI by Dave Sickler, regional director.

The original of Kirkland's letter was addressed to Irvin H. Fletcher, president of the Oregon AFL-CIO. It states:

"This letter is in response to your inquiry on the status of the six resolutions concerning abortion and other reproductive issues the 1989 AFL-CIO Convention referred to the Executive Council.

"I have appointed a committee of the Executive Council to review those resolutions. The committee is scheduled to complete its deliberations later this year and will report its recommendations to the Execu-

tive Council at that time.

"The AFL-CIO has not taken any policy position on the issue of abortion to this point. After receiving the committee's report on the referred resolutions, the Council will determine what the Federation's policy position should be. When the Council acts, we will notify all state and local central bodies.

"Pending that Executive Council

action, AFL-CIO state and local central bodies may not officially endorse or oppose any abortion-related legislation or engage in any activities to support or oppose such legislation.

"If you have additional questions in this regard, please contact Susan Dunlop of my office."

The letter is signed "Sincerely and fraternally, Lane Kirkland, President."



# Workers Memorial Day...

(Continued from Page 1)

safety laws in order to cut costs," the attorney general candidate declared.

"When that happens, death and serious injury are inevitable."

Assembly Member Tom Hayden, D-Santa Monica, chair of the Committee on Labor and Employment, told how his grandfather had died in an industrial accident, leaving his grandmother to raise 12 children on a \$5,000 death settlement in the depths of the Great Depression.

Hayden pledged to transfer such memories into "a monument of legislation" including crane safety bills that cleared his committee the previous week. One of the measures is Hayden's own bill to pay for beefed-up crane inspections through higher fees.

Henning told the rally crowd that the San Francisco observance was "a good beginning, but only a beginning" of the task at hand. He added, "We must continue, of course, this effort."

The state AFL-CIO leader declared:

"We are here today to protest occupational murder.

"And whether we like it or not, it is an inevitable part of the American economic system.

"Death in the course of employment is just as tragic as the fate of homicide victims shot to death on the streets of our nation," Henning continued.

"The public does not understand the reality. The public accepts the employer myth that occupational death is a necessary part of the work experience, the price of employment.

"The public accepts the employer view that if a worker is not willing to accept the price, let him look for other employment.

"That's barbarism," Henning continued. "And there is a lot of barbarism in the American system.

"Occupational murder is inevitable in a system that places profits above all other values; it follows as night follows day..."

An employer unrestrained by force of law will eliminate anything, such as worker safety, that interferes with profit, Henning said.

"We're dealing with the whole of the economic system," Henning continued. "We're dealing with something more than the particular instance. But let's take the situation to which reference has been made.

"We should look at it in this way: in the tragedy of the four construc-



Terry Tilton hears her husband eulogized.



Tom Hayden urges legislative protections.

tion workers and the bus driver, who had the duty to provide the safe workplace?

"The general contractor had that responsibility. The subcontractors had that responsibility. The crane owner had that responsibility. The manufacturer of the crane had that responsibility. And the State of California had that responsibility.

"The State of California has a statutory duty to provide a safe working place for all workers.

"That's a reality.

"As has been indicated, Gov. Deukemjian abolished Cal-OSHA. Whatever its failings, it was superior to the federal occupational system. It was abolished in part for economic reasons.

"The cost of Cal-OSHA was less than one percent of the total budget of the State of California. What a fraud to argue that he was serving the taxpayers of the state by eliminating that system.

"We have restored that system through the vote of the people. But it has not been fully restored.

"The question is, what do we do?"

Henning continued:

"There are two avenues open. Tom Hayden talked about one, and that's the legislative approach. But you have to remember that the people who financed this structure at Kearny and California Streets have power in Sacramento that out-matches the power of any one person in this assembly.

"They have the lobby power that they've maintained over the years to challenge every progressive move in industrial safety, whether in the contractors' world or the manufac-

turers' world or the agricultural world.

"There's another avenue: job action."

Job action is as much a part of the saving of workers' lives as the legislation that has been proposed by Tom Hayden in Sacramento," the state AFL-CIO leader said.

"Until the separatist traditions of the American trade union movement are abandoned and the idea that an injury to one is an injury to all exists as something more than rhetoric, one union standing alone can't challenge the masters of the economy concerning the daily work problems they face.

"Job action can only be successful if backed by the whole labor movement.

"Unless that whole labor movement is aroused, you'll see more of the tragedies as occurred here last year.

"So the duty is one none of us can avoid, none of us can deny, none of us can abandon," Henning concluded.

Dennis Madigan, business manager of Iron Workers Local 377 of San Francisco, read the tribute to the dead workers that Terry Tilton, widow of Iron Worker Steve Tilton, had brought with her to the memorial ceremonies from her home in the State of Washington.

Tilton, herself an operating engineer, praised engineer Lonnie Bogess, Iron Workers Paul Cline and David Graden, and bus driver Tay Holden, who was crushed at the wheel of her vehicle.

Of her own husband, she wrote:

"Steve was my partner in life. At home and at work, he usually made his end first. ...

"The way he danced across the iron and up a beam to the next piece was poetry in motion. I am blessed to have been loved by Steven, to have his daughter and son to raise in our home he built himself..."

Iron Worker Shawn Treadway told how construction workers rushed to attempt to rescue the victims and to secure steel beams teetering high above the spot where his audience stood.

There were remarks from Marion Bourke of Local 1741 of the United Transport Union, bus driver Holden's union. Holden's sister and father were guests of honor.

Also speaking was Jim Schwandt, business representative of Local 16 of the Asbestos Workers.

Janice Borchardt, vice president of Local 1225 of the Amalgamated Transit Union spoke, wearing a placard with an enlarged photo of Bob Waterhouse, the Greyhound striker killed by a scab at Redding.

Paul Varacalli, president of the S.F. Labor Council, international vice president of the Service Employees and head of SEIU Local 790, accepted a plaque presented by Kevin Shelley, son of the late Jack Shelley, mayor, legislator and labor leader, on behalf of Mayor Art Agnos, declaring April 28 Workers Memorial Day in S.F.

Songs were provided by members of the Freedom Song Network and Western Workers Heritage. S.F. Opera players from Local 6 of the Musicians Union provided brass accompaniment.

The Los Angeles breakfast obser-

vance of Workers Memorial Day was held at the Hacienda Hotel in El Segundo.

State Controller Gray Davis, endorsed by COPE for reelection, shared the speakers' platform with Jerry Brown.

Also speaking were Albin J. Gruhn, president of the California Labor Federation, and William R. Robertson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, who warned, "Big business is getting away with murder in the U.S. today."

Other participants included Dave Sickler, AFL-CIO regional director, and actor Jack Klugman, who called the continuing toll of death and injury on American jobsites "a threat to the security of our nation."

Gregory provided the keynote address at the San Diego banquet, held at the Kona Kai Resort. Joseph S. Francis, executive secretary-treasurer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Central Labor Council, was master of ceremonies.

The program also featured the council's annual leadership and service awards.

"We mourn for the dead today," Gregory declared. "But if we also say we are going to fight for the living, we must elect public officers who will vote for legislation taking the economics out of unsafe working conditions.

"That can be done by doubling and tripling fines and jail terms and revoking offenders' business licenses," the regional COPE director declared.

"If we make it economical for workers to be safe, our mourning will diminish."

Gregory said it was the the responsibility of everyone in the labor movement to work for election of friends of labor.

"That means supplementing COPE programs with money, with volunteers, and, most importantly, the votes of every eligible member of an AFL-CIO union and every member of his or her family."

Honorees at the San Diego dinner were Eliseo Medina, president of Service Employees Local 102, who got the Special Projects Award for directing the Justice for Janitors campaign; Richard Martin, two-time president of the San Diego Federation of Teachers, who received the Service Award, and Peter Zschiesche of the Machinists and Robert Godinez of the Iron Workers who shared the Special Projects Award for leading the fight to maintain union representation at National Steel and Shipbuilding Co.

# San Mateo Living Wage Law...

(Continued from Page 1)

outside city limits and therefore subject to the new ordinance, Gilmore said.

The board majority agreed that it is in the public interest to protect the livelihood of building and construction workers who necessarily change jobs frequently and therefore are vulnerable to predatory contractors who bring in people willing to accept wages too low to support a family in the local economy.

Supervisor Anna Eshoo noted during the first reading last week that 40 million American workers across the country are without medical insurance.

"You and I as taxpayers are picking up the tab for that," Eshoo declared.

Supervisor Mary Griffin said: "We've come out of the Dark Ages and I want to stay out of the

Dark Ages."

The lone dissenting vote was provided by Supervisor Tom Huening, the political conservative who is the author of Proposition 119 on the June ballot, the initiative strongly opposed by labor. It seeks to give

the Republican Party control of the reapportionment process.

Officials of Associated Building Contractors, the anti-union group that has been attacking prevailing wage regulations across the country, appeared with their lawyers to

argue in vain against enactment of the ordinance.

The ordinance was prepared by County Counsel Thomas F. Casey III, who noted that Attorney General John Van de Kamp had issued an opinion in January concluding

that local governing bodies have constitutional authority to prohibit payment of less than prevailing wage on construction projects.

Casey's recommendation to the board, presented by Deputy County Counsel Michael P. Murphy, concludes:

"The payment of prevailing wages ensures that well qualified and trained workers are obtained for construction projects. Payment of prevailing wages advances the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of San Mateo County by assisting workers in meeting the high cost of living, by enhancing employment opportunities thereby boosting the local economy, and by ensuring and enhancing the health and safety of persons employed on construction projects and persons who will occupy or use structures and facilities built within the county."

# Greyhound Scabs Unlicensed...

(Continued from Page 1)

public interest groups that Greyhound is violating a wide range of safety regulations in its efforts to break the Amalgamated Transit Union.

Drivers and other employees of Greyhound have seen their wages drastically reduced through two rounds of negotiations in which they made deep concessions to the company.

ATU struck across the nation on March 2 after the newest Grey-

hound management demanded further cuts and rejected proposals to extend pension rights to persons hired in recent years.

The state bus operator requirements apparently are beyond the capabilities of many of the scabs Greyhound has been able to recruit.

The 1986 law, sponsored by Katz, includes about an hour and a half of written examinations as well as a driving test. Applicants are required, among other things, to identify mechanical problems in their vehicles. The requirements at

first were applied only to charter line drivers but were extended last year to drivers of scheduled buses as well.

The L.A. inspections last month also turned up a variety of mechanical problems on buses and numerous other violations, including scabs who were driving more hours per day than the safety laws allow.

No citations of any kind were issued. CHP inspectors gave the corporation two months to correct the problems.