

State Strike Vote Set

State workers will start voting on strike authorization the week after Thanksgiving.

California State Employees Association—Local 1000 of the Service Employees—announced that ballots would be mailed to its members on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and that the results would be tallied starting on Jan. 7.

CSEA is the first union to call for strike authorization in the deepening crisis over Gov. Pete Wilson's attempts to impose rollbacks, layoffs and takeaways. Other unions are expected to follow suit shortly.

With 78,000 members, nearly

half of the total state workforce, CSEA is by far the largest of the unions involved.

The strike vote was announced as:

- A decertification move was rejected overwhelmingly in CSEA's 2,200-member Bargaining Unit 3, covering teachers in state institutions ranging from prisons to schools for the blind and deaf.

- CSEA President Yolanda Solari denounced the administration for contracting out legal work to private law firms at twice the expense of having the work done by

state-employed attorneys the governor wants to lay off.

- Two independent unions obtained a court order preventing the Wilson Administration from imposing the last, best and final offers that were on the bargaining tables when the gubernatorially-appointed Public Employment Relations Board declared that negotiations were at an impasse.

- A campaign to "Cut Loopholes, Not Public Services," was launched by the California Tax Reform Association with the backing of organized labor as well as

social, economic and community organizations. (See accompanying story.)

- CSEA renewed its charges that the governor's demands are targeted more on busting unions than on balancing the state budget. It cited refusal by the administration to consider voluntary furloughs rather than mandatory layoffs and pointed to criticism by the Republican attorney general of continued farming out of legal work to private lawyers at twice the cost of having the work done by state employees.

The CSEA membership will be

voting on a straight-forward proposition, according to Mike Myslinski, union spokesperson.

"A 'Yes' vote will mean that a member wants to give up everything the governor is demanding from state workers," Myslinski said.

"A 'No' vote will authorize their union officers to call a strike if and when they deem it necessary," he added.

Counting will start on Jan. 7, the deadline for return of mail ballots to

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Henning Rips 'Free' Trade

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jack Henning of the California Labor Federation told AFL-CIO convention delegates in Detroit last week that "getting the Moscow monkey off our backs" means that labor is free to "wage unconditional war on American capital's transfer of production facilities to Mexico" without being subjected to false accusations of communism.

Henning spoke on the convention floor in support of a resolution condemning the Mexican-North American Free Trade Agreement proposed by the Bush Administration that would eliminate thousands of American jobs for the benefit of American capital.

At the conclusion of his remarks the delegates gave him a standing ovation.

He recalled the media and political assaults on labor during the sit-down strikes of the 1930s when the United Auto Workers Union was accused of adopting tactics of French communists.

He recalled also how shipowners and conservative politicians tried to deport and imprison Harry Bridges, leader of the historic 1934 Pacific Coast waterfront strike, on the grounds that free-thinking warnings of "upper class" war against workers tied Bridges to the Soviet Union.

"No longer can such dissent be equated with treason," Henning declared.

Giants of American industry already are operating below the U.S.-Mexican border at the cost of 500,000 American jobs, Henning

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Lane Kirkland gives keynote address at AFL-CIO Convention.

Convention Delegates Define Labor's Agenda

Delegates from AFL-CIO unions throughout the nation focused on crucial worker concerns during the federation's biennial 19th convention last week in Detroit.

They also launched labor's 1992 presidential preference with a forum at which six major announced Democratic presidential candidates submitted their proposals for reversing 11 years of economic and social decay under the Reagan and Bush

administrations.

Delegates re-elected President Lane Kirkland and Secretary-Treasurer Thomas R. Donahue and named three new vice presidents, Michael Sacco of the Seafarers, James J. Norton of Graphic Communications and Jack Otero of the Transportation Communications Union and Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

Otero is the first Hispanic elected

to the Executive Council in the history of the AFL-CIO.

A resolution from the California Labor Federation had called for an Hispanic to be elected at the Detroit convention.

It was labor's crucial legislative agenda that held center stage.

In addition to the denunciation of the Mexican-North American Free Trade Agreement, delegates

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Fair Tax Campaign Aims at Loopholes

A list of tax loopholes that cost California nearly \$5 billion a year in public revenues was unveiled Wednesday in Sacramento by a labor-backed reform organization.

California Tax Reform Association announced a campaign to close the loopholes rather than reduce public services to erase the latest state budget deficit.

"The governor wants to cut services while continuing to subsidize luxury living of the rich," CTRA Executive Director Lenny Goldberg declared at a news conference in the State Capitol.

"We have identified billions of dollars of loophole closers that would not increase taxes for ordinary families or most taxpayers," Goldberg said.

"We can close the budget gap by closing special interest loopholes. Before we cut money for kids, seniors and schools, we need to cut country club dues, Hawaii vacations and luxury boxes at sporting events. It is time to end tax giveaways to the rich and special interests."

Appearing with Goldberg were representatives of the broad spectrum of unions and public interest groups that support California Tax Reform Association.

These included spokespersons for California State Employees Assn., California Federation of Teachers, League of Women Voters, State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, Congress of California Seniors, Service Employees International Union, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, California Federation of Teachers, California Faculty Association, Child Advocacy Institute, California Rural Legal Assistance, California Teachers Association, Califor-

(Continued on page 4)

COPE to Mobilize Retirees

A major new campaign to mobilize the political muscle of California's retired union members will be launched during a statewide meeting set for Monday, Dec. 2, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento.

Leaders of central labor bodies will be conferring with state, regional and national leaders of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education (COPE), Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, announced this week.

David Gregory, regional COPE director, and Steve Protulis, the national Coordinator of COPE Support Groups, will be on hand to help set the campaign in motion, according to Henning, head of California COPE as well as leader of the state

AFL-CIO federation.

"The retiree vote could determine the course of the critical elections we face in California next year," Henning declared.

The new campaign, a joint effort of the national AFL-CIO and the state federation, is aimed at achieving maximum participation by

retired union members in the 1992 election process.

The state federation earlier called upon all local unions to provide detailed lists of their retirees. That data is being updated and computerized jointly by the state and national COPE organizations, Henning said.

AFL-CIO News Wins Top Award

The California AFL-CIO News has been awarded first prize for general excellence in the annual journalistic contest conducted by the International Labor Communications Association.

Eight California labor publications are winners in the competi-

tion. Awards were presented during the ILCA convention, which was held immediately prior to the AFL-CIO biennial convention week before last in Detroit.

Details concerning the California winners are on Page 2.

"It is important that we implement the registration and get-out-the-vote concepts that both our state and national COPE organizations have designed for the 1992 elections," Henning said.

"The Sacramento meeting is crucial to our campaign because retirees will be mobilized through local central labor bodies," the state AFL-CIO leader pointed out.

"This session will be particularly concerned with the mailing and phone call aspects available through the computerized data received from our affiliates," he added.

The session is scheduled to open at 10 a.m. on Dec. 2 in Room 301 in the Radisson's Plaza Courtyard area.

Volunteers Put Potomac To the Test

The restored SS Potomac has passed all inspections during sea trials and has been declared fit and ready to start its new life as a floating educational resource and museum of the life and times of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

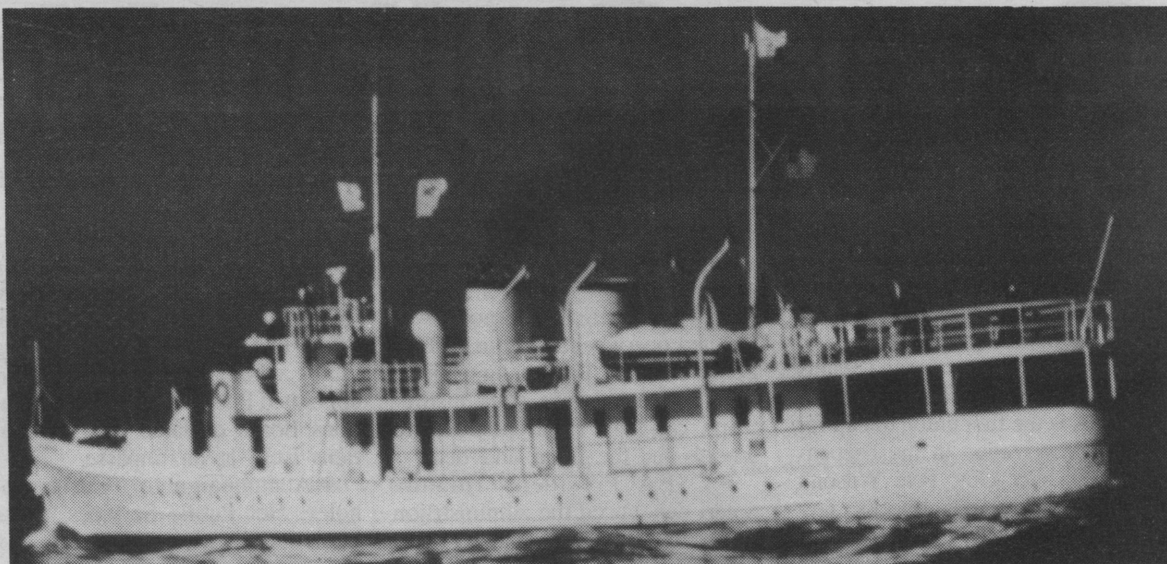
The Potomac, once FDR's "floating White House," has been restored to the condition it was in during the years it was the presidential yacht.

Ownership is to be transferred soon from the Port of Oakland to the Association for the Preservation of the Presidential Yacht Potomac,

according to Paul Dempster, chair of the labor committee that spearheaded the effort to reclaim the vessel from the bottom of San Francisco Bay where it had sunk after being seized from alleged drug runners.

The next phase of the Potomac Project is establishment of the educational program and displays that the ship will take to communities on San Francisco Bay and along the state's inland waterways.

The plan includes making the Potomac available for private charters and other special events until such time as the educational pro-



SS Potomac, full restored and outfitted, takes trial run on San Francisco Bay.

gram is in place, according to Ed Mackin, secretary of the labor committee. Charter fees will help fund the educational program.

A christening event is being planned to formally launch the Potomac back into service. The date will be announced later.

In the meantime, legislation is pending in Congress to establish the Potomac as a unit of the National Park system. The bill has been introduced by Rep. Ron Dellums, D-Oakland.

The restoration has returned the

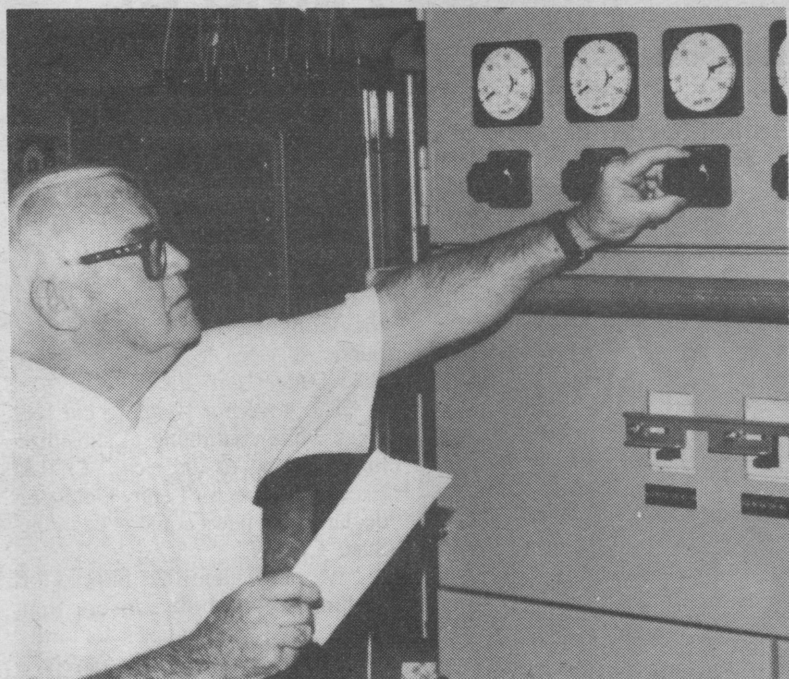
Potomac to the condition in which Winston Churchill and other distinguished guests saw it when they were entertained aboard the vessel by Roosevelt.

Among other things, this work has made the Potomac totally wheelchair accessible. The elevator that carried FDR's wheelchair between decks has been restored inside the after smokestack, which was a cosmetic touch on the diesel-powered ship.

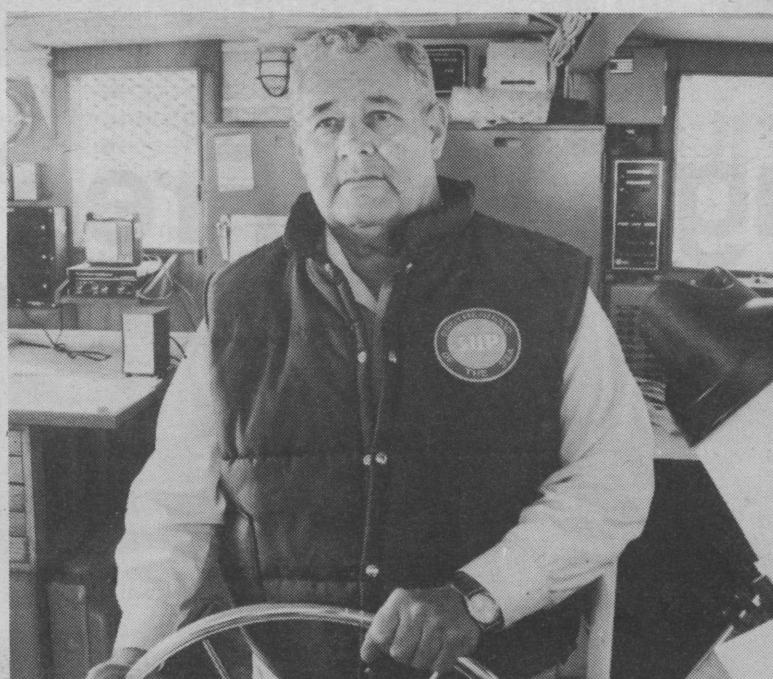
The ship was launched 57 years ago as a Coast Guard cutter. As presidential yacht, it was kept on the Potomac River where it provided Roosevelt with a retreat for contemplation of the New Deal and later for planning World War II strategy.

Sea trials were conducted in October on San Francisco Bay with an all-volunteer crew headed by Capt. John Weiss, an S.F. bar pilot.

The labor committee efforts have included a series of benefit banquets and other fund-raising activities as well as recruitment of skilled volunteer labor and solicitation of donations of equipment and materials.



Ed Mackin, Labor Committee secretary, adjusts engine controls.



Paul Dempster, Potomac Labor Committee chair, takes the helm.

State Labor Papers Win Honors

The California AFL-CIO News and seven other labor publications produced in this state are winners in the annual journalistic Awards Contest conducted by the International Labor Communications Association.

Awards were presented Nov. 9 in Detroit during the ILCA convention, which was held immediately prior to the biennial convention of the AFL-CIO.

Winners include:

- California AFL-CIO News published by the California Labor Federation—first prize for general excellence and third for photography.

- Engineers News, published by Local 3 of the International Union of Operating Engineers—first prize for general excellence in its category, first for feature story, and second for unique performance.

- The Dispatcher, official publication of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union—third-place awards for general excellence, feature story and series of articles, and a second for best use of graphics.

- Utility Reporter, Local 1245 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—first award for best original photograph and third award in best editorial competition.

- State of the Union, Local 535 of the Service Employees—third place in general excellence.

- Union Update, published at San Mateo by the United Executive Council of the Association of Flight Attendants—second award in general excellence.

- Los Angeles Firefighter, Local 112 of the International Association of Fire Fighters—second award in use of graphics.

- United Teacher, United Teachers of Los Angeles—first award for best front page. UTLA also won a first place award for a handbook and pocket calendar entitled "On the Cutting Edge."

The awards are for work published during 1990. Judges included David Perlman, a retired editor of the national AFL-CIO News; Elizabeth Walpole, editor of Bureau of National Affairs' Employee Relations Weekly; Joe Foote, writer and journalism lecturer; Mary Lord, assistant managing editor of The Carpenter, and Jerry Borstel, retired managing editor of IUE News.

California AFL-CIO News won its general excellence award in competition among state and central labor body publications publishing more than 12 issues annually.

The judges said of the California Labor Federation publication:

"Bold headlines, crisp layout and succinct writing gets labor's position across on issues of worker and community concern...."

The California AFL-CIO News gets its photography award for a picture taken by Jane Cleland, San Francisco free-lancer, during an SEIU Justice for Janitors action.

The judges commented:

"This picture of a labor-management confrontation shows clearly the old axiom of news photography to 'get in close and show the action.'"

"The picture could hardly have been staged better than this candid shot."

Engineers News, published in Oakland by Local 3 of the IUOE, won its general excellence award in competition among local union papers with circulation of 15,000 or more.

Judges commented that the work of editor Jim Earp and assistant Steve Moler blends "economic interests of the Operating Engineers with broader important societal concerns."

The paper's first-place feature story, written by Moler, is headlined "Can Subdivisions and Nature Coexist?" It details teamwork by the union, a developer and contractors to preserve the environment on a 600-acre tract near Hayward.

Engineers News won its unique performance award for a report by Moler on the impact of the drought upon IUOE jobs.

The judges appended this comment to their general excellence award for ILWU's The Dispatcher:

"Here's a sprightly newspaper that covers the waterfront and the world from the ILWU's perspective and mostly does it well...."

Dan Beagle is the editor, and Kathy Wilkes is associate editor.

The paper's feature story award is for a report by Wilkes on trade unionists' involvement in a victorious special election campaign at Modesto. The award-winning series, also written by Wilkes, is an in-depth account of the ILWU alcoholism and drug recovery program.

The Dispatcher won its graphics award for a report one year ago on its annual satirical "Golden Turkey Awards."

The Utility Reporter's editorial prize was awarded for a "Point of View" column by Jack McNally concerning "rubber gloving" work on high-voltage power transmission lines.

McNally is a vice president of the California Labor Federation as well as business manager of IBEW Local 1245, the union that publishes

Utility Reporter.

Utility Reporter's first prize in photography is for a picture of a lineman at work on a live high-voltage line high on a Pacific Gas and Electric Co. transmission tower.

Editor Eric Wolfe made use of a picture taken by Russ Rylee, a lineman and member of Local 1245, who himself was perched high amid high-voltage lines.

State of the Union, published by SEIU Local 535, was praised by the judges for clear writing and for providing easy and informative reading. Particularly cited was the paper's coverage of social worker contract negotiations at Los Angeles.

Kerry Newkirk edits State of the Union for Local 535.

United Teacher, edited for United Teachers of Los Angeles by Catherine Carey, won its best front page award with a layout the judges praised as a "still life" making "effective use of colors."

UTLA won also in the competition among non-periodical special publications with a handbook and pocket calendar for members entitled "On the Cutting Edge."

Los Angeles Firefighter took an award for best use of graphics with a two-page spread showing how the department's strength was stretched almost to the breaking point.

The editor is Jim Perry of IAFF Local 112.

Union Update, published by the Association of Flight Attendants' United Executive Council at San Mateo, won a general excellence award in its category of regional publications. The editor is Bill Gentes.

Datebook

Central labor bodies planning session for election mobilization of retirees: Dec. 2, Radisson Hotel, Sacramento.

Executive Council, California Labor Federation: December 4-5, 1991, Holiday Inn Financial District, San Francisco.

A. Philip Randolph Institute California State Conference: March 26-29, 1992, San Bernardino Hilton Hotel, San Bernardino.

Executive Council Pre-COPE meeting: Tuesday, April 14, S.F. Airport Hilton Hotel.

Pre-Primary Election COPE Endorsing Convention: Thursday, April 16, 1992, S.F. Airport Hilton Hotel.

Joint Legislative Conference: May 18-20, 1992, Radisson Hotel, Sacramento.

Executive Council pre-convention meeting: July 22-24, 1992, Grand Hyatt Hotel, San Francisco.

19th Biennial Convention of the California Labor Federation: July 27-29, 1992, Grand Hyatt Hotel, San Francisco.

Publisher's Notice

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Comp Litigation Expenses Explode

Litigation costs under the California workers' compensation system hit a record \$1.5 billion in 1990, according to a study by the California Workers' Compensation Institute.

This is almost as much money as insurers paid to doctors to treat the injured workers for whom the system was established.

In 1990 it cost 67 cents in litigation expense to deliver \$1 in benefits.

The study also showed:

- Litigation expense—including attorney fees and payments to doctors to prove or disprove workers' claims—increased more than 500 percent during the 1980s.

- The proportion of claims subjected to litigation increased 17 percent between 1989 and 1991.

- Nearly one out of every seven workers' compensation claims currently is being contested through litigation.

- The litigation rate is almost 45 percent for cases in which the

worker loses time from work.

The cost of litigation averaged \$7,030 per case throughout California in 1990, the study indicated. This had increased by 20 percent since 1988.

Southern California litigation costs were highest, averaging \$7,800 per litigated claim compared to \$5,900 in the northern parts of the state. Successful applicants received an average of \$10,496 in benefits, meaning that it took 67 cents in litigation to deliver

one dollar in benefits.

Forensic medical expense, which now represents nearly half of all litigation expenditures, was identified as the key factor driving up costs. In fact, medical-legal expenditures jumped more than 300 percent in the 1980s, more than double the growth rate of attorneys' fees.

A majority of cases—80 percent—were disposed of through compromise and release agreements, according to the findings. Thirteen percent of the cases concluded with a judicial award, and

only seven percent ended either with a dismissal of the claim or a judicial order that the worker "take nothing."

The report is entitled "Workers' Compensation Litigation Costs, 1990."

Single copies are available at no charge from the California Workers' Compensation Institute, 120 Montgomery St., Suite 1300, San Francisco 94104. The FAX number is (415) 981-6024. Extra copies are \$2.65 each, plus tax and postage.



Freedom Song Network entertains at reception marking 10th anniversary of Plant Closures Project.



Ellen Teninty, left, and Sydnee Brown cut cake.

Plant Closures' 10th Anniversary

Trade unionists and community activists marked the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Plant Closures Project during a reception last week at ILWU Local 6 Hall in Oakland. Speakers, including Executive Secretary-Treasurer Owen Marron of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, praised the project's decade of leadership in halting the flight of American jobs and countering the ravages of plant closures upon workers and communities.



Mark Friedman, center, Plant Closures Project director, is flanked by Ignacio De La Fuente, left, GMP international representative, and David Karmar, SEIU Local 535.

Associate Member Drive Opens in L.A.

A new and expanded Associate Membership Organizing Program has been announced by the Los Angeles-Orange Counties Organizing Committee in cooperation with the AFL-CIO Executive Council and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor.

The announcement was made in a letter to union leaders from David Sickler, director of AFL-CIO Region VI in which he asks the cooperation of affiliated unions to help set up an effective associate membership program that will become a new tool for organizing.

The goal is to help organizers use the program as yet another aid in winning elections and first contracts.

Funding for 1992 has been provided by the AFL-CIO's Union Privilege Benefits Program.

Some existing benefits of the Union Privilege program include money market savings accounts,

legal services, life insurance, mail order prescription drugs and a credit card that permits striking workers to defer payments on their balance.

But any union can expand on this by creating its own package offering a variety of consumer services and products tailor-made for members in the community.

Fed Backs Forest and Families Act

The Forests and Families Protection Act received the full support of the California AFL-CIO this week.

Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, urged the state's representatives in Congress to vote for the measure, H.R. 2463.

"This legislation addresses the issue of federal forest management, including the protection of 'old growth' forests and the northern

spotted owl," Henning said in letters to the representatives.

"In our view the Forests and Families Protection Act offers Congress a balanced timber policy, recognizing the importance of wildlife and old growth as well as the more immediate economic interests of people.

Participating unions will then be able to follow up leads for an organizing campaign.

Sickler points to the experience

of the California Immigrant Workers Association (CIWA), AFL-CIO, that has been organizing immigrant workers since 1989. To date, more than 6,000 such workers have paid \$20 each to join CIWA. That experience was so successful that CIWA's advisory board has asked the LAOCOC to expand the program.

"By using the collective purchas-

ing power of all union members in the greater Los Angeles area, we should be able to negotiate a local union benefit package far superior to CIWA's or to what any one union could achieve alone," Sickler states in his letter to union leaders.

To get the current program moving, cooperation from affiliated unions is requested. Union leaders are asked to:

1. Appoint a liaison and send that person's name back to LAOCOC.
2. Complete the benefit survey form being sent out to unions and liaison persons.
3. Help identify vendors who carry the union label. Anti-union companies need to be identified as well so they can be avoided.

Survey forms and further information can be obtained from:

David Sickler, Director
AFL-CIO Region VI
611 S. Shatto Place, Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90005

State...

(Continued from page 1)

CSEA headquarters.

CSEA officers say the attempt to deprive institutional educators of their union representation is a loud and clear affirmation of state workers' solidarity.

"It is a gratifying victory," declared Perry Kenny, director of the CSEA Civil Service Division and himself a Unit 3 member employed as a teacher at Soledad Prison.

"It shows that our members didn't believe the distortions of the opposition and it sends a strong message of solidarity to the governor and the Department of Personnel Administration."

The victory margin was better than three to one.

"The election shows that Unit 3 backs CSEA and that our members see the advantages of staying with the union," said John F. Paul, chair of the Unit 3 bargaining team and a teacher at California School for the Blind in Fremont.

The court order halting unilateral imposition of conditions by the Wilson Administration affects the 1,600-member California Association of Professional Scientists and the 4,700-member California Association of Highway Patrolmen.

Judge James Ford ordered the Wilson Administration into Sacramento County Superior Court on next Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, to defend the legality of the conditions it seeks to impose.

"This seems to me to be a much broader question than a labor dispute," Judge Ford declared when he issued his order on Nov. 8.

"I don't know whether the governor is barred from doing this," Ford said. "All I know is that the DPA (Department of Personnel Administration) is barred from doing it."

All state employee unions except the California Correctional Peace Officers Association contend that the Wilson Administration has failed to bargain in good faith for renewal of collective bargaining contracts, aiming instead at obtaining declarations of impasse from the Public Employment Relations Board and using the declarations as pretext for imposing conditions unilaterally.

The administration claims 14 bargaining units are at impasse.

In most cases, the "last, best and final offers" are indistinguishable

from the opening positions that the administration placed on the bargaining tables months ago.

Spokespersons for the independent Highway Patrol and scientists unions were bitterly critical of the conditions the administration is seeking to impose.

"It's vindictive, mean-spirited," said Christopher Voight of the scientists union. "They took away bereavement leave. Bereavement leave never even came up in negotiations."

"We're losing benefits that were never on the negotiating table," said Jon Hamm of the CHP union. "Conditions are supposed to include their last offer at the table. They really didn't think this out. They've helped our legal case against the cutbacks."

CSEA scheduled a series of bargaining update sessions starting yesterday at workplaces throughout the state.

In the meantime, the union charged that the Wilson Administration was attempting to divide workers along department lines by telling those in agencies that operate with special funding that they face pay cuts because of unwillingness of workers in general fund agencies to accept mandatory layoffs.

All the while, the administration is ignoring CSEA proposals for vol-

untary furloughs, the union points out.

A survey conducted for CSEA by an independent firm indicated that enough union members were willing to take furloughs or cuts in their work weeks to make mandatory layoffs unnecessary. However, the administration has refused to discuss such voluntary actions.

The revelation that the Wilson Administration is contracting out

legal work while preparing to fire state staff attorneys came from Attorney General Dan Lungren.

Lungren—like Wilson a Republican—said the state currently has 160 contracts with private law firms that are billing taxpayers for twice as much per hour as it would cost to maintain state lawyers to do the work in-house.

CSEA President Solari said this is only the tip of a gigantic contract-

ing-out iceberg. CSEA has challenged expenditures of more than \$75 million in farming-out contracts so far this year.

"Coming on top of the state's other contract expenditures, this report from the attorney general is outrageous news," Solari declared.

"The governor is claiming that a shortage of funds may force the lay-off of more than 3,000 state workers. Meanwhile, contractors are profiting from a windfall of contracts for services that should be done by state civil service employees."

Solari, a vice president of the California Labor Federation, added:

"It is refreshing to have a member of the administration blow the whistle on this sort of waste in the state budget."

The average billing rate for contract attorneys is \$165 per hour, the union pointed out. Some of the contracts cost as much as \$350 per hour.

By contrast, it costs an average of \$79.50 to maintain a lawyer on the state payroll.

Attorney General Lungren said: "During this time of severe fiscal crisis, the State of California can ill-afford \$30 million of private legal services charged at rates of \$165 per hour and beyond."

CSEA's Kenny observed:

"Thirty million dollars would have gone a long way toward preventing layoffs or pay cuts for all state workers."

1992 Joady Awards Nominations Open

Nominations are open for the 1992 Joady awards, presented annually as part of a benefit for We Do The Work, the public television series on workplace issues.

The awards, named in honor of the spirit of Tom Joad in John Steinbeck's "Grapes of Wrath," recognizes persons and organizations whose efforts have contributed to bringing the voices and images of working people to the American public.

They've been presented annually since 1989 by the Film Arts Foundation. The 1992 presentation dinner will be held in February at San Francisco.

Past honorees have included Ed Asner for his contributions to labor's image on and off

the screen, to reporter Mike O'Connor of KCBS in Los Angeles for reports on the garment industry, and to Solidarity, the United Auto Workers Union magazine, for exceptional labor journalism.

Nominations should be presented by Dec. 6 to the We Do The Work Nominations Committee, 1250 Addison St., Suite 213A, Berkeley, CA 94720. The phone is (510) 549-0775, and the FAX number is (510) 549-0788.

The committee said nominees' accomplishments should be of national significance. Entries should include the nominee's name, address and phone number as well as the nominator's reasons for making the proposal.

Loopholes...

(Continued from page 1)

nia School Employees Association, and other labor and advocacy organizations.

Goldberg said the loophole list is packed with privileges that are never examined or evaluated even though the people of California ultimately foot the bill.

"It's time to make these special interests justify their privileges," he said. "Last spring we voted for closing the loopholes and taxing the rich. We succeeded in taxing the rich, but almost none of the loopholes were closed."

"The Legislature must establish a tax expenditure review process that looks at every one of these loopholes and many more."

The CTRA leader said California should stop subsidizing corporations for investments in Puerto Rico

and should end tax breaks for all corporations that move production overseas.

He was critical of the tax write-offs that corporations and the wealthy get for country club dues, golf course greens fees and luxury boxes at sports events.

He blasted exploitation of Proposition 13 by corporations to avoid increased property tax assessments when ownership changes and he hit use by large corporations of breaks designed to encourage small businesses.

Specific loopholes and estimates of the money that escapes through them included:

- Failure to tax world-wide profits of multi-national corporations, \$227 to \$390 million per year.

- The Proposition 13 change-of-ownership property tax loophole, \$2 billion.

- Oil company severance, drilling and depletion tax avoidance, \$200 million.

- Inheritance tax loopholes, up to \$250 million.

- Capital gain on commercial property sales, \$200 million.

- Lack of tax withholding for independent contractors, \$300 million.

- Money lost because corporate income isn't taxed like personal income, \$800 million.

- Undertaxation on insurance levy, \$300 million.

- Reform of depreciation tax loopholes, \$100 million.

Goldberg called also for elimination of all tax deductions for interest paid on purchase of luxury yachts, but he said no estimate had been made of how much money that would save.

Convention...

(Continued from page 1)

adopted resolutions that:

- Demand passage of the Workplace Fairness bill to reaffirm the right to strike without being permanently replaced by scabs.

- Reaffirm labor's support for a unified national health care system and declare that "the urgency of the current crisis demands action now."

- Call upon the president and Congress to recognize the severity of the stagnant economy and take immediate steps to put the country on the road to recovery.

- Denounce failure of current federal occupational safety and health regulations to provide safe workplaces and demand legislative reform.

- Call for family and medical leave legislation and full implementation of the child labor law passed last year.

The candidate forum brought together former Gov. Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown of California, Gov. William Clinton of Arkansas, Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, Sen. Robert Kerry of Nebraska, former Sen. Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts and Gov. L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia.

Most agreed on principal labor

issues, although Tsongas favored forced arbitration rather than a ban on permanent replacement of strikers, and Brown and Tsongas both endorsed some form of limitation of terms of elected officials.

A video tape of the forum and a transcript will be distributed to all AFL-CIO affiliates and to state and local central bodies for use at COPE meetings as unions determine which candidate, if any they will support.

The AFL-CIO's George Meany Human Rights Award for 1991 was presented to Kazimieras Uoka, founder of the Lithuanian Workers Union, who told delegates he believed democracy will succeed in Eastern Europe because of the emergence of a strong independent trade union movement.

Also among the convention guests from Eastern Europe was Yelena Bonner, widow of Andrei Sakharov, who told delegates that the struggle for democracy in the Soviet Union is far from ended.

Bonner also declared that the world had "betrayed democracy" when we so easily forgave the Chinese government for what they did to workers following the Tianamen Square demonstrations in Beijing in May of 1989.

Henning...

(Continued from page 1)

noted.

Passage of the Bush free trade agreement could mean total flight of Ford, Chrysler and General Motors production facilities to Mexico in quest of cheap labor, he warned.

Henning quoted the chief executive officer of Ford Motors, who told a nationwide television audience recently that Americans ought to support the Bush trade agreement because it would lower the price of new cars. Actually, Henning said, the result would be higher profits for Ford, not lower prices for consumers.

"Industrial departures will swell into a flood if the free trade agreement passes because the profit appetites of American capital could never resist the low wages of the exploited industrial workers of Mexico," he added.

Henning drew upon the bitter lessons learned by California workers whose jobs already have been exported to Mexico to demonstrate that all American workers are in jeopardy.

He pointed to Teamster cannery workers turned out onto the streets at Watsonville when Green Giant moved its frozen vegetable operations to Mexico.

Sawmill workers laid off in Hum-

boldt County see the Louisiana-Pacific Corporation barging logs to Mexico so that impoverished Mexicans can be exploited.

Movie studio employees in Southern California suddenly realize that ever-larger portions of their work is being done across the border.

Henning quoted AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland's recent warning that "labor is national while capital is international" with workers left helpless from the flight of capital.

He reminded the delegates also of Kirkland's convention keynote reference to the "flaglessness" of corporate America, meaning that American capital holds no commitment to flag or nation.

Delegates adopted the foreign trade resolution without dissent.

The document states:

"The U.S. government has the responsibility to promote and defend the interests of the people."

It adds: "...current emphasis on free trade and unfettered capital movement is an explicit abrogation of that responsibility and will lead to further globalization of production, enrich corporate elites, and harm American workers without alleviating poverty among workers in developing countries."

U.C. Conferences On Health Care

A conference on the health care crisis for union and consumer activists will be presented Jan. 23 at Los Angeles and Jan. 24 at Berkeley by the UCLA and U.C.-Berkeley Labor Centers.

"Health Care in Crisis" is the conference title. The aim is to bring together union and community activists to examine basic issues in the health care crisis and avenues open for action.

The Los Angeles location is the Sheraton Towne House Hotel. In Berkeley, the conference will be held at U.C.'s Clark Kerr Conference Center.

Information can be obtained from Mary Ruth Gross at U.C.-Berkeley, (510) 643-7213, and from June McMahon or Gwen Hendrix at UCLA, (310) 825-3537.

AFL-CIO News Takes Holiday

The California AFL-CIO News will not publish next week because of Thanksgiving Day. The next issue will be published on Friday, Dec. 6.