



# California AFL-CIO News

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Barbara Boxer leads applause while Dianne Feinstein addresses election night crowd in San Francisco.



Bill Clinton and Al Gore acknowledge cheers following the president elect's victory speech at Little Rock.

## Labor Savors Victory

California trade unionists, ecstatic over their candidates' sweeping and dramatic general election victories, this week anticipated a national new beginning to undo 12 years of governmental hostility toward the aims and interests of America's workers.

Success at the polls last Tuesday of candidates and issues endorsed by the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education (COPE) means:

- Inauguration of Bill Clinton and Al Gore as a president and vice president pledged to generate jobs, require that any North American Free Trade Agreement safeguard American livelihoods, attack the health care crisis, and restore the right to strike without being fired.

- Two Democratic U.S. Senators, Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, both pledged to uphold labor-endorsed legislation ranging from family leave to protection of American jobs.

- Democrats in five of the seven new seats that California gained in the House of Representatives because of population growth reflected in the 1990 census despite reapportionment that was calculated to help Republicans get elected.

- Additional Democrats in the State Assembly despite the all-out campaign by Republican Gov. Pete

## Bush Out, Labor In

The election of Bill Clinton could mean a new nation. A government free of blind service to a ruling class barren of social conscience.

More precisely, the election could mean restored breath for the labor movement and constructive containment of American capitalism.

This will not be quickly done. Privilege in the economic order is not easily disturbed.

The Clinton Administration will require and deserve labor loyalty insofar as it honors the liberalism upon which our freedoms rest.

Meanwhile, exultation is our right. We

have shared in bringing down a hostile president.

On the California front, the elections resulted in one of the great labor triumphs of recent political decades.

Not only did Clinton sweep the state, but Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer wrote history by making California the first state to be represented by two women in the U.S. Senate.

As articulate and proven liberals they will give the Clinton presidency dimensions of progressive thought.

In the House of Representatives Demo-

crats gained five of the seven new seats allotted California by reason of the 1990 census.

Willie Brown and the Democrats not only survived Governor Wilson's pointed opposition in the Assembly, but added two seats to their majority.

Every Democratic incumbent was returned to the State Senate, thus retaining party control of the upper house.

Labor endorsements were critical to all of the Democratic victories from the presidency through the state legislature. Labor's political apparatus made it possible.

—Jack Henning

Wilson to seize control of the lower house and wrest the speakership from Willie L. Brown, Jr., labor's staunch friend and defender.

- A continued majority in the State Senate of Democrats friendly to the cause of working men and women.

- Rejection of the Republican governor's attempt to gain sweeping new budgetary powers through

Proposition 165, an initiative presented in the guise of welfare reform.

- Protection—through passage of Proposition 162—against any repeat of the governor's attempt to lay hands on public employee pension trust fund reserves.

- A resounding "no" to the attempt by the California Medical Association to freeze the state into

health insurance rules that would leave millions without coverage while doing nothing to contain runaway costs or limit doctors' profits.

Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, said the election could mean a "new nation" and "restored breath for the labor movement."

President Lane Kirkland of the

AFL-CIO declared, "Governor Clinton won the election because he understands the plight of working families and has promised action on the issues of greatest importance to them."

It was the historic election of two women to simultaneously represent California in the U.S. Senate that kept trade unionists glued to their

(Continued on page 4)

## COPE Prevails on Key Props

Proposition 167, the labor-backed initiative to raise taxes on the very rich and on corporations, is being viewed as a success even though it was voted down in Tuesday's general election.

This is because analysts say Proposition 167 drained away millions of dollars that otherwise would have been spent on Proposition 165, the initiative sponsored by Gov. Pete Wilson and opposed by organized labor.

Proposition 165 also was defeated, and its proponents are saying they could have won if they had been able to lay their hands on some of the money rich people and corporations who usually support Wilson poured into the campaign against Proposition 167.

In fact, they are crediting labor and labor's pro-167 allies with sponsoring that initiative specifically to drain Republican money.

"I think Proposition 167 was put on the ballot simply to drain money from our initiative and also from Republican Assembly candidates," the director of the Yes on 165 campaign told the Los Angeles Times.

In fact, Proposition 167 got the endorsement of the state AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education (COPE) and the support of trade unionists across the state because labor was convinced of the necessity of closing tax loopholes opened for the rich and for corporations during the Republican administrations of Wilson and former Gov. George Deukmejian.

Lennie Goldberg, executive director of the California Tax Reform Association and an author of Proposition 167, agreed that the primary goal was tax reform. But Goldberg acknowledged that the measure probably helped defeat the governor's Proposition 165.

Although it was cloaked as a welfare reform measure, Proposition 165 would have given the governor vast new authority over the budget. It would have enabled him to unilaterally cut state workers' pay any time his own finance department said there was a fiscal emergency.

Labor's election day successes included passage of Proposition 162, preventing raids on public employee pension funds.

Also a victory for labor was de-

feat of Proposition 166, the California Medical Association's attempt to freeze the state into an insurance-based health system and a vindication that would have made it even more difficult to obtain the universal health care that the California Labor Federation long has advocated.

The doctors' initiative would have done nothing to contain skyrocketing costs, including rising doctor fees, and would not have guaranteed coverage for the millions who have no protection.

COPE recommended defeat of Proposition 164, the term limitations for U.S. senators and representatives that was approved by the

(Continued on page 4)



# Job Export Report Exposes Subsidies

"Paying to Lose Our Jobs," the report that exposes the Reagan-Bush program using American tax dollars to persuade employers to fire American workers and move their jobs to so-called "free trade zones" in third world cheap labor markets, has been published in its entirety and is available to the public.

Findings of the report created a sensation when 60 Minutes, the television news show, broadcast details of its own investigations that proved the report to be true.

It is the same report that Vice President Dan Quayle insisted was a pack of lies during his television debate with Al Gore.

Included in the published report are details of U.S. government funding of agencies that subsidize companies sending jobs to cheap labor markets, along with verification of the involvement of persons paid with U.S. tax dollars in schemes to

shield runaway employers from foreign unions through intimidation of activists and blacklists that assure activists can't get jobs.

"Paying to Lose Our Jobs is relevant to the debate on the North American Free Trade Agreement and other current free trade negotiations," Jack Sheinkman, co-chair of the sponsoring National Labor Committee pointed out recently.

Included are lists of brand names of goods and identities of American companies that have taken advantage of taxpayer handouts to ship American jobs overseas.

It is packed with statistics on the booming profits of corporations that cut their labor costs to pennies per hour while maintaining high prices on goods sold in this country.

There are facts that refute Reagan-Bush administration arguments that moving U.S. jobs to such

foreign "free trade zones" ultimately will benefit U.S. workers by providing foreign workers with more money with which to buy American goods.

The fact is that real wages of impoverished third world workers have declined steadily in such runaway factories.

A clear example is the infamous ad published at U.S. taxpayers' expense in garment industry trade journals urging companies to move to El Salvador.

The ad featured a woman sitting at a sewing machine who was identified as Rosa Martinez, known for "industriousness, reliability and quick learning."

The 1990 version of the ad, which was reproduced in California AFL-CIO News, announced that Rosa Martinez could be hired for 57 cents an hour.

The ad was published again in 1991, only by that time Rosa Martinez' hourly wage had dropped to the equivalent of 33 cents.

The full name of the organization sponsoring the report is the National Labor Committee Education Fund in Support of Workers and Human Rights in Central America. It comprises 21 national and international unions represented by their presidents.

Co-chairs in addition to Sheinkman, of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, are Owen Bieber of the United Auto Workers and George J. Kourpias of the Machinists.

Members are David Arian, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union; Morton Bahr, Communications Workers' Cesar Chavez, Farm Workers; Charles Dale, The Newspaper Guild; John

DeConcini, Bakery, Confectionary and Tobacco Workers; Keith Geiger, National Education Association; John H. Hovis, Jr., United Electrical; Frank D. Martino, Chemical Workers; Gerald McEntee, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Henry Nicholas, National Hospital and Health Care Employees; James J. Norton, Graphic Communications; Vincent Sombrotto, Letter Carriers; John N. Sturdivant, Government Employees; John J. Sweeney, Service Employees; Robert Wages, Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers, and William H. Wynn, United Food and Commercial Workers.

Information on ordering copies of the report can be obtained from the committee at 15 Union Square West, New York, NY 10003. The phone is (212) 242-0700. The FAX number is (212) 255-7230.



## Las Vegas Rally Plans Unfold

Thousands of trade unionists rallying Dec. 5 at Las Vegas in support of workers on strike at the Frontier Hotel and Casino will fill the Las Vegas Strip with a parade as part of what is expected to be the biggest AFL-CIO solidarity rally ever held on the West Coast. The parade is scheduled to start at 6

p.m. at Las Vegas Boulevard and Reno Avenue and proceed to the struck hotel for the rally. Up to date information can be obtained from AFL-CIO Field Representative Diana Perez at (213) 387-1974 or from Glen Arnodo of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees at (213) 481-2574.

## Book Review

# Fighting Back in the War on Unions

THE WAR ON LABOR AND THE LEFT: UNDERSTANDING AMERICA'S UNIQUE CONSERVATISM

By PATRICIA CAYO SEXTON, WESTVIEW PRESS, 5500 CENTRAL AVENUE, BOULDER, COLO., 1992. \$24.40.

By Frank Wallick

Here is a book which every labor professional ought to have and to read. It gives a good history of the rise and decline of American labor, and tells where there is hope for the future of a rejuvenated movement. The bibliography and footnotes are alone worth the price of the book.

It is written by a woman who has been a shopfloor UAW steward in Detroit and spent a lifetime as a labor educator, and now lectures at New York University. She knows her material and writes with a smooth ease welcome in these days of obtuse jargon.

Many labor journalists have toiled long and hard in the trade union vineyard, and it is discouraging for all of us to witness the tilt toward the right that has been slowly sapping the vitality of the U.S. labor movement. This book

puts all of our hopes and fears in perspective. It tells of past glory days, and of the struggles to reach new future peaks of union membership. And it traces the present-day decline in American unionism, and why this has nothing to do with innate anti-unionism by workers, but is a reflection of calculated employer opposition.

"Labor Law, the NLRB and Certified Union Busters" is an instructive chapter which details the open season on unions in this country. It must be remembered that labor law reform lost by a single vote to over-

come a filibuster in the U.S. Senate in the late 1970s under President Carter, and would have radically changed the political climate making unions easier to organize despite the many other legal impediments. And in next-door Canada there is a thriving labor environment with an almost similar population living under superior labor laws.

If the book has any flaws—and maybe Pat Sexton will write this sequel—it might dwell more on ways to revitalize and enlarge union membership. It must be noted that public sector unionism is thriving in

America because there is little employer opposition. Industrial unions are shrinking because the industrial base of America is on the wane—a fact occurring also today in Europe.

This book is most instructive in demonstrating over and over that unions—given a fighting and fair chance—are inherently what American workers want. And that gives us all hope.

One of the sad facts about this book is that it has been reviewed in only a limited number of places. There was a time when books like this would get welcome reviews throughout the land. Nor is this book only for labor specialists. It is a book that ought to be read by every American progressive who worries about the political future of this nation. For that reason alone, the book ought to be widely distributed, used as a classroom text and source, quoted from profusely and devoured by all Americans who want a more compassionate nation.

Frank Wallick is a veteran labor journalist who was for many years editor of the Weekly UAW Washington Report newsletter.

## Hood Furniture Boycott Set

Hood Furniture Manufacturing Co. of Jackson, Mississippi, which has refused to bargain in good faith with employees who organized nearly three years ago, has been placed on the national AFL-CIO boycott list.

The 400 workers voted for representation by the International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers in January of 1989. It wasn't until No-

vember of last year that the company even agreed to begin talks, and negotiations since then have been only superficial. The company has brought in a notorious firm of union-busting lawyers.

Workers earn about \$5 an hour, a third less than the rate in similar plants in southeastern states. Deductions for family health care takes a \$100 monthly bite out of those meager wages.

# Cal-OSHA Alleges Inspection Scam

A man who allegedly pretended to be a Cal-OSHA inspector in order to frighten employers into buying worker safety training materials from a company he owns has been arrested in Visalia and charged with impersonating a public official.

David A. Phillip, also known as John Reeves, attempted to victimize dairy farm operators, according to charges filed in Tulare County.

He is accused of showing up at dairy farms, identifying himself as a Cal-OSHA inspector, demanding to see personnel records and other documents, and then writing "violation warning notices."

About this time, according to the accusation, Phillip would mention that the dairy operator could save himself or herself a lot of trouble and avoid a "reinspection," simply by retaining the services of "Think Safety," the company Phillips owns and operates.

Shortly thereafter, a salesman from "Think Safety" would just happen to show up at the dairy farm offering consultation on how to meet Cal-OSHA regulations.

Apparently it is the first time anybody has been arrested in California for this sort of scam, although other complaints have been received, according to Lloyd W. Aubry, Jr., director of the state Department of Industrial Relations.

"Local Cal-OSHA offices have received a number of complaints from employers over the past year alleging that individuals and companies have contacted them implying or stating that they represent Cal-OSHA in order to promote their employee safety plans, training manuals and similar types of materials," Aubry said.

"They generally state that if employers do not buy the material, they will be in violation of Cal-OSHA standards and subject to a huge fine."

Investigation is continuing, Aubry said. Involved are the sheriff's departments of Tulare and Kings counties, the state Bureau of Investigations, and the criminal investigation division of the state Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

## Organizing Topic For LAOCOC

The Los Angeles, Orange Counties Organizing Committee and its Combined Divisions will consider formal organizing target clearances during a meeting set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Service Employees Local 399, 124 West Third St. in L.A., Chairman Steve Edney and Coordinator Ruben Diaz announced this week.

## Publisher's Notice

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# Rally Protests Murphy Brown's Union Buster

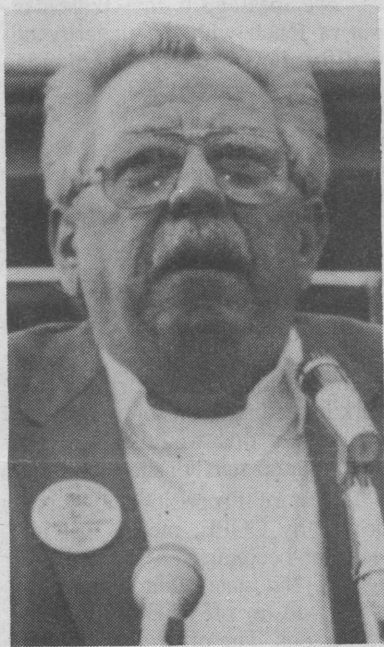
Hundreds of entertainment industry workers roared approval when speakers called for a unified campaign against union busting during a rally last week in Studio City.

Primary target of the demonstration was TV producer Diane English whose veneer of liberalism — acquired when Dan Quayle attacked her "Murphy Brown" show — got badly tarnished after she fired union workers off "Love and War," her newest sit-com.

But speakers at the rally outside CBS Studio Center made it clear that the problem goes far beyond the high profile producer and her Shukovsky/English Entertainment company.

President Alfred DiTolla of the International Association of Theatrical Stage Employees denounced major studios for setting up "phony independent production companies" to avoid union wages and benefits for their crews.

"I'm tired of hearing stories of



President Alfred DiTolla of IATSE blasts union-busting.

producers forcing union members to opt for financial core or not get the job," the IATSE president declared. "I'm tired of hearing about well-heeled producers like Diane English who cry poverty and refuse to make contributions to your health and welfare benefits."

President Mike Riley of Teamsters Joint Council No. 42 called for new unity among unions to halt abuse of Teamster and craft contract provisions allowing the big studios to distribute shows produced by bona fide independents.

Riley, a vice president of the California Labor Federation, also warned that 12 years of Reagan and Bush administrations have fostered the idea that union busting is socially acceptable.

This theme taken up also by Ed Asner, former president of the Screen Actors Guild.

"What we've seen in this country is a massive redistribution of wealth from the middle class to the wealthy," Asner told the crowd.

"What's happening in Hollywood — producers looking to lower wages and getting rid of health and pension benefits — is a replay of what's devastating the middle class all around the country.

"These attempts by producers to evade union contracts, to leave Hollywood and hire non-union crews, or force union members to resign — that's betrayal," he said.

While attacks are now focused on crafts and blue collar workers — those in what Hollywood calls "below the line" unions — Asner warned that actors, writers and directors ultimately are imperiled as well.

"Union busting must end, or every Hollywood guild member will be relegated to the living standards of the bad old days of seven-day weeks, no pensions and no medical



President Barry Gordon of Screen Actors Guild addresses rally at CBS Studio Center. Also pictured are left, Ed Asner, former president of SAG, and, in rear, President Maria Elena Durazo of HERE Local 11 and Dave Sickler, AFL-CIO regional director.

insurance," he said.

There were pledges of solidarity and support from a parade of union leaders at the rally, including Barry Gordon, president of SAG; Jim Wood, assistant secretary of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor; Maria Elena Durazo, president of Local 11 of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees, and Dave Sickler, director of AFL-CIO Region VI.

English took on IATSE while she was still basking in the glow of Emmy Awards won by her "Murphy Brown" TV series and the accolades that came her way when she defended freedom of expression after Vice President Quayle criticized the unmarried motherhood of the fictional character for whom the show is named.

Earlier this year IATSE organized production workers employed by English and her partner-husband, Joel Shukovsky, on the pilot of the new "Love and War" sit-com that was being produced by the cou-

ple's company, Shukovsky/English Entertainment (SEE).

When the union asked for contract negotiations, SEE fired the entire crew and hired non-union replacements to shoot the actual series.

Unfair labor practices charges have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

Bruce Doering, business representative of IATSE Local 659, the international Photographers Guild, said English's refusal to consider health care and pension contributions endanger benefits of thousands of other entertainment industry workers.

The controversy spilled over onto the world outside the entertainment industry when the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Southern California announced that it intended to bestow its Torch of Liberty Award upon English for standing up to Dan Quayle on the issue of censorship.

Harry Floyd, West Coast assis-

tant to IATSE President DiTolla, suggested the ACLU might want to reconsider in light of English's record as a union-buster.

English agreed to go away quietly and spare ACLU embarrassment. But she agreed to do so only if the ACLU would distribute a news release approved by her that denounced the union and defended English. This the ACLU agreed to do.

"It is unfortunate that the ACLU decided to support Diane English and attack the IA in this controversy, since the IA has no dispute with the ACLU except that its selection of English reflects poor judgment," DiTolla said.

"ACLU should be supporting the rights of working people to organize," DiTolla said.

"Instead it is supporting and honoring someone who stands for union-busting, substandard industry wages, and no industry health care or pension coverage."

## CLUW's Board Heading West

More than 200 delegates and officers of the Coalition of Labor Union Women are expected to attend the meeting of the CLUW National Executive Board that will be held Nov. 13 through 15 at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in San Francisco.

The meeting schedule includes a reception from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at the hotel. The affair will be open to all trade unionists and guests.

A special conference on Women and Economic Empowerment will be presented from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at the hotel.

Both the reception and the special conference are being sponsored by the San Francisco and Eastbay chapters of CLUW, which also are hosts for the National Executive Board.

The reception will provide opportunity to meet CLUW activists from across the country. Admission is free. There will be a no-host bar, and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

Details can be obtained from Kerry Newkirk of Eastbay CLUW at (510) 893-8766, and from Millie Phillips of the San Francisco Chap-

## APALA Exec Board To Meet in S.F.

The Executive Board of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance will convene at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in San Francisco Nov. 13 and 14 for its first meeting since the founding of the organization last May at Washington, D.C., under sponsorship of the AFL-CIO.

APALA Board members will be honored at a reception set for 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday evening, Nov. 14, at Castagnola's on Fisherman's Wharf.

ter at (415) 821-9683.

The special conference on Women and Economic Empowerment will focus on money, wealth and values as they relate to working women. Presentation will be by the

Center for Ethics and Economic Policy of Berkeley.

It is open to all, and there is a \$20 fee. Registrations can be made with Newkirk at (510) 893-8766 or Phillips at (415) 821-9683.

## Biggest Fine Ever in Fatal Fire

The Rhone-Poulenc Basic Chemicals Co. of Martinez has been fined \$560,605 for wilful violations of health and safety laws that resulted in a spill and fire that killed one worker and grievously injured another.

It is the largest total ever assessed against an employer by Cal-OSHA.

The company has announced it will appeal. Such fines frequently are reduced after employers file appeals.

The fire last June 22 erupted when sulfonation acid, which is both corrosive and inflammable,

gushed out of a defective valve and ignited.

A total of 84 violations were found, according to John Howard, chief of Cal-OSHA.

Eight were determined to be "wilful," and for these the company was assessed fines totaling \$437,500. Thirty-seven violations were deemed "general" or "regulatory," carrying a total of \$20,480 in fines. Thirty-nine were found to be "serious" violations, and the fines for them totaled \$102,625.

Modifications to valves and pipes failed to follow acceptable engineer-

ing practices. Included was the valve that caused the spill.

Inspectors found that emergency equipment was not available and emergency procedure had not been established. Protective gear for workers was lacking, as were showers and facilities for washing the eyes of exposed workers.

"By wilful, we mean the company knew or should have known the violations and did nothing to correct them," Howard said.

William Krycia, Cal-OSHA regional manager, said some workers were trained in safety precautions

but that others were only partially trained and some were not trained at all. Few understood emergency procedures, and the plant had flammable chemicals exposed to faulty electrical wiring in several places, he added.

A containment dike that was supposed to keep spilled chemicals from spreading had holes and was in any event too small for the amount of acid that it was supposed to hold.

Inspectors also found that the internal plug in the tank that spilled was inoperable.

## Lucky, Teamsters Still Talk

The Teamsters and Lucky Stores have resumed the contract renewal negotiations that broke down for the second time two weeks ago.

The return to the bargaining table was announced late last Friday in a statement signed by Clarence Washington, commissioner of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and by Nicholas A. Fidandis, chair of the Joint Labor-Management Committee of the Retail Food Industry.

It said the federal agency and the industry committee had called a meeting of "ranking officials" of American Stores, Inc., Lucky Stores, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and the Western Conference of Teamsters.

"Additionally, at the request of the FMCS and the JLMC, the parties have agreed to make no further public statements that could jeopardize a potential settlement," the statement added.

A "last and best" offer was rejected and a strike was authorized by a 90 percent margin in balloting Aug. 22 by 1,300 Teamster members employed as warehouse workers and truck drivers at Lucky distribution centers in San Leandro, Vacaville and Sacramento.



# Election...

(Continued from page 1)

television sets or crowded into election headquarters throughout the state on Tuesday night.

Both Feinstein and Boxer were "projected" to win by television networks immediately after the California's polls closed at 8 p.m. But Boxer's arch-conservative opponent, Bruce Herschensohn, was listed as leading in early returns principally because of a heavy GOP absentee ballot, and this prolonged the drama for thousands who had worked on her behalf.

Union members were convinced that their efforts in the closing days of the campaign provided the surge that pushed Boxer past Herschensohn, who had pulled up even in the polls thanks to a blitz of attack TV spots financed by a late flood of money from ultra-conservatives throughout the country.

"That was absolutely the case," declared Dave Sickler, AFL-CIO director for Region VI covering California, Nevada and Hawaii.

"We are getting the same word from local unions and labor councils throughout the state. Volunteers, terrified by the thought of Herschensohn being elected to the Senate, flocked to phone banks in the final days of the campaign, sometimes in such numbers that there weren't enough phones to go around."

Feinstein and Boxer both claimed victory shortly before 11 p.m. before cheering crowds in their respective campaign watch rooms at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

Then they went together to the California Democratic Party's headquarters in the main ballroom of the hotel where they were joined by Phil Angelides, chair of the state party, before a crowd considerably larger than the room was designed to accommodate.

"Tonight history is being made in California and tonight history is being made in America," Feinstein declared. "But tonight is not just about winning, it's about changing America's course."

"Barbara Boxer and I will be the Cagney and Lacey, the one-two punch from California."

"So Washington, get ready. Here we come."

Boxer and Feinstein both drew roars of approval as they laid out their priorities from jobs and the economy through a long list of family and women's issues.

"Here are some of the things we are going to do," Boxer told the crowd. "We'll make Roe vs. Wade the law of the land. We'll pass the Family and Medical Leave Act. We'll lift that gag rule," she added in a reference to restrictions on abortion counseling for women at federally funded clinics.

There were cheers, laughter and applause when Feinstein quoted Gov. Ann Richards of Texas:

"The roosters crow, but it is the hens who deliver the goods."

She added:

"These two hens are going to deliver the goods for California and for the nation."

Boxer told how she and other female members of the House of Rep-

## Kirkland: Hopes Soar With Clinton and Gore

"The hopes of working Americans have soared with the election of Bill Clinton and Al Gore," President Lane Kirkland of the AFL-CIO declared Wednesday.

"Labor is ready to work with them to create a 'new partnership for a new America,'" he continued.

"Governor Clinton won the election because he understands the plight of working families and has promised action on the issues of great-

est concern to them—issues such as jobs, health care and workers' rights.

"Over the course of this long and rigorous campaign for the presidency, Bill Clinton has proven himself time and time again as a man of great determination and resourcefulness.

"Trade unionists are excited and look forward to the days ahead as he applies these talents to the task of putting America back to work."

representatives were rebuffed when they attempted to tell the Senate Judiciary Committee that they perceived the committee's questioning of Anita Hill as hostile during the Clarence Thomas Supreme Court confirmation hearings. They were told there was no spot on the committee agenda for "strangers," Boxer told the crowd.

Cheers shook the ballroom when she declared that she and Feinstein would march into the Senate chamber together and not as strangers thanks to the voters of California.

Boxer and Feinstein are part of a revolution that will triple the number of women in the Senate from two to six.

Also elected Tuesday were Patty Murray of the State of Washington who campaigned as the "mom in tennis shoes," and Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois, the first Afro-American woman ever elected to the Senate.

They will join Barbara Mikulski of Maryland and Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas, both of whom were re-elected Tuesday.

All six female U.S. senators are Democrats.

Actually, Feinstein and Boxer will not march into the Senate together to be sworn in.

Because Feinstein was elected to complete the last two years of the Senate term that Pete Wilson walked away from when he became governor, she succeeds John Seymour, her Republican predecessor, and election opponent, as soon as the vote totals are certified by Secretary of State March Fong Eu. This could be as early as next Tuesday.

The election returns were perceived as a political reversal for Gov. Wilson, who campaigned strongly but unsuccessfully for Republican Assembly candidates in an effort to oust Willie L. Brown, Jr.,

from the speakership and who personally raised more than \$2 million for Proposition 165, his failed effort to obtain sweeping new budgetary powers and to impose draconian new cuts in the state's Aid to Families With Dependent Children welfare program.

The governor also lost heavily with approval by the voters of Proposition 162, the initiative aimed at preventing any future raids on public employee pension funds and prohibiting any repeat of Wilson's attempt to seize control of CalPERS, the country's largest pension trust, through legislation giving him the right to appoint pension trustees.

"The message is that Wilson is out of touch with the majority of Californians," declared Yolanda Solari, president of California State Employees Association, Local 1000 of the Service Employees, and a vice president of the California Labor Federation.

## Labor TV Examines RSI Toll

"Working Until It Hurts," an investigative report of the painful injuries that are disabling computer keyboard workers, and others, is the November production in the We Do the Work series for Public Television.

The 185,000 cases of repetitive stress injury reported by office and factory workers in 1990 make RSI the leading cause of occupational illness in the United States, and investigators believe large numbers of additional cases go unreported because workers fear retaliation by employers who resist providing safety gear.

The show is especially timely for Californians.

The workers' compensation "reforms" that Gov. Pete Wilson failed to ram through a special session of the Legislature would rule out benefits for most victims of RSI.

"Working Until It Hurts" examines the cases of three disabled workers: a journalist, a grocery clerk and a phone operator. It comes up with evidence of the high personal cost RSI inflicts upon wage earners.

The show is hosted by actress Lee Grant. It is produced by Kate Kelly and Sara Frankel.

We Do the Work is a production of California Workers Group, Inc., based in Berkeley and is sponsored by the Film Arts Foundation of San Francisco with support from volunteer sources.

The program is carried currently on more than 30 Public Television affiliates across the U.S. The new show is scheduled to air at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, over



Photos by Anne Marie Staas

KQED, Channel 9 in San Francisco, and at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 24, over Channel 22 in Santa Rosa.

Los Angeles Channel 28 plans to air the show in December. Channel 18 in Fresno shows various segments of We Do the Work on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. The new show already has had one showing over Channel 60 in San Mateo.

Local television logs should be consulted for other broadcast times.

## Propositions...

(Continued from page 1)

voters.

But even while voters approved term limitations that will remove staunch allies of labor from Congress, they sent a decidedly mixed message by overwhelmingly re-electing virtually all of the lawmakers who are targeted by the initiative.

COPE had urged defeat of Proposition 163, the junk food sales tax repeal that the voters approved. Labor favored handling it through Proposition 167, which would have provided new revenues to replace the junk food tax.

Now about half a million dollars must be cut from spending programs because of the tax repeal.

Voters went along with COPE's endorsement of Proposition 155, authorizing \$900 million in bonds for school construction and improvement.

But they voted against labor's recommendation on Proposition 156, defeating authorization for \$1 billion in bonds that would have financed commuter, intercity and rapid transit rail projects to relieve congestion and enhance the environment in the long run and put tens

of thousands of Californians to work immediately on sorely needed jobs at pay that would have provided a jump start for the economy.

Defeat of Proposition 159, endorsed by COPE, means that instead of becoming an independent agency, the state auditor general's office will lay off its entire staff of 85 persons. The office is supposed to uncover waste in government.

Also defeated was Proposition 158, making the office of legislative analyst independent. The office, which provides nonpartisan analyses of budget matters for legislators, already has been reduced from 104 people to just 44.

## San Diego Shipyard Unions Talk

Negotiations continued at San Diego yesterday between National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. and seven unions that struck Oct. 1 and returned to work last week under a "cooling off" agreement.

The 2,800 strikers approved a temporary pact providing raises of 25 cents an hour and a 10 percent increase in pension contributions before returning to work, the temporary agreement is to expire Jan. 4.

A "final offer" of 25 cents a year over five years was rejected overwhelmingly by the workers before the strike began.

However, wages are secondary, according to union leaders. The primary strike issues are NASSCO's demand for abandonment of seniority rights and elimination of a successor clause guaranteeing union security in event the shipyard is sold or taken over by other operators. Also on the table are employer demands for worker copayments of nearly \$50 a month on health care.

Unfair labor practices charges have been filed by the unions with the National Labor Relations Board.

## L.A. Students to Learn About Bargaining

A hundred Los Angeles area high school students will be introduced to the collective bargaining process during an institute scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 25, at the offices of United Teachers of Los Angeles.

The youngsters will be assigned to labor or management teams and will be given case studies complete with information on particular companies and unions representing their workers.

Representatives of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service will work with the students as they attempt to reach contract agreement.

"Most of our students know very little about unions," said Vice President Day Higuchi of UTLA. "The

institute will allow them to participate in a hands-on educational experience with professional negotiators..."

Linda Tubach, a high school

teacher who has been involved in planning the institute since last fall, said the institute should "enhance the students' problem-solving, critical thinking and decision-making

skills in preparation for the world of work."

The institute is being coordinated by the UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education. Sponsors include the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, the Labor Center at Los Angeles Trade Tech, the Federal Mediation Service, and UTLA.

Some 25 unions have signed on to sponsor one or more students, contributing funds to cover cost of transportation, food and instructional materials.

Darryl Holter, coordinator of labor programs at UCLA Labor Center, said unions sponsoring students "are making an investment for the future."

## Garamendi Demands Union Site

Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi is demanding that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners consider only union facilities for the national meeting it is planning to hold in California in 1995.

Garamendi pointed out in a letter to William McCartney, president of the national association, that completely suitable facilities are avail-

able in cities that are trying to lure the organization's meeting. He mentioned Anaheim, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose.

"However, my support as the host insurance commissioner for any particular city as a host site is conditioned on the availability and use of unionized conference facilities," Garamendi wrote.