

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING

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SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

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SHELLEY AND PENSION FIGHT CLAIM SPOTLIGHT IN SPECIAL ELECTION

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--National political attention swung this week to California with the approach of the Special Election of November 8 in which four legislative campaigns and three vital constitutional amendment issues will be judged by the voting public.

THE CANDIDATES:

Highlighting the legislative fights is the bid of John F. Shelley for the vacancy in the Fifth Congressional District of San Francisco.

As president of the California State Federation of Labor and secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council, Shelley has pledged he will defend and support the liberal domestic program of President Truman if elected.

His chief adversary, the candidate of the Republican Party, has declared himself in favor of the Taft-Hartley Act and has challenged the right of organized labor officials to seek public office.

With the campaign entering its final week, Shelley ruled a two-to-one favorite to succeed Richard J. Welch, the liberal Republican Congressman who died suddenly this September after faithfully serving the liberal cause in Washington for 23 years.

Shelley is the former State Senator from San Francisco, having held that office from 1938 to 1946. His campaign has drawn unanimous support from AFL unions and from the more liberal sections of the business world. Both the Railroad Brotherhoods and the national CIO-PAC have endorsed the State Federation president.

The San Francisco Union Labor Party, local unit of the California Labor League for Political Education, has conducted a vigorous door-to-door effort in behalf of Shelley who has also received the full aid of the state LLPE.

Three state legislative seats will be filled on November 8. In the third Senate district the Humboldt County LLPE has issued equal endorsements to Anthony Massei and Arthur W. Way.

Gayle Collins has been endorsed by the Los Angeles County LLPE for election to the Assembly in the 69th district.

In San Diego County, Edwin Campbell has been recommended by the local AFL political body for the vacancy in the 80th Assembly district.

THE PROPOSITIONS:

Proposition No. 2, which calls for the repeal of Article XXV of the state constitution, has found the money powers of California waging a vile and shocking war on the aged men and women now dependent on pension help.

The California State Federation of Labor, the State LLPE, and AFL unions throughout California have demanded the defeat of this measure which would strike so cruelly at those whose only crime is advanced age.

However, the corporate interests have detected a threat to unqualified profit in the recognition of social responsibilities and so have formed a black political alliance to pass Proposition No. 2.

The following commercial giants have contributed to the No. 2 war chest: Southern Pacific Railroad Company; Bank of California; Crocker First National Bank; Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad Company; Libby, McNeil and Libby; Shell Oil Company; Safeway Stores; Bank of America; Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Columbia Steel Company.

It is the direct moral obligation of organized labor to vote against Proposition No. 2. The American Federation of Labor is proud

to accept its social duty in this matter, for the conscience of labor cannot rest while thousands of aged men and women cringe on the scrap-heap of an industrial civilization.

Proposition No. 1 on the November 8 ballot directs the issuance and sale of \$250,000,000 of state bonds to provide loans and grants for school districts for the construction of classrooms and other basic building necessities.

This proposition has been heartily endorsed by the California State Federation of Labor as a partial remedy for the schoolroom crisis which now exists in the needy counties of the state.

If California would meet the problems attendant to its tremendous population growth, it must offer an expanded educational program.

Proposition No. 1 recognizes at least the fundamental building needs of our state system. Its defeat would maintain an intolerable burden on the teachers and students of California.

Proposition No. 3 amends Section 2 of Article IV of the state constitution. It sets salaries of legislators at \$300 per month, regulates the length of budget and general sessions of the legislature, and establishes ceilings for per diem expenses. The necessity of having qualified citizens in the Assembly and Senate demands that proper salary recognition be given such positions. The California State Federation of Labor recommends a YES vote.

THE "WELFARE STATE" -- A LESSON IN PROPAGANDA

(Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of two articles exposing the latest propaganda drive on the rights and aspirations of the labor movement.)

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--With the Big Business bloc now waging unrestricted warfare on the political and social aspirations of organized labor, the charge of "Welfare State" and "Statism" is sounded again and again through every agency of capital control.

The daily press and the daily radio spew this trash on all possible occasions.

However, this loud assault is merely a frontal maneuver designed to distract the American public from the chicanery of the Corporation State.

California labor well knows the story of the Corporation State.

The Corporation State is no mere academic peril in California. It is, rather, the prevailing coercion of our political life.

Acting through the means of a state senate that is far removed from the requirements of the people, Big Business has erected its own inner government in California.

The Corporation State smashed the liberal program of labor in the 1949 session of the legislature. It battered those who cried for housing and insurance with the same passion it has historically reserved for those who cried for better conditions of work.

And so it has widened the range of the informed. It has widened the range of those who know the social villainy of the Big Business bloc. It has widened the range of those who fear the Corporation State as the nation's most terrible, most subversive threat.

The Corporation State is now the revealed enemy of all who ask for sufficient hours and wages of labor, of all who ask for unemployment relief, of all who ask for disability benefits, of all who ask for industrial accident compensation, of all who ask for racial and religious justice in hiring practices, of all who ask for pensions in the fading unproductive years of life, of all who ask for that fullness of living to which man is entitled by his very nature.

The Corporation State demands special privilege for business. It demands that the banks, the railroads, the power companies, the finance farmers, and indeed all of the forces of American business be given the right of exploitation, the right of profit at public expense.

The servants of this inner government walk the corridors of the State Capitol, snapping the whip of economic control over all within their power. This is the Corporation State, naked and bare for all the world to see.

It is no small wonder that labor preaches reform. It is no small wonder that labor preaches a new order.

Let capital scream as it will. We will have an end to this. We will have our welfare state, for whatever the turn of battle, the last victory must and shall be ours.

CALIFORNIA LABOR LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION
E N D O R S E M E N T S
for
SPECIAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 8

CANDIDATES

5th Congressional District: John F. Shelley
(San Francisco)
3d Senate District: Equal endorsements for
(Humboldt County) Anthony Massei and Arthur W. Way
69th Assembly District: Gayle Collins
(Los Angeles County)
80th Assembly District: Edwin Campbell
(San Diego County)

STATE PROPOSITIONS

No. 1 (School Bonds)_____Y E S
No. 2 (Pension Repeal)_____N O
No. 3 (Legislative Pay Raise)_____Y E S
Nos. 4 to 11, inclusive (Removal of
obsolete sections from State
Constitution)_____NO POSITION
No. 12 (Daylight Saving Time)_____NO POSITION

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BUILD LABOR IN CALIFORNIA!
BUILD IT NOW!
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