

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET



151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

May 3, 1950

ROOSEVELT-MILLER FORCES UNITE FOR VICTORY DRIVE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The joining of Roosevelt-Miller forces in a combined campaign for Governor and Lieutenant Governor featured primary election news this week as the two AFL-endorsed candidates stepped up their swing through southern California.

Roosevelt's decision to link efforts with the Contra Costa County Senator was apparently based on confidence in the Miller legislative record which reveals the candidate for Lieutenant Governor as a proven and fearless liberal in Sacramento.

Since his election to the State Assembly in 1946, Miller has compiled a splendid political record. During the 1947 general session of the legislature, he militantly opposed "hot cargo," "jurisdictional strike," and "feather-bedding" measures introduced by the powerful corporation lobbies.

He branded these bills for what they were--attempts to sell anti-labor legislation by catch titles designed to confuse the public.

In 1948 he toured the state in a tireless campaign against the falsely labeled "feather-bedding" proposition foisted on a bewildered voting populace by the railroad corporations.

Miller is currently campaigning in southern California, making speeches daily from the James Roosevelt campaign bus.

The eldest son of the late president continued to draw tremendous crowds as he carried his campaign directly to the people. More than 1500 students massed about him last week at a noontime address at the entrance to UCLA, while more than 1,000 heard his mid-afternoon speech on the Main Street of Santa Monica.

.....©.....

AFL CANDIDATE URGES PRACTICAL FARM RELIEF

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas took time out from her campaigning for the U.S. Senate last week to introduce a bill designed to relieve growing distress among farm users of grain while still maintaining profitable income for the growers.

The Douglas measure would accomplish this by making production compensatory payments to growers of grains and cereals in order to maintain their income at reasonable levels while the market price would be permitted to reach levels that would afford relief to poultry, dairy and livestock farmers.

Proponents of the bill argue that lower market prices would make it possible for these products to flow more readily into world commerce, while at the same time a firm floor would be placed under the domestic price by the fact that exports in respectable quantities would relieve downward pressure of surpluses on the domestic market.

"This bill," said Congresswomen Douglas, "would certainly correct a situation under which the ultimate consumer gets no benefit from providing tax money for a support program which at present is aiding some farmers at the expense of others."

.....@.....

HOWSER TOURS CENTRAL VALLEY

(CFLNL'SAN FRANCISCO.--Incumbent Attorney General Fred N. Howser this week carried his campaign up through the central valley territory as he addressed political rallies in the major communities of the San Joaquin farm country.

His six-day tour was to be highlighted by a major speech in Fresno and appearance at the annual Los Banos festival on Sunday, May 7.

The AFL-endorsed incumbent plans an extended campaign throughout northern California following his return to Los Angeles next Monday.

.....@.....

LOS ANGELES PRICES STEADY BETWEEN
FEBRUARY AND MARCH

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Prices paid for commodities purchased in Los Angeles by moderate income families remained practically unchanged between February and March, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, Western Region.

The downward change was only 0.1 percent and brought the price level to 3.0 percent below that of March 1949.

Food prices decreased for an average of 0.3 percent, primarily because of a decrease of 4.6 percent for fresh fruits and vegetables.

Egg prices continued to decrease, this time by 1.2 percent, to an average price of about 53 cents a dozen.

Prices of dairy products were off slightly, 0.2 percent, and the level of cereals and bakery products prices remained unchanged.

All meat items were more expensive. The meat group as a whole moved up 2.2 percent, led by an advance of pork prices of 3.6 percent.

Coffee prices moved up again, this time by 4.1 percent, to an average price of 82 cents a pound, fats and oils went up 0.4 percent, and sugar by 0.1 percent.

Housefurnishings prices were lower by 0.2 percent because of lower prices of cook stoves and mattresses, but these were nearly offset by price increases for living room suites, dinnerware and wool rugs.

The level for miscellaneous items also decreased, by 0.6 percent, largely because of lower gasoline prices.

While no change was recorded for gas, electricity, fuel and ice, rents were up by 0.6 percent, and apparel by 0.8 percent.

In comparison with prices a year ago, food was 6.4 percent cheaper in March 1950, apparel 2.6 percent, housefurnishings 1.3 percent, and miscellaneous items 1.4 percent.

The only major categories more expensive were rents and fuel-electricity-refrigeration.

STATE SUPREME COURT DECISION HITS
SAFEWAY EMPIRE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The California State Supreme Court dealt the giant Safeway chain store empire a serious reversal this Monday when it ordered a stay of proceedings under the preliminary injunction granted five weeks ago in its dispute with the AFL Retail Clerks Union, Locals 870 and 1179, of Alameda and Contra Costa counties, respectively.

Judge Ralph E. Hoyt of Alameda County Superior Court had issued an injunction forbidding the AFL union to carry on any picketing or other activities for the purpose of having managing clerks covered by the company contract with the union.

The State Court decision in effect stayed proceedings under the preliminary injunction pending determination of the Union's application for a writ of supersedeas. This appeal has now been transferred to the district Appellate Court.

The writ of supersedeas, if granted, would have the effect of a stay of enforcement against the injunction until the union appeal can be heard.

The State Court action also resulted in the refusal of the Alameda County Superior Court this Tuesday to hear contempt proceedings brought by Safeway against State Federation Vice President Robert S. Ash and other AFL leaders.

In his Tuesday ruling, T. W. Harris, presiding judge of the Alameda County Superior Court, denied the request of Safeway for a continuance of the hearing on the alleged contempts.

In addition to Ash, those held by Safeway to be in contempt are: Charles A. Omstead, secretary-treasurer, Alameda County Food Clerks, Local 870; Esther Luther, secretary-treasurer, Contra Costa County Clerks, Local 1179; James F. Galliano, attorney for Locals 870 and 1179; Joseph W. Chaudet, business manager, East Bay Labor Journal, and spokesman for the Retail Managers Association; A. B. Crossler,

In the Tuesday hearing, State Federation of Labor attorney Charles P. Scully appeared for Vice President Ash. Among attorneys appearing for other parties were J. F. Galliano and Alexander Shulman.

• • • • •

Despite defense claims of "red-baiting," the membership took a walk on the ousted union, and then, by a heavier than 4 to 1 margin, voted to affiliate with the AFL Building Service Employees Union which offered the city employees a separate charter.

• • • • •

GET IN THE PRIMARY FIGHT
 * * * * *
 WORK AND VOTE WITH YOUR
 LOCAL POLITICAL LEAGUE !

OEIU-3-AFL(31)