

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

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FRANK EDWARDS TO ADDRESS
STATE FEDERATION PRESS INSTITUTE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Frank Edwards, nationally famed AFL newscaster, will be the featured speaker at the third annual state AFL press institute to be held November 29-30 in Santa Barbara.

Edwards will fly to Santa Barbara to address the Saturday night banquet scheduled for the Samarkand Hotel.

The AFL radio figure has won national attention through his nightly review of the news. The program is heard nationally over the Mutual Broadcasting System and is sponsored by the American Federation of Labor.

Press institute sessions will open Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock and will conclude Sunday afternoon after two days of general conferences and workshop discussions on every phase of labor press activity.

All sessions will be held in the Samarkand Hotel. Reservations range from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per day and may be made immediately with Arthur Carstens, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles 24.

A registration fee of \$5.00 will be charged all participants.

The institute is open to all AFL editors and labor officials responsible for such publications.

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**SURVEY SHOWS ORGANIZED
LABOR VOTED FOR STEVENSON**

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--First survey of the California election returns last week revealed that: (1) Organized labor districts favored Adlai Stevenson over General Eisenhower; (2) Better than 55 percent of AFL endorsed candidates were elected to office.

A review of the six assembly districts of San Francisco showed that Stevenson captured three and Eisenhower three. The 20th, 23rd, and 24th Assembly Districts went Stevenson by substantial margins. The Democratic candidate, for example, whipped Eisenhower in the 23rd Assembly District by more than 12,000 votes.

However, the GOP candidate won in the 19th, 21st, and 22nd Districts. Eisenhower won by more than 19,000 votes in the 21st District, a traditional "silk-stockings" stronghold.

Findings in the San Francisco review were typical of samplings in Alameda, Los Angeles, and Contra Costa Counties.

A summary of state AFL endorsements shows the following:

1. Congressional Districts - the AFL made 27 endorsements in the primary and/or general election and was successful with 11 candidates, or 40.7 percent of those supported.

2. State Senate - the AFL made 12 endorsements in the primary and/or general election and was successful with 7 candidates, or 58.3 percent of those supported.

3. State Assembly - the AFL made 64 endorsements in the primary and/or general election, and was successful with 40 or 62.5 of those supported.

Meanwhile in Washington, the national LLPE gave out a comparison between what it called the "friendly" and "unfriendly" status of members of the new Congress. Senate -- Friendly 38, unfriendly 56, uncertain 2; House -- Friendly 161, unfriendly 238, uncertain 36.

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AFL LIFTS CURTAIN ON
CHINESE COMMUNIST TERROR

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--In a major announcement that received top attention in the commercial press, the AFL Free Trade Union Committee revealed last week that 746 out of 22,785 United Nations prisoners of war were killed by the Chinese Communists as victims of forced labor in Korea and northeastern China.

Most killed were Koreans.

Forced labor is the common plight of all classes in China, from prisoners to peasants, the statement said.

It is based on smuggled information from underground forces in China who have broken with the official Chinese Communist leadership.

The underground organization is the Democratic Revolutionary League.

All workers have to go to assigned jobs, have to compete in production and hours worked under speed-up plans, and are subject to swift punishment for failure to fulfill quotas, the report said.

The only difference between prisoners and workers is that the prisoners are shackled, and peasants and workers on so-called reconstruction projects are supposed to be contributing their services voluntarily.

Also, wages are paid in government-owned enterprises, such as factories, mines, and farms, but overtime and large shares of the meager daily pay must be kicked back in the form of so-called voluntary donations, contributions, and fees.

In all cases, the working day is reported to last 12 or more hours. Millions of men and women are impressed into the labor corps of the Red Army for what is called defense construction, as stretcher bearers and for any other tasks that need to be done.

Failure to show the required enthusiasm for forced labor is considered evidence of counter-revolutionary attitudes, which requires thought reform, referred to as "brain-washing." Those who don't see the light are liquidated, the AFL sources said.

MEDICAL LOBBY UNDER ATTACK

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Labor, the national Railroad Brotherhood paper, this week revealed that efforts of the organized doctors of meeting the costs of medical care by crying "socialized medicine" are being challenged in unexpected quarters.

For example, the conservative weekly magazine, "U.S. News and World Report," published a significant article warning that whichever candidate wins the presidency will have to do something about our rising medical costs.

A note at the top of the page said that the article "represents the result of an extensive research on a problem of outstanding importance." That problem is the unpaid medical bills facing "nearly one family in five."

A table showed that 10.2 million families have such bills; that 1.2 million owe \$200 or more and that 200,000 owe more than \$1000 for needed health care. The total of such debts, the magazine declares, exceeds \$1 billion.

This takes no account of the people who go without needed medical treatment because they know they can't pay for it; nor, as the article points out, of savings spent, money borrowed from banks or other lenders to meet hospital costs, "which usually must be paid in advance," or of funds provided by various insurance plans.

Aid for medical education also is cited as a major problem to be faced by the next President. This has been fought by the "Doctors' Lobby" as an "opening wedge" to "socialized medicine."

The article points out that, although more than half of the population is covered by health or hospital insurance plans of some sort, they meet only a small percentage of the cost of health care.

Meanwhile, the magazine "Medical Economics," reports that "general practitioners" -- that is, family doctors -- had an average net income last year of \$14,098, an increase of 50 percent over 1947. Specialists averaged \$17,112.

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WAGE BOARD ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY PAY RULING

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Employers in California, Arizona and Nevada may declare the Fridays after Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's paid holidays and not charge the wages for these days against any regulations, Arthur P. Allen, chairman of the Regional Wage Stabilization Board, announced this week.

The granting of the days off with pay is discretionary and applicable only to forthcoming 1952 and 1953 holidays.

Permission to declare the Fridays paid holidays is contained in Resolution 110 which the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington adopted on October 21, 1952, Allen said.

The text of the resolution follows:

"That employers may, at their discretion, give their employees as additional days off with pay, the Friday after Thanksgiving and the Friday after Christmas, 1952; and also the Friday after New Year's Day, 1953; if granted, these days are not chargeable against any amounts authorized by any regulations of the Board."

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AFL LUMBER WORKERS WIN 5TH STRAIGHT ELECTION

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union registered its fifth straight NLRB victory in Humboldt County last week when it won the election held for employees of the Fred Svinth Lumber Company. The plant normally employs 50 workers and is located in Arcata.

Contract and wage negotiations are expected to start as soon as a committee can be chosen from the Svinth employees.

The Redwood District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers announced that virtually all of the three thousand lumber workers in the Arcata area are now organized under the AFL banner.

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