

Federation Scholarship Winners

Two girls and one boy were named winners in the ninth annual high school scholarship contest sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, it was announced this Tuesday by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the state AFL-CIO organization.

Winners of the three annual \$500 scholarship awards are: Sandra Lee Miller, McCloud High School, McCloud (Siskiyou County); Allene Margie Downey, Westmoor High School, Daly City (San Mateo County); and Donald Manka, Live Oak Union High School, Morgan Hill (Santa Clara County).

Haggerty said that the three winners were selected from 357 students who participated in the 1959 competition. The contest was open to all high school seniors in California and Hawaii.

Students were graded on an examination testing their knowledge of industrial relations history and practices in the United States. The examination was held on Friday, May 15, 1959, in each high school where applications were filed. Following the examination, the test papers were immediately returned to the Federation's office for grading and screening by competent

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C. J. HAGGERTY
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

Weekly News Letter

INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS LIBRARY

Vol. 1 — No. 26

JUL 27 1959

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY

Published by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

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Governor Brown to Continue Fight for Defeated Liberal Programs

Governor Edmund G. Brown, reporting to the people this week, vowed that he would continue to fight for liberal legislative programs rejected by the recently concluded 1959 session of the legislature.

In addressing a dinner audience of about 700 in San Jose this Monday, the Governor made specific reference to defeat of his proposals for a state

minimum wage; establishment of state union representation machinery and revision of anti-labor jurisdictional strike procedures; enactment of his oil severance proposal, and purity of elections bill.

"I will continue to fight with every power at my command for the legislation I think is required to meet California's needs," Brown announced.

Minimum Wage

In reference to his rejected proposal for a \$1.25 per hour state

minimum wage, with coverage for exploited farm workers, the Governor declared: "I don't believe . . . that California can lag much longer in establishing a minimum wage for all its citizens, as it is now doing with the defeat of our bill to set such a wage."

"I have said repeatedly," the Governor added, "that if a person is worth hiring, he is worth paying a decent, living wage. The special interest group which denies that imperils its own future as well as California's."

The Governor's minimum wage proposal was embodied in AB 1223 (Hawkins). It was passed by the Assembly at \$1.25 per hour with a reduced rate of 90c per hour for agricultural workers, and then literally dumped by the Senate Labor Committee. Although vigorously fought by employers generally, opposition to the bill was led by corporate farm interests which dominated the legislature on agricultural issues, and also by the restaurant and hotel industry, which protested that \$1.25 minimum wage would destroy their "low-wage" industry.

Labor Legislation

The Governor made clear reference to his continued support of the provisions of AB 419, which also passed the Assembly only to be tabled by the Senate Labor Committee. As in the case of the Governor's minimum wage bill, corporate farmer interests fronted for employ-

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BRACEROS . . . 'U.S. BADGE OF INFAMY'

The United States program under which Mexican workers—braceros—are brought into the United States as farm workers has been labelled a "national disgrace . . . the American badge of infamy."

This descriptive label was attached to the much abused importation program by Archbishop Robert E. Lucy of San Antonio, Texas, in an appeal to end bracero and migratory labor problems before the American G.I. Forum, a Texas veterans' organization.

The prelate, who has often commented on the problems connected with the bracero program, said:

"The truth is that we do not need 500,000 alien workers to harvest our crops of food and fibre. The presence in our country of this immense pool of imported labor causes unemployment among American citizens, and depresses wages to incredibly low levels."

The Archbishop added that "as little as 30c an hour" is sometimes paid the exploited braceros.

"Only a savage would pay that wage to American agriculture," he added.

Public Law 78, providing for importation of braceros into the United States, which was to expire last month, was extended by Congress and signed by President Eisenhower last year. It will now operate until June 30, 1961.

California is one of the largest users of braceros from Mexico. Recently, the executive council of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO voted full support of the Imperial Valley Labor Coordinating Committee in its efforts to gather the facts on excessive importation of braceros and violations of Public Law 78, in order to secure necessary modification of the law and improve enforcement.

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er groups in killing the labor measure.

AB 419 would have established state machinery for the democratic determination of representation rights, and the settlement of jurisdictional strikes in intrastate commerce, while repealing the state's anti-labor jurisdictional strike law.

In reference to the defeat of this bill, the Governor called again for the repeal of the state's jurisdictional strike law and its replacement with machinery to resolve such strikes. He said there also should be a law to permit a worker to select or reject a union as his bargaining agent.

"I proposed such a bill, and it was defeated," Brown said.

Other Defeated Proposals

Other defeated parts of his legislative program called to the attention of the people included the so-called purity of elections bill, and the Governor's proposal for a two per cent severance tax on oil.

Referring to the defeat of the so-called purity of elections legislation, the Governor said he could see no reason why political candidates should not be required to report the

sources of their contributions and their expenditures in full.

In vowing to press again for his defeated oil severance tax, Brown said: "I think it was a default of responsibility to permit the already tax-sheltered oil industry to evade its fair share of new and added taxes which we found it necessary to ask for.

"I know many responsible leaders in the oil industry, and they have informed me that they felt such a tax would be proper. However, they did object to the terms of this specific bill.

"I intend to sit down with them some time in the future, and discuss this problem thoroughly to see what can be worked out."

Although the 1959 session of the legislature rejected the Governor's severance tax, it did enact some \$64 million in additional consumer taxes, in the form of a 3c per pack tax on cigarettes and a boost in the beer excise from 2c to 4c per gallon.

Labor Welcomes News

The Governor's warning this week to the legislature that he would continue to push for liberal measures which his Administration advanced at the 1959 session was received warmly by organized labor

in the state. The defeat of two of Governor Brown's proposals — his minimum wage bill and labor representation and jurisdictional strike revision proposal were among the greatest disappointments of labor at the 1959 session.

The rejection of AB 419 left standing the state's jurisdictional strike law, which is an open invitation to anti-labor employers to use the provisions of this law to thwart bona fide activities of unions seeking representation rights, rather than the resolution of jurisdictional disputes.

Because of the defeat of the minimum wage bill, farm workers in many parts of the state this harvest season will again receive depressed wages as low as 70c and even 50c an hour, what with imported Mexican nationals available in almost unlimited supply for farmer exploitation.

California Nonfarm Employment Reaches New High In June

Nonagricultural employment in California broke all records last month, John F. Henning, California Director of Industrial Relations, announced recently.

The number of wage and salary workers on nonfarm payrolls climbed to 4,651,200 in June from 4,599,990 in May. Last month's total represents not only the highest June on record, but an all-time high for any month. The increase from last year amounts to 195,100, or 4 per cent.

Henning attributed a large part of the employment increase to the rapid expansion in manufacturing. The number of industrial workers in the state jumped to 1,281,500 in June, representing a rise of about 17,000 from May and 91,000 from June a year ago.

All manufacturing industries reported higher employment than a year ago except shipbuilding and petroleum refining.

Most of the year-to-year rise in manufacturing was in durable goods industries. These as a whole ac-

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personnel selected by the scholarship committee of three judges.

School records and examination papers of the highest students were examined personally by the committee of judges, who made the final selection of the three winners.

The committee of judges was composed of three professional educators: Frederick Breier, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Economics, University of San Francisco; Leon F. Lee, Ph.D. Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, San Jose State College; and Arthur M. Ross, Ph.D. Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley.

Identity of the students participating in the contest was not known to the judges.

Under the rules of the Federation scholarship program, the winners may apply the \$500 award at any college or university of their

choice, including a junior college as well as a four-year institution. Absolutely no restrictions are placed on the future course of study undertaken by the scholarship winners.

The scholarship award carries with it an expense-free invitation to each winner to attend the 1959 convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, to be held in San Diego, August 10 to 14. Formal presentation of the scholarship award will be made by C. J. Haggerty, at the Wednesday afternoon session of the convention. Each winner will have the opportunity to briefly address the convention delegates in acceptance of the award.

This ninth annual scholarship contest drew the largest number of applicants in its history. Some 595 California and Hawaii high school students filed application and 357 participated in the 1959 examination competition.

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NATIONAL AFL-CIO ISSUES SAN FRANCISCO CONVENTION CALL

AFL-CIO organizations across the nation this week received the 1959 call of the national AFL-CIO to meet in convention in San Francisco, September 17, 1959, "at a time when the labor movement is under its heaviest attack in more than a generation."

The San Francisco convention call, issued by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, over the signatures of President George Meany and Secretary-Treasurer William Schnitzler, is for the third convention of the merged AFL-CIO. It will convene approximately one month after the California Labor Federation convention, scheduled for San Diego, August 10 to 14.

Sessions of the national AFL-CIO convention will start in San Francisco at the Civic Auditorium on Thursday morning, September 17, 1959, and will continue from day to day until the business of the convention is completed.

Representation at the national convention will be on the following basis: from national and international unions, for less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 or more, two delegates; 8,000 or more, three delegates; 12,000 or more, four delegates; 25,000 or more, five delegates; 50,000 or more, six delegates; 75,000 or more, seven delegates; 125,000 or more, eight delegates; 175,000 or more, nine delegates, plus one additional delegate for each 75,000 members over 175,000.

Each directly affiliated local union and each national trade and industrial department is entitled to one delegate, the same as state federations of labor and local central labor councils.

In issuing the San Francisco convention call, the AFL-CIO Executive Council warned:

"The very right of unions to survive is at stake. Hostile legislation is constantly introduced and actively pushed both in Congress and in many state legislatures.

"The great reservoir of public good will toward the labor movement is threatened by the incessant abuse and distortions by much of the nation's press.

"Some of America's most powerful corporations, and many smaller ones as well, have taken the offensive at the collective-bargaining table in an open attempt to deny to their workers a fair share of the

fruits of labor, to weaken existing conditions of work, and to undermine the very collective bargaining process itself.

"These assaults have been intensified despite the clear verdict of the American people in last November's election that unions have a legitimate and proper place in our society. The labor movement is thus under vicious attack in a period when its influence is most urgently needed to promote the domestic well-being of our country and the cause of freedom throughout the world.

"We have undergone a drastic economic recession, the impact of which fell hardest upon the nation's wage-earners; and our apparent recovery has left millions of jobless marooned in geographical or industrial backwaters.

"As a people, we still lack enough schools, housing, highways, medical care and a host of other essentials to our national progress.

"We still fall far short of true economic justice in the distribution of the products of our productive genius. No better example can be cited than the lag of employment behind profits during the business upswing of the last year.

"We still face the implacable enmity of world communism, unsoftened by cultural exchanges and the excursions to our shores of plausible apologists for Soviet oppression.

"If our country is to meet these challenges, the labor movement must be strong and free. The labor movement fills a unique and indispensable role in America's quest for prosperity, social justice and worldwide democracy.

"It is the labor movement that

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Affiliates Please Note:

RESOLUTIONS DEADLINE IS JULY 27

All resolutions, except those from statewide organizations meeting between July 27 and August 9, must reach Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty by 5:00 p.m., MONDAY, JULY 27.

Statewide organizations have until 9:00 p.m., SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, to file resolutions with the secretary.

Late resolutions require two-thirds vote of delegates to be considered.

Resolutions must bear officer's signature or union seal.

California Nonfarm Employment Reaches New High in June

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counted for 82,000 of the 91,000 overall increase.

Star performers were electronics with a 12-month rise of 22,000 jobs; missiles up 14,000; primary metals, 8,000; automobiles, 7,000; and aircraft, 6,000.

Wage and salary workers in wholesale and retail trade establishments numbered 1,012,900, the highest June on record. A year ago, the number employed in trade was 976,400. Most of the increase was in the retail segment.

The number of federal, state and local government employees rose to a new high of 837,500 in June from 835,000 in May and 805,800 in June, 1958. More than half the rise was in education.

Service industries added 7,000 employees to their June payrolls, bringing the total to a record high of 616,300. This was up more than 21,000 from last year. Biggest gains were in business and medical services.

Despite a work stoppage in construction in June, employment in the industry of 303,200 wage and salary workers topped the year-ago figure by 8,000.

An all-time high of 214,500 wage and salary workers in finance-insurance-real estate was chalked up in June, some 8,000 above a year ago.

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City Leaders Told of Domestic Resources Mobilization Need

"In spite of our standard of living, and of technological developments that exceed the grasp and even the imagination of most people, we in America have still fallen far short of arresting the spread of blight and decay in our cities," city leaders were told last week at the quarterly meeting of the Alameda-Contra Costa Division of the League of California Cities.

Speaking on behalf of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO on the subject of "Labor's Stake in Good Government in the Bay Area," Federation General Vice President John A. Despol questioned "how can we hope to solve the problems of maintaining our alliances, of meeting the Communist economic offensive, of extending a helping hand to the peoples now searching for national identity and independence, of standing firm against aggression anywhere, if we cannot mobilize our domestic resources to meet the needs of day-to-day work and living?"

Pointing out that "labor is not concerned with the low income and minority ghettos of the city, nor just real estate values in the downtown district, nor the bedevilled commuter, nor the costly growing traffic congestion, nor the general offensiveness of the urban sprawl now becoming the urban crawl," the state AFL-CIO vice president said:

"The deficiency in our schools and communal services, like parks, playgrounds, hospitals and the ugly outcropping of juvenile violence are all pleading for the attention, and are all part of the broad task on which we are embarked—the revitalization and re-invigoration of the city as a way of life."

Labor, it was pointed out, is concerned with the staggering problems of constructing economic, financial, social and political tools necessary to build metropolitan areas of today.

In answer to the often-made objection that we cannot afford the projects needed to achieve the status of good government in metropolitan areas because they are purported to be inflationary, Despol said:

"There are emergencies in which you call the doctor, without asking the cost . . . cancer in our cities is such a case. When somebody starts talking about the evil of public debt passed on to the next generation, it makes labor want to ask whether it is better to pass on a burden of slums and national ignorance."

Despol also spoke freely of the League of California Cities' opposition to legislation designed to protect the organization rights of public employees. "I hope," Despol said, "that the time is not far off when the League of California Cities will see the truth and accept the soundness of legislative bills sponsored

by the California Labor Federation, which are designed to aid the very existence of unions whose functions it is to represent public employees."

City officials present were told that these measures are a basic part of the California Labor Federation's legislative program. They contain the following provisions:

(1) A clear policy declaration recognizing the right of public employees to organize and bargain collectively.

(2) A state policy declaration enunciating the right of public employees to join an organization of their own choice, without interference on the part of supervisors and their administrative public officials.

(3) Adoption of a state policy designed to extend the right of representation in collective bargaining to public employees engaged in the production and distribution of electric power.

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presses for full employment, better schools, adequate housing, area redevelopment, realistic wage-hour protection and all other measures for the betterment, not simply of union members, but of all our countrymen.

"It is the labor movement that supports a strong national defense and a sound foreign aid program—and which, even more importantly, guides and encourages the growth of free trade unions in free nations around the globe, building the bedrock of democracy in the new nations of the world.

"Those who would weaken the labor movement would weaken

America. Those who would destroy the labor movement would strike at the survival of democracy itself.

"The delegates of this Third Constitutional convention of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations have the responsibility of shaping and enacting a program to repel the attacks of labor's enemies and to achieve the social and economic goals to which our movement is dedicated. With the full participation and united determination of all our affiliated unions, true to the heritage and traditions of the American labor movement we will decisively fulfill that responsibility."