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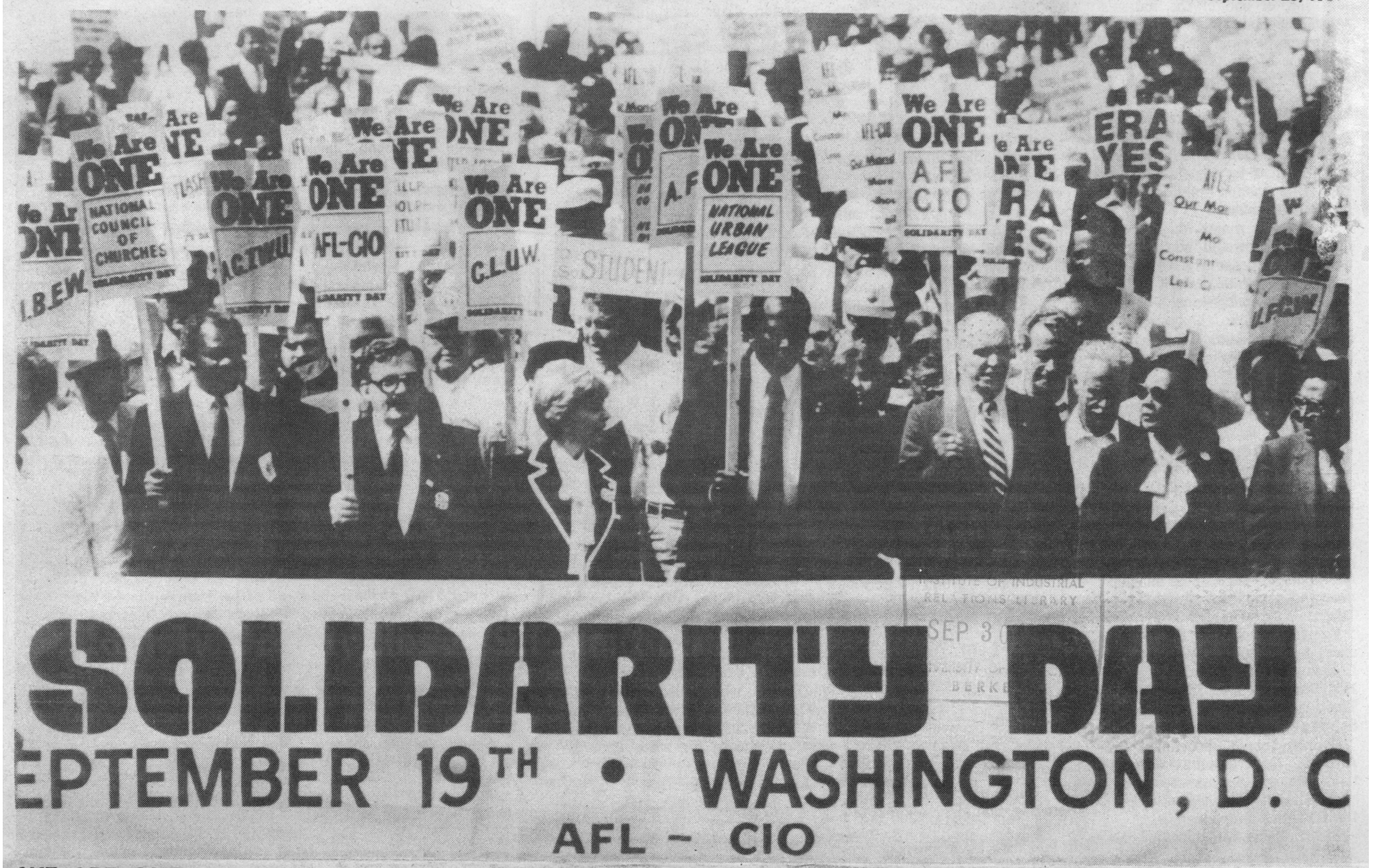

WE ARE ONE—That's what an ocean of picket signs proclaim as an estimated 400,000 union members and representatives of a broad coalition of women's, religious, minority and civil rights organizations join AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland in the "Solidarity Day" demonstration in Washington, D.C., against President Reagan's economic and social policies in a march down Constitution Avenue. In the front line of the AFL-CIO-sponsored demonstration are: Washington, D.C., Mayor Marion Barry, Kirkland, Mrs. Irena Kirkland, Vernon Jordan, AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Tom Donahue, and Coretta Scott King. The AFL-CIO rented the District of Columbia's entire subway system for $65,000 to allow everyone to ride free for the day.

EDITORIAL

A Day of Triumph

All praise to President Lane Kirkland and the AFL-CIO Executive Council for the Solidarity Day triumph in Washington protesting Reagan policies. The massing of more than a quarter of a million people under the banners of the AFL-CIO was unprecedented in U. S. labor history.

President Reagan kept telling the country that labor liberals were not speaking for the membership. Now he knows. If the President continues the dismantling of government protections for workers, the poor, the elderly, the minorities and the low income public, the next demonstration could mean a million dissenters in the capital.

If Mr. Reagan doesn't now sense the swelling volume of opposition to the Administration, he never will.

Historically, American Labor has been hard on the picket line but negative on political demonstrations. That's changing. One demonstration of more than a quarter million people won't stop the Reagan Administration but continued demonstrations, properly spaced, will attend to that.

There's a right-wing wrecking crew loose in Washington. The President should deny their power and disown their rhetoric. They are doing nothing less than courting the violence of the poor.

Meanwhile, praise again to Lane Kirkland and also to those in California who sponsored local demonstrations against Reagan and Company, Inc.

400,000 Rap Reagan Policies At AFL-CIO's Solidarity Day

Singing chorus after chorus of "Solidarity For Ever . . . the union makes us strong," four hundred thousand union members and their allies joined AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland in the AFL-CIO-sponsored "Solidarity Day" demonstration in Washington, D.C., last Saturday to demand an end to the anti-people social and economic policies of the Reagan administration.

"If you do not embrace the proposition that this President has a mandate to destroy the programs that feed the roots of a decent society, look about you. You are not alone," Kirkland told the demonstrators who were packed shoulder-to-shoulder for blocks and blocks in front of the Capitol Mall.

In admonishing both the Reagan administration and those in Congress "who have backed the President," Kirkland said:

"Those who have risen to power in this city have set out to cancel and dismantle the safeguards of a humane society and to commit us to the economic jungle.

"Their tax cuts — transferring resources from the common good to the private purses of the rich —are proving to be the most irresponsible fiscal act in our times.

"They are sacrificing the homes, health and hopes of the

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Gov. Brown Signs Agency Shop Bill

Major California AFL-CIO-backed legislation to allow local public agencies and public employee organizations to negotiate agency shop agreements was signed into law Tuesday by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

In signing the bill, **AB 1693** carried by Assemblyman Curtis R. Tucker (D-Inglewood), Governor Brown said that the legislation "embodies a just and reasonable policy that is much more likely to provide good labor-management relations and more efficient

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Fed's Women's Conference Opens in S.F. Next Thursday

A staff of more than two dozen labor experts has been put together to conduct the workshops at the California Labor Federation's three-day educational conference on Women In The Work Force which opens in San Francisco next Thursday, October 1.

The workshops are designed to

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Thousands Join Solidarity Day Rallies in S.F. and L.A.

A crowd of Solidarity Day demonstrators estimated at 10,000 strong jammed Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street in San Francisco Saturday to cheer on speaker after speaker who denounced the Reagan Administration's "take from the poor, give to the rich" domestic policies and called for worker unity to repulse Reagan's attacks on workers' rights.

John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, touched off a loud cheer when he announced that more than a quarter of a million workers had joined the AFL-CIO's Solidarity Day rally in the nation's capital.

"That's the greatest labor assemblage ever pulled together in the nation's capital in the history of the American trade union

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Proposed Rules Aim to Gut Davis-Bacon, Labor Warns

New proposals by the Labor Department to alter rules governing prevailing wage standards on federal construction projects amount to "repeal by administrative fiat of one of the nation's most important labor protection programs," Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Department, has warned.

The proposed new regulations are a revision of the rules implementing the 1931 Davis-Bacon Act and would, if implemented, "disrupt the economic stability of the construction industry," he said.

One of the major changes being proposed would allow much more wide spread use of lower-paid "helpers" to replace skilled construction journeymen.

While such a change might allow some non-union contractors to save a few dollars on wages, it would lead to serious problems of quality and workmanship on public projects," Georgine warned.

The proposed regulations would also alter the formula for computing the wage rates to be paid under the Davis-Bacon Act. The only reason for this change is the hope that it would lead to lower wages on some federal projects, he said.

The proposed regulations would also abolish the current requirement that contractors submit weekly payroll reports to the government to verify their compliance with Davis-Bacon and the Copeland anti-kickback law.

These payroll reports provide one of the basic tools for enforcing these acts and their elimination will allow many more violations to go undetected, Georgine said.

The Labor Department will accept public comments on these regulations until October 13. Once the comment period is over, the department will publish a final version of the regulations.

The Building and Construction Trades Department has launched a major media campaign to defend the Davis-Bacon Act.

The media package include; a letter campaign to Congress and the President, newspaper, radio and magazine ads, and a series of mailings to the media.

Georgine urged all trade unionists to write to your Senators and Representatives to tell them you don't want to see the Davis-Bacon Act repealed or weakened in any way.

Trade unionists interested in getting samples of the newspaper or magazine ads or radio spots should contact the Building and Construction Trades Department at 815 - 16th Street, N.W., Room 603, Washington, D.C. 20006 or phone (202) 347-1461.

Fed's Women's Conference Opens in S.F. Next Thursday

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sharpen the skills of women trade unionists and broaden their knowledge of collective bargaining and grievance handling techniques and to discuss such issues as child care and comparable worth legislation.

Feature speakers at the conference, which will be held at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn at 1550 Van Ness Ave. from 1 p.m., Thursday, October 1 to 1 p.m., Saturday, October 3, include:

Dorothy Shields, director of the AFL-CIO Department of Education, who will discuss the Effect of Educational Reductions Under the Reagan Administration;

Elinor Glenn, president of the Joint Council No. 8 of the Service Employees International Union in Los Angeles and a member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women's Task Force on Child Care who will speak on "Child Care as a Family Policy — What Is Possible?";

Joyce Miller, an AFL-CIO Vice President who is also Vice President of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers' Union, who will speak on the Effect on Working Women of the Reagan Administration Budget Slashes; and,

Madeline Mixer, Regional Administrator of the U. S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau.

Workshop topics will include: Working Effectively with the Media; Re-entry Women: Their Problems and Their Potential Contribution to the Labor Movement; Treatment of Women Under Social Security and the Effect of Proposed Administration Changes; Collective Bargaining; Bargaining through Impasse; Communication Skills; Parliamentary Procedures; Improving Communication with Members and Stimulating Interest in Union Programs; Comparable Worth; Grievance Handling Under Union Contracts; and Occupational Stress.

Registration fee for the conference is $30.

For further information, contact Kathleen Kinnick, Director of Women's Activities, at the California Labor Federation's San Francisco office at 995 Market Street, Suite 310, San Francisco, CA 94103 or phone (415) 986-3585.

Groulx Named To Calif. Horse Racing Board

Richard K. Groulx, executive secretary of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, has been appointed to the California Horse Racing Board by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Groulx, who is also a vice president of the California Labor Federation, has served as a labor representative for more than 35 years.

College Debate Kits Available

College debaters will compete this year on the topic of whether the government should significantly curtail the power of unions, and the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education has compiled kits of background information for students arguing the proposal.

The college debate kit is available without charge from the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division, 815 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

OPENS IN N.Y. NOV. 16

AFL-CIO Convention Call Hits Reagan Rollback Bids

The AFL-CIO issued the official call for its 14th Constitutional Convention, noting that the federation will meet in its centennial year "when workers and trade unionists are deeply disturbed" by the direction in which the country is headed.

The convention will be held at New York's Sheraton Centre Hotel, starting Nov. 16, at 10 a.m.

In issuing the call, Federation President Lane Kirkland and Secretary-Treasurer Thomas R. Donahue observed that "radical changes in America's social and economic structures are being pressed by a business-oriented Administration and embraced by a compliant Congress."

Kirkland and Donahue said that the Reagan White House is following four main avenues in efforts to roll back a half-century of labor's gains.

They cited "tax cuts that favor the rich; cuts in federal spending that injure the public interest; termination of federal regulatory programs that protect workers, consumers and the environment; and monetary policies that destroy jobs, feed inflation and bankrupt companies and industries that depend upon borrowed money.

"As the strongest, best-organized force defending the interests of workers and the plain people of the United States, the labor movement must provide nationwide leadership in opposition to this destructive process," Kirkland and Donahue stressed.

"Delegates to the AFL-CIO convention face the task of establishing programs and policies around which workers and all Americans who believe in freedom, democracy and the public interest can rally in the hard struggle that lies ahead."

The notice to affiliates includes a replica of the call to the 1881 founding convention of the Federation of Organized Trades & Labor Unions, which became the American Federation of Labor five years later.

"The time has now arrived for a more perfect combination of Labor—one that will concentrate our forces so as to more successfully cope with concentrated capital," the 1881 call observed.

It noted that there were numerous local, national and international unions already in existence. "But, great as has been the work done by these bodies, there is vastly more that can be done by a combination of all these organizations in a federation of trades. . . .

"Only in such a body can proper action be taken to promote the general welfare of the industrial classes. There we can discuss and examine all questions affecting the national interests of each and every trade, and by a combination of forces secure that justice which isolated and separated trade and labor unions can never fully command," the 1881 call declared.

Reagan's Stance on PATCO Seen as Step Toward Slavery

Maggie Clark, a shop steward and editor for the American Postal Workers Union in San Francisco, took sharp exception to a recent letter to the editor of the Oakland Tribune dealing with the strike by the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization and, in the process, cited some points that deserve broad circulation and consideration.

Here's her letter to the editor as published in the September 21 issue of the Oakland Tribune:

"Peter A. Laurence's statement (Letters to the Editor, Aug. 30) that there is no similarity between the strikes of Polish and PATCO workers demonstrates an all too widespread ignorance of American history.

"He states, 'the Polish people are heroically striking for basic rights that Americans have always had. They are striking for, among other things, a five-day week instead of the mandatory six days.'

"Americans have not always had these 'basic rights' and a great many do not have them today.

"It took too many small but bloody 'illegal' strikes to win such 'basic rights' as the eight-hour day, prohibition against child labor, the minimum wage, and some semblance of safe and healthy working conditions for Americans. These 'basic rights' were 200 years in the winning and hundreds of thousands of Americans still do not have them.

"There is supposed to be a rule in America that justice for one is justice for all. The issue in the PATCO strike has gone far beyond one of wages and working conditions.

"The issue which will eventually be settled in the courts is not whether the public employees can be fired for violating their oath not to strike, but whether it is legal under the constitution of the United States to require them to sign that oath in the first place.

"The right to withhold one's labor from an employer who refuses to discuss grievances is not a basic American right, it is a basic human right.

"Submission to any government's decision to use military and police intervention in such an event — as has been done in the PATCO strike — leads all of us back to the dark centuries of sweatshops, bonded servitude, and eventual slavery."

Gov. Brown Signs Agency Shop Bill

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government than present policies."

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, said that the Governor's action in signing the bill "represented an affirmation of the state's policy of encouraging collective bargaining as the most effective process for resolving labor-management disputes and comes at a time when the national administration seems intent on ignoring the fact that it is also federal policy."

Joining Henning in the Governor's office for the formal bill signing ceremony Tuesday were James S. Lee, president of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, Tim Twomey, vice president of the Service Employees International Union, Assemblyman Curtis Tucker (D-Inglewood), the bill's author, and Ron Woods, education and research director of the California State Conference of Operating Engineers.

The new law, which had been opposed by the California Association of County Supervisors and the League of California Cities, won final legislative approval last week.

The measure, which goes into effect January 1, 1982, defines "agency shop" as "an arrangement that requires an employee, as a condition of continued employment, either to join the recognized employee organization, or to pay the organization a service fee in an amount not to exceed the standard initiation fee, periodic dues and general assessments of such organization for the duration of the agreement, or for a period of three years from the effective date of such agreement, whichever comes first."

Agency shop clauses have been in common use throughout the country for years as a matter of fairness because federal law requires organizations chosen as the exclusive bargaining agent by a majority of employees in a collective bargaining unit to bargain for all of the workers in that unit.

The measure also authorizes local government employees to authorize dues deductions for membership in ethnically oriented organizations which represent such workers with employers in matters concerning their employment civil rights.

The law exempts management, supervisory or confidential workers from the agency shop provision.

It also allows any employee who is a member of a bonafied religion or sect which has historically held conscientious objections to joining or financially supporting public employee organizations to refrain from joining.

Such employees may, however, be required, in lieu of periodic dues and other fees, to pay equal amounts to a non-religious, non-labor, tax-exempt charitable fund, chosen by the employee from a list of at least three such funds designated in a memorandum of understanding between the employing agency and the employees' organization.

Publisher's Notice

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APPLAUDING SPEAKERS at the California Labor Federation's one-day conference on "Problems of the Aging" at the Woodlake Inn in Sacramento are some of the more than 300 participants who took part. Aim of the conference is to mobilize union and other retirees to help thwart the Reagan Administration's attempt to dismantle social service programs enacted over the past half century.

RETIREES MOBILIZING

Conference on Aging Draws Big Crowd

"How can a man of millionaire status (like President Reagan) destroy the income of 1.3 million senior citizens by taking away their $122 a month minimum social security benefits while he's taking $1,800 a month out of this city (Sacramento) in the form of a pension for himself?"

That was one of the questions put to more than 350 active and retired union members taking part in the California Labor Federation's one day conference on "Problems of the Aging" held at the Woodlake Inn in Sacramento Monday by John F. Henning, the California AFL-CIO's executive officer.

The conference, called to help mobilize the force of senior citizens throughout California in the battle to block Reagan's enrich the rich policies, attracted more than twice as many participants as had been anticipated.

Charging that Democrats in the House showed "no fight, no heart, no will" in surrendering to Reagan on both the massive budget cuts in social services and the $750 billion tax cut that largely benefits the wealthy and that only a handful of Senators opposed the cuts, Henning warned the retired trade unionists that the Democrats in Congress "will sell you out if you don't bring home to them the message that if they don't stand with the seniors and the liberals in the country they're out of office."

The pressure, he declared, "has to come from the grassroots, from the rank and file of the trade union movement and from the senior citizens."

"There is a chance that if you mobilize and keep in continuing contact with the Congress of the United States that you can give them the courage and the stamina to stand up and fight for your interests."

In pointing up the growing dissatisfaction with the Reagan policies throughout the nation, Henning said:

"We know where we are when 250,000 or more trade unionists, senior citizens and peoples of the minority community assemble in Washington under the banners of the AFL-CIO."

Referring to the Solidarity Day rally held in Washington, D.C. last Saturday, Henning said:

"That was the greatest labor rally ever held in Washington in the history of the trade union movement.

"And it gave lie to the argument of the President of the United States that labor union officials aren't speaking for the membership when they oppose his anti-social programs, when they oppose his programs that would give the bounty and the wealth of America not to the poor, not to the low and middle income classes, but only to the wealthy."

Noting that labor had challenged Reagan on his budget and tax cut concepts but that the President had replied by saying 'well you don't speak for the members,' Henning said:

"Well more than one-quarter of a million — some estimates say there were 400,000 — were there in Washington to tell Reagan we don't accept your philosophy. Your philosophy means a ruin of this nation. It means another depression. It means undoing all that Roosevelt and the succeeding liberals ever did for us."

Following Henning's address, Jim Patton, director of the California AFL-CIO's Retired Members Department, urged all retired trade unionists not currently members of a retiree club to get one started and to send delegates to the Federation of Retired Union Members (FORUM) in their community.

FORUMs have already been established in Alameda, San Diego, Santa Clara, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties and are in the process of being organized in Contra Costa, Fresno and Madera, Sacramento, San Bernardino-Riverside and Santa Cruz Counties, he said.

Patton explained that each FORUM is sponsored by one of the 26 central labor councils in California to serve as a support group to advance and protect the interests of retired union members.

Carl Jones, legislative director of the Congress of California Seniors, sharply attacked Reagan Administration claims that the social security system was facing "bankruptcy."

"The real reason cuts in social security are being proposed has nothing to do with impending bankruptcy," he said.

"Despite what individuals have heard or read, the social security system will not go bankrupt today, tomorrow, next year or 25 years from now. Don't believe these scare tactics. The real reason for the cuts is that social security is being manipulated in order to balance the budget, even though there is more and more reason to think that a balanced budget is not a good goal or even a possible goal in these hard times," Jones said.

John Allard, regional representative of the Retired Members Department of the United Auto Workers Union, who chaired a panel discussion on the "Impact of Union Bargaining on Retirement Security," pointed out that even though the courts have ruled that unions are not required to bargain for retired members, it is still possible to do so.

It's also possible, he said, to bargain for improved health benefits after you retire.

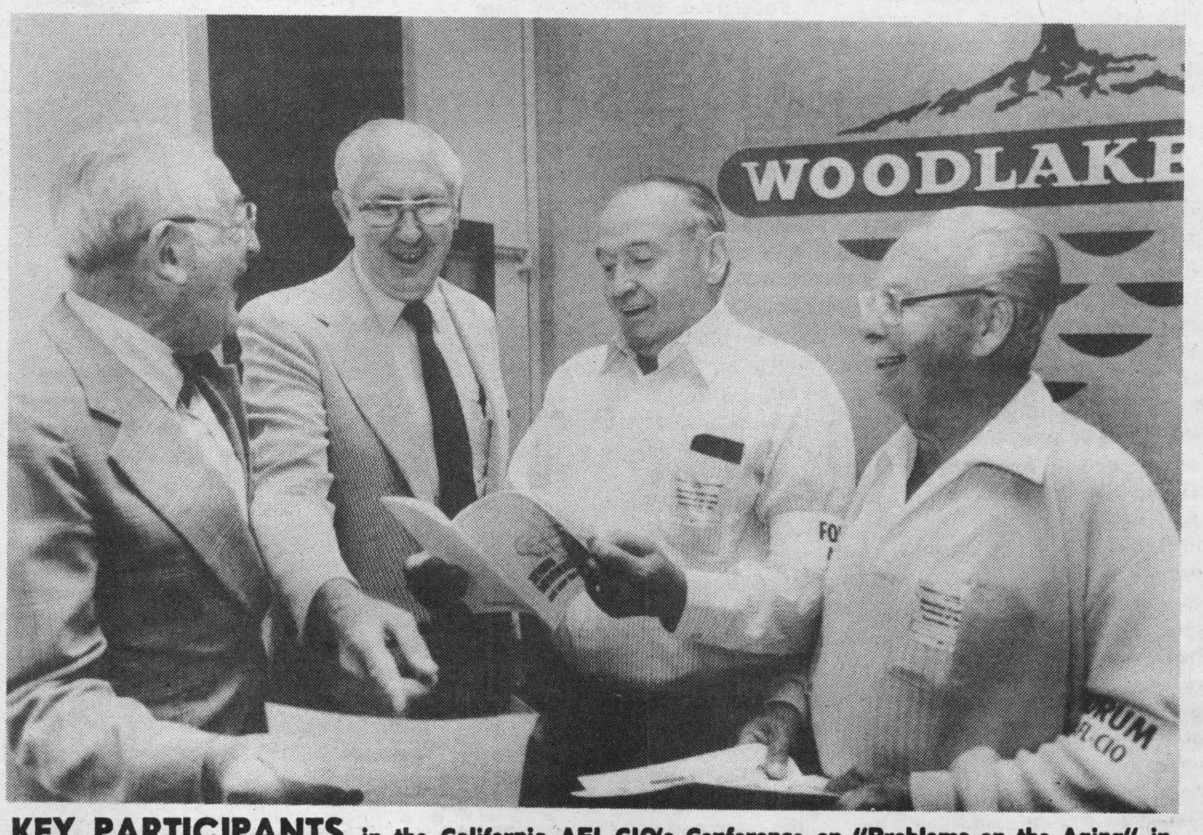
To give some idea of the extent of activity of retired UAW members, Allard said that some 240,000 out of 375,000 living UAW retirees are currently paying $1 a month to help fund the union's programs for retirees.

Joe Lynch, northern vice president of the CCS, and a retired member of the ILWU, who has been working with Patton in setting up the FORUMs, said that FORUMs are expected to be in operation in urban areas covering 90 percent of all the seniors in the state by the end of this year. Also participating in the panel discussion was Stan Lathen, president of UFCW Local 373's Retiree Club.

In the course of an afternoon session on "Social Security and Government's Role in Retirement Security" chaired by William Tupper, secretary of the San Mateo County FORUM, Teresa Ghilarducci, research associate at the Center for Labor Research and Education at the Institute of Industrial Relations at UC Berkeley, stressed the importance of social security benefits in keeping the economy going by maintaining consumers' purchasing power and noted that social security is the main income of 61 percent of those receiving it.

In addition, Dana Andrews of the Screen Actors Guild urged support for legislation introduced by Senator Daniel P. Monahan (D-N.Y.), **S. 577** to prevent unemployment insurance benefits from being reduced on a dollar for dollar basis by any social security or other benefits retired workers may be receiving.

He also described the Screen Actors Guild's activities in organizing its retired members and pledged to work in tandem with any program developed by the state AFL-CIO.



KEY PARTICIPANTS in the California AFL-CIO's Conference on "Problems on the Aging" included (from left) Jim Patton, director of the California AFL-CIO's Retired Members Department; John Allard, regional representative of the Retired Members Department of the United Auto Workers Union; Joe Lynch, northern vice president of the Congress of California Seniors and a retired member of the ILWU; and Stan Lathen, president of UFCW Local 373's Retirees Club.

OSHA to Exempt 75% of Firms from Safety Inspections

Plans announced by the Reagan administration this week to exempt nearly three-quarters of all U.S. manufacturing companies from routine safety inspections by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration were sharply attacked by the AFL-CIO as "ill conceived" and "unsound."

OSHA administrator Thorne Auchter spelled out the Reagan administration's approach to worker safety on the job in testimony presented to a Senate Labor Committee.

Auchter said that federal inspectors would focus on the 27 percent of manufacturers whose rate of employee worktime lost due to occupational injuries is in excess of the 5.7 percent national average for manufacturing generally.

He said about 78 percent of the **1.2 million** serious manufacturing injuries each year occur in those 70,200 concerns.

Ray Denison, director of the AFL-CIO's Department of Legislation, said that the Reagan inspection proposal "removes more than 13 million workers from coverage" of routine safety inspections.

It also "eliminates one of OSHA's most effective compliance tools — the threat of a general unscheduled inspection," he said.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) expressed concern that OSHA's reduced enforcement efforts and lowering of standards have "emasculated" workers' safety protections under the federal law enacted in 1970.

Bargaining Trends Eyed at Women's Labor Parley in SF

"New Trends in Collective Bargaining" was the subject of the first fall meeting of the Forum for Women in Labor held in the offices of the U.S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau in San Francisco Sept. 11 and the outlook was mostly grim.

Speakers at the informal luncheon included federal mediator Maggie Jacobson and Paul Varacalli, a California AFL-CIO vice president, who is also executive officer of Local 390 of United Public Employees Union, an affiliate of the SEIU.

Employers, they said, are coming in with proposals:

- To reduce rates of benefits for new employees;
- To eliminate shift differentials and demand changes in the workweek; and,
- To establish unilateral evaluation procedures to measure the quality or output of workers and use this as the basis for merit increases.

In addition, they said, there is a tendency for management to contend that it cannot afford to retool as a means of improving productivity and the quality of work but can only spend money to relocate their operations in areas where wages are lower and there is little union organization.

Jacobsen also noted that cost of living adjustment clauses are meeting with sharp resistance from employers.

She pointed out that 10 percent of workers nationwide receive cost of living adjustments but that 25 percent of the people covered by union contracts have COL adjustments.

Another major point stressed in the discussion was the need to improve the image of labor.

REAGAN POLICIES RAPPED—An estimated 10,000 San Francisco area trade unionists and members of women's and minority organizations poured into Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street in San Francisco to take part in the AFL-CIO's Solidarity Day demonstration to protest the anti-people policies being pursued by the Reagan Administration. Featured speakers at the event included former Vice President Walter Mondale, Congressmen Ron Dellums (D-Oakland) and John Burton (D-S.F.-Marin), John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers Union, Jack Crowley, executive officer of the San Francisco Labor Council, and many others. The speakers denounced President Reagan's moves to slash social security benefits and cut the enforcement staffs for worker safety laws as well as the $750 billion tax cut pushed through Congress by Reagan.

400,000 Join AFL-CIO Protest At Rally in D.C.

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millions on the altar of crank economic abstractions that defy the laws of simple arithmetic and dismay even their friends on Wall Street who never allow sentiment to blind them to the bottom line."

"Organized labor," Kirkland said, "has come too far, struggled too long, sacrificed too much, and has too much left to do to allow all that we have achieved for the good of all to be swept away without a fight.

"And we have not forgotten how to fight," Kirkland declared.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Tom Donahue said that Sam Jordan, Deputy Director of the District's Office of Emergency Preparedness, estimated the crowd at 400,000, making it the largest protest march ever staged in the nation by organized labor and one of the largest political demonstrations in the nation's history.

National Park Police estimated the crowd at 260,000. The largest anti-Vietnam war demonstrations in April, 1971 attracted 320,000.

While most of the demonstrators were trade unionists, their ranks were augmented by tens of thousands of representatives of some 200 other organizations representing women, senior citizens, churches, environmentalists, civil rights groups, blacks, latinos and other minorities.

Most of the demonstrators arrived by some of the 5,500 chartered buses and 10 special trains or by cars, avoiding the use of the airlines because of the air traffic controllers' strike.

Kirkland said the huge demonstration of opposition to the Reagan policies served to repudiate Reagan's repeated claims that organized labor is "out of step" with the majority of workers.

"The AFL-CIO," Kirkland said, "is out of step with no one but the cold hearted, the callous, the avaricious and the indifferent."

Kirkland said that President Reagan, who spent the day 65 miles away at Camp David, can no longer claim to speak for the average U.S. worker.

Coretta Scott King, president of the Center for Non-Violent Social Change and the widow of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., said that the march represented a continuation of the civil rights demonstrations of 1963 so that "with one voice we can protest the 'wholesale selfishness' spreading around the country under Reagan's leadership."

United Auto Workers President Douglas Fraser voiced the theme of many of the speakers when he said:

"We are here to deliver a message saying loud and clear that we reject the kind of government Ronald Reagan is trying to give us—a government of the rich, by the rich and for the rich."

Jerry Wurf, president of the American Federation of the State, County and Municipal Employees Union, said that the demonstration marked the beginning of "a long and difficult and frustrating process of turning this country around."

Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women, said that polls now indicate that women are turning against Ronald Reagan and the Republican Party because they have turned their backs on us."

And Jacob Clayman, president of the National Council of Senior Citizens declared:

"The time has come to register our voices against a harsh and stony-hearted attack on the old by the present administration."

Thousands Join in Solidarity Day Rallies in S.F. and L.A.

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movement," Henning declared.

"It means that Reagan and the reactionary right wing in this nation that controls the government of the United States has awakened the labor movement in America."

But Henning warned that "it's going to take more than one rally in Washington to stop the Reagan Administration. It can only be stopped by continuing demonstrations in every major city of America," he said.

Henning urged the "brothers and sisters" gathered at the San Francisco rally to remember that the black liberation that came with the civil rights marches of the 1960's that led to the 1964 Civil Rights Act "never could have been realized without the black demonstrations that took place across the country to demand it." He also credited street demonstrations with ending the Vietnam war.

PATCO STRIKE CITED

In commenting on the PATCO strike, Henning said that the fact that the Federal Aviation Administration pays the salaries of the air traffic controllers amounts to "a billion dollar giveaway" to the nation's airline industry.

"Let them (the airlines) pay their own salaries," he suggested.

Former Vice President Walter Mondale, keynote speaker at the rally, said that the job we've got to do "is to make clear the American opposition to the current policies, the radical policies being pursued by the current administration."

Citing Reagan's campaign pledges not to cut social security benefits, Mondale noted that just yesterday (Sept. 18) "the Reagan Administration announced that they ARE going to slash social security. They're going to slash so-called SSI programs for the crippled and the blind and the elderly," he said.

Mondale charged that the Reagan Administration was pursuing a policy of "the most radical opposition to organized labor of any administration since Herbert Hoover. Even Eisenhower, Nixon and Ford had decent relationships with the leaders of organized labor," he noted.

At the outset of his remarks, Mondale noted that "the word **'solidarity'** is an old word in the union movement. It means standing together as one to fight for the interests of working men and women. But this year over 6,000 miles away the word 'solidarity' takes on a new meaning because it is the name of the union that has been courageously organized in Poland against the protests of the police state of Poland . . ."

At the mention of the words "police state of Poland," a tape recording of the rally revealed that one voice started booing. It was joined by perhaps a handful of other voices but they were soon drowned out by shouts of PATCO, PATCO as Mondale denounced the Reagan Administration's refusal "to even talk to the traffic controllers of this country."

"I say the time has come to talk, to negotiate and to get that strike ended," Mondale declared.

MONDALE LAYS IT OUT

In summing up his charges against the Reagan Administration, Mondale said:

"This year they have pursued a policy of enacting a $750 billion tax cut geared to the wealthiest in America, a $1.6 trillion defense budget and as a result they have opened up the most gaping year after year deficits in American history.

"The result is all time high interest rates that are killing the housing industry, killing the auto industry, slaughtering small businesses and farmers and threatening the jobs of every American because of the slowdown in the American economy."

Immediately after Mondale's address, both Jack Crowley, executive officer of the San Francisco Labor Council, and Jimmy Herman, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Unions, chided the hecklers.

"All of us are here to give meaning to solidarity," Herman said, adding that the crowd shouldn't have to "contend with a few hairbrained artists who better belong at a Republican rally.

"Solidarity doesn't mean that we all have to agree with each other. It doesn't mean that we give saliva tests. It means we know who the hell the enemy is—and he's not here."

Other speakers at the rally included Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers Union, who appealed for support for the union's boycott of Ralston-Purina products, and Congressman John Burton (D-S.F.) who declared that Reagan's attack on the air traffic controllers was just the beginning.

"They're out to break every trade union in the country," Burton charged.

8,000 TURN OUT IN L.A.

At a similar rally that attracted more than 8,000 participants to MacArthur Park in Los Angeles, Governor Brown described the Reagan economic policies as a "steamroller" that must be stopped.

"It is you who are the guinea pigs in the economic experiment conceived of by the monetary zealots that surround Ronald Reagan," Brown declared.

"Today we are gathered here to tell the President of the United States and his administration: 'Enough.'

"We've had enough. Enough of the Reagan plan to cut back on social security and undermine the Occupational Health and Safety Administration.

"Enough of spending billions of dollars on a mass transit system for missiles to blow the world into a billion pieces while our health system, our schools, our research, NASA, mass transit for people, solar and conservation and scores of other programs are undermined by a President who does not understand the future," Governor Brown said.

Asserting that "it's time for the labor movement, both working men and women, organized and unorganized, for everyone who believes that government must have a heart and that it's not a tool for big, special interests to join this cause," Brown said that Reagan must be told "in no uncertain terms today that he did not win a mandate to wreck the health, education and employment programs that the Democratic Party and the labor movement fought for for 50 years.

"He did not win a mandate last November to smash unions or to erode the worker protection programs which they have built in 100 years of service to this nation," the California governor said.

"If the President needs money to reduce his growing deficit," Governor Brown said, "let him get it by repealing his own unjustified tax breaks."

Other speakers at the Los Angeles rally included U.S. Senator Alan Cranston, Bill Robertson, executive officer of the Los Angeles Federation of Labor, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

"We're saying to all the people of this country that we're here to renew our strength, renew our commitments to justice in this country," Bradley said.

"We cannot allow the burden of balancing the federal budget to fall unfairly on the poor, the veterans, the working people of our country," Bradley added.

The thousands of trade union members taking part in both the San Francisco and Los Angeles rallies included plumbers, teachers, farm workers, machinists, service employees, store clerks, traffic controllers, longshoremen and scores of others as well as representatives of coalition organizations including the National Organization for Women, the Congress of California Seniors, the NAACP and other minority organizations.

As one woman worker put it as she left the Los Angeles rally:

"I came today to save our social security and our benefits for the poor and for the working people. I came to stop Reagan from taking away from the poor and giving to the rich."