

# Dianne Defines the Issues

## Rights Veto Makes It Clear

Dianne Feinstein yesterday denounced Pete Wilson for casting a key ballot to block override by the U.S. Senate of George Bush's veto of the Civil Rights Act of 1990.

"It's an incredible vote for somebody who represents a state where the majority of the people in the workforce are women and minorities," Feinstein declared after her rival for the governorship of California voted along with 33 other Republicans on Wednesday to sustain the veto.

It also is yet another clear example of how far apart Feinstein and Wilson are on issues crucial to working men and women, observers agreed.

Feinstein said:

"Senator Wilson's vote represents a major setback for the cause of equal opportunity for all Americans.

"By voting against this anti-discrimination legislation, Senator Wilson helped turn back the clock. Without this legislation...it will be far more difficult for women and minorities who have been the victims of discrimination to win their cases in court."

An aide said Wilson had decided to vote to sustain the veto because he feared the bill would lead to hiring quotas, which he opposes.

Feinstein said the statements about hiring quotas were "sheer nonsense."

The vote was 66 to 34.

All 55 Democrats in the Senate, including California's Alan Cranston, voted to override the veto. They were joined by 11 Republicans.

All 34 votes to sustain the override were cast by Republicans.

Arguments that the bill would have led to hiring quotas were termed "disingenuous" by Ralph Neas, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

He pointed out that the language of the

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## Appointments Pledge Critical

A major reason for organized labor's all-out support of Dianne Feinstein for governor is illustrated by two recent legal confrontations.

Labor has been forced to go into court to halt anti-worker actions by the Cal-OSHA Standards Board and the Agricultural Labor Relations Board, both of which are supposed to be protecting workers' interests.

"Dianne Feinstein is pledged to give labor a voice in future appointments to labor boards and commissions," Jack Henning, head of the state AFL-CIO, pointed out this week.

"This alone would merit labor's fullest support of her candidacy for governor. We can expect nothing from Pete Wilson except more of the same anti-worker philosophies we've had from Deukmejian.

"It is unthinkable that working men and women of California should endure four more years of appointments to these agencies of persons hostile to labor," Henning said.

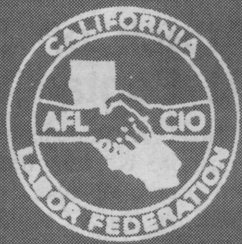
Last week, the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, won a victory when the state Supreme Court refused to hear the Cal-OSHA Standard Board's appeal of a lower court's order to prepare workplace safety regulations for additional carcinogens and toxics.

The week before, the United Farm Workers of America won a victory in Los Angeles County Superior Court when a judge ordered the Agricultural Labor Relations Board to stop trying to get UFW members arrested for protesting the presence of pesticides on California table grapes.

Members of both agencies are appointees of Republican Gov. George Deukmejian.

In yet another confrontation, anti-worker Deukmejian appointees on the state Industrial Welfare Commission last week again blocked the review of the adequacy of the

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## Prison Labor Debate Focuses on a Murder

The murder of a young woman by an inmate who walked away from an outside-the-walls work project in Alameda County has been cited as an example of the way public safety would be endangered by Proposition 139, Gov. George Deukmejian's convict labor initiative.

State Sen. Bill Lockyer, D-Hayward, asked Proposition 139 proponents about the murder during legislative hearings held Oct. 9 in San Francisco.

"I had to try to comfort the parents of that murdered young woman," said Lockyer, in whose district the slaying occurred. "I don't want that to happen ever again."

These are the facts, as determined by a jury in Alameda County Superior Court:

Michael Huggins, then 22, walked away from a California Youth Authority work project on

March 9, 1986, and broke into a cottage outside Castro Valley rented by Sarah Ann Lees, 23, a student at California State University at Hayward.

When Lees returned from her part-time job and surprised him inside the cottage, Huggins killed her with a shotgun the young women's father had given her for self-protection after she moved from the family home.

Huggins was identified through bloody handprints discovered in the cottage. San Francisco police found him the next day at the home of a friend. He still had some of the victim's jewelry in his pockets.

The guilty verdict was returned last Aug. 9, more than four years after Sarah Ann Lees was slain. The trial had been delayed repeatedly by investigations of Huggins' sanity and refusal of the defendant to participate in his own defense.

A subsequent penalty trial ended in a hung jury, eight jurors voting for the death penalty and four for life in prison without chance of parole. A new penalty trial is pending.

Proponents of Proposition 139 argue that the Huggins case should not be considered in connection with the governor's go-to-jail, get-a-job initiative.

They say:

• Huggins was a CYA ward and not one of the county jail or state prison inmates directly affected by Proposition 139.

In fact, Huggins was old enough to be sentenced to prison or jail when he was arrested in San Francisco for repeating acts of violence including purse snatchings for which he'd been sentenced to the CYA while under 18 and subsequently released. Apparently penal

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## Apprentice Fees Pose Disaster

The plan to operate a de-funded State Division of Apprenticeship Standards entirely with user fees paid by the apprentices and their

employers got its first public airing at interim hearings this week and last.

The consensus after a parade of witnesses had testified before the Senate Committee on Relations: the so-called reorganization plan is a costly and damaging mistake that will have to be undone.

"It is clear that some other means of financing the Division of Apprenticeship Standards must be devised," Sen. Bill Greene, D-L.A., the committee chair, declared after all the testimony was in.

"The alternative means, among other things, losing control over the quality of training of new workers at a time when global competition is placing greater demands than ever before upon the skills of California's workforce."

User fees for apprentices and their employers were proposed by the Legislative Analyst in the closing hours of the 1990 session as lawmakers groped for ways to balance

the state budget in the face of a disastrous and unanticipated \$3.6 billion shortfall in state revenues.

The entire \$5.8 million budget of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards in the state Department of Industrial Relations was eliminated.

The compromise, empowering the director of industrial relations to set up new regulations and assess fees against apprentices and sponsors, was enacted in the 11th-hour rush without review by labor committees in either the Assembly or Senate.

A one-time infusion of \$2.5 million from interest earned on money in the state's Employment Training Fund has been exhausted despite severe staff reductions. Annual fees of \$500 for each program sponsor and \$100 for each participating apprentice are the next step.

There is reason to be pessimistic

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EDITORIAL

## The Governor And Demons

By JACK HENNING  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

Early this month the San Francisco Examiner told its editorial readers that through eight long years Governor George Deukmejian has been "a champion of the rich, a tormentor of the poor."

Deukmejian, the editorial said, has managed "to comfort the comfortable and afflict the afflicted."

The tormenting aside, the Examiner indictment is exactly the history of the Deukmejian years in terms of fiscal and worker-social issues. And yet the governor never wanted it that way. It was his demons that did it.

George Deukmejian: Intelligent, generous by instinct, above corruption, but utterly barren of social conscience. Of an informed conscience, that is. A decent, self-effacing man with a 19th Century mind.

Recently he branded as "labor bosses" union officials opposing his ill-designed prison labor initiative. That was out of character. He has always retained a respectful relationship with union representatives.

There were the rare moments of liberalism: South African divestment and long delayed benefit increases in Workers Compensation.

However, he will be remembered for the ordered ruins: Abolition of Cal-OSHA, a viciously anti-worker Agricultural Labor Relations Board, a Department of Industrial Relations that jumped through employer hoops, an Industrial Welfare Commission that imposed the 12-hour day among other betrayals.

Anti-worker appointments to the Workers Compensation Appeals Board and the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, denial of funds for publicly assisted housing, rejection of the medically indigent, starving of higher education.

And lastly, his prison labor initiative with its destructive removal of the constitutional ban on the hiring of prisoners by private capital, a protection that has guarded free workers and prisoners since adoption of the California Constitution in 1879.

It will be argued that in all such matters the Governor was doing his duty according to his lights. Poor lighting indeed.

# Minimum Wage Review Stalls Again

A long-overdue review of the adequacy of the California minimum wage was blocked again last Friday by Gov. George Deukmejian's anti-labor appointees on the state Industrial Welfare commission.

Robert Clark, the only labor representative currently on the IWC, moved to open a minimum wage review in accordance with provisions of the California Labor Code. He was seconded by Muriel Morse of Los Angeles, the commissioner appointed to represent the general public.

Opposing them were the two employer representatives, James Rude, a hospital executive from Sacramento, and Lynn Pollock, the chairperson, a farm operator from Yolo County. The resulting 2 to 2 vote killed Clark's motion.

The action, taken at the commission's regular monthly meeting in San Francisco, was a repeat of what

happened at the previous IWC meeting on Sept. 21.

Apparently nothing can be done about the minimum wage review until labor regains its full, two-member representation on the commission. The governor has made no move to name a successor to Michael R. "Mushy" Callahan, who died last May 23.

Tom Rankin, research director of the California Labor Federation, reminded the commissioners again that the minimum wage review is long overdue and that being appointed by an anti-labor governor from the ranks of employers does not relieve them of their obligation to carry out laws defining their duties.

The Labor Code specifies that the IWC must conduct an enquiry at least every second year to determine whether the state minimum wage is adequate to "supply the proper standard of living" to any California worker.

Rankin's arguments failed to move the two-member anti-labor bloc, very possibly because Gov. Deukmejian this year vetoed a bill that would have put teeth into the requirement for biennial reviews.

The last minimum wage review was started early in 1987, more than one year overdue. The result was a raise from \$3.35 to \$4.25 per hour effective July 1, 1988.

If the commission had been following the law, the review blocked last Friday would have been opened in January of 1988.

The procedure is for the IWC to impanel a "wage board" consisting of equal numbers of representatives of labor and of management to conduct enquiries and make recommendations.

As a separate action on Friday, the IWC employer representatives displayed absolutely no reluctance about appointing three wage boards to legalize the 12-hour day without

overtime pay in additional industry wage orders.

The commission has stripped historic eight-hour day protections out of a series of the wage orders and has substituted 12-hour work days without overtime pay.

Next in line are wage orders covering the broadcast industry and farm produce packing sheds.

Pollock asked the commissioners to review names of persons nominated for the new wage boards with an eye to taking action at the IWC's next regular meeting on Nov. 16.

Morse said she thought the minimum wage review should have higher priority.

The California Labor Federation remains adamantly opposed to tampering with the eight-hour day, which workers of this state won nearly 90 years ago.

In yet another confrontation, Rankin told the commissioners that if they want to amend the previously

altered wage orders to make it easier for employers to impose 12-hour days they must go through the entire wage board process all over again.

Employers came howling with protests after the office of the Labor Commissioner earlier this year instructed state enforcement officers to penalize anyone who tries to impose the new 12-hour, no-overtime days on workers who do not have regular work schedules.

Pollock instructed the IWC staff to come back on Nov. 16 with sample language that could be adopted to permit 12-hour days without overtime for persons with irregular schedules in the hospital industry alone.

The hospital industry led the charge for the 12-hour day shortly after Rude, himself a hospital administrator, was appointed to the IWC by Deukmejian in 1985.

## Labor Can Sue Oakland Mayor

The Alameda County Central Labor Council was given authority this week to file a suit challenging Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson's right to sit on the Oakland Port Commission while continuing to hold office.

The labor council accuses Wilson of favoring development of shopping centers, hotels and restaurants along the Oakland waterfront at the expense of port operations and the blue-collar union jobs.

"We think the mayor's in the hip pocket of the developers," declared Owen Marron, executive secretary-treasurer of the labor council and a vice president of the California Labor Federation.

Wilson appointed himself to a four-year term on the Port Commission last July 10. The appointment was confirmed by City Council members over labor objections during a stormy session that saw Marron

threatened with ejection from the council chambers by police.

The mayor's current term expires Jan. 7. He finished a distant third in a bid for a fourth term in last June's primary election.

Authority to challenge Wilson's right to sit on the Port Commission while he still is mayor was granted by Attorney General John Van de Kamp.

The suit will be a "quo warranto" proceeding requiring Wilson to show the authority by which he is holding the Port Authority position. Such actions are under the jurisdiction of the attorney general, who must give permission before a private party can proceed with a quo warranto suit.

Van de Kamp concluded that the legal issues involved are substantial and require resolution by the courts.

The labor council's suit will assert that

Wilson's appointment of himself to the Port Commission violated a common law rule and an Oakland City Charter provision prohibiting self-appointments or the simultaneous holding of incompatible offices.

The attorney general's ruling concludes:

"...Wilson urges that the public interest would not be served by granting the labor council's application for leave to sue in quo warranto, since only a few months of overlap remain in the dual office holding..."

"We believe that it would be in the interests of the public to institute proceedings ... to test whether Wilson was validly appointed to the Oakland Port Commission or in the alternative whether he has vacated his office as mayor.

"These are substantial questions of law, and the people of Oakland have a significant interest in their judicial resolution."

## B of E Candidate Pledges Vigilance

Brad J. Sherman, the COPE-endorsed candidate for Board of Equalization in the Los Angeles area Second District, says working men and women need a tax lawyer and certified public accountant, such as himself, to serve as their advocate for fair taxation.

The details of tax administration are arcane, but the stakes are very high, Sherman said.

"We've got a system in California under which a person who imports foreign-manufactured goods, sells them and makes a million dollars in profit pays the state only \$31,000 in tax," Sherman said.

"But if a corporation builds a

plant here, employs Californians to make the same goods and sells them for the same million-dollar profit, they must pay \$93,000 in tax — three times as much.

"It sounds incredibly boring," Sherman said. "That's why you need a lawyer and tax accountant on the Board of Equalization."

That is part of the reason the Republican Party has targeted the Second District seat, which is being vacated by Conway Collis, he said.

"The district is only 51 percent Democrat, and they see an opportunity. They know my record as a CPA and advocate of fair taxes. They know they would not be able

to slip things past me to benefit them and their friends," Sherman declared.

"I think it would be a mistake if Collis' seat on the Board of Equalization was taken by my opponent, a right-wing Beverly Hills investment banker who is no friend of labor," Sherman said.

Sherman said one of his priorities is curbing the underground economy.

"You know who I mean: those sleaze-balls who bid low, pay low in cash and pay no taxes.

"Well, the Board of Equalization is going to pay them a visit, and

then they can visit the Leona Helmsley Hotel.

"Do you know that insurance companies are the only corporations that pay zero income tax in California?" he asked.

"The Republicans say they've got to cut back on programs for those who need government services.

"Ask them why every person in this room paid more in state income tax last year than State Farm, Farmers or Allstate combined, and then tell them we know where there is more than a billion dollars in revenue... Simply impose income taxes on insurance companies in the same manner as we do with other companies.

"I'm going to need your help next year," Sherman added. "We've got to take these issues that sound so boring and say, 'Wait a minute. Let's focus on tax law and jobs and justice.'

"But I'm not going to need your help next year unless I get it this year," Sherman concluded.

### Free Class Set On Robert's Rules

A free course in parliamentary procedure and effective conduct of union meetings will be held at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, in the San Francisco Community College Auditorium at 33 Gough St. Information can be obtained by phoning (415) 241-2219.

## COPE's Al Barkan Dies at 81

Alexander E. Barkan, director of the national AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education (COPE) during the 1970s and 1980s, died Oct. 18 at Washington, D.C., of cancer at the age of 81.

Barkan, a long-time staunch ally of the late President George Meany, was one of organized labor's top political operatives.

Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation and head of COPE in this state, recalled Barkan's impact upon labor and politics.

"Al Barkan, in his long years as head of AFL-CIO COPE in Washington, modernized our political

system to the benefit of labor candidates throughout the nation.

"He brought the values of the national sponsorship as never before to state and local bodies," Henning continued. "We can still hear his rousing voice and still sense the enthusiasm that was part of his nature.

"We will miss his friendship and his presence. He was the great and good advocate of our cause."

Barkan was a native of Bayonne, N.J., where he taught school after graduation from University of Chicago. He also was a union organizer by day and the author of a union newspaper column, "Through the Workers' Eyes," in which he

denounced exploitation of workers.

He became a full-time organizer for the Textile Workers, served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, returned to the Textile Workers and later became executive director of the New Jersey State Council of the AFL-CIO.

Barkan went to Washington in 1955 to become assistant director of the newly merged AFL-CIO's COPE. Meany named him Cope director 13 years later.

He took great pride in the fact that his name was found on Richard Nixon's list of enemies when that document surfaced in the wake of the Watergate investigations.

## Attack on HERE At Santa Cruz

Hotel and Restaurant Employees Local 583 is asking trade unionists and friends of labor to help convince the Santa Cruz Seaside Co. that continued attempts to bust the union at the Santa Cruz Holiday Inn would be a costly mistake.

Santa Cruz Seaside Co., which owns the beachfront Boardwalk, bought the Holiday Inn a year ago this month. Employees of the hotel, members of Local 483, have had a union contract for 20 years.

After 12 months of negotiations on renewal of the contract, the company is demanding no pension, open shop, no due process on discharge or discipline, and reduced medical benefits.

Local 483 is asking people to phone Marq Lipton, the company's marketing director, at (408) 423-5590 to tell him this will not be tolerated.

"Tell him that if a contract is not signed at Holiday Inn you will not patronize and Seaside Company facility, including the Boardwalk," Local 483 urges.

### Datebook

**Executive Council Standing Committee on Legislation and Legislative Advisory Committee of California Labor Federation:** 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, Holiday Inn—Financial District, San Francisco

**Executive Council of the California Labor Federation:** Dec. 4 and 5, Palm Springs Marquis Hotel, Palm Springs. **Annual Trade Union School of the California Labor Federation:** Feb. 3-8, 1991, Hotel El Rancho Resort Conference Center, West Sacramento.

**Central Labor Council Conference:** Feb. 11 and 12, 1991, Radisson Hotel, S.F. International Airport.

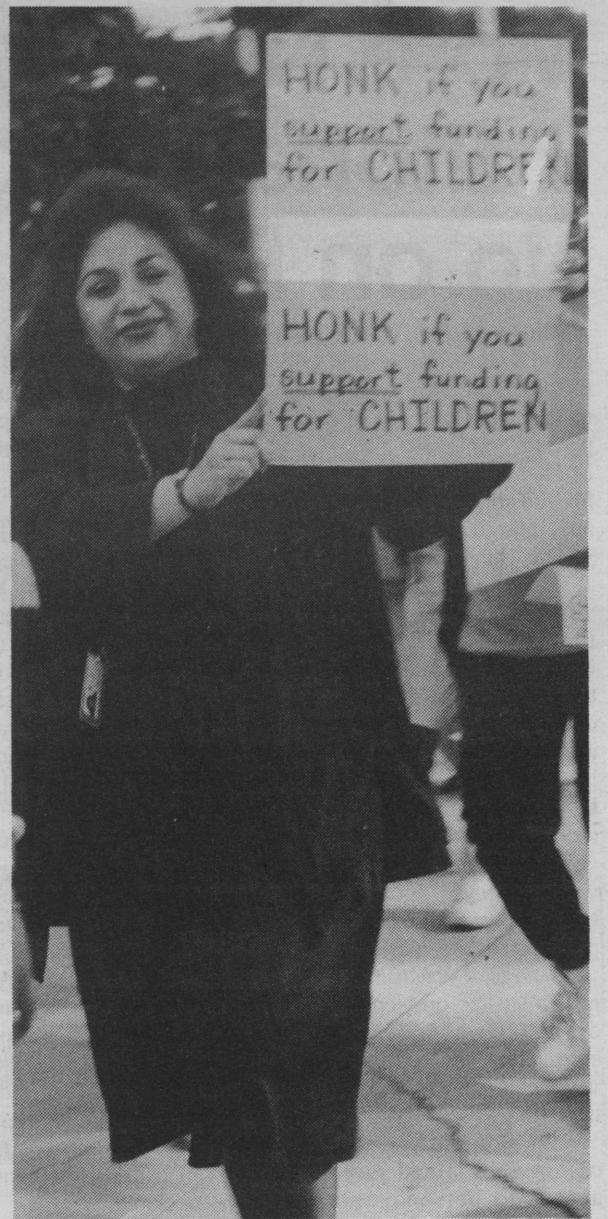
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Members of SEIU Local 535 protest child welfare budget cuts outside Alameda County offices in Oakland.



## Welfare Workers Protest

Hundreds of Alameda County social workers have staged a series of demonstrations in Oakland to protest budget cuts and layoffs that make it impossible to serve people who depend upon them.

The demonstrations are coordinated by the workers' union, Local 535 of the Service Employees. Workers march out of their offices to picket during "coordinated coffee breaks" and lunch periods.

"Services for children are in crisis," warned Kris Perry, Local 535 activist and a welfare case worker. "We want people of the community to know we cannot serve them or their children unless child protection is made a budget

priority."

The governor vetoed \$54 million in child welfare funds, Jerry Fillingim, Local 535 representative, pointed out. Referrals involving children in danger tripled in eight years with no increase in resources. This meant huge caseloads and diminished services even before the current budget crisis.

The problem is wide-spread. Thirty-seven of California's 58 counties are failing to comply with state laws specifying what must be done for children in crisis.

The protests will continue.

"We're not going to go away," Fillingim said.

## Prop 130 Foes Fear Boondoggle

Opponents of Proposition 130, including members of lumber industry unions concerned about saving their jobs, are attacking the Forests Forever initiative as a \$700 million bailout for the corporate raider who now controls Pacific Lumber Co.

A chief spokesperson for this point of view is Supervisor Stan Dixon of Humboldt County whose district is adjacent to Pacific Lumber's Headwaters Forest, the largest stand of old growth redwoods still in private hands.

The corporate raider in question is Charles Hurwitz, whose Maxxam Group got control of Pacific Lumber through an \$868 million takeover financed mostly with junk bonds marketed by the convicted Michael Milken of the now-defunct Drexel Burnham Lambert.

To pay the \$80 million annual interest on the bond debt, Hurwitz

and Maxxam have abandoned the "sustained yield" timber cutting practices that Pacific Lumber followed for decades and are cutting more trees faster than ever before.

A plan to quickly "liquidate" Headwaters Forest and collect as much as \$20,000 apiece for the tens of thousands of giant old growth trees on some 3,000 acres there is credited with fueling emotional support for the Forests Forever initiative.

Proposition 130 would provide up to \$700 million in bonds to purchase old growth redwoods, and Headwaters Forest is the top priority.

The perception of Proposition 130 as an opportunity for Hurwitz to dump Headwaters Forest onto the California taxpayers is a relatively new development in the debate over environment and jobs on the Redwood Coast of Northern California.

Any "\$700 million bailout" is predicated, of course, on Hurwitz and Pacific Lumber scooping up every cent of the money Proposition 130 might provide for forest acquisition.

Environmentalists campaigning for Proposition 130 continue, meanwhile, to argue that the initiative is necessary to preserve Headwaters Forest and other stands of old growth trees from loggers' chain saws.

Hurwitz, Maxxam and Pacific Lumber continue to oppose the initiative while giving no indication that they plan to do anything with Headwaters Forest other than cut the big trees there as soon as possible.

In Humboldt County, Supervisor Dixon cited Hurwitz' involvement in the savings and loan fiasco as well as his redwood forest activities.

"To ask California taxpayers to

pay \$700 million for timber on which harvest plans already have been denied to a Houston-based corporate raider whose Texas Savings and Loan was bailed out by the U.S. taxpayers to the tune of at least \$1.3 billion strikes me as nothing less than outrageous," Dixon said.

"But that is what Proposition 130 proposes to do. Its supporters call it Forests Forever. More accurately, this fatally-flawed initiative should be called The Corporate Raider's Junk Bond Bailout Bill of 1990 or Bailouts Forever," Dixon said.

Dixon and the timber industry workers he represents charge also that Proposition 130 is a "private bill" by one Hal Arbit, a stockbroker with timber investments in other states, who is said to have contributed almost \$1 million to get Forests Forever on the Nov. 6 ballot.

Dixon argues that several thousand people will be put out of work

in Humboldt County if Forests Forever passes.

"If you oppose using tax dollars to reward junk bond rascals and some of the same people who brought you the \$500 billion savings and loan disaster, vote no on Proposition 130," the supervisor said.

"This initiative actually rewards corporate abuse of natural resources and ignores the terrible social and human cost to thousands of working families."

The California AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education (COPE) is recommending a "No" vote on 130, Forests Forever. State COPE also is recommending rejection of "Big Stump," the competing Proposition 138 initiative placed on the ballot by the lumber industry.

COPE is backing Proposition 128, the "Big Green" environmental initiative.

## Apprentice Fees...

(Continued from Page 1)

about user fees, the Senate committee was told.

A user fee system tried in the State of Washington in 1982 had to be cancelled after one year because more than half of the apprentices dropped out.

And, there is no legal requirement for registration of any apprenticeship program with the state or for compliance with any standards governing the level of skills

required.

Further, the committee was told that apprentices may not be able to afford the fees. Figures presented showed that apprentice wages generally have declined in relation to journeyman wages in recent years, at the same time that the numbers of apprentices supporting families has increased and costs of tools, books and other necessary items have risen.

Only in the construction trades is there a likelihood that significant

numbers of employers will be willing to pay the fees to keep their apprentices covered by state standards of excellence, witnesses testified.

This is because contractors engaged in public works projects usually must employ one certified apprentice for every five journeymen.

Senators were told that the building trades account for 25,752 of the 49,311 apprentices currently active in California.

The hearings, held at Los Angeles and San Francisco, also examined federal proposals to prohibit states from having differing apprenticeship standards and to make apprenticeship programs portable throughout the country.

Such proposals are favored by non-union contractors eager to establish so-called "parallel" apprenticeship programs under their own direct control.

## Committee Looks for Staffer

The Monterey-Santa Cruz Counties Building and Construction Trades Council and the Santa Cruz County Central Labor Council are seeking a staff person for their joint Solidarity Committee.

They want someone with a labor background, knowledge of and experience in economic development, and ability to type. The salary is \$21,000 plus health plan for about 20 hours of work a week on a

one-year contract starting next Jan. 1. The deadline for applications is Nov. 28.

Resumes with letters of interest should be submitted to Solidarity Committee, c/o Carpenters Local 829, 2920 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

Further information can be obtained from Penny Schantz, (408) 459-0415, or Bill Kirby, (408) 475-3655.

## Fed to Consider 1991 Legislation

The California Labor Federation's priorities for the 1991-92 session of the state Legislature will be explored at a meeting scheduled to open at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Financial District Holiday Inn at San Francisco.

The Standing Committee on Legislation of the federation's Executive Council will convene along with its Advisory Committee.

Decisions reached that day will be presented as recommendations to the full Executive Council, which is scheduled to convene Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 4 and 5, at the Marquis Hotel in Palm Springs.

## Conference Calls for Proposals

Labor representatives are invited to submit papers and session proposals for the Third Annual California Studies Conference Feb. 7-9, 1991, at the Hotel El Rancho in West Sacramento.

Papers and proposals should be

submitted before Nov. 1 to the conference, care of Sacramento State University, 6000 J. St., Sacramento, CA 95819-6081.

The committee session will be in Coit Tower Room No. 2 of the hotel in S.F., Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jack Henning said.

The council's Palm Springs meeting is to start at 10 a.m. on Dec. 4.

Information can be obtained by phoning (916) 278-6906.

# More Newspaper Editorials Urge No on Prop 139

More editorial voices are being raised against Proposition 139, Gov. Deukmejian's Nov. 6 ballot initiative to legalize hiring out of convicts to private employers.

The San Bernardino Sun called for rejection of Proposition 139 in an editorial published Oct. 10.

The Sun said:

"In theory, it sounds great.... There is, however, a dark side to this rosy picture. At a time of high unemployment among youths, jobs that go to convicts are jobs that don't go to law-abiding workers. And because employers wouldn't have to pay medical and some other benefits for inmates, it could place those behind bars ahead of honest citizens in the job line. It's clearly unfair to place another stumbling block in the path of honest young people seeking work."

The San Bernardino paper also noted that the problems of rampant drug, contraband and weapons smuggling in prisons inevitably would be exacerbated by Proposition 139.

"In addition, information-processing jobs would give prisoners access to personal information about ordinary citizens...." the newspaper said. It pointed out that

inmates working outside prison walls would add an entire new dimension to security problems.

"The surface appeal of Proposition 139 isn't worth the risks," the Sun concluded. "It should be defeated."

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The Watsonville Register-Pajaronian declared on Oct. 4 that Proposition 139 is "among the ballot initiatives that ought to be quashed by the voters this November...."

The editorial acknowledged that Gov. Deukmejian and other proponents of the prison labor initiative were "pressing all the right emotional buttons...."

But it continued:

"Nobody can really guarantee it will save any money, and there is no provision at all for any kind of systematic job training in the measure. Indeed, the principal beneficiary of the measure, as far as we can see, would be the companies that would be allowed to use low-paid and unskilled labor and get a tax credit for it."

"It is quite simply a dubious measure," the Register-Pajaronian declared.

"Convict labor in private industry was outlawed by the state Con-

## Murder...

(Continued from Page 1)

system bureaucrats thought it was simpler to send him back to the CYA than to convict him as an adult even though he then was of age.

● Huggins was not employed in the CYA program that hires out inmates to private employers, such as Trans World Airlines, the one that the governor says Proposition 139 is patterned after.

In fact, the killer was working under conditions very much like those Proposition 139 would allow for county jail prisoners. He and others were taken out to the work project in the morning and were returned to custody each night.

● Huggins was working for a public agency rather than a private employer, as provided under Proposition 13.

He was digging ditches for new

water lines at a state Division of Forestry fire station in the hills east of San Francisco Bay. Private contractors will be able to hire work gangs out of county jails for just this sort of employment if Proposition 139 passes on Nov. 6.

● Huggins was not subject to Proposition 139 security provisions when he walked away.

This is true.

No provisions for security or for any other aspect of hiring prisoners out of county jails are specified by Proposition 139.

The initiative goes into great detail concerning the hiring-out of state prison convicts, specifying tax deductions for employers and further subsidies in the form of below-market rent on state-owned production plant facilities.

But the measure is silent on provisions for guarding the 65,000

A New York employer has attempted to break a strike by 200 members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union with prisoners hired as scabs under a program closely resembling the one Gov. George Deukmejian wants to impose upon California through Proposition 139.

The incident illustrates one of the dangers to rights of free, law-abiding workers created when government hires out large numbers of voiceless prisoners to work at low wages for private employers.

Domsey Trading Co. buys up huge quantities of clothing donated to charitable organizations, sorts them in a vast warehouse at

## Prisoners Scab On N.Y. Strikers

Brooklyn, and then exports the clothing by the ton to eager buyers in Third World countries.

Steve Nutter, Western States regional director of the ILGWU and a vice president of the California Labor Federation, explained what happened.

The company focused on Haitian immigrants for its workforce, giving them the lowest possible pay and no benefits whatsoever.

The warehouse was like a prison. Workers were identified not by name, but by numbers placed on their shirts. It was necessary to obtain a pass to go to the rest room.

When they struck for decent pay and conditions, Domsey Trading

Co. was able to obtain more than 100 prisoners to scab under the "work-release" program.

ILGWU persuaded governmental officials to put a stop to scabbing by the prisoners.

But then some of the prisoners were released on parole and were sent back to Domsey to scab as a condition of their release.

The experience has made the ILGWU a staunch opponent of any program which, like Proposition 139, would place prisoners in competition for jobs against free workers, Nutter said. The union is a contributor to the campaign against Deukmejian's "Go to Jail, Get a Job" scheme.

stitution in 1879. There may be some enlightened way of modifying that prohibition, but Prop. 139 is not it."

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The Grass Valley Union tackled Proposition 139 on Oct. 1 with a "Political Forum" commentary.

"We complain about unfair competition from overseas, but Proposition 139 is worse: it comes from our own governor."

"Imagine setting up a giant bureaucracy, giving the director free rein, providing reduced rent and tax rebates and then supplying a labor

force that requires no workers' compensation insurance, health benefits or vacation time.

"...the only ones who are going to pay their own way with this pipe dream are the California taxpayers. A similar program in the California Youth Authority costs \$3 to administer for every \$1 returned to the state...."

"There is a reason for our constitutional prohibition against using prison labor on the open market. Think about it. Vote No on Prop. 139."

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The Bakersfield Californian commented on the Deukmejian Administration in general in an Oct. 11 editorial that described the past seven

county jail prisoners who could be hired out to private businesses by county sheriffs or boards of supervisors.

Proposition 139 alludes only to local ordinances governing the labor of county jail inmates. No such ordinances now exist. Apparently each of the 58 counties would be empowered to go its own way.

It gets even scarier.

It took days for awareness of Huggins' absence to filter through state channels after that bloody episode in 1986.

Huggins was arrested within 24 hours after San Francisco police learned his fingerprints had been found. The suspect was arraigned for murder and locked up at Santa Rita jail in Alameda county before state authorities even reported him missing.

## SEIU 817 Seeks General Manager

Service Employees Local 817, which represents 2,400 public employees in 17 jurisdictions within Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties, is seeking a general manager.

The new manager will succeed Rick Humm, who has resigned from Local 817 to become political director of SEIU Local 715, the 10,000-member local government and school employees union in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

The job is to start on Jan. 1. Applications should be filed prior to Nov. 15 with Jim Potterton of Potterton and Margolies, search consultants, at 200 W. Hedding St., Suite D, San Jose, CA 95128. The phone

is (408) 296-7020. Salary up to \$45,000 a year is offered. Local 817 has headquarters in Salinas and a satellite office in San Luis Obispo.

Humm headed the union for nearly 10 years, taking over when it was the unaffiliated Monterey County Employees Assn. with only 800 members and leading it into affiliation with the SEIU in 1984 and through organizing drives that trebled its membership.

Humm also has resigned as secretary-treasurer of the Monterey County Central Labor Council because of his move to Local 715.

Will Hirst of Local 817 is succeeding Humm at the central labor council.

"California cannot afford another governor who puts the future at risk with restricted vision and negative leadership. It's unacceptable to assume we can't afford progress," the editorial concluded.

## Appointees...

(Continued from Page 1)

minimum wage that state law says they are obliged to carry out.

At the same time, they indicated they were ready to strip historic eight-hour-day protections out of three additional industry wage orders and instead legalize a 12-hour work day without overtime pay. (Story, Page 2.)

"Depending upon the courts to force labor boards and commissions to carry out their duties is intolerable," Henning said.

"Dianne Feinstein's election as governor on Nov. 6 is our best hope."

The Supreme Court action means the Cal-OSHA Standards Board must stop stalling and prepare standards to protect workers against on-the-job exposure to additional carcinogens and toxics listed under the Safe Water and Environmental Protection Act of 1986. The measure was Proposition 65 on that year's ballot.

The state AFL-CIO federation sued when Standards Board members, all Deukmejian appointees and all with corporate connections except for two labor representatives, found excuses for ignoring the Proposition 65 toxics.

The federation won at every step of the legal process all the way up to the Supreme Court.

The Standards Board retained private lawyers at public expense after Attorney General John Van de Kamp declined to handle the case. The cost to taxpayers as yet is untallied.

The Agricultural Labor Relations Board campaign against protests by UFW members of pesticides on California table grapes continues despite a Los Angeles Superior Court ruling that the agency has no jurisdiction.

## Rights Veto...

(Continued from Page 1)

measure forbade hiring quotas and specified that the purpose was to restore standards in the 1971 Civil Rights Act that were eroded by court decisions shifting burden of proof in discrimination cases from the employer to the worker.

Sherry Bebitch, senior political scientist at Claremont College, was one of the observers pointing out that Wilson's action helps delineate the differences between the two gubernatorial candidates on key issues.

"This gives her a way to say again, 'I am a woman; I am different; you owe me your loyalty as women.'"

UFW Attorney Diana Lyons called the labor board's actions "supreme arrogance."

The ALRB is attempting to benefit agribusiness corporations through use of powers that are supposed to be used to assure fairness for farm workers, Lyons said.

A temporary restraining order obtained by ALRB lawyers in Los Angeles County was thrown out after the farm union challenged it.

Wilson, meanwhile, rejected Feinstein's offer to debate him on any of the three nights next week when station KPIX-TV in San Francisco has offered to host a face-to-face confrontation.

A second debate between the two candidates had been scheduled for last night, but it was cancelled when Wilson, stung by Feinstein's criticism of his continued absences from the Senate, decided to fly to Washington.

Wilson proposed a debate via satellite with Feinstein talking from a studio in San Diego, Wilson's home turf.

Feinstein demurred on that arrangement, holding out for another face-to-face meeting.

The judge ruled that the ALRB has no business attempting to impose secondary boycott sanctions against the United Farm Workers to prevent members of the union from exercising their constitutional right to free speech.

The anti-worker ALRB members are challenging the dismissal order in the State Court of Appeals.

Meanwhile, they have obtained similar orders against anti-pesticide demonstrations in the Superior Courts of Fresno and Kern counties.

The Farm Workers are considering seeking consolidation of all the actions in one case before the appeals court, Lyons said.

The ALRB acted after union members and their supporters began urging customers not to shop at stores owned by the Vons chain as long as table grapes grown with heavy use of pesticides remain on the shelves.

UFW President Cesar Chavez and 11 others including two of his granddaughters were arrested for challenging the original restraining order outside a grocery market at Montebello.

Charges against the individuals were dismissed after the judge ruled that their actions were protected by the constitutional guarantee of free speech.