

# Abe Lincoln Betrayed

By JACK HENNING

Executive Secretary-Treasurer,  
California Labor Federation

It has come to pass that the Party of Lincoln is playing the race card against the African American millions. Principle bartered on the way to the White House.

In frenzied lust for power, Republicans have made destruction of affirmative action a first order of conquest.

It is the design of those born white to degrade those born black.

It is a crime against nature that a political party should consign a

people to poverty.

Republican success in this volcanic adventure requires the allegiance of white males.

History has repetitive ways. It was white males who imposed colonial slavery in the days of English rule.

It was white males who sustained slavery for three-quarters of a century following adoption of our Constitution in 1789.

But it was white males who died by the thousands to end all of that in the Civil War.

A groping, heroic Lincoln died in the name of black America.

The white male who shot him

was driven by the thought of black voting. Not all of John Wilkes Booth has been cleansed from the American soul.

The raid on affirmative action indeed sweeps beyond blacks to women and the ethnic minorities of our pluralistic land.

There is the fury directed at Mexican Americans and a more subtle animosity visited on Asians whose families arrived in something other than the Mayflower.

However, the rifle barrel of hate is primarily aimed at African Americans. It is the politics of color and sordid power. An assault that denies our common

humanity.

Nothing new here. In the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum outside of Boston there is on display a weathered sign reading "No Irish need apply."

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries those words were the New England greeting to a people despised by the ruling class.

In our day only labor and Democrats alive to the civil rights glories of the 1960s can reverse the racist resurgence now crossing the country. Labor and Democrats in fierce alliance.



## California AFL-CIO News

Official Publication of The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

Vol. 38—No. 5

583

March 3, 1995

# Joady Awards Go to Activists

The Sixth Annual Joady Awards will focus on ties between struggles of the labor and civil rights movements during a dinner program to be held Friday evening, March 24, at the Parc Fifty Five Hotel in San Francisco for the benefit of "We Do The Work."

Joady statuettes will be awarded this year to:

- Producers of "At the River I Stand," the documentary telling how the 1968 strike by Memphis sanitation workers became a climactic event of the civil rights movement with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who had gone to Tennessee to assist the workers, members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

- Union members and their allies whose stand against hate crimes in Billings, Montana, was the subject of the documentary "Not in Our Town."

The event is the major fundraiser for We Do The Work, the television series about American workers that is produced independently by California Working Group of Oakland and is aired weekly in more than 100 cities by Public Television stations across the country.

The awards recognize individuals and organizations who contribute to bringing the voices and images of working people to the media. They



Painters of Local 1922 in Billings, Montana, winners of a 'We Do The Work' Joady Award for combatting hate crimes, remove racist graffiti.

are called Joadies after Tom Joad, the character whose concern for workers is expressed in the final paragraphs of John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath."

Statuettes will be awarded to

David Appleby, Allison Graham and Steven Ross, producers of "By The River I Stand."

Coming from Billings to accept Joadies will be Bob Maxwell, president of Painters Local 1922; Randy

Seimers, president of Laborers Local 98, and Sarah Anthony of the Billings Coalition for Human Rights.

When ethnic hatred surfaced in  
(Continued on Page 4)

## OSHA Board Ducks

The Cal-OSHA Standards Board, facing court sanctions in the state AFL-CIO lawsuit over workplace repetitive trauma injuries, undertook evasive action during a bizarre meeting a week ago yesterday in San Francisco.

Board members emerged from a closed-door conference with lawyers and gave silent assent as their chairperson announced that they would:

- Toss aside nearly a decade of legislative debate, blue-ribbon commission investigation, staff study and statewide hearings on ergonomic health and safety standards by launching an entirely new fact-finding process.

- Ignore state procedures and regulations on rule-making hearings and instead conduct a "forum" under guidelines of their own devising.

One significant concession to imperiled workers and their advocates was made by the board chairperson, Jere Ingram, a Clorox Corporation executive who occupies the Standards Board seat supposedly reserved for an occupational health professional.

Ingram allowed as how the board eventually would have to enact the ergonomic standard that the Legislature ordered it to have in place by last Jan. 1. But the chairperson insisted that the board members still didn't know what the standard should encompass despite the nine years of study and extensive fine-

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# Budget Vote a Labor Victory

Defeat of the balanced budget constitutional amendment yesterday in the U.S. Senate was hailed by Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, as a triumph for workers over those who would curtail such programs as Social Security and further lighten taxes on the richest Americans.

"I am writing to congratulate and thank you for your efforts in having contacted members of the U.S. Senate urging opposition to the balanced budget amendment," Henning stated in messages to each of the state's central labor bodies.

"A great labor victory was realized today in the Senate when the

balanced budget amendment failed passage by one vote," the state AFL-CIO leader declared. "The truth is, this failed passage of the top issue of the GOP campaign manifesto, 'contract with America,' constitutes a critical blow to the Republican-dominated Congress."

## Housing Honors C.L. Dellums

The C.L. Dellums Apartments, 72 efficiency studios for very low-income persons were dedicated at Oakland last week by Catholic Charities Housing Development Corporation.

The name commemorates Del-

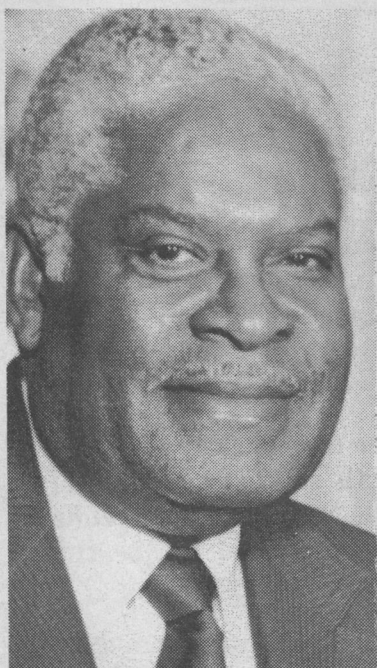
lums' half-century of service as co-founder and later president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, as the principal instigator of California's 1959 Fair Employment Practices Act, and as leader in establishment of the first low-income housing project in Oakland.

Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer of California both stood firm in opposition to the amendment, citing absence of protections for Social Security. Republican proponents of the amendment came up one vote short after twice delaying the ballot because they re-

fused to include protections for crucial programs that would be in jeopardy if the balanced budget was written into the Constitution without provision for new tax sources.

The vote yesterday actually was 65-35, two votes shy of the two-thirds majority needed for passage. This came about because Senate Republican Leader Robert Dole changed his vote to "no" placing him on the winning side and enabling him to move for reconsideration at some future time. Dole indicated he planned to bring the amendment back to the Senate floor just prior to the 1996 presidential election.





Elmer Richard Buchanan



Mary Harris

# State APRI Ponders New Political Realities

The California State Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute will focus on aims of the new Republican congressional majority when delegates assemble for their annual conference Friday, March 10, through Sunday, March 12, at the Clarion Hotel in Millbrae.

"Preparing for the Changing Political Realities" is the theme of the 1995 conference. Workshops will consider responses to attacks at the state and federal levels on affirmative action, civil rights, family support, public schools, early education and other programs.

A highlight will be the Saturday

night awards dinner. Norman Hill, national president of APRI, will be the main speaker. Honorees are Mary Harris, long-time activist with APRI and the American Federation of Teachers, and Elmer Richard Buchanan, church leader, community activist and former president of Service Employees Local 77 of San Mateo.

Don Hightower, APRI state coordinator and staff representative with the California Labor Federation, will call the conference to order at 9:30 a.m. Friday. He'll call upon the Rev. Al Romes, associate pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church of San Ma-

teo, for the invocation.

Jack Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation will address delegates as the conference gets underway. Also scheduled to speak are Karega Hart, acting chair of the San Mateo County Chapter of APRI and vice president of Local 1574 of the Amalgamated Transit Union, and Doug Moore, APRI State Chapter president and vice president of Communications Workers Local 9586.

There will be words of welcome also from Art Pulaski, secretary-treasurer of the San Mateo Labor Council, and Mayors Doris Morse of Millbrae and Claire Mack of San Mateo.

Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr. is to speak at the conference luncheon on Friday. He'll be joined by Marie Davis, president of the San Mateo County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Delegates will hear presentations on the Diamond Walnut strike and on Culture Diversity and Discrimination. There will be a full presentation of resources available through the state AFL-CIO federation's Worker Assistance Program and the AFL-CIO Community Service Programs.

Saturday's session will be opened by LaWanna Preston, political coordinator of Service Employees Local 790. Also on the day's agenda are sessions on Race and Ethical Relationship in Labor, the proposed Affirmative Action Constitutional Amendment, A. Philip Randolph and the institute that bears his name, the African American Voter Registration Project, ways to become a delegate to a political party central committee, and a legislative update.

Full information about the conference and the awards dinner can be obtained by phoning Hightower at the state AFL-CIO federation's San Francisco office, (415) 986-3585.

## Actors Honor Their Own

Members of Screen Actors Guild bestowed their union's first annual awards for best film performances to Tom Hanks for "Forrest Gump" and Jodie Foster for "Nell" during a gala presentation show that was televised live on NBC last Sunday evening from Universal Studios.

It was first time a Hollywood union had granted such awards on nationwide television. In addition, an audience of 1,000 glittering with TV and movie industry luminaries participated in the benefit dinner. Proceeds will help finance charitable and philanthropic projects of the Screen Actors Guild Foundation.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for our members to get acquainted with their union and to share a sense of pride in being part of the labor movement at large," observed Harry Medved, SAG's national director of communications.

George Burns received the union's Lifetime Achievement Award, which was handed out on television for the first time in its 32 years. The 99-year-old Burns was spared the long walk to the stage when

presenter Ann-Margret brought the award to his table. But Burns stood throughout the ceremony and then demonstrated that he remains a master of deadpan humor. "Thank you very much," he said. "Now I'm going to do something that's not easy to do. I'm going to sit down."

"Northern Exposure" was selected by the SAG President's Committee on Affirmative Action for a special award for outstanding portrayal of the American scene. The presenter, Edward James Olmos, cited "balanced representation" involving seniors, performers of color, women and performers with disabilities in every social or occupational setting.

Nominations for the movie and television awards were made by 4,200 SAG members selected at random by an accounting firm. Ballots then were circulated to the entire 78,000 members of SAG, including actors, stunt performers, singers, dancers, puppeteers, voice-over performers, pilots, and background performers in 20 branches located throughout the United States.

Besides Hanks and Foster, movie winners included:

Supporting actor and actress, Martin Landau for "Ed Wood" and Dianne West for "Bullets over Broadway."

Television awards included:

Actor and actress in TV movie or miniseries, Raul in "The Burning Season," and Joanne Woodward in "Breathing Lessons."

Actor and actress in a drama series, Dennis Franz in "NYPD Blue," and Kathy Baker in "Picket Fences."

Actor and actress in comedy series, Jason Alexander, "Seinfeld," and Helen Hunt, "Mad About You."

"NYPD Blue" won for ensemble performance in a drama series, while "Seinfeld" won for ensemble performance in a comedy series.

SAG President Barry Gordon thanked other Hollywood unions for their participation in the program and especially Directors Guild, Screen Writers Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists for allowing use of members' products and performances in film clips.

## Non-Profit Agencies Stonewall

San Francisco are acting very much like union-bashing corporate employers in first-contract negotiations with Service Employees Local 790A, the private sector branch of SEIU United Public Employees Local 790.

Managements of San Francisco AIDS Foundation and of Planned Parenthood clinics in San Francisco and Alameda Counties both are stonewalling on demands for open shops as talks bog down and worker grievances mount.

Several hundred S.F. AIDS Foundation workers and supporters turned out for a noon rally to protest, among other things, the firing of outspoken activist, Carlos Petroni. Local 790A helped Petroni file charges with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which found the case so egregious that it took the unusual action of granting Petroni immediate right to sue for discrimination.

At the bargaining table, S.F. AIDS Foundation is holding out for no grievance procedures except in firings and is refusing to talk about even an agency shop agreement.

At the Planned Parenthood clinics, hard-pressed union members have taken a strike vote but have set no date.



Photo by David Bacon

SEIU Local 790A members protest intimidation and harassment by management of S.F. AIDS Foundation.

Managers there justify their refusal to accept an agency shop and insistence upon an open shop by contending that they want to protect employees "right to choose," injecting the right to life issue into the negotiations.

Union representatives contend it is less a matter of philosophy than of economics. They point out that while workers earn as little as \$8.34 an hour, Planned Parenthood has raised the salary of its executive director to \$133,000 in the past three years.

### San Mateo Names COPE Honorees

The San Mateo Labor Council will bestow its Unity Awards upon Beth Winters, senior field representative of Service Employees Local 715, and Dennis Kruger, member of the Board of Directors of Fire Fighters Local 798, during its annual COPE Banquet Friday, May 19, at the S.F. Airport Hilton Hotel.

Ed Garvey, past president of the National Football League Players Association and currently president of Labor Strategies, Inc., will be the

principal speaker. The evening will open with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is to start at 7:30 p.m.

Proceeds will help finance projects of the council's Committee on Political Education (COPE). Tickets are \$75 apiece, with tables of 10 available. Reservations can be made at the council offices, 1153 Chess Drive, Suite 200, Foster City 94404. The phone is (415) 572-8848.

### Datebook

- Ergonomics Conference, Northern California: March 7, Holiday Inn-Financial District, San Francisco.
- Ergonomics Conference, Southern California: March 9, Hyatt Regency Los Angeles.
- A. Philip Randolph Institute California State Conference: March 9-12, Clarion Hotel, Burlingame.
- Executive Council, California Labor Federation: March 28-29, Sacramento Hilton Inn.
- Legislative Conference: May 22-24, Sacramento Raddison Hotel.

### Publisher's Notice

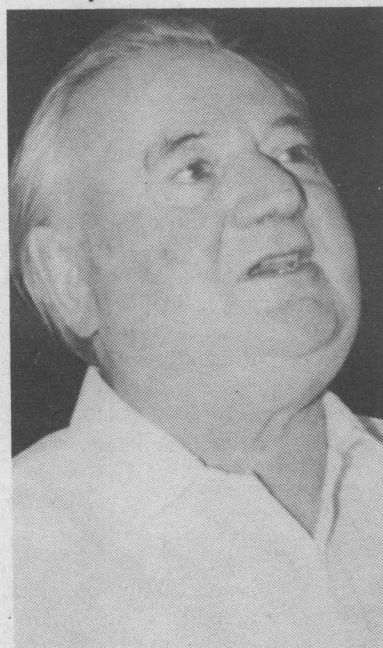
The California AFL-CIO News (ISSN: 0008-0802) is published twice a month except during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 417 Montgomery St., Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94104. Second class postage paid at San Francisco, Calif.—Individual subscription, \$10 a year; corporate rate, \$20. USPS Publication Number 083-400. John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer; Floyd Tucker, editor. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: California AFL-CIO News, 417 Montgomery St., Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94104. Phone, (415) 986-3585. FAX, (415) 392-8505.





# Labor Archives Marks Anniversary

The ninth anniversary of the founding of the Labor Archives and Research Center at San Francisco State University was celebrated Feb. 24 with a reception, and an evening of song, and recognition of scholarly achievement.



Archie Green



Lynn Bonfield

Archie Green, folklorist and labor historian, was the LARC 1995 Distinguished Labor History Lecturer, speaking on the use and meaning of laborlore. He was introduced by Secretary-Treasurer Walter Johnson of the San Francisco Labor Council.

Four new Associates of the Labor Archives and Research Center were inducted by Noriko Bridges Flynn, honorary co-chair of the Associates along with Jack Henning, executive Secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation.

Those so honored for their service to the archives were:

- Bill Price, long-time leader in the United Food and Commercial Workers and currently president of the California State Chapter of the Federation of Retired Union Members (FORUM), and coordinator of retiree activities for the California Labor Federation.

- Jan Gregory, lecturer in the S.F. State English Department and member of the California Faculty Association Executive Board.

- Nina Fendell, member of Freedom Song Network and a representative with California Faculty Association.

- Rick Gutierrez, president of the S.F. State Chapter of the California Faculty Association.

Lynn Bonfield, archives director, described 1994 as a banner year in her annual report to the labor movement. Bonfield cited a grant under the Library Services and Construction Act that is enabling the archives to enter history materials into a statewide database, a successful lecture series, numerous acquisitions, and a fund-raising campaign that continues through March.

The director noted also increasing use of archives resources by scholars and researchers, including producers of the KQED Public Television documentary on San Francisco's Mission District—the first of a new series—which borrowed old photos from the files.

The program included presenta-

tion to Faith Petric, folk singer and activist, of a transcript of her own oral history interviews by Estelle Freedman of the Stanford University Department of History.

Petric played her guitar and led the audience in songs at the end of the program, concluding with "Solidarity Forever."

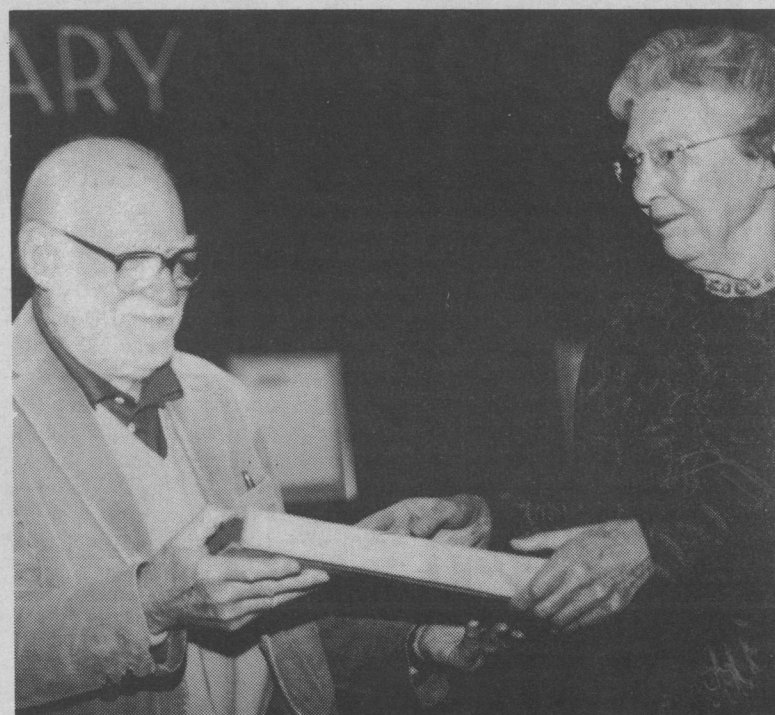
In another presentation, a minute book containing 1906-1919 records of the old Riggers and Stevedores Union was donated to the archives by Ottilie Markholt of Portland, Oregon.

It was accepted by David Selvin, labor historian and archives co-founder, who called it "a wonderful gift—most welcome."

Selvin noted that the Riggers and Stevedores represented workers on the S.F. waterfront from 1853 until employers broke the union in 1919, leaving a void until the coming of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union in the 1930s.

The two top winners in the 1995 S.F. State Student Essay Contest were introduced by Bill Issel of the History Department on behalf of the sponsoring S.F. State Chapter of the California Faculty Association.

Both read excerpts from their essays. Bill Hamel, the first award winner, wrote on "The East Bay and World War II: Organized La-



David Selvin accepts historic union record book from Ottilie Markholt.

bor's Attempt to Meet the Changes Associated With Wartime Production." Kyle P. Killeen, the second place winner, wrote on "Politics, Society and PATCO."

Bonfield noted that the LARC 1995 spring program series will open Wednesday evening, March 15, with a presentation on "Women

and Work During World War II" with author Tillie Olsen and riveter Lynn Childs.

Other programs are "Shipbuilding in the Bay Area" with historian Charles Wollenberg on March 22 and "New Workers in the Bay Area Wartime Industries" with historian Shirley Ann Moore on April 5.

## Scholarship Fund Memorializes Striker

A scholarship fund for labor studies students at San Francisco State University has been established in memory of Kent Wilson, a member of Teamsters Local 921 who died in mishap last Nov. 6 during the San Francisco newspaper strike.

The fund was started by Teamster Locals 921 and 15 in concert with Teamsters Joint Council No. 7 and the San Francisco Labor Council. Now other labor organizations are being urged to contribute.

"Our intention is to establish a

permanent trust fund of at least \$20,000 at the San Francisco State University Foundation, which will generate approximately \$1,000 a year in scholarship money," Brenda Cochrane, director of the SFSU Department of Labor Studies, said this week. "In this way, Kent's memory will be kept alive, and, with the presentation of a scholarship each year, the struggles of the Conference of Newspaper Unions against the San Francisco Chronicle, Examiner and Newspaper Agency will not be forgotten."

Contributions can be made to the Kent Wilson Memorial Fund, Department of Labor Studies, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132. Information can be obtained by phoning (415) 338-2885.

Wilson, 45, was a second-generation member of Local 921, the Newspaper and Periodical Drivers Union, having followed his father, Bill, who died six months earlier. He is survived by his wife, Carole.

## Ron Lind Named To State Board

Ron Lind, director of organizing for Local 428 of the United Food and Commercial Workers at San Jose, has been appointed to the California State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology by Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr.

The board has jurisdiction over consumer protection, licensing, apprenticeship programs and worker health and safety in the hair care industry. UFCW Local 428 represents some 300 barbers and cosmetologists in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Commissioners were treated to the familiar spectacle of employers ushering in employees to testify that they themselves want to see worker protections removed.

Also testifying on behalf of workers last week were Barry Broad, California Teamsters Public Affairs Council; Larry Thibeaux, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union; Mireya Cazares, United Farm Workers, and Kathy Gillespie, California Rural Legal Assistance.

## Legislative Conference May 22-24

The annual state AFL-CIO Legislative Conference will be held May 22, 23 and 24 at the Sacramento Raddison Hotel, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jack Henning of the California Labor Federation announced this week.

Delegates will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. Monday, May 22, to hear analyses of key bills by labor leaders headed by Henning and Bob Balgenorth, president of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, which is co-spon-

soring the conference along with the state federation.

Remarks by key legislative leaders will be interspersed among the bill analyses throughout the day on Monday. Delegates will become lobbyists for a day on Tuesday, moving to the State Capitol for meetings with legislators on measures crucial to California wage-earners.

The conference dinner will be held Tuesday evening at the hotel, and dele-

gates will depart on Wednesday after hearing reports on the meetings with legislators.

Speakers for the dinner and for the Monday session will be announced shortly, Henning said.

Accommodations at the hotel are available at a special conference rate of \$76, single or double. Delegates should make their reservations directly with the hotel at 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento 95818. The phone is (916) 922-2020.

## IWC Agrees to Consider Minimum Wage

The state Industrial Welfare Commission will decide April 21 whether to review the adequacy of the California minimum wage, members agreed during their January meeting last week at Sacramento.

There was, however, no indication of whether two new commissioners appointed by Gov. Pete Wilson have arrived with views any different from those of their staunchly anti-worker predecessors.

The California Labor Federation called for the minimum wage review in January, pointing out that the \$4.25 approved in 1988 does not come close to fulfilling the statutory mandate to "supply the necessary cost of proper living and maintain the health and welfare of employees in this state of providing any worker in the state."

A full-time minimum wage March 3, 1995

worker with one dependent is stuck deep below the federal poverty line, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jack Henning warned the commissioners.

Commissioners also indicated last week that they would decide at their April 21 meeting whether to proceed with changes in nut industry hours and overtime wage orders. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in the State Office Building at

455 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco.

Richard Holober, assistant research director of the state AFL-CIO federation warned the commissioners last week that they would be turning back the clock on labor standards if they allowed almond hullers and processors to eliminate one day of rest for their employees after six consecutive 12-hour days of work.

## Workplace Strategy Workshop Set at L.A.

"Developing a Union Strategy for Workplace Change," a two-day workshop for local and regional union officers, staff business agents and stewards, is scheduled for Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1, at the Los Angeles Hyatt Regency.

Sponsors are the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department and Human Resources Development Insti-

tute with co-sponsorship by the California Labor Federation, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, and UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education.

Discussions are to cover changes in technology and workplace organization and their impact on workers and unions; developing union action plans to cope with the changes, and contract language and

The arguments were heard first during a hearing Jan. 19 at Modesto and were repeated last Friday when the hearing was reopened during the IWC's regular monthly session.

"These employers are seeking to undo a 3,000-year-old tradition that recognizes a worker's need for a day of rest in a seven-day period," Holober testified.

For 10 years almond processors have obtained waivers exempting

collective bargaining strategies.

There is an \$80 fee for registration, which should be submitted before March 6. Hotel rooms at \$100 single or double should be reserved directly. Information can be obtained from Gordon Pavy of the Industrial Union Department at 815 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20006. The phone is (202) 842-7865.



# ILGWU, ACTWU Leaders Hail Merger

Merger of the International Ladies' Garment Workers and the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers will create a powerful new organization capable of defending workers in the country's increasingly hostile economic and political environments, California leaders of the two unions said this week.

Agreement on the merger was announced by the general executive boards of the two unions last week during the AFL-CIO winter meeting at Bal Harbor, Florida.

Union of Needletrades, Industrial, and Textile Employees (UNITE) will become the name of the new organization if the merger is ratified by ILGWU delegates at a regular convention starting June 23 at Palm Beach, Florida, and by ACTWU delegates at a special convention set for June 28 at the same

location. If both sets of delegates approve, the new union's founding convention will follow immediately on June 29.

"The merger employs the strengths of both unions," said Steve Nutter, ILGWU vice president, western states regional director, and vice president of the California Labor Federation.

"And most importantly, the merger agreement puts \$10 million on the table for organizing," Nutter said.

"The Amalgamated has been one of the most successful unions at industrial organizing in recent years," Nutter pointed out. "ACTWU has a strong foothold in high-tech in Southern California and in Silicon Valley and it has pioneered true team production without compromising workers at Levi's and at

Xerox.

"For our part, ILGWU has been at the forefront of defending immigrant workers," Nutter said. "Our Local 23 in New York has the largest Chinese membership of any union in the country, and we represent thousands more in California."

"ILGWU also has more experience than any other union in combatting contracting-out, pushing employer liability up the chain," he added.

Merger is to be from the top down, with local unions and regional bodies retaining their identities until members deem that further merger is in their best interest, Nutter said.

ILGWU has seven locals in its Los Angeles-based Southwest District Council, which is headed by Antonio Orea, and five locals in its

Pacific Northwest District Council headed by Katie Quan at San Francisco.

ACTWU's Western Region Joint Board, headquartered at Los Angeles, and led by Vice President Frank Nicholas, includes the California Joint Board, with 12 locals. Barbara Mejia, the California Joint Board manager, predicted close and productive cooperation between locals of the two unions in this state.

"Particularly here in the west we have the history and experience for a successful merger," Mejia said. "Staff members of both unions have crossed over and taken positions with the other. We've worked closely together. I am very happy with the merger plan."

ACTWU brings 200,000 active members to the merger. ILGWU

brings 155,000.

The merger agreement calls for ILGWU President Jay Mazur to become president of UNITE. Jack Sheinkman, co-chief executive officer of ACTWU since 1972 and president since 1987, plans to retire if the merger is ratified but to continue as chairman of the board of Amalgamated Bank of New York, the only 100 percent union-owned bank in the United States.

ACTWU Secretary-Treasurer Arthur R. Levy of Chicago would hold that same office in the merged union. UNITE would have two executive vice presidents, Bruce S. Raynor of Atlanta, currently executive vice president of ACTWU, and Edgar Romney of New York, executive vice president of ILGWU and head of that union's largest local.

## Ergonomics...

(Continued from Page 1)

tuning by the State Department of Industrial Relations that went into the proposal they rejected last year.

The board and its lawyers are due in Sacramento Superior Court on April 21 to show cause why sanctions should not be imposed as demanded in the lawsuit filed by the California Labor Federation.

No date or place was set for the board's new "forum." But Ingram did indicate that it would be a one-day affair, substituting five-minute presentations by interested parties for the hours of testimony, thousands of pages of evidence, and years of study discarded by last week's action.

Ingram also made it clear that the board did not expect to be bound by state regulations providing for notification and rebuttal opportunity that are supposed to keep such rule-making proceedings open and unbiased.

The chairperson spoke under the gaze of a large number of spokespersons for the same employer organizations that have fought every effort to establish workplace ergonomic standards and, earlier, so-called VDT worker protection measures sponsored by the state AFL-CIO in an effort to stem the growing epidemic of carpal tunnel syndrome and other stress-related injuries among workers assigned to computer terminals.

Ingram said the board would survey "the community" concerning the scope of an ergonomic standard "in order to learn from the parties what the approach to a standard should be..."

Nobody in the audience was allowed to speak or ask questions because the "public comment" period on the board's meeting agenda already had passed.

"The chair sure wasn't talking to us with those remarks about the 'community,'" Fran Schrieberg of the WORKSAFE! Coalition said after the session.

"The meeting was nothing more than a face-saving charade," declared Kathleen Kinnick of the California Labor Federation, who served on the blue-ribbon commission that spent some two years drafting recommendations for ergonomic safeguards.

"I believe their only purpose is to

be able to present some indication that the ergonomic standard is still alive when they appear in court April 21 to answer our legal challenge," Kinnick said.

The battle for California workplace ergonomics health and safety standards traces back to a succession of VDT worker safety bills sponsored by the state AFL-CIO federation that were defeated in the Legislature or vetoed by Republican governors in the face of intensive lobbying by employer organizations and the electronics and computer industries.

The debate was thrown back to the Legislature when a San Francisco VDT worker protection ordinance was overturned by the courts on the grounds that only the state could enact such workplace regulations. With the legislators apparently ready at last to do exactly that, the Wilson Administration stepped in with a proposal by Cal-OSHA officials for a comprehensive ergonomics ordinance to cover all occupations.

A proposal was drafted by Cal-OSHA staffers with input from a commission including labor, management and health and safety professionals, and the Legislature ordered the Standards Board to take action by last Jan. 1.

The board refused to comply, and the state AFL-CIO filed its lawsuit.

The board acted last week without one of the two labor representatives it is supposed to include. Gov. Pete Wilson has declined to fill the vacancy for almost two years. The anti-labor bias is exacerbated by the presence of corporate executives in the two board seats designated for occupational health and safety professionals.

The six sitting members all are Republicans appointed by Wilson or former Gov. George Deukmejian, Wilson's fellow Republican predecessor.

The sole labor representative is Kenneth T. Young, Jr., a member of California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

The two employer members are William Jackson, an executive with Granite Construction Co., and Sopac M. Tompkins, a San Diego Junior Leaguer, president of the Sopac and Associates real estate development and management consultant firm, and operator of two ranches.

While Ingram of Clorox Corporation occupies the board's health professional seat, the occupational safety professional seat is held by Gwendolyn Berman, supervisor of occupational health and safety for the Southern California Gas Co.

The board's public representative seat is occupied by James P. Smith, director of the Rand Corporation's labor and population program.



Union members and families march against ethnic violence at Billings, Montana, during campaign that won them Joady Award honors.

## Joadies...

(Continued from Page 1)

Billings, Maxwell's union painters quickly volunteered to eradicate scurrilous graffiti. Union laborers assisted police standing guard at anti-racist rallies. Trade unionists and coalition members mobilized community opposition that silenced the bigotry and oppression.

This year's Joady Awards program includes a Special Recognition Award for Ed Herzog, who established California Working and guided its development.

In addition, three Founders Awards will recognize support and assistance to We Do The Work from

the program's beginning. Founders Award Honorees are California State Employees Association, Local 1000 of the Service Employees; Local 1245 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Floyd Tucker, editor of California AFL-CIO News.

There's special significance in the selection of the Parc Fifty Five as the site of this year's Joady Awards. The hotel has become a union house after a four-year organizing campaign by Local 2 of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees that served as an inspiration to hospitality industry workers throughout the country.

The evening will open with a reception at 6:30. Dinner is set for 7:30 with the awards program to follow.

Tickets are \$100, with tables of 10 available. Checks should be made payable to the sponsoring Film Arts Foundation and mailed to 5867 Ocean View Drive, Oakland, CA 94618, attention Debra Chaplan. Seventy percent of all contributions are tax deductible, the Film Arts Foundation pointed out.

This coming week is the deadline for inclusion of greetings in the souvenir program. Details can be obtained by phoning (510) 547-8484.

## L.A. Parking Workers Protest

Machinists Union members employed by the Lockheed Corporation subsidiary that processes parking tickets and collects fines for the City of Los Angeles served notice today that they are ready to take economic action to obtain a just collective bargaining contract.

Workers, represented by District

94 of the Machinists, demonstrated from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. today outside the offices of Lockheed IMS at 607 South Olive St. in Los Angeles. Speakers accused Lockheed IMS of engaging in surface bargaining and refusing to consider workers' concerns and complaints. Negotiations have been going on

since July of 1994. Union members, whose tasks include absorbing the anger of irate citizens, start at only \$6 per hour. It costs them \$60 a month to park at work, and some of them must hand over as much as \$100 a month in health care co-payments, union representative Dennis Layton said.

## Lantos Introduces Child Labor Bans

Rep. Tom Lantos of California has introduced comprehensive child labor reform legislation to strengthen legal protections for young people in American workplaces.

"Illegal child labor is on the rise," said Lantos, a Democrat whose district lies in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. "Kids are being exploited and exposed to danger in sweatshops, farm fields and fast-food outlets. From New York to California employers are breaking the law by hiring children age 7 to 17 who put in long, hard hours and

often work in very dangerous conditions.

"Massive illegal employment of children has a negative impact on

children's education and has resulted in death and serious injury of many, many young workers," he added.

The measure, entitled The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights, would establish criminal sanctions and prison terms for wilful violations of child labor laws that result in death or serious bodily injury. It would cause publication of the names of known child labor law violators, prohibit employment of children in additional hazardous jobs, and limit the hours a child can work while school is in session.

March 3, 1995

## Harleys Union Made

1995 models of Harley-Davidson motorcycles have metal plates attached to their frames proclaiming that they are "Union made in the U.S.A." and bearing the labels of the Machinists and Paperworkers unions, whose members make the bikes.