WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING 995 MARKET STREET



SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

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REQUESTS FOR AFL POLITICAL PAMPHLET GO OVER HALF-MILLION MARK

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--More than a half-million copies of the official AFL primary endorsement pamphlets have been shipped to affiliated unions, it was announced this week by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor League for Political Education.

In a communication directed to all AFL unions, Haggerty urged that a copy of the pamphlet be placed within every labor union home in California prior to the primary election of June 3.

The pamphlet opens with a full page endorsement of Congress-man Clinton D. McKinnon for U. S. Senator, and follows with the official AFL approval of candidates for the United States Congress, the State Senate, and State Assembly.

Haggerty recommended that all AFL unions order sufficient pamphlets to cover their memberships by mailing or direct distribution. The pamphlet weighs less than an ounce and is especially suitable for easy mailing.

Free copies may be obtained in bulk by writing C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer, California Labor League for Political Education, 810 David Hewes Building, 995 Market Street, San Francisco 3, California.

AFL FARM UNION PROTESTS BUILDING OF MEXICAN LABOR SURPLUS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--The National Executive Board of the AFL Farm Labor Union, meeting in Memphis last week, instructed officers of the union to take legal action if necessary to prevent wages and working conditions of American farm workers from being adversely affected by the importation of Mexican Nationals under Public Law 78.

H. L. Mitchell, president of the union, stated, "The recently appointed Labor's Committee on Farm Labor representing AFL and CIO had received informal commitments from the Secretary of Labor to conduct hearings in major agricultural areas to determine prevailing wage rates and the need for importation of Mexican Nationals.

"For the past 5 years, the Department of Labor has permitted the agricultural employers to determine its policies in respect to importing foreign workers, and the union has tried repeatedly, but without success, to get the officials of the Department to stop importing Mexican Nationals into areas where they were not needed.

"The authorization for legal action is insurance we are taking out to see that these officials of government carry out their responsibilities under the law, which are to protect both Mexican and American farm workers from exploitation."

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PUBLIC MEMBER OF NATIONAL WAGE BOARD TO ADDRESS AFL INSTITUTE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--Dr. Arthur M. Ross, fresh from the heated debates over the Wage Stabilization Board decision on the steel industry dispute, was announced this week as faculty member of the annual AFL summer institute to be held at Santa Barbara the week of June 15-21.

Dr. Ross is a public member of the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington, D. C.

He will speak on "Price and Wage Stabilization" at the Mon-

day morning session of June 16.

The week-long institute will be sponsored jointly by the California State Federation of Labor and the University of California and will be held at the Miramar Hotel.

Accommodations will be available either at the Miramar or at near-by motels.

Reservations may now be made with the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley, c/o Robert Raschen, or with the University of California, Los Angeles, c/o Arthur Carstens.

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AFL WHIPS EASTERN TRANSIT RAIDERS IN LOS ANGELES

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--CIO raiders from the eastern U. S. fell on their faces in another debacle last week in Los Angeles when some 2400 transit workers voted by a better than two to one margin to maintain their affiliation in the AFL Transportation Division 1277 in a National Labor Relations Board Election.

The final count in the transit bargaining election was AFL, 1607; CIO, 711; No Union, 17.

All voters were employees of the Los Angeles Transit Lines.

The AFL victory in Los Angeles follows similar triumphs over the CIO in representation elections for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company system in 46 counties of California, and for the Campbell Soup plant in Sacramento. In all three instances the CIO sought to destroy established AFL bargaining relations.

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AFL INTERNATIONALS AID McKINNON FIGHT

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--The powerful support of seven AFL international unions swung actively this week to the cause of Clinton D. McKinnon in his fight for the United States Senate.

James L. McDevitt, director of Labor's League for Political

Education, announced in Washington that the following internationals had already begun campaigns in behalf of the McKinnon candidacy:

Bricklayers, Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Bridge, Structural & Ornamental Iron Workers, Railway Clerks, Glass Bottle Blowers, Photo Engravers, and AFL United Automobile Workers.

Congressman McKinnon is the officially endorsed candidate of the California Labor League for Political Education. He seeks to unseat the incumbent Senator, William Knowland, a long-time foe of organized labor.

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CEREBRAL PALSY FUND DRIVE OPENS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--The AFL approved United Cerebral Palsy fund campaign for 1952 will be highlighted by an AFL letter carriers campaign on Thursday, May 22, in Alameda and San Francisco counties.

The letter carriers will make a door-to-door contribution appeal for the Cerebral Palsy fund.

Recent statistics published by United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc., reveal that approximately 200,000 union labor families in the U.S. carry the burden of a cerebral palsy member.

Director of the East Bay area drive for funds is Edwin A. Clancy, business representative of the AFL Newspaper, Magazine Circulator and Drivers! Union of Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Purpose of the present campaign is to alleviate terrors of the disease and to further research for its prevention, Clancy said.

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LABOR COMMISSIONER REMINDS WORKERS OF VOTING RIGHTS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--With the June 3rd primary election approaching, State Labor Commissioner Lloyd A. Mashburn this week reminded California employer that workers have the right to take time off for voting without loss in pay.

The Mashburn release from the office of the Division of Labor Law Enforcement declared that a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court upholding the constitutionality of a Missouri statute granting workers the right to take time off for voting without loss in pay should particularly be noted by California employers.

The decision is significant according to Commissioner Mashburn, because the Missouri law is almost identical with the California election law which provides that every voter eligible to vote at a general direct primary or presidential primary election is entitled to two consecutive hours off from work between the time of opening and closing of the polls.

In passing on the constitutionality of the Missouri statute, in the case of Day-Brite Lighting Company, Inc. vs. State of Missouri, the Supreme Court said: "The protection of the right of suffrage under our scheme of things is basic and fundamental. The law...is designed to eliminate any penalty for exercising the right of suffrage and to remove a practical obstacle to getting out the vote."

Mashburn stated that in previous election years persons making inquiry as to the effect of the California statute were advised that, under an opinion rendered by the Attorney General, workers were entitled to take time off only if they could show that they would be unable to vote without so doing.

However, following the 1950 elections, an action in the Superior Court of San Francisco resulted in judgment in favor of workers who had taken time off for voting even though the polls were open several hours before or after their work shifts.

This decision together with that of the United States Supreme Court in the Missouri case has removed any doubt that workers have an absolute right to time off under this type of statute, Mashburn said.

The 1951 Legislature passed a measure nullifying the California Statute. However, the bill was vetoed by Governor Warren at the request of the California State Federation of Labor,