

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151

June 20, 1958

### STATE FEDERATION NAMES CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR FOR FIGHT AGAINST "WRECK" PROPOSITION

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Appointment of Curtis W. Roberts, of the San Francisco public relations firm of Gross and Roberts, as statewide director of a Citizens' Committee against the "right to work" initiative was announced this week by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor.

The public relations man was retained, Haggerty said, because of what he termed the "tremendous interest" shown in labor's case by "persons outside the ranks of labor".

Haggerty said that Leo C. Lee, former San Francisco newspaperman, will direct statewide press activities of the committee.

Lee was city editor of the San Francisco Examiner for 12 years. Haggerty also revealed that the political research firm of Hal Dunleavy and Associates had been retained to make statewide samplings of labor's strength and weakness.

The state AFL head declared that "right to work" had qualified for the November 4 ballot on the basis of petitions filed by sponsors during the past week.

Haggerty estimated that some 225,000 signatures had been submitted to various county registrars before the filing deadline of June 16. He said if the signatures ran 70 percent valid, the sponsors would be over the top by some 50,000.

County registrars must file their reports on valid signatures with the Secretary of State by June 26.

Although the official ballot number had not yet been given the "right to work" proposal, it appeared certain it would be assigned No. 18.

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METHODISTS CONDEMN  
"RIGHT TO WORK" INITIATIVE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--New religious support for labor's fight against California's "right to work" initiative developed last week when the California-Nevada Methodist Conference voted to oppose the "wreck" initiative.

Delegates to the Methodist session adopted an anti-"right to work" statement which said:

"We believe that it is consistent with democratic and Christian principles for the responsible representatives of management and labor to determine by collective bargaining the type of contract under which they will operate."

The statement also noted that the conference was "opposed to legislation either requiring or prohibiting the union shop."

Delegates urged passage of legislation requiring the use of the secret ballot in all union elections and strike votes and on proposals to alter union constitutions.

Seven hundred ministerial and lay delegates made up the convention voting body. The position against "right to work" was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

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STATE AFL DISTRIBUTES PROTESTANT,  
CATHOLIC CIRCULARS ON "WRECK" ISSUE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Copies of Protestant and Catholic circulars against "right to work" legislation have been mailed to all state AFL affiliates with the last two editions of the Weekly News Letter of the California State Federation of Labor.

Last week the state AFL issued a reprint from the Christian Century, national Protestant weekly, featuring an article on "The Compulsory Open Shop" by Clair M. Cook.

This week's News Letter mailing enclosed a copy of a 15-page

question and answer circular on "right to work" issued by the Catholic Council on Working Life, Chicago, Illinois.

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NEW STATE MERGER  
SESSIONS SET FOR JULY 9-11

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--State AFL-CIO merger negotiations will be resumed July 9-10-11 in Los Angeles, it was announced last Friday following a two-day merger session in San Francisco.

The Los Angeles session will be the 15th in a series of meetings held over the last two years by the 20-member committee.

Following the San Francisco session, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor, announced that "significant progress" had been realized at the conferences held in the Fairmont Hotel.

The Los Angeles session will open at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 9, in the Statler Hotel.

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S. F. REPUBLICAN BOSS BLOWS TOP,  
SEES "DETROIT" MONEY IN SAN FRANCISCO PRIMARY

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--San Francisco's GOP boss has slammed organized labor as an "outside force" following the rout of Senator William F. Knowland in the June 3 primary.

Robert Steele, chairman of the Republican County Committee for San Francisco, also said the GOP in California was facing "the first laborite government since Clement Atlee."

The GOP boss failed to cite a single instance of "outside" labor influence in the primary election. He paid hysterical tribute to San Francisco labor by charging it had done a great job in getting out the vote for Democrat Brown, and then added the GOP must collect funds to offset the money "pouring in here from Detroit."

The fantastic Detroit allegation was apparently aimed at Walter Reuther, head of the United Automobile Workers.

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NEGROES AND "RIGHT TO WRECK" - THE NAACP SPEAKS  
POSITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE ON THE INITIATIVE PETITION

MEMORANDUM

TO: All NAACP Presidents, Area and Regional Officers, California  
FROM: Franklin H. Williams, Secretary-Counsel, and C. L. Dellums, Regional Chairman  
RE: NAACP POLICY REGARDING "RIGHT TO WORK" LAWS (November Ballot)

In that it has already been announced that a so-called "right to work" initiative issue on the California ballot will be attempted, this is to inform all California NAACP officers, their boards and memberships of the Association's policy and position in this controversial matter.

First: No NAACP branch nor any officer or member may endorse this anti-labor movement in the name of this organization.

Second: We urge all members and officers to refuse to sign any petitions or statements designed to place a "right to work" issue on the ballot.

Third: We urge each NAACP branch to issue a public statement in your community in keeping with the enclosed policy statement in opposition to "right to work" laws.

Fourth: We urge each NAACP branch to join hands with local AFL-CIO unions in fighting against the "right to work" movement on a local and statewide basis.

Fifth: It is requested that you read this communication in all NAACP meetings and gatherings, and that you keep this copy on hand for future reference when this issue is raised.

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