

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA

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### HAGGERTY ISSUES FINAL CALL FOR HEAVY AFL VOTE IN PRIMARY ELECTION

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO -- A final call for all-out voting by the wage earners of California was issued this week by C. J. Haggerty, executive head of the state AFL movement.

Haggerty urged all trade unionists to vote in the June 3rd primary election which will find AFL-endorsed Clinton D. McKinnon seeking to unseat incumbent William Knowland in his fight to land in the U. S. Senate.

Knowland has been a constant champion of big business legislation during his years in the Senate and has directed his heaviest blows against American labor.

The McKinnon-Knowland duel is the only race of statewide character in the primaries with the exception of the Democratic and Republican campaigns for presidential convention votes.

The AFL has not taken any position on the presidential battles save to point out the militantly anti-labor background of Thomas Werdel, leader of one Republican delegation.

Haggerty announced that more than 600,000 copies of the state AFL political endorsement pamphlet have been shipped to affiliated unions during the past three weeks.

Prepared and distributed by the California Labor League for Political Education, the pamphlet lists endorsed candidates for the U. S. Senate, Congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly races.

Endorsed candidates were chosen by the state LLPE convention held April 7 in San Francisco. The California LLPE is the official political arm of the California State Federation of Labor.

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TEAMSTERS ANNOUNCE  
SUMMER INSTITUTE SCHEDULE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--Completed plans for the Teamster sessions at the state AFL summer institute were announced this week as official programs were mailed to all affiliated bodies by the California State Federation of Labor.

The summer institute will be held the week of June 15-21 at the Miramar Hotel, Santa Barbara. Actual class sessions will commence Monday, June 16, and conclude Friday, June 20. The institute is jointly sponsored by the State Federation and the University of California.

Special afternoon sessions will be held for certain AFL trade and craft groups, including the Teamsters and State Culinary Alliance. Regular afternoon classes will be open to the remainder of the summer institute attendants.

The Teamster faculty will feature attorneys Clarence Todd, John C. Stevenson, Mathew O. Tobriner, and Al Brundage; statisticians Harry Polland, Henry Spiller, and Charles Cross.

Einar O. Mohn, international representative of the Teamsters, will address the delegates on general problems of the international organization. Vern H. Cannon will lead a discussion on "A Practical Approach to Our Legislative Problems."

All institute sessions will be held at the Miramar Hotel, Santa Barbara. Accommodations are available at either the Miramar or nearby motels. Rates range from \$5.00 per day upwards.

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

The faculty for general institute classes will include such notables as, Thomas J. Kalis, co-chairman of the U. S. Construction Industry Stabilization Commission; Ewan Clague, boss of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Arthur M. Ross, Public Member, National Wage Stabilization Board; Joseph F. Heath, director of the European Labor Division of the U. S. Mutual Security Agency in Paris.

RETAIL CLERKS HOLD  
STATE MEETING IN SACRAMENTO

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--Delegates representing 40,000 Retail Clerks in California met in a two-day session in Sacramento May 22-23 with major emphasis on improved health and welfare plans.

Retail Clerks Local No. 588, of Sacramento, was host to the California Council of Retail Clerks. All meetings were held in the Capitol Inn.

Harris Wilkins and James F. Alexander were elected 1st vice president and trustee respectively in the annual elections which found the incumbent slate returned without other changes.

President Haskell Tidwell presided and secretary-treasurer Larry Vail guided business matters of the convention.

The Executive Board was authorized to decide on the location of next year's convention which will also be held in May.

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AFL TELEGRAPHERS STRIKE ENDS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--Some 30,000 members of the AFL Commercial Telegraphers Union returned to work this week following an eight-week strike against Western Union.

The nationwide strike ended with acceptance of the following agreement negotiated through the Federal Mediation Service:

(1) All pre-1941 employees will receive 48 hours' pay for 40 hours' work; those employed after 1941 will get 10 cents an hour more; 35-hour a week workers will receive \$22 more a month; messengers will receive five cents an hour more.

(2) Severance pay will be given on the basis of two weeks' pay for each year after the first two years of employment; after 15 years' employment, four weeks' pay will be given for each year without limit.

(3) A so-called "agency shop" will be established in lieu

of the "union shop" request. Under the "agency shop", those not belonging to the union will pay initiation fee and dues to the union for collective bargaining representation.

(4) The wage settlement is dependent upon approval of a telegram rate increase by the Federal Communications Commission.

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LABOR MOURNS  
ASSEMBLYMAN LESTER T. DAVIS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--California labor lost a warm and faithful friend last week with the sudden death of Assemblyman Lester T. Davis of Portola.

The northern California Assemblyman was first elected in 1946 and was returned with ease in every succeeding election.

His Second Assembly District embraced one of the largest territories in the state, taking in Trinity, Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, Lassen, Plumas, and Sierra counties.

Davis was a particular champion of good railroad legislation and led the fight to preserve the "full crew" law, which was finally upset by the railroad corporations through a constitutional amendment in 1948.

The personable Assemblyman was only 47 years old at the time of death. He is survived by his wife and six children.

Condolences of the state AFL movement were sent to his family by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor. The State Federation was represented at his funeral by Vice Presidents Roy Walker of Westwood and Harry Finks of Sacramento.

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AFL FARM UNION ASKS  
FEDERAL PROBE IN IMPERIAL VALLEY

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO--The National Farm Labor Union, AFL, this week demanded a full scale investigation by the Department of Labor into the plight of American farm workers of the Imperial Valley of California, who are being discriminated against by employers in favor of Mexicans imported for temporary farm work under government contract.

In a letter addressed to Michael J. Galvin, Under Secretary of Labor, the AFL Farm Labor Union president, H. L. Mitchell, charged that large scale farm operators organized into the Imperial Valley Farmers Association are discharging American citizens in order to provide full time employment to Mexican contract Nationals.

Mitchell also informed the Labor Department official that the Imperial Valley Farmers Association, representing over 400 growers, was guilty of violating provisions of Public Law 78, in that they paid Mexican Nationals less than the prevailing wage; that they paid Mexican Nationals the unskilled rate for skilled and semi-skilled work; and that the Association members also employ illegal aliens while hiring Mexican Nationals, contrary to provisions of the International Agreement.

Mitchell said that representatives of the Union and members in the Imperial Valley of California were prepared to submit evidence to substantiate these charges to an official responsible to the Secretary of Labor.

Mitchell's letter which was sent to Under Secretary Galvin, followed an exchange of correspondence arising from a visit by a union delegation to the Department of Labor last December 13, during which the Department promised to give consideration to the Union's request for rules and regulations to protect American farm workers. Last June, the Imperial Valley of California was the scene of a bitter strike caused by imported Mexican Nationals and wage rates set by wet-back labor illegally in the Valley.

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