

DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
Executive Committee Meeting
International Inn
San Francisco, California
March 18, 1961

Legislation
712
Due for C.C. Election
Re: State Committee
Proxy by a person
due's mandatory

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M. by Roger Kent, Chairman.

Roll was called by William Byron Rumford, Secretary. The following people were present:

Roger Kent, Carmen Warschaw, Gordon H. Winton, Jane Morrison, Martin Huff, William Byron Rumford, William A. Munnell, Diane McGinness, Stanley Mosk, Ann Alanson (proxy for Elizabeth R. Smith), Virginia Foran, Tom B. Carvey, Tom C. Carrell, Edith Seros, Glenn M. Anderson, Alan Cranston, John M. Lynch, Richard Nevins, Tom Bane, Charles Russell, Harold Colburn, Wilbur Knight, Harold Booth, Don Rose, Sterling Cramer, Lester VanTatenhove, Paul Birmingham, A. B. Logan, Nancy Swadesh, Ovid Holmes, Margaret Livingston, Marie De Martini Bruce, Ann Ryan, Robert Blum, Marge Freitas, D. G. Gibson, Adele Raeburn, Elizabeth Brawley, Jane Woods (proxy for Edith Freidenrich), Cyrus Moorad, Estelle Mooney, Georgia Baker, Royce Delmatier, Madale Watson, Marvin Holen, George Dell, Mrs. Jack Segal; Trudy Owens, Florence Clifton, Glenn Wilson, Sophie Stamos, Lencre Barrett(proxy for Ann Kennedy), Christopher Cooper (proxy for Harriet Stern), Fay Porter, Samuel Hurwitz, Barbara Lang Hayes, Betty Farson, Charles Wilson (proxy for Helen Naslund).

Mr. Kent announced that Brown Van Voorhees, Chairman of the San Diego County Democratic Central Committee, and Mary O'Keeffe, Chairman of the Riverside County Democratic Central Committee, had died within the last few weeks, and asked for a few minutes of silence in their memory.

Mr. Kent announced that Charles Stone had been appointed by Assemblyman Ralph Brown to replace Carson Taylor who had resigned from the State Committee.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and to adopt them as circulated to the Executive Committee. It was seconded and passed.

A motion was made to adopt the agenda, and was seconded and passed.

Mr. Kent announced that the Executive Committee was a closed meeting in accordance with the Committee's policy.

Mr. Kent reported on his Washington visit of March 11 - 17. He discussed the Peace Corps while he was there and mentioned that he thought it should be a substitute for peace time military service. He also spoke about the Gridiron Dinner in Washington on Saturday, March 11.

The agenda was amended to give the ladies the privilege of reporting first.

Carmen Warschaw reported on the Women's Division's legislative program, and introduced Ruth Leader.

Jane Morrison read a report from Libby Smith on the Executive Committee meeting of the Democratic National Committee held in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Morrison reported on the Northern Women's Division's meeting at the Fairmont Hotel on March 17, in which 225 women participated.

William Munnell reported on the Southern Caucus which met in the morning before the Executive Committee meeting to talk about their share of the \$250,000 that was to be sent to the National Committee to help repay the money owed from the campaign. On May 22, in Los Angeles, there will be a Jackson-Jefferson Day Dinner.

Mr. Munnell also lauded the unity among the Democratic Legislators in the Capitol, and the Democratic activity in the Legislature.

Gordon Winton discussed the Democratic Assemblymen and agreed with Mr. Munnell that there is unity among the Democratic Legislators.

Mr. Winton discussed the Northern Division's Financial Statement and stated that more finances were needed. He spoke about the \$100 a month plan. He mentioned that it was incumbent upon every member of the Central Committee to start immediately working towards, and organizing for, the primaries.

Mr. Kent spoke about finances and announced that Secretary of Labor Arthur Goldberg will be the speaker at Northern California's Dinner on May 20. He also announced that the Northern California Democratic State Central Committee would take what was needed off the top of the proceeds from the Dinner less what we get out of dues and other revenue sources to help run the office and send the rest to Matthew McCloskey as agreed with him. This will be done because the May 20th Dinner will be the only fund-raising affair held until late fall. Mr. Kent also mentioned that it was his understanding that both North and South got credited for its dollar money against the \$250,000 which was promised from California.

Attorney General Stanley Mosk reported on the National Committee and mentioned that they were getting remarkable cooperation from John Bailey, the new Chairman of the National Committee.

The Attorney General stated that the Assembly Elections Committee introduced AB 376, which strikes out the literacy test at the time of voting. This bill passed the Assembly, and was a strict Party vote.

Attorney General Mosk discussed the very conservative activity in California; i.e., the Cinema Education Guild, the American Nationalists, the John Birch Society, etc. These groups are spreading their membership and influence.

Martin Huff, Treasurer of Northern California Democratic State Central Committee, gave a financial report and emphasized the \$100 a month plan. The Congressional Districts contribute roughly one-third of the financing for the Northern headquarters, large contributors a third and large fund-raising the other third. The Congressional District Co-Chairmen are primarily responsible for this plan with the county chairmen. The \$100 a month plan ends its election moratorium on January 1961.

Tom C. Carrell, Treasurer of Southern California Democratic State Central Committee, gave a report on Southern finances.

Tom Carvey, the new CDC President, reported on CDC and announced that the first Board meeting of new members would be in April. Mr. Carvey stated that he would make the list of elected members of the Board of Directors available to the Secretary to send out to all members.

Marvin Holen, Chairman of the By-Laws Revision Committee, reported on this Committee. The Committee had two meetings and they anticipate a third in Sacramento during the Women's Division's Legislative Conference. The Committee is planning to do a complete codification of the By-Laws. A motion was proposed that "the State Central Committee recommend to the Democratic Legislative Caucus that said Caucus cause legislation to be introduced and enacted amending the Elections Code of the State of California in the following manner:

1. The the State Central Committee may establish reasonable dues to be paid by those denominated as members of the State Central Committee and those appointed as members of the State Central Committee as a condition of membership; and
2. That the voting of proxies at State Central Committee meetings be conditioned upon the following:
 - a. That a State Central Committee member may cast only his own vote and may not cast the vote of a proxy;
 - b. That no person may cast the vote of more than one proxy; and
 - c. The person casting a proxy vote must meet the same political district requirements or organization membership requirements as the person whose proxy is being voted."

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Marvin Holen agreed to bring the action of this body before the Democratic Caucus in Sacramento.

Lt. Governor Anderson introduced his Administrative Assistant, Alan Sieroty. The Lt. Governor also mentioned that he had received many similar letters to the ones that Attorney General Mosk had mentioned earlier regarding the John Birch Society, and others of this ilk.

Mr. Kent announced that an inquiry had been sent to Washington concerning the official picture of President Kennedy.

Edward Howden, Chief of the Division of Fair Employment Practices reported on the Division, which has been in existence for 17 months.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kent asked for a motion approving and endorsing AB 755 by John O'Connell. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion by Lester VanTatenhove that "the Democratic State Central Committee go on record in opposition to AB 712, introduced by Assemblyman Charles H. Wilson, and which would result in making each member of the State Central Committee a member of the County Central Committee." The motion was seconded and passed.

Carmen Warschaw reported that the following resolution was passed unanimously at the Southern California Caucus which was held preceding the meeting and moved that the resolution be adopted.

"WHEREAS services contracted for by the Democratic National Committee Convention Committee with the California business community in the approximate amount of \$150,000 are apparently still unpaid; and

"WHEREAS this is embarrassing to all segments of the Democratic Party, and the integrity, responsibility and solvency of the California Democratic Party has been called in question, thereby reflecting unfavorably upon our important Democratic candidates leading to the 1962 campaigns; and

"WHEREAS the Democratic National Committee has enjoyed financial support from California in considerable excess of the cost of services returned; and

"WHEREAS California's current assessment established by the Democratic National Committee of \$250,000, of which \$100,000 has been forwarded by the Southern California State Central Committee will further assist the Democratic National Committee;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that first priority of all monies raised in California towards our quota be given to the immediate reduction of the amounts owed to California creditors of the Democratic National Committee."

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and passed unanimously.

George Dell moved that the following resolution be adopted:

"WHEREAS the growth of extreme right-wing hate groups, such as the so-called "John Birch Society," "American Nazi Party," and similar organizations have become a cause of concern to responsible citizens of all parties; and

"WHEREAS the Santa Barbara News-Press and the Los Angeles Times have recently published documentary exposes of the leaders and techniques of the "John Birch Society" and the Los Angeles Times has called upon responsible Republicans and other conservatives to repudiate such organizations; and

"WHEREAS notwithstanding such exposes, the dissemination of facts to the public about such "Birch" and "Nazi" organizations has been wholly inadequate; and

"WHEREAS the techniques of the "Birch" type organizations include their masquerade as a group of superpatriots--while they simultaneously impute treason and communist affiliation to responsible present and former leaders of both major parties, such as former President Eisenhower, the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, CIA Director Allen Dulles, and Chief Justice Earl Warren--and their eventual objectives, along with those of the "Nazi" organization, are the destruction of public confidence in our leaders and our institutions; and

"WHEREAS the leadership, objectives, techniques, source, and utilization of funds, of and by such organizations are legitimate objects of inquiry, and

"WHEREAS this Committee considers the menace of the "Birch" and "Nazi" organizations to be serious as that of the Communist Party, Klu Klux Klan, and other subversive groups we have previously condemned and again condemn,

"NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS BY THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA RESOLVED that this Committee commend the Santa Barbara News-Press and the Los Angeles Times for their rendition of a needed public service in their expose of the "John Birch Society" and encourages other news media to follow their example.

"RESOLVED FURTHER that this Committee calls upon all political parties and candidates for public office to repudiate the support of the "John Birch Society" and the "American Nazi Party" as well as that of the Communist Party, the Klu Klux Klan, and other subversive organizations.

"RESOLVED FURTHER that this Committee calls upon all responsible citizens to acquaint themselves with the undemocratic leadership, objectives, techniques, and the sources and utilization of funds of the "John Birch Society" and the "American Nazi Party," as well as those of the Communist Party, the Klu Klux Klan, and other subversive organizations, with a view towards defending our constitutional rights and our way of life."

The motion to adopt the above resolution was seconded and passed.

Richard Nevins moved that "the elections code be changed to permit county committees to charge dues if they so desired." The motion carried. Marvin Holen was asked to communicate the action of this body to those interested in such legislation.

Attorney General Mosk also discussed ways of identifying these extreme right-wing groups.

Bob Blum announced that the Golden Gate Democratic Club was holding an art auction on April 9, Sunday evening, with a champagne reception on Friday evening, April 7, to raise funds. The affair will be held in San Francisco, 314 Sutter Street.

Mr. Kent discussed the Dollar-Day Drive and asked for suggestions as to the most convenient dates for inaugurating the Drive to be communicated to either Bill Munnell or to him. It was suggested that the direct solicitations from the Democratic National Committee be timed so as not to interfere with our Dollars for Democrats Drive.

Lester VanTatenhove moved that "the Chairman appoint a Committee to consider the ways and means the Democrats in the State of California can raise the \$250,000." The motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Kent appointed Martin Huff, Jane Morrison, and himself on the Finance Committee, and asked Bill Munnell to have three from Southern California. Mr. Munnell appointed Diane McGinness, and himself.

Madale Watson moved that "we pay or reimburse whoever put up the \$100,000 in the South and hold the rest of the money until the Ways and Means Committee meets." The motion carried. Miss Watson clarified the motion to mean the Southern California Dinner.

The next meeting of the DSCC Executive Committee will be held on Saturday, June 24. The place will be announced later.

Edith Seros moved that "we dispense with the meeting of the Steering Committee." The motion carried unanimously.

Don Rose moved that "the meeting be adjourned in memory of Brown Van Voorhees and Mary O'Keefe and that the members stand for a minute in silence." The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.