

DEMOCRATIC NEWSLETTER

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REFORM REAGAN STYLE WOULD COST YOU MORE

Ronald Reagan tries to get away with wearing the white hat on all issues, but he clearly was the villain of the piece in the 1970 tax reform battle. Democrats should realize, and make the voters aware, that:

--It was Democratic legislators who offered the only true tax relief plan, not the governor.

--It was the Democratic plan which would have eased the tax burden on the most people, not the governor's.

--It was the governor who flatly promised tax relief, and failed to deliver.

--It was the governor who enjoyed a Republican majority in both houses, but still couldn't come through on his promises.

(Cont. Page 2)

RECORD SESSION

The 1970 session of the Legislature, controlled by Republicans, was the longest in 120 years of statehood -- and one of the least productive.

The year was marked by the lack of enactment of major legislation, and by a general failure in Republican leadership.

(Cont. Page 7)

A Monthly Newsletter
by the

ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

George N. Zenovich, Chairman

Registration Deadline

It's now or never.

Once September 10 has come and gone, the chance for Democrats to wield one of their most powerful and effective political tools -- voter registration -- will be past.

How important is voter registration?

Ask Pat Brown or Richard Nixon.

In 1962, between the primary and general elections, 296,758 new Democratic registrations were picked up.

In November, Brown beat Nixon by 293,033 votes.

Right now, Democrats all over the state -- but especially in the populous areas -- should be scanning precinct maps, analyzing past voting records and putting every deputy registrar they can into the streets, union halls, civic clubs and coffee sessions.

And every food store in town should have a deputy registrar and a card table set up outside even if only during the busy hours.

The Democratic Party still is the majority choice of Californians and other Americans. Voter registration efforts play an important role in that status, and could be the single most vital factor in cashing in on election day.

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\$ SUPPORT YOUR \$
\$\$ LOCAL \$\$
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REAGAN REFORM

(Cont. from Page 1)

--It was the governor who pressed a policy of shifting government costs to local taxpayers at a time when the county tax rates are zooming in all metropolitan areas and state aid to schools dips.

Predictably, Reagan was quick to say his plan benefited more homeowners than the Democratic alternative. He conveniently ignored the more obvious and pertinent question of the TOTAL number of taxpayers to be helped. Perhaps this was because the Democratic plan provided wider relief than Reagan's.

Take, for example, the large number of renters, most of whom are found in the middle and lower income brackets. The governor would offer renters with incomes of \$10,000 to \$12,500 a slight tax cut--but his program as a whole would be a tax increase for 67 percent of all renters.

In contrast, Democrats proposed reducing the total tax load for renters who make \$25,000 a year or less, increasing taxes only for the few people who earn \$50,000 or more but still rent.

A voter might think twice about Reagan's grandiose claims when confronted with the fact his plan meant increased taxes for 36 per cent of all California taxpayers, while the Democratic alternative would raise taxes for just 6.8 per cent, mainly those above the \$50,000 level.

Reagan's plan would have offered tax breaks to big businesses and wealthy homeowners, at the expense of small property owners and low-income renters.

It also would be well to remind voters it was the same Ronald Reagan who raised their taxes by \$1 billion in 1967.

(Cont. Page 4)

GOV. HITS BLIND, DISABLED, ELDERLY

Democratic confidence in willingness of people to meet the cost of helping those less fortunate than themselves received a boost following welfare cuts by Governor Reagan.

Top priority in Reagan's re-election drive has been given to hitting welfare and Medi-Cal. He hopes to convince people welfare is growing at an astounding rate because of fraud and deceit on the part of most recipients.

The governor, of course, refuses to believe escalation of unemployment and the inflationary spiral which continues unabated have anything to do with the problem.

He decided to start by cutting \$25 million from welfare through elimination of attendant care and homemaker services. Never has the governor had to "swallow the sword" so rapidly.

He issued the order effective July 10 and warned local welfare officials unless it was complied with they would feel the wrath of his administration.

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REAGAN REFORM

(Cont. from Page 3)

He proposed another \$1 billion tax plan in 1970 which still was a one-shot election-year program which would require even higher taxes in 1971.

Inflation, a budget deficit in 1971 and the pressing needs of education all will require a tax increase next year despite a one-cent sales tax boost and other higher taxes Reagan urged this year.

If nothing else, Democratic opposition to Reagan's tax increases at least saved the people from a 20 per cent sales tax hike he wanted starting August 1.

Reagan also continues to demand that county government take over an increasing share of welfare and education costs, ignoring the desperate financial plight of urban counties, especially. He is frankly willing to let the sick and elderly and the school children go without the aid they cannot provide themselves.

Reagan comes out of reform this time wearing the black hat.

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GOVERNOR HITS BLIND

(Cont. from Page 3)

Democrats decided election issue or not this cut had to be fought. They brought out the details of what Reagan was doing.

Elderly couples, who had worked all of their lives, paid their taxes and raised their families without government assistance, were threatened with removal to nursing homes. The \$50 or so a month for someone to come in and help with heavy housework was eliminated by the governor.

Disabled and blind recipients were left with too little funding to hire anyone. Governor Reagan insisted he did not cut out the program. Technically, he was right.

However, when you provide \$150 a month for a job which costs \$450 (and for which the state only allowed \$300 originally) you have eliminated the program.

In fact, had Reagan been successful in maintaining his cuts, the program would have been reduced by \$50 million or so. Because without enough money to hire help, the elderly, blind and aged would have had to move from their homes to nursing care centers.

Since this costs twice as much as does home care, the \$50 million or so in savings would have been offset by an increase in nursing care costs of \$100 million or so.

Under the Reagan "new math" that's a savings. His "savings" have resulted in a one billion dollar tax increase, threatening another this year and a third in 1971 to clean up the mess left by his 1970 budget deficit.



KIDS WITH READING PROBLEMS HIT BY REAGAN ECONOMY AXE

Once again, the Reagan administration's heartless fiscal policies are hurting those who need help the most. This time, it's kids with reading problems.

UNEMPLOYMENT RISES

While Governor Reagan and President Nixon continue to worry about a falling stock market and the critical need to cut inflation, millions of American workers are concerned about something else -- jobs.

California, where Reagan has done nothing to obtain federal defense contracts, is hardest hit. The unemployment rate here is at six per cent. That is 33% higher than when Reagan took office.

But in the lower income and ghetto areas, it is three times that high. For the first time, high income aerospace workers and the Blacks and Chicanos have a common grounds for understanding -- the unemployment line.

(Cont. Page 8)

Democratic candidates looking for a way to dramatize dry statistics in human terms couldn't find a better example, and the culprits are clear: Ronald Reagan and Max Rafferty.

At issue is the Democratic-sponsored Miller-Unruh Act of 1965 which recognized the crucial nature of making sure youngsters in grades 1-3 learn to read adequately. It allocated millions of dollars to local schools to hire specialists who teach remedial reading and librarians who help them.

Last year, as part of the successful Democratic campaign to get more education money into Reagan's budget, the program was raised to \$24 million. That covered about two-thirds of the counties, and was a special blessing in schools with large minority enrollments.

But in the budget enacted this year, Rafferty's State Education Department and Reagan sought only \$18 million -- a 25% slash.

(Cont. Page 11)

RECORD SESSION

(Cont. from Page 1)

The three top GOP leaders -- Governor Reagan, Assembly Speaker Robert Monagan and Senate President Pro Tem Jack Schrade -- displayed scant ability to control events or even keep the people's business moving in an orderly fashion.

Previous record for longevity was 248 days in 1969, the initial year of Republican control, but the 1970 session exceeded this by many days. This was a far cry from the days, not so long gone, when the lawmakers met for 30 days in even-numbered years and 120 days in odd-numbered years.

Common sense and the rapid growth of California dictated the need for longer sessions. In 1966 voters approved a Democratic-backed plan for annual meetings not bound by deadlines.

But good leadership also is required, and it wasn't produced this year by Republicans. They had a majority in both houses, and therefore set the pace of activity and are responsible for how business is conducted.

Veteran Capitol observers said 1970 produced the most meagre amount of important legislation in history.

Reagan again showed at his news conferences an almost humorous lack of knowledge about what was going on upstairs, even with his own program.

His supporters in the Legislature admitted they often had no knowledge of how their leader stood on major matters.

Monagan, meanwhile, hardly spoke to Schrade, and Schrade spoke to no one except lobbyists. Monagan finally got so mad he publicly rebuked Schrade's Senate guidance. The only time they seemed to get together was when they ran into each other in the garage or corridors.

This frequently bitter division in GOP ranks can be pointed to by Democrats as a major reason for the slow, relatively unproductive 1970 session.

In major and minor matters as well, Republicans did not perform as their responsibilities required, and as voters of both parties had a right to expect.

REAGAN STRIKES OUT IN BID TO CUT STATE AID TO NEEDY

Governor Reagan has once again managed to pull defeat from the jaws of victory in the battle to cut costs of welfare.

Like the good carnival pitch-man he is, Reagan has managed to keep the public busy listening to him while he undercuts programs with his slight-of-hand.

In 1967 the Legislature adopted a new program aimed at helping able-bodied welfare recipients off the rolls. It is called WIN -- for Work Incentive Program.

The program itself is funded 80 percent with federal money and 20 percent with state allocations. However, in order to make it possible for recipients to participate, special funds for child care, transportation and similar work related expenses are needed.

The mother of three or four children may want to learn a trade which will take her off welfare but she must have babysitting help to do so. And babysitters come high these days.

So a fund for such needs was set up. The federal government picks up 75% of the cost, the state 16-2/3% and the county must pay 8-1/3%.

By the administration's own figures, the program has been successful. According to initial reports, WIN was responsible for taking 8000 persons off the public assistance rolls by early this year.

Initially, 16,800 training slots were approved for WIN. Since some training requires less than a year, an estimated 20,000 welfare recipients were offered training annually. In December of 1969, the federal government offered another 8200 slots to California.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Cont. from Page 6)

Reagan has managed to make California first in something. We have replaced Appalachia, the deep south and the rural plain states as the hardest hit area of unemployment. #

Governor Reagan, while shouting for cuts in welfare costs, elected to ignore the offer. He has yet to accept the federal offer of added aid for WIN.

His refusal to expand the program was greeted with some concern. But last month, he astounded even his strongest supporters by crippling ongoing programs.

With typical double-talk about budget needs and the growing cost of welfare, the governor rejected adequate funds for WIN's work related and training costs. He left most counties holding the bag for child care, transportation and incidental costs of providing job training.

With county budgets already endangered by the administration policy of shifting costs from the state to local government, the result has been obvious. Several counties have cut out all work related expenses and the number of persons able to take job training courses has dipped tremendously.

In Los Angeles County, where half the training is conducted, the supervisors have voted to cut back on the number of persons permitted to participate in WIN.

They will pick up some of the costs but the program may be reduced by as much as 50 percent.

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* September 10 *
*LAST DAY TO REGISTER *

QUOTABLE QUOTES. . . .

"There are no real problems with implementing tax relief prior to the Nov. 3 election date," Governor Ronald Reagan.

* * *

"It is impossible to implement Governor Reagan's tax reform program this year in Los Angeles County," Philip Watson, Assessor.

* * *

"I don't think anyone knows what really is in these bills," Sen. Clark Bradley, Republican, opposing the governor's tax plan.

* * *

"All I want is a chance to learn something which will get me off welfare. I don't want my kids to grow up under welfare," Modesto WIN participant just before Gov. Reagan cut the program back.

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'GOLDEN CIRCLE CLUB' EYES RICH GOP HARVEST

Recent disclosure by the press of the Republican "Golden Circle Club" should remove any lingering doubt that the GOP is the party of the rich and privileged, dedicated to the status quo.

This demonstrates anew the hard political fact of life that Democrats win on the dollars and volunteer help of a much broader base of Californians.

UPI reporter Tracy Wood's story from Sacramento told how a select club organized in May, now numbering about 50 persons, is going after money from lobbyists and entertainment luminaries.

The aim?

Electing Republican legislators -- more crucial than ever before because the lawmakers elected this year reapportion the Legislature and Congressional seats next year.

Chairman of the Golden Circle, sitting tall in the saddle, is John Wayne. He's showing his true grit by luring members by invitation only -- at a "fee" of \$1,000 or \$3,000 or \$5,000.

The money is funneled to the Cal-Plan districts, which are ones in which the GOP thinks it has the best chance of success.

The GOP central committee told its legislators that some Sacramento lobbyists --whom they must deal with constantly--have been invited "to also participate by honoring a Republican legislator of their choice with a \$1,000 membership."

The central committee spokesman explained the invitations went "to lobbyists who have helped us in the past," and puzzlingly added: "There are no strings attached whatsoever."

Democrats are given a fine chance this year to regain power in Sacramento and return government to the people -- but volunteer help is the key.

And volunteers can labor happily in the knowledge that they are adding a touch of tarnish to that fat-cat "Golden Circle."

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INFORMATION ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES IS AVAILABLE FOR CANDIDATES, CLUBS AND SPEAKERS. IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, CONTACT JOHN A. FITZRANDOLPH, CHIEF CONSULTANT, 5016 STATE CAPITOL, SACRAMENTO.

MILLER-UNRUH ACT

(Cont. from Page 6)

This leaves school administrators and taxpayers with the grim choice of seeking more funds from overburdened taxpayers, cutting back other basic instruction to fully finance the reading plan, or cut down -- or even eliminate -- the reading program.

That may not mean much to Ronald Reagan, but it has sharp impact on parents who want their child to start life at least able to read adequately.

Roy Minkler, director of reading for the San Francisco schools, summed up the situation:

"I can't see dropping the program. It just got started well and these specialists have been doing a fabulous job."

Democrats should let it be known that this is one program which works -- and one which Republicans ordered the first-ever cutback in.

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RESOLUTIONS Demo Central Committee

Highlights of resolutions adopted at the Democratic State Convention in August:

WOMEN

Endorses ratification of the constitutional amendment guaranteeing women equal rights, and urges special vigor in election of more women to public office.

SCHOOLS

Sharply criticizes Reagan failures in education, and urges Democratic Party to adopt a program of "Education for the Seventies."

TAXES

Commends Democratic legislators for opposing the Reagan tax reform (increase) plan, and urges support of a true tax relief plan.

PROPOSITION 1

Puts California Democrats on record as favoring a YES vote on Proposition 1 in November. Proposition 1 is a Democratic-sponsored \$250 million bond issue to help pay for cleaning up the state's polluted waters.

(Cont. Page 12)

Although every Democratic candidate on the November ballot can use help, here are some key target districts and their candidates in which volunteer registration workers are urgently needed:

DEMOCRATIC TEAM

U. S. Senate
JOHN TUNNEY

Governor
JESS UNRUH

Lt. Governor
SEN. AL ALQUIST

Attorney General
CHARLES O'BRIEN

Controller
RONALD B. CAMERON

Secretary of State
EDMUND G. BROWN, JR.

Treasurer
MILTON GORDON

Assembly Candidates:

KENNETH CORY	(714)	676-2328
LEROY GREENE	(916)	483-2738
HARVEY JOHNSON	(213)	443-0061
KEN MACDONALD	(805)	648-5329

Senate Candidates:

JAMES MILLS	(714)	234-2131
ALAN SHORT	(209)	466-2491
WALTER STIERN	(805)	323-3379
GEORGE ZENOVICH	(209)	488-5567
ARLEN GREGORIO	(415)	345-5395
MICHAEL PEEVEY	(415)	457-1219

Open Districts:

FRED BALL	(213)	340-2853
PAT CAMARODA	(209)	233-6725
KEN CROFT	(415)	327-0941
SUSAN MARX	(714)	328-2002

RESOLUTIONS

(Cont. from Page 11)

PEACE

Calls for special federal efforts to prepare the nation's economy for conversion to peacetime, and for helping those whose jobs are imperiled because they work in defense industries.

CHICANOS

Pledges to insure that 1971 reapportionment will, if Democrats control, make sure Californians of Mexican descent are given the representation they deserve.

YOUTH

Urges state central committee and county central committees to include more young people, especially from the Young Democrats.