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Labor picks candidates

By ROBERT DOBKIN
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO - Labor leaders are mapping strategy this week for next year's Democratic National Convention in hopes of having a voice in the party's platform and the

selection of its presidential candidate.

"I'm already telling my guys to get on the delegate slates, and get going," Richard Murphy said Wednesday.

Murphy, legislative director of the

Service Employees International Union and a key figure in COPE, the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education, said this is in line with Meany's mandate to put together slates of delegates.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has said the labor federation will take no official part in the delegate selection process, but he is encouraging unions to get involved individually so that labor could be a potent political force in the event the convention is deadlocked and forced to seek a compromise candidate.

Interviews with several of labor's political strategists here for the federation's national convention, which opens Thursday, made it clear they are anxious to avoid a repeat of 1972, when labor split over the candidacy of Sen. George McGovern.

These officials said that while there is no consensus yet among union leaders on a particular candidate, they believe the Democrats will be able to produce a nominee

acceptable to all segments of the labor movement.

Sen. Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, told COPE officials earlier this week that the party "learned the hard way that labor is a dependent we are on you."

He said labor's support in last month's special New Hampshire primary election "proved to be the most effective use of labor that we've ever had in this country."

The new campaign finance law for federal elections limits the amount of contributions but leaves unions free to use treasury funds to form their members, finance get-out-the-vote drives and pay salaries of union personnel doing political work, provided they are under union control. With 14.1 million members, the AFL-CIO can work within the law to exercise immense political clout in favor of the candidates of choice.

Mineral center to develop Texas' lignite deposits

Efforts to develop Texas' vast lignite deposits as an economical and practical alternate fuel source are among initial projects for Texas A&M's new Center for Energy and Mineral Resources (CEMR).

CEMR was created by the board of regents to serve as a focal point for research and related programs to help provide long and short-range solutions to the state's energy problems.

The Legislature earlier this year awarded Texas A&M a special \$958,072 appropriation for studies with the greatest potential for meeting energy needs in Texas.

Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi, CEMR director, said alternative energy sources will receive the greatest attention in the center's first studies.

In addition to the lignite activities, the center's first series of projects includes studies regarding safety aspects of nuclear energy, new approaches to oil and gas exploration, and energy storage and conservation.

Five projects will deal with

development of lignite as an energy source for Texas. These studies concern improved methods of mining the brown coal found throughout East and Central Texas, analyzing it to determine possible contaminants and determining how strip-mined land may be returned to agricultural production.

"Lignite is an important resource for Texas, but we do not know yet just how important it may be," Wainerdi pointed out.

"Also, we need to find the best techniques to mine the ore without damaging the environment."

One of the center's investigations will determine what ores might be present in Texas lignite. Recoverable quantities of uranium have been found in lignite in North Dakota.

Nuclear-related studies initiated by the center include investigations of safety evaluation techniques for reactors and studies of radiation damage in metals.

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Roger Rozell

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OCTOBER 1975

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

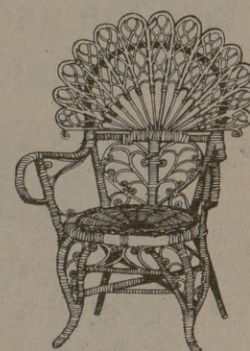
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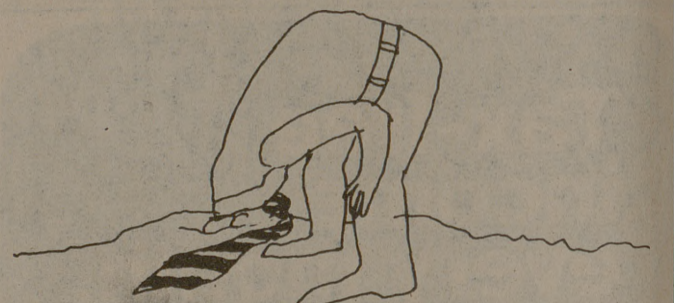
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