



CALIFORNIA ORIGINALS

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CALIFORNIA
STATE ARCHIVES
Celebrating 165 years, 1850 - 2015

Time in a Box

Time Capsules at the California State Archives

Americans have used time capsules to celebrate the completion of buildings and monuments, and to observe historical anniversaries for generations. In many cases, time capsules have been laid into the foundations or cornerstones of structures to be opened at some unspecified future date (usually, when the building is renovated, rededicated, or demolished). Some time capsules, however, are intended to be opened after a set number of years have passed. The State Archives holds records of some time capsules that have been placed around California by state and local government officials. These records include photographs of various cornerstone laying ceremonies and inventories listing the contents. The actual contents of several already opened capsules as well as a few unopened capsules are at the Archives.

The oldest time capsule material at the State Archives was originally placed in the cornerstone of the State Capitol Building in Sacramento in 1861. This capsule was removed and opened in January 1978 during the restoration of the building. Inside were over a hundred period newspapers, government publications, documents from local fraternal organizations, and a lead impression of the state seal, among other things. Perhaps the most remarkable treasure inside was a watercolor sketch of a proposed design of the Capitol Building, which was still under construction at that time. The sketch is signed by Reuben Clark, the supervising architect of the Capitol.

(cont'd on page 2)



Sketch of state capitol, signed by Reuben Clark, supervising architect [ID MC2:18-98]

COMING IN MAY

New exhibits on
elections and
voting at the
State Archives
and California
Musuem

Opening
Reception
Thursday,
May 26
See page 11

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Time in a Box (cont'd)

The contents of a time capsule from the Preston School of Industry, a youth correctional facility in Ione, California, are also held at the State Archives. This capsule, also laid in the cornerstone of a building, was sealed in 1890. It was opened in 1994 as part of Preston's centennial celebrations, and was found to contain period newspapers, reports of state agencies, architectural plans, coins, and a sample of silver ore.

A third time capsule's contents at the State Archives were originally deposited in the cornerstone of the Agricultural Pavilion in 1883. This building was erected in Sacramento's Capitol Park at 15th and N Streets as part of the State Fair. In 1909, the State Fairgrounds were relocated to Broadway and Stockton Boulevard and the 1883 time capsule was moved into the cornerstone of the new Horticulture Building, which was later destroyed by fire in 1916. When the new Agricultural Pavilion was built in 1918 as a replacement, the time capsule was moved into that building's cornerstone (the capsule's third home in 35 years). In both 1909 and 1918, the capsule was opened and new objects were added. In 1968, the State Fairgrounds moved yet again, and the time capsule was moved to the State Archives in 1971 before the old Agricultural Pavilion building was demolished. The capsule contained period newspapers, samples of wheat grain, a pressed and dried California poppy, a bottle full of Cordova "Cala-Port" wine, architectural drawings, and State Fair publications.

One of the unopened time capsules at the State Archives was sealed in 1954 at the State Fair. California's first State Fair was held in 1854 and, as part of the centennial celebrations a steel and chrome-plated time capsule in the shape of an artillery shell was filled with a large number of microfilms. Weighing over two hundred pounds, the capsule includes a microfilmed copy of the proceedings of the 1952 Governor's Conference on Educational Television and a 16 millimeter color film called "California's Golden Beginning" produced by the Department of Education, among other items. It is due to be opened in 2054.



*Governor Earl Warren holding a time capsule at the cornerstone laying ceremony of the Avenal Community Hospital in 1950.
Earl Warren Papers [ID F3640:18132(1)]*



A second unopened time capsule is from 1976 and was a project of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of California. It contains bicentennial publications, brochures, photographs, and commemorative medallions. It is scheduled to be opened sixty years hence on the tercentennial of American Independence in the year 2076. A printed scroll contained within is addressed to the people of July 4, 2076. It reads, in part, "two hundred years is a long time for a people to remain free...indeed, doubts were expressed, in this year of 1976, as to America's future... you, who have opened this time capsule, know whether our Republic survived. We can only guess, but we believe. Believe that, with the help of Divine Providence, you, your children and your children's children will know, as did we, the blessings of living as free men and women in this great land."

By Sebastian Nelson, Archivist

*Secretary of State March Fong Eu and former Assemblyman Charles Conrad seal a time capsule during the 1976 American bicentennial celebration.
Records of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of California [ID F3776:555]*



From the State Archivist

The featured article in this edition of *California Originals* is about time capsules: the containers of documents and other objects that provide a picture of the present to be viewed in the future. Have you ever thought about creating a personal time capsule? What would you put into a time capsule? Would you include a newspaper or magazine from today? Some kind of digital device as an artifact? (It likely wouldn't work when the time capsule was opened since technology will have evolved.) Would you include family photographs? Or write a letter about your life to be read by someone twenty-five, fifty, or even a hundred years from now?

In many ways, archives are like time capsules. The State Archives has records from the past to be seen today. For example, the papers of former Governor Earl Warren (1943-1954) tell us about life in California during and after World War II. State archivists are collecting records now that will provide future researchers a picture of the present. But, unlike a time capsule, the documents, photographs, maps, artifacts, and other archival material are not going to be sealed away in a steel box for a hundred years. The records of the past and present are here to be used now and in the future. I invite you to come in and see what we have collected.

Nancy Zimmelman Lenoil

Records in the Spotlight

In the Nick of Time: Operation Haylift

The winter of 1948-1949 was particularly cold and brutal for the western United States. Record snowfalls paralyzed states like Nevada, closing roads and halting trains on their tracks. The severe storms left thousands of sheep and cattle stranded on desert grazing ranges, where the deep snow prevented them from feeding. Resources were limited, but the Nevada State National Guard and the United States Air Force immediately launched an emergency relief effort - dubbed "Operation Haylift" - to drop feed from low-flying airplanes down to the animals trapped in the snowdrifts below.

Word of Nevada's plight quickly spread to neighboring states. On January 25, 1949, California Governor Earl Warren pledged to assist the snowbound state of Nevada with Operation Haylift. Within days, the California National Guard assembled a provisional truck company and organized additional air support. Sixteen trucks left Sacramento, loaded with fifty tons of hay destined for Ely, Nevada. (*cont'd on page 4*)



*Hay filled trucks head for Ely, Nevada, under the California National Guard's Operation Haylift.
Earl Warren Papers [ID F3640:18327(8)]*



Records in the Spotlight (cont'd)

Inclement weather made much of the journey difficult for the convoy. Shortly after passing through Eureka, Nevada, one of the trucks spun out of control on a patch of ice, losing more than half of the hay on board. Two other vehicles suffered mechanical failures and had to be towed eighty miles to the nearest service station. The remaining trucks climbed summits blanketed with snow and ice, rumbling through mountain passes behind a snowplow. The truck company delivered the first load of hay to Nevada on January 31st. Additional personnel and aircraft arrived the following day.

The guardsmen, the majority of whom hailed from San Luis Obispo, remained in Ely to load hay onto airplanes and fly spotting missions to locate livestock and ranchers. They distributed the hay from Sacramento across Nevada's grazing ranges in ten plane loads.



*Loading planes for hay drops in remote areas of Nevada during Operation Haylift.
Records of the Military Dept. - Adjutant General's Office [ID F3838:47]*

Though the guardsmen were battered by the elements, Commanding Colonel Francis E. Shearer reported that "all personnel performed well, and the unit left a fine reputation at each point visited." Remarkably, only one injury occurred during the operation - Sgt. James H. Walton was hospitalized after a bale of hay fell on him, but was released shortly after the incident. The guardsmen made their last hay deliveries on February 11th, intending to depart for California the following morning. Heavy snowfall, what newspapers labeled a "dilly of a snowstorm," closed all major roadways out of Nevada, delaying the convoy's departure. The provisional truck company did not reach the California National Guard Center in Alameda until Valentine's Day, February 14th.

California's participation in the relief effort was deemed a success. The *San Luis Obispo Telegram Tribune* praised the guardsmen's contributions to Operation Haylift and celebrated their homecoming, proclaiming that "the San Luis Obispo lads are a fine bunch, willing and hard workers." The Federal Works Agency wrote to Governor Earl Warren upon their return, thanking him for "the very excellent service rendered by your National Guard to your sister state of Nevada."

By Jessica Knox, Archivist



Records in the Spotlight (cont'd)

Both photographs are from the California National Guard's "Report on Operation Haylift." Earl Warren Papers [ID F3640:2835]



For the complete story, see the California National Guard Report: "Operation Haylift" [ID F3640:2835] Earl Warren Papers



Staff Favorites

Daylight Saving Time - A Time Whose Time Has Come?

By the time this newsletter is released, we all will have “sprung forward” with the onset of 2016 Daylight Saving Time (DST). While the concept of daylight saving time has been around for centuries, the first instance of its use in the United States was during World War I. President Woodrow Wilson signed into law the Standard Time Act of 1918 (the Calder Act) on March 19, 1918. The daylight saving time section of the Calder Act was intended to support wartime production by lengthening the daylight hours during which factories ran. This section was repealed on August 20, 1919, over President Wilson’s veto. After the repeal, most of the country, including California, went back to standard time.

World War II brought about year-round daylight saving time. President Franklin Roosevelt implemented “war time” after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. It started in February 1942 and was to end in September 1945 (during this period, the time zones were renamed “Pacific War Time,” “Mountain War Time,” “Central War Time,” and “Eastern War Time”). Bucking against a federally regulated time, many states (particularly on the West Coast) called for the end of war time nearly as soon as it began. Starting in December 1943, Californians began sending letters of opposition to war time to Governor Earl Warren. Only a few letters were in favor of extending the provision. Returning to Pacific Standard Time was a *cause célèbre* . . . one that wended it’s way through the Legislature during several sessions and one that was revisited numerous times via the ballot box.

California went through several iterations of daylight saving time ballot measures between 1930 and 1949. The first ballot measure was Proposition 7, which qualified for the general election in 1930. The argument for the measure stated, “Daylight Saving will give Californians 154 extra hours of sunlit leisure. . . It is a modern, progressive movement, designed for pleasure, health, happiness and prosperity of the people, and opposed only by selfish interests.” The argument against the measure stated, “America tried Daylight Saving once. The whole country used it in 1918. The whole country abolished it in 1919. No other national law ever died so quickly . . . Keep California normal.” The initiative was defeated by a vote count of 990,775 against to 317,890 for.

The next time DST came up for a vote was during the general election of 1940. Qualified as Proposition 5, the argument in favor claimed that daylight saving “has provided citizens of other states with sunlight for his leisure hours” and “has increased general health . . . created time for amusements and recreation . . . increased business . . . helped the working man and woman . . . increased industrial efficiency . . . reduced industrial and traffic accidents.” The Californians “can have these benefits if they will vote YES on Proposition No. 5.”

The argument against began, “California’s All Right – Vote No on Daylight Saving!” It continued,

A so-called “Daylight Saving” Act was submitted to the voters of our State in 1930, and was overwhelmingly defeated in every county. Also our Legislature five times has voted it down. People do not want it; only a few special interests do. There is no such thing as “Daylight Saving.” There are only 24 hours in each day, and to say that you can add an hour is absurd.

The 1940 measure was defeated by a vote of 1,834,565 to 785,634 (70% against, 30% for).

In 1949, the question of DST was once again placed on the ballot. Proponents for Proposition 12 argued that “California needs summertime daylight saving time because it confers vital benefits on all citizens without costing one cent in taxes or other expenditure.”

The opposition argued that labor was opposed because it would prolong working hours; the farmer was opposed because his cows know nothing of “Daylight Saving” and give milk by Nature’s law; the housewife was opposed because the feeding schedule of her children becomes disarranged among other claims and that her “whole schedule would be upset.” Further, railroads, churches, and the motion picture industry were opposed on various grounds.

(cont’d on page 7)



Staff Favorites (cont'd)

After experiencing federally imposed DST during World War II, perhaps California voters felt the time was right to have DST in full because the 1949 measure was adopted by a vote of 1,406,257 for to 1,167,846 against (54.6 % to 45.5%).

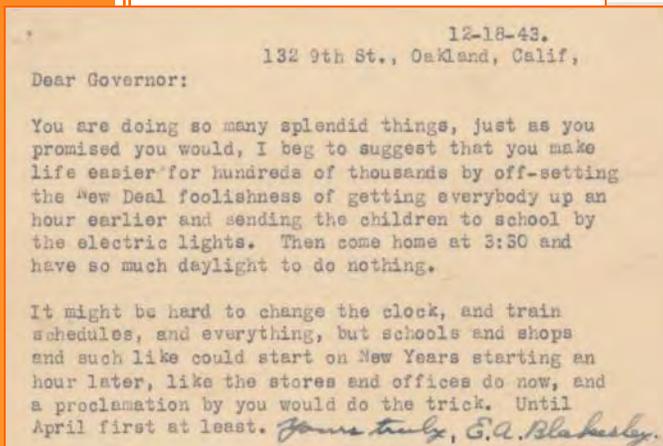
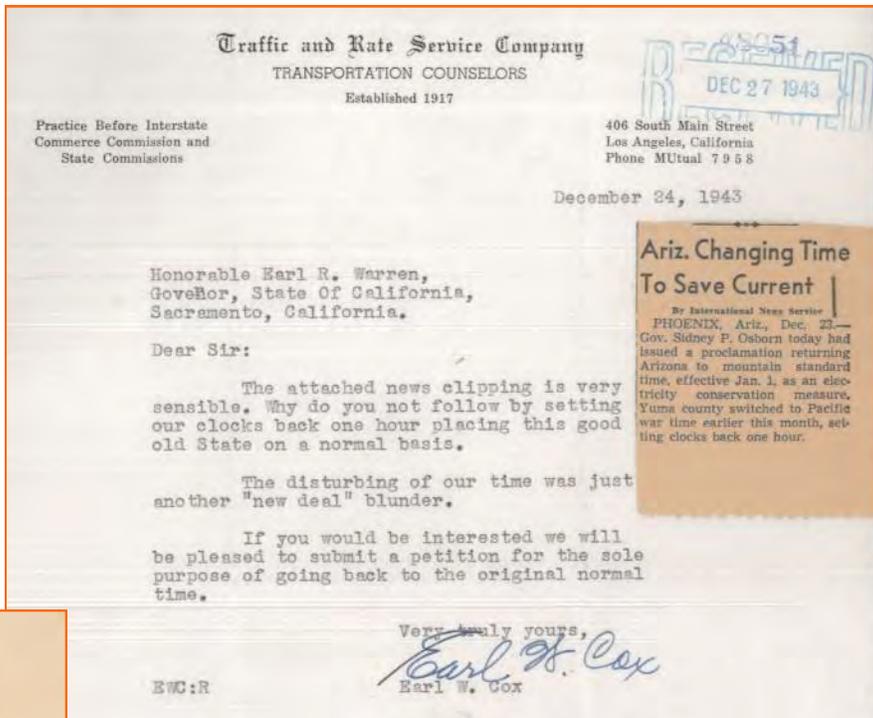
The issue cropped up time and time again during Governor Warren's two terms in office. Even after the ballot measure passed in 1949, citizens still wrote to the Governor, asking him to "do something about this abomination." The standard reply was:

Daylight saving time was approved by vote of the people of the State of California . . . Our Constitution provides that a majority determines the vote of an initiative measure such as this kind. . . For this reason the matter is beyond the control of the Governor, and only another vote of the people could change the law.

The manipulation of the clock did not end with the passage of Proposition 12 in 1949. Most recently, in 2007, the beginning date of DST changed from first Sunday in April to the second Sunday in March and the ending date changed from the last Sunday in October to the first Sunday in November. And, there is still ongoing debate as to whether DST should continue.

By Linda Johnson, Archivist

Two letters to Governor Warren regarding Daylight Saving Time (war time). The standard response from his Legislative Secretary sent to each letter writer was "Governor Warren received your letter . . . He asked me to thank you for your suggestion and to assure you it will have his earnest consideration."

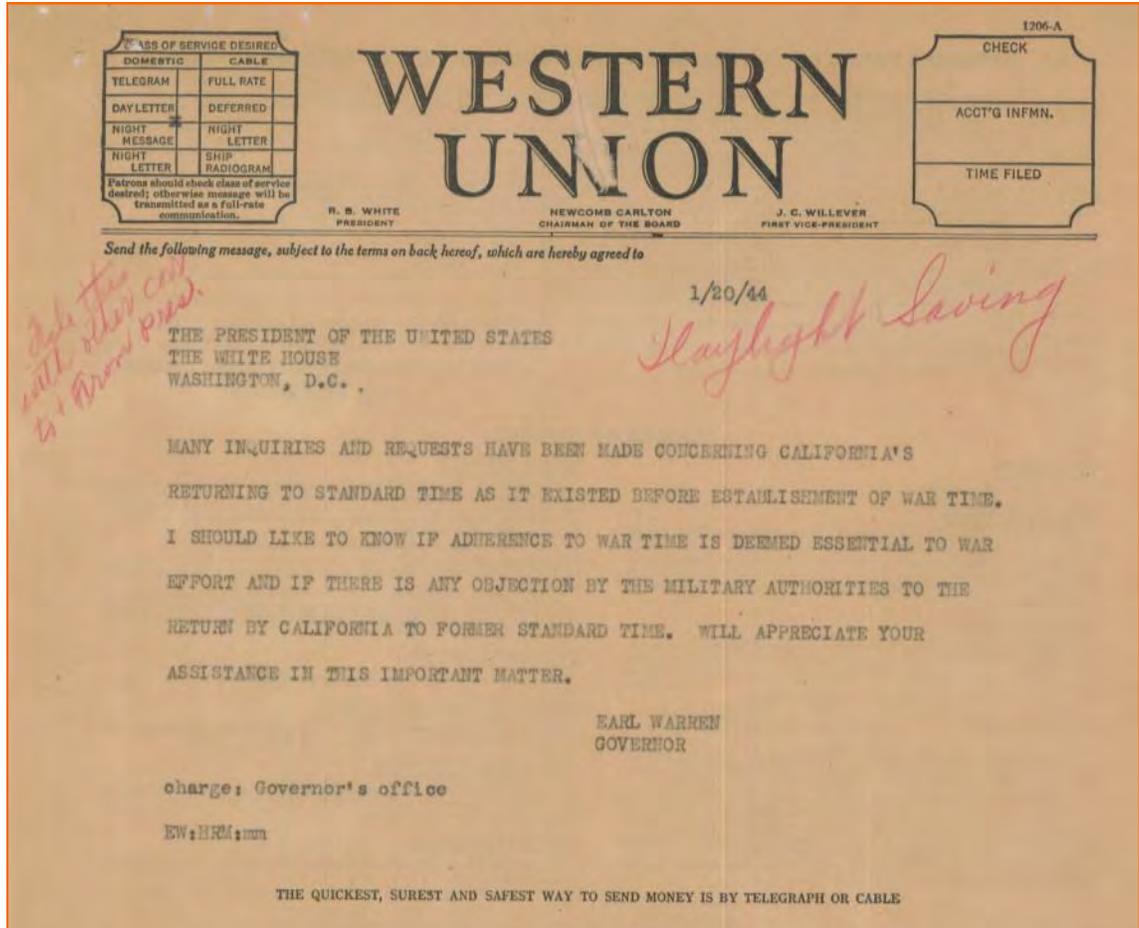


*Earl Warren Papers
Series 382. Proposed Legislation - General (1943-1944)
Daylight Saving Time [ID F3640:5889-5891]*



Staff Favorites (cont'd)

In response to the high volume of letters received, Governor Warren sent this telegram to President Roosevelt:



1/20/44

*The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.*

Many inquiries and requests have been made concerning California's returning to standard time as it existed before establishment of war time. I should like to know if adherence to war time is deemed essential to war effort and if there is any objection by the military authorities to the return by California to former standard time. Will appreciate your assistance with this important matter.

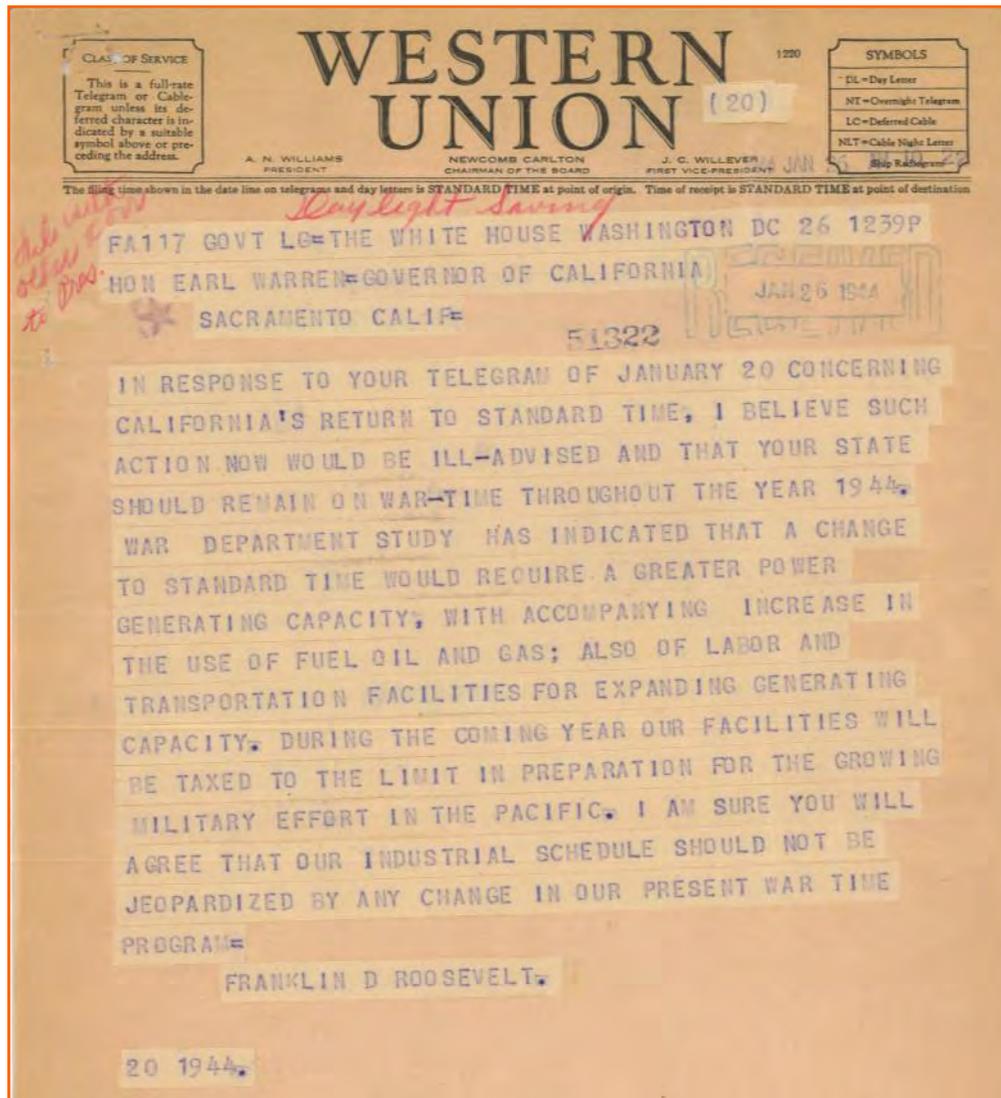
*Earl Warren
Governor*

*Earl Warren Papers
Series 382. Proposed Legislation - General (1943-1944),
Daylight Saving Time [ID F3640:5889-5891]*



Staff Favorites (cont'd)

President Roosevelt's reply to Gov. Warren's telegram:



*Hon. Earl Warren, Governor of California
Sacramento, Calif*

In response to your telegram of January 20 concerning California's return to standard time. I believe such action now would be ill-advised and that your state should remain on war-time throughout the year 1944. War Department study has indicated that a change to standard time would require a greater power generating capacity, with accompanying increase in the use of fuel oil and gas; also of labor and transportation facilities for expanding generating capacity. During the coming year our facilities will be taxed to the limit in preparation for the growing military effort in the Pacific. I am sure you will agree that our industrial schedule should not be jeopardized by any change in our present war time program

Franklin D Roosevelt.

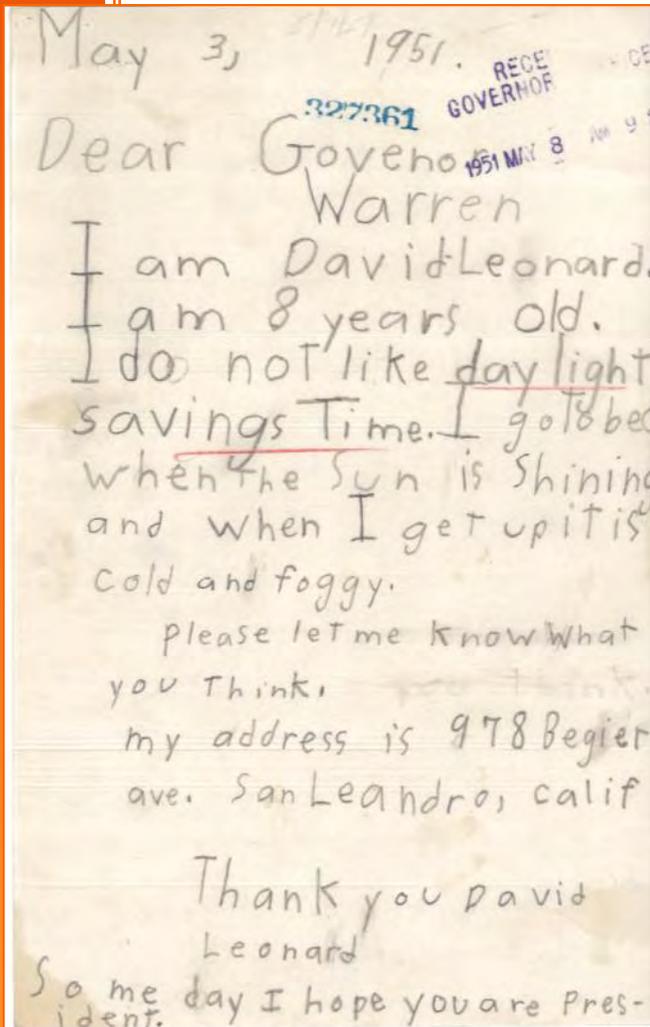
*Earl Warren Papers
Series 382. Proposed Legislation - General (1943-1944),
Daylight Saving Time [ID F3640:5889-5891]*



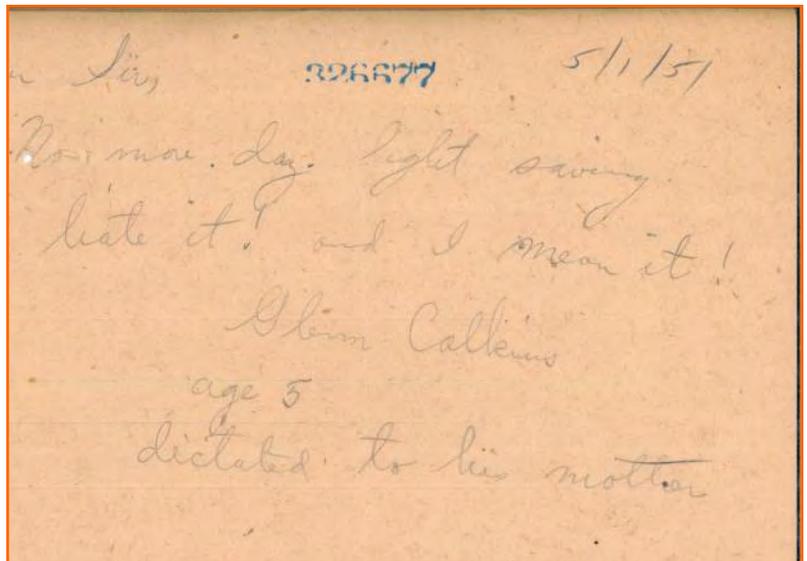
Staff Favorites (cont'd)

Once the response from President Roosevelt was received, the standard reply became:

The Governor is conscious of the hardships and asked President Roosevelt if a return to standard time would adversely affect the conduct of the war effort in California. The President urged that war time be adhered to during the year 1944. . . For your information, a copy of the President's wire is enclosed.



Here are two 1951 letters regarding daylight saving time.



5/1/51

Sir,
No more daylight saving. Hate it! and I mean it!
Glenn Calkins
age 5

dictated to his mother

May 3, 1951

Dear Governor Warren

I am David Leonard. I am 8 years old.

I do not like daylight savings time. I go to bed when the sun is shining and when I get up it is cold and foggy.

Please let me know what you think.

Thank you David Leonard

Some day I hope you are President.

Earl Warren Papers
Series 423. Proposed Legislation - General (1949-1951),
Daylight Saving [ID F3640:12940]



Election Exhibits Open in May

Secretary of State, Archives, and California Museum Join for Election-Year Exhibits on Voting

In this presidential election year, California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and the State Archives are collaborating with the California Museum on two all-new exhibits chronicling 165 years of voting, elections, and campaign history in the Golden State (see box for opening reception details).

“The Power of the People: Voting in California, 1850-2016” will survey the evolution of how we vote, who votes, and the methods campaigns use to win our vote, from the state’s founding through today. This exhibit in the California Museum will run from May 17 through November 13 and feature items from the State Archives, including 1864 absentee ballots introduced for enlisted Civil War troops, the 1911 ballot reflecting the passage of women’s suffrage, and campaign memorabilia from the 2003 gubernatorial recall election.

Both the Museum exhibit and a separate Archives exhibit will feature items from Campaigns, Inc., the nation’s first political consulting and campaign management firm, which was established in San Francisco in 1933 by Clem Whitaker and Leone Baxter. One of the few private collections at the State Archives, the Whitaker and Baxter materials document and visually illustrate how modern campaigns came into being. The collection also provides a history of the state’s political, social, economic, and cultural landscapes and how they were shaped by the workings and media manipulations of Campaigns, Inc.

The Whitaker and Baxter exhibits will highlight records documenting the inner workings of the firm along with advertising materials created for political campaigns, including audio-visual recordings. Among the issues to be featured are the 1933 referendum pushed by Pacific Gas & Electric (“Yes on Proposition 1”) and the very successful campaign in 1949 for the American Medical Association against President Harry Truman’s proposed national health care system. The exhibit will feature the 1934 gubernatorial campaign against the Democratic nominee and Socialist author Upton Sinclair and the later campaigns for Earl Warren and Goodwin Knight. The presidential campaigns of Wendell Wilkie in 1940 and Richard Nixon in 1960 will also be examined.

**“The Power of the People:
Voting In California, 1850-2016”**

Exhibit Opening Reception

Thursday, May 26, 2016 • 5:30 – 7:30 pm
**California Museum • 1020 O Street,
Downtown Sacramento**
RSVP at [California Museum](#) or [Eventbrite](#)

The Archives’ Whitaker and Baxter exhibit will open May 17 and run through December 30 in the 4th Floor Gallery.

By Lisa Prince, Archivist and Exhibits Coordinator

Left: Poster from the 1949 campaign against President Truman’s proposed national health care system [ID C134:1.43, box 11, folder 43]

Right: Leone Baxter and Clem Whitaker, founders and owners of Campaigns, Inc. [ID C134, box 10, folder 19]





Speaker Series



Please join us on **Thursday, June 9, 5:00PM - 6:30PM** for our Speaker Series.

About our speaker: Dr. Mark Brilliant is an associate professor of history and American studies at UC Berkeley. He is the author of the award winning book, *The Color of America Has Changed: How Racial Diversity Shaped Civil Rights Reform in California, 1941-1978*, from which his talk will draw.

For more information, visit the [Speaker Series webpage](#) or email [Archives Events](#). The Speaker Series is co-sponsored by the [Friends of the California Archives](#).

While this is a free event, tickets are required for planning purposes. Click on the ticket to reserve seats (links to the Archives' Eventbrite page).



Upcoming Events

April 29, May 27, June 24	Monthly Public Tours of the California State Archives	www.sos.ca.gov/archives/public-events/
April 7-9	Society of California Archivists' Annual General Meeting, Santa Rosa	calarchivists.org
May 6-7	National History Day - California State Competition, William Jessup University, Rocklin	www.nhdca.org
May 26	"The Power of the People: Voting in California, 1850-2016" Exhibit Opening Reception at California Museum	RSVP: www.californiamuseum.org/voting-reception or votinginca.eventbrite.com
June 7	Presidential Primary Election	www.sos.ca.gov/elections/
June 9	Speaker Series: Dr. Mark Brilliant	www.sos.ca.gov/archives/public-events/

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For the California Museum visit
www.californiamuseum.org/



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Visit the [Secretary of State's other divisions](#) for election information, campaign finance filings, business records, and more.