



California AFL-CIO News

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer
THOS. L. PITTS

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Food Giant & Unimart Halt Ads in Her-Ex

Two more major chain stores—Food Giant and Unimart—announced last Friday that they have discontinued advertising in the Hearst-owned Los Angeles Herald-Examiner where nearly 2,000 trade unionists have been on strike or locked out for the past 11 months.

The two supermarkets represent major additions to a list of more than 300 business establishments that have terminated advertising budgets with the strikebreaker-produced paper until the dispute is resolved.

Four weeks ago, two other major advertisers, Thrifty

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Labor Says:

Better Housing Crucial to Urban Crisis Solution

Effective action to meet the housing needs of both California and the nation at large "is crucial to resolving the urban crisis confronting this country" a statement of policy on Housing adopted at the recent biennial convention of the California Labor Federation declared.

Asserting that the housing situation worsens each year as population grows and as household formation far outstrips the construction of new homes, delegates from AFL-CIO union and central bodies throughout the state said that this situation is "intolerable" and called on the federal government to establish a national housing policy for the next 20 years to eliminate the ghettos, provide good housing for those displaced, and insure that good homes are built for all who need them.

The statement, approved at the State AFL-CIO's seventh convention at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, urged

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Fed Opposes State Bar Curb On Group Legal Aid

Opposition to a proposed State Bar rule change that would severely hamper, if not totally prohibit, the development of effective group legal services to protect union members and others has been voiced by the California Labor Federation.

The proposed change, known as Proposed Rule 20, is ostensibly aimed at assuring continuation of the traditional at-

torney-client relationship in group legal service programs but would also limit the scope of services an attorney could provide to members of such groups to the "common principal purposes" of such groups and prohibit an attorney from accepting employment with regard to an individual's personal affairs. Legal aid societies and

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ACC To Fight Move for 36% Interest Charge on Credit Sales

Defeat of the proposed Uniform Consumer Credit Code has been designated as the major 1969 goal of the Association of California Consumers, an alliance of more than a hundred labor and consumer organizations in California that has been fighting for improved consumer protection legislation for the past nine years.

Berkeley Backs Farm Workers' Grape Boycott

California's embattled grape workers got another boost this week when the Berkeley City Council voted five to one with one abstention to support the consumer boycott of California grapes initiated by the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Or-

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ACC President Mrs. Helen E. Nelson took dead aim at the so-called Uniform Consumer Credit Code this week after the ACC's 35-member Executive Board designated defeat of the code as its major target for 1968 at a meeting in Santa Cruz last weekend.

"Under the code, stores could charge 36 percent interest on installment purchases—double the present rate," Mrs. Nelson pointed out.

"In addition, the code would

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Labor Leader George Faville Dies in Eureka

George Faville, secretary-treasurer of the Humboldt-Del Norte Counties Central Labor Council and a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, died of a heart attack this week in Eureka.

Mr. Faville, 65, was a former President of the Redwood District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers and had long served on the Board of Directors of the General Hospital operated by the Union Labor Hospital Association in Eureka.

Commenting on his death, Thos. L. Pitts, the State Federation's executive officer, said:

"George Faville worked effectively and tirelessly to improve conditions for his fellow trade unionists and for workers

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Affiliates Urged To Push for More Child Day Care Centers

The need for a network of "comprehensive, high quality child care centers, where children of working mothers may be cared for, for shorter or longer periods of the day—entirely apart from welfare stig-

ma, class segregation and the case work approach" of social welfare programs—is underscored in the November issue of "Vital Issues," a publication of the Center for Information on America located in Washing-

ton, Conn.

The article, titled "When Mothers Work: What About Child Care?", points out that at present more than 9.5 million mothers of children under the age of 18 are employed and that these women have about 15 million children, nine million of which are under 12 years of age.

Pointing out that the vast ma-

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ACC To Fight Move To Boost Interest Charge on Credit Sales to 36%

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destroy much of the protection our existing laws give the public," she said.

Asserting that "this industry-inspired code would be a disastrous step backward," Mrs. Nelson, who served as the state's first consumer counsel under Governor Edmund G. Brown, called attention to the fact that the proposed Uniform Consumer Credit Code, which is being sponsored by the Commission on Uniform Laws, was drafted by a committee dominated by the finance industry.

UP TO LEGISLATURES

Legislation embodying the so-called Uniform Consumer Credit Code is expected to be introduced in all state legislatures having sessions in 1969, she said.

The "hooker" in this legislation in addition to the doubling of installment credit interest rates, she explained, is that any states enacting the proposed code before July 1, 1969 would practically invalidate recently enacted federal truth-in-lending legislation.

At its convention in San Francisco last spring, the ACC adopted a policy of opposition to the code and demanded that it be redrafted by a committee so composed as to give consumers an equal voice.

The proposed code is expected to be introduced in the California legislature early next year, she said.

"We feel the urgency of the issue demands our full and complete attention," she added.

Mrs. Nelson said that the ACC Executive Board "decided not only to oppose the code but to seek to have the maximum interest rate in California cut to 12 percent a year or one percent per month on the unpaid balance.

"If necessary we will resort to the initiative petition procedure to seek to achieve this goal as was successfully done in the state of Washington this year," she declared.

"Young families, working people, the poor, the elderly and minorities, as well as middle-income families are already victimized by excessively high interest rates. These rates would jump even higher under this absurd code," she warned.

Organized labor's support for

"strong consumer education programs" and "expanded efforts to disseminate consumer information to all" was voiced in a policy statement on Consumer Protections adopted at the California Labor Federation's convention in Sacramento last September.

The Federation's statement called for adequate funding of the California Office of Consumer Counsel so that the office could "direct itself to the job of protecting consumers rather than acting as a shield

for special-interest groups."

In addition a resolution adopted by convention delegates on the need for an effective consumer counsel in California, calls on "all central bodies and affiliated unions to support and actively participate in the strengthening and building of an effective state-wide consumer organization composed of unions, co-ops, credit unions, women's clubs, welfare organizations and other consumer groups to represent and work for the interests of consumers."

Federation Affiliates Urged To Press for Child Day Care Centers

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jority of these working mothers are from middle-class, middle-income families, the article, written by Professor Florence A. Ruderman, of Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, notes that only about two percent of the children of these working mothers attend a day care center, nursery or other organized program.

The vast majority of the children under 12 are cared for by relatives, friends, neighbors, babysitters or housekeepers, in short, simple custodial care.

The article ties in with a resolution adopted at the California Labor Federation's recent convention in Sacramento, calling on all affiliates to urge their representatives in the city, state and federal government to increase the number of day care centers that can provide "a safe and wholesome environment for children of working mothers."

The resolution, No. 25, also urged all affiliates to seek immediate consideration at all governmental levels of programs to meet the need for more day care centers for children in view of the fact that millions of additional women are coming into the labor force and the problem is becoming larger and more critical with each passing year.

In California, according to State Department of Industrial Relation's figures, there are 2,766,000 working women. Based on U. S. Women's Bureau estimates, 442,560 are mothers of children under six.

Since a number of child day care centers are operated by churches, benevolent associations, co-ops and other groups, there's no immediate way to determine the number of existing child care centers in the state but it is significant that only 1,753 such centers are currently licensed by the State Department of Social Welfare.

Even if there were twice as many centers in the state, these figures indicate that each such center would have to accommodate more than 150 children under six even if just custodial care were to be provided for the children of working mothers.

Such a figure is about six times the usual capacity of 20 to 25 children found in many existing child care centers in California.

While it's obvious that not

Federation affiliates, other organizations, individuals or families wishing to join the ACC should send checks payable to the Association of California Consumers to the ACC at 3509 McBryde, Richmond, California.

Membership fees: are: \$6 for individuals; \$10 for families; and \$25 for organizations. Membership privileges include a voice and vote at the annual ACC convention as well as an automatic subscription to the ACC publication, "The California Consumer."

all working mothers want or need child day care facilities for their children, it's also obvious that many working mothers in California desperately need more adequate child care facilities for their children than are presently available and that the children themselves would benefit enormously — a fact demonstrated by the Head Start program — if they were provided with some structured educational programming rather than merely custodial care.

It's also obvious that the development of more and better child care centers throughout the state would also significantly increase job opportunities in an area of substantially unmet social need.

Copies of the article may be obtained from the "Center for Information on America," Washington, Conn. 06793 for 35 cents each.

MDTA Aids One Million in 6 Years

More than one million persons have been trained in schools and colleges in nearly one thousand different occupations during the first six years (1962-68) of a Federal program designed to get unemployed and underemployed youth and adults into the job market or to upgrade their skills.

Wilbur J. Cohen, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, released U.S. Office of Education figures today which show total enrollment of 1,034,400 in courses conducted under the Manpower Development and Training Act (MDTA) through October 7, 1968.

Cost of the program over the

six years was \$1.25 billion in Federal funds—\$670 million in allowances, such as family living costs and transportation, and \$580 million for training.

"This is another outstanding example of the way the educational system can help meet the needs of the hard-core unemployed," Secretary Cohen said.

"Most training in the institutional part of this program was carried on in public high schools or community colleges offering vocational education. As a rule, trainees were able to take advantage of facilities, equipment and instructors available in the regular vocational-technical programs," he said.

Food Giant & Unimart Halt Ads in Her-Ex

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Drugs and White Front stores also stopped placing ads in the struck paper.

In other developments, the American Newspaper Guild last week appealed to all central bodies for assistance in informing all trade unionists and the general public that:

"J. C. Penney Co. advertising has become a major support of the scab-produced Los Angeles Herald-Examiner."

"Please don't shop at Penney's" handbills have been produced by the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner Joint Strike-Lockout Council to implement the consumer boycott campaign.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The ANG is appealing for volunteers to help distribute the handbills at entrances to all Penney's stores. It noted that AFL-CIO President George Meany has urged support for the Herald-Examiner strikers and that the AFL-CIO National Executive Council has stated that:

"We believe that not even the smallest fraction of a union dollar should be spent for the support of strikebreakers, their employer or their sympathizers."

FACT SHEET PRINTED

A fact sheet on the Herald-Examiner dispute published by the Joint Strike-Lockout Council explained that Hearst provoked the strike by 1,100 members of the American Newspaper Guild and the International Association of Machinists on December 15, 1967 and that Hearst subsequently locked out 900 other employees represented by seven other international unions.

OFFERS SPURNED

Since the strike-lockout began, Hearst management has rebuffed mediation efforts by the Federal Mediation Service, the State of California, and a special mediation committee impaneled for the dispute by the mayor and city council of Los Angeles, it explained.

The mayor's panel laid the blame for the continuation of the dispute squarely at manage-

Are You Doing All You Can?

Are you doing all you can to support the 2,000 members of 10 unions that have been involved in the strike-lockout at the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner for the past 11 months?

Affiliates of the California Labor Federation were reminded this week that delegates to the Federation's seventh convention in Sacramento last September adopted a resolution that calls on all affiliates in California to contact the brothers and sisters in locals of their organization outside of California to urge them to respond to AFL-CIO President George Meany's appeal for financial support for these workers who are now fighting for the basic principle of collective bargaining itself.

Thos. L. Pitts, the Federation's Secretary-Treasurer, is urging all affiliates to make a special effort to persuade brothers and sisters in their organizations outside of California to contribute to this crucial fight.

Resolution No. 50 also calls for support of the consumer boycott initiated by the Herald-Examiner Joint Strike-Lockout Council against firms that continue to advertise in the Hearst paper, which is now produced largely by imported professional strikebreakers.

Contributions should be sent to: The Herald-Examiner Joint Strike-Lockout Council, 1058-60 South Olive St., Los Angeles, California 90015.

"With Christmas—and the first anniversary of the strike, December 15—fast approaching, you can be sure that anything that you can do to assist these 2,000 staunch trade unionists and their families will be deeply appreciated," Pitts said.

ment's door when it resigned after a month of futile efforts to get management to engage in effective collective bargaining.

The Strike-Lockout Council has issued a public statement urging all unions and sympathetic individuals to actively solicit business for retailers who take their ads out of the Herald-Examiner.

The Herald-Examiner, once the largest afternoon daily in the nation, has suffered ad lineage losses of 30 percent and estimated circulation losses of 50 percent since the strike began, the Council said.

AD LINEAGE SHRINKS

The strike was called after the Herald-Examiner's management refused to improve on an offer that was less than half of a settlement negotiated two weeks earlier at the much smaller Long Beach Independent Press Telegram. Since the strike began, six other Hearst papers have made contract settlements in excess of that for which the Herald-Examiner unions struck.

Management recently rejected a union offer to submit the dispute to arbitration.

Corporate Profits Still Zooming Up

Contrary to the suggestions you may hear on radio or TV ads promoting electronic stenographic equipment that corporate profits are shrinking, the First National City Bank of New York reported recently that corporate profits in the United States during the third quarter were 12 percent higher than in the same period of 1967.

Moreover, so far as manufacturing firms go, after-tax profits came to \$4.65 billion—15 percent above the same period last year.

Ripples of Hope

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope and, crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."—Robert F. Kennedy.

Labor Says:

Better Housing Crucial to Urban Crisis Solution

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the federal government to "take the lead" in helping to create at least 500,000 low-rent public housing units a year and to provide adequate funds for the rent supplement and Model Cities programs.

It also called on the federal government to take "drastic steps to reduce the high cost of money so that more moderate and low-income families can own homes."

ACTION URGED

In California where the home-building industry has been severely depressed with resultant widespread unemployment in the construction trades during the past few years, the statement said "that efforts must be made to stimulate the housing market in California without waiting for federal leadership."

To point up the construction industry depression in California, the delegates noted that contract awards for housing units last year were far below the 1963 peak even though the state's population has risen by two million during this four-year period.

"In 1967," the labor statement observed, "the number of residential housing units built was only 104,000 compared to 292,000 in 1963."

It said that there is "probably no area outside of education where state government can play such a major role in helping the people of California by improving individual family and community well-being."

PROPOSALS NOTED

Specifically, it called for revamping the Cal-Vet program and for more effective use of state credit to stimulate home construction by supplementing federal housing programs with long-term, low-interest, self-liquidating loans for low and middle-income housing.

"What is needed in this area, as in many others, is for the state government to provide leadership rather than resistance in developing programs to meet public needs and stimulate low-cost housing," the trade unionists said.

Berkeley Backs Farm Workers' Grape Boycott

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ganizing Committee.

The boycott is aimed at winning union organizational rights for farm workers, the state's lowest paid employees who are still excluded from the National Labor Relations Act which protects the union rights of most workers in the nation.

In its action, the Berkeley Council also asked all city agencies not to buy grapes from non-union growers and urged the general public to also honor the grape boycott.

Only Berkeley Councilman John DeBonis opposed the measure which was introduced by Councilman Ronald Delums. Councilman John Swingle abstained.

Labor Leader George Faville Dies in Eureka

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throughout the state. He was a staunch trade unionist who will be deeply missed by all of us lucky enough to have known him."

Long active in community affairs, Mr. Faville had served on a number of advisory committees to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, including the Humboldt Forestry Advisory Committee.

He was also secretary of the Humboldt-Del Norte County COPE and former president of the First Congressional District COPE as well as secretary and manager of the Labor Temple Association at Eureka.

A member of Hospital Workers Local 327 and Plywood Union Local 2931, Mr. Faville was also a former associate editor of the Redwood Empire Labor Journal and the California Lumber Worker.

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Chapel of the Ferns at 5th and J Streets in Eureka.

Mr. Faville is survived by his wife Virginia, three sons, four daughters and 17 grandchildren.

Fed Opposes State Bar Curb On Group Legal Aid

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similar groups approved by the bar, however, would not be bound by such restrictions.

Thos. L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO, pointed out that organized labor "is vitally concerned about any action the state bar takes in this field."

Noting that rules adopted by the state bar have the force of statutes, Pitts said that adoption of any rule that would tend to inhibit the development of group legal services would be contrary to the best interests of this state's workers.

PROBLEM EXPLAINED

"Many California workers are acutely aware of instances involving on or off the job injuries, evictions, wage claim or wage garnishment problems or personal injury cases in which they needed efficient legal aid at reasonable fees but felt the case was too small to merit hiring an attorney at straight professional rates," he said.

"Labor feels quite strongly that the development of effective group legal practices, like the development of group medical insurance, would substantially improve the worker's ability to be aware of and enforce his legal rights. At the same time it would be a boon to the legal profession itself since it would open an area of service in which the needs are at present substantially unmet," Pitts said.

WITHDRAWAL URGED

In a brief presented to the Board of Governors of the California State Bar Association in Los Angeles late last month, the Federation's Chief Counsel, Charles P. Scully, urged that Proposed Rule 20 be withdrawn. Other Labor attorneys voiced support for the Federation's brief at another hearing of the Board held in San Francisco this week.

Scully pointed out that the proposed rule ignores a report of the State Bar's Committee on Group Legal Services that found that legal services should be regarded as an economic commodity which must be made

available to the consuming market at a price which is within the means of the consumer, attractive to the consumer in terms of quality and accessible to him in a form, and at a time and place he can utilize.

The Federation's Chief Counsel also noted that the proposed rule fails to take into account the impact of recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions on the question of group legal services. He cited two cases within the past five years, one involving the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the other the NAACP, in which the nation's highest court approved the plans under question.

"In no instance has the court attempted to limit the nature of the assistance given members of the groups," he observed.

"In each case the court has explicitly rejected the speculation of commentators who argued that the decisions could be limited to the facts of the particular cases. The overriding concern of the court has been in promoting the rights of persons to associate in order to protect and further their legal rights," the State AFL-CIO brief said.

"To attempt to limit the scope of legal services as proposed in Section II(a) (of Proposed Rule 20) is to fly in the face of these recent Supreme Court cases," it added.

Pointing out that a committee of the American Bar Association has unanimously endorsed group legal service plans in a broad statement of policy and that the House of Delegates of the ABA is expected to act on the matter at its meeting in Chicago next February, the State AFL-CIO brief maintained that "any ac-

tion of the California Bar should at least be postponed until the recommendations of the special (ABA) committee can be studied and the House of Delegates has acted."

Among other things, the Federation's brief faulted the Proposed Rule 20 for being full of "ambiguities" and "possibly unconstitutional."

It also noted that although a special Committee on Group Legal Services of the State Bar had reported on July 27, 1960 that the existing need for group legal services was not sufficiently great to permit such services to be rendered, the conclusions of a later comprehensive study by the State Bar Committee on Group Legal Services issued in 1964 found just the opposite: namely

(1) "... We are persuaded that there is an unfilled need for legal services of such a substantial degree as to cause serious concern to the State Bar of California."

(2) "... We see no reason to limit the kinds of legal services to matters of 'common interest,' if indeed, this phrase is susceptible of intelligible definition and limitation."

DECISION CITED

The Federation's brief also cited a United States Supreme Court decision involving the United Mine Workers of America versus the Illinois State Bar Association in which a trial court had enjoined the union from representing its members on workmen's compensation claims "and any and all other claims which they may have under the laws and statutes of the State of Illinois."

But the supreme court found that the trial court's action "substantially impairs the associational rights of the mine workers."

The Federation's brief called the Board of Governor's attention to the fact that the emphasis of the nation's highest court "was not on the fact that federal or state rights were involved, but rather that the freedom of speech, petition and assembly were impaired."

Drug Price Culprits?

"It is high time that the blame for high prescription drug prices be removed from the much maligned community pharmacists and placed where it belongs, right at the front door of the drug manufacturers themselves."—U. S. Senator Gaylord Nelson.