



California AFL-CIO News

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JOHN F. HENNING
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Peevey Returns As Director Of Research

Mike Peevey is returning to the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, as research director and legislative assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer, effective January 1, 1971.

Peevey resigned in the fall of 1969 to become coordinator of community programs at the University of California Institute of Industrial Relations. In the 1970 campaign, he was Democratic candidate for State Senator in Marin, Napa and Solano Counties.

A resident of San Rafael, he is married and the father of two daughters.

Peevey will take the place of Dr. Paul Taylor as research director. Dr. Taylor remains with the Federation as an economic consultant, and will represent the organization in hearings before various public boards and agencies.

Peevey served four years on the Advisory Committee of the State Assembly Committee on Agriculture. He is on the Board of Directors of the Association of California Consumers, the Northern California Council of Churches and the Marin Council for Civic Affairs. He is a

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Unions Offering Holiday Calls To Overseas GIs

Thousands of American servicemen overseas will receive free telephone calls to their families as Christmas gifts from the American Federation of Musicians and the Communications Workers.

The AFM is expanding its two-year-old program this year to provide free calls on three days—Dec. 24, 25 and 26—rather than just on the 25th, as in previous years.

Servicemen in Viet Nam, Okla.
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Comprehensive Program Prepared for Session

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, will present an extensive and comprehensive legislative program to the California Legislature when it convenes at Sacramento on January 4.

Details were formulated at a three-day

session of the Executive Council last week in Palm Springs, culminating a series of meetings and conferences under the leadership of Executive Secretary John F. Henning. The Legislation Committee, headed by Vice President Wilbur Fillippini, presented a detailed report of his

committee's specific recommendations to the Council. As a result, Henning was authorized to have introduced over fifty specific pieces of legislation and to lend active support to a number of other progressive measures derived from other sources.

Broad in Concept

The measures to be offered run a wide gamut, including not only proposals dealing with working conditions and fringe benefits for wage earners but with consumer protection, education, health, transportation, public works and other areas of public concern. All derive from authority granted by the Eighth Convention of the Federation, held in San Francisco last summer.

"Our organization represents a broad cross section of the responsible citizens of California," Henning declared. "It is not only appropriate, it is imperative that we take a leadership role in developing a legislative program designed to maintain California's historic tradition of progressive, liberal governmental philosophy."

"We cannot allow the forces of regression and reaction to consolidate their hold on our state and its economy. If this is to be avoided, more than defensive opposition is needed. We must be ready to offer positive, affirmative solutions to the challenges of California's future."

Details Outlined

Among proposals being advocated by the Federation will be:

—A constitutional amendment to limit permissible interest rates to borrowers of money.

—More adequate state financing.
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State AFL-CIO Urges Fund Restoration for SST

This week the California Labor Federation joined the national AFL-CIO in urging restoration of funds for development of the American supersonic transport aircraft (SST), deleted by Senate action last week. On Tuesday, John F. Henning, Executive

Secretary of the California Federation, sent the following wire to the members of the state's 38-man delegation in the House of Representatives:

"Urge you vote against Yates motion which would instruct conferees to accept Senate amendment deleting SST funds."

The motion by Representative Sidney R. Yates, D-Ill., would have bound the House members of the conference committee to accept the Senate action in working out differences between the two versions.

On Wednesday, the House rejected by a vote of 213 to 174 the motion to instruct its conferees to accept the Senate position. This leaves the way open for the joint conference committee to restore all or most of the money for the SST project.

At its meeting in Chicago August 3-5, 1970, the AFL-CIO Executive Council went on record strongly supporting the SST program.

The council at that time adopted a statement noting that the Soviet Union and the French and British jointly are developing airliners to fly at supersonic speeds and will be flying commercially in 1973-74.

Without an SST, the council
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Henning Heads '71 U. S. Savings Bond Drive

"When we invest in U.S. Savings Bonds, we invest in ourselves—in our physical, economic and social security—and that of our children. And that's the soundest sort of investment we can make at any time or any place."

So declared John F. Henning, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in accepting the post of State Labor Chairman of the 1971 U.S. Savings Bond drive.

Noting that union members already account for the purchase of more than 60 percent of U.S. Savings Bonds purchased throughout the nation, Henning reminded California trade unionists that they can set aside a nest egg for
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INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS LIBRARY

INST OF IND REL LIBRARY
UNIV OF CALIF
2521 CHANNING RM
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Meany Answers Questions on Trade Unions Abroad

Question 3: On the whole, will the Soviet or the Western labor organizations be more strongly influenced by such contacts? Which is the greater danger: that a union member from the West might become a Communist through his conversations and visits in the Soviet Union, or that a Soviet official could be influenced by the West?

Mr. Meany: "In considering the problem of delegation exchanges between free trade unions, like the DGB, with state company unions of the USSR, Roumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, or the Soviet-occupied Zone of Germany, the issue is not who will influence whom more. We do not believe that the top leadership of the free trade unions will be converted to Communism by Shelepin. But the association of the free trade union leaders with Communist 'union' officials certainly makes it easier for the followers of the Soviet line in the free countries

Der Spiegel, a weekly news magazine similar to NEWSWEEK published in West Germany, recently put a series of questions to AFL-CIO President George Meany dealing with the Federation's position regarding trade unions and organized labor in Germany, the Soviet Union, and Spain. Since the questions are involved and the answers necessarily lengthy, the California AFL-CIO News will carry one question and one answer in each issue during the next several weeks. Here is the third in the series:

to promote Communist influence in the factories and to subvert the bona fide labor movement. Of course, there has never been any question of Western unions utilizing exchanges for subverting the Soviet state company unions.

"Nor do we entertain any illusions about KGB-oriented 'trade union' officials being won over to championing free trade unionism and democracy after being given the opportunity to observe freely conditions and people in Dusseldorf or Stuttgart. These Russian officials are opposed to democracy, not because they

are ignorant of its values and virtues, but because they are Communists and, therefore, prefer totalitarian dictatorship as a way of life for all mankind and as a higher form of democracy. This explains why throughout the years of experience with these exchanges not a single Soviet 'trade union' official has been converted to democracy. If there has been such a conversion, the official has undoubtedly vanished into a concentration camp—at best.

"The real issue here is that the so-called unions of the Communist world are no counter-

parts of the free trade unions in the democratic world (Germany, U.S., Britain, etc). In fact, the Soviet 'unions' are counterfeit labor organizations. This evaluation is not an American invention. In 1955, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) unanimously embraced the policy of opposing such exchanges. Over the years, this policy was re-examined and unanimously reaffirmed more than a dozen times.

"Until 1967, the representatives of the DGB supported the policy against such exchanges. The changes which have recently occurred in the Soviet Union do not warrant dropping this policy. Quite the contrary, the Soviet 1970 'labor legislation' only emphasizes the anti-worker role of the so-called Soviet trade unions. Unless, of course, the 1967 appointment of the ex-police chief Shelepin to head the AUC-CTU can be considered a good

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Fed Scholars Eligible Base Broadened

Vice President T. A. Small, chairman of the Federation's standing committee on Education, presented a report of his committee to the recent Executive Council meeting. The council accepted a recommendation that the eligibility base of the Federation scholarship program be broadened. Small reported that, beginning with three scholarships, the program has expanded to the point where more than 2,000 applicants were competing for 23 scholarships last year.

The committee recommended the top 75, rather than the top 50, papers be included in the eligible group starting next year. Thus, there will be a 50 per cent increase in the number of papers to be considered by the judges in making their final selections.

The council also accepted the committee recommendation that two educational conferences be held by the California Labor Federation in 1971. The first will be on national health insurance in March.

Comprehensive Fed Program For Legislative Session

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ing of public education and tuition-free higher education for all qualified students.

—Ready access to rapid transit facilities for the physically handicapped, and greater safety for passengers of public transportation in metropolitan areas.

—Establishment of a California Fair Labor Standards Act.

—Collective bargaining rights for public employees, with a separate proposal to cover teachers under the Education Code.

—Prohibition of professional strikebreaking.

Enhanced Benefits

—Revisions of the Unemployment Insurance Code to raise maximum weekly U.I. benefits from \$65 to \$150, Disability Insurance benefits from \$87 to \$150 weekly, and changes in the Labor Code to boost the weekly benefits for temporary disability benefits under Workmen's Compensation from \$87.50 to \$150.

—A number of individual bills to make improvements in state programs for unemployment insurance, disability insurance and workmen's compensation.

—Proposals to encourage

broader citizen participation in political activity and election campaigns.

—Provision for accredited courses in labor history, union organization and labor problems in California high schools, community colleges and state colleges.

—Proposals to protect the public interest in the exploitation of California's natural resources.

—Return of supervision of private employment agencies to the state labor commissioner, making them subject to the State Labor Code.

Specifics of these and other proposals will be more fully developed during the bill introduction period early in the coming session.

Editor Dies

WASHINGTON — Willard E. Shelton, 65, former managing editor of the AFL-CIO News, died Dec. 1 at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C., after an illness of several weeks.

Shelton retired in 1968, after 10 years as managing editor of the News.

UFWOC Pushes Poster Stamps To Raise Funds

United Farm Workers Organizing Committee has issued sheets of 48 poster stamps in multi-color designs, which are being offered for sale to provide financial assistance in its national organizing campaign. There are 12 separate pictures, the work of artist Andrew Zermeno, himself a veteran farm worker. They artistically depict various areas of concern to UFWOC and its working members. Each stamp also features the now famous Union Label of UFWOC, the black Aztec eagle on a red banner.

Sale of the stamps has been endorsed by the AFL-CIO nationally and by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in Executive Council action.

Anyone wishing to secure one or more sheets of these attractive stamps may do so by sending a contribution of at least \$1 to the UFWOC Defense Fund, P.O. Box 130, Delano, California 93215.

One-Sided Wage Sacrifice Rejected by Labor

America's workers and their unions "won't buy" the Nixon Administration's demand that they make a one-sided sacrifice at the bargaining table, AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany declared.

The latest "inflation alert" of the President's Council of Economic Advisers complains that wages are rising too rapidly. According to the Administration's game plan, unions should lower their pay goals "in response to the slack in the economy."

Meany sharply criticized the report as "heavily weighted against wage increases for workers" but "very solicitous about profits of business."

He stressed that "workers and wages did not cause this inflation," that the buying power of the average take-home pay is less than a year ago "and even below 1965." He served notice that organized workers will continue to bargain for a "fair share of

the pie" to restore their equity in the American economy.

The economic report, unveiled at a White House briefing, was the closest the Administration has come to "jawboning"—trying to influence wage and price decisions by public lecturing.

There was a token cautioning of employers "that we shall not make progress in reducing the inflation rates if the gains we hope to make on the labor cost front are offset by too-rapid increases of profit margins." But the Administration economists said their "chief concern" was with wages.

The solution, the report suggested, is for unions that have not yet had their round at the bargaining table to accept smaller increases than the pattern which has emerged over the past year.

It complained that the recent General Motors auto settlement "substantially exceeds" the anticipated gain in national productivity and would have an inflationary effect "if generalized

throughout the economy."

It even had some harsh words for the railroad wage settlement recommended by a presidential panel because it assumes the living costs will continue to rise substantially over the next few years.

Backing up the "jawboning" was a "carrot and stick" approach by the Administration.

The council report agreed that the present high unemployment and "slack" in the economy "is not a condition that can be allowed to persist for long." Government policies "should now aim more vigorously at expansion," the report conceded.

That was the carrot—the implied promise that the Administration policies that plunged the nation into a recession would be reversed.

And then there was the stick—the warning against wage increases the Administration considers too high. That, the report asserted, "would be a recipe for permanent rapid inflation—and also for persistent

unemployment, because the government would be bound to try to check the inflation by generally restrictive policies."

It may seem "unfair to some" that those who come to the bargaining table later settle for less, the report conceded. But it argued that such a sacrifice is the only way to stop the "cost-price spiral."

Meany noted that the report "considers wages only as a cost of doing business" and says nothing about "wages as family income or as a source of purchasing power."

The so-called inflation alert, he emphasized, has "not a word about interest rates, which are an important cost throughout the economy. Nor is there a word in the report about soaring bank profits."

Meany termed the attack on the Auto Workers settlement "unwarranted." In fact, he stressed, it is "a most responsible agreement" that "provides a catch-up and modest gains in buying power."

The economic council, Meany added, is not serving "the cause of industrial peace" by trying "to undermine the recommendations of the President's Emergency Board in the railroad disputes, which were in themselves meager and unsatisfactory."

Meany reiterated the AFL-CIO's willingness to accept restraints on wages "if similar controls were placed equally on all other costs and incomes, including prices, profits, dividends, rents and all the different kinds of executive compensation."

Labor's position, he said, is that "the economy has to be made to work for all the people, including the poor, the aged, the jobless, the untrained and all the others who need it the most and get so little out of it."

As for the demand for a one-sided sacrifice by workers, "I don't buy that and American workers won't buy that."

Unions Offering Holiday Calls

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nawa, Antarctica, Japan, Morocco and Europe will all participate in the program.

The calls are transmitted from overseas points through the Military Amateur Radio Service and connected with the telephone system by means of a "phone patch." Station equipment and telephone hook-ups are paid for by the AFM, and are monitored by Robert Altomonte, president of the union's Mansfield, O., local.

CWA's 14th annual "Hi-Mom" program was launched across the country last month. Early reports indicate that CWA locals will sponsor more than 5,000 calls between servicemen overseas and their families.

Funds are made available by the national union for more than 1,000 additional calls, largely to men in hospitals.

The USO, the Defense Department and the telephone company will coordinate their efforts to make overseas telephones available during the holiday season so that GIs who have won calls will be able to place them.

Union Shoppers Are Urged: Buy American, Buy Label

"If you care enough to give, give products which are American made, products which bear the Union Label."

This is the holiday gift shopping suggestion of Vice President Harry Finks, chairman of the Federation's committee on Union Labels, Shop Cards and Buttons.

"You know there's quality in Union products; you know there's quality in Union services," Finks declares. "They are produced by skilled, experienced men and women, well-trained, adequately compensated, and interested in doing the

best possible job for you, the customer."

He pointed out the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported early this month that unemployment in this country is at its highest in nearly a decade. Between October and December roughly 350,000 additional American workers were put out of work. Union members are urged not to contribute to further depressing increases in this toll.

"You help preserve American jobs and to stay the plunge into depression for the American economy when you buy American and buy Union," gift buyers are reminded.

State AFL-CIO Backs SST

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said, the U.S. "will be unable to maintain its leadership in world aviation, losing most of the market for transoceanic airliners"—a loss to the United States of its principal manufactured export. In addition, aerospace workers will lose "sorely needed employment" since the prototypes would provide work

for 20,000 to 30,000 employees of the contractor.

The council said it recognized "some of the reservations about the possible effect supersonic flight might have on the quality of the earth's environment," but expressed a conviction that no harm can come from the production of two prototypes as proposed under the program.

Peevey Returns

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founder of the Marin Transportation Action Committee which successfully fought a second deck on the Golden Gate Bridge, and is an active member of the Sierra Club, Marin Conservation League and the Save San Francisco Bay Association.

Fire Fighters Legislation Is Backed

California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, legislative representatives will give active support to a series of bills being sponsored by the Federated Fire Fighters of California, AFL-CIO, during the 1971 session of the Legislature.

This decision was made by the Fed's Executive Council early this month, following a request from Earl J. Dunn, president of the Fire Fighters. This will be in addition to the comprehensive legislative program being put forward directly by the Federation.

Among the proposals by the Fire Fighters are:

—Fire Fighters be allowed suitable credit for all legally proclaimed holidays, regardless of the day of the week on which they fall, since such workers are not generally governed by the same considerations as general employees regarding week-end employment.

—Fire Fighters shall be allowed no less than 28 calendar days vacation a year, with not less than 15 days consecutive.

—Change in Article 53250, Government Code, which would not allow any prior off-duty days to be computed as part of the 15 days vacation requirement. The 15 days would only commence on the first regular working shift the member is excused, due to annual vacation.

—Change Section 31781.1 of the 1937 Counties Retirement Act so that the surviving spouse of a deceased member receive a survivor's allowance of 75 per cent of the member's retirement allowance. It was pointed out that safety members of the Act pay the highest contribution rates yet receive the lowest survivor benefits of many members of the system.

Rail Union Staffer Gets Mediation Post

The National Mediation Board has announced the appointment of Robert J. Cerjan of Euclid, Ohio, to the board's staff of mediators.

Cerjan has been a field organizer for the United Transportation Union and a predecessor union, the Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen.

U.S. Marshals Harass I.-J. Pickets, Poole Charges

Former U.S. Attorney Cecil Poole has charged in Federal District Court that U.S. Marshals are being used "illegally" as an "investigative and harassing" force in the San Rafael Independent-Journal strike and lockout.

Noting that the deputy marshals are supposed to be used for serving subpoenas, Poole said they have been asking pickets at the I.-J. and throughout the community for their names, the names of their unions and for written identification.

The complaint was made in the court of Judge W. T. Sweigert in San Francisco. Poole is co-counsel for Typographical Union 21 and Teamsters Local 85 in a hearing of a charge of "criminal contempt," brought against the unions by the NLRB.

Leon Olson, president of Local 21, said Friday that this

"new and illegal use of U.S. Marshals is one of the biggest things labor has to be concerned with in the next period of time.

"The implications are obvious," he added. "Though we have the right to strike and picket, what happens to our rank and file members if there is a danger that they will be harassed on the picket line by U.S. Marshals and identified in federal court?"

Charles Weers, secretary-treasurer of the Marin Labor Council also expressed his concern about the danger of such developments to labor as a whole in a letter to other labor councils in northern California. At the request of the Marin Council, Weers incorporated a report on the situation in a general appeal for financial assistance to the Typographical local.

Meany Answers

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reason for the bona fide unions discontinuing their policy of refusing to associate with organizations which are not their counterparts but their enemies.

"The AFL-CIO continues to believe in the correctness of the aforementioned ICFTU policy which 'emphasizes that elementary international labor solidarity, the most vital interests of human freedom everywhere, and world peace require that no free

trade union organization should exchange delegations with any country which (1) denies its people the fundamental human rights specified in the Charter of the United Nations; (2) denies its workers the right of freedom of association and organization, the right of genuine collective bargaining and the right to strike; and (3) penalizes workers for advocating free trade unionism and democracy.'"

Offers Leadership Course

A six-months full-time leadership training program for San Francisco Bay Area union members from minority groups is scheduled by the Center for Labor Research and Education at the University of California, Berkeley campus, beginning March 1, 1971. Deadline for filing applications is January 11. Application forms have been sent local unions and central labor councils in the Bay Area. The forms may be obtained from them or directly from the Center at 2521 Channing Way, Berkeley, California 94720.

Minority group members of trade unions selected as trainees will get financial assistance during the training. This will be

sufficient, in most cases, to defray living expenses, enabling the trainees to take a leave of absence from work and give full time to the training. There are no formal educational requirements for selection of trainees. Final selection among the applicants will be announced by February 15.

Courses will cover such subjects as labor history, principles of leadership, collective bargaining, law and legislation, grievance handling, arbitration, communications, administration and economics. All are designed to help the trainee function effectively in a leadership capacity, according to the prospectus.

VP's Named on Fed Council Committees

Federation President Albin Gruhn announced a series of committee appointments during the meeting of the Executive Council held in Palm Springs early this month. Vice Presidents James Booe and Lloyd Lea were named to vacancies on the standing committee on Community Services; Vice Presidents Steve Edney and Joseph Garcia to the committee on Safety and Occupational Health; Vice President Fred L. Martin to the committee on Housing.

Two special committees were authorized at the Executive Council meeting. A committee to study the revision of Federation vice presidential district structure was named, consisting of President Gruhn, Executive Secretary John F. Henning and Vice Presidents Max Osslo, M. R. Callahan and Wilbur Fillipini.

Election procedures for Federation conventions will be the subject area of the other special committee, consisting of the President, the Executive Secretary and Vice Presidents T. A. Small, G. A. McCulloch and Sigmond Arywitz.

Savings Bonds

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their children's education or save for a home, car or other major expense through the U.S. Savings Bond payroll deduction plan available through many California employers.

He also called attention to the fact that interest rates on many popular U.S. Savings Bonds issues were recently increased to 5½ percent when held to maturity, a yield that's backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.

"In such uncertain times as these," he added, "there simply is no safer place for a worker to salt away his savings."

Union Essential

"Long ago we stated the reason for labor organization. We said that union was essential to give laborers opportunity to deal on an equality with their employer."—U.S. Supreme Court, NLRB vs. Jones & McLaughlin, 301 U.S. 1.