



California AFL-CIO News

Published weekly by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 995 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103—Second Class Postage Paid at San Francisco, Calif.—Subscription: \$3.50 a year

JOHN F. HENNING 151
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Jan. 1, 1971
Vol. 14—No. 1

State Fed Leader Asks CRLA Funds

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is working closely with California Rural Legal Assistance in its effort to secure adequate federal funding through the OEO to continue the life of the legal service agency.

John F. Henning, Executive Secretary of the state labor

organization, wired Governor Reagan and OEO Director Frank Carlucci, urging approval of a \$1.8 million federal grant to continue the CRLA. The governor has vetoed the grant, but final decision on the funding rests with the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C.

Henning noted the Federation "has had close association with the activities of the California Rural Legal Assistance." He pointed out that, "in a period of American history in which social issues are of such commanding importance, we believe it essential that projects such as CRLA be favored by the government."

The Federation executive pointed out, "Discontinuance of CRLA would seriously aggravate the present social crisis in California."

In addition to directly contact in the responsible officials, Henning sent wires to the central labor councils throughout California urging them to contact Carlucci and request refunding for the law service program.

Other voices have joined in urging continuance of funding, including the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bar Association, and Assemblyman William Bagley (R-Marin).

"The alienated and disadvantaged are urged to shun violence and obtain redress through means provided by law," Bagley

(Continued on Page 3)

Frontlash Sees Voting at 18 Vital to Youth

Youth participation in elections — especially participation by non-campus youth—will not automatically become a fact merely because the Supreme Court has ruled that 18-year-olds can vote.

This note of caution was part of a statement signed by the leaders of 10 national youth organizations and released Monday by David Jessup, Western States Director of Frontlash '70. Jessup's headquarters is in the offices of the California Labor Federation at 995 Market Street in San Francisco.

"Many young people are not aware of the importance of active electoral involvement; and a number of states have difficult restrictive registration requirements which discourage

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Protests Proposed Rule Changes for PUC

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, joined other consumer oriented organizations and conservation groups this week in protesting proposed changes in the procedural rules of the California Public Utility Commission.

The Federation, with the Association of California Consumers and the California Farmer-Consumer Information Committee, held a press conference to outline objections to the proposals.

Meanwhile, John F. Henning, Executive Secretary of the Federation, wrote to Commission President J. P. Vukasin Jr. detailing Labor's misgivings over the suggested changes.

The PUC is, by law, charged with regulation of privately

(Continued on Page 2)

NHI Criteria, Need Cited At S. F. Meet

A two-day meeting of state and local central bodies' principal officers for the west coast on December 11 and 12 in San Francisco heard details of the National Health Insurance program being sponsored by the AFL-CIO.

Director Bert Seidman of the Social Security Department told those assembled the program is based on six principles. These are:

1. Every man, woman and child in the nation—rich or poor, working or unemployed, old or young—should be eligible for the complete range of services.

2. Benefits should be comprehensive, including preventive, outpatient, inpatient and rehabilitative care in every appropriate setting. These inclusive benefits would permit the physician to select the exact type of treatment appropriate for the patient's need regardless of cost factors.

3. The program should be financed like Social Security with payments by employees at about the present scheduled Medicare rate, with the Federal government and employers splitting the remaining payroll cost. The self-employed would also contribute. The program would absorb Medicare and Medicaid. For the first time we would have equal rights to health care, regardless of income.

4. The National Health Insurance program should contract

(Continued on Page 4)

Student Strikebreakers Matter of Concern

In a letter to President Howard Day of the State Board of Education, Executive Secretary John F. Henning has spelled out the California Labor Federation's "great concern" over the use of work permits for students in the state's schools.

Henning pointed out that the Federation's convention is on record as "opposing the issuance by any school of a 'Work Permit' to any minor child seeking employment on any job where a 'Labor Dispute' or 'Contract Negotiations' are in progress."

The convention also opposed "the active participation of any tax supported school program

being used to train any minor child or dispatching him or her for training to any employer where his or her employment would displace a union member from a job."

The Federation's Secretary stated, "Such work permits are generally issued by schools to minors on the strength of an employer's signature, stating a desire to employ the child. They apparently are issued students without regard to existing labor disputes. Some employers are reported to have used the job training or job placement programs of high schools to secure 'strike breaking' low cost workers."

Henning cited the "affirmative, active support" of organized labor historically in the vocational training of young people in California schools. He concluded, "Evidence of abuses

(Continued on Page 3)

INST OF IND REL
UNIV OF CALIF
2521 CHANNING

INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS LIBRARY

JAN 4 1971

Frontlash Views Voting at Age 18 Vital to Youth

(Continued from Page 1)

full voting participation," the statement said. To overcome these problems, a massive voter registration and education drive was called for.

"It is especially important, in order that the Supreme Court decision does not simply lead to a broadening of the middle-class electorate, that large numbers of Black, Spanish-speaking, and White working class youth be reached through these registration drives." The statement continued, "We pledge not simply to help involve college students who, while important, comprise

only a quarter of the youth population that is affected. We must work in the ghettos, barrios, and with trade unions, to see that the benefits of this important new law are brought to all younger citizens."

The youth leaders called on Frontlash '70, which in California alone mobilized over 7,000 youth volunteers to help register 100,000 voters, to be the "central vehicle" for the registration drive.

"We have already begun the process in California," Jessup stated. He noted that the task would be a monumental one, since there are approximately

one million potential new voters in California between the ages of 18 and 21.

"Abolishing the year-long residency requirement was a big step forward, in addition to granting the youth franchise in national elections," Jessup pointed out. "Young people are highly mobile and a lessened period of residency will help us to reach them," he said.

"Two more obstacles must still be confronted, however," Jessup warned. "The new franchise must be extended to include state and local elections, and registration cutoff dates must be moved closer to elec-

tion day." He noted that groups like Frontlash and the Student California Teachers Association are currently moving to secure these additional reforms.

The leaders of the following organizations signed the statement: U. S. Youth Council, NAACP Youth and College Division, Young Democratic Clubs of America, National Catholic Youth Organizations Federation, Young People's Socialist League, National Council YMCA, National Student YWCA, B'nai B'rith Young Adults, Youth Project on Democratic Change of the League for Industrial Democracy, and Frontlash '70.

Fed Opposes Electronic Use In UI Hearings

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, is on record as opposing "any action on the part of the California Human Resources Development Department" or the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board to "permanently use" in their operations electronic recording equipment in interviews or appeals procedures.

The chairman of the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board and the Director of the State Department of Human Resources Development have been informed of the Federation's position in letters from John F. Henning, executive officer of the statewide labor organization.

He took note of the fact that recommendations have been made that personal interviews in the offices of the UI program of HRD and hearings before the appeals board be reported through use of such equipment to eliminate the utilization of shorthand reporters.

"We believe that, by using such devices in this manner," Henning stated, "it would effect a permanent elimination of personal contacts between claimants and departmental employees, removing a vital human element from this extremely sensitive process. In addition, such a change would undoubtedly add a tremendous cost to claimants, who can ill afford it."

PUC Rule Change Protest

(Continued from Page 1)

organized public utilities, airlines, bus companies, railroads and trucking firms operating in California. The Federation has actively participated in PUC proceedings for many years, seeking to protect the interests of its members as consumers and rate payers.

The proposed new rules would severely limit the Federation and other consumer groups from effectively appearing before the commission.

Some of the main provisions suggested include:

- To allow only attorneys to represent groups before the commission.

- To lump labor organization, customer groups and others into a special "limited party" category barring cross-examination of witnesses and utility company representatives.

- To create a "substantial and special interest" test in order to further limit groups appearing before the PUC.

- To adopt other rules to limit discussion of many of the vital issues in rate-setting cases.

Recently, the Federation participated in a Pacific Telephone rate case, filing a 129 page brief. The organization was also active in two recent PG&E cases involving changes in gas and electric rates. In these and other matters over the years, the Federation was represented by research staff members who were not attorneys.

The proposed changes were viewed as unnecessary and working toward reduction of cit-

izen participation in the workings of state government. It was pointed out that it is a function of the assigned PUC examiner to insure an orderly proceedings. The suggestion was made that if he cannot the examiner rather than the rules should be changed.

A committee of attorneys made up the suggested changes. On the committee were a member of a firm which represents the telephone company, a staff counsel of PG&E, and an attorney for several California trucking firms.

Under the rules, groups that didn't get into a hearing as full-fledged participants could be "limited parties." They could present witnesses, who would be subject to cross-examination, but they themselves would not be allowed to conduct cross-examination.

The requirement that issues be limited beforehand would restrict a no-holds-barred investigation of a public utility's operations. "Many of the issues aren't defined until the hearing gets under way," said one staff member.

A staff member said he knew of no regulatory agency, State or Federal, that had such a requirement.

Any individual or organization wishing to join in the protest against adoption of the proposed rule changes should write immediately to J. P. Vukasin Jr., President, Public Utilities Commission of California, State Building, 350 McAllister Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102.

State Health Meet Scheduled Jan. 14 In Capital City

A public meeting of the State Health Planning Council is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 1971, in the Auditorium of State Office Building No. 9, 744 "P" Street, Sacramento, California, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is the consideration of proposals and developments in the comprehensive health planning program, five-year Mental Health Plan, Hill-Burton Program-1971-72, progress reports on the State Plan for Health and other related subjects.

At 10:00 a.m. the hearing on Voluntary Health Planning Guides for Health Facilities will be held in accordance with public notice of December 7, 1970.

All interested organizations, groups and individuals are invited to attend.

Mrs. Hillman Dies

Bessie Hillman, widow of labor leader Sidney Hillman and a labor activist in her own right, died December 23 in New York at the age of 81. Mrs. Hillman was a vice president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, AFL-CIO, from 1946 until her passing. A native of Russia, she came to America in 1905 and at the age of 16 was fired from her first job for organizing a protest committee against sweatshop conditions.

Henning Asks Funds to Keep CRLA Service

(Continued from Page 1)

declared. "But if our civil justice system does not provide for adequate legal representation . . . of the poor, those who admonish them to confine legal and social redress to the existing legal channels are engaging in a cruel hoax."

The effectiveness of CRLA was noted by its director, Cruz Reynoso, when he pointed out that in five instances the organization's victories have been challenged all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. There the CRLA prevailed in all five.

The general counsel of CRLA, Sheldon Greene of Berkeley, said the organization has been doing the kind of job it was created for, and doing it so well "it has been adjudged the outstanding legal service program in the country."

The organization, Greene said, "has been providing for the poor the same high standards of representation in the courts and in the Legislature that the powerful have."

"In one class action, CRLA filed a suit to compel the state to enforce minimum wage standards for women farmworkers," Greene declared. "It was filed on behalf of 50,000 women farmworkers who individually were powerless to obtain it on their own."

"The suit succeeded in the Court of Appeal and the (California) Supreme Court and hundreds of thousands of dollars in retroactive wages were paid by employers to tens of thousands of farmworkers as an initial consequence of that suit."

Messages in support of the CRLA funding should be immediately sent to Frank Carlucci, Director, Office of Economic Opportunity, 1200 Nineteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

The Great Interest

"If the people can attain a fair compensation for their labor, they will have good homes, good clothing and good food. The great interest of this country is labor."—Daniel Webster.

Unionism Pays

A recent U.S. Census Bureau report compares union and non-union earnings in the same occupational groups and finds the unionists are many dollars ahead—the best possible answer to office employees who say there's no need to join a union because "non-union employers pay the same wages anyhow."

Here is a comparison of median earnings for union and non-union employees in the same occupations, as reported by the bureau. These are 1966 figures and union earnings have risen steadily since then:

	Organized	Unorganized	% Advantage of Organized
Construction Craftsmen	\$8,580	\$5,955	44
Mechanics and Repairmen	7,954	5,943	34
Operatives, Kindred Workers	6,321	4,724	34
Drivers, Deliverymen	7,843	5,518	42
Clerical Workers	5,867	4,572	28
Non-farm Laborers	6,108	4,080	50
Service Workers	4,717	2,779	70

Union membership was highest among blue collar workers: craftsmen (47%), operatives (51%), and non-farm laborers (52%). Clerical employees in the white-collar field showed the highest proportion (16%) of union members. Union membership was smallest among professional, managerial, sales, and farm workers.

Particularly noteworthy is that the income advantage of the low-profile organized clerical employees was smallest among the above groups. The figures prove that high-profile unionism and high pay go hand-in-hand.

They highlight the vast potential that exists today for expansion of unionism among white-collar employees, and the tremendous gains we could all make if we were more highly unionized in offices.

Underscoring the point, in the first 1970 quarter the U.S. Department of Labor finds that wages in union manufacturing plants increased an average of 7.7%, while those in non-union establishments went up only 6.3%.

—From "WHITE COLLAR," Nov. 1970
(Official Organ, OPEU)

"WE DON'T PATRONIZE"

Here are the firms currently on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO. Firms are placed on the list in response to written requests from affiliates upon approval of the Federation's Executive Council.

Affiliates involved are urged to inform the Federation of any future contract settlements or other developments that would warrant the removal of any of these anti-union firms from the Federation's list.

In this connection, it should be noted by all Federation affiliates that Giumarra Vineyards has been removed from the list since it signed a contract with the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee on July 29, 1970. Unfair firms are:

Coors Beer.

Tennessee Plastics of John-son City, Tennessee.

The Nut Tree and the Coffee Tree Restaurants, on Highway 40 between San Francisco and Sacramento.

San Rafael Independent-Journal.

The following San Diego area motels:

Bahia Motel and Motor Lodge
Catamarran Motor Hotel and Restaurant

Islandia Hotel and Restaurant

In addition the Federation is supporting such national AFL-CIO consumer boycotts as those in progress against the **Los Angeles Herald-Examiner** and the **Kingsport Press** of Kingsport, Tenn., publishers of the "World Book" and "Child Craft" series.

High Voltage Safety Orders Hearings Set

The State Division of Industrial Safety has set dates for public hearings to consider adoption of new proposed High Voltage Electrical Safety Orders. These will have general application throughout the state, relative to "reasonable safety standards and safety devices as authorized by Division 5, Part 1, Chapter 3 of the Labor Code."

A hearing will be held in Los Angeles on February 3 and 4 at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium, 107 South Broadway.

The second hearing will be February 9 and 10 in Room 1194, State Building Annex, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, starting at 10 a.m.

Concern Over Students' Work

(Continued from Page 1)

such as those I have cited above could seriously jeopardize this whole relationship, which I am sure neither of us would want to see happen."

In response to Henning's letter, a board aide wrote, "The support of organized labor of California public school vocational programs has been outstanding." He went on, "It is a working agreement that individual school districts have found to be most valuable in protecting the educational programs of students in the labor market. Abuses that jeopardize such an agreement cause grave concern."

The board representative declared that "specific instances of the use of students in any position that might work to the disadvantage of labor union members would be helpful" in reminding school districts of the "courtesies union members have long extended to public educators."

Labor's Rights

"We insist upon the right to organize, the right to think, to act; to protect ourselves, our homes, and our liberties, and work out our emancipation."—Samuel Gompers.

Seidman Cites NHI Goals In San Francisco Session

(Continued from Page 1)

for all medical services on a prepayment basis. Eligible contractors would include medical and dental societies, hospitals, groups of primary physicians and multi-specialty groups. All would be paid on a per capita basis but how each contractor distributed the funds it received to individual doctors would be strictly an internal matter.

5. National Health Insurance should enhance, not contract, the freedoms of patients and doctors alike. Patients should have free choice of physicians and free choice of health delivery systems. Physicians should not have to practice within the system if they could find patients outside it. But if they did choose to participate—and this Council is convinced that the overwhelming majority would—there would be no interference whatsoever with the clinical practice of medicine.

Solo practitioners could contract to provide services on the same per capita basis as medical societies or groups. However, doctors who accepted payment on a capitation basis or were members of groups, would be substantially free of all paper work. They could devote their attention to the prevention and treatment of illness.

6. The program should have as one of its principal aims improving the organization and delivery of health care. Therefore, financial assistance should be provided for planning, development and initial staffing of comprehensive health delivery systems.

"NHI is the No. 1 legislative goal of the AFL-CIO," Seidman said. "President Meany said it in his Labor Day speech devoted entirely to that one subject. He and Secretary Treasurer Kirkland have been repeating it in nearly every speech they have made since that time. The question is no longer whether we will have NHI but when and what will be its major features."

He cited the main interests in NHI outlined by President Meany. These are:

To prevent unnecessary illness.

To have the best possible treatment for workers and their families—for all Americans for that matter—when they are sick, so that they will recover quickly and completely.

To keep the cost of medical care at a reasonable level so that people are not denied needed care simply because they can't afford it.

Seidman pointed out that we are "falling farther and farther behind other countries and spending more. Americans like to think of themselves as first among the family of nations in every branch of human endeavor. In health we are not number one, or number two either. We are a long way from ranking in the top ten."

There are 35 nations where 10-year-old boys can expect to live longer. There are ten other nations where 10-year-old girls can expect to live longer, and 13 where new-born infants have a better chance of survival.

"The United States is the only industrialized nation left on earth that does not have a national health program, and it is paying a heavy price," he told those at the meeting.

Land Law Board Criticized

Dr. Paul Taylor, research director of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, charged the Public Land Law Review Commission "opposes any acreage limitation on land served by public waters, and any restriction on corporate land ownership."

His presentation was part of a two-day conference early in December at San Francisco on a bulky and controversial report by the commission. This was one of six such regional meetings to discuss the report, sponsored by the Institute of Governmental Studies of the University of California Extension.

Taylor pointed out that in earlier conservation eras policy emphasis was on "retention and management." He said that, as President, Theodore Roosevelt insisted that, when disposing of public waters, no one should be permitted to receive more than

'Long Weekends' In New Year

During 1971 the new "Monday Holiday" law goes into effect. Technically, the new law applies only to U.S. government employees, but the states have moved to conform and all but a handful have passed Monday holiday laws.

Consequently, Washington's Birthday, instead of February 22, will be on the third Monday of February, or February 15.

Memorial Day will not fall on May 30 but on the last Monday of May, or May 31. Columbus Day has been added to the federal calendar of holidays, to be celebrated on the second Monday of October, or October 11 instead of the 12th.

The evolution of Armistice Day to Veterans Day on November 11 has been carried one step further, and will now be celebrated the fourth Monday of October or October 25.

Labor Day, of course, will be as before on the first Monday of September, September 6, for the usual three-day weekend.

Independence Day, in 1971 occurs on Sunday, making the day following a holiday. Christmas will come on a Saturday.

Without the new law all these except Labor Day, July 4 and Christmas would have come in midweek or on a weekend.

Union Label Use on State Printing Asked

In letters to the state printer and the director of the State Department of General Services, John F. Henning, Executive Secretary of the California Labor Federation, called for the display of the Union Label on printed material produced by the state printing plant in Sacramento.

Henning called attention to a resolution adopted by the recent Federation convention which stated, in part, "The deletion of the label . . . from work produced at the Office of State Printing deprives the user of such printing and the people of the State of California of knowing that their printing tax dollars have been spent for qualified craftsmen at fair wages and under fair working conditions."

It was noted that, by statute the office of state printing recognizes prevailing wage rates for typographers, lithographers, pressmen and bookbinders. Historically, virtually all printing done in the state printing office has been done by union labor represented in the graphic arts unions. The label of the Allied Printing Trades Council has appeared on much of the work produced there in years past.

Reports have been received recently that the label is being deleted from printing requisitions which specify its use.

Henning emphasized to the officials that the Federation fully supports the efforts of the Sacramento Allied Printing Trades Council to have its label appear on printing produced by the state printing office.

Strike Settled

The Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, advises the strike against Stockham Valve & Fitting Company of Birmingham, Ala., has been settled. The firm has been removed from the "Don't Patronize List." The department, on behalf of the United Steelworkers of America, expressed appreciation to trade unionists throughout the nation for their cooperation.