

California AFL-CIO News

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Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Labor Day Message: 1971

By JOHN F. HENNING **Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

Labor Day in 1971 finds the union movement in confrontation with White House politicians who in two and one-half years brought the nation to economic stagnation and depression.

Not only labor but the world has lost confidence in the President's capacity to direct the American economy toward stability and abundance. Devaluation of the dollar inevitably followed devaluation of the White House.

President Nixon, Secretary of the Treasury Connally and Secretary of Labor Hodgson are faithfully serving the same interests to whom they were beholden before taking control in Washington.

Nixon was the worn but useful tool of corporate America; Connally the anti-labor, anti-civil rights leader of

Texas conservatism; and Hodgson the Vice President of Lockheed. All three are behaving in accord with past performance.

In the August crisis that propelled the economy to the abyss, they pushed low and middle-income millions over the edge and then called for law and order.

The administration did more. It talked treason to democracy when it threatened striking workers with the penalties of a coercive government.

Labor must know now that it can hold no faith in the Nixon Administration. By worker solidarity and renewed political vitality we must in 1972 restore the liberal mission of the White House and so give new purpose to a confused nation and new trust to a doubting world.

Cal Fed to Washington

General Counsel Charles P. Scully of the California Labor Federation was called to Washington this week to attend a conference of general counsels of all AFL-CIO affiliates, called by President George Meany.

In a letter to John F. Henning, Executive Secretary of the California federation, President Meany said the conference of lawyers was necessary "because of the substantial nature of the many legal issues" raised by President Nixon's new economic program.

Meany has designated J. Albert Woll, general counsel of the AFL-CIO, to chair the conference. The sessions, to be held in the AFL-CIO headquarters, were scheduled to begin at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning this week.

Meany said the conference will explore and recommend possible areas of AFL-CIO action during this week's sessions.

Counsel Of State Fed Executive Counc **Scores Nixon Policy**

Nichols Named New Treasurer Of Carpenters

WASHINGTON - The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners have announced the appointment of Charles E. Nichols as treasurer of the union, succeeding Peter E. Terzick who is retiring after 10 years in the post.

Nichols, an executive board member, was for many years active in California trade union circles. A native of Texas, he joined Carpenters Local 2035 at Crystal Bay on Lake Tahoe in 1946. In 1947 he became active in Local 1484 and became recording secretary of the local

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The Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, this week on behalf of California's 1,630,000 AFL-CIO members unanimously went on record in support of the position taken by President Meany and the National AFL-CIO opposing the Nixon administration's recently enunciated national economic policy. This

included, among other points, a 90 - day wage - price freeze and a "request" for a no-strike commitment by American labor.

In its recently issued statement, the national executive council declared:

"When President Nixon took office on January 20, 1969. America was in the 95th month of the greatest period of sustained economic expansion in history. The unemployment rate was 3.4 percent, the lowest in 15 years.



PRESIDENT MEANY

... speaks for Labor

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Promises Made

"Mr. Nixon had based his campaign for the presidency on two issues: the war in Vietnam and the dangers of inflation. He told the American people that the inflation rate of 4.2 percent then existing was unacceptably high. He promised to control in-

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Economists Raise Questions Over Nixon's Policies

Organized Labor is not alone in its reservations over the President's national economic policy package, first revealed in a TV broadcast August 15.

While generally favoring the policies, Harold Buma, vice president and chief economist for the Wells Fargo Bank, concludes: "It's a package favoring business. The stimulus should come from the consumer to business, rather than vice versa." He feels the President "probably should have done something more" with direct profit controls.

Richard M. Roseman, economics professor at California State College in Los Angeles, disagrees with the theory that the President's action will stimulate consumer buying. He argues that unemployment and not "consumer psychology" may be the chief problem to be dealt with.

"Whatever people's state of mind is," he says, "if they don't have the income they can't spend it on purchases. And if companies don't have the sales they can't spend the money on investment."

Joining in the words of caution was Milton Friedman, conservative economist from the University of Chicago, who said: "Wages are symptoms, not causes of inflation . . . (the temporary freeze) will be purely cosmetic. The effects will be to conceal price and wage increases, not prevent them."

John R. Dryden, executive vice president of Crocker National Bank, noted: "Things are in such a state of confusion that nobody in business is making up his mind to do much of anything until he sees which way the wind blows . . . I don't think we really have a package yet. . . You can't correct things with a speech."

Dryden added: "It may turn out that when the blossom is off all this and the oratory forgotten . . . there may be a great deal of disillusionment. . . .'

Meanwhile Representative Wright Patman (D-Texas), chairman of the House banking and currency committee, criticized the Administration for not imposing a freeze on interest rates.

Patman declared that consu-

'Union Label Week' Slated Sept 6-12

"Union Label Week" will be celebrated this year from Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 6, through Sunday, Sept. 12. The Union Label Pledge below is being distributed by the National AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department to help win general public recognition that the purchasing power of union members "is a force for good in every community in our land."

UNION LABEL WEEK PLEDGE

I am a Union worker and I shall not undermine the welfare of my fellow brothers and sisters. Across these United States man labored too long and too hard for me to destroy their gains by purchasing non-union.

I am a Union family man who has been blessed with a decent living. I have come to enjoy better things because of the devotion. dedication and the desire of those before me who labored to provide a standard of living unparalleled in the world. I shall not destroy all their efforts and render helpless all the causes they so earnestly fought to win for workers.

I am a Trade Unionist and refuse to reward those who have opposed my existence and way of life. I will not permit my unionearned dollars to penetrate the walls of those establishments where a union card is the same as a "No Vacancy" or a "Not Welcome" sign!

As a man who believes in the dignity and rights of men, before I buy I shall look for the Union Label, Shop Card, Store Card or Service Button. In so doing I will strengthen the security of men and women who believe as I in the goals of the free American Labor Movement.

I am a member of organized labor and will never forget I would not be able to purchase the amount of products I do without a union job and, therefore, common sense and a deep commitment to the ideals of our movement demand I purchase those products which will further our cause.

I will support and strengthen my fellow brothers and sisters by using a simple tool—the Label Golden Rule—"Buy Union Products and Use Union Services as You Would Have Union Wages Paid Unto You!"

UI Claims Rates Rising

WASHINGTON — The number of people receiving unemployment insurance benefits and those filing initial claims have been rising substantially, the Labor Department reveals.

Initial claims totaled 367,900 for the week ending July 17. This is 32,100 higher than the previous week.

Those receiving unemployment insurance benefits totaled 2,007,-600 for the week ended July 10, an increase of 164,000 over the preceding week and 248,900 over a year earlier.

Forty-seven states reported increases, with California adding 12.300. In addition to claimants under the regular programs nationally, 272,911 insured jobless workers filed claims under the extended benefit provisions. In the previous week 273,867 such claims were filed.

The number of claims received from ex-servicemen under the UCX program totaled 13,100 for the week ended July 17. This is 1700 higher than the week before and the volume last year was 11,800.

Under the UCX program, 119,-200 ex-servicemen were reported as continuing to file claims. This was 5,600 more than the previous week and 37,100 higher than in 1970 at the same time.

mers "are being victimized by Labor Lobby unconscionable interest charges on automobiles, television sets, furniture and even clothing. Imposition of credit controls would provide the machinery to put an end to these abuses."

The AFL began to lobby formally in national politics in 1895 when it appointed representatives to serve in Washington, D. C.

Galifornians Place High in Contest For Apprentices

Two Californians brought home third place awards from the International Carpenters Apprenticeship competition held in Detroit early in August. These were Bruce Maes of Los Angeles, third place millwright, and Robert Freeman of Stockton, third place mill-cabinet maker.

The contests involved 71 apprentices from the United States and Canada - 40 carpenters, 14 mill-cabinet makers and 17 millwrights. They represented 35 states, the District of Columbia and four Canadian provinces.

The international competition was instituted in 1967, an outgrowth of a western states competition. It is jointly sponsored by the Carpenters union, the Associated General Contractors and the National Association of Home Builders. This year the Forest Products Institute also cooperated.

A carpenter apprentice from Victoria, B. C., and an apprentice from Calgary, Alberta, won the two top awards.

Carpenters President M. A. Hutcheson told the awards banquet that union carpenters have invested heavily in apprenticeship training, and the results of the 1971 competition reflected the value of this investment.

The National Carpenters' Joint Apprenticeship Committee announced next year's competition will be in Las Vegas, Nevada.

UTU Picks New President

MIAMI BEACH-Al H. Chesser, legislative director of the Transportation Union, has been elected president of the UTU at its first convention since the merger of four rail unions in 1969. He succeeds Charles Luna who is stepping down at the union's mandatory retirement age.

Meanwhile, concern over President Nixon's wage-price freeze. dominated other convention business.

Luna, joining the solid front of labor leaders in opposition to the President's action, described the freeze as unfair because it left profits, dividends and interest rates free to climb.

Publishers Spurn Workers' Return

L.A. Lockout Continued By Her-Ex

Silence from management met an offer by union members on strike against the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner for over 31/2 vears to return to work in compliance with the President's call for an end to current strikes and lockouts.

Charles Dale, International Representative for the Newspaper Guild, wrote the publisher that the "striking and locked out unions are prepared to end the strike and direct their members who are available" to return to work, provided the paper ends a lockout in effect since December, 1967, and re-employs all those union members who make themselves available.

The strikers agreed to return at current prevailing wage rates and under contract terms existing before the strike-lockout, and to "immediately engage in the bargaining called for by the President to find an acceptable settlement of the dispute."

Dale also called on J. Curtis Counts, director of the Federal Mediation Service, to "personally involve himself" as a mediator.

The publisher had no comment on the union's proposal. Counts in Washington said the Herald-Examiner dispute would not be included in the order since "that one is a lost strike."

Counts' statement brought vigorous response from Charles A. Perlik Jr., Newspaper Guild President, and Sig Arywitz, Executive Secretary of the L. A. County Federation of Labor.

In a wire to Counts, Perlik noted:

"It's clear the Nixon administration wants to muscle working men and women into ending their strikes only if they are winning. But if in your judgment they are losing, then you see no obligation to muscle the corporation, especially a big one like Hearst, into a settlement."

"If it wasn't clear before, it's certainly clear now," Arywitz concluded, "that Mr. Nixon's and Mr. Counts' concern is for

Fed Leader Set for Labor Day Events

Executive Secretary John F. Henning of the California Labor Federation will participate in two traditional Labor Day observances on Monday, September 6—one in southern California and the other in the north.

Ken Edwards **New Acting Head** Of Lathers

WASHINGTON - Kenneth M. Edwards of San Francisco has been unanimously chosen by the executive board of the Wood, Wire & Metal Lathers as acting president of the union. Elected third vice president last year, Edwards succeeds Robert A. Georgine, since last May secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Department.

Edwards has been business representative and secretarytreasurer of San Francisco Local 65 of the Lathers for 12 years. In addition he has been president of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council.

Fire Fighters' 22nd Convention Oct. 27-31

The Federated Fire Fighters of California will hold their 22nd annual convention in Santa Cruz October 27-31. Local 1716 will host the sessions. The day before the convention opens the second annual Fire Fighters Charity Golf Tournament will be held.

the corporations - not for the working men and women of this

"We invite Mr. Counts to retract his opinion," Arywitz declared. "The strike is not lost; the newspaper is lost-and anyone who takes the time to look at the paper will readily see that the newspaper is lost. It is only a skeleton of its former self and has deteriorated to the point where it can never regain its former stature."

He will take part in the 25th annual salute to Labor sponsored by the Catholic Labor Institute in Los Angeles. This opens with Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. Vibiana's Cathedral, Second and Main.

> Following the Mass, the traditional breakfast will be served at 10 a.m. in the Biltmore Bowl at the Biltmore Hotel. Presentation of the Father Thomas Coogan Award will be a highlight of the program.

> The Coogan award was established by the Catholic Labor Institute in memory of its founder. The recognition is given to a union and a company which have made noteworthy contributions to the search for industrial peace and social justice. In the afternoon, Henning will be at the Labor Day picnic at the Alameda County Fair Grounds in Pleasanton.

The annual picnic "is where we get the funds to take on the political fight," Assistant Secretary Ed Collins told the Alameda County Central Labor Council at its meeting last week. The council sponsors the annual

Game booths will open for the picnic at 10 a.m. A horseshoe pitching contest will get underway at 11 a.m. with children's races starting at noon.

A talent show at 2 p.m. will be followed by a speech by U.S. Senator Edmund Muskie, Maine Democrat. The senator will also be a featured speaker at the breakfast in Los Angeles.

Working Mothers

The number of children with mothers in the labor force increased sharply in the last decade. The mothers of nearly 26 million children under 18 years old were in the labor force in March 1970. Almost 6 million of the children were under 6, that is, below school age and requiring some kind of care in their mother's absence.

I-J Strikers Rebuffed At Door

Following the President's "no strike, no lockout" statement as part of his new economic policy, members of the San Francisco Bay Area Typographical Union Local 21 offered to end their 19 months old strike against the San Rafael Independent-Journal and reported for work at the

The publisher spurned the offer and continued the I-J lockout against members of Local 21, Web Pressmen's Local 4, Stereotypers Local 29 and Newspaper and Periodical Drivers Local 921,

Prior to the strikers reporting for work, the ITU wired Curtis Counts, head of the Federal Mediation Service, that "despite the fact we consider the demand illegal and an unwarranted attack on the rights of labor, we are prepared to abide by the request of the government."

Company spokesmen met the returning craftsmen at the door and told them permanent replacements had been hired. They said applications for future jobs would be accepted.

"That proves the I-J forced the strike to break the union," Leon Olson, president of Local 21, told reporters. In a later statement, Olson said:

"Our members will continue to be available to return to work. If the actions of the Nixon Administration are to construed as anything other than anti-labor in character, they will insist that the Independent-Journal also conform to the government mandates and guidelines. We hope that the political influence of the press will not stand in the way of equal enforcement of the

"In the meantime, we shall continue to prosecute the strike with renewed vigor. The unionbusting intent of this employer is now obvious, and fair-minded people will not allow them to succeed in their plans."

Traffic Signal

The first traffic control light was installed in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1912.

State Fed Council Backs Protests to Nixon Policy

(Continued from Page 1) flation and stabilize the economy without unfairly burdening any one segment of the economy and especially without increasing unemployment. He promised, in fact, to pursue policies that would create five million new jobs during his term.

"One month after taking office he reiterated, in a letter to the AFL-CIO Executive Council, his pledge to curb inflation 'without asking wage earners to pay for stability with their jobs.'

"President Nixon undertook to cool the economy by tightening the money supply and reducing expenditures.

"His self-styled game plan has proved an unmitigated disaster."

Citing statistics, the AFL-CIO noted the number of unemployed has nearly doubled in 2½ years, 14½ million Americans are on relief rolls, and the number of persons living in poverty has risen to 25½ million. More than 800 communities are "economic disaster areas."

Noting an administration adherence to a "trickle-down" theory of economics, the council cited huge sums of money being diverted to succor big cor-

Henning Speaker At Labor Dinner In Bakersfield

John F. Henning, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, will be a speaker and honored guest at the second annual Labor Man of the Year dinner in Bakersfield on September 11. The affair is sponsored by the Kern, Inyo and Mono Counties Central Labor Council. Bill Walker, former labor commissioner, will be feted as man of the year.

New Treasurer Of Carpenters

(Continued from Page 1) and later business manager of the Tulare and Kings Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

Nichols became a general representative of the Carpenters in 1956. In 1966 President M. A. Hutcheson named him to the executive board, representing the union's eighth district on the west coast.

Message to the President

Executive Secretary-Treasurer John F. Henning of the State Federation Thursday sent the following telegram to President Nixon, pursuant to Executive Council action:

"This is to advise that the Executive Council of the California Labor Federation, representing more than 1,630,000 AFL-CIO workers in this state, unanimously condemns your administration's new economic game plan. Specifically we protest:

- "1. The administration threat to break strikes and fine striking unions during the 90-day freeze period.
- "2. The firing of more than 125,000 Federal government employees by elimination of 134,000 jobs.
- "3. The 10 percent tax incentive give-away for American industry.
 - "4. Unlimited profits and dividend returns for business.
- "5. Uncontrolled interest rates for the banking and financial interests.

"We urge your reconsideration of this disastrous policy."

porations. At the same time, the President froze wages and salaries, forbidding employers to implement wage increases already negotiated, they pointed out.

"He provided no effective machinery to enforce price controls," the council said, "and no machinery at all to insure equity on the wage front or to correct manifest injustice."

The council noted the AFL-CIO, since February 1966, was committed to cooperation in overall stabilization measures on all costs and incomes — prices, profits, dividends, rents and executive compensations, as well as employees' wages and salaries.

"We said repeatedly that we were prepared," the statement says," to cooperate with mandatory government controls . . . provided s u c h controls were even-handed a n d across-the-board. But we have opposed any and all attempts at one-sided curbs on workers' wages, without effective curbs on prices, profits, interest rates and other incomes.

Test Not Met

"The President's program simply does not meet that test of equity."

Citing numerous corporation and management exemptions in the President's order, the council reiterated, "The AFL-CIO pledge to cooperate with mandatory controls was based on the absolute essential of fairness, equity and justice. None of these is contained in the President's wage-price freeze."

In an interview after the executive council meeting President Meany expanded on the statement that "We have never recommended and do not now recommend defiance of lawful orders."

Non-Cooperation

"We are not advocating defiance," Meany said. "We are just saying we will not cooperate, that's all."

After detailing its position on specifics of the Nixonomic program, the AFL-CIO executive council concluded:

"We reiterate the pledge we have made on numerous occasions since Februray 1966. We will cooperate with fair, equitable, across-the-board mandatory controls on all costs, prices and incomes including profits, interest rates, dividends and executive compensation as well as workers' wages salaries. The President's program does not meet that test. We will not be a party to deceiving the American public into believing that the President's program is fair, equitable or workable."

"WE DON'T PATRONIZE"

The following firms are 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.

All trade unionists and friends of organized labor are urged not to patronize any of the firms listed here.

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.

Unfair firms are:

Coors Beer.

Gaffers & Sattler products.

Kindair Theater Corporation, operators of the following antiunion theaters in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties:

> Cinema 70 in Monterey; Steinbeck Theater in Monterey:

Valley Cinema in Carmel Valley:

Globe Theater in Salinas; Cinema Theater in Soquel; and.

Twin I & II in Aptos.

Montgomery Ward in Redding. Tennessee Plastics of Johnson City, Tennessee.

The Nut Tree and the Coffee Tree Restaurant, 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 "ChildCraft" series.

48th AD Vote Slated Oct. 19

The Governor this week set October 19 as the date for a special election to fill the seat vacated in the 48th Assembly District by the election of David A. Roberti to the State Senate this summer.

A runoff election, if required, will be held on November 16 in the Los Angeles County district.

