

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

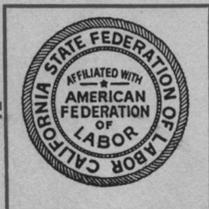
FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING



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SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

January 7, 1948

### PROCEDURE CHANGED IN PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Beginning with the week of January 12, the Department of Employment will pay claimants for unemployment insurance and servicemen's readjustment allowances by checks written in the central office and mailed to the home address of the claimant, rather than by handing the check to the claimant at the time the claim is filed, as is done at the present time.

James G. Bryant, Director, declares that this change in procedure is necessary for several reasons, principal among which is the plan to initiate the payment of benefits in cash in all major offices throughout the state. As a result of the Department's experiments in cash payment of benefits, it will be necessary to centralize the check-writing process prior to initiating cash payments in order to make the transition smooth and effective, as well as to provide an effective method of benefit payment in offices which are too small to effectively pay benefits in cash. The centralized payment system is the one generally in use in the other 47 states.

The change in procedure will mean that checks for compensable weeks ending during the week of January 21 will not be received by claimants until approximately one week later. This will also be true of all subsequent weeks until such time as the office in which the claim is filed is converted to cash payment, when payments will again be made immediately upon the end of the compensable week.

All claimants, therefore, who will be filing during the week of January 5, will be notified of this change in procedure, and the checks for the week of January 21, and for subsequent weeks, will be received at their homes approximately one week after the end of the compensable week claimed.

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EMPLOYERS DEVELOP CAMPAIGN TO MAKE  
TAFT-HARTLEY ACT PALATABLE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--In widespread, cleverly written advertisements, various employers, directly and through their spokesmen, are seeking to sell the Taft-Hartley Act to the public. Arguments in favor of the Taft-Hartley Act have appeared in what can be considered nothing other than commercialized ads, but written and presented in the form of articles. Numerous outstanding national slick magazines and the various trade journals throughout the country are being deluged with similar propaganda.

A comprehensive statement revealing the strategy of the employers and signed by Mr. James H. McGraw, Jr., President of the McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, Inc., was carried in the "Electrical Merchandizing" magazine, issue of November 15, 1947. The article advises management not only to be temperate in making use of the Act, but urges that a program of positive action be added to such temperance. It recommends that management appeal directly to the rank and file of the unions. Obviously, this is a strategy to discredit the prestige of the organizations and their officials.

The article advocates at the present time to use the Act as little as possible in settling labor disputes, but emphatically advises management to "stand firm in its refusal to bargain away the rights accorded by the Act..." This simply means that management is instructed to take advantage of every anti-labor provision in the Act, and that would mean the abolition of the closed shop and union security in its various forms.

While piously declaring that management should use the new law gently and not resort to courts in settling labor relations, the article insists, nevertheless, that the employers should not bargain away the legal rights accorded to them by the Act. In other words, the whole strategy is aimed to disarm the rank and file of the labor movement by causing as little litigation as possible under the Act at the present time, while planning to take full advantage of the provisions of the law and its anti-union security clauses at a more opportune

time.

The campaign seems to be well organized and coordinated, and all media of publicity are being used by management to obtain uniform acceptance of this policy to make the Taft-Hartley Act effective and invulnerable to amendment or repeal. While national magazines claiming to report the news objectively have given considerable space to management's position and opinions in regard to the Act, labor has been denied this right.

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#### FILING UNDER TAFT-HARTLEY ACT

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.---Nearly one-third of the statements required of unions complying with the Taft-Hartley Act are defective, according to a report by General Counsel Denham. The most common error made by unions choosing to come under the Act has been the failure to distribute to members the financial data filed with the Secretary of Labor. In many instances, union leaders reported that they had merely posted the report in the union hall or had announced that the books were open to inspection by any member. The NLRB has ruled, however, that unions must show that they have either furnished financial reports to all union members or have sufficient copies available to distribute to all members upon request.

The Board's General Counsel has suggested the following specific measures which will enable unions to comply with this requirement of the Act: (1) publish the data in the union newspaper which is distributed to all members; (2) mail copies of the report to all members; (3) post copies of the report on the union bulletin board and announce that copies are available for all unions members; and (4) international unions should give locals a sufficient number for distribution to all members and instruct locals to post a copy and announce that additional copies are available for distribution.

A second source of defect in union statements under the Act results from local unions sending all their forms to the NLRB's Washington office, rather than the regional office. Locals should send only their "Labor Organization Registration Form" to the Department of Labor in Washington. All other local union forms go to the NLRB

regional office.

The remaining defective union statements failed to qualify because the unions did not submit non-Communist affidavits for each and all of their officers. Officers are persons so defined in the union constitution.

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#### DI GIORGIO LONGEST AGRICULTURAL STRIKE IN HISTORY

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Eleven hundred members of the National Farm Labor Union and Teamsters Local 87 maintained their picket line around the 20-thousand acre Di Giorgio Ranch while the owner was attending the Rose Bowl Game in Pasadena on New Year's Day.

The workers are resolved to redouble their efforts to bring labor organization into the San Joaquin Valley and to picket the Di Giorgio Corporation until it agrees to sit down with the union representatives to discuss wages, hours and working conditions for its employees.

As the strike enters its fourth month, the morale on the picket line is excellent. The union has succeeded in blocking the importation of Mexican-American strikebreakers from El Paso by having the Texas State Federation of Labor swear out warrants for the arrest of the two Di Giorgio recruiting agents.

All Di Giorgio products have been placed on the Unfair List by the American Federation of Labor, and its affiliated members have been urged not to buy the following brand names: O Yes We Grow the Best, Red Flag, Sun Color, High Color, River Boy, Earl Crown, and Try One.

The Di Giorgio interests are far-flung and spread over several continents: At Klamath Falls, Oregon, it owns a lumber and box company; in the midwest, the corporation partially owns the United Fruit Auction Sales Company in Chicago, Illinois; in Cincinnati, Ohio, it owns the Fruit Auction Sales Company; at Winter Haven and Fort Pierce, Florida, it operates a fruit juice cannery; in the east, the Di Giorgio Corporation owns the Baltimore Fruit Exchange and the Di Giorgio Distributing Company in New York City, as well as the New York Fruit Auction Company, which is said to handle about 80 per cent of the average tonnage of all fruits distributed in New York markets.

The strikers are sorely in need of all the assistance the unions can give them.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO MEET IN SANTA BARBARA  
JANUARY 24-25

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The next quarterly meeting of the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor will convene in Santa Barbara on January 24 at the California Hotel.

The Executive Council will devote special attention to the coming campaign to reapportion the State Senate, as well as to oppose politically the supporters of the Taft-Hartley bill and the enemies of labor in Congress and the state legislature.

A full agenda covering various phases of labor activity throughout the state will occupy the attention of the vice-presidents at this meeting.

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HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR REGISTRAR LATELY?

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Imagine the embarrassment of an AFL campaigner who had just gone through a losing election, after two months of intensive drive for his candidate.

He pinned on bumper strips, put stickers on windshields, visited his neighbors, covered all the jobs where members of his union were working, worked day and night.

Election over, he made his own personal check. The first job he approached had 14 members of his local busily engaged at their trade.

FOUR were registered and had voted. TEN were unregistered.

Checked your local lately?

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