

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING

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SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

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M & M PLANS STRIKE-BREAKING CAMPAIGN UNDER GUISE OF INSURANCE COMPANY

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--In a bold move to finance strike-breaking activities behind the smoke screen of insurance against strikes, a company calling itself Management Underwriters, Inc., has filed application with the Insurance Commissioner for a permit to authorize it to solicit 100 or more subscribers and attorneys-in-fact agreements, applications for policies of interinsurance, and to solicit surplus deposits, in an aggregate amount of not less than \$100,000,000.

President and one of the directors of this company is Charles A. McKeand, 1195 Afton, Pasadena, California, who was formerly employed as the director of the Industrial Relations Department of the Merchants & Manufacturers Association, and prior to that was for five years vice-president of the Cowhan Engineering Company of Chicago.

Other officials are:

Roly P. Nall, 1126 Second Street, Manhattan Beach, California, who is to act as director and vice-president. He formerly acted as an insurance executor and was most recently with the T. H. Mastin & Company.

Ben Trynin, 4266 Woodleigh Lane, Pasadena, California, who is to act as a director and secretary. He was formerly assistant to the president of the Home Title Insurance Company of New York.

Clarence S. Black, 191 South Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California, who is to act as treasurer. He was formerly the partner in Klink & Bean Company of Los Angeles from 1906 to 1925 and after its amalgamation worked with Lyman, Ross Bros. & Montgomery.

The principal office of the company is to be at 650 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, and 100 or more subscribers are desired, each contributing not less than \$100,000.

The policy attached to the application provides that indemnity will be paid for each day of involuntary total or involuntary partial suspension of business caused solely by labor disturbance.

Of special significance, however, and fraught with sinister meaning is a further provision, that, in lieu of indemnity, as stated above, it could be agreed to reimburse for expenses incurred to prevent or reduce total or partial suspension of business for such reason. In other words, all expenses incurred in the prevention of a strike, in the hiring of strike-breakers and the engaging in any of the unlimited, nefarious activities to block unionization, would be reimbursed by this insurance corporation.

The application points out that the insurance would not cover riot, injury, etc., yet certain of the conditions under which it is necessary that the insured act in order to be eligible for payments are that they must (1) avoid the labor disturbance, if possible; (2) minimize it if it has occurred; and (3) resume full operations as promptly as possible.

Labor disturbance is defined to include all types of strike, including sympathetcs, all types of picketing, and all types of boycott.

Although no specific rate is provided, a suggested rate is set forth in the application, depending upon the industry, of a premium of \$525 to \$750 per year per \$100 indemnification per day.

The application states that Management Underwriters, Inc., is a California corporation, with respect to which the papers were filed with the Secretary of State on March 20, 1947 and recorded with the Los Angeles County Clerk on March 24, 1947.

The California State Federation of Labor, through its legal department, has filed a protest with the Insurance Commissioner that

this is not one of the permissible types of insurance allowed under the Insurance Code of the State of California, and that it is contrary to public policy. A request has also been made to submit arguments in writing, as well as orally, to substantiate this position.

There can be no question but what this move is the latest wrinkle on the part of anti-union employers to finance and thereby encourage strike-breaking. If it were successful, it could provoke the most vicious kind of an offensive against labor unionism in California that has yet been witnessed.

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DI GIORGIO STRIKE SPREADS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Taking the offensive in the six-month old AFL farm strike for union recognition at the Di Giorgio Fruit Ranch, the National Farm Labor Union placed pickets before the Italian Swiss Colony winery at Clovis, California, when that company brought Di Giorgio wine from the strike-bound ranch. A picket line was established on February 27, and according to all reports, was 100% effective.

Another development auguring well for the strikers was the dispatch by the Hollywood Film Council of a crew of top motion picture men to the strike scene to make a documentary film of actual living and working conditions in the area. Excellent contrasting shots of housing conditions have been taken.

Contributing to the already growing national publicity which the strike is receiving, Harold Ickes underscored the wretched conditions of the Di Giorgio strikers in his February 18 syndicated column. As a result of this publicity, contributions have come in from all over the United States. The Chicago Typographical Union, Local 16, on strike against the Chicago publishers, passed the hat on their picket line and collected \$351.26, which they sent to the Di Giorgio farm strikers. This demonstration of solidarity was acknowledged with the profoundest feeling of appreciation by President H. L. Mitchell of the National Farm Labor Union.

The striking union is asking all workers to boycott the Di Giorgio Fruit Corporation products.

Picket lines have been reinforced as a result of efforts on the part of the company to terrorize the pickets.

In the meantime, the union's campaign to organize the unorganized farm workers has spread to Shafter, Exeter and Fresno Counties.

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STATE LEGISLATURE OPENED MONDAY, MARCH 1

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--C. J. Haggerty, Legislative Representative of the California State Federation of Labor, was on hand in Sacramento Monday when the State Legislature convened for the first annual session in California's history.

Included among the matters which appeared to the Governor as being urgent are the continued maintenance of child care centers, which otherwise will go out of existence on May 30; the determination of policy in respect to the State acquisition and operation of farm labor camps which were discontinued by the federal government, but whose uninterrupted operation is declared imperative.

The Federation's representative is maintaining the greatest vigilance with respect to any effort on the part of any of the legislators to seek to run through legislation which would be inimical to the interests of the labor movement.

Since this session, as provided by the 1946 Constitutional Amendment, limited the Legislature, in even-numbered years, to the consideration of the budget, taxes and emergency matters, it will be difficult to push through legislation which would not fall within these categories.

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CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION, HOLLYWOOD, MARCH 12-14

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Delegates representing more than 100,000 members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America will gather in Hollywood next week for the 20th annual convention of the California State Council of Carpenters.

The Convention will be held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 12, 13 and 14, State Secretary David H. Ryan has announced. It will be preceded on Thursday, March 11, by a meeting of the Carpenters' State Apprentice Committee.

"There are many important matters to come before us this year, and it is hoped that every California Union of the Brotherhood will be represented," said Joseph F. Cambiano, of San Mateo, State President. "The Secretary reports that credentials received to date are heavier than usual, and we expect a successful and representative convention."

The Los Angeles District Council of Carpenters and its 29 affiliated local unions will be hosts to the convention, with Cecil O. Johnson, President, and Earl E. Thomas, Secretary, as co-chairmen. Other members of the local committee are:

J. N. Skelton, Local 946, Hollywood; Floyd A. Marrs, Millwrights and Machinery Erectors Local 1607; William Reese, Local 710, Long Beach; Harley Walker, Pile Drivers Local 2375, San Pedro; W. L. Logan, Local 1052, Beverly Hills; Harold Schmidt, Local 25, Los Angeles; Charles Sproul, Local 946, Hollywood; and L. H. Pattison, District Council. The Mill committee consists of Nick Cordil of the District Council and Charles Burge, Local 721, Cabinet Makers and Millmen.

Convention sessions will be held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, which is the official headquarters. The State Millmen's Committee will hold its annual meeting in the Hollywood Plaza Hotel on the night of March 12. Headquarters for the Women's Auxiliary will be at the Tropicanna Hotel.

There will be morning and afternoon sessions Friday and Saturday, and the Sunday session will continue until the agenda is completed and election of officers held. A dance will be held on Friday night for the delegates and the ladies.

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CAMPAIGN TO CONTROL VENEREAL DISEASE
DESERVING OF FULL SUPPORT

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The American Social Hygiene Association and the San Francisco Social Hygiene Association have carried on an educational program to make the people realize how essential the discovery and treatment of venereal disease are to the welfare of the community. They have also worked on programs with the church and the school for more wholesome family and community living.

During the war this work was financed through the National War Fund. Now that the Community Chest does not finance this work, these organizations must appeal directly to the public for funds. The Community Chest Directors expressed "their appreciation of the work that this agency has done and is doing in the community."

Venereal diseases cause blindness, sterility, insanity, heart disease, and death.

Much work has been done with unions as well as other organizations by these agencies, and any support given to them will have a meritorious effect.

The San Francisco Social Hygiene Association is located at 45 Second Street, San Francisco 5, California.

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