

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING

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SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

April 13, 1949

REACTIONARY INTERESTS LAUNCH ATTACK ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A sweeping attack to weaken the present Unemployment Insurance Act and to kill all measures seeking to improve the Act and to correct some of its present injustices is being

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: HAVE YOU WRITTEN :
(YOUR ASSEMBLYMAN :
: OPPOSING "HOT CARGO" ? ? ? :
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: Last week we urged all affiliated unions to write :
(their assemblymen opposing any actions leading to :
: the passage of SB 1066, the vicious "hot cargo" :
(measure, whose real purpose is an attack on all :
: forms of peaceful picketing. :
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: IF YOU DID NOT WRITE LAST WEEK, DO IT TODAY. :
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: IF POSSIBLE, SEE YOUR :
(ASSEMBLYMAN PERSONALLY. :
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headed by Attorney Adrian Kragen. Kragen is representing at least the following industries and associations, possibly many more:

Agricultural Council of California	Foster & Kleiser
Association of Motion Picture Producers	Los Angeles Brewing Company
California Manufacturers Assn.	Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
California Packing Company	Lumberman's Credit Assn.
California Retailers Assn.	National Board of Fire Underwriters
Dairy Institute of California	Southern California Gas Company

To date, the Assembly Committee on Finance and Insurance has been relatively critical of this attack and is giving careful consideration to all bills.

The efforts of Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty and Chief Counsel Charles P. Scully should be reenforced by the members of all locals.

The Assembly Committee on Finance and Insurance will hold hearings on Monday, April 18. The following bills, all dealing with unemployment insurance, are extremely bad and must be actively opposed:

SB 313 modifies and lowers contributions under merit rating.

SB 375 and SB 378 restrict payment of benefits to individuals who are laid off.

SB 379 makes public an employee's previous employers.

SB 466 prohibits retroactive assessment where an individual believed he was exempt on the ground he was engaged in agricultural labor.

Write the members of the Assembly Finance and Insurance Committee urging liberalization of the Unemployment Insurance law.

Members of the Committee are:

Geddes (Chairman)	Grunsky	Morris
Dolwig (Vice-Chairman)	Levering	Meyers
Doyle	Lipscomb	Dunn
Brady	Maloney	Stanley
Beck		

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WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BILLS REACH SENATE COMMITTEE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The Federation-sponsored workmen's compensation bill, AB 125, increasing minimum weekly benefits to \$15 and maximum benefits to \$40, passed the Assembly on March 28 and is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Social Welfare, April 21.

On the same day, AB 123 will also be heard. This Federation bill provides that an employee suffering both permanent and temporary disability may receive benefits for both and shall not have the temporary disability payments deducted. The duration of temporary disability payments is extended, and the increased benefits are payable to all cases, not merely to those arising after passage of the bill.

SB 141, a Federation bill dealing with attorney's fees in workmen's compensation cases, and SB 575, increasing workmen's compensation death benefits to \$15,000 for total dependency and to \$7500 in cases of partial dependency, are also set for hearing on April 21.

The rapidly rising cost of living has made previous benefit payments completely inadequate. Urge the members of the Senate Committee on Social Welfare to report out AB 125 and other bills liberalizing the Workmen's Compensation Act as soon as possible. The Committee members are:

Dillinger (Chairman)	Abshire	Collier
Kraft (Vice-Chairman)	Brown	Dilworth
Weybret	Busch	Watson

Two Federation workmen's compensation bills passed the Assembly on April 11 without a dissenting vote. The first, AB 155, provides that when a temporary disability becomes permanent, the permanent disability payments may be computed or payable immediately following the 7 days after the injury, while the second measure, AB 412, extends the jurisdiction of the Industrial Accident Commission to 5 years.

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LEGISLATURE ACTS ON MINIMUM WAGE AND CHILD CARE MEASURES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--During the week of April 4-8, the State Senate, by a vote of 52-6, passed a resolution urging the United States Congress to raise minimum wages to 75 cents. Vigorously opposed to placing even a slightly increased floor under wages were Senators Hatfield (Madera and Merced), Hulse (Imperial), Abshire (Sonoma), Rich (Yuba), Watson (Orange) and Williams (Tulare).

The child care program presented in AB 707 (Geddes) has received favorable consideration in the Senate Education Committee and will be considered on the floor of the upper chamber in the near future.

Three bills providing for equal pay for women passed the Assembly Industrial Relations Committee. They are AB 3086, AB 160 and AB 949.

In the Assembly Committee on Industrial Relations the following bills will be heard at the April 21 meeting:

AB 106 (Doyle), a Federation bill providing that every employment agency shall notify each applicant, before sending anyone in response to a request for employment, whether a labor contract is in existence at the establishment to which the applicant is being sent.

AB 307 (Anderson), a Federation bill prohibiting the employment of minors under 18 years of age in agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, or domestic labor for more than eight hours in one day or more than 48 hours in one week.

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FEDERATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN SACRAMENTO

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The regular quarterly meeting of the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor was held in Sacramento April 9, 1949. The Council mapped out plans for the defeat of SB 1066 and other anti-labor measures, and planned for an all-out campaign in support of the various workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance bills before the state legislature.

In connection with federal legislation, the Council planned to contact all Congressmen during the coming Congressional recess on the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. Other pending federal legislation on water, power, education, etc. will be also stressed.

The development of the campaign for the California Labor League for Political Education was discussed fully. Secretary Haggerty reported that the response to date to the appeal for a per capita tax of 3 cents a month to the League was very gratifying.

Very satisfactory progress was reported in connection with the organization of teachers in San Diego, the general campaign in Palm Springs, and among insurance agents.

The program for a workers' education institute at Asilomar for the week beginning August 14 was approved. This is the second institute sponsored jointly by the California State Federation of Labor and the University of California Institute of Industrial Relations.

A resolution from the San Francisco Labor Council opposing present programs and proposed legislation to expand prison industries was adopted.

The Council also adopted unanimously a resolution presented by Vice-President Lundeborg supporting the worldwide boycott of Panamanian and Honduran ships. This boycott is being conducted under the leadership of the International Transport Workers Federation as part of a determined campaign to drive these cut-rate shippers off the seas and to raise the wages of seamen throughout the world.

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30th ANNUAL PUBLIC SCHOOL WEEK

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The 30th Annual Public School Week will be observed during the week of April 25 to April 30. During this week, parents and all others are urged to visit our schools to see for themselves the exhibits, instruction and facilities available to our teachers and children.

"The Lamp of Freedom -- Our Public Schools" is to be the theme of this year's observance and is particularly appropriate during these times of crises in which democracy is threatened throughout the world. Our schools and parents together must show our youngsters the true meaning of our civil rights and the values of our democratic society. Together they must fairly and honestly point out our goals, admit our failures to achieve them, and examine the best methods of guaranteeing to all the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without discrimination as to race, religion or economic status.

The members of organized labor have in the past, and will continue to take an active interest in our public schools system so that their children may obtain an education which will equip them to earn a living and which will enable them to understand the economic and social forces of this century and the basic objectives of organized labor.

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CALIFORNIA LABOR LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION NEEDS YOUR ASSESSMENT

At the Fresno meeting of the California Labor League for Political Education, all members were asked to assess themselves three cents per month for the California Labor League for Political Education. Many unions have already sent in their quota.

Do your share by sending in yours.

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