

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

September 21, 1949

HIGH GOVERNMENT LEADERS ACKNOWLEDGE IMPORTANCE OF WEST

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The increasing importance of organized labor in the economic and political development of the West served as the keynote of the Western States Democratic Conference held in San Francisco, September 18-19.

Featured by the active presence of Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin, an all-star cast of top government officials made it plain that labor must be given a full part in the shaping of national affairs.

In addition to Tobin, high brass included Vice President Alben W. Barkley, Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, Secretary of Interior Julius Krug, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan, Leon Keyserling, vice-chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, and Under-Secretary of Interior Oscar Chapman.

Joseph B. Keenan, director of Labor's League for Political Education headed the list of prominent AFL leaders participating in the conference.

Keenan explained the AFL position by declaring that the LLPE is wedded to no one political party, but that it will continue to support those candidates who represent the aspirations of organized labor.

He also emphasized that the American Federation of Labor is in politics to stay.

C. J. Haggerty, secretary, and John F. Shelley, president, represented the California State Federation of Labor in the numerous panel discussions concerning "Jobs - Land - Water," the three major economic themes of the conference.

STROKE IS FATAL TO CHARLES A. EVANS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Charles A. Evans, 58, Secretary of the Operating Engineers Union, Local 12, died in Los Angeles, September 13, of a cerebral hemorrhage. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ann Evans, and his mother.

Mr. Evans, a veteran of World War I, has been a member of the Engineers Union for 26 years and has served as Secretary of Local No. 12 for over 10 years. He became a member of Local 12 at the time that all Hoisting and Portable Engineers' locals in this area were amalgamated into Local 12, having served as Business Representative of Local 235 in the San Pedro Harbor district from 1934 to 1939.

In November 1948 he was delegated to an International Labor Organization Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, as one of two labor members from the United States on the Petroleum Sub-committee of the ILO, a part of the United Nations Organization. At the previous meeting of the ILO Petroleum Sub-committee held in Los Angeles during 1947, Mr. Evans served as an adviser to the American labor delegation. He was one of the most highly respected AFL representatives in California, and his sudden death was a shock to both officials and rank and file members.

The State Federation of Labor offers its condolences to the family of the deceased on the occasion of their sorrow.

110,000 AFL WORKERS WIN CONTRACT GAINS IN JULY

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Through collective bargaining negotiations, some 110,000 AFL workers throughout the state this July won wage increases and other benefits averaging around 5 cents an hour.

This estimate is based on the items listed below culled from local union newspapers published during July.

Building Trades

Carpenters, 42 counties outside the Bay area in northern California, and the Associated General Contractors: 5 cents; effective July 15, 1949; 21,000 workers.

Laborers, 46 northern California counties, and the AGC: 2½ cents; effective July 1, 1949; 30,000 workers.

Teamsters (building material drivers), 46 northern counties, and the AGC: 5 cents; effective July 15, 1949; 35,000 workers.

Operating Engineers No. 3, 46 northern California counties: 6½ cents; effective July 18, 1949; 8,000 workers.

Cement Finishers, 46 northern California counties: 5 cents; effective July 1949; 2,000 workers.

Plasterers No. 66, San Francisco, and Master Plasterers Association: \$1.50 a day; effective January 1, 1950; about 100 workers.

Teamsters

Sales Drivers No. 683 (Bakery) and San Diego bakeries: \$3 a week for drivers and 10 cents for hour-paid employees; July 1949; 100 workers or more.

Sales Drivers No. 683 (Beer) and 12 plants covered by San Diego Beer Distributors' Association: \$3 per week; retroactive to April 1, 1949; 75 workers.

Teamsters No. 624, San Rafael, and milk plants and distributors: improved days off clause; July 1949; about 100 workers.

Teamsters No. 624, San Rafael, and rock, sand and gravel contractors: 5 cents; July 1949; about 100 workers.

Clerks

Four Retail Clerks locals in Southern California and Thrifty Drug Stores: improved holiday pay and reduction in work week from 44 to 40 hours for pharmacists; July 1949.

Master Furniture Guild No. 1285, San Francisco, and 12 furniture stores: \$9.50 to \$18.50 per month; July, 1949; about 150 workers.

Retail Clerks No. 1442, Santa Monica, and Employers' Labor Relations Council: improved holiday pay; retroactive to January 1, 1949; about 300 workers.

Culinary

Los Angeles Culinary workers, 6 locals, and 110 leading restaurants and 14 major hotels in Los Angeles: 75 cents a day; effective July 15, 1949; 7,000 workers covered immediately, and another 13,000 will be affected by the "key" settlement.

Miscellaneous

Street Carmen No. 192, Oakland, and Key System: 8-cent increase and reduction in hours from 48 to 40; July, 1949; 2,000 workers.

Office Employees No. 29, Oakland, and Alameda County Milk Dealers Association: 5 cents; retroactive to June 1, 1949; 180 workers.

Bakers No. 119, Oakland, and retail bakeries: 7 cents, retroactive to March 4, and 2 cents effective December 1, 1949; 300 workers.

Motion Picture Operators No. 599, Fresno, and 8 theatres: 10 to 20 cents, liberalized vacations; July, 1949; about 40 workers.

J O I N

LABOR'S LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION

A C T N O W !

FOR DETAILS, WRITE LLPE HEADQUARTERS,
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1950 is closer than you think -

FEDERATION SCORES LEGAL VICTORY
IN PICKET DISPUTE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Another victory has been won in the fight carried on and sponsored by the California State Federation of Labor to outlaw injunctions against peaceful picketing.

Largely due to the effort carried on by the Federation for the last dozen years it had come to be generally recognized by courts up and down the state that injunctions against peaceful picketing are simply out of date.

In some recent cases attorney Clarence E. Todd, who has represented the Federation in many of these battles, has demanded of the attorney filing a suit for an injunction against peaceful picketing that he should explain how he had the temerity to file such a suit, and the courts have agreed that the law recognizes the right of peaceful picketing as a constitutional right.

When the Taft-Hartley law was passed reactionary employers and their attorneys immediately began to assert that this law, which was aimed to abolish or abridge all the rights of labor, laid down a policy for the entire nation that peaceful picketing as well as all other rights were under suspicion and should be stricken down at every opportunity.

In the recent De Silva case, which was a suit brought in the State courts of California to enjoin peaceful picketing under provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act, the State Federation sponsored the attack on such an injunction and the Supreme Court of California held that no suit can be maintained in the courts of California under the terms of the Taft-Hartley Act to enjoin peaceful picketing.
