

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SHELLEY CANDIDACY ATTACKED BY TAFT-HARTLEY APOLOGIST

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The race for the Fifth Congressional District vacancy in San Francisco took on the tones of a bitter campaign on labor rights this week with the declaration of Republican candidate Lloyd J. Cosgrove that the Taft-Hartley Act "came into being because of the arrogant acts of power-drunk labor leaders."

This Cosgrove position was in direct contradiction to the one held by his Republican predecessor, Richard J. Welch, who fought the Taft-Hartley plot through every stage and form.

Cosgrove also challenged the rights of union officials to hold public office in a militant assault on the freedom of organized labor to enter the political arenas so long dominated by the puppets of the business world.

Meanwhile, favored candidate John F. Shelley, president of the California State Federation of Labor, continued to receive support of business and labor leaders of San Francisco.

Top business men to declare themselves for Shelley this week included Cyril Magnin, William Gilmore, Sam McKee, William Newsome, Robert I. McCarthy, Sr., Thomas Mellon, Edward H. Heller, and George E. Sande.

Shelley has already received the unanimous endorsement of the Union Labor Party, local unit of the AFL's League for Political Education.

He has also been endorsed by the San Francisco committee for the national CIO-PAC. Left-wing CIO support has been pledged Charles

R. Garry, a Wallaceite attorney, and the third candidate in the race.

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CALIFORNIA WORKERS ELIGIBLE FOR
VARIED DISABILITY SERVICES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Free services available to disabled workers through the California State Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation were emphasized this Wednesday by Harry D. Hicker, Chief of the Bureau, in connection with the National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week established by Congress to aid handicapped persons.

Any citizen of California of employable age who has a permanent disability, no matter how incurred, which constitutes an employment handicap is eligible for rehabilitation services.

These services include free medical examinations, medical, surgical and psychiatric care, artificial appliances such as limbs, hearing aids, trusses, braces, and the like, as well as vocational training, vocational guidance, occupational tools and equipment and such other services as are necessary to make a disabled worker employable.

Rehabilitation services are made available under a plan of cooperation with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Federal Security Agency, which makes Federal funds available for such services.

The service is not a charity but is provided from grants under Federal and State Laws. Medical examinations, vocational training and guidance are available to all the disabled regardless of income. Medical treatment, maintenance during training or convalescence, occupational tools and equipment, and transportation are provided when the disabled cannot provide these services for themselves.

It is estimated there are 71,000 disabled persons in need of rehabilitation services in California. In addition to the large group of workers with orthopedic defects such as amputations and other impairments, the service is available to persons with TB, heart

conditions, hearing defects, blindness, and visual defects, as well as persons needing surgical procedures for ruptures, varicose veins, and the like.

Any physical or mental condition which is an employment handicap is eligible for rehabilitation services.

The Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation maintains offices in all large cities in California and furnishes an itinerant service in outlying areas.

Disabled workers needing such services can make arrangements by calling at the offices of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation in large cities or by writing to the State Office, 1316 "K" Street, Sacramento, California, for itinerant services in outlying areas.

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MORE PROTECTION URGED FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Robert C. Goodwin, Director of the Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security, in an address to the administrators of the state employment security agencies meeting in New York this week urged them to cooperate with the Federal Government in strengthening the Federal-State employment security system by bolstering weaknesses in the unemployment insurance system and improving the job-finding facilities of the state employment services.

Goodwin said that the Federal Government and the states should move ahead vigorously to assure that the Federal-State employment security system will fulfill the promises held out when the program was established.

Summarized, Goodwin's recommendations were:

1. Eliminate the exemption of employers with less than eight workers and extend coverage to presently excluded groups.
2. Increase the weekly benefit amount substantially.
3. Provide all covered unemployed workers, who meet eligibility requirements with a benefit duration of at least 26 weeks in a benefit

year if their unemployment lasts that long.

4. Strengthen the functions of the state employment services by conducting vigorous employer relations programs in order to build up the number of job orders in local offices and by improving and extending its counseling services, especially for veterans and youth.

5. Assume leadership in community organization for the promotion of employment.

Goodwin cited three weaknesses in the present unemployment insurance system: It is not protecting the worker or maintaining purchasing power as adequately as it might well do; there is such great diversity in the state laws that it is confusing to the worker and expensive for the employer; and there are tendencies both in disqualifying provisions and financing that are undermining the system.

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PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO BE NAMED
AFTER JOHN O'CONNELL

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The California labor movement received a signal honor this week with the announcement that the city of San Francisco will name its new trade high school the John O'Connell Vocational and Technical Institute.

O'Connell, a pioneer labor figure in San Francisco, served as secretary of the city Labor Council for 36 years, prior to his death in 1948.

He was a member of the Teamsters Union, Local 85, and together with Michael Casey and John P. McLaughlin was a leading personality in the great Teamsters' strike of 1901.

It was upon the recommendation of George Johns, a member of the San Francisco Board of Education, that the city action was taken regarding the naming of the school. Johns is also Assistant Secretary of the Labor Council.

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BUSINESS MAG WAKES UP -- ADMITS
THE OLD DAYS ARE OVER

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The long obvious fact that the American public is resentful of unbridled, irresponsible free enterprise was finally acknowledged this month by Fortune, the monthly magazine of the Luce publishing empire.

Sumner H. Slichter, professor of economics at Harvard, writing in the September issue of Fortune, maintains that the federal government restrains business because the people demand checks on industry.

Slichter points out that, whether business men or any other persons like it or not, the economy of the United States has been moving from completely unchecked free enterprise to government controlled enterprise for the past 50 years.

"...the community has been more and more refusing to accept the result of free markets," Slichter writes..."the community has sought to substitute public policies for the uncontrolled results of markets."

However, "there is still much room, of course, for individual decisions to determine what shall be purchased, what shall be made, and what methods of protection shall be used..."

Slichter further adds that power has shifted from business men to workers "because of industry's own shortcomings."

He states, "The shift of power to employees has been aided by two conditions -- by the rapid organization of employees and by the unwillingness of businessmen to go very far in offering constructive proposals for dealing with the problems that have emerged."

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