

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING

151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

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THE "WELFARE STATE" -- A LESSON IN PROPAGANDA

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of two articles exposing the latest propaganda drive on the rights and aspirations of the labor movement.)

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--With the first session of the 81st Congress now a matter of legislative history, American labor forces must turn a careful, surveying eye on the latest propaganda approach of the Big Business bloc which does so much to regulate our daily lives.

Beyond any question or doubt, this clique has engaged in a conspiracy of calumny against the progressive domestic program of President Truman.

There are many who conspire publicly, scorning the secret avenues of their kind: Herbert Hoover, a pathetic, rejected Tory; Jimmy Byrnes, a turn-coat again wearing the colors of his poll-tax beginnings; Robert A. Taft, symbol of a moldy, decaying past.

There are others who plot in the hidden ways of their Washington lobbies: the real estate, power, banking, and oil trusts, to cite but a few.

But open or covert, they dominate the greatest medium of national propaganda, the Press.

And open or covert, they have loosed the dogs of war on every labor union member in the United States.

Their chief and constant lie is that President Truman and Labor are leading the country to dictatorship through social reform on the national level.

They would not dare shriek "Communism," or "Fascism," and so they point to "Statism," and "Socialism." And beyond all, they fear the "Welfare State."

Essentially, they argue that Truman and Labor would bring the "corrupting influence" of government aid into the life of America. This they pretend to abhor. But they lie and fake in their every protest.

Did you ever hear Big Business denounce the mail subsidy given every magazine and newspaper as a "socialist scheme?"

Did you ever hear the railway and steamship companies ask Congress to abolish their fat subsidies for "softening the hard initiative of the American businessman?"

Did you ever hear the monstrous real estate lobby ask Congress to stop guaranteeing private building loans with taxpayers' money?

Did you ever hear these Tories complain about the "socialist" Miller-Tydings Act, which makes it illegal for a merchant to sell products at a competitive price lower than that price "fixed" by the manufacturers?

Not at all. Their bleats are reserved for government aid to the people. But they have their own state in mind, a state that would impose the labor philosophy of the 19th century on the American worker.

They have in mind their own brutal, callous state that would crush labor for the advance of business profit.

They have in mind the Corporation State, and for this they are prepared to malign and smear every attempt of labor to bring about that better life for all to which our movement is dedicated.

We are pledged to a genuine welfare state. They are pledged to the Corporation State. The battle has been joined. For us, retreat is impossible.

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TEAMSTERS HOLD WESTERN CONFERENCE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The 13th Western Conference of Teamsters opened this Monday in San Jose as some 400 delegates poured into the civic auditorium from all of the 11 western states.

Dave Beck, international vice-president of the Teamsters, and chairman of the Conference, presided at the four general sessions of the meeting.

The major business of the Conference was effected through the various panel divisions which met on industrial problems of Teamster activities.

The five-day session was scheduled to end Friday with installation of officers.

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EMPLOYMENT UP IN LOS ANGELES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--A net increase of 9,000 occurred in total employment in Los Angeles during the period July 15 to September 15, according to statistics released this week by the State Department of Employment.

This amounted to an increase of 0.6%, bringing total employment to 1,611,600.

Major advances were recorded in seasonal industries such as agriculture, construction, food processing and apparel, in which employment reached the highest level of the year.

Manufacturing industries as a group gained 9,550 in employment, or 2.4%, and nonmanufacturing industries dropped 750, or less than 0.1%.

Unemployment in the county declined 12,000 since August to a total of 180,000 in September.

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NEW 75-CENT MINIMUM WAGE MEANS BOOST
FOR MORE THAN MILLION WORKERS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The new statutory minimum wage of 75 cents an hour will mean direct wage increases of from 5 to 15 cents an hour for 1½ million wage earners, William R. McComb, Administrator of the Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division said this week.

In his statement he praised Congress for taking a "marked step forward" in bringing the 1938 Wage-Hour Law into conformity with present-day economic conditions.

"This Congress is to be congratulated for its long and thorough consideration of the Wage and Hour Law," he said. "I hope the Congress later will extend the application of the law to other low-paid workers, as was urged by President Truman and Secretary of Labor Tobin, and by me.

"The new law clarifies a number of provisions in the old law, notably by adopting most of the Administrator's recommendations concerning regular rate of pay, thus making it easier for both employers and employees to readily understand these requirements.

"Everything possible will be done to make all changes in the Act known, and to speed the issuance of administrative interpretations where they are necessary."

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WHERE THE MONEY GOES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--What do private utility companies do with the profits they make from excessive rates? The 1949 budget filed with the Oregon Public Utilities Commission by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company gives one clue. It will spend, this year, the following amounts in combatting public power and other progressive measures:

Oregon Business & Tax Research-----	\$3,600
National Tax Equality Assn. (anti-cooperative)-----	500
U. S. Chamber of Commerce-----	1,000
Affiliated Tax Council, Portland-----	1,800
National Association of Manufacturers-----	1,600
Tax Foundation, Inc.-----	200
Pacific Northwest Development Assn. (anti-CVA)-----	2,500
Tax Foundation, New York-----	200
National Assn. of Electric Companies, Washington---	3,000
Committee for Economic Development-----	500
Edison Electric Institute-----	3,617
Northwest Electric Light & Power Assn., Portland---	1,000
Business Advisory Council-----	625
Portland Chamber of Commerce-----	6,700
National Rivers & Harbors Congress-----	200
Greater Portland Management Club-----	250
Columbia Empire Industries-----	400
Portland Labor-Management Committee-----	400
Funds to Combat Public Power-----	10,000
TOTAL-----	\$38,092

CALIFORNIA LABOR LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION

E N D O R S E M E N T S
for
SPECIAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 8

CANDIDATES

5th Congressional District: (San Francisco)	John F. Shelley
3d Senate District: (Humboldt County)	Equal endorsements for Anthony Massei and Arthur W. Way
69th Assembly District: (Los Angeles County)	Gayle Collins
80th Assembly District: (San Diego County)	Edwin Campbell

STATE PROPOSITIONS

No. 1	(School Bonds)_____	Y E S
No. 2	(Pension Repeal)_____	N O
No. 3	(Legislative Pay Raise)_____	Y E S
Nos. 4 to 11, inclusive	(Removal of obsolete sections from State Constitution)_____	N O P O S I T I O N
No. 12	(Daylight Saving Time)_____	N O P O S I T I O N

VOTE THE LLPE TICKET ! BUILD LABOR IN CALIFORNIA !

B U I L D I T N O W !