

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

402 FLOOD BUILDING



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SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

March 1, 1950

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CALLS FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF STATE LEGISLATURE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--An urgent appeal that Governor Warren call a special session of the state legislature to consider growing unemployment, rising rents, and pension problems featured the quarterly meeting of the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor, held February 25 and 26 in San Diego.

The council also announced that the pre-primary convention of the California Labor League for Political Education would be held in San Francisco, April 17, 18 and 19.

In other important Actions the Council voted:

- (1) Full moral and financial support to the present organizing campaign of the AFL Warehousemen in the San Francisco Bay area.
- (2) Intense opposition to the importing of Mexican farm labor at a time when there are 65,000 unemployed agricultural workers in California and more than 470,000 unemployed throughout the state.
- (3) Full support to the Screen Actors Guild, AFL, in its drive against talent racketeers in the motion picture industry.
- (4) Condemnation of the motion picture industry practice of re-releasing old films without stipulating date of original release and original title when there has been a change in billing.

In its petition for a special session of the legislature to run concurrently with the March budget meeting, the Executive Council asked that the Governor consider the following issues in the session agenda:

(1) Measures for the relief of the unemployed, including particularly expansion of unemployment insurance coverage, increasing its benefits and eliminating the waiting period.

(2) Enactment of an effective rent control act to protect lower income tenants.

(3) Revision of the state Welfare Code to liberalize pension eligibility standards, with particular emphasis on the removal of the relative responsibility clause.

(4) Continuation of child care centers until at least June 30, 1951.

Adoption of support for the AFL warehouse campaign followed a movement of officers and rank and file members of the CIO union to re-join the AFL, which first organized the San Francisco warehouses in the early 1930's. Seceding CIO'ers objected to what they termed the "communist domination" of their organization. The national CIO is currently considering the expulsion of the CIO longshore and warehouse union involved in the present controversy.

Action against the Hollywood talent racketeers was in response to protests of the Screen Actors Guild, which charged that racketeers are now defrauding thousands of citizens of modest means by pretending to be legitimate film producers and promising to employ their victims as actors in television films, on condition that they pay sums ranging from \$100 to \$200 which the promoters allege is for the initiation fee to a labor union. The AFL screen organization has appealed to local and state law enforcement agencies for full prosecution.

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#### CALIFORNIA LLPE TO CONVENE IN APRIL

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--C. J. Haggerty, Secretary, this Tuesday announced that the pre-primary convention of the California Labor League for political Education will be held in San Francisco, April 17, 18, and 19.

The convention will meet in California Hall, Polk and Turk Streets, with some 1,000 delegates planning to attend from all parts of California.

Purpose of the session will be the endorsement of candidates for the 1950 primary election to be held June 6.

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#### NATIONAL LLPE HITS EXCISE TAXES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Backing up the demand of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor for repeal of the federal excise taxes, Labor's League for Political Education this week released a radio review of the problem by Representative Stephen M. Young of Ohio and Representative Walter A. Lynch of New York.

In their broadcast, the two members of the House Ways and Means Committee called the wartime excise taxes an "obnoxious tax imposed upon the American people." They urged its swift repeal. Pointing to the tax on transportation, baby preparations, theatre tickets and other products, Representative Young called it unnecessary and oppressively restrictive to the American people.

Representative Lynch outlined the following reasons for objecting to the excise: "The independent businessman will be bettered by reason of the fact that his sales will increase with the removal of the excise taxes. The employee will be benefited by the fact that with increased business he will be more certain of his job. And the consumer will be benefited by the very fact that the consumer gains the actual amount of the tax."

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----- A F F I L I A T E    N O W ! -----

GET IN THE LLPE PARADE - ATTEND THE PRE-PRIMARY CONVENTION

CALIFORNIA HALL, SAN FRANCISCO

April 17, 18, and 19

### PASADENA RENTS SOAR

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Dr. Robert B. Pettengill, economist at the University of Southern California, yesterday said a survey in Pasadena showed that 63 percent of the tenants checked reported they are paying rents 58 percent higher than the rent ceilings last November.

His report brought an immediate comment from Ben C. Koepke, area rent director, that Pasadena led the nation in the speed with which it hiked rents immediately before and since decontrol.

"The reaction looks more vigorous in Pasadena than in other U. S. cities recently surveyed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics," said Koepke. "In Pasadena, the community-wide rent level jumped as much in six weeks as it did in three months at Houston, or five months at Jacksonville."

Koepke said the Pettengill report is the first across-the-board rent survey in this area since decontrol.

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### UNEMPLOYMENT UP IN LOS ANGELES

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Unemployment in Los Angeles County rose to 180,500 during the month of January, the California Department of Employment announced this week.

The January figure represents an increase of 7.4 percent over December. The state office claimed this was mainly caused by the year-end layoffs in wholesale and retail trades, transportation and delivery services, and the post offices.

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### RED CROSS WORK IS RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL, SAYS GREEN

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Americans should consider the future of the American Red Cross as their individual duty and responsibility, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor stated this week.

In urging support of the 1950 Red Cross Fund Campaign, Green said, "The ever-widening sphere of activity of the American Red Cross calls to mind the fact that these activities are inaugurated to meet definite needs of our people and that the need comes first. We should remember always that need on the part of any of our people is our joint responsibility and we cannot envision what the future may bring in further unexpected but nonetheless vital calls for assistance. The accepted agency of the American people to meet these needs is the American National Red Cross.

"It hardly seems necessary, therefore, for me to remind each and all of their responsibility to assist this fine American organization through voluntary contributions which make their work possible," Green declared.

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#### PRIMARIES ALMOST HERE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The first day for California state and congressional candidates to file for office will come up next week -- March 8. The closing deadline is noon, April 1.

Nominating papers are filed with county clerks who examine them before they are forwarded to the Secretary of State in Sacramento where they are legally filed.

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#### BUDGET SUMMARY AVAILABLE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Want to know the truth about the federal budget? If you do, send 20 cents to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., and ask for a copy of the publication, "The Federal Budget in Brief." It's a simply written, easily understood, 44-page pocket size summary of the budget.

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