

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

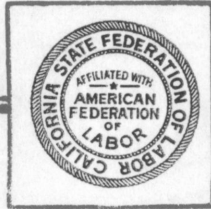
FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET



151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

April 12, 1950

FEDERATION FIGHTS CONSUMER TAX-- ASKS RICH TO CARRY LOAD

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The 1950 special session of the state legislature moved to a controversial close this week in Sacramento as the California State Federation of Labor continued its all-out resistance to the Dunn tobacco tax bill which would impose another consumer tax burden on the working people of California.

The Dunn measure would place a three-cent tax on every package of cigarettes and a 15 percent tax on all other tobacco products in order to finance public school expansion in California.

While the State Federation championed the proposed expansion program of the schools, it insisted that the main financial obligation of such a plan must be carried by those best able to pay.

From the very days of its inception the American Federation of Labor has fought the imposition of consumer taxes as the rich man's technique of evading his fiscal responsibilities.

Chief public advocates of the Dunn tax are the Congress of Parents and Teachers Associations, the California Teachers' Association, and the County Supervisors Association.

The measure was introduced by Assemblyman Francis Dunn, Jr., of Oakland and was this week before the State Senate for final action.

Despite the militant opposition of organized labor to the consumer tax device, the California tax structure has been so padded by the financial powers of the state that during the 1949 fiscal year the sales tax accounted for 37 percent of all revenues of state government, while the income tax accounted for only 6.6 percent.

The tobacco tax amendment to the education bill passed the Assembly last Wednesday by a 42-34 margin.

Those voting IN FAVOR of the consumer tax imposition were:

Babbage	Collier	Geddes	Kirkwood	Porter
Brown	Conrad	Grant	Levering	Reagan
Burke	Cooke	Grunsky	Lindsay	Sherwin
Burkhalter	Crichton	Hagen	Lipscomb	Stanley
Butters	Dickey	Hansen	McCollister	Stewart
Caldecott	Dolwig	Hinckley	McMillan	Thompson
Clarke	Dunn	Hoffman	Moss	Tomlinson
Cloyed	Erwin	Huyck	Niehouse	Waters
	Fleury	Kilpatrick		

Those voting AGAINST the consumer tax were:

Anderson	Connolly	Fletcher	Luckel	Silliman
Beck	Crowley	Gaffney	Maloney	Smith
Berry	Davis	Hahn	McCarthy	Thomas
Brady	Dills	Hawkins	Meyers	Weber
Coats	Doyle	Hollibaugh	Morris	Yorty
G.D.Collins	Elliott	Lewis	Rosenthal	S.L.Collins
Condon	Evans	Lowrey	Rumford	

County support for the Dunn measure was obtained by ringing in a proviso that one-third of the monies so raised will go to the counties for welfare costs, including pensions and relief. Thus, the wealthy propertied interests of rural California would escape home town welfare costs through the consumer tax dodge.

Backing of the California Teachers Association was apparently secured through a partial fund allotment for teacher salary increases.

Federation representatives pointed out that such pay recognition should be effected by taxing the wealthy, and not the workers, the poor and the unemployed of California.

Federation spokesmen also noted that the California State Federation of Labor has espoused the cause of a greater public school system in the face of bitter opposition in past years and such devotion would be continued in the future but in a manner that will allow no place for expedient and unfair methods of raising public funds.

SPECIAL SESSION HEADS FOR
LAST ROLL CALL

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--As organized labor fought to save the workers of California from another savage consumer tax, the special session of the California legislature drew to a close this week with at least one major item of unfinished business.

Labor attempts to liberalize unemployment insurance, disability insurance and workmen's compensation were sidetracked when the Assembly Committee on Finance and Insurance voted to refer all such measures to an interim committee which will undertake a study of the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act relative to present needs and demands.

Child care centers were surviving in reduced fashion as of this Tuesday. The normal six million dollar appropriation had been reduced to three million, allowing the centers a stop-gap existence until the next session of the legislature. Final Senate action was awaited late this week.

A bill providing for a survey of the cost of proper living for women and minors in California passed the Assembly this Tuesday and now faces Senate review. The measure would appropriate \$9,725 for survey expenditure by the Department of Industrial Relations.

Meanwhile, endeavors to eliminate the relative's responsibility clause from present pension laws was caught in the legislative mill, its immediate fate indefinite as of the early week.

A temporary race track bill was rushed through both houses to permit continued operation of California race tracks until the courts had decided the constitutionality of the California Horse Racing Act. The bill guaranteed continued track work for thousands of AFL members.

CONGRESS SAVES FARM LABOR CAMPS
FOR WORKERS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The long, determined campaign of the California State Federation of Labor and other liberal forces to rescue federal farm labor camps from the ultimate ownership of private farm powers was apparently won this week when Congress passed S.2246, a bill to amend the National Housing Act.

Section 205 of the measure provides for the transfer to the Public Housing Administration, effective not later than 60 days after adoption of the amendment, of the farm labor camps built during the late 1930's and now administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.

When so transferred these camps will be used as low-rent housing under the terms of the United States Housing Act, except that they shall be operated for the principal purpose of housing farm workers and their families.

The Federation has consistently urged that private farm owners be prevented from claiming the camps for company housing use.

Twenty such camps are now being operated in California. They offer 5,000 family units with facilities for some 20,000 people.

CALIFORNIA AFL UNIONS WIN TEN CENTS AN HOUR BOOSTS
IN MARCH NEGOTIATIONS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--AFL unions throughout California gained an average increase of 10 cents an hour for some 19,000 trade unionists during March. The negotiations covering the largest number of workers resulted in an increase of $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents an hour.

Details of negotiations concluded are as follows, based on reports in local union newspapers:

Building Trades

Lumber and Sawmill Workers No. 2868, Eureka, AND Arrow Mill: 10 to 20 cents for drivers and loaders; 3/50; about 50 members.

Bay Area Painters Joint Committee, San Francisco (14 locals), AND Painting and Decorating Contractors Assn. (6 chapters): $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; apprenticeship period reduced from 4 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ years; eff. 6/1/50; 12,000 workers.

Clerks

Retail Clerks No. 428, San Jose, AND food stores (excluding Safeway): employer contribution to welfare plan of \$2.00 per week; 3/50; about 730 workers.

Retail Clerks No. 1288, Fresno, AND food store employers (except Safeway): continuation of present contract; eff. 4/1/50; about 700 workers.

Retail Clerks No. 1288, Fresno, AND drug employers: 5-day, 40-hour week (previously 44-hour week); eff. 2/1/50 and 3/1/50; about 100 workers.

Retail Clerks No. 1288, Fresno, AND liquor store employers; contract continued; 2/50; about 75 workers.

Culinary

Culinary Joint Board, San Francisco, AND Tanforan and Bay Meadows race tracks; 50 cents a day; 3/50; about 200 workers.

Teamsters

Teamsters No. 186, Santa Barbara, AND automobile dealers: 5 cents for lower classifications, car lot men, washers and polishers; eff. 4/1/50; about 35 workers.

Commission Market Drivers No. 280, San Francisco, AND Wholesale Fruit and Produce Dealers' Assn.: welfare plan; 3/50; about 300 workers.

Teamsters No. 431, Fresno, AND transport and bakery employers: \$10.00 a week; 3/50; about 200 employees.

Miscellaneous

Bakers No. 315, San Diego, AND macaroni employers: 7 cents and an additional holiday; eff. 2/21/50; 45 workers.

Cracker Bakers No. 418, Los Angeles, AND macaroni employers: 7 cents and an additional holiday; eff. 2/21/50; about 150 workers.

National Farm Labor Union, Kern County, AND Philip Hanson ranch for sugar beet thinning: 33 percent increase over prevailing rates; 3/50; 1200 workers.

Bookbinders No. 31-125, Bay Area, AND employers: 5 cents for journeymen; 2 and 2/3 cents for women; 5-1/3 cents for miscellaneous men; 9 1/2 cents for specialty women; 3/50; 1200 workers.

Cleaners-Dyers No. 25, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, AND three employer associations: 5 cents for second shift work and improved vacation clause; other gains; eff. 2/4/50; 1200 workers.

Butchers No. 506, San Jose, AND poultry employers: 4 days' vacation after 1000 hours work; one full week after 1300 hours' work; 3/50; about 100 workers.

Office Employees No. 69, Fresno, AND McKesson-Robbins; \$10 to \$25 a month; 3/50; 23 employees.

Motor Coach Employees, Long Beach, AND Pacific City Lines: pension plan and 1 cent, retro. to 1/1/50; 250 employees.