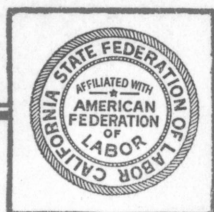


WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

April 26, 1950

PUBLIC HOUSING FOES LAUNCH FOUL INITIATIVE IN CALIFORNIA;
BEG FOR "FASCISM" IN WASHINGTON

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The enemies of public housing last week served state and national notice that they will wage unconditional warfare on the best interests of the American working people through any weapon at their command.

Here on the California front, anti-housing forces began circulation of an initiative which would amend the state constitution by requiring an election before any low rent public housing project could be started.

Under present law, approval by the county Board of Supervisors or City Council is the only authorization needed to permit the local unit of government seeking national housing action.

The proposed constitutional amendment would seriously impede needed housing construction, since wealthy real estate companies could pour untold thousands into such elections, while the champions of public housing would be limited to the support of low income groups.

Petitions are now being circulated throughout the state for placement of the issue on the November ballot.

Meanwhile, in Washington, D.C., Herbert U. Nelson, executive vice president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, declared in a letter made public at a congressional hearing that democracy "stinks."

"I do not believe in democracy," Nelson wrote. "I think it stinks."

The letter was read to the House Committee investigating lobbying activities. Nelson is a registered lobbyist at \$25,000 a year.

Nelson appeared before the committee and read a prepared statement in connection with the letter. He pretended to prefer a "republic" to a "democracy," stating: "In the democracies a simple majority becomes an unrestrained tyrant. It can take property by decree without compensation and is doing just that."

His other expressions on democracy were contained in a letter dated May 31 to T. H. Maenner of Omaha. Maenner is president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards.

Nelson said that "only direct taxpayers should be permitted to vote." He held that women should not be allowed to vote at all.

--Q--

FEDERATION STEPS UP DISABILITY INSURANCE BOYCOTT

(CELNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, this week urged that all AFL unions intensify their drive against private disability insurance plans in keeping with the mandate of the 1949 convention of the Federation.

In a communication to all unions and councils, Haggerty declared that since the inauguration of the boycott, thousands of AFL workers have joined the campaign to make possible the liberalization of an insurance law primarily enacted for their benefit but which has become within the past years the rich preserve of the insurance powers of the state.

More than 200,000 workers have requested withdrawal forms from the Federation office with which to effect their cancellation of arrangements with private disability insurance companies.

Accompanying the communication from the Secretary was a questionnaire asking for a progress report on the boycott campaign at the local level.

--Q--

ROOSEVELT INTENSIFIES RADIO CAMPAIGN

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--James Roosevelt, Democratic Party candidate for Governor, will carry his political message to the people of California over a statewide radio hookup through the remaining weeks of the primary campaign.

The state AFL candidate will deliver his broadcasts each Friday evening over the Columbia Broadcasting System at 7:00 p.m., treating of Transportation and Highways on April 28; Business and Industry, May 5; Lobbyists and Bossism, May 12; Water and Agriculture, May 19.

The speeches will be released through the following CBS stations: KNX, Los Angeles; KCBS, San Francisco; KFRE, Fresno; KROY, Sacramento; KCBQ, San Diego; KERN, Bakersfield; KGDM, Stockton; KCMJ, Palm Springs; KXOC, Chico.

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A PATTERN -- LABOR SEEKS INDUSTRIAL PEACE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--California unions are making 75 percent of the requests to the state conciliation service for intervention in the hope of peaceably settling recognition disputes, while employers are making only 25 percent of the requests, according to the March report of Glenn A. Bowers, supervisor of conciliation in the California Department of Industrial Relations.

March was the heaviest month yet experienced by the service in terms of number of requests received for intervention, the report states. Of the 35 cases filed in March, 30 were filed by unions serving approximately 5,000 employees.

The preponderance of recognition cases were concentrated in certain occupations, notably, laundrying, retailing, building service and hotel and restaurant work.

Between September 1947 and December 1949, 128 such disputes were filed out of a total of 460. Of the 128, there were 16 filed in the San Joaquin Valley, representing 33 percent of the total disputes they were called in on in the area.

"The outcome of the negotiations in the 111 recognition disputes which were closed prior to January 1950 is significant as one indication of the growth of collective bargaining in the state," the report declared.

Fifty-six disputes or 50 % were settled by the parties either by mutual agreement on the terms of a contract or by agreement to hold an election. Ten of the elections held were supervised by the state service and 7 by the NLRB.

The remainder of approximately 40 cases were either withdrawn by the requesting party or closed by the service following periods of inactivity.

These figures represent the bulk of the conciliation cases of recognition issued in collective bargaining, as the federal mediation and conciliation service does not normally serve in this type of case.

--Q--

RENT CONTROL PROTECTS TENANT --
AND LANDLORD

(CPLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Rent overcharges totaling \$28,718.09 were refunded to San Francisco Bay Area tenants during March through the San Francisco Area Rent Office, William A. Bledsoe, local area rent director, announced this week.

At the same time, Bledsoe revealed, his office had granted rent increases to San Francisco landlords amounting to a total of \$6,995.73 per month.

"These figures," Bledsoe said, "bring into sharp focus the prime responsibility of the area rent office - to assure protection to tenants against rent overcharges, and to grant rent increases to which landlords are entitled."

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JOIN THE
DISABILITY BOYCOTT
CAMPAIGN ;

For
details
write:

California State Federation of Labor
995 Market Street
San Francisco 3, California

STATE BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL PROTESTS
USE OF "CARTRIDGE GUN"

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Shocking disregard for human life through a determination by certain employers to use the dreaded cartridge fired guns is threatening a serious statewide tie-up of a number of building projects, Frank A. Lawrence, President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, announced last week.

Lawrence explained that this tool is used to make holes in iron, concrete, steel and wood for lead anchors, by pulling a trigger. The missile it fires, or misfires, has already killed a number of workers.

He further stated that the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California will wage a determined, uncompromising fight against the use of this tool until it is made safe, and that its present introduction will cause a tie-up of any project.

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STATE STRIKE IDLENESS LOWEST IN 5 YEARS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Fewer mandays were lost as a result of work stoppages in California in 1949 than in any year since the end of the war, Paul Scharrenberg, State Director of Industrial Relations, announced last week.

Strike idleness in California in 1949 declined 27 percent from that in the previous year. In contrast, strike idleness in the nation as a whole rose by more than 50 percent from 1948.

Preliminary figures just released indicate 2,040,000 mandays idle due to labor-management disputes in California during the past year. This is 750,000 less than in 1948 and the lowest annual total since 1944.

The number of workers involved in stoppages was also the lowest in the last 5 years. The 79,700 workers involved in stoppages in 1949 was 25 percent less than the 106,000 in 1948.

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