

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

May 24, 1950

HAGGERTY URGES FULL POLITICAL ACTION AS PRIMARY DATE NEARS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--In a communication directed to all AFL unions and councils in the state, C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, this week urged full and intense political action by all AFL bodies in the closing phase of the primary campaign.

Haggerty declared that the almost unanimous opposition of the commercial press of the state to the AFL candidates made it all the more important that every unionist interested in the welfare of the labor movement work in close and detailed harmony with his local league for political education.

The AFL executive stated that "the reactionary segments of the commercial press have chosen to use the present primary campaign as an opportunity for attacking all that we hold necessary for good and decent living.

"The Big Business papers have opened a bold and dangerous assault on the principles of public housing, unemployment insurance, and social security. They have smeared and misrepresented the legitimate social programs espoused by our candidates. In their anger, they have elected to oppose in vicious style the majority mind of the American people as expressed time and again at the polls within the past decade and a half."

Haggerty also reminded that the results of the primary tests may well be determined between now and June 6, and that it was therefore essential that all AFL unionists enter the local league work of

ringing doorbells, distributing literature, and bearing the AFL political message through every neighborhood in the state.

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WHO SAID LIFE BEGINS AT FORTY?

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The severe employment penalty that goes with the march of time was sharply pointed out this month with the issuance of a San Diego labor market survey by the State Department of Employment.

A sample study of the occupations of continued unemployment in the area during March showed that 46 percent of the claimants were forty years of age or over. Fifty percent of the service trades, skilled, and unskilled workers were in the older age bracket, and sixty percent of the claimants with clerical and sales occupations.

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HOW HUNGRY CAN THEY GET?

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--America's starving millionaires took time off from their dark political agitations this month to consider the Truman Welfare State as reviewed through the first quarter of 1950 by Business Week, a McGraw-Hill journal.

The findings run in direct contrast to the hysterical columns of doom and despair found in the anti-labor press of the nation.

Here's the Business Week analysis:

"Corporate earnings are on the way up again. The 1950 total probably won't match 1948's record of \$21.2 billion net earnings after taxes. But with any luck, it will come close, and that would make 1950 the second best earnings year in history.

"First-Quarter profits hit a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$18.3 billion this year. With sales and production rising, the second quarter should be even better.

"With two quarters of high income practically in the bag, nothing except a sudden and disastrous slump could cut total earnings

back to the 1949 level. So you can figure \$18 billion net earnings as a minimum for the year.

"If the boom holds through the rest of the year, and if there is a mild increase in prices, the total could run as high as \$21 billion."

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AFL PAMPHLET COVERS STATE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--An approximate half-million issues of the California LLPE primary slate pamphlet were shipped to AFL unions throughout the state this week as locals flooded the San Francisco headquarters with requests for additional copies.

The twelve-page pamphlet lists AFL-endorsed candidates for all federal and state offices.

Unions may obtain copies by writing C. J. Haggerty, Secretary, California Labor League for Political Education, 810 David Hewes Building, 995 Market Street, San Francisco 3, California.

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FARM-LABOR COMMITTEE TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--A special committee appointed by Governor Earl Warren to survey the San Joaquin Valley's agricultural labor resources will hold its first public hearings in Fresno, June 20 and 21.

Purpose of the sessions will be to secure direct testimony regarding the plight of the valley's migrant workers.

Additional hearings will be held in other San Joaquin communities in the committee's efforts to find a lasting solution for the problems which have long plagued the territory.

The committee is currently preparing plans for the distribution of surplus commodities to migrant families if such aid is needed next winter.

Labor members of the committee are C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, and C. H. Cary, secretary of the Fresno Labor Council.

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THEY DON'T COME TO CALIFORNIA
FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--California's relatively liberal pension laws have not resulted in a disproportionate increase in the state's population of persons over 65 years, according to statistics released this month by the California Taxpayers' Association.

The survey also revealed that the percentage of persons over 65 receiving pensions is not especially high when compared with data from the United States as a whole.

In California 7.7 percent of the population is over 65. In the United States 7.5 percent is over the 65 figure.

In California 26.2 percent of those over 65 are receiving old age pensions, while in the U.S. 23.1 percent are receiving such aid.

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JOE McCARTHY -- ENEMY OF AMERICAN LABOR

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Senator Joe McCarthy, the violent character assassin now commanding top space in the commercial dailies of the nation, has a long record of opposition to the American working people.

McCarthy was elected to the U. S. Senate in the reactionary sweep of 1946 and immediately became a leader of the notorious 80th Congress bloc which opened a murderous fire on the rights of the entire labor movement of the land.

: How did McCarthy vote on issues of importance to labor? Labor's League for Political Education gives the full answer for the 80th and first session of the 81st Congress:

In the 80th Congress, he voted:

- (1) FOR the Taft-Hartley bill.
- (2) FOR the Portal-to-Portal Act, which relieves employers from liabilities and penalties for violating the Walsh-Healey, Bacon-Davis and Fair Labor Standards Acts.
- (3) AGAINST the Barkley anti-inflation measure which would have curbed rising prices.
- (4) AGAINST keeping rent control in federal hands.
- (5) FOR crippling the U. S. Department of Labor.
- (6) AGAINST an excess-profits tax which would have placed a just fiscal responsibility on the rich.
- (7) AGAINST federal aid to education.
- (8) AGAINST public housing.
- (9) FOR taking 750,000 Americans out from under Social Security coverage.

In the 81st Congress, he voted:

- (10) FOR Taft-Hartley on two separate tests.
- (11) FOR killing rent-control.
- (12) FOR sabotaging the Tennessee Valley Authority.
- (13) AGAINST rural farm housing aid.
- (14) FOR crippling the Minimum Wage Law.
- (15) AGAINST an anti-monopoly appointment to the Federal Trade Commission.

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FOR THE POLITICAL FACTS ON THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARY ELECTION,

R E A D T H E L A B O R P R E S S !

GET YOUR COUNCIL OR UNION PAPER FOR
THE OFFICIALLY ENDORSED CANDIDATES OF THE AFL

REJECT
THE POLITICAL HACKS AND SMEAR SHEETS

READ THE LABOR PRESS
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