

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

June 7, 1950

### STATE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT CONFIRMS FARM-LABOR POLICY

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--In a decision of vital significance to thousands of farm workers, the California Department of Employment last week sustained its previously announced policy of requiring that labor unions be contacted as one of the steps in exhausting the supply of domestic farm labor before the importation of Mexican nationals can be requested.

The original directive was issued in May by the Department of Employment upon the request of the regional office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Employment Security.

Opposition to the directive was led by the Associated Farmers and similar farm employer groups. The State Department of Agriculture supported the Associated Farmer position.

C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, asked that the federal government refuse to acknowledge any requests for importation unless the directive were upheld.

Last week's policy statement confirmed and clarified the previous declaration of the Department of Employment by listing "labor unions" among "methods and sources of domestic labor to be contacted."

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### LABOR PRAISED FOR SAVINGS BOND WORK

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Organized labor has "struck a blow for independence" by making it possible for an exact replica of the famed Liberty Bell to tour Northern California and ring out in every

community the theme of the current U.S. Savings Bonds Drive, "Save for your Independence."

This was the import of a commendation issued last week to AFL officials from W. W. Crocker, chairman of the Board, Crocker First National Bank of San Francisco and state chairman of the U.S. Treasury Department's Savings Bonds Division.

Crocker's message was addressed jointly to C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer, California State Federation of Labor, AFL; Jack Goldberger, president, San Francisco Labor Council; and Arnold Moss, secretary, Garage and Service Station Employees, Local 665, San Francisco. In it, he commended unions generally for their broad-scale support of the Savings Bonds program. He also praised the Local specifically for its recent action in contributing, without cost to the taxpayers, the services of a driver for the Liberty Bell unit throughout the period of the "Save for your Independence" campaign, which extends to July 4th.

Driver of the Liberty Bell vehicle is Bob Martin, a member of Local 665, who met the bell when it landed in New York from France, drove the truck on which it was mounted all the way across the country, and is now shepherding the unit through all of the 47 Northern California counties.

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#### SAFETY CONFERENCE OPENED BY PRESIDENT

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The President's Conference on Industrial Safety was formally opened June 5 in Washington, D.C., by President Harry S. Truman, who has called for a 50 percent reduction in industrial accidents by 1952.

Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin is permanent general chairman of the Conference, held in the Departmental Auditorium, Washington, D.C., June 5-7.

Delegates from 48 states, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii attended the meeting, designed to evaluate progress in industrial safety during the past year and to plan for redoubled efforts to reduce industrial accidents in the coming year.

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#### CTU WINS UNITED PRESS STRIKE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--The Commercial Telegraphers Union, AFL, last Friday removed its picket lines from United Press establishments across the nation following settlement of the 33-day old strike against the wire service.

The CTU national membership ratified the settlement, reached after a 10-hour session in New York Thursday night between U. P. management and the CTU national committee. Operators returned to work at 12:01 a.m. Sunday.

The settlement provides for a \$2.21 across-the-board wage increase per week plus differential and other benefits which bring the average increase to \$3.90 per member.

An official union victory statement declared:

"We have served notice on the United Press that we cannot be intimidated or beaten, and we are sure the benefits of our action will be felt in future negotiations."

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#### TAFT TURNS WITH TIDE -- HE'S OUT !

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--This one is especially for those guys who still maintain that Sen. Robert Taft (R. Ohio) always talks facts:

On May 2 Rep. George Smathers, a supporter of the Taft-Hartley Act, defeated Sen. Claude Pepper, a T-H opponent, in the Florida Democratic primary. The Associated Press reported May 3:

"Senator Taft ... saw as the significant thing 'that the labor groups went down there to defeat Smathers because he was for the Taft-Hartley law.' Senator Taft added that 'the people were for it and I believe that indicates the attitude in other states.'"

On May 19, Senator Wayne Morse, who is against T-H, beat his conservative opponent, Dave Hoover, 2-1 in the Oregon Republican primary. Taft commented to a United Press reporter May 22:

"Primaries generally are won on the basis of local personalities and conditions."

Taft reminds one of the editorial writer who, in applying for a job, said his beliefs and writings could easily be tailored to fit any publisher's prejudices.

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RECORD WEEKLY EARNINGS TREND CONTINUES  
IN APRIL, BLS REPORTS

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Weekly earnings of the 11.6 million production workers in mid-April rose to a record figure of \$56.89, according to preliminary estimates of the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The April earnings figure represented the fifth consecutive monthly rise and exceeded that of April 1949 by more than \$3.

The basis for this rise continued to be centered in the lengthened workweeks for the metal, machinery automobile, and home-building supplies industries, BLS said. Average weekly hours for manufacturing as a whole, however, remained at 39.7 as the gains in the latter industries were offset by widespread seasonal reductions in hours in the soft-goods industries. These offsetting changes also contributed to the less-than-a-cent increase in hourly earnings for all manufacturing. The April figure was \$1.43.

Weekly hours in the durable-goods industries rose to 40.8, a gain of half an hour over March 1950 and 2 hours above April 1949. Weekly earnings, as a result, increased to a record high of \$61.04 in April 1950, almost \$4 above April 1949.

The transportation-equipment and primary metal industries reported the largest increases in overtime. In the latter group, steel

making registered the chief gains. In the transportation-equipment group, the automobile industry lengthened its workweek to a postwar peak level.

The workweek was also increased in the industries supplying home-building products. The lumber and wood-products group reported a half-hour rise in weekly hours. In the stone, clay, and glass products group, increases in hours were recorded in the cement, concrete, and structural clay products industries.

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#### HAGGERTY URGES AID FOR BOND DRIVE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Active cooperation by all labor members in California with the U.S. Savings Bond Drive was urged this Tuesday by C. J. Haggerty, Secretary of the California State Federation of Labor.

"The automatic payroll savings plan assures the financial security of workers against sudden emergencies and unemployment, and makes workers and their families independent," Haggerty declared.

The State Federation of Labor is supporting the current Independence Savings Bond Drive 100 percent, and urges all its members to cooperate with their employers in signing up for the automatic payroll purchases.

Haggerty stated that it is the hope of the State Federation that each worker in the state will purchase at least one U.S. Treasury Savings Bond each month for the coming year.

The Independence Drive will continue through July 4. It is being conducted under the direction of volunteer chairmen in each county.

Counties which go over-the-top on their quotas will have their names inscribed on a plaque which will become a permanent display with the Liberty Bell replica now touring the state, when it is presented to the people of California following the bond drive.

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