

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING  
995 MARKET STREET

151



SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

August 9, 1950

### AFL FIGHTS KNOWLAND ATTEMPT TO DISTORT SOCIAL SECURITY BILL

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Labor and liberal forces in Congress waged a last, desperate struggle this week to eliminate the notorious Knowland amendment from HR 6000--the liberalized social security bill pushed by the Truman Administration.

The Knowland rider to the Truman measure would give state unemployment agencies the power to force unemployed workers to crash picket lines or be denied unemployment benefits.

Specifically, the amendment introduced by California's anti-labor Senator William Knowland provides that states may ignore the present limited standards of the federal unemployment insurance law without fear of corrective action on the part of the Secretary of Labor until a long series of state court hearings have been held on the given dispute, thus often denying benefits to unemployed workers at the time when they are most needed.

The Knowland amendment was apparently inspired by cases arising late in 1949 when the U.S. Department of Labor found that California and Washington had illegally denied benefits to workers unemployed due to the 1948 maritime strike, and threatened to withhold funds from the offending states.

C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, last week wired all California congressmen to support efforts to recommit HR 6000 to a joint Senate-House Conference on the condition that the Knowland rider be eliminated. The state AFL secretary also urged all central labor council secretaries in the state to

alert their memberships to the necessity of vigorously fighting the Knowland rider.

As of this week, the House was awaiting a motion to recommit HR 6000 to conference. Administration leaders have intimated the President may veto the measure rather than accept the Knowland amendment.

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ILGWU BEGINS WORK ON L. A.  
HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Work on the new International Ladies Garment Workers Union headquarters building at 1130 South Maple Street in Los Angeles was begun last week, as the ILGWU prepared to open the first union health center in western America.

Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director, declared the Maple Street health center will offer a completely equipped diagnostic clinic to safeguard the health of union garment workers.

Plans call for the formal opening of both the health center and headquarters office in November.

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DAVE RYAN RESIGNS FROM  
CARPENTER POST

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Dave Ryan, veteran northern California labor leader, publicly announced plans to retire last week after 30 years of service with the Bay Counties District Council of Carpenters.

Ryan was honored at a testimonial luncheon last Tuesday in San Francisco's Palace Hotel in a tribute that brought out throngs of well-wishers and friends from both industry and labor.

Ryan was 32 years old when he first came to San Francisco in 1904. He joined Carpenters No. 483 and has remained a dues-paying member ever since. He worked with the tools of his trade from 1904 until 1920, when he became Business Representative of the Council.

Later, he became Council secretary and was also secretary of the State Conference of Carpenters, a post which he resigned last summer.

The 78-year old leader has been succeeded by C. R. Bartalini, recording secretary of Oakland Carpenters No. 36 for the past 10 years and a trade unionist for 32 years.

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FEDERATION TO SPONSOR EXHIBIT AT  
CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--C. J. Haggerty, executive officer of the state AFL, this week announced that the 1950 California State Fair would feature an organized labor exhibit for the first time in the history of the annual attraction, which normally draws more than a million and a half persons to Sacramento.

The 1950 fair will open August 31 in the state capital and will extend through September 10.

The labor exhibit will be sponsored by the California State Federation of Labor and will be known as the Samuel Gompers Centennial Exhibit.

Labor literature and labor films explaining the purposes and functions of the organized labor movement will be included in the exhibit material offered fairgoers.

The exhibit will be in charge of Harry Finks, president of the Sacramento Federated Trades Council and vice president of the California State Federation of Labor.

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GREEN BACKS COMMUNITY CHEST DRIVE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--As plans for the fall campaign of the Community Chest neared conclusion, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, last week announced that the AFL would "wholeheartedly join with management and all groups to make the drive a real success."

Reg Kennedy, associate AFL director of the national Chest organization, revealed that more than 30,000 AFL workers are serving on boards and committees of various voluntary agencies and are taking active part in their year-round programs, particularly where labor-management cooperation is a part of the effort.

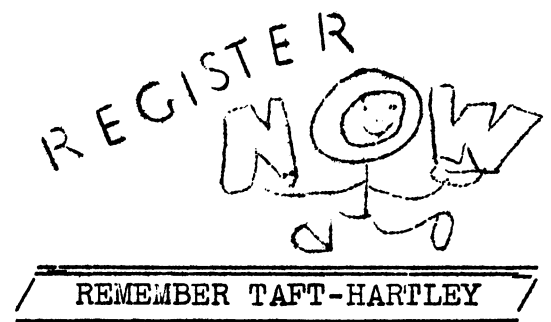
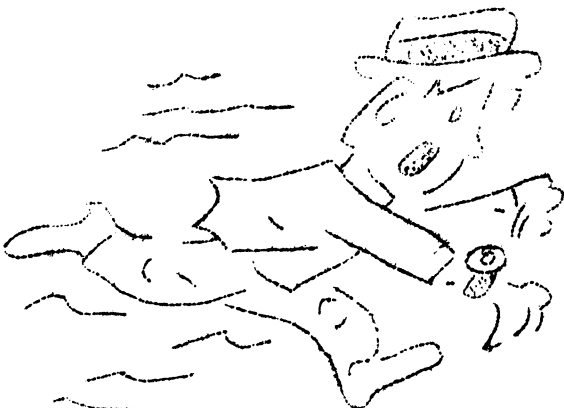
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TOBIN TELLS NEW YORK AFL LABOR  
HAS BOLSTERED WORLD PEACE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--"No group in the United States has shown more clearly its profoundly felt endorsement of steps taken to protect free peoples and to bolster world peace than American organized labor," Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin stated last week in New York.

Speaking before the New York State Federation of Labor Convention at the Hotel Commodore, Tobin said: "The work done by American trade unions in the international field deserves the appreciation of all Americans. One of our strongest weapons in the fight to keep foreign unionists from succumbing to Communist propaganda and chicanery is the American labor movement. Always at the focal point of the struggle, American labor is mainly responsible for the formation of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, which is vigorously at work abroad as a democratic force, offsetting Communist appeals and intrigues, and spreading the doctrine of free labor in a free world."

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California closing date:: September 14

SAILORS UNION CHALLENGES  
U.S. MARITIME POLICY

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--Voicing its protest to President Truman and declaring its position fully in the West Coast Sailor, official SUP organ, the Sailors Union of the Pacific last week charged that the Navy Department had chartered eleven foreign ships to carry supplies to the Korean zones while American ships and American seamen remained idle on the beaches.

The SUP journal asserted that foreign-owned Greek and Panamanian-flag vessels were carrying known Communists in their crew.

Harry Lundeberg, secretary of the SUP, had earlier protested the reported decision of the American President Lines to reject the recommendation of the Navy Department to remove seven alleged Communists from the S.S. Gordon as it sailed from the San Francisco area with thousands of troops for the Korean theatre. Lundeberg claimed the Navy permitted the seven men to remain aboard under "surveillance," despite the possibilities of sabotage.

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AFL OFFERS OFFICIAL LAPEL BADGE

(CFLNL)SAN FRANCISCO.--American Federation of Labor unionists seeking official AFL lapel buttons may obtain rolled gold lapel badges from national headquarters of the parent organization.

The badges sell for 50 cents each, or \$5.00 per dozen. Badge requests should be directed to George Meany, Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Labor, AFL Building, Washington, D. C.

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LAN NOW for the  
Annual State Federation Convention  
at Santa Barbara, October 9-13, 1950

MAKE RESERVATIONS with Santa Barbara Convention  
Bureau, P. O. Box 299, Santa Barbara