

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET

151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

October 25, 1950

AFL SAILORS WIN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DECISION

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--In a significant and far-reaching action, the Division of Appeals, of the state Department of Employment, San Francisco District, last week ruled that members of the Sailors Union of the Pacific, AFL, could not be denied unemployment insurance benefits for refusal to accept work with the Military Sea Transport Service.

The referee's decision reversed the previous determination of the Department of Employment, which had rejected the Sailors' position.

Charles P. Scully, attorney for the California State Federation of Labor, presented the case of the SUP before the Division of Appeals.

The Military Sea Transport Service is an agency of the United States government, charged with the operation of military transports of the United States Army and Navy since the consolidation of those services on March 1, 1950.

Donald Gilson, referee, held in part that the sailors were justified in refusing the MST work as not "suitable," since conditions in private employment under SUP contracts were superior. He pointedly commented on "the difference between the approximately \$300 total monthly remuneration afforded able bodied seamen with MSTs and the approximately \$450 total monthly remuneration received by able bodied seamen under union jurisdiction."

Gilson thereby declared that in the language of the Unemployment Insurance Act it was apparent that the wages afforded by the government were "substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for similar work in the locality."

The Gilson decision also observed that the Military Sea Transport Service had failed to make a current survey of the prevailing wage scale in private industry, a requirement established by the Federal Classification Act of 1949 which provides that "the wages of crews on government vessels be fixed and adjusted as nearly as consistent with the public interest and in accordance with the prevailing rate and practice in the maritime industry."

Gilson noted that the last such survey conducted by the agency concerned was made in 1947-1948.

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AFL CHALLENGES FRESNO LAW

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The legality of a recently adopted anti-noise ordinance in Fresno County was challenged this week by Todd and Todd, appearing in a San Francisco court as attorneys for the National Farm Labor Union, AFL, and the California State Federation of Labor.

Adopted for the obvious purpose of breaking the recent strike of AFL cotton pickers in Fresno County, the ordinance prohibits the use of a loud-speaker on highways and country roads.

The ordinance eliminated the NFLU caravan picketing technique by which workers were called from the fields in the spacious farm territory of Fresno county.

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38,000 STATE AFL WORKERS
RECEIVE WAGE BOOSTS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Some 38,000 American Federation of Labor workers in California obtained average wage boosts of $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents per hour during the month of September through the negotiation of 50 contracts.

While the number of workers involved is not particularly high, the contract figure is about twice the number normally reported on a monthly basis.

Details listed below are from the labor press of California and form but one half of the September report; the remaining half will be submitted in next week's News Letter.

Building Trades

Electricians No. 892, San Francisco, AND Custom Fixture Employers and Switchboard Industry Employers: 10 cents, 9/1/50 and 9/15/50; 500 workers.

Electricians No. 100, Fresno, AND Fresno chapter of National Electrical Contractors Ass'n.: 20 cents, eff. 9/15/50; 5 cents, eff. 1/1/51.

Electricians No. 551, Eureka, AND electrical contractors of Mendocino, Sonoma and Lake counties: 20 cents; 9/50.

Electricians No. 11, Pasadena, AND inside wiremen employers: $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; eff. 8/28/50.

Furniture Crafts Council, San Francisco, AND Retail Furniture Ass'n. and department stores handling furniture: $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; for five crafts and $17\frac{1}{2}$ cents for radio technicians; retro. to 8/1/50 for many.

Laborers No. 234, San Jose, AND Master Masons of Santa Clara County: $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; eff. 9/1/50; $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents 6/1/51.

Laborers No. 680, Salinas, AND Lumber Dealers: $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents; retro. 8/21/50; 30 workers.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers Joint Council, Washington, Oregon and California, AND plywood industry: 5 cents; 9/50; (in addition to 10 cents gained last spring).

Painters No. 272, Salinas, AND contractors: $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents; 9/5/50.

Painters No. 715, Santa Barbara, AND contractors: 10 cents; 9/5/50.

Paint Makers No. 1071, San Francisco, and No. 1101, Oakland, AND employers: 8 cents; 8/5/50; 400 workers in San Francisco and 425 workers in Oakland.

Building Trades (cont'd)

Plumbers District Council No. 16, Los Angeles, AND Plumbing-Heating and Piping Employers Council of So. Calif.; 12½ cents; eff. 9/5/50; 7000 workers.

Roofers, Los Angeles and Ventura counties, AND Union Roofing Contractors: 12½ cents; retro. 8/15/50 and 12½ cents eff. 11/15/50.

Roofers No. 27, Fresno, AND employers: 12½ cents; 8/25/50 and 12½ cents 1/1/51.

Stationary Engineers No. 63, Los Angeles, AND Western Coopera-ge: 10 cents and 3 add. pd. holidays; 9/50.

Stationary Engineers No. 63, Los Angeles, AND Stuart and Burdett Oxygen Co.: 11 cents; 9/50.

Culinary

Bartenders and Culinary Workers No. 560, Vallejo, AND Vallejo Restaurant and Tavern Owners' Ass'n: 6¼ cents; retro. 8/1/50; 500 workers.

Building Service Employees No. 87 and Hotel Service Workers No. 283, San Francisco, AND Hotel Owners' Ass'n. for 210 member establishments (200 additional independents): 60 cents a day; 3% of wages to health and welfare plan; one add. pd. holiday; retro. 7/1/50; 2000 workers.

Cooks No. 230, Fresno, AND Hotel and Restaurant Owners' Ass'n: 50 and 60 cents a day; eff. 9/1/50; 275 workers.

Culinary Workers No. 62, Fresno, AND Hotel Owners' Ass'n.: 35 to 75 cents; 9/50; about 700 workers.

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DECEPTION TACTICS BACKFIRE ON
PROP. 10 PROPONENTS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The "big lie" technique being used by the real estate lobby's paid propagandists in their attempt to slip trick Proposition 10 over on California voters backfired last week, and hard, according to the Committee for Representative Government which is leading the fight against Proposition No. 10.

The Committee revealed that, last week, Whitaker and Baxter, the professional advertising agency to which the real estate lobby is paying over \$75,000 in fees for handling the campaign for No. 10 put out a press release quoting an American Legion "spokesman" to the effect that the Legion had taken no position on No. 10. The press release demanded that the Legion be removed from the list of

opponents of the real estate lobby's pet anti-public housing proposition, No. 10.

Only flaws in this brilliant piece of "public relations" were two: 1) it was a complete, utter and absolute lie, and 2) the Legion wouldn't hold still for it. Stanley Dunmire, new state commander of the Legion promptly issued a press release nailing the lie for what it was, and reaffirming the Legion's strong opposition to Prop. 10 as "unnecessary, untimely and misleading".

American Legion leaders all over the state have demanded an investigation of the circumstances under which the so-called "spokesman", John L. Hardiman of San Mateo, undertook to reverse by the "big lie" a unanimous vote of the American Legion state convention against Proposition No. 10. Hardiman, who has identified himself as a representative of the northern California Home Builders Council, faces possible removal from the Legion's Housing Commission as a result of his activities.

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WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR ROOSEVELT

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Stimulated by a statement that the women of California would play a larger part in the State Government under his administration, a strong Women's Committee for Roosevelt for Governor was announced this week at the Northern California headquarters.

The committee list was issued by Mrs. Gertrude Clark, statewide vice-chairman of the Roosevelt for Governor Committee. Mrs. Clark declared that Roosevelt was the first and only candidate for Governor who felt that women were capable of serving on important state boards.

"Mr. Roosevelt stated that women should be included on the State Board of Agriculture," said Mrs. Clark. "The Democratic candidate also urged that women be appointed to other boards on an equal basis with men. We agree with him and are going to fight for his election."

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