

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

November 22, 1950

STATE AFL OPENS LEGAL FIGHT ON ASSOCIATED FARMERS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Hearings on an injunction sought by the California State Federation of Labor against the Fresno county anti-noise ordinance began this Monday in Superior Court, San Francisco.

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 caravan picketing technique of the National Farm Labor Union by which workers were called from the fields in the spacious farm territory of Fresno county. The ordinance was reportedly passed on the request of the Associated Farmers.

Meanwhile hearings were delayed on injunctions sought by the Federation against two similar anti-noise ordinances in Kings county.

The Kings county action was filed November 8 by C.J. Haggerty, individually, and in a representative capacity for the Federation, its officers and members, against the Associated Farmers of California, Inc., Kings County, and various Kings County officials.

The Federation suit seeks to enjoin the enforcement of Kings County ordinance No. 199, requiring permits for the use of loud-speakers, and also to enjoin the enforcement of ordinance No. 155, prohibiting parades in unincorporated parts of Kings County without a permit. This action also seeks \$100,000 in damages.

Filing of the Federation action followed enforcement of the two ordinances by the county during the October strike of AFL cotton pickers in Kings County.

Todd and Todd, Federation attorneys in the suit, declared that officials of the National Farm Labor Union, AFL, applied for a permit to use a loud-speaker and the application was denied.

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ORANGE COUNCIL OFFERS
CREDIT UNION HELP

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Labor organizations interested in sponsoring credit unions were this week invited to contact the Central Labor Council of Orange County for details of the credit union operated by that council throughout the past two years.

C. E. Devine, secretary-treasurer of the Orange council, added that his office would be "happy to assist in the formation of any potential credit unions in the vicinity of the Orange County council."

Interested parties should write Devine at the Central Labor Council office, 206 West Third Street, Santa Ana, California.

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AFL TAKES DEEP BREATH --
LOOKS AGAIN AT NOVEMBER 7

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Labor's League for Political Education, the AFL's national political vehicle, this week declared that the November 7 elections mean a strengthening of reaction at home and a weakening of freedom abroad.

The League Reporter, official weekly journal of the national LLPE, drew the following conclusions from the Republican Party gains:

(1) The Republican-Dixiecrat bloc that has run Congress since 1938 has been strengthened. Taft Republicans and Dixiecrats of the stripe of Democratic Senators Harry Byrd (Va.) and Walter George (Ga.) will control Congress in 1951 and 1952.

(2) The world-wide fight against communism has received a big setback. Isolationists blind to the realities of this atomic age are in the Congressional driver's seat again.

(3) Little or no liberal legislation is likely to pass in the next two years. Reactionaries will try to make the Taft-Hartley Act even worse than it now is.

(4) Inflation will all but ruin American workers. Taft and George, who led the drive to put World War II on the cuff, will team up with Dirksen and Republican Senator Wallace Bennett (Utah), former president of the National Association of Manufacturers, in opposing pay-as-you-go financing of the present defense program. They will want to borrow the money to pay for the war instead of paying for it chiefly through taxes.

(5) Almost all of the nation's newspapers have betrayed, for all time, the trust the American people once put in them. In Ohio practically all the daily papers ignored State Auditor Joe Ferguson, Taft's opponent.

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AFL HEALTH CIRCULAR
NOW AVAILABLE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Nelson H. Cruikshank, director of Social Service Activities of the American Federation of Labor, last week issued to all AFL state federations and central labor councils, an attractive circular on the advantages of national health insurance.

The circular exposes the fallacies in the high-powered advertising campaign recently launched by the American Medical Association against national health insurance.

Key points in the AFL medical review are:

(1) National health insurance is merely an extension of social security - like old-age and survivors insurance or unemployment insurance.

(2) The first American public health insurance program was started in 1798 on the suggestion of Alexander Hamilton. It provided medical care for our merchant seamen and out of the program came the U.S. Public Service.

(3) The costly and restricted private "voluntary" insurance schemes which the AMA now fondly embraces are the very schemes which in 1932 the AMA condemned as "socialism, communism...inciting to revolution."

(4) Only 2% of the American people now enjoy protection comparable to national health insurance.

Limited quantities of the AFL circular are available on request to the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C.

Single copies will be mailed to any individual sending his name and address by post-card or letter, addressed simply: HEALTH, A F of L, Washington, D. C.

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DAN TOBIN CALLED TURN ON ELECTIONS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Daniel J. Tobin, president of the AFL Teamsters International, this month proved a political prophet of no mean ability.

Writing in the November issue of the "Teamster," monthly organ of the international, the veteran AFL leader wrote of the approaching elections:

"No doubt the enemies of labor, if they are successful, even slightly successful, will cheer from one end of the nation to the other, and they will be supported by clever, shrewd, business-thinking editorial writers. They will say that the nation has repudiated labor. We have heard and read that before.

"My prediction is that they may temporarily hold us back. They may reduce our majority in the House and Senate, but just as sure as the sun is rising and setting, this will only intensify the determination of the workers to keep on the battle until they clean out from the national legislature and state legislatures the enemies of labor."

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AFL CHARTER MEMBER
DIES IN SAN DIEGO

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The San Diego labor movement lost a valiant pioneer last week in the death of George A. Garrett at the age of 92.

Brother Garrett was a union craftsman for 70 years and a member of the American Federation of Labor from its very beginnings.

He became a member of the International Typographical Union on March 3, 1880. In 1891, he was elected president of Local 221 of the typos in San Diego.

Until advancing age forced his retirement, Brother Garrett was an active and articulate figure in the San Diego movement.

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LABOR DEPARTMENT PUBLISHES
NEW BOOKLET

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A new quick reference to the important federal labor laws and regulations of general application is now available in booklet form.

Information on government agencies and services available to management and labor in the field of working conditions and labor relations is also included in the publication. It is officially titled, "Federal Labor Laws and Agencies."

Copies in limited quantities are available from the Bureau of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C. Sales copies may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 30 cents each. A 25% discount is allowed on orders for 100 or more.

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