

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

## FROM

### CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

November 29, 1950

#### FIRST AFL PRESS INSTITUTE HELD IN SANTA BARBARA

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--An enthusiastic determination to build a greater labor press in California marked the first annual AFL Labor Press Institute held November 25-26 in Santa Barbara.

More than 75 delegates from the state AFL press attended the institute which was jointly sponsored by the California State Federation of Labor and the University of California at Los Angeles.

Round-table discussions were held in workshop sessions on political reporting, collective bargaining reporting, economic reporting, and news page layout.

A general discussion program on "What Should Go Into a Labor Press," featured the morning session of the opening day.

Federal Judge Leon R. Yankwich addressed the institute banquet on Saturday evening, speaking on "Editorial Comments on Public Men and Public Matters." Judge Yankwich traced the history of libel law in the United States as it affected political personalities.

The Judge also participated in Sunday's program, presenting a review of recent trends in the law of libel and contempt.

Joseph A. Brandt, head of the School of Journalism at UCLA, and Harva Kaaren Sprager, of the UCLA journalism faculty, evaluated the labor organs of California in the closing session Sunday afternoon.

University participation in the conference was directed by Edgar L. Warren, director of the UCLA Institute of Industrial Relations. Conference working manager was Arthur Carstens of the UCLA Institute.

General Conference chairman was C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor.

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SAN FRANCISCO TEAMSTERS OBSERVE  
HALF-CENTURY OF PROGRESS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Five thousand men and women attended the 50th anniversary celebration of Teamsters Local 85 last Saturday night in the San Francisco Civic Auditorium.

Fifty years ago this past August, seven Teamsters met in a little basement room on Market Street and organized the first Teamster union west of the Mississippi.

Last Saturday night 48 charter members of the union were present on the Civic Auditorium stage. They were honored with anniversary emblems and introduced to the audience by Harold T. Lopez, recording secretary and business manager of Local 85.

The charter members were survivors of the Great Lockout of 1901 when Local 85 fought the Draymen's Association to a standstill on the streets of San Francisco and thus saved the infant organization from quick death.

Joseph J. Diviny, president of Local 85, recalled the heroic contributions to San Francisco labor made by the great Teamster pioneers: Michael Casey, John P. McLaughlin, John A. O'Connell, John E. Stewart, and hosts of others who led the first significant march of 20th century labor in California.

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FEDERATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
TO MEET DECEMBER 9 - 10

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor will hold its final quarterly meeting of the year December 9 - 10 in San Francisco.

Top item on the council agenda will be consideration of resolutions forwarded it for action by the 1950 convention of the Federation.

Plans for the 1951 general session of the California legislature will also be reviewed, according to C. J. Haggerty, Federation Secretary.

Thomas L. Pitts, newly elected president, will preside at the two-day session to be held in the Whitcomb Hotel.

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CALIFORNIA HOME BUILDING  
DECLINES 20 PER CENT

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Home building in the San Francisco Bay and Los Angeles metropolitan areas declined during September by 20 per cent, according to figures released last week by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, western regional office.

In both areas, September construction was the smallest since February of this year. The decline was already evident in August and is believed due to the new credit restrictions affecting home building which were announced in mid-July.

The American Federation of Labor has protested the credit and home building curbs as they affect homes for lower income groups and has asked that controls be applied selectively so that essential housing can be made available for defense workers.

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A.F.L. SETS UP NEW DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The American Federation of Labor has taken over the Workers Education Bureau, pursuant to 1950 convention action, and is moving it to Washington as its department of education.

The Bureau, founded in 1921, has been formally dissolved as an independent educational agency, and title to its library, copyrights, office and film equipment, files, and all other assets has been transferred to the A. F. of L. The new department will be known as the Workers Education Bureau of the American Federation of Labor.

John D. Connors, director of the W.E.B. since 1943, announces

that its office and staff are moving from New York to Washington on December 1. Because suitable office space is not available in the A. F. L. Building, the Federation has leased Suite 801 in the nearby Victor Building at 724 - 9th Street, N.W., Washington 1, D.C., for its new bureau.

The Workers Education Bureau was originally set up to serve as a clearing-house of information and a guidance center in the development of workers' education in this country. Over the years, as the educational needs of labor have grown and emphasis has shifted, so has the program of the Bureau. Director Connors states that he and his staff plan to continue to gear the Bureau's program to labor's needs and look forward to this opportunity to cooperate more closely with the other departments of the Federation and to be of increasingly greater service to the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions.

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#### FEDERATION PLAYS HOST TO GERMAN LABORITES

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The California State Federation of Labor was this week host to four German trade unionists visiting the United States under the joint auspices of the U. S. Department of State and U. S. Department of Labor.

As part of its democratization program for Germany, the United States government brings Germans from all walks of life to America to observe conditions in this country.

From the spring of 1949, when the program began, until the end of 1950, a total of 248 Germans will have been programmed in labor fields.

The four trade unionists welcomed at the Federation head office in San Francisco were Max Ehrhardt, chairman of white collar workers in Wuerttemberg-Baden; Adolf Heidorn, functionary of

the German Trade Union Federation; Albert Remppel, head of the union of Restaurant and Food Workers; and Erich Schieffer, Solicitor in the Ministry of Labor and head of the Restitution Division.

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PITTS ATTENDS LEGISLATIVE  
CONFERENCE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Thomas L. Pitts, president of the California State Federation of Labor, left for Washington, D.C. this week to represent the state A. F. of L. at the annual conference on labor legislation called by the U. S. Department of Labor.

Purpose of the conference is to give unity and order to the various state and national efforts to establish progressive labor legislation.

The conference opened November 29 and will close December 1.

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HENNING TO REPRESENT FEDERATION  
AT YOUTH MEET

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--John F. Henning, research director for the California State Federation of Labor, will represent the Federation at the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth to be held in Washington, D. C., December 3 - 7.

William Green, AFL president, has urged full participation by labor in the White House conference. Henning has been active in child welfare activities in northern California and is a member of the Public Welfare Commission of the City and County of San Francisco.

The first White House Conference on Children and Youth was called by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1909. The conferences are now held at ten-year intervals upon the call of the President of the United States.

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