

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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151



SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

December 6, 1950

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA METAL TRADES ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN REACTIVATED

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A mass meeting of the executive councils of all unions affiliated with the Metal Trades Council of Southern California was held December 6 at the Los Angeles Labor Temple to reactivate the AFL organizing campaign among southern California metal workers. The Los Angeles area is now the second largest industrial area in the country, and the tremendous potential organizing field which exists there will develop with expanded defense production.

Financial and organizational assistance have been obtained from the national AFL, from the California State Federation of Labor, the Los Angeles Central Labor Council and the Los Angeles Building Trades Council, as well as from the various local trades affected. Every effort is being made to conduct the campaign on a truly local grass roots level. In this way, local unions on the spot who are vitally concerned with the progress of the campaign can make their full contribution.

This expanded drive comes as a result of a resolution adopted by the Houston convention of the national AFL in September. The resolution called upon all organizations in the southern California area to cooperate in this drive in recognition of the combined support being given the national AFL, the Federation and the Metal Trades Department.

All organizational work, elections and collective bargaining contracts are being done in the name of the Metal Trades Council of Southern California. Workers covered by council contracts will have the opportunity to choose which AFL union they wish to join.

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FULL INVESTIGATION OF EASTERN OIL TANKER  
INDUSTRY ORDERED

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The Seafarers International Union is asking all AFL unions to join with it in urging Senator James E. Murray of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare to continue his investigation of anti-union activities in the east coast oil tanker industry.

Brother Lundeborg states that one of these companies, City Service Oil Company, has used "every dirty trick in the bag," including attempted blackmail, labor spies, etc., to stall off a contract, after the Seafarers had won an election among this company's employees. The Seafarers had just concluded a four-year organizational drive with the company.

These facts were well brought out by Senator Murray's Committee.

The west coast oil tanker industry is one hundred percent organized, but the east coast remains as the last stronghold of the open shop in the seamen's field.

The State Federation has already telegraphed Senator Murray urging the continued investigation to promote industrial harmony in a key defense industry.

Please send your telegram or letter to Senator James E. Murray, Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. A copy to Harry Lundeborg, President of the Seafarers International Union, 450 Harrison Street, San Francisco, will show him what you've done.

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NELSON CRUIKSHANK TO REPLACE  
SHISKIN IN PARIS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Nelson Cruikshank, director of AFL social insurance activities, will become director of the Economic Cooperation Administration labor division in Paris. He replaces Boris Shiskin, AFL chief economist, who will return to his job in Washington with the AFL.

AFL members in this country thus lose the immediate aid of one friend and gain that of another. Nelson Cruikshank did much of the groundwork leading to the passage of HR 6000, the Social Security Act Amendments of 1950. His activities on this bill prevented him from attending the Federation's annual summer labor institute at Asilomar last June.

Many California labor leaders had an opportunity to meet Boris Shiskin in March 1948, when he participated in a roundtable forum on wage-price relations and the national welfare sponsored by the University of California at Berkeley and at Los Angeles.

Nelson Cruikshank will make a fine contribution to the ECA program in Paris. ECA, or the Marshall Plan, has always had the full support of organized labor and has been of immense value in the reconstruction of western Europe.

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#### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING GAINS DURING NOVEMBER

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--AFL and related workers gained an increase of 8 cents per hour as a result of negotiations between unions and employers in California. Approximately 154,000 workers were covered, compared with 146,000 last May, the previous record month as far as workers covered is concerned. Gains were the result of voluntary reopenings by employers in a good many instances.

Of the 154,000 workers covered during November, 65,000 are estimated to be southern California building tradesmen (excluding carpenters). This group obtained 5 cents effective October 30, and 5 cents additional effective May 1, 1951. (These gains are in addition to the 8 cents effective last July 1.) In computing the average hourly increase for the state, only the 5 cents gained in October was counted.

The average increase for the 89,000 workers outside the southern California building trades group was 10 cents.

Details, given below, are from the labor press. The listing will be continued next week.

### Building Trades

Building Trades, (excluding carpenters) southern California, AND Associated General Contractors: 5 cents eff. 10/30/50; 5 cents add. eff. 5/1/51; (in addition to the 8 cents gained last spring); about 65,000.

Carpenters No. 1495 (Millmen), Chico, AND employers: 5 cents; 11/50.

Laborers, 46 northern California counties, AND Associated General Contractors: 10 cents; eff. 11/20/50; 30,000 workers.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers, 17 locals, northern California, AND employers: 5 cents; 10/50; 4000 workers.

Building Material Teamsters No. 692 and 420, and Operating Engineers No. 12, southern California, AND 12 rock, sand and gravel employers: 12½ cents; 10/50; 3000 workers.

Tile Setters No. 19 and Tile Setters Helpers No. 7 and 22, San Francisco and Oakland, AND Bay Counties Tile Contractors Assn.: 12½ cents, eff. 11/9/50; 7½ cents add. 1/1/51; 8 cents add. 7/1/51; 4½ cents add. 10/1/51; 1000 workers.

### Butchers

Butchers No. 229, San Diego, AND retail employers: \$5.00 /wk and \$2.50 /wk to health and welfare plan, and improved conditions; 11/50; 1500 workers.

Butchers No. 229, San Diego, AND Cudahy Packing Co.: 11 cents plus sick leave; retro. 8/14/50; 350 workers.

Butchers No. 364, Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake counties, AND retail employers: \$15 /wk and \$10.18 monthly to health and welfare plan.

Butchers No. 421, Los Angeles, No. 556, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and No. 587, Santa Monica, AND retail employers: \$3.00 /wk and \$2.50 to health and welfare; 11/50; about 7000 workers.

Butchers No. 506, San Jose, AND retail employers, Watsonville and Monterey, San Benito and Santa Clara counties: \$3.00 /wk and \$10.18 monthly to health and welfare; 11/50; 700 workers.

### Teamsters

Highway Drivers Council, statewide, AND Tank Truck Owners Assn.: \$4.00 monthly to health and welfare fund and other benefits; 11/50; about 5000 workers.

Brewery Drivers and Workers, statewide, AND employers: \$5.00 /wk; 10/50; 5000 workers.

Teamsters, northern California, AND logging industry: 5 cents; 11/50.

Teamsters No. 150, Sacramento, AND wholesale grocers: 8½ cents; 10/18/50.

Teamsters No. 150, Sacramento, AND wholesale bakers: 5 cents; 10/1/50.

Freight Drivers No. 208, Los Angeles, and 381, Santa Maria, AND local employers: 7½ cents; 11/50.

Teamsters (feed and grain) No. 386, Modesto, AND Grange Co.: 7½ cents; retro. 9/1/50; 120 members.

Teamsters No. 439, Stockton, AND milk distributors: 16-17 cents; 11/1/50.

Garage Employees No. 665, San Francisco, AND automatic wash racks: 12 cents; 11/17/50; 100 workers.

Garage Employees No. 665, Auto Mechanics No. 1305, Auto Warehousemen No. 241, and Auto Painters No. 1073, San Francisco, AND San Francisco Motor Car Dealers Assn.: 5 cents, voluntary; 11/20/50; 2000 workers.

Garage Employees No. 665, San Francisco, AND Garage and Parking Lot Employers: 5 cents, voluntary; 12/1/50; 700 workers.

Garage Employees No. 665, San Francisco, AND Peninsular Motor Car Dealers Assn.: 6 cents, voluntary; 11/50; 350 workers.

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#### SAN FRANCISCO RENT CONTROLS CONTINUED

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The Board of Supervisors of San Francisco voted November 30, 1950 to continue rent controls in San Francisco until June 30, 1951. Controls would have expired December 31, 1950, if such action had not been taken.

The Board of Supervisors' action was undoubtedly influenced by a housing survey which showed 7650 vacancies, amounting to 2.9 percent of the total dwellings in the county. However, 67.5 percent of these vacant units could be considered unsuitable.

Organized labor favored continuation of controls, and the action was unopposed by organized landlords, although individual landlords did ask for decontrol.

At the same meeting the Board of Supervisors asked the general rent advisory board to consider removing controls from units renting for \$95 or more a month.

A 25 percent increase over rents in effect as of June 30, 1947, has previously been approved for San Francisco; landlords are now making application and the increases will go into effect January 1, 1950, in most cases.

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