

# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

## FROM

### CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

March 21, 1951

#### IMPROVED DISABILITY BILL GETS STRONG BACKING AT SACRAMENTO

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--An AFL-sponsored proposal to liberalize the state disability insurance law featured last week's reconvening of the 1951 general session of the California legislature as \*AB 3376 was tossed into the legislative hopper.

Introduced by Assemblyman Ernest Geddes (R. Pomona), Thomas A. Maloney (R. San Francisco), and Francis Dunn, Jr. (D. Oakland), the measure enjoys the backing of both the California State Federation of Labor and private insurance carriers.

Essentially, \*AB 3376 provides the following liberal features:

- (1) a boosting of the present \$25 maximum weekly benefit to \$35;
- (2) payment of benefits to a worker when off the job due to a trade dispute if the illness has no relationship to the dispute; (3) benefits to be paid even when an employer makes a partial wage contribution, providing that the total of benefits plus the share of wages does not exceed the normal earnings.

Other phases of the bill require an extension of the tax base. At present, one percent worker deductions are made from the first \$3,000 earned annually. The bill stipulates that the first \$3600 shall be so taxed.

Also included are provisions allowing a tax credit for private carriers, and a plan to extend full coverage for private plans if 85 percent of the employees vote to accept. However, the individual employee would still be able to withdraw if he so chose.

The bill will receive its first test when hearings on it are held before the Assembly Finance and Insurance Committee Monday evening, March 26, State Capitol, Room 435, commencing at 8:00 o'clock.

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LEGISLATURE LISTS PUBLIC HEARINGS  
FOR LABOR BILLS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--As the 1951 general session of the California legislature moved quickly into high gear last week, hearings were set for numerous bills of interest to organized labor.

All committee sessions are held in the State Capitol, Sacramento. State AFL representation at the hearings is under the direction of C. J. Haggerty, executive head of the state organization.

The following immediate hearings have been established for bills included in the state AFL's official digest of proposed legislation:

ASSEMBLY BILLS

Subject: Workmen's Compensation  
Committee on Industrial Relations - Wednesday, March 28, 1951 -  
8 p.m. - Room 432

\*AB 401 (Gaffney, et al) - GOOD.. Amends Section 4553 of the Labor Code relating to workmen's compensation, to provide that in serious and wilful misconduct cases, any person in authority shall be responsible.

\*AB 402 (Gaffney, et al) - GOOD. Amends Section 4553 of the Labor Code relating to workmen's compensation, to provide that benefits for injuries resulting from serious and wilful misconduct shall be increased 100%.

\*AB 403 (Gaffney, et al) - GOOD. Adds Section 4664 to the Labor Code relating to workmen's compensation, to provide dependency benefits in cases of temporary disability. The benefits shall amount to \$5.00 per week for each of the first two dependents.

\*AB 404 (Gaffney, et al) - GOOD. Amends Section 4553 of the Labor Code dealing with workmen's compensation, to provide that in a serious and wilful misconduct case a supervisor, as defined, shall also be responsible.

Subject: Industrial Safety  
Committee on Industrial Relations - Thursday, March 29, 1951 -  
8 p.m. - Room 432

\*AB 544 (Gaffney) - GOOD. Adds Section 6616 to the Labor Code to require supervisors be given a copy of all applicable industrial safety orders.

\*AB 541 (Gaffney) - GOOD. Amends Section 6506 of the Labor Code to provide that every person shall be conclusively presumed to know of every order, decision, rule, etc., on industrial safety. See also AB 511.

Subject: Teachers

Committee on Education - Wednesday, March 28, 1951 - 8 p.m.- Room 432

AB 3185 (Kirkwood) - BAD. Repeals present limits on dismissing probationary employees in districts of over 60,000 a.d.a. for cause only.

\*AB 656 (Brady) - GOOD. Makes tenure provisions for teachers in state uniform.

\*AB 1151 (Porter, et al) - GOOD. Provides duty-free mid-day lunch hour for teachers.

\*AB 1567 (Porter, et al) - GOOD. Makes private trade schools subject to the State Board of Education.

\*AB 1577 (Porter) - GOOD. Prohibits discharge of probationary employees except for cause.

\*AB 1929 (Hahn) - GOOD. Liberalizes payment of death benefits under the State Teachers' Retirement System.

Subject: State, County and Municipal Employees--General

Committee on Municipal and County Government - Wednesday - April 4, 1951 - 8 p.m. - Room 426

\*AB 958 (Burkhalter) - GOOD. Provides that every city employee who has worked more than 39 hours a week is entitled to certain time off for meals. Present law only applies to city employees working 120 hours a week.

AB 1982 (Rosenthal, et al) - GOOD. Provides that the county counsel shall defend county employees in suits arising from their work.

Subject: Firefighters

Committee on Municipal and County Government - Wednesday - April 4, 1951 - 8 p.m. - Room 426

AB 804 (Dickey) - GOOD. Provides 15 days vacation with pay to firemen with less than five years service and 21 days to those with 5 or more years in all city, county and special fire districts.

Subject: Civil Rights

Committee on Judiciary - Tuesday, March 27, 1951 - 8 p.m.-Room 435

AB 1756 (Rumford, et al) - GOOD. Prohibits racial discrimination in business or vocational schools.

Subject: Veterans

Committee on Military Affairs - Monday - March 26, 1951-8 p.m.-Room 426

AB 3083 (Dolwig) - GOOD. Prohibits charging a fee for any public document needed in claiming federal or state veterans benefits.

AB 1930 (Burkhalter) - GOOD. Grants veterans benefits to merchant seamen.

SENATE BILLS

Subject: Barbers and Cosmetologists  
Committee on Business and Professions - Thursday - March 29, 1951 -  
9 p.m. - Room 414

SB 805 (Kraft) - BAD. Provides that no member of the  
State Board of Cosmetology shall serve more than one term.

Subject: Fish and Game  
Committee on Fish and Game - Tuesday - March 27, 1951 - 9 a.m. - Room 414

SB 1715 (Judah) - BAD. Prohibits any kind of commercial  
fishing in Monterey Bay from December 1 to February 29.

Subject: Dairy Industry  
Committee on Agriculture - Tuesday - April 3, 1951 - 8 p.m. - Room 406

SB 1451 (Jespersen) - GOOD. Provides that all milk and  
milk products produced outside the state, but sold in the  
state, shall conform to California standards.

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COLUMNIST PRAISES  
LABOR'S DEFENSE ROLE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Labor came in for high praise last  
week for its militant role in the mobilization effort when Thomas  
Stokes, nationally syndicated columnist, pointed out that "labor is  
speaking for the unorganized millions as well as itself in its fight  
for a fair defense program."

"Labor's protest withdrawal from defense agencies has provoked  
the usual name-calling. . . and has brought the usual attempts to  
confuse the issue," Stokes wrote.

"It (organized labor) has clearly outlined its complaints, all  
soundly based and justified--price control that has not controlled  
cost of food, clothing and necessities; rising rents and housing  
costs and a blockade against adequate new low-rental housing. . .  
discrimination in projected tax legislation.

"While organized labor is speaking for itself, it is at the  
same time the most effective agent for those other people, the unor-  
ganized millions, including white collar workers. By publicizing  
conditions, it serves them too. That often is forgotten. It should  
not be."

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HAGGERTY ASKS FOR CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST "HOT CARGO" BILLS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--In a letter directed to all AFL unions and councils in California, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor, this Wednesday urged that state Assemblymen and Senators be urged to vote against the three "Hot Cargo" bills now before the California legislature.

Haggerty specifically referred to Assembly Bills 2921 and 3223, both introduced by Assemblyman George A. Clarke (R. Madera, Merced) and to Senate Bill 1228, introduced by Senator George J. Hatfield (R. Madera, Merced).

The communication noted that the three bills while popularly known as the "Hot Cargo" measures actually do much more than ban secondary boycotts. Haggerty charged the bills "take from the wage earners of California their dearly earned rights to strike, to picket peacefully, to write free contracts, and to publish unfair listings."

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STATE AGENCY ISSUES ANALYSIS OF  
INDUSTRIAL DEATHS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A total of 649 industrial fatalities was reported in 1948 to the Division of Labor Statistics and Research of the California Department of Industrial Relations, the state agency announced last week in a detailed analysis report.

Of the deceased workers, 76 percent left widows and 51 percent left minor dependents under 18 years of age. In about one of every six cases there was an adult dependent other than the widow. Twelve percent of the workers left no dependents.

Of the 1,267 surviving dependents, 649 were minors under the age of 18 years, 467 were widows, and 151 were dependents, other than the widow, aged 18 or over.

The average of the minors was slightly over 8 years; that of the widows just under 41 years.

In most cases, minors are usually the children of the deceased worker and by law are presumed to be totally dependent upon him. A few deceased workers left minor dependents such as brothers, sisters, nieces, or nephews who were partially dependent upon them.

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