WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING 995 MARKET STREET



SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

August 8, 1951

SAN DIEGO PREPARES FOR AFL CONVENTION DELEGATES

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO. -- With more than 2,000 delegates expected for the Golden Anniversary Convention of the California State Federation of Labor, the San Diego Central Labor Council was busy this week finishing up entertainment details for the giant state AFL sessions which will open August 20 in the famed Navy city.

Highlight of the social sessions will be an afternoon and evening of fun at Tijuana in old Mexico on Tuesday.

The Tijuana program will include a barbecue at the Agua Caliente race track and a special card of greyhound racing in the evening.

Max Osslo, Federation vice president and General Chairman of the local convention committee, announced last week that free passes to the Tijuana events will be given all delegates. Passes will be distributed at convention headquarters in the U.S. Grant Hotel.

Women delegates and wives of convention delegates will be honored guests Wednesday noon at the Ladies Luncheon, House of Hospitality, Cafe Del Rey More, Balboa Park.

The one formal social event of the week will be staged
Thursday evening when the annual Grand Ball for delegates and
officers of the State Federation is held at the Balboa Park Club.

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SHIP CONTRACTS AWARDED WEST COAST

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO. -- A five year campaign against every conceivable economic and political obstacle reached its first major triumph last week when the Maritime Administration announced that

five of the new Mariner-type fast cargo ships will be built in a San Francisco Bay Area shipyard, the first new ship keels to be laid down in west coast private yards since 1945.

The recognition of west coast shipbuilding claims was won through the cooperation of labor, industry, and western Congressmen.

The ship awards, at a cost of \$9,000,000 each, were contracted to the Bethlehem Pacific Coast Steel Corporation.

Work is expected to get under way soon on the new ships, 30 of which are already building in eastern and gulf yards, where contracts were awarded early in 1951.

As a concession to persistent demands for reactivation of the west coast shipbuilding industry, the U.S. Maritime Administration made a special point of calling for western bids in order that the final five ships might go to this coast.

The Labor Review, official organ of the Bay Cities Metal Trades Council, this week estimated that the ship awards will net Bay Area workers about \$25,000,000 in wages.

The newspaper declared that organized labor made the greatest single contribution in winning the western contracts, mentioning particularly the work of Metal Trades Councils in each port city.

A joint labor-management effort in the long fight was led by Thomas A. Rotell, secretary of the Pacific Coast Metal Trades Council. Rotell headed the Pacific Coast Committee for Shipbuilding for National Defense, of which Ray Brennan of the Shippard Laborers union is secretary. The Committee is comprised of labor and management representatives from California, Washington, and Oregon.

Also active in the successful campaign were Al Wynn, secretary of the Bay Cities Metal Trades Council, and Ed Rowan, special representative of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers who was assigned to the coastwide effort by President Charles J. MacGowan of the Boilermakers.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MID-YEAR ECONOMIC REPORT

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--President Truman's recently issued mid-year economic report to Congress gave strong support to good price and inflation control legislation, but Congress insisted in adopting an inadequate controls act despite the executive counsel.

Pointing up the inflationary pressures, the President said that higher military defense goals will continue regardless of the outcome of truce talks in Korea.

Total security costs have now reached an annual rate of more than \$35,000,000,000. This is almost twice as much as a year ago. Military buying will go up to an annual rate of \$50 billion by the end of this year and will reach \$65 billion by the middle of 1952.

Personal income before taxes is expected to increase by \$15 to \$20 billion above current levels, and will bring further inflationary pressures.

Price increases of 9 percent have already occurred at retail since the Korean war, while the wholesale price increase has been 16 percent. But, the President pointed out, half the families in the country had no increase in cash income between the beginning of 1950 and 1951, and almost one-fifth suffered an actual decline.

Thus those who kept the same income actually fell behind due to price and tax increases.

The President's anti-inflation program includes:

- 1. Increased production by a labor force which must be increased by $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 million persons.
 - 2. \$10 billion in federal taxes.
 - 3. Voluntary savings.
- 4. Credit controls, including power to prevent commodity market speculation by fixing margins.
 - 5. Strengthening price control sections of the Defense

Production Act, including roll backs, and better rent control.

6. Wage stabilization.

The national AFL has supported the President's anti-inflation program but has urged no increases on excise taxes or taxes on incomes under \$2,000, and stricter control of luxury housing and easing of credit restrictions on low priced houses. The President, on other occasions, has also agreed with labor on the need for subsidies to keep food prices down.

Congress, in passing the extension of the Defense Production Act, continued wage stabilization, but weakened credit controls and price controls. The Senate has not acted on the tax bill; manpower and savings are administrative matters on which Congress need not act at present.

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SHELLEY DEMANDED PROBE OF PROFITEERING GENERAL

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--"Labor," the official weekly newspaper of the Railroad Brotherhoods, this week recalled that Congressman John F. Shelley of San Francisco was the first to demand the full investigation and possible removal of Brigadier General David J. Crawford, commander of the Detroit Tank Arsenal.

Shelley is the former president of the California State
Federation of Labor and past executive head of the San Francisco
Labor Council.

The Army later fired Crawford from his high post for accepting favors from defense contractors and Government material for his own use.

Army Secretary Frank Pace Jr. ordered the disciplinary action. He declared General Crawford "had not met the high standards required of any Army officer." In reply Crawford told newsmen he "did nothing that anyone else wouldn't have done — only someone caught me at it."

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Despite resulting protests, the Army transferred Crawford to a command post in occupied Germany. Anti-Communist Germans bitterly assailed the assignment.

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CONVENTION NOTICE

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ATTENTION ALL AFFILIATES:

DEADLINE FOR THE RECEIPT OF RESOLUTIONS BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION IS 5:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15. OFFICE ADDRESS: ROOM 810, 995 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 3.

STATEWIDE CONFERENCES OF ORGANIZATIONS MEETING IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION ARE URGED TO FILE RESOLUTIONS BY 6:00 P.M., SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, WITH CONVENTION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER, U. S. GRANT HOTEL, SAN DIEGO. THE CONSTITUTION ALLOWS FILING OF SUCH RESOLUTIONS UNTIL 12:00 NOON OF OPENING DAY OF CONVENTION, BUT EARLIER FILING WOULD FACILITATE THEIR PRINTING.

ALL RESOLUTIONS, EITHER FROM LOCAL UNITS OR STATEWIDE CONFERENCES, MUST BE FILED IN TRIPLICATE.

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C. J. HAGGERTY SECRETARY-TREASURER