

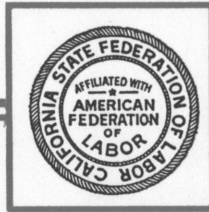
# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

August 29, 1951

### LABOR DAY MESSAGE - 1951

By C. J. Haggerty  
Secretary-Treasurer  
California State Federation of Labor

Labor Day has particular significance in 1951 to those of us in California who enjoy membership within the American Federation of Labor.

We are this year observing the Golden Anniversary of the founding of the California State Federation of Labor. We are properly proud of the progress and sacrifice which have identified our movement from its beginnings at the turn of the century. We can with justice assert that our organization has written much of the economic and social history of that prosperous and modern California which has become the nation's second largest state.

We are determined to continue the struggle for progress. We are determined to build for a nobler existence for the working men and women of California.

However, the ambitions and hopes of all Americans are now shadowed by the black Communist clouds of war and aggression.

The fight in Korea is the fight for world peace and world freedom. The success of Communist arms would mean terror and slavery for the workers of every continent.

Our allegiance to the United States is beyond question or doubt. From its founding in 1881 the American Federation of Labor has remained a national bastion of loyalty and fidelity.

In company with our Brothers and Sisters in every state,

we in California are pledged to the successful conduct of the war effort, but we are also pledged to the concepts of equality of sacrifice and full partnership in the mobilization program.

We insist that the American worker shall not be exploited by profiteer or politician. We insist that the efficiency of the total mobilization cause requires recognition of free labor as a vital force in a free society.

However, neither this program nor the program to preserve our labor union structure may be won through mere statements of policy.

The destiny of our movement in the present crisis demands dynamic political action if we would stay the hand of reaction. This is true not only in Washington but in Sacramento where the state legislature enacts so many of those laws which govern our trade union existence.

We must build now for the political campaigns of 1952. Political action should not be a matter of mere campaign enthusiasm, but must be a constant, intelligent process of organization.

Only through such constancy and organization may we save the sinews of our trade union movement, for it has become grimly apparent that the powers of reaction have chosen to break our economic prestige with legislative weapons.

We have fought and won historic crusades in the past. In dark and discouraging days we stood alone as the social conscience of America. We alone espoused the cause of forgotten men and women who toiled for their bread amid foul and wretched conditions of labor.

We have survived the years despite every hardship. We shall not falter now. We are sure of the destiny of free American labor and we are not prepared to abandon it to those who would turn back the clock of history to other and bleaker days.

We are fifty years young! The future calls for militant and united action. We must and shall answer that call now and in the challenging months before us.

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GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION FINDS  
AFL UNITED ON SOCIAL AIMS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The 1951 Golden Anniversary convention of the California State Federation of Labor came to a harmonious close last Thursday in San Diego with all incumbent officers reelected.

President Thomas L. Pitts and 24 vice presidents were unanimously returned to office for another year. Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty was not up for reelection, since his present two-year term does not expire until the 1952 convention. However, the convention boosted the secretary-treasurer's salary from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per month.

More than 2,000 delegates attended the historic convention held in Conference Hall, Balboa Park.

The state AFL policy program, hammered out in four days of floor discussion, featured calls for intensified political action, strong price and rent controls, voluntary recruitment of manpower for mobilization, wage increases to equal rises in the cost of living, repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, prepaid health insurance for all Americans, elimination of cross-filing in California, adoption of FEPC legislation on federal, state and local levels, and support of the U.S. foreign policy as opposed to Soviet Imperialism.

The AFL determination to remain in the political arena was voiced not only in the unanimously adopted statement of policy on political action, but also in the militant speech of William

McSorley, Jr., assistant director of Labor's League for Political Education, national political arm of the American Federation of Labor.

McSorley, who flew to the San Diego convention from Washington, D. C., charged that U.S. corporate powers were determined to smash free labor through punitive legislation, and that only united resistance on the political front could save labor's economic structure.

Other convention speakers included San Francisco Congressman John F. Shelley, former president of the State Federation; Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, Attorney General of California; Ralph Wright, Assistant Secretary of Labor; and Paul Scharrenberg, Director of the State Department of Industrial Relations and former secretary-treasurer of the State Federation.

In a human interest highlight, the three winners of the Federation's first annual scholarship contest were presented to the delegates and received a thunderous ovation. Introduced as guests of the Federation were Carolyn Wood of Willow Glen High, San Jose; Robert Edwards, Hayward Union High, Hayward; and Merrill Francis, Woodrow Wilson High, Los Angeles.

Selection of the site of the 1952 convention was referred to the Executive Council for a decision.

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#### FINKS NAMED TO UNION LABEL POST

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Harry Finks, vice president of the California State Federation of Labor and president of the Sacramento Central Labor Council, was last week appointed international representative of the AFL Union Label Trades Department for the California territory north of San Francisco, and the western states of Oregon, Nevada, and Utah.

Finks, a long time assistant to C. J. Haggerty in the state AFL's legislative work, is president of Theatre Employees Local B-66 in Sacramento. He is a member of the California Employment Advisory Board to which he was appointed by Governor Warren, and is active in welfare and civic affairs in Sacramento.

His appointment to the Union Label post was announced in Washington by Raymond F. Leheny, secretary-treasurer of the national department.

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PHILLIPS, BREWER NAMED TO  
REGIONAL WAGE BOARD

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The national Wage Stabilization Board last week announced the appointment of the industry and labor members of the Regional Board for California, Arizona and Nevada.

Dr. Arthur M. Ross, Regional Director, was appointed Chairman of the 12-man tripartite Regional Board.

Labor members are: Wendell J. Phillips, secretary, Bakery Wagon Drivers and Salesmen, Local No. 484 (AFL), San Francisco, California; Roy M. Brewer, International Representative, International Association of Theatrical and Stage Employees (AFL), Hollywood, California; James G. Ryan, alternate, secretary-treasurer, Nevada State Federation of Labor, Hod Carriers (AFL), Las Vegas, Nevada; A. C. McGraw, Representative, International Association of Machinists (AFL), Oakland, California; and Robert E. Harris, United Rubber Workers (CIO), Garvey, California.

The National WSB already has delegated authority to the Regional Directors to process and act upon wage adjustment applications and petitions involving base pay period abnormalities, certain new plant cases, petitions filed under the tandem regulations, productivity increases and agricultural wage cases.

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