

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

October 24, 1951

STATE FEDERATION ANNOUNCES 2nd ANNUAL PRESS INSTITUTE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The California State Federation of Labor's second annual labor press institute will be held November 24-25 in Santa Barbara, it was announced this week by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the State AFL.

Purpose of the institute will be the improvement of the labor press of California.

The two-day conference will be held on the Saturday and Sunday immediately following Thanksgiving and will be jointly sponsored by the state AFL and the University of California.

Sessions will be held in both the Carrillo Hotel and the UC Extension Headquarters in downtown Santa Barbara.

Registration will begin at 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning, November 24th.

Following addresses of welcome by C. J. Haggerty and Edgar L. Warren, director of the UCLA Institute of Industrial Relations, the actual work of the institute will begin with discussions scheduled for such workshop topics as "Financing a Labor Journal", "The Labor Press as a Public Relations Instrument", "Layout and Design", and "Getting Your Paper Read".

The institute is open to both AFL editors and union and council officers responsible for the direction of labor publications.

Room reservations may be made at the Carrillo Hotel for persons attending the conference.

Advance reservations may now be placed with Annette Sherwood, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los

Angeles 24, or by phoning the Institute office, BRadshaw 2-6161.

The 1950 institute was attended by more than 80 delegates from AFL papers, councils and unions.

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AFL FARM WORKERS HAIL
WAGE BOARD COTTON RATE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The National Farm Labor Union this week hailed the regional Wage Stabilization Board decision to increase the ceiling for cotton picking wages to \$4.00 per hundred pounds as a major victory for California's agricultural workers.

William Becker, national representative of the NFLU, declared the union had urged a picking rate boost in hearings held by the WSB and had protested the application of the 10% freeze formula to cotton picking.

The WSB order was adopted by a majority vote, with the industry members dissenting. The Board emphasized that the \$4.00 per hundred pound rate is the highest employers may pay cotton pickers.

In 1950 cotton picking rates averaged between \$2.50 to \$2.75 for the first picking, and between \$3.00 to \$3.50 for the second picking.

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WAGE BOARD APPROVES PAY
BOOST FOR S.F. TEAMSTERS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The Regional Wage Stabilization Board announced this week that it has approved a \$1.50 per day raise for approximately 3,000 AFL teamsters employed by companies that are members of the Draymen's Association of San Francisco. At the same time, it authorized wage increases for employees of six other firms in San Francisco and the Bay Area. All decisions were unanimous.

The seven cases were part of the thirty-five which the tripartite Board acted upon at the first meeting held to consider applications and petitions for wage adjustments submitted by employers and unions in Arizona, Nevada and California.

Approval of the \$1.50 pay increase for the Teamsters was based upon a joint petition for wage adjustment which the Draymen's Assn.

and Local 85, Teamsters and Truck Drivers Union, AFL, submitted to the Regional Board. The amount was negotiated in a new contract which went into effect on June 29, 1951.

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LABOR WINS LEGAL TEST
IN ORANGE COUNTY

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A superior court decision of vital importance to organized labor was handed down this month in Santa Ana when Judge Kenneth E. Morrison dissolved a restraining order against a picket line set up to achieve back wages.

The case involved the owner of a large tract of land constructing 200 homes on his property. The owner arranged to have a subcontractor furnish the labor.

When the subcontractor left the state after issuing \$11,000 in worthless checks as wages, the owner reportedly agreed to make good the checks if the workers would remain on the project.

Affidavits were filed by numerous employees testifying that the owner promised to provide the back wages.

When the owner failed to make good his reported promise within two or three weeks, the Orange County Building Trades Council put a picket line on the project.

The owner's attorneys immediately secured a restraining order against the picket line, and the California State Federation of Labor assigned Clarence Todd of the legal firm of Todd and Todd to defend the council position.

After reviewing the case, Judge Morrison dissolved the restraining order on the grounds that the dispute was reasonably related to labor relations despite the owner's charge that the issue did not concern collective bargaining.

However, final adjudication of the case awaits a decision by the District Court of Appeals.

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DESPITE U.S. CHAMBER HOKUM
ONLY TWO AND HALF PERCENT OF
BUDGET GOES TO "WELFARE STATE"

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--In the October issue of its monthly bulletin, "Economic Intelligence," the U.S. Chamber of Commerce cites two major causes for 1951 inflation: (1) the worldwide trend toward a "welfare state"; (2) rising military outlays.

As the U.S. Chamber knows, the "welfare state" expenditures have had little to do with increased taxes in America.

Since 1939, general government costs have increased from \$6.4 billion per year to \$12.2 billion. However, this total includes all costs other than those of a military nature, and the "welfare state" items would be a tiny fraction of the total.

During the same 11-year period, costs connected with war have risen from \$2.7 billion to \$59.4 billion per year.

For example, in President Truman's proposed budget for 1952, military service expenses are 58% of the total, and payments to veterans of past military engagements are 7%.

What the U.S. Chamber of Commerce failed to tell its readers was the startling truth that "social security, welfare, and health" expenses in the proposed 1952 budget amount to only 2.5% of the total!

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CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY
RAPS CROSS-FILING

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--"The Argonaut," conservative San Francisco weekly which opened shop in 1877, has taken a firm public position against the "cross-filing" system of California politics. Taking sharp issue with the California State Chamber of Commerce, "The Argonaut" asks if the State Chamber and its spokesmen have ever "been told the facts of life about the bossism of lobbies in Sacramento."

The magazine maintains that when a candidate cross-files, "he can accept campaign funds from individuals with their many divergent selfish interests. He is beholden to them and not to his party."

The people may always vote parties out of office, "The Argonaut"

warns, but lobbies and their influence are beyond the touch and reach of the voting public.

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TAFT SPENT
TWO AND A HALF MILLION
IN OHIO

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The announced presidential ambitions of Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio recalls that only last month Frank Edwards, the AFL newscaster, threw some embarrassing questions at the big Taft machine.

Edwards revealed that in order to win the 1950 senatorial race in Ohio, Taft spent more than \$2,500,000.

The Edwards figure may be taken as a minimum estimate since it came from the official records at the State House, Columbus, Ohio.

Only a few months ago, Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, a Republican, called for a Congressional investigation of the 1950 Taft campaign.

The proposed investigation was scuttled in the lower house on a technicality when Taft's political protege, Representative Clarence Brown of Ohio, rose to object. Brown was himself a leading figure in the Taft campaign machine and is currently promoting the presidential boom for the Ohio Republican.

As Frank Edwards asked, why is Taft so anxious to avoid an inquiry into what happened in Ohio in 1950?

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