

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET

151



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

October 31, 1951

WAGE BOARD APPROVES SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PAY BOOSTS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The Regional Wage Stabilization Board announced last week that it has unanimously approved pay raises and new wage rates for more than 8,000 workers employed in southern California industries.

Employers were authorized to put the approved scales into effect upon receipt of notification and in accordance with the terms prescribed by Board action.

Twenty-five employers and one employers association were involved. Approximately two thirds of the total had agreements with trade unions. In several cases proposed wage increases were denied or modified.

Action of the tri-partite Board was based upon the facts which employers and unions submitted in application and petitions for wage adjustments and authority which the National Board delegated to act on practically all types of wage cases in California, Arizona and Nevada.

Among the significant cases which the Board decided were:

1. Approved petition of the Restaurant-Hotel Employers Association of Southern California and Local Joint Executive Board of the Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel Employers, AFL, for approval of the overtime provisions in the current collective bargaining agreement. The provision states that effective December 15, 1951, the work week of 7,000 employees engaged in food and hotel service consists of eight hours per day and/or five days per week." Authorization was based on Resolution 43, which the Board adopted to take care of deferred wage increases.
2. Approved the proposal of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Company of San Diego and the International Association of Machinists, AFL, to pay 417 employees of the new

Pomona plant the same wage rates that are paid in the San Diego Guided Missile Division of the Company. Under General Wage Regulation 9, wage rates for employees of new plants cannot be put into effect without prior Board approval.

- * -

AFL GAINS IN SEPTEMBER
AVERAGE 19 CENTS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Some 18,000 AFL unionists in California obtained wage increase as a result of collective bargaining during September.

The average increase was about 19 cents, the high figure being due largely to the gains made by the Sailors Union of the Pacific and the Masters, Mates and Pilots.

Excluding the two maritime unions, the average gain was 10 cents. Unions negotiating on a percentage basis obtained an average 10 percent increase.

The relatively small number of workers covered by negotiations in September is far below the monthly average. The decrease may be due to the fact that many contracts are still before the Wage Stabilization Board awaiting approval.

Details below are from the labor press:

Building Trades

Matchmakers No. 2838, Chico, AND Diamond Match Co.: 12 cents for men; 6 cents for women; retro. 8/1/51.

Painters No. 364, Santa Rosa, AND employers: 20 cents; 10/1/51.

Upholsterers No. 3, San Francisco, AND independents: 4 cents; 3% to health and welfare plan; 8/1/51; 500-550 workers.

Upholsterers No. 3, San Francisco, AND association employers: 8 cents; 8/1/51; 350 workers.

Butchers

Butchers, southern California, AND jobbing houses: \$5.50/wk.; 9/7/51.

Butchers No. 126, Fresno, AND 5 jobbing houses and 9 independent packing houses: health and welfare plan; 8/1/51; 200 workers.

Butchers No. 506, Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey and part of Santa Cruz, AND Central Coast Counties Retail Grocers Assn.: \$5.40/wk; 10/29/51.

Butchers No. 508, San Francisco, AND Wholesale Butchers Assn. \$5.50; 8/21/51; 600 workers.

Clerks

Retail Clerks (Bakery) No. 775, San Mateo, AND employers: \$2.50 for regular clerks; \$2.00 for others; 8/5/51; about 75.

Food Clerks No. 870, Oakland AND drug employers: \$4.20/wk; 9/51; 500 workers.

Metal Trades

Coppersmiths No. 438 San Francisco, AND Master Coppersmiths Assn: 5½ cents, 9/1/51, and 14½ cents with WSB approval.

Machinists Dist. Lodge No. 727, North Hollywood, AND Weber Aircraft: 10 percent.

Machinists No. 1596, Santa Rosa, AND Kresky Manufacturing Co., Petaluma : 7 cents; 9/51.

Teamsters

Teamsters No. 315, Martinez, AND Mohawk Oil Co.: 10 percent; 9/51.

Teamsters No. 836, Modesto, AND refrigeration industry: 10 cents; retro. 5/1/51; 50 workers.

Cabdrivers No. 481, San Diego, AND local taxicab companies: \$1/day; health and welfare plan; improved vacation clause; 9/51.

Teamsters No. 572, Long Beach, AND meat driver employers: \$2.50/wk and \$2.50 employer contribution to health and welfare plan; reduction in hours from 42 to 40; 9/51.

Other Trades

Bakers No. 315, San Diego, AND pie, doughnut and wholesale pastry employers: 9 cents and 5 day week; 9/51.

Barbers No. 582, Marin county, AND employers: \$11/wk.; 9/51.

Barbers No. 252, San Jose, AND employers: 25 cent incr. in price; 5 day week; 9/51.

Building Service Employees No. 77, Santa Clara county, AND four major bowling alleys: 10 percent; 9/51; 34 workers.

Chemical Workers No. 1, Long Beach, AND 3 companies: balance of 10% allowed by WSB; 6 cents/hr. to health and welfare plan; other improvements; 9/51.

Chemical Workers, Fresno, AND San Joaquin Cotton Oil Company: 15 cents; overtime pay; other gains; 9/51; 1,000 workers.

Culinary Workers No. 542, Modesto, AND Pickering Lumber Co.: 12½ cents; 9/51.

Grain Millers, Vallejo, AND General Mills: 8 cents; 9/51.

Laundry Workers No. 33, San Jose, AND employers: 2½ cents for health and welfare plan; 9/1/51; 300 workers.

Moving Picture Machine Operators No. 599, Fresno, AND two theater chains: 10 percent; 9/51.

Musicians No. 6, San Francisco, AND employers: about 10 percent; 10/1/51; about 400 workers.

Pulp and Sulphite Workers No. 723, Ukiah, AND Masonite Corp.: 12 to 24 cents; other gains; retro. 9/30/51; about 400 workers.

Sailors Union of the Pacific, West Coast, AND Pacific Maritime Assn.: 6.2 percent incr. (\$25 to \$70/mo.); overtime; 25 cents/day ad. to welfare fund; 9/51; about 8,000.

Masters, Mates and Pilots, West Coast, AND Pacific Maritime Assn.: 6.2 percent; overtime; improved vacation and seniority; 25 cents/day ad. to welfare fund; 9/51; about 1200.

Typographical Union No. 207, Eureka, and 5 employers: 10 cents; 9/51.

- * -

WAGE COSTS DOWN, INDUSTRY SURVEY SHOWS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.-- Wage costs in American industry are going down according to Standard and Poor's annual wage-sales ratio study for the year 1950.

The famed research organization's 1950 survey shows that wages and salaries amounted to only 22.5 percent of the sales dollar, down one percentage point from the 1949 ratio of 23.5 of the sales dollar.

Thus, prices of raw materials, freight charges, and kindred expenses have risen faster than the total wage bill.

The percentage reduction in labor costs occurred despite the fact that average hourly earnings in manufacturing rose 25 percent between January, 1949 and December, 1950.

- * -

FIGURES SHOW LIVING COSTS OUTSTRIP INCREASE IN PAY

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Are you making at least \$10 a week more today than in January 1950?

If you are, your pay probably has kept up with the increase in the cost of living from January 1950 to July 1951.

The AFL Labor's Monthly Survey reports in its latest issue:

In January 1950, a worker with a wife and two children needed \$66 a week - or \$3,493 a year - to live "modestly but adequately."

By last July that same worker had to make at least \$76 a week - or \$3,948 a year - to keep up with the increase in the cost of living

since January 1950.

That same worker's Federal income taxes almost doubled from January 1950 to July 1951.

In January 1950, he was paying \$124 a year in taxes. Last July his taxes were \$230 a year. Under the 1951 tax bill, he will be paying around \$260 a year in taxes.

These figures show how hard inflation has hit workers. They also show how Congress has almost broken the backs of workers by saddling them with tremendous tax increases while letting the rich off easy.

The Labor Department reports factory workers averaged \$56.29 a week in January 1950 and \$64.56 last July. That's an increase of \$8.27.

It's the same old story. The cost of living goes up \$10 a week. Wages increase \$8 a week. As always, wages trail behind prices.

The AFL figures are based on a Labor Department survey of the cost of living in 18 cities.

Here is what it cost a worker with a wife and two children to live "adequately but modestly" and to pay Federal income taxes in 18 cities in January 1950 and July 1951.

REQUIRED ANNUAL INCOME GOES UP

	Jan. 1950	July 1951	In- crease
Birmingham.....	\$3,455	\$3,945	\$490
Boston.....	3,590	3,987	397
Buffalo.....	3,457	3,932	475
Chicago.....	3,543	3,994	451
Cincinnati.....	3,522	3,958	436
Denver.....	3,494	3,963	369
Detroit.....	3,494	3,966	472
Houston.....	3,676	4,119	443
Indianapolis....	3,406	3,801	395
Kansas City....	3,348	3,772	424
Los Angeles....	3,627	4,075	448
Manchester, N.H.	3,426	3,833	407
New York.....	3,434	3,861	427
Philadelphia....	3,500	3,977	477
Pittsburgh.....	3,540	4,028	488
Portland, Oreg.	3,456	3,945	489
Richmond, Va....	3,629	4,077	448
Savannah, Ga...	3,284	3,830	546
Average.....	\$3,493	\$3,948	\$455

FEDERAL INCOME TAX ALSO GOES UP

	Jan. 1950	July 1951	In- crease
	\$118	\$230	\$112
	138	237	99
	118	227	109
	131	239	108
	128	232	104
	124	233	109
	124	234	110
	151	261	110
	111	204	93
	102	199	97
	144	253	109
	114	210	96
	115	215	100
	125	236	111
	131	245	114
	118	230	112
	144	254	110
	92	209	117
	\$124	\$230	\$106

* * * * *