

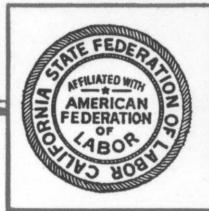
# WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

## CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING  
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151



SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

January 23, 1952

### HAGGERTY URGES ALL AFL BODIES TO JOIN POLITICAL LEAGUE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.-- All AFL unions and councils in California were urged to affiliate with the California Labor League for Political Education for united action against heavily financed political enemies now bent on destroying the trade union functions of state and nation.

In a communication addressed to all unaffiliated bodies, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the state AFL political organization, recommended that such unions and councils affiliate in time for participation in the pre-primary convention of the LLPE called for April 7-8 in San Francisco.

The appeal warned that "never in the history of U. S. trade unions has it been more essential to show a united front against the well-organized and richly-financed attacks being levelled against our unions and the beneficial laws we enjoy."

With particular reference to the California political scene, Haggerty revealed that it "was little short of miraculous that we defeated the heavy assaults of the anti-labor forces at the 1951 session of the state legislature."

He concluded with the reminder that "we cannot continue to withstand these assaults without the full support of all the AFL unions in this state."

The April 7-8 convention of the state LLPE will be held in California Hall, Polk and Turk Streets, San Francisco. LLPE books will be closed for audit February 29 for compiling of per capita voting strength of affiliated unions.

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STATE BUILDING TRADES CONVENTION  
HELD IN BAKERSFIELD

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO. -- Election of three new vice presidents and review of 50 pertinent resolutions featured the 36th annual convention of the California Building and Construction Trades Council held last weekend in Bakersfield.

New vice presidents elected were Sal Minerva, Contra Costa County, R. R. Richardson, San Diego, and Otto Sargent, Santa Clara.

Incumbents of the other 26 districts were all returned to office.

Also reelected without opposition were Otto E. Never, general president, and Thomas G. Harvey, general secretary-treasurer.

Adopted resolutions were concerned with such topics as state safety laws, the need for increased state safety personnel, allocation of materials for school buildings, workmen's compensation laws, Mexican labor invasions, and federal social security.

Thomas L. Pitts, president of the California State Federation of Labor, addressed the Saturday afternoon session of the convention.

Pitts emphasized the need for slum clearance and adequate housing projects, and urged all unions to launch vigorous political education programs for the election tests of 1952.

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STATE FEDERATION INTRODUCES CARTOON SERVICE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A monthly cartoon service was this week offered the various AFL central council papers of the state by the California State Federation of Labor.

Inaugurated as a result of the second annual AFL labor press institute held last November in Santa Barbara, the service will each month feature a timely labor theme in cartoon mats mailed from the Federation office in San Francisco.

The cartoon is the second of new services coming out of the 1951 press institute, the first being a system of news coverage of meetings of statewide AFL bodies by the local labor press working with the State Federation for distribution to all AFL publications.

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LUMBER AND SAWMILL WORKERS  
PLAN STATE POLITICAL DRIVE

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Representatives of some 21,000 lumber and sawmill workers throughout California, comprising the AFL State Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers, met in San Francisco last weekend to hash over mutual problems and lay plans for the coming year.

Uniformity of contract provisions and the establishment and operation of health and welfare plans held the center of the stage in the discussions; recommendations on these subjects are to be submitted to the local unions.

Guest speakers on the three-day program included C.J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor.

The State Council voted to establish an official publication for the state's lumber and sawmill workers. It also reaffirmed its position on a single administrative office in handling lumber and sawmill matters by the Wage Stabilization Board.

Of special significance at this time was the State Council's recommendation to its local unions that they affiliate with their local and state Labor Leagues for Political Education, as well as with the State Federation of Labor.

Carpenters' International Representative Don Cameron installed the State Council's officers for the coming year. They are: W.H. Knight, Los Angeles, president; Edmund Hansen, Reno, Nevada, vice president; J. L. Hazard, San Francisco, secretary; George Hill, Fort Bragg, warden; Gene Cameron, Fort Bragg, conductor; Milo Martinovich, Fresh Pond, trustee. District representatives: Stanley Jordan, Arcata; Luther Sizemore Jr., Redding; L. N. Douglass, Feather Falls; N. G. Cordil, Jr., Los Angeles; C. O. Taylor, San Diego; W. A. Davis, Weed.

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STATE MACHINISTS HOLD ANNUAL ELECTIONS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO. -- N. A. Gruhler of Fresno was elected vice president of the California State Conference of Machinists in a

warmly contested election last Sunday at the quarterly meeting of the conference held in the Hotel Californian, Fresno.

The annual election saw a representative of the aircraft industry elected president for the first time, when John Snider of the Lockheed Aircraft Local was elected without opposition. Secretary-Treasurer Robert Paterson of San Francisco was reelected and was also unopposed.

The election was held at the conclusion of a four-day meet devoted mainly to group meetings of the various classifications within the union.

A substantial strike fund was planned in the general sessions to combat California Employers Association tactics in Fresno and Visalia, and in Contra Costa county. The plan calls for a four-cent per capita tax to fight open-shop drives wherever they may be instigated among employers in the state.

A recommendation to increase the salaries of international officers substantially was among a number of resolutions passed relating to internal matters and referred to the IAM national convention this year.

IAM President Al Hayes and other international officers were commended for their "unselfish work on government boards and commissions."

Over 150 delegates and visitors were in attendance representing 7 district lodges and 53 local lodges throughout the state. Six grand lodge representatives were present. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for April and will be held in Northern California.

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#### STATE LABOR MOVEMENT LOSES TWO OUTSTANDING SONS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO. -- The AFL movement in California lost two outstanding leaders last week in the deaths of John Sargent of Los Angeles and Charles A. Omstead of Oakland.

Brother Sargent had been in failing health for the past two years, but his death came without particular warning after six weeks of hospitalization following major surgery.

At the time of his death the 53-year old labor figure was secretary-business manager of AFL Cooks Local No. 468 and international vice-president of the Hotel, Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union.

The deceased had been an active leader in the Los Angeles labor movement for more than 25 years. Following Masonic funeral rites, the ritual of the international culinary union was led by President Hugo Ernst, who flew to Los Angeles for the burial ceremonies.

The sudden death of Brother Omstead, 45, shocked the entire East Bay labor movement. Omstead had recently been hospitalized for removal of the right kneecap, but had apparently recovered when he was struck down by a heart attack. He is survived by his widow and four children.

In 1944 Brother Omstead became secretary-treasurer of Retail Food Clerks, Local No. 870, Oakland, succeeding James A. Suffridge who resigned to become an official with the Clerks' International.

Brother Omstead was a member of the Oakland Civil Service Commission, Masons, Scottish Rite Bodies, and Aahmes Shrine.

Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Laurence L. Cross, Mayor of Berkeley.

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\* DON'T DELAY! \*  
\* AFFILIATE WITH THE CALIFORNIA LABOR \*  
\* LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION \*  
\* NOW \*  
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