

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

FROM

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

810 DAVID HEWES BUILDING
995 MARKET STREET



SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

June 18, 1952

ROSS DEFENDS TRI-PARTITE WAGE BOARD

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--In a flat declaration of personal policy, Arthur M. Ross, public member of the National Wage Stabilization Board, this Monday told the AFL Summer Institute in Santa Barbara that he favored:

(1) Maintaining the tri-partite nature of the Wage Stabilization structure;

(2) Maintaining the Wage Board's jurisdiction over "non-wage" disputes through its "special disputes" machinery; and a

(3) Thorough and fair study of labor's request for wage increases based on increased productivity or industrial efficiency.

Ross attacked the inconsistency of those advocating an all public wage board, charging that these same critics also held that the so-called "pro-labor" findings in the steel dispute were the result of partisan judgment by the public members of the national board.

Ross reminded that the purpose of the tri-partite board was to utilize the brains and experience of labor, public, and management in forming an equitable wage control policy.

While conceding that a three-way review of any grave problem might occasionally be more time consuming than the survey of a single-minded board, Ross asserted that the "totalitarian" aspect of a narrow, prejudiced program would eliminate the voices of those most vitally affected by the Board judgments.

In defending the non-wage disputes jurisdiction of the Wage Board, Ross maintained that existing federal legislation simply has

no jurisdiction over the general type of dispute now before the Board.

Regarding productivity wage increases, Ross revealed that the National Board would soon hold hearings on the subject and that its own study committee had completed a preliminary probing.

Participating with Ross in the wage discussion was Wendell Phillips, labor member of the regional board embracing California, Nevada, and Arizona.

The institute program opened formally last Sunday night with a dinner address by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor. The AFL leader was presented by E. T. Crether, director of the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley, and dean of the School of Business Administration at the same institution.

In his message to the more than 100 institute students, Haggerty declared that labor in 1952 must conduct its political and economic education program with the same determination and efficiency that it had displayed in planning its economic program. He warned that while state federations and local councils should give guidance and encouragement to such programs, the fundamental obligation for action rests with the local union to reach its own membership at the base of the labor structure.

Both general and craft workshop discussions featured the annual AFL conference.

The Teamster workshop Monday afternoon dealt with a review of secondary boycott problems by attorneys Clarence Todd and John Stevenson. Culinary workshop students heard attorneys George Bodle and Jim Landye survey legal rights in organizing and bargaining programs.

All institute sessions were held in the Miramar Hotel, Santa Barbara. The sessions were scheduled to end Saturday morning, June 20, with presentation of certificates by Thomas L. Pitts, president of the California State Federation of Labor.

* * *

FORMER STATE FEDERATION
PRESIDENT DIES IN LOS ANGELES

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Adolph W. Hoch, 66, former president of the California State Federation of Labor, died suddenly in Los Angeles last week.

The deceased was president of the state AFL organization from 1930 to 1934.

During the past 12 years he had been a Federal Conciliation Commissioner.

A former representative of the International Association of Machinists, Brother Hoch was long active in Los Angeles civic life.

He was a one-time president of the Los Angeles Board of Public Works, and also served as president of the Civil Service Commission.

He is survived by his widow in Los Angeles. They had celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary just two weeks before his death.

Sympathy of the state AFL movement was extended to Mrs. Keitha Hoch by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor.

* * *

U. S. AGENCY OFFERS CHEAP
POWER RATES IN CENTRAL VALLEY AREA

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Several of 10 communities in the Central Valley Project area that deliver electric power to their own citizens through public resale agencies may become customers of the Central Valley Project within the next few years when their 5-year contracts to buy power from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company expire, it has been announced by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation.

The prediction is based on the tremendous savings that would reportedly accrue to these resale agencies and citizens of the communities by buying power from the CVP instead of the P. G. & E.

A comparison of the CVP rate schedule and present PG&E rates

on the basis of kilowatt hours used in 1950 reveals that these community agencies would save an estimated total of \$986,908.66; an average of \$39,718.97 for each agency or 24.6 percent of the amount paid to the PG&E.

The PG&E is presently requesting an 18½ percent rate increase. By adding this to present PG&E rates, the same comparison would show a savings of \$1,898,192.51; an average of \$172,562.95 for each agency or 36.3 percent of the amount paid to the PG&E.

The distribution of these savings to public resale agencies, by comparing CVP rates with present PG&E rates and with present rates plus the requested 18½ percent increase is as follows:

Estimated Savings by Comparing CVP Rates with:

Agency	Present PG&E Rates	Present PG&E rates + 18½%
Alameda	\$112,598.59 (17.2%)	\$233,569.83 (30.1%)
Biggs	2,666.63 (39.7%)	3,909.21 (49.1%)
Gridley	10,960.56 (32.8%)	17,150.76 (43.3%)
Lodi	44,111.19 (22.8%)	79,892.26 (34.9%)
Palo Alto (4 kv)	41,031.62 (17.4%)	84,604.97 (30.3%)
Palo Alto (60 kv)	68,031.62 (28.9%)	111,604.97 (40.0%)
Plumas-Sierra	13,447.63 (33.0%)	20,985.94 (43.5%)
Pedding	24,041.23 (9.2%)	72,555.86 (23.3%)
Roseville	17,900.00 (23.9%)	31,775.00 (35.8%)
Sacramento M.U.D.	600,005.00 (20.1%)	1,151,601.92 (32.6%)
Santa Clara	52,114.59 (25.1%)	90,541.79 (36.8%)

All of the above agencies are preference customers for CVP power under the Reclamation Law, but the existing wheeling arrangement with the PG&E does not permit the CVP to serve them during their contracts with the company. The existing arrangement, however, will enable the CVP to serve them within the next few years, to the extent of the CVP power supply.

Congress does not allow the Bureau of Reclamation to provide direct service to preference customers, although this would be highly desirable. The above potential customers would realize an additional 10% saving if Congress amended the laws to allow direct service. Under existing laws, the CVP would deliver its power to the public agencies over PG&E lines, in accord with wheeling agreements, as it is presently delivering power to a number of federal agencies and one irrigation

district. Were it not for the existence of the three 230 k.v. transmission lines from Shasta Dam to Tracy, however, the CVP would not be in the power business at all, even through wheeling.

* * *

NORTHERN COUNTIES AFL CARPENTERS' STRIKE ENDS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The carpenters in 42 northern counties won a resounding victory last week when the Associated General Contractors' representatives in San Francisco came to terms with the 42-county committee of the striking AFL carpenters.

The strike, which lasted approximately five weeks, was won despite strong AGC resistance. Terms of the settlement are as follows:

(1) A 15-cent hourly increase, retroactive to May 12 of this year.

(2) A $7\frac{1}{2}$ -cent hourly welfare payment for each union member, effective March 1, 1953, a joint committee composed of equal members of union and employer representatives to work out the details of the plan meanwhile.

(3) An additional increase of 6 cents an hour which, making the increase 21 cents in all, will bring carpenters in the 42 counties up to Bay Area wage level, to become effective the first payroll period beginning in the week of February 23, 1953.

Toward the end of the strike there were almost no unemployed carpenters in local union halls. Percy Lund, a member of the carpenters negotiation committee, has pointed out that, as a result of this, those employers who refused to sign interim agreements and whose jobs were consequently shut down are now having great difficulty securing men.

Except for item three eliminating the geographical differential between Bay Area and other counties, the terms of the agreement follow closely the recent settlement of the 9-week Bay Area carpenters strike. The Bay Area carpenters won a 15-cent hourly increase retroactive to May 1, 1952 along with the $7\frac{1}{2}$ -cent welfare plan which will provide coverage for carpenters beginning March 1, 1953.

* * *