

# Defeat The Attack on the Maritime Workers Unions! Employers' Anti-Red Propaganda Is Aimed Against Entire Organized Labor Movement!

OF THE PAST few days a great cry has been heard in the press, instigated by the employers and the Hearst-Landon stooge, District Attorney Warren, attempting to create the false impression that the maritime unions and the Communist Party are responsible for a "murder plot."

This propaganda campaign, started by alleged "confessions" which have all the earmarks of a frame-up by stool-pigeons and employers' agents, comes precisely at a time when the maritime unions are entering negotiations with the shipowners for renewal

of agreements which expire Sept. 30th, and is being utilized by all anti-labor forces in an attempt to destroy union working conditions on the waterfront and the maritime unions.

This attack by the shipowners against the maritime unions and the Communist Party is the concern not only of the organizations directly involved, but of all trade unions in California and throughout the Pacific Coast. Should the employers succeed in their attempts, driving home their open-shop wedge on the waterfront, it will mean the beginning of a general open-shop drive on the labor movement in all industries.

## WOULD BREAK UNIONS

The employers have already shown their hand in their answer to the demands offered by the Int'l Longshoremen's Association for correcting certain basic evils in existing agreements. The shipowners replied with demands which would completely destroy union conditions and rob the workers of all those gains they won in the 1934 strike.

The shipowners brazenly propose to bring back pre-strike conditions which would mean lower wages, longer hours, unemployment, speed-up, blacklisting, and favoritism. And these are the

things they propose to "arbitrate," while they have already declared their intentions of refusing to continue present agreements under the 1934 arbitration award.

They have already indicated that they will give the same answer to the seamen's unions as they have given to the longshoremen, and this in the face of the fact that the seamen have even more serious grievances than the longshoremen, due to intolerable working conditions and starvation rates of pay on the ships. The employers appear determined to provoke a lockout of the

(Cont. on Page 2, Col. 2)

Tune In, 6:15-6:30 P.M.,  
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# Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
(Section of the Communist International)

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# UNIONS MOVE AGAINST FRAMEUP OF KING

## Great Display of Union Strength in Labor Day Parades

### Unions Elect To Tues. Defense Conference; Many Protests Roll In

Maritime Federation, Bay Area Wires La Follette Committee To Investigate Frameup by Shipowners And Authorities

SAN FRANCISCO.—Meeting here last night the Marine Firemen voted a voluntary assessment of \$5 per man toward the defense of Earl King and Ramsey. The Marine Cooks and Stewards voted \$500 to the defense and the Marine Engineers elected a representative to the United Defense Committee. Approximately \$250 was collected on the floor at the Firemen's meeting.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Unions are rallying to the defense of the frameup victims in the Point Lobos case, and are electing delegates to Tuesday's defense conference. Telegrams protesting the frameup attempt poured into District Attorney Warren's office in Oakland.

The Ferryboatmen's Union, meeting on Thursday, unanimously adopted a resolution protesting the frameup of King

Lawrence Ross, editor of the Western Worker, whose name was dragged into the frame-up in an effort to involve the Communist Party directly, was not detained after refusing to answer questions put to him by Assistant District Attorney Hoyt.

When asked by newspaper reporters why Ross was not arrested if the District Attorney's office had sufficient facts to hold him on, as per the "confession" of Wallace and the testimony of Murphy and the provocateur Guidera, Hoyt remained silent.

This is a tacit admission, on Hoyt's part, of the crudeness of the attempt to frame Ross, although he later declared that Ross would be picked up again for the next session of the Alameda County Grand Jury, which has not yet been discharged.

and others, and elected a delegate to the Tuesday conference. The Alameda County Labor Council had already elected delegates and instructed unions to do so.

The Washington District Council of the Maritime Federation adopted a resolution accusing the shipowners of frameup.

Wire to La Follette Committee Demand that the La Follette Committee for the investigation of civil rights violations, investigate the frameup against Earl King made by the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, Bay Area Council, in a wire to Senator La Follette. The wire stated:

"Joint meeting members mari- (Cont. on Page 2, Col. 4)

### RAISE SPANISH FUNDS; EXPOSE FASCIST PLOTS

Franco Plans Hitler Intervention

SAN FRANCISCO.—Reporting \$209.80 already collected, the State Executive Committee of the Communist Party urged workers and farmers throughout California to send donations for the support of the Spanish People's Front, to go over the top of the \$500 quota within the next two weeks.

Funds should be sent to Communist Party, 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, from where the money will be forwarded to La-

### Shippers Hinder Marine Peace

SAN FRANCISCO.—The continued arrogant attitude of the shipowners caused the adjournment of negotiations on Thursday within a few minutes after the representatives of the I.L.A. and the shipowners had again come together.

I.L.A. Referendum Meanwhile a coastwise referendum of I.L.A. members will be prepared on the question of arbitration of the shipowners' demands as amendments to the 1934 award. The I.L.A. officials have made it plain that they are

### Browder On Radio Again Labor Day

"Problems and Issues of the American Labor Movement," the next broadcast by Earl Browder Communist candidate for President of the United States, will be heard by millions of American workers next Monday in the Labor Day broadcast over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Company.

Browder is expected to sneak on the vital issue of industrial unionism, which is threatening

### CALL DEFENSE MEET FOR KING NEXT TUESDAY

Firemen's Committee Rallies Labor

SAN FRANCISCO.—All organized labor has been called to rally behind the defense of those threatened with frame-up in the Point Lobos case.

A call for a general trade union conference has been called for next Tuesday by the Marine Firemen's Defense Committee. The call follows:

To All Members of Organized Labor in the Bay Area:

Dear Brothers: At the present time, the Maritime unions of the Pacific Coast

### Frameup, Is Cry On Waterfront

SAN FRANCISCO.—FRAMEUP!

Up and down San Francisco's waterfront, in barrooms, lunch counters, on street corners and in union halls this work is being whispered, written and shouted.

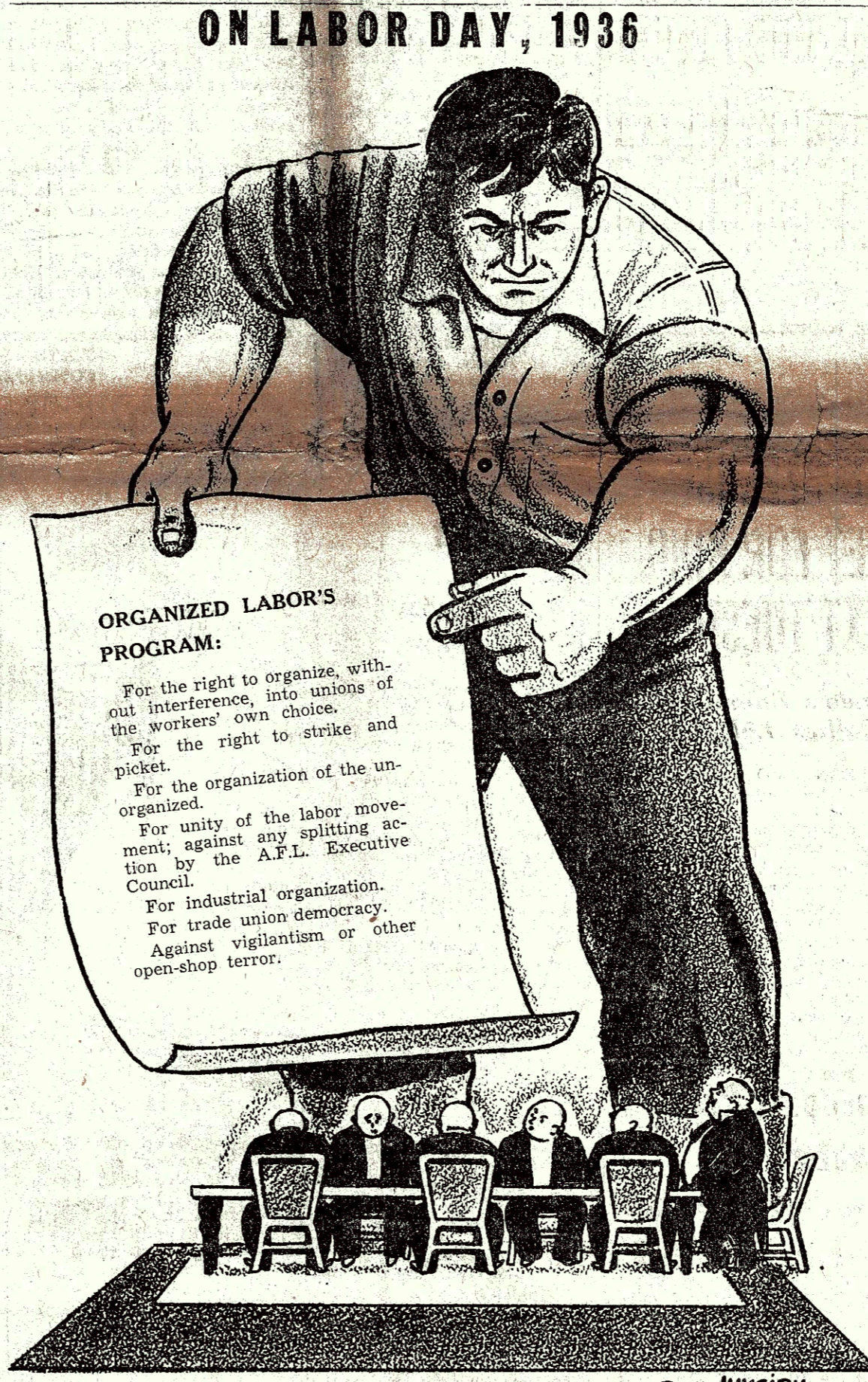
There is absolutely no question regarding the attitude of the rank and file workers of the maritime unions toward the shipowner attempt to railroad Earl King of the Marine Firemen's Union and others to the penitentiary on carefully trumped-up charges of murder.

"This is dirtier than the Tom Mooney business," a seaman almost shouted as discussion of the frame-up raged in front of the Longshore dispatching hall.

"The lousy b.....s knew what they were doing when they pulled this stuff just before September 30," a worker with a flock of union buttons on his cap declared. "We ought to pull a 24-hour protest strike if they try to go much further."

The mighty "Red-scare" barrage which has accompanied nearly every line of capitalist paper publicity on the case has made so small an impression upon a majority of the men that the word "Communist" very seldom is mentioned.

Anonymous slander printed



### Relief Increase Is Forced

SACRAMENTO.—Growing militancy of the unemployed had much to do with the State Relief Commission's decision to increase relief payments.

The militancy of the unemployed was shown by recent demonstrations of WPA workers here.

A 14.8 percent increase in the family budget for food, and of 9.8 percent for single persons on relief was announced.

In announcing the increase in payments, the Commission admitted that food prices had soared greatly in the past 60 days.

### UNIONS ON LABOR DAY WILL SHOW MIGHT IN FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS

Organized labor will not confine itself, on Labor Day, 1936, to attending picnics. This Labor Day will see scores of thousands of California workers out on the streets, in the biggest Labor Day parades ever seen in the history of the state.

The fact that over 50,000 are expected to march on Labor Day in San Francisco; over 40,000 in Oakland; over 300,000 in Los Angeles, and over 11,000 in Stockton, to mention a few main cities, is of great significance.

This Labor Day will be a demonstration of the growing might of organized labor, and of the determination of organized labor to fight for its elementary rights—to organize, to strike, and to picket.

This Labor Day finds the rank and file of the A.F.L. imbued with a new spirit and new hope.

The organized labor movement, under the stimulus of the Committee for Industrial Organization, is making huge strides

50,000 SF; 40,000 E. Bay; 30,000 LA March Labor Day

Organized Labor Plans Greatest Show of Strength Monday

Labor Day, 1936, is expected to reveal a demonstration of organized labor's growing might, such as has never before been seen in California.

The biggest Labor Day parades on record are expected in a number of cities.

More than 50,000 members of organized labor are expected to take part in the San Francisco parade on Monday, according to enlistments received by the Central Labor Council's Labor Day Committee.

Over 30,000 members of organized labor in Los Angeles are expected to march in the Labor Day Parade arranged by the Los Angeles Labor Council.

A San Pedro delegation, over 4000 strong, will come by special train to participate in the huge Los Angeles parade.

Over 40,000 in Oakland Over 40,000 men and women are expected to march in the East Bay parade, to take place in Oakland.

About 11,000 workers from all towns in the vicinity are due to parade in Stockton. They will

(Cont. on Page 2, Col. 7)

### San Diego Anti-CS Petition Results

SAN DIEGO.—Circulators of petitions for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, secured and filed with the San Diego County Clerk a total of 4300 valid names, it was reported by Epic Assemblyman Paul A. Richie, active in the anti-C.S. Act fight.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Under the auspices of the California Conference for Repeal of the C.S. Act, a gala Labor Day Dance will be held Saturday, September 5th, 8 p.m., at Druids' Auditorium, 44 Page Street.

Entertainment, dancing to union music, door prizes, beer and refreshments are promised. The public is invited. Admission is 25 cents.

### Strike of 4000 Is Voted In Salinas

SALINAS.—Members of the Fruit and Vegetable Workers Union voted to strike rather than accept the proposals of the Lettuce Growers and Shippers Assn. 3500 have struck.

Important demands like preferential employment, wage increases, etc., are ignored in the agreement insisted on by the growers.

In mass meetings here and in Watsonville, the union members voted, by 1978 to 121, to tie up the 70 lettuce sheds, employing about 4000 workers.

### LABOR DAY A DAY OF NEW HOPE-BROPHY

C.I.O. Director Tells Some Key Tasks of A.F.L. Unions

By JOHN BROPHY, Director, Committee for Industrial Organization

Labor Day, 1936, brings to the working people of America new hope, and also a new challenge.

The trade union movement can rightfully be proud of its tremendous contribution to the building of our nation, and to the fostering of the ideals of freedom and democracy.

Confident of Power Now, confident of its power, organized labor must carry on its

(Cont. on Page 2, Col. 8)

### Report 3000 Out On Eaton Dam

LOS ANGELES.—Taking a militant stand against further cuts in their wages, 500 workers on the Eaton Dam, a United States Engineering Department flood control project in North Pasadena, struck and completely tied up the job.

It was later reported that 3000 were out.

The workers struck after their pay had been reduced from \$1 to 70 cents an hour. Most of the workers on the project are skilled or semi-skilled workmen, carpenters and steel men.

Spokesman for the workers claim that they had not been notified of the cut in wages and that no notices had been posted of the reduction.

A committee of 28 workers were told by the army officials of the U.S.E.D. that they could do nothing about it and said that the notices of the slash in pay had been posted since August 12.

The workers are demanding back pay from August 12 at \$1 an hour rate and no reductions in pay.





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## A WELCOME TO AIR HEROES OF THE WORKINGCLASS



AFTER COMPLETING A 6000-mile non-stop flight across the Arctic regions of Siberia, three Soviet aviators are given a big welcome by leaders of the Soviet Union. Here are (left to right): Valery Chakaloff, George Baidukoff and Alexander Beliakoff, conversing with Stalin, while at the right stands Voroshiloff, Red Army commander-in-chief.

## Organizational Conferences In State of California

By B. G.

ALREADY at the State Convention held in June of this year a decision was unanimously adopted to hold a series of regional organizational conferences in California to discuss the life and work of our units with the view of strengthening and consolidating our Party so that it can more effectively carry through the many complicated tasks now confronting us.

Immediately after the National Convention, on the basis of the very splendid report of Comrade Brown to the Convention, our State Executive Committee decided to hold four organizational conferences in California the last week of July and the first week in August, with major attention and concentration upon the two largest conferences to be held in Los Angeles (comprising the counties in Southern California) and San Francisco (the Bay Area and a number of the surrounding counties).

It was the aim of the State Executive Committee to utilize these conferences to analyze the experiences of our Party in California in applying the new organizational forms—especially industrial units and branches—and to relate the conclusions drawn by the rest of the Party to our problems in California; to find out what prevented our units from really becoming leading political organizations in the shops, industries or trade unions, and the neighborhoods; to investigate the causes for the really tremendous fluctuation; to exchange the experiences between the various units emphasizing some of the good experiences as a means to improve the situation as a whole; and to draw certain general lessons and tasks for the entire Party so as to strengthen our lower Party organizations.

**Preparation for the Conferences**  
 In preparations for these conferences, the material of the National Convention—namely, the resolution on organization, together with a few additional points which directly reflected the situation in California, were sent to every unit of our Party. The units were urged to discuss the proposals of the resolution and apply them to their specific situation.

On the basis of a thorough discussion, the units were asked to express their opinions on these vital questions in the form of a series of proposals to be presented to the general conferences to which were invited unit organizers, section and county committees and leading comrades from the state committee.

In the preparatory work many weaknesses were displayed. In some of the counties—as for instance Los Angeles, Fresno, etc.—the material never reached the units and the county organizations did not thoroughly analyze their own problems so as to prepare themselves properly for the conference.

The State Organization Commission also did not sufficiently emphasize in advance the importance of these conferences and the problems to be discussed through the columns of the Western Worker, which offered us a good opportunity to reach every member of the Party. As a result in three of the conferences, the preparatory work was unsatisfactory and in some cases non-existent and seriously affected the character and results of the conferences.

Only one of the conferences was well prepared in the sense that the units, sections and counties, discussed the problems in great detail and really came to the conference with definitely formed opinions on how to improve the situation.

Despite these weaknesses, however, these organizational conferences, especially the two in Los Angeles and San Francisco were two of the best conferences

held in California. The conferences had an attendance of 250 comrades. They were of a real working character with the definite aim of drawing in the representatives of the lower organizations into a thorough discussion on how to solve the problems of the units.

**Organization of the Conferences**  
 The conferences were so organized as to guarantee the fullest participation of the delegates. Opening in the morning, the conferences (in Los Angeles and San Francisco) began with a report on the part of a representative from the state committee dealing with the general organizational status in the district; the work and inner life of our Party units; the general hesitancy which still permeated the Party in applying new organizational forms; the experiences and tasks of shop, industrial and street units as well as an analysis of our experiences in the branch form of organization, laying special emphasis on how to develop the authority of the Party; the role of the unit leadership and the relation of the units to the higher committees.

Following this report, two sub-reports were delivered by the leading county organizers concretizing the material of the general report.

The conferences were then split into two—the shop and industrial unit conference and the street unit and branch conference. These conferences opened with a ten minute introduction on the main points to be discussed and were followed with a thorough and detailed participation on the part of the delegates.

These conferences were especially effective because it enabled the comrades to discuss their problems and attempt to find a solution. To bring the deliberations of these conferences to the entire gathering, the general conference was reconvened where the summary of each of the separate conferences was given and the proposals adopted. The conferences in both Los Angeles and San Francisco ended in a spirit of high enthusiasm with the delegated feeling that it was a day well spent.

These conferences once again emphasized both the strength and weaknesses of the Party in California. It showed in the many reports of the delegates the splendid recruiting power of our Party in California.

It clearly brought forward the eagerness on the part of large numbers of our comrades to do work, and the desire to learn how to do it.

It showed a growing activity on the part of our comrades especially in the trade unions where some splendid results were attained in establishing the leadership of the comrades.

It showed also the first beginnings on the part of some units to develop some good election activity in an organized and systematic manner. But it was the weaknesses against which we hammered away at these conferences.

**Weaknesses in Our Shop Work**  
 Despite the fact that our State Convention emphasized very sharply the necessity of establishing the Party in some of the important factories in the state—rubber, chemical, war industries, metal and steel, etc., at the time of the conferences no shop units had been established with the exception of one or two isolated ones in small shops where our units could not play a decisive role. The main tendency which hampered our shop work was the tendency to replace the shop form of organization by the industrial form at the expense of building the Party in the shops.

Thus for instance in Los Angeles, Oakland, etc., where good possibilities existed to build

shop units, industrial units were established which did not concentrate on one particular factory in which to entrench our Party. A general underestimation also existed especially on the part of the leading bodies, on the importance of building the shop units.

It was therefore necessary for these conferences to lay special stress on this question and to rally the conferences as a whole for active participation in setting up shop units and carrying out the decision of the State Convention to establish 10 shop units by the end of the year. Since the conferences the first results are already evident. One shop unit is already working in East Bay and another one to be established this week. In San Francisco also the basis for one shop unit exists and steps are being taken to call the comrades together. Los Angeles just reports that they also now have good possibilities of building a shop unit in an aircraft plant.

In one of the other sections an important shop unit was established in the shipyards. Thus in a period of three weeks several shop units have been established with a few others in the process of organization, showing what really great opportunities we have here to build the Party in the shops.

It is now the task of the county and state committees to give constant attention to these new units, not being satisfied with assigning a comrade to attend the meetings, but really working with the comrades and training them for independent Communist activity.

**Industrial Units**  
 The situation with the industrial units as brought out by the major conferences is a little different than with the shop units. While there has been some hesitancy and confusion as to the establishment of these units, during the past six months nevertheless, about 25 industrial units (not including the waterfront which has been organized on an industrial basis for several years) were established.

There were such erroneous conceptions of the industrial unit for instance in Los Angeles, where a part of the membership of an industry were organized into an industrial unit, while the rest remained in the street unit.

What ensued was a constant strife between the industrial unit of the "elite" and the rest of the members. Or the situation in San Francisco of fearing to establish units in certain local trade unions on the ground that we were not building trade union units, but industrial units. And finally, the failure to really give careful and daily attention to these industrial units so that they could reduce their period of being "probation units" and become full-fledged political bodies of the Party.

As a result, the organizational conferences in both Los Angeles and San Francisco reflected the same weaknesses. Most of the industrial units were functioning too mechanically in but few instances had they really begun to deal with the Party problems on the basis of the issues and conditions in the industry. Some of the units were "excellent" routine bodies, carefully selling tickets, mechanically carrying through distribution of leaflets and Western Workers, and sometimes even literature.

But the activity ended right here. Others, dealt in the main with the direct union questions and never got around to discussing the Party problems. Discussions on local and national political issues seldom occupied the attention of these units. The major problems of the units therefore remained and stood out clearly at the conferences—how to really develop these industrial units into live political bodies of the Party, how to co-

## AS WE SEE IT

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN,

California State Secretary, Communist Party, U. S. A.

### UNITY NEEDED ON WATERFRONT

THE MARITIME unions are entering into a critical period of negotiations with the employers for amending the 1934 award. The shipowners seem determined to try and bring back the conditions which existed prior to the 1934 strike.

This brazen attempt to destroy union conditions and beat down the workers' living standard demands of every maritime worker the utmost vigilance to preserve the unity of the Maritime Federation. One of the main principles on which the maritime unions were built is rank-and-file control, complete democracy, and complete freedom from red-baiting.

**The Only Guarantee**  
 That is the way the waterfront workers established unity and solidarity on the Pacific Coast which is an example to the entire American labor movement.

The only guarantee of maintaining such unity in the face of the shipowners' attack is to continue to follow a policy against any form of discrimination toward a union member because of race, color, or creed. Any other policy would create disruption and dissent in the ranks of the unions, which is playing directly into the hands of the shipowners and their agents, who are hoping to weaken, divide, and eventually destroy the unions and their militant rank-and-file leadership.

In this critical period before Sept. 30th, any one who seeks to create such division in the ranks of the workers through red-baiting, is therefore consciously or unconsciously playing the shipowners' game against the welfare of the maritime unions and their membership.

Workers should be on guard against such disruptive attempts.  
**The "Red Scare's" Purpose**  
 There are some people who are attempting to becloud the issues by raising the "red scare," that age-old weapon of the employers against every union. They raise the cry that the "reds" or "Communists" are in a sinister "plot" to capture, disrupt or destroy the unions, to stir up trouble and strikes, etc.

The workers will remember that the employers last April used the same propaganda to cover up their lockout of the longshoremen for the purpose of abolishing the union hiring hall and eliminating the rank-and-file leadership of the union.

They use the same trick in every critical situation. They are using it now to throw overboard the 1934 award and bring back "Blue-Book" company-union conditions. They cover up their real purpose by expressing "concern" for the "welfare" of the unions, of which they are the bitter enemies.

If there are any union men who carry on red-baiting in their organization, they have either been misled into falling for this carefully-laid trap of the shipowners, or they are conscious tools of the employers.

We hope they are only honest, sincere unionists who can be convinced they are following a wrong and dangerous policy which may destroy their organization.

**Communists As Unionists**  
 The Communist Party has no interest separate and apart from that of the unions and Organ-

### BLISTER RUST CONTROL CAMPS—WHERE HIGHWAY ROBBERY EXISTS

A large committee from the Alameda County Workers Alliance presented demands to the local WPA that the Blister Rust Control Camps be discontinued at once. These camps are nothing less than vicious concentration camps for single men on relief.

**More Than One Kind of Pest**  
 Blister Rust is a pest that propagates in mulberry bushes and becomes a scourge on white pine trees. In California all the white pine trees grow at an altitude of over 5000 feet up in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Thus all these camps are located

at or above this altitude. Although there are from 100 to 200 men in each camp absolutely no sanitary facilities are provided. The men are housed in tents and not even a wooden floor is provided. Gasoline lamps are used for light which in itself presents a bad fire hazard. There are about 150 men in each of these camps.

**Highway Robbery**  
 The project is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Forestry. The civil service rating for this type of work is \$105 per month but the WPA workers are paid only \$40 per month out of which is deducted \$8 for food.

The mulberry bushes are the only shrub that the workers are permitted to cut out and many times in order to reach these berry bushes it is necessary to crawl upon their hands and knees through the thick bush for many yards.

The result is that the branches and long thorns tear the clothing to ribbons in a very short time. It is said that a pair of good corduroy pants will not last a week and no clothing is available in these camps even if the men had the money to buy some. When a group of six men asked the superintendent about some clothes he said, "If you haven't any clothes you can go naked."

### Labor Day Is Symbol of Unity!

LABOR DAY, 1936, is of especial significance. It finds the organized labor movement in the United States threatened with a major split.

The suspension order of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor against the unions of the Committee for Industrial Organization, the move to expel 1,000,000 workers from the American Federation of Labor, constitutes a major threat to the strength of organized labor—a strength based on unity.

Labor Day has always been a symbol of the unity of the organized labor movement. Marching feet expressed the determination of the workers to carry on their struggle, for the emancipation of labor.

This Labor Day must be made a day of protest against the splitting actions of Bill Green and his stooges on the Executive Council of the A.F.L. It must be made a day on which the ranks of organized labor, marching in every major city, express their determination to maintain a unified labor movement!

Labor Day, 1936, has a two-fold significance on the Pacific. The shipowners are organizing and maneuvering to "move in" on the waterfront unions, to bring back pre-1934 conditions on the waterfronts of the Pacific Coast.

To accomplish this, they have launched a broad publicity campaign aimed at deceiving the public generally as to the demands of the waterfront unions, at spreading the lie the unions are following a "rule or ruin at all costs" policy.

Not content with this, the shipowners, in collaboration with the Industrial Association and its hired stool pigeons, have inspired and engineered a monstrous frame-up against militant union leaders and against the Communist Party, determined to besmirch and discredit both in an attempt to confuse and weaken the ranks of the waterfront unions at the time they are negotiating for new agreements.

This matter is not one of concern for the waterfront workers only. It is a sharp challenge to the rest of organized labor on the Pacific Coast.

All trade unions, all central labor bodies should express in no uncertain terms their solidarity with the waterfront workers in their struggle to eliminate certain basic evils in the present agreements.

All bodies of organized labor should follow the example set by the Alameda Central Labor Council and should go on record at once a protesting the frame-up attempts of the shipowners.

Labor Day this year must be made a symbol of working class unity on the Pacific Coast to smash the shipowners' vicious frame-up!

In Los Angeles and in Long Beach, where the Times and the Hearst press, working closely with the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, have launched a determined drive to defeat the organizing campaign of the Central Trades and Labor Council, Labor Day must be made into a mighty expression of the determination of organized labor to make the two Southern cities 100 per cent union towns!

Throughout California, on Labor Day, organized labor must serve notice to the employers that it is determined to struggle forward to a free, happy and prosperous America despite the attack of the Fascist-minded press, despite union-smashing drives, despite vicious frame-ups against working class leaders!

### Progressive Unity Against Fitts

THE RACE for district attorney in Los Angeles County should bring all progressive and liberal forces together for the defeat of the reactionary incumbent, Burton Fitts.

The candidate best qualified, because of

his long record of activity in defense of working class defendants arrested for labor activity, would have been Grover Johnson. But with the elimination of Johnson in the primaries, the only candidate left to marshal the forces of progressivism against Fitts is Harlan Palmer, liberal publisher of the Hollywood "Citizen-News."

Palmer's record, while not as militantly pro-labor as Johnson's, still has been progressive. Recently the editor of Epic News asked Palmer what position he would take in labor strikes: "Would you prosecute pickets for violating the peace or for criminal acts, if possible?" he was asked.

"That would not come under my duties except in unincorporated territory," Palmer replied. "But if I were called to intervene I would not take the word of the police or the hired agents of the employers."

The "Citizen-News" has taken a consistent stand against the Criminal syndicalism law and other anti-working class legislation. In this it has expressed the viewpoint of its publisher.

We would like to see from Mr. Palmer more definite commitments on how he stands on issues of vital importance to the working class.

Would he ever prosecute under the C. S. law? Would he defend the right to workers to organize, strike and picket? Would he prosecute and seek indictments of all police officers, such as those who compose the notorious "red squad," who use force, violence and terror against workers?

We urge all progressive voters to unite for the defeat of the arch-reactionary, Burton Fitts.

### Defense of Assassins

(Reprinted from Daily Worker)

CLARENCE SENIOR, secretary of the Socialist Party of the United States, in the name of his Party's leadership, has joined the officials of the Second (Socialist) International and the International Federation of Trade Unions in coming to the defense of the Trotsky-Zinoviev gang of assassins who murdered the beloved leader of the Soviet masses, Sergei Kirov, and plotted the murder of Stalin and other leaders of the Communist Party and Socialist Government.

Senior, executive secretary of the Socialist Party, in a cable to the Norwegian Labor Party, states that "we deplore disunifying action of Soviet Government in conduct of recent trial" and calls on labor to defend the right of asylum for the chief organizer of the assassination plot, the stooge of the Nazi Gestapo, Leon Trotsky.

Every honest Socialist should ask himself: Whose action is disunifying, the action of the Soviet Government in cleaning up this gang of cutthroats who were plotting to destroy the Socialist Republic with the help of Hitler, or the action of the Socialist Party leadership in making common cause with them?

Compare Senior's cable with the statement of D. N. Pritt, famous English lawyer, who attended the trial. Pritt declares that the trial was conducted in the fairest and most exemplary fashion, and that "the courts of any country in the world would have passed the death sentence and would have carried it out." A group of American and English lawyers have cabled Roger Baldwin in similar vein.

Senior's defense of confessed murderers and tools of Fascism and his attack on the Soviet Government is a stab in the back of working class unity. It emphasizes once more that the Socialist Party, by opening its doors wide to the Trotskyists—though it rejects a united front with the Communist Party—has become the prisoner of counter-revolutionary Trotskyism.

Will the Socialist Party members stand by and allow their party to be dragged along this ruinous path?







# Opening Gun Fired in Organizing Cal. Chemical Industry

## Western Chemical Workers In P'burg Get AFL Charter

Pat Lydon Praised Highly For His Work In Bringing The Chemical Workers Together

PITTSBURGH, Cal.—History was made for California organized labor when employees of the Great Western Chemical Works and union organizers met here recently. At that meeting Federal Local Charter No. 20,280 was installed for the chemical workers.

## LABOR IS ANGRY AT ROBBERY OF UNION'S PRIZE

Legion, Police In Dirty Trick; Cheat Union

LOS ANGELES — American Legion, Police and city officials scored early this week in the interests of foul play, when they arbitrarily proposed to turn over to the Police Department band a prize trip to Cleveland which was won by the band of the Musicians' Union Legion Post.

During the American Legion convention held here nearly a month ago several bands competed for a prize of \$400, which was to be used for transportation of the winning band to the Legion national convention at Cleveland next month.

Announcement of the Legion and Police officials' double-dealing was received by the Musicians' Union with justifiable indignation. It was pointed out that the prize money came out of the Los Angeles County Exploitation Fund and, therefore, its disposal in any circumstance should not be under the jurisdiction of the American Legion and Police officials.

The prize was won fairly by a band that had been assembled in three days. In spite of the fact that the Musicians' band was handicapped by the loss of points due to the lack of uniforms, their superior ability won them the coveted prize, which was sought by bands from all over the state.

At the Los Angeles Central Labor Council a resolution was drawn up and sent to the City Council requesting that the underhanded plans of Legion and Police officials be immediately discontinued and that the prize be turned over to its rightful owners.

J. H. Buzzell, secretary of the Central Labor Council, at the meeting of this body last night stated that no doubt the reason for this stealing of the Musicians' union's prize was because those in power did not care to have Los Angeles represented by a union band.

## Reactionaries Aid Standard Oil

SAN JOSE. — Although the State Federation of Labor has placed Standard Oil on the unfair list, a statement virtually denying San Jose Building Trades support of this measure is posted in the Building Trades Office.

This sabotaging of a measure designed to help all labor is said to be the work of reactionary Fred Volkner, Building Trades Council secretary, and his equally reactionary aide, McGinnis, who are putting their own petty interests above the good of labor as a whole.

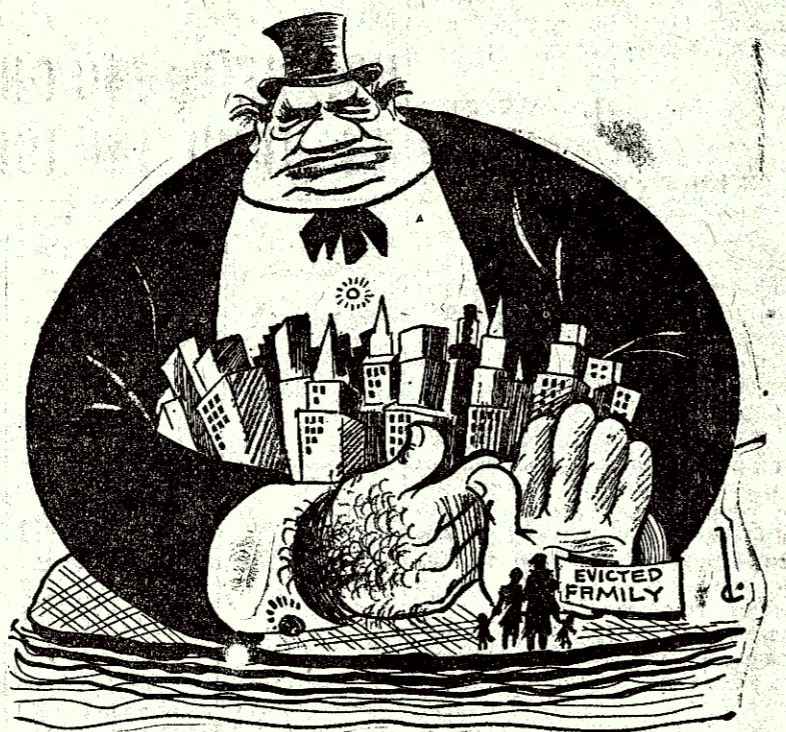
It seems they are afraid that Standard Oil may build non-union should any new stations be constructed locally were local labor to take action on the Federation resolution.

This stupid and shortsighted policy is typically "Volknerish" and is being condemned by all intelligent and progressive Building Trades members.

## HANGING POSTPONED

CINCINNATI — Prompt action by Negro and white defense groups won postponement of the hanging of a second Negro in Kentucky, this time in Covington, as bears corpus proceedings won delay for John Mountjoy.

## PEASON FOR FARMER-LABOR PARTY



## S.F. PLUMBERS AND THE C.I.O.

They Hit Hard At Suspension

SAN FRANCISCO—Their international president, Coefield, is a supporter of Alfred Landon and all that's reactionary, but the San Francisco Plumbers Union members are progressive. They're strong for industrial unionism. Here's a resolution they passed last week:

WHEREAS, the action of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in suspending ten important industrial unions with a total membership of more than one million trade unionists threatens a most serious split in the ranks of organized labor; and

WHEREAS, the submission of the entire question to the A.F.L. Convention, permits the delegates to participate actively in solving this problem, and preserving the unity of the American Federation of Labor, as was the case with the Building Trades Department at the 1935 Convention, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Local 442 of the Plumbers Union request the rescinding of the decision of the Executive Council of suspending the ten unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization, and to refer the whole controversy to the coming Convention of the American Federation of Labor, which takes place in November, 1936, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be mailed to the A.F.L. Executive Council, to the San Francisco Building Trades Council, and to the press.

## Green On Spot At N.Y. State Convention

NEW YORK. — When Bill Green told the convention of the N.Y. State Federation of Labor that "chaos would overcome the labor movement" if the C.I.O. continued to exist, a delegate shouted:

"It's not true." Green was sore, and shouted, "It's true and you know it."

After bitter discussion among the 600 delegates, the Executive Council's suspension order was upheld. The reactionaries squeezed it through by a narrow margin.

## 125 Workers Are Out In L.A. Furniture Company

LOS ANGELES.—The Furniture Workers' Union called a strike here last week at the plant of the Los Angeles Period Furniture Company in order to force wage increases, better working conditions and recognition of the union.

A picket line has been established. About 125 workers are involved.

## PORTERS GET FIRST INT. CHARTER GRANTED TO NEGRO ORGANIZATION

NEW YORK.—More than 1500 people attended the "unveiling" of the American Federation of Labor international charter recently awarded the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

This is the first Negro workers' organization to receive an A.F.L. International charter. Labor leaders throughout the country greeted the occasion.

## AGRICULTURAL UNION IN KERN GETS CHARTER

BAKERSFIELD.—The Kern County Agricultural Workers Union is now a full-fledged A.F.L. organization. It has received its charter direct from the A.F.L., and is endorsed by the Kern County Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council. Permanent officers have already been elected.

## L.A. CLOTHING UNION AIDS CIO

Donates To \$100,000 Fund For Steel

LOS ANGELES.—Local 278 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America unanimously agreed to assess each member one dollar, which is to be applied towards the \$100,000 fund being raised by the Amalgamated nationally for the purpose of aiding the C.I.O. to organize the steel workers.

When two workers were fired for possession of union books and others were mistreated for activity in their union, Local 278 called a strike on the plant of Rosenblum's, Inc.

Long tolerant with the high-handed methods of the bosses of the Rosenblum shop, their refusal to remedy working conditions, increase wages and recognize the union, the workers needed only the added injury of seeing their union brothers fired and mistreated to determine to do their part in stamping out the open shop in Los Angeles.

The membership promises a militant campaign for the duration of the strike, which is to exist until they have won all of their demands.

## Blast Biased Bar Report On Safety

NEW YORK.—The majority report of the Committee on Admiralty (a part of the New York Bar Assn.), was blasted to the sky by a minority statement.

The minority statement charges that "careful consideration of their report shows that they are not discussing safety at sea at all but are advancing reasons why they think the law should continue to allow shipowners to send unsafe ships to sea without being fully liable for the consequences in loss of life and safety."

The majority report asked that "no change be made in the law respecting shipowners' exemption from liability or limitation of liability."

The Bar Assn. will consider the question at its Oct. 20 meeting.

## Pedro I.L.A. Picks Delegates To Sacramento

SAN PEDRO.—Delegates of San Pedro local 38-82, International Longshoremen's Association, were elected at a special meeting, to the California Federation of Labor convention at Sacramento.

Those named were Roy Donnelly, C. H. Lindgren, A. L. Bebo, W. R. Patterson, A. H. "Pedro Pete" Peterson and Elmer Bruce.

## MANY LABOR COUNCILS HIT BAN ON C.I.O.

Stockton, Phila., New Orleans Just A Few of Them

STOCKTON—Calling for the dropping of all charges against the C.I.O. unions and for A.F.L. cooperation with the C.I.O. in organizing the steel and rubber industries, the Central Labor Council of San Joaquin County suggests that the C.I.O. confine its industrial organization drives to these two industries until further action is taken by the A.F.L., and that a special committee be appointed to study organizational set-up and report to the 1937 convention of the A.F.L.

Frey's Union Joins Protest ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A resolution protesting against the splitting action of the A.F.L. Executive Council in suspending the C.I.O. unions was adopted by the St. Louis conference board of the Intl. Moulders Union, representing 10 locals with 1,700. The resolution praised the stand of Pres. O'Keefe against John P. Frey, also a member of the I.M.U., who acted as prosecutor for the council against the C.I.O.

Port Arthur Trades Council BEAUMONT, Tex.—The Port Arthur Trades & Labor Council voted to protest against suspension of the C.I.O. unions. The vote, with only three delegates present from industrial unions, was 19 to five. Craft unionists led the fight for adoption of the resolution.

Denver Building Trades DENVER, Colo.—An attempt to endorse Wm. Green's action against the C.I.O. was overwhelmingly voted down by the Denver Building Trades Council. Out of from 70 to 75 delegates, only five voted to approve Green's stand.

Terre Haute TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—The Vigo County Central Labor Union passed a resolution requesting the A.F.L. council to reconsider its suspension of the C.I.O. unions and to hold action in abeyance until the 1936 convention.

Motion Picture Operators STOCKTON, Cal.—The action of the A.F.L. executive council against the C.I.O. is "unwise, unwarranted, unconstitutional, entirely uncalled for, and against the interest of the working man," in the opinion of the members of Motion Picture Projectionists Local 428 of the Intl. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

Philadelphia PHILADELPHIA.—The Philadelphia Central Labor Union voted to condemn the action of the A.F.L. executive council in suspending the C.I.O. unions.

Pittsburgh PITTSBURGH — Adopting a resolution from Pittsburgh Typographical Union No. 7, the Pittsburgh Central Labor Council asked the A.F.L. executive council to defer action against the C.I.O. to the next convention.

New Orleans NEW ORLEANS, La.—With only two dissenting votes, the New Orleans Central Trades & Labor Council voted to condemn the suspension of the C.I.O. unions and to demand that their delegates be seated at the next A.F.L. convention.

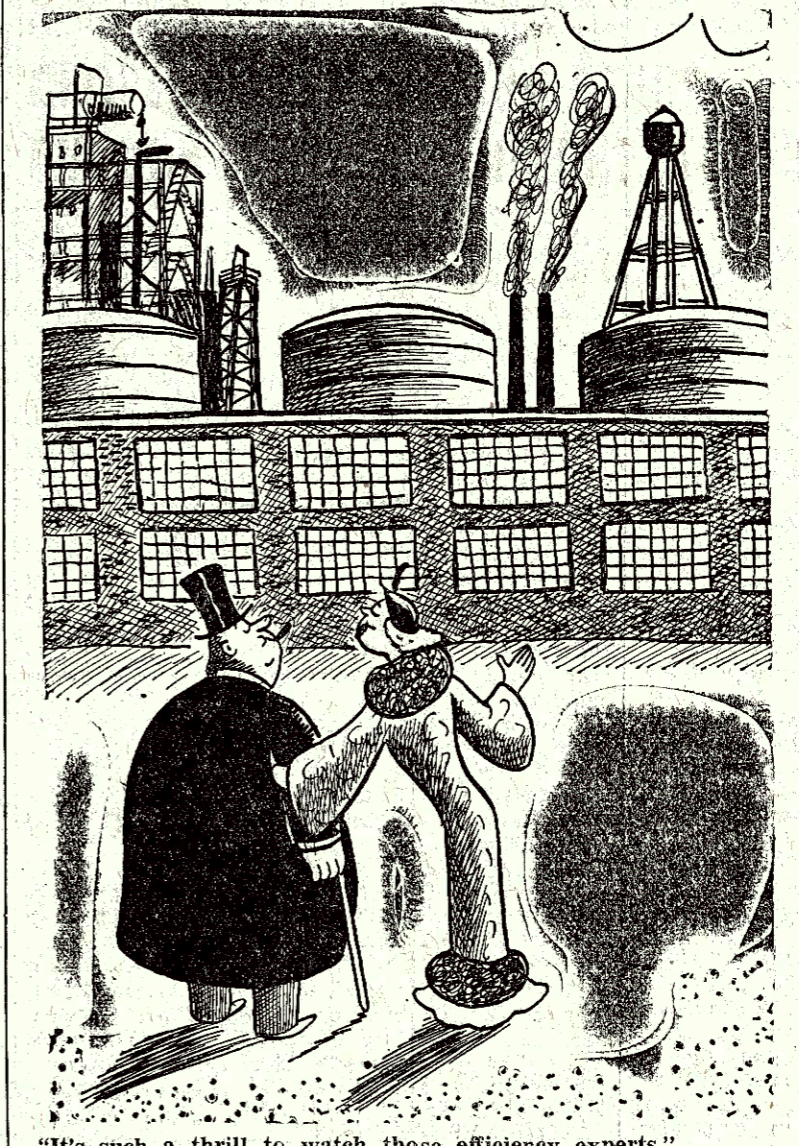
## Govt. Considers Giving Orders To Scab Outfit

WASHINGTON. — Possibility that the Social Security Board may soon place a large order for office equipment with the Remington-Rand Co. was discovered here.

Employees of the Remington-Rand concern have been on strike in seven plants of the company for 14 weeks and strikers have faced imported thugs and gunmen used by the concern in a desperate effort to break the walkout.

It was learned that a large order for a visible index filing system was placed with the Post Index Co. on July 31. A few hours after the order was given it was withdrawn upon representations by Remington-Rand attorneys that their concern had not been afforded an equal opportunity in the bidding.

## LIFE AMONG THE OPEN SHOPPERS



"It's such a thrill to watch those efficiency experts."

## How Protests Have Rolled In On C.I.O. Ban

WASHINGTON.—With the International Typographical Union in all likelihood about to join the C.I.O., the C.I.O. announces that a survey by the A.F.L. Executive Council has thus far been urged to recall the suspension order by three international unions, four State Federations, 30 Central Labor bodies, and local unions "too numerous to list."

## Upholsterers Aiding Spain

LOS ANGELES.—Unanimously voting to support the 10 C.I.O. unions the Upholsterers Union Local 15 sent a resolution protesting the suspension of the C.I.O. unions to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

The resolution further demanded that the council rescind their action in suspending the C.I.O. unions and submit the question to the next convention of the A.F.L. at Tampa.

## Shell Oil Lies Nailed by Union

LONG BEACH.—Reports probably inspired by the company, to the effect that the dispute between the Oil Workers Union and the Shell Oil Co. have been settled are denied with some heat by James G. Coulter, representing the Oil Workers in seven western states.

"These reports," said Coulter, "are propaganda emanating from the head office and are absolutely false. The question has not been settled, and will not be until the company agrees to deal with the men fairly through the recognized representatives."

The boycott against Shell Oil continues.

## LANDON PAYS OIL WORKERS WAGES CLOSE TO STARVATION LEVEL

BAKERSFIELD.—The Oil Workers' Union has gotten some interesting dope on the open shop actions of Alfred M. Landon. This concerns Landon's attitude in his own business. It is reported by the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers Union that under NRA Landon paid notoriously low wages. He paid a pumper in one of

## GREYHOUND CO. BREAKING LAW

Fires Drivers Who Are In Union

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Pacific Greyhound Bus Company maintains a company union, violates the right of its employees to organize its unions of their own choosing, and discharged two men because of union activities.

This was all reported to the National Labor Relations Board, which held the Greyhound Co. violators of the U. S. Labor Act. Greyhound has announced that if the N.L.R.B. tries to force it to comply with the law, it will challenge the constitutionality of the action in the Federal courts.

## San Jose Unions Report Gains

SAN JOSE.—An appeal of the San Jose Postal Clerks Local 73 to join the Santa Clara Federated Trades Council was unanimously accepted by the Council. A flat rate per capita tax was agreed upon because of special problems of organization of government employees.

## Firemen Rank and File Win In N. Y. Court

NEW YORK.—The rank and file of the Marine Firemen's Union won a smashing victory against the old reactionary officials, when Supreme Court Judge Steuer refused to allow the recent election victory, which Secretary Oscar Carlson was defeated, to be contested in court.

Carlson's machine was completely swept out of office in the recent elections.

## Protest Low Wage On Central Valley Projects

SAN FRANCISCO.—A strong protest against the low wage scales now in force on the Central Valley water projects is made in resolution which has been adopted by the San Francisco Building Trades Council. The Council also endorsed a resolution passed two weeks ago by the Central Labor Council, protesting withholding by employers of deductions from wages for the California unemployment reserves act.

Make the Labor Page of the Western Worker a real page of, by and for organized labor.

## RUBBER UNION IN BIG TRIUMPH AT L. A. PLANT

Defeats Co. Union At Sampson Tire Co. Elections

LOS ANGELES — The United Rubber Workers' Union of America has been chosen by the workers of the Sampson Tire and Rubber Company as their collective bargaining representative, a count of the recent vote at the plant showed.

The vote was ordered by the local National Labor Relations Board to determine who should represent the workers.

George B. Roberts, International Organizer of the Rubber Workers' Union hailed the vote as a victory for the rubber workers in Southern California and predicted an International office of the union would soon be opened in Los Angeles to aid in the organization of the 700 or more rubber workers here.

"The morale and spirit of the rubber workers is running high," declared Roberts in a report to the Central Labor Council. "Out of the 700 workers at the plant 636 workers cast votes, with 424 voting for the Rubber Workers' Union as their organization."

## Brewers Convene In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO.—The oldest industrial union in the United States! That's the Intl. Union of United Brewery, Flour, Cereal, and Soft Drink Workers of America, now celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Its membership is 40,000, as the result of the formation of hundreds of new locals.

The triennial convention of the international will be held in San Francisco Sept. 14 to 16. Emil Muri, international organizer here, is chairman of the local arrangements committee. Muri is strong for the C.I.O.

## IOWA A.F.L. HITS COUNCIL'S ACT AGAINST C.I.O.

DES MOINES, Ia.—The steel organizing campaign of the C.I.O. was endorsed by the Iowa State Federation of Labor in a resolution which also protests against suspension of the C.I.O. unions, describing it as "a sad blow to the American labor movement."

The resolution points out that under the A.F.L. constitution "international union's charter can only be revoked by a two-thirds majority at a regular convention of the A.F.L. by a roll-call vote."

"We endorse the campaign of organization of workers now being conducted in the steel industry and petition all branches of organized labor to cooperate to that end in order that conditions of labor in that occupation may be improved," the Federation declares.