

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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DEATH TAKES DAN TOBIN AND MARTIN DURKIN

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Two famed AFL leaders died this week, as death took Daniel J. Tobin, president emeritus of the Teamsters, and Martin J. Durkin, president of the Plumbers and former Secretary of Labor.

Tobin headed the Teamsters from 1907 to 1952. During his administration Teamster membership grew from less than 40,000 to over one million. He was also a vice president of the American Federation of Labor at the time of death. He was once treasurer of the national AFL. His span of activity covered the AFL presidencies of Gompers, Green and Meany.

The veteran Teamster leader was a member of President Wilson's Industrial Conference during World War I and served as a government aide to President Roosevelt during the second World War.

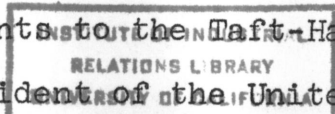
A close associate of Roosevelt, Tobin headed the labor division of the Democratic National Committee in each of FDR's four presidential campaigns.

A native of Ireland, Tobin joined the Boston local of the Teamsters in 1901.

Brother Tobin is survived by his widow, five sons, and one daughter. He was 83.

Martin Durkin won national news attention in 1953 when he resigned his Eisenhower cabinet post as Secretary of Labor, charging that the President had reneged on promises of pushing for Durkin's proposed amendments to the Taft-Hartley law.

Durkin had been president of the United Association of Jour-



neyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry since 1943. He had previously served as secretary-treasurer of the international.

A native of Chicago, Durkin was the long-time head of Plumbers Local 597 in that city. From 1933 to 1941 he was Illinois State Director of Labor.

When Eisenhower appointed Durkin Secretary of Labor, the new Secretary advised the press that he had not only voted for Adlai Stevenson in 1952, but had supported the endorsing of Stevenson's candidacy at the AFL convention. Durkin was the first labor union official to be named to the Secretary of Labor post.

Brother Durkin is survived by his widow and three sons. He was 61.

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NEW STUDY OUT ON NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND WELFARE PLANS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Health care for workers' dependents is provided in most negotiated health and welfare plans in effect in northern California, according to a study issued last week by the California State Department of Industrial Relations and the Department of Preventive Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine.

The study covers all northern California health and welfare plans established by collective bargaining.

Key points in the study show:

(1) The employer pays the entire cost of the premium for 90 percent of the workers eligible for benefits and for the dependents of more than half the workers.

(2) Benefits available to dependents are less liberal than for the workers.

(3) Plans provide for hospital and surgical care for workers as well as physicians' visits in the home and office, outpatient

laboratory and x-ray services, maternity care, and poliomyelitis service.

(4) For dependents, the chief benefits are hospital and surgical care. In the majority of cases, physicians' services outside the hospital are not provided as for the breadwinner.

(5) The amounts allowed in the various plans were analyzed as of May 1954. At that time a rate somewhere between \$10 and \$12 per day for a maximum of 70 days was the most common hospital allowance for the worker. The maximum hospital stay for dependents was 31 days in most plans.

(6) More than two out of five of all the workers covered by the plans surveyed were assured the full cost of a ward bed or better without any additional expense to themselves.

(7) In plans which indemnified the sick worker, a maximum surgical allowance of \$300 was most often provided for both worker and dependents.

(8) When the worker was reimbursed for a visit to the physician's office, \$3 or \$4 was the amount generally specified. For a home visit, where allowed, the worker usually received either \$5 or \$6 from his plan.

(9) For laboratory and x-ray services for patients not hospitalized, the employee's benefit was most frequently set at an upper limit of \$50 and for his dependents at \$25.

(10) Two-thirds of the workers were covered by plans underwritten by insurance companies which for most benefits reimbursed the patient up to a stated amount as specified in the plan.

(11) Some plans provide certain medical care benefits on a service basis. These specify the types of services the patient is entitled to instead of fixing a maximum money indemnity allowance. One-third of the workers were covered by such plans.

In addition to detailed data on medical care benefits, the report contains information on life insurance and other non-medical benefits provided by the plans. Also covered in the report

are eligibility and termination provisions and employer-employee contributions to the costs of the plans.

Information on the study can be obtained from M. I. Gershenson, Chief, State Division of Labor Statistics and Research, 965 Mission Street, San Francisco.

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U.S. FACTORY EARNINGS AT ALL-TIME HIGH

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--Average weekly earnings of factory production workers in the United States rose to an all-time high in October, the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced last week.

The latest report shows that the average factory worker earned \$78.69 a week last month, about a dollar above the September average, and almost \$6.50 higher than October last year.

The over-the-year increase was attributed to a 1.3 hours rise in the average factory workweek and a 10-cent increase in average hourly earnings.

The October workweek was estimated at 41.2 hours, with average hourly earnings at \$1.91.

While most industries reported some gain in weekly pay, durable goods workers in general fared better than those engaged in the non-durable goods industries.

Durable goods workers averaged \$84.68 a week in October, an increase of \$6.89 from October, 1954. Soft goods workers, with average weekly earnings of \$69.66 in October, gained \$4.59 in the year.

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DON'T BUY SEBASTOPOL APPLE PRODUCTS

PITTS, DESPOL ADDRESS
ANTI-DISCRIMINATION MEET

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--The AFL-CIO merger will bring a closer alliance between labor and community groups concerned with racial and religious discrimination, it was predicted last Sunday by Thomas L. Pitts, president of the California State Federation of Labor, and John Despol, secretary-treasurer of the State CIO Council, at the concluding session of the 16th annual State Conference of the Jewish Labor Committee in Los Angeles.

Samuel Otto, international vice president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, and chairman of the JLC Civil Rights Department, presided at the conference which was attended by 300 delegates from affiliated labor and fraternal organizations.

Following the addresses, the conference passed a resolution denouncing the "bottomless depths of bigotry" which led to the "brutal kidnap-murder of fourteen-year-old Emmett Till" in Mississippi and demanding that "federal authorities intervene to bring the perpetrators of this crime to justice."

The conference also authorized the designation of representatives to testify in favor of revision of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act at the hearings in Washington of the U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee commencing November 21.

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NATIONAL AFL OFFERS FILM ON "RIGHT-TO-WORK" LAWS

(CFLNL) SAN FRANCISCO.--A colored filmstrip on the compulsory open-shop is now available through the AFL's Department of Education, Washington, D. C.

The 56-frame, sound color filmstrip entitled MR. FRAUD - THE RIGHT-TO-WRECK MAN outlines labor's case against the misnamed "right-to-work" laws.

Copies of the film may be purchased through Mr. John D. Connors, AFL Director of Education, 1625 Eye Street, Washington 6, D.C. Cost per copy is \$15.00.