

Los Angeles CIO Backs Probe of Fascist 'Alliance'

By Jack Young

(Special to the Daily Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3.—The Los Angeles CIO Industrial Union Council—representing 100,000 workers in war production—today had given unanimous support to the Federal Department of Justice investigation of the Fifth Column activities of Richard Franklin and the "American Union Alliance."

Main planks in Franklin's fascist program, as unearthed by the People's World, are the lynching of Communists and CIO organizers; depriving Negroes of the right to vote, and electing Republican Earl Warren Governor of California.

On the basis of this information, United States Attorney William Fleet Palmer started his probe.

As the labor movement pointed to the danger to war production caused by Franklin and his activities, which include cooperating with appeaser John L. Lewis, so did the Negro community.

The Negro Victory Committee, headed by the Reverend Clayton D. Russell, will throw its weight into the communitywide demand for immediate action against the Fifth Columnists.

Attorney Thomas L. Griffith, Jr., president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, said his organization will back the drive for Federal prosecution.

Following the lead of its parent organization, the Junior Council of the NAACP, was expected to give its official support.

John Kinloch, young Negro journalist and president of the Junior Council, declared:

"Franklin's plan is an obvious attempt to disunite the American people at a time when unity is our crying national need.

"No group understands this so well as Negro youth, and we certainly urge an immediate Federal investigation."

CIO ACTS QUICKLY

The CIO Council moved swiftly at its regular meeting Friday night.

Delegate William Oliver from the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild, took the floor and said:

"I move that we vote full support to United States Attorney Palmer and the Department of Jus-

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tice investigation of Richard Franklin and the 'American Union Alliance,' who, in a letter to the People's World, plan a campaign of Hitlerite terrorism against California CIO leaders and other individuals."

Among others Franklin said he would lynch is Philip M. "Slim" Connelly, secretary of the CIO Council and charter member of the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild.

Delegate Pete Padovan of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers called attention to this threat,

which Franklin said would be executed on "the first May Day following the war."

"From this," said Padovan, "you can draw the conclusion that Franklin and his stooges have the illusion that fascism will be victorious in this war.

"They must have sick minds, indeed, if they suppose that a democratic country is going to let hang the very people who are out to win the war."

The resolution of support was passed unanimously.