SFChronicle

Lebor Hopes

Ford

Can Help

Washington

Labor leaders voiced hope last night that the administration of Gerald R. Ford would succeed in combating the nation's economic ills.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, a frequent critic of President Nixon and his economic policies, said in a telegram to Ford: "On behalf of the AFL-CIO I pledge to you all possible support in meeting the grave and serious problem the nation faces."

Legistra Woodcock, president if the United Auto Workers, said "Obviously, the UAW will cooperate with the new Ford administration in any effort it would make to correct the enormous economic and moral difficulties the nation faces."

W. Abel, president of United Steelworkers union, said ". . It is my fervent hope that under President Ford we will get on with the business of meeting the many challenges confronting America and the people."

Associated Press