

SF Chronicle 2 Bay Labor Councils Back Inaugural Protest

Anti-war sentiment in organized labor appeared to be growing yesterday as two major Bay Area labor councils — Alameda and Santa Clara — announced official support of protest activities planned for Saturday, Inauguration Day.

"We've reached the end of our rope," said Richard Groulx, executive secretary-treasurer of the Alameda county Central Labor Council.

Groulx said his council had voted unanimously to urge union members to participate in Saturday's anti-war march and rally in San Francisco.

MARCH

The council specifically endorsed the march and rally sponsored by the Northern California Peace Action Coalition and the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice.

That march is to begin at 11 a.m. at the foot of Market street, with a rally to follow at 1 p.m. at Civic Center Plaza.

"We've had resolutions condemning the war in the past," said Groulx. "but it seems to us that the deceit has been so massive we must join in with other people to demonstrate our feelings about the war."

A similar anti-war viewpoint was offered by the Santa Clara county Central Labor Council, which voted to support the Civic Center rally here and to support war protest activities in San Jose.

PEACE

"Our council is urging participation to demonstrate labor's interest in peace right now," said Emerson Street, the Santa Clara council's secretary.

He said the council is "pushing for a big labor turnout" in a peace march starting at 11 a.m. at Gore Park and ending at St. James Park in San Jose. The march will be followed by a "Community Action Fair" at 12:30 p.m. at St. James Park.

The Marin Central Labor Council took no official vote

on endorsing protest activities, but council secretary-treasurer Charles Weer said, "There's a great deal of interest in it."

"We've helped put people in touch with a caravan leaving our (Marin) Civic Center for the rally in San Francisco," he said.

S.F.

The San Francisco Labor Council decided not to consider participation in the march and civic center rally.

"We're not going to participate," said John Crowley, council secretary.

"We don't feel it is our business to get involved in foreign affairs. We have to talk about the labor movement and the business of labor in San Francisco" he said.

In addition to support from the labor councils, Saturday's anti-war activities at Civic Center Plaza have been endorsed by Locals 10, 6 and 34 of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.