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## The Santa Cruz Labor Temple



### UNION NEWS



H. M. CORNELL

Herman Cornell, 53, family man, community builder, and former carpenter, is president of the Santa Cruz County Central Labor Council — a group of experienced union men who help improve the well being of 3000 union men in the county.

His own main breadwinning wages come to him for his work as business representative and financial secretary of the Carpenters Union, Local 771 in Watsonville.

Cornell has lived in the county for 20 years. He began carpentering in 1939 at 35 cents an hour. Now the scale is \$4.29 an hour.

He has been a union member off and on for about 20 years, joining the first time in Phoenix in 1943. His interest in organization and administration has made him prominent in these fields, serving in these capacities for both the fruit and vegetable and carpentering unions.

Cornell has been married for 31 years to his wife, Velma, and raised four children, Doyle, Wilma, James and Jimmy.

One daughter is a school teacher, two boys are bankers and one is in the refrigerator servicing business.

Cornell's other workingman's affiliations include membership of the executive board of the Monterey Bay District Carpenters Council.

In addition, he is a member of the Apprentice-Training Board, the Manpower-Training development commission, and an executive officer to the Santa Cruz County Building and Construction Trades Council.

This is the working schedule of a successful union organizer who is devoting his career to improving the lot of the workingman.

But the union man today is also a solid member of his community.

Cornell is a member of the Watsonville Optimist club, has served on the city water committee and helped in many bond issues, the latest of which was the new city hall. (adv.)

The rock-faced Santa Cruz Labor Temple, at 2960 Soquel avenue, is the home of the Santa Cruz Central Labor council, a group dedicated to help guide

the working man through his local union to a better way of life, and at the same time, prevent the locals from taking steps that would harm the labor movement as a whole.

# County Central Labor Council Plays Key Role As Big Brother To Locals

The workingman in the United States is envied throughout the world for his standard of living. And this is because he and those laboring pioneers before him, fought to organize and pull on their own bootstraps.

His well being is guarded by organizations at various levels, from his own local to the Big Daddies, the AFL-CIO.

But another group, not too well known, is the Santa Cruz County Central Labor council, which operates from the Labor Temple at 2960 Soquel avenue.

This organization serves as the liaison in the county between the local unions and the AFL-CIO headquarters in San Francisco, but perhaps its most important function is Big Brother to the locals.

The council has been functioning as separate organizations in the southern and northern parts of the county since 1937. It was unified in 1963 and on May 29 in the Palomar hotel, the council will celebrate its first anniversary as a unified group.

Another way to describe the council's function is stated by George Harrison, executive secretary.

"It is the core of the union movement in the county — helping to settle problems within the locals on one hand, and serving as the watchdog for the AFL-CIO on the other.

"For example," he said, "If the bartender's union decided to strike, it would have to clear with the council first.

"We would investigate the situation by talking with both the employers and employees and try to settle the situation through mediation. This would be the same case if picketing were involved.

"We also help settle problems within individual unions, and also participate in community affairs and projects in the name of the unions of the area," he said.

The council consists of president, vice president, and secretary and some 40 delegates from the various unions in the county.

It was organized immediately following the founding of the CIO, which was made a part of the American Federation of Labor which came into being around 1934.

The late Joseph Dingman,

### Drury

Amato... dismissed... evidence... court... Amato... on charges of being drunk in public and prowling after a struggle with a sheriff's deputy. Amato denied the charges.

This was finally done in April 1, 1963 under the direction of the late AFL-CIO regional representative, James Drury from San Francisco.

The present president is Herman Cornell, business representative of the Carpenters Local 771 in Watsonville.

Cornell is also an officer in the Monterey Bay Carpenters Council and a member of the Apprentice Training board and Manpower Training Development commission.

Bond is presently vice president of the combined council.

president then of the Culinary Alliance and Bartenders local was the first president of the original northern county council. He served for two stormy years, a calm, dedicated, old-time union man who led the council through some rough periods.

Others who rode out this growing period were the late Kaspar Bauer, an admitted socialist who screamed in outrage if one called him Communist; Rex Crabtree, now retired, who ran the Plasterers and Cement Finishers Local 379 and fought to state-wide levels for the proposition that labor unions should be in politics if they were to survive.

H. C. Sutherland, who has moved from Santa Cruz, was business manager of the newly formed Laborers Union Local 283 in the early '40s and first secretary of the Northern Council.

He followed by Orin Howard who served for several years through the war and left this post to become Santa Cruz's postmaster.

Howard was followed by the late Thomas H. Deane who served for many years as secretary. Deane was also business representative of Painters Local 1026 and had a long history of labor union activities throughout the state.

Under the direction of Deane the council continued to function through the later years of the war and Korean war. Deane died "in harness" on October 11, 1960.

Robert Laverty, secretary of the Leather Workers Local L-122, was president of the Central Labor Council in the late '50s and appointed secretary George Harrison to his post in 1960. Harrison, a protege of Deane, was a charter member of the council and had helped form the Cement Workers Local 46, serving as secretary and business manager for 20 years.

In April, 1962, Laverty left the president's office and was replaced by E. P. Bond from the Cement Workers. At that time the council had the unusual situation of having two main offices filled by cement workers.

This situation existed for less than a year, however, until December, when the council started negotiations with the Watsonville council to merge the two groups.

