FOREWORD

THE HISTORY of the American labor movement has been enriched by forceful leaders, men whose lives and contributions deserve biography. Among the most interesting and important is Andrew Furuseth, the stern seafaring Norwegian, who came to San Francisco in 1880 and was to devote his life to the organization and welfare of the seamen. The union he built—the Sailors' Union of the Pacific—was to prove enduring; it is, in fact, still in existence and thriving. In Furuseth's lifetime the SUP played a central role in the unfolding drama of American labor history. The story of Furuseth and the SUP throws light upon many aspects of the labor movement: the problems of leadership within an organization, the importance of inter- and intraunion rivalries, the emergence and the troubles of the philosophy of business unionism, the part played by labor in politics in California and the nation, the development of protective labor legislation, and the role of unions in international affairs.

The unfortunate fact that no proper life of Furuseth has existed until now is remedied with the publication of this study by Dr. Hyman Weintraub. He came to this task with two notable assets: direct knowledge of the labor movement combined with professional training as a historian. He gained the former from personal experience as well as family connections, and the latter from doctoral work at the University of California, Los Angeles. Each will be evident to the reader of this volume.

The Institute of Industrial Relations, Southern Division, presents this work as part of its continuing research program in American labor history. The Institute has already published Dr. Grace Heilman Stimson's *Rise of the Labor Movement in Los Angeles*, carrying that story to 1912, with a second volume dealing with more recent times now under way. In addition, there is in preparation a general history of American labor between the 1920's and the outbreak of World War II.

GEORGE H. HILDEBRAND, *Director*
Institute of Industrial Relations
University of California, Los Angeles