

The Right to Work

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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SHADES OF CARRIE NATION! QUICK HENRY—THE ARNICA!

Somewhere in New York there are 15 strong-arm union organizers licking their wounds after learning the hard way that the female of the species is NOT the weaker sex, and probably still trying to explain black eyes to their wives.

These 15 invaded a hand embroidery shop in an attempt to organize the 22 women workers. Punching the protesting proprietor on the nose, they told the women: "Everybody stop working. There's a strike on." That did it!

Armed with brooms, scissors, chairs and other improvised weapons the screeching females drove the 15 men out of the second floor shop in a hurry. By the time police arrived there wasn't an organizer in sight.

Three of the women were treated for minor bruises. There was no report of casualties among the men who were evidently satisfied to lick their wounds in private. We'll bet they won't be back.

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U. S. SUPREME COURT TO REVIEW PICKETING CASE—The Supreme Court agreed to review an Alabama court's award of damages to a worker who was prevented from going to work by U.A.W. picket lines. (Labor leaders are jittery over this one.)

The picketing case resulted from a labor dispute at the Decatur, Ala., plant of the Calumet & Hecla Consolidated Copper Co., Wolverine Tube Division, during 1952. The suit was filed by Paul S. Russell, an employee of the plant who said he lost five week's wages during the walkout, claiming he was prevented from entering the plant by "mass picketing and force and violence."

The Morgan County Alabama Circuit Court awarded Mr. Russell a \$10,000 damage judgment against the U.A.W., which was upheld by the Alabama Supreme Court. "Alabama statutes make it unlawful for one to use force, threats, or intimidation to prevent another from engaging in a lawful occupation."

In an N.L.R.B. election held following the strike the U.A.W. lost their rights as bargaining agent for the plant employees.

Mr. Russell was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Right to Work Committee in July of 1955.

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AMERICANS MUST HAVE THE RIGHT, BUT NOT BE COMPELLED TO JOIN LABOR UNIONS

SWISS LESSON IN (REAL) DEMOCRACY—In this country we make much ado about democracy and the rights of individuals. Yet, compulsory union membership is legal in 31 states and our Supreme Court recently put their stamp of approval on it on our railroads and air lines, forcing citizens to pay tribute to private organizations, the unions, or lose their jobs.

In Switzerland they are also proud of their democracy. With them however, it is not a matter of lip service. They practice it and the Federal Court backs it up.

The Swiss Society of Lithographic Employers made an agreement with the Swiss Union of Lithographers to employ only members of the union. This agreement also required the members of the union to work only in shops whose proprietors were members of the Society of Employers.

One of the employers hired a man barred from the union, and under union pressure was forced to discharge him. The worker, unable to find work, took the case to court, seeking damages. The Court ruled that:

"Every individual must be able to take freely the decision whether or not to join an organization and the boycott which the agreement on labor-management reciprocity implies is not admissible. Also the injured party has the right to an indemnity."

HATS OFF TO THE SWISS!

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VIRGINIA RIGHT TO WORK LAW PROVING GOOD—Speaking before a group of the nation's top businessmen in New York on November 15, Lt. Governor A. E. S. Stephens of Virginia said that even the labor leaders are beginning to accept the state's right-to-work law as good legislation.

"We hold that the principle of collective bargaining is sound," he said, "and that labor should enjoy this privilege to every reasonable extent, but at the same time we are equally convinced that our right-to-work is fundamental to the American concept of democracy.

"We take pride, too, in the fact that labor in Virginia is fast coming to accept the soundness and fairness of the position of our state in this regard."

Stephens noted that there had been an increase in the number of manufacturing workers from 100,000 in 1924 to 250,000 at present, with an average of 6,000 a year increase since 1950.

Following his address, Stephens told reporters he feels there will be less agitation by labor leaders for repeal of the law and that labor is beginning to reason that the law protects workers as well as employers.

"Some labor men who fought the law during the Legislature have come back and said 'for God's sake, don't amend it,'" Stephens said.

The good effect of the law in Virginia was further revealed when Ralph J. Cordiner, president of General Electric Co., told a Richmond audience recently that the law was a prime reason GE had established three new plants in Virginia.

Other businessmen at the meeting said they were sure the law was a major factor in attracting industry to Virginia.

ELECTION SCOREBOARD—RIGHT TO WORK VS. LABOR BOSSES

KANSAS—TOE TO TOE—NO DECISION— While giving Republican Eisenhower a majority of more than 250,000 votes, Kansas elected Democrat George Docking, on record as opposing right-to-work legislation, as Governor. On the other hand, the Legislature will be two-thirds controlled by Republicans. The record of these can well mean that right-to-work legislation vetoed by the Governor has a good chance of going through by an overriding vote in the Legislature.

The most logical explanation of the upset in the race for Governor in the face of the bitter Republican primary between Governor Fred Hall and Warren Shaw, in which right-to-work was the main issue, comes from the Hutchinson News-Herald, which says:

"In destroying Hall in the August primary, Shaw destroyed himself. He and his backers were so overly successful in persuading the voters the incumbent was not to be trusted, the voters gained the definite impression neither were they."

NEVADA—VICTORY—RIGHT TO WORK RETAINED—For the third election in a row Nevada voters supported right-to-work legislation. Practically complete returns show that a proposal to repeal the law was defeated by a vote of 45,172 to 39,081. The voters also rejected a proposed amendment to the State Constitution that would have made any right-to-work law illegal. This proposal was defeated by a vote of 45,838 to 35,707.

Since the right-to-work law was sustained by a larger majority than before, there is speculation that the labor leaders may decide to wait four years before attacking the law again.

WASHINGTON STATE—DEFEAT— In one of the most hotly-fought referendums heard of to date, Washington State voters rejected a proposal (No. 198) for right-to-work legislation. Latest reports show a vote of 271,694 For and 592,981 Against.

In view of the circumstances one does not need to qualify as an "after game quarterback" to cite the basic reason—over-matched in funds.

Reports show that the United Labor Advisory Committee spent \$72,381, and the International Teamsters Union admits having sent \$100,000 into the state to prevent the signing of petitions to place Initiative 198 on the ballot. Those on the scene estimate that the unions spent three-quarters of a million dollars on radio, television, etc., during the campaign.

On the other hand the Right to Work group had about 8000 contributors who braved a wave of intimidation, coercion and boycott in giving that support. Under these conditions the educational campaign was simply too severely limited.

An interesting sidelight—supporting the need for education—comes from a worker on the scene in Seattle. He writes: "After the election I canvassed eleven people who were wearing the gold feather which was issued when they voted before I found one who could tell me what the 198 issue was. I asked two women, one stating that it was to pass a law to raise the price of bread and butter. (The radio during the week before continued to blast, 'Don't do away with your bread and butter, vote against 198'.) The lady with her said, 'Oh no! That was a law which puts you in jail for joining a labor union.' A College student I know said, 'Oh, I voted for him.' (The local judges were listed below No. 198 and he thought he was voting for a judge.)"

SCORE: 1 to 1—Play off Kansas tie in the Legislature.

NEW COMMITTEE ORGANIZED—Evidencing the growing interest in the subject of right-to-work legislation, announcement has been received of the formation of the New York State Right to Work Committee, with office in Yonkers, New York.

Officers named are Mr. John Sweeney, New York City, Chairman; Mr. Joseph DeMagistris, Yonkers, Secretary; Mr. Irving Fine, Mt. Vernon, Treasurer; and Mr. Benjamin Schuman, Yonkers, Public Relations.

While this committee has not become affiliated with the National Committee, they have prepared right-to-work legislation and are beginning a state-wide educational program.

Mail should be addressed to the New York State Right to Work Committee, 20 Pelton Street, Yonkers, New York.

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HOLD THE CRYING TOWEL!—Before anyone gets too upset over the tales of woe the Labor Bosses tell of union enslavement under the Taft-Hartley Act let's take a look at some figures as reported in the U.S. News & World Report of Oct. 19, 1956.

A comparison of net worth in the treasuries of national and local unions ten years ago and now shows:

<u>Union</u>	<u>10 years ago</u>	<u>Now</u>
Ladies' Garment Workers	\$38,086,540	\$68,435,676
Electrical Workers	\$ 7,845,301	\$52,253,427
Auto Workers	\$ 715,375	\$39,405,361
Teamsters	\$17,369,520	\$36,008,446
Steelworkers	\$ 4,834,964	\$21,359,502

SOME SLAVERY

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RIGHT TO WORK GAINS IN DELAWARE— At recent annual business meetings the Kent County and State Farm Bureaus passed resolutions favoring the enactment of a right to work law in Delaware.

Included in the Kent County resolution was the statement—"we continue to oppose monopolistic labor laws and illegal labor practices such as collecting unemployment compensation under false pretenses." The State group also urged that individuals harmed by unfair labor practices have the right to seek injunction and collect damages.

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK COMMITTEE PLEDGE OF SUPPORT

TO: NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK COMMITTEE
ROOM 125-B, CAPRITZ BUILDING
1625 EYE STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

I believe with your committee that "Americans Must Have the Right, But Not Be Compelled to Join Labor Unions." I am interested in the national education campaign being carried on in support of this principle.

CHECK ONE:

_____ I enclose \$ _____ in support of the committee's work, and would like to be listed as a member and placed on the mailing list to receive educational material regularly. (Make checks payable to National Right to Work Committee.)

_____ Please send me additional information on the Committee and its objectives.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND STATE _____