

SCHWABE
COIT

June 5, 1946

Mr. C. T. Hardeman
P. O. Box 184
McAlester, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Hardeman:

I have your letter of May 16th, relative to the strike situation, and I certainly agree with you that something should be done. The trouble is that the labor bosses and labor union racketeers have been pampered, humored and spoiled to death during the last 13 years. Mr. Truman, in his speech over the radio last Friday evening, said that he had known of the seriousness of this situation since February; but he apparently was content to pursue a policy of appeasement with the labor bosses all this time.

My honest judgment is that the interests of the public demand more action than they are going to get from this Administration. I am also convinced that not only is the public going to suffer, but the rank and file of labor will suffer tremendously as a result of the weak and vacillating position of the New Deal Administration.

I think the public is entitled to first consideration, for it is in the vast majority; and that the rank and file of labor is entitled to second consideration. But I feel that the situation will remain bad and probably become worse, before the Administration is fully aroused to its responsibility and does that which is necessary to bring us out of this tail spin.

While I am sure you understand there is not much that a Member of the Minority Group in the House of Representatives can do, you may rest assured that I shall give my active influence and support to all measures which look toward a solution of this very serious situation.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.

GBS/msp

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MOALESTER, OKLA.

May 16,
1946.

Hon. George Schwabe,
House Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

I know you have many troublesome problems to solve that are coming up before you, and I am simply writing to give you some of my opinions.

The first and most urgent problem you have is to curb some of the powers of the labor leaders. From all reports, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Murray, Mr. Hillman and Mr. Reuthers have decided to take over the United States, and run it according to their communistic, inspired dictates without regard for the public welfare or for the United States Constitution. They have been permitted to assume powers which were not intended, and President Truman is not able to cope with the situation. It becomes the duty of Congress to immediately pass legislation which will prevent such unscrupulous labor leaders from wrecking the industrial economy of the nation. This must be done at once.

While a man has a right to quit his job, the Constitution of the United States does not grant this man the power to keep anyone else from working at the job from which he has quit. If a plant cannot hire anyone to work at their business, it simply means that the labor leaders can confiscate any property in the United States, as the property is worthless unless the company is permitted to hire someone to work for them. The strikers have gained full power to stop all work in any industry in the United States they want to, but they assume no responsibility. This is not right.

We have just won a war which insured our military freedom, but we are losing a war that shackles the people of the United States just the same as if they had a military dictator. It is the duty of Congress to stop this without any further delay. It can be done with proper legislation. The old feudal lords of Europe and the Middle Ages levied a tribute on the labor and on all of the products of every man, woman and child in their sphere. The same thing is being done today in the United States, but in a slightly different manner. These strikes must be stopped, and they can be stopped by proper legislation, which makes the striker give up all of his rights and seniority when they strike without due process, and against the public.

As a matter of dollars and cents, the strikes we have had so far have cost the nation a billion dollars in income tax, and have cost the workers and the industrial plants billions of dollars, and nothing will be gained for the strikers, for it simply raises the price of every commodity that they eat, wear

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Hon. George Schwabe,
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and use. The strikes have started a cycle of inflation that will be difficult to stop. As an example, I am connected indirectly with farming, and know that on account of coal strikes, steel strikes and machinery strikes, the farmers will be unable to get farm machinery for sometime. This lessens production, and increases the cost of food to every striker in the United States. This will apply in every other line of business, insecticides, fertilizer, and anything else you might mention.

Another thing I want to mention is that we cannot make a just deal with Stalin; a man who executed thousands of his comrades in his military purge, and let millions of his own fellow countrymen die of starvation when he took the food away from them when he was working his Five-Year-Plans. Stalin makes no secret of what he wants, and will ruthlessly take everything that we will give him. We must put our industrial economy in good shape in order that we can be strong enough to take care of ourselves in the future.

I think we should make the loan to Britain, but should get definite understandings and concessions from them in return. The draft law should be changed so that the eighteen to twenty-five year olds would be drafted. The many farmer cooperatives that are doing a big business over the country under the guise of the cooperative, should pay their proportion of the country's taxes. This should be corrected without delay. The FEPC Act should never be passed. The Minimum Wage Law should not be over 50¢ per hour.

If the United States is to continue to take and keep their place in the world, we cannot afford to let it be run by the Communistic CIO-PAC leaders. In the early days of the American Republic, if some of the acts were committed then that are committed now by the present labor leaders, they would have been tried and shot for treason. I know it is a big job, but I hope that you as a member of Congress will help the people of the United States to retain their security. Congress is our last hope, and we must do something without any further delay on these many important matters.

With best personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,



C. T. Hardeman,
PO Box 184,
McAlester, Oklahoma.