

SCHWABE COLL

Labor

May 29, 1946

Mrs. W. R. Oberholtzer
1247 South Atlanta Place
Tulsa 4, Oklahoma

My dear Mrs. Oberholtzer:

I have your letter of the 24th instant, which is unusually clear, cogent and convincing. I think your premises and conclusions are unanswerable.

The trouble is that, for the past thirteen years, the National Administration has petted, humored and spoiled American labor, until it expects more than it is entitled to receive. This has come about because of the union bosses and racketeers at the head of our labor organizations who, apparently, were in large measure responsible for the election of the New Dealers. John L. Lewis, as we all know, contributed more in money and votes than any other man, to one of Mr. Roosevelt's elections. Then Mr. Roosevelt, the last time, asked that everything be cleared through Sidney Hillman.

The situation is unspeakably bad. It is a case of where a small minority, headed by those who do not seem to cherish American concepts of government, is apparently absolutely disregarding of the general public, which is numerically much greater than those who belong to the unions.

Mr. Truman has pursued a policy of appeasement of these labor racketeers, to the extent that our country is in worse condition than perhaps it has ever been before. As President Truman said last Saturday to the joint assembly of the two Houses of Congress, our government and its institutions are threatened. He spoke well then; but many of us wonder if he was altogether sincere. I say this for the reason that I am thoroughly convinced, from what I saw and heard at the time, that his appearance was staged. I am convinced that he knew approximately four hours before he made his speech, that the railroad strike had been settled. He attempted dramatically to appear surprised that it was settled during the time he was speaking when someone handed him a note stating that the strike had been called off. However, it was quite obvious that the back stage hands missed their cue, for he had to delay his speech and wait for them to hand him the

slip of paper and then he read it and immediately went into another subject of his speech advocating the extension and continuation of OPA. It was crude beyond words.

Furthermore, at the time the little pink slip was handed the President announcing the cessation of the strike, one Cabinet member winked at another. These are all matters of record, and I hope the people will not be fooled much longer. They certainly would not be if they could have seen what we Members of Congress saw last Saturday afternoon.

But that is not the most shameful part of it. The House, some two months ago, passed the Case Bill. The Senate did not act upon it until Saturday afternoon after the House had passed the emergency legislation requested by the President. I do not think the President needed the emergency legislation. I think there were sufficient laws on the statute books, if he had sincerely wanted to enforce them, to enable him to get the country out of this mess. But he said he wanted it, and the House lost no time giving him what he asked for so he might have no further excuses to offer. But yesterday the Senate had not yet passed upon the present emergency legislation, and may not do so for several days. Furthermore, the Administration yesterday refused to let the House consider the Case Bill as amended Saturday night by the Senate. The Chairman of the Rules Committee purposely absented himself and refused to call a meeting of the Rules Committee, although a majority of the Committee was ready to act and was in session for that purpose. The Majority Leader and the Speaker demonstrated their intentions to carry out the instructions of the Administration and not let these bills be passed as the House wanted to pass them. That would make anyone question the sincerity of the Administration.

I could go on indefinitely, but suffice to say that I am staying here on the job fighting the situation night and day, shoulder to shoulder with those who want to get rid of this unholy alliance of the New Deal crowd with the labor bosses and racketeers. We feel that we owe this service to the public, the greatest party in interest, and to organized labor itself, which is being sold down the river by its leaders and the Administration.

Again thanking you for writing me, and with all good wishes, I

am

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.

1247 S. Atlanta Place
Tulsa, 4, Oklahoma
May 24, 1946

George B. Schwabe
Congressman, 1st District -Oklahoma
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe:

Instead of Congress sitting idly by and permitting labor to get by with murder, I think it is high time that legislation was passed to give management a chance. Labor is destroying American industry and making the greater percentage of people in the United States suffer.

Why should management provide welfare funds for their union employes? In my opinion, it is the responsibility of the individual to provide for their old age and emergencies, certainly not management or anyone else. It only tends to tear down the initiative in people to get things easily. Also, Mr. Schwabe, the only people who have money to purchase luxury items are those who are working on an hourly basis yet you hear reports over the radio stating that the people in the United States have spent large sums of money for luxury items including \$6,000 fur coats. We have not spent money like that since the war started (or before) and thank heavens I have intelligence enough to do without material things.

Labor laws should be passed enabling management to throw out the Unions and start their own Company unions. It is a proven fact that this type union is much more successful and there is more harmony within the organization. A good example of that has been the Falk Corporation of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Today, management cannot suggest that a company union be formed.

I am one of the people who did feel sorry for the laborer but when I went to Milwaukee and Chicago to live I was connected with three large corporations there and a portion of my work was in Labor Relations. I certainly had an education - for now I have no regard for the wishy-washy class of people who will permit racketeers lead them. Labor has become so radical that only radical legislation can solve this situation and the time to do something is now.

Also, Mr. Schwabe, I feel that instead of spending so much time and money to help the people of Europe and Asia we should clean up conditions in our own country. We are still having a bread strike here and no meat for over a week. There are plenty

of under-privileged children in the United States that need help badly and charity at home comes first.

Perhaps I have been reared badly - for I cannot see that anyone owes me a living - it is up to me to manage my affairs so that I will not suffer financially.

I sincerely hope that you men in Congress will not let this situation continue for if you do you are hurting every person in the United States and frankly, I do not think the Union employe is being helped by having things come easily to him.

Sincerely,

Mrs. W. A. Oberholtzer

Mrs. W. A. Oberholtzer