

SCHWABE COLL

*Labor + Strikes*

January 30, 1946

Mr. W. B. Blair, Attorney  
515 Thompson Building  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Bill:

I have your letter of the 25th instant with reference to the political situation, and the strike and labor difficulties. I have read all you said with much interest, and I do appreciate more than you know having the benefit of your thinking.

I have been working hard on the labor problem; and frankly, it is one of the most difficult of solution that has ever confronted the American people.

Again thanking you for your interest, and trusting that you will keep me posted, I beg to remain

Your friend,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

GS:LW



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ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR  
515 THOMPSON BUILDING  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Jany 25th, 1946.

Hon. Geo. B. Schwabe,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear George: I guess you will have seen this morning's World by the time this letter reaches you. Disney has announced that he would not run for Congress. I believe this will give you a clear field. I believe that Disney is the only Democrat who would be a dangerous opponent to you. I have not heard any talk as to who will run, but I look for Bushyhead, Holliman and perhaps Joe Chambers to come out. As it looks now, I believe you could beat any of them. I had a talk with Kimkaid the other day and I believe he is fixing to run again. He thinks that he could not beat you in a two field race in the primary but thinks that if there is a large field in the primary he could place with you in the runoff. I had hoped that you could get the nomination without a runoff, but I am afraid that so many will come out that you may be forced to make a runoff campaign.

I have been running through my mind a labor program which might be effective, if the courts would let it stand. Why can't the labor laws be amended to make a setup like the railroads have. When a strike is threatened, the president could be given authority to set up an arbitration board selected in such a way that such board would be fair to both sides. Then the president should be given authority to make an order suspending the strike until the arbitration board has acted. This board should have authority to take testimony, subpoenae witnesses and records. Either side should be given the right to appeal to the courts within a given time, say thirty days. This might be one of the United States District Courts. This appeal should be both on legal questions and questions of fact. When a judgment of the court is rendered, it should be binding on both sides and should either side fail to abide by the judgment of the court, they should be liable in damages. I doubt if this judgment could be made binding on the individual members of the union, but it could be made binding upon the union as an organization and upon industry. I think the act should contain a provision that if the judgment of the court affirm the award of the arbitration Board, then their judgment as to wages should be retroactive to the date of the award. The union should be made liable in damages should they violate their contracts with industry, likewise industry should be made liable to the union should they violate their contracts.

I doubt if such a program could be enacted by Congress, as I suspect that both the unions and industry would be against it. The introduction of such a bill in Congress might crystalize public opinion to such an extent that some sort of a program

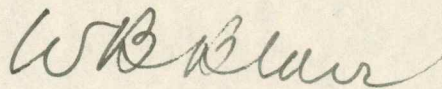


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could be put over. Let me know what you think of it.

I will keep my ears to the ground here and when I hear any political neww which I think might be of importance to you, I will let you have it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W B Blair".

W. B. Blair.