

Legis - Labor

SCHWABE COLL

October 8, 1945

Mr. Ralph Dunkle
1606 East 17th Place
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma

Dear Ralph:

I am happy to have your letter of the 4th instant and your clear-cut expressions and reasoning with reference to the conditions which are critical in this country at this time.

I am one of those who think that when approximately a half million people are on strike, that our President should think less about acting as best man at the wedding of one of his appointees, attending a little country fair at Carruthers, Missouri, making a New Deal speech or two in Kentucky, going fishing down there, and otherwise gallivanting around the country. If Labor's cause is just, these strikes should be averted and their relief granted in an orderly fashion; if Labor's position is not tenable, then it should be curbed in its activities.

In other words, when the people are so distressed, and such disturbed conditions prevail, it does seem to me that our President should be on the job instead of leaving this matter to the politicians and racketeers.

Again thanking you for your letter and expression of your views, for it is from such that I am placed in a better position to know how properly to represent my constituents, especially those who think for themselves, I am

Your friend,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

1606 East 17th Place
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma
October 4, 1945

Mr. George B. Schwabe
Washington, D.C.


My Dear George:

Your letter of September 18th., was the first I have ever received from the representative of our District, that was so friendly and informative. Thank you, very much.

George: I have, for the most part, been friendly to the Union movement. I have felt over the years, it was capable of bringing to its members much that otherwise they would not be able to get as individuals. Since the Wagner Act went into effect, I can see an entirely different goal they have set for the organizations. They have not only openly played in the field of politics, but now try to coerce those who represent us, by attempting to force legislation that is not wholesome for all the workers, nor all of the citizenry.

But beyond all this, as organizations, they have no, or practically no restrictions. As now constituted, they are creatures without responsibility. They can destroy property of others. They can, without fear, break a solemn contract, for the other party to the contract has absolutely no redress, no relief at law or otherwise. If he attempts to fight back, the union destroys his property and his business. Witness the recent declaration of a union wherein it serves notice on the firm and the public that if its terms are not complied with, it WILL PLACE THE COMPANY AT THE MERCY OF ITS COM* PETITORS. Isn't it time, George, to try to call a halt? There has been a rumor, George, that The Texas Company has advised its employees over at the Refinery, that if they broke their contract and walked out, the company would dismantle the plant and move it away. Tulsa can't afford to lose a single payroll. I sincerely trust that you may find a way to force the unions to recognize the terms of a contract, and give the employer some kind of a break. This situation poses a greater threat to our economy than any other thing at this time. Kindest regards.

Sincerely


Ralph Dunkle