

'You Vote As I Say . . . Or Else!'

No doubt you have read or heard about the letter that James B. Carey, president of the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine workers union, wrote to all Congressmen who voted in favor of the Landrum-Griffin labor bill that passed the House by an overwhelming majority, and later the Senate.

We are publishing this letter, together with the letter which our own Congressman, William S. Broomfield, addressed to some of his constituents on the subject. Carey's letter reveals the dictatorial attitude he long has assumed, along with many other labor leaders . . . an attitude that openly says: "Mr. Congressman, if you want to keep your job you'd better vote as I tell you . . . or else!"

BROOMFIELD'S REPLY, too, is worth reading. This labor attitude goes to the very roots of freedom . . . it ceases to be merely argumentative, persuasive, as reason would suggest should be the correct attitude. It openly discloses the iron fist, clutching a threatening whip. Even millions of honest and sincere, liberty-loving union members themselves will oppose the implications of Carey's threat. Here are the two letters:

Dear Congressman:

Only you know, in the privacy of your own conscience, whether you carefully considered the possible consequences of the Landrum-Griffin bill when you voted for it on August 13, 1939. If you did, and realized that it is a punitive, repressive measure intended to weaken all labor unions and thereby all working men and women, you have much to answer for. If you did not, and merely yielded to the pressures of the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, your guilt is perhaps even greater.

YOU SHOULD REALIZE now, if you did not during the heat of battle, that this vindictive assault on the labor movement will, in the long run, prove to your constituents that you are less interested in individual rights and democracy than in property rights and the concentration of power in the hands of big business.

You may believe that you are safe in such action because organized labor is relatively weak in your District, and cannot call you to account for the damage you have sought to do to it. You may be right—at the moment.

We wish to assure you, however, that we shall do all in our power to prove to the working men and women in your District that you have cast your lot against them and they should therefore take appropriate action at the ballot box.

Very truly yours,
James B. Carey
President.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Friend:

To give you an idea of what happens when a Congressman has the courage to vote his convictions on a matter affecting organized labor, I am enclosing a copy of

a letter I received the other day from Mr. James B. Carey, President of the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.

As your Congressman, I was elected to represent all the people in my District—not a select few.

There have been many charges made about the Landrum-Griffin Bill, and a great many of them are completely false. It has been charged that this bill would harm legitimate labor union if it were enacted into law, that it is "punitive" legislation designed to "get" labor unions. I have asked the many labor lobbyists who came into my office time after time what they mean by "punitive" legislation. Just how would this bill punish those unions pursuing their legitimate objectives through non-violent means? None could answer.

THE LANDRUM-GRIFFIN Bill contains iron-clad guarantees that the rights of individual union members will not be usurped by union officials, that acts and threats of violence against union members by union officials will not be used without danger of criminal prosecution, that union meetings will be free and open to all members. This is no denial of individual rights and democracy.

There were cases where individual union members were forced to write letters against the Landrum-Griffin Bill, and then hand their letters over to union stewards unsealed for them to mail. These union members in turn wrote their Congressmen and told them to disregard their first letters—that they were forced to write them. If this is union democracy and individual rights in action, then we need even stronger measures than the Landrum-Griffin Bill to protect these union members.

The general public needs protection as well from the irresponsible actions, the extortion, the blackmail picketing, the burnings, the shootings, the rock-throwing, the injuries to non-strikers, the muscle-tactics, the paper locals and the threats of reprisal by some of our union officials who wield tremendous power over our National economy.

WHICH IS BIGGER—the Federal government or corrupt labor leaders? This is the question. Since the American people are our government, there is no doubt in my mind as to the right stand on this issue.

Threats of reprisal by Mr. Carey aren't going to scare Congressmen away from voting their convictions. If protecting the rights of the workingman from unscrupulous gangsters is wrong, then I plead guilty.

If defending the rights of third parties to carry on business as they see fit is wrong, then I am guilty. If chasing convicted crooks, criminals, gangsters, and extortionists out of high places in organized labor is wrong, then I enter a plea of guilty on that count also.

No honest union need fear the Landrum-Griffin Bill. No honest union official need fear it, either.

Sincerely,
William S. Broomfield, M.C.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich. in the Eccentric Building, 230-234 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

David Levinson, one of Birmingham's four representatives to the Oakland county board of supervisors, is in his 26th year on that group.

A former chairman of the board, he now is chairman of its powerful ways and means committee.

LEVINSON IS QUICK to deny that his committee chairmanship or term of service on the board is prejudicing him in this statement:

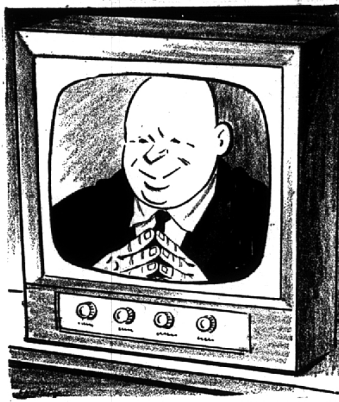
"Frankly, if there is a more forward-looking county in Michigan—or the whole United States—than Oakland, then I don't know about it!"

The Birmingham supervisor is equally quick to acknowledge that Oakland's form of government—like the other 82 counties—is archaic . . . and needs considerable state legislative modernization.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSIONER Lance C. Minor also praises Oakland's record.

"In my 29 years of working with ALL of Michigan's counties in my business, Oakland is the only Michigan county I've found that never has had any scandal about any county official or employee monkeying with the people's money," the commissioner said.

What's His Line?



NATURE NOW by Lydia King Frehe
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Fall Marks Finish Of Peach Harvest

Mid-September sees the end of another peach harvest. Agricultural experts estimate this year's quality crop at some 3,000,000 bushels. We have just made a short trip through the Traverse Bay area where the last of the crop is being harvested.

The cultivation of the peach has expanded in suitable areas of the United States until horticulturists can count some 1,000 varieties of this versatile and delicious fruit. Beginning about Aug. 1, with the brilliant Recharven, the peach parade continues with such well-known varieties as the Fairhaven, Halahaven and Sunhaven. It reaches its climax with the Elberta, our best and most widely grown all-around variety. Peach experts predict the future development of new varieties which will speed the harvest from late July to mid-October.

WHETHER THE peach is a free-stone or a cling frequently determines the manner in which it is used. The fruit's many uses are well known to every reader. However, one might add that the aromatic and bitter seeds contain a kernel from which both fixed and volatile oils are extracted for commercial use.

Peaches prefer the light and well drained soils of our temperate zone. Michigan ranks third in the United States in their production. Growers now predict that within the next few years the introduction of improved strains and growing techniques will boost this year's 3,000,000 bushel crop to a future 5,000,000 bushels. At the average price of \$2 per bushel this year's crop will net the Michigan grow-

ers some \$6,000,000.

IRRIGATION is becoming an increased production factor especially in the Faw Falls and lower St. Joseph river valleys where the state's heaviest crop is harvested. Romeo, Mich., has long been famed for growing this popular fruit.

The introduction of the hydro-cooler is bringing fresher and longer keeping peaches to our markets. This tunnel-like machine immediately reduces the after-picking temperature of the fruit by spraying it with ice water. This technique has also proven highly successful with other perishable fruits and vegetables.

THE PEACH (*Prunus persica*) belongs to the family Rosaceae, which includes many ornamental and useful fruits. However, none of its distinguishing characteristics has originated within the period of recorded history.

Originally it was found in China where wild species still grow. It spread to Greece and Rome where it is mentioned in the writings of Theophrastus as early as 322 B.C. The Roman philosopher Pliny describes six varieties currently used in Italy during the Christian era. Persia was another early home of the peach and from this country come the species name *persica*.

Peaches were introduced into America from Mexico by early Spanish conquerors. From here the tree entered the southern United States to spread over its more temperate regions.

So highly is the peach esteemed for its beauty and sweetness that its name has become synonymous with many things desirable. "She is a peach." "It was a peach of a day." "As sweet as a peach."

Mrs. Frehe

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO

Sept. 17, 1909

"The annual ginseng harvest is again approaching. Beginning the first week in September the ripest are gathered."

The Village Board has recently placed seats at the corner of Woodward avenue and Brown street. They are a great convenience to persons living on streets west of these corners and coming there to take cars."

30 YEARS AGO

Sept. 19, 1929

The Grand Trunk railway announced that the company would spend \$100,000,000 on the construction of an overhead speedway and the electrification of its rapid transit lines between Detroit and Pontiac.

Oakland county this season has paved 41 miles of concrete roads according to the chairman of the road commission.

15 YEARS AGO

Sept. 21, 1944

Birmingham's schools got underway for the 1944-45 school year after a week's delay caused by the general epidemic of polio which has been sweeping the country.

Some of these car drivers just don't like to slow down while driv-

ing through town. They seem to get their speed set at 50 or better and want to hold it there. Occasionally they get caught too.

STRICTLY FRESH

Self-righteousness is pretty close to selfishness.

The significance of much contemporary art is that so many people can be fooled by so few.

A narrow-minded person simply does not appreciate your single-purposedness of mind.

There's a challenge waiting for acceptance by some inventor who

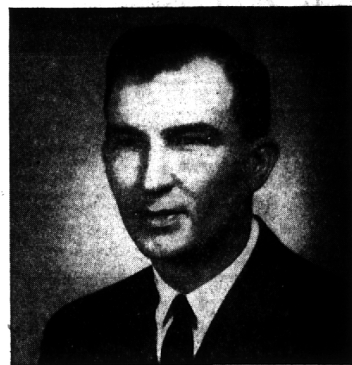


can find a use for gum parked under theater seats.

It's easy to bear up bravely when the fellow across the desk is the one who has the tooth yanked.

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You know ROBERT MEYERS as one of the most pleasant fellows in town . . . and Fanny Farmer candy is certainly one of the most pleasant treats you can find anywhere. So now, when you want the candy that's out-of-the-ordinary—

the candy that's made from the choicest, purest foods, the freshest ever boxed—see your friend, ROBERT MEYERS

You'll find it's handier than ever to stop while you shop to pick up the family's favorite candy.

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