

Send attached telegram paid Rx TWSstar an<sup>o</sup> charge to

Star Telegram to:

Hon. Alben Barkley

U. S. Senate

Hon. Tom Connally

U. S. Senate

Hon Sam Rayburn

Speaker of the House

Washington, D. C.

THE EDITOR  
OFFICE OF

FORT WORTH TEXAS

COMPLETE ASSOCIATED PRESS SERVICE

MORNING

EVENING

SUNDAY

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Under separate cover I am sending you copy of an editorial which has appeared in The Star-Telegram. I believe this editorial expresses, without exaggeration, the attitude of the American people toward stoppages, from any cause, in our production for war. If we can not achieve unity of purpose to victory on the home front, how can we expect our soldiers to sacrifice their lives for victory on the battle front? Anything which delays, restricts in quantity, or in any way hampers the flow of machines and materials to our forces in battle, means that the war must last longer, that more American soldiers must be killed and wounded before we win, if it does not actually lessen the certainty of ultimate victory. When delays are deliberately engineered or concerted, it is treason, and nothing else.

Recurrence of strikes in defense industries at scattered points, reported new demands of automobile workers with threat of a general strike, other actual and threatened labor disturbances, show that we cannot rely upon loyalty agreements among rival unions or upon contracts as between employer and employe. National labor leaders apparently have lost control of their unions and their non-strike agreements have become ineffective. I think it is imperative at this time that the Congress enact legislation forbidding any strike for any reason whatsoever in defense industry for the duration of the war. Adequate machinery has been set up for settlement of disputes and both labor and management should be forced by law to continue uninterrupted production while this procedure is under way.

I have been sympathetic toward and have supported, personally and through our editorial columns, the labor objectives of the President, namely a larger share ~~of~~ for labor of

the profits of industry, collective bargaining, wage and hour control etc. But I think *Every* right carries with it an obligation, and that a situation has arisen wherein labor has gained immensely without corresponding responsibility. Legislation of a permanent type guaranteeing the validity of labor contracts, making labor as well as management liable for unwarranted breach of contract, and providing for publication of financial statements etc must ~~be~~ *Come* in time. But if the Congress deems such unwise or impractical at this time, the Connally bill or similar legislation prohibiting strikes in defense industries for the duration of the war would meet the situation with which ~~the~~ *X* the country is faced.

The nation is calling those of military age into the armed forces. These have no choice as to whether they will go, where they will go, when they will go, under what conditions they *will* serve, and how long they will serve—all at the risk of their lives. If the nation can demand this of one class of Americans, it would be demanding exceedingly little of others if it should say to ~~others~~ *Those* out of the service: You must stay on the job and produce in order that our men at the front may have the tools to fight with. The men in the armed services do not have a forty-hour week with time and a half or double time for overtime and Sundays and they are risking their lives for twenty-one to thirty dollars a month, in contrast with the highest wages and shortest hours known for labor at home.

If there are Americans who do not realize there is a war going on, that their country is in danger and that their fellows are dying by enemy bullets, no means ought to be neglected for making them aware of it. Those of us who have sons in the army or navy cannot remain silent under continuation of a condition which lessens the chance that they will come back to us. Congress may rest assured of well-nigh universal support of positive

legislation which will brand wartime slacking with the criminal and treasonable stamp it deserves and provide the severest punishment. Do we need a few bombs dropped on defense plants to make some of the workers feel their responsibility to the forces at the front?

There is a small minority of disloyal Americans who think of this war merely as an opportunity for selfish gain, people who are willing to sacrifice the lives of our own soldiers for their own selfish gain. This is a perfect opportunity for finding out who those persons are and putting them where they can do least harm. Responsible labor and labor leaders are not found among the traitors who sabotage by delay. Loyal union workers are not among those who walk out or slow down in defense plants because of trivial grievances. Sabotage by delay is as reprehensible as any other kind, and those guilty of it should receive no consideration but exactly the same treatment which would be meted out to a Jap or a Nazi spy caught blowing up a defense plant.

This war is rapidly being brought home to every citizen. There will be hardly a family without some male relative in the armed forces, many of whom will not return to their loved ones. The thought of what they are giving, and giving gladly, as contrasted with the spectacle of well-paid workers striking because of dues collection and other trivial grievances, makes loyal blood boil. I do not believe the public will long stand for it. I believe if the Congress ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ fails to act, the Congress will be blamed, and if administration influence is not exerted for such action, in time the administration will suffer. In wartime civilian morale is second in importance only to that of the armed forces and civilian morale can not be maintained or enhanced when the people know that our men are suffering for ships, tanks, planes, guns etc

#4

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM  
MORNING  
EVENING  
SUNDAY

because of man hours lost due to some minor or trivial  
grievance of labor at home.

Our nation is now confronted with the greatest crisis  
since Valley Forge and it is no time to hesitate in our  
duty.

Amon Carter

Publisher

Fort Worth, Star-Telegram