

Ferdie J. Deering

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## Public Wins a Few Against Unions

**T**HE public has not won many disagreements with labor unions, but recently citizens have scored a few points.

Congress voted down the common situs picketing bill which would have allowed unions to force total shutdown of a construction job if employers were at odds with one union.

A federal judge ruled unconstitutional a New York law allowing strikers to collect unemployment benefits. They still may be eligible for welfare benefits, food stamps and medical assistance.

The U.S. Supreme Court held that it is unconstitutional for a state to force public employees to contribute to union political activities the employees oppose.

A nationwide opinion survey by the Roper Organization in February showed 77 per cent of those interviewed opposed the union position on the common situs picketing bill. Labor influence in Congress made the vote there much closer.

A Gallup Poll in May showed 63 per cent of the public against compelling people who work for a un-

ionized employer to join a union after they had been hired.

Compulsory unionism takes on added significance as union bosses plead for a federal law requiring — not just permitting — collective bargaining by state and local governments.

Noting that the American Federation of Government Employees is carefully laying plans to unionize U.S. military services, Sen. John Tower, R-Tex., asked: "In this time of international tension, could America entrust its safety to armed forces directed more by union bosses than by generals?"

In England, observers claim that, with the Labor party in power, unions hold more authority than Parliament. Because Congress has enacted laws extending special privileges to labor unions, American businessmen may sometimes feel the same way.

Under these laws, unions have been able to impose restrictive work rules, require more manpower than is needed and resist installation of newer and more efficient equipment.

An agreement between the Teamsters union and Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers union to divide control over agricultural workers shows how unions can practice collusion that is forbidden to business by antitrust laws.

Teachers' organizations are not called unions, but they operate in much the same manner. Teacher union officials have power to determine who teaches in public schools, and the time may be near when they are able to determine what may be taught.

Even religion is not exempt from the drive of union bosses to impose their control over workers around the world.

The Belgian magazine, "To the Point International," reports that Protestant and Roman Catholic churches in West Germany are facing pressure to accept trade union membership for their lay employees, numbering about 400,000.

The will of the majority might not always prevail against the will of an organized minority with special privileges!

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6/10/77

Mr Ferdie Peering  
Daily Okla homan

Dear friend.

Thank you for your  
informative article 6/9/77

"Public Wins a Few Against Unions."  
It's good to know we're winning  
just a little against such a  
precious monster. Grant it  
was good in the beginning  
but it has far over imposed  
its power upon private  
enterprise -  
I cannot understand why  
the people cannot see it  
is an undemocratic movement.  
Thank you for your good  
editorials. Sincerely,  
Marion James.