Let All Keep Faith!

A Document for every thinking citizen of the United States.

"To The Commercial Appeal:

"My only son was born while I was in France during the first World War. Today he is a member of the United States Marine Corps. He sailed from California the first of January, and we have heard nothing from him since. We know he is somewhere in the Pacific. We are anxious about him. Thousands of other parents are like us.

"The President says we do not have enough ships to send supplies to our troops, and that we must build ships in a hurry. Even as he spoke several hundred shipbuilders refused to work on Washington's Birthday because they were not paid double time.

"How can fathers and mothers of boys who are in the danger zone and who are being called upon to sacrifice their lives feel any 'surge' of unity when the President and the Congress permit a bunch of shipbuilders and munitions workers to quit when they get good and ready?

"Do our boys at the front get 'overtime' and 'double time' in the fox holes of the Philippines? Do our sons who are giving their lives to protect the jobs of these and others like them quit on holidays? Like hell they do!

"One of my friends, who is a good mechanic, with a family to support, went to get a job in a munitions plant. Every day we hear on the radio and read in the newspapers that such men are needed to turn out munitions for our soldiers, sailors and marines. But this man was refused a job until he could get a union card. He could not get a union card because he did not have enough money to buy one.

"Is it the idea of our Government that it is more important to preserve labor unions than it is to preserve the American Union? Why can't a freeborn American citizen get a job in a plant where the Government needs workers without having to pay tribute to a high-powered labor leader?

"If our sons are to be drafted to give their lives for their country, why should not Labor and Capital be drafted to supply them with munitions of war? Why should Congress, which has the power to make laws, be so tender of the regard for laborers and management who work and prosper in safety while having an utter disregard for the lives of the boys at the front?

"We don't like it, and we don't mind saying so right out loud. Maybe it is time we were electing some senators and congressmen who will crack down and compel Capital and Labor to get into this war. And come to think of it, this is election year, and we might as well get busy while we have the time and opportunity.

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