

Frank Titus to Governor Henry Allen

Frank Titus writes to Kansas Governor Henry Allen in response to the proposed Industrial Court legislation. The proposed statute would prevent future strikes by having a tribunal settle disputes between employers and employees and would render a decision between the two parties. Titus offers other suggestions that he believes would benefit not only the businesses and their employees but the welfare of Kansas residents.

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Frank Titus to Governor Henry Allen

OFFICE OF

FRANK TITUS.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

December 8, 1919.

Governor Allen.

Dear Sir:

I have read with pleasure the proposal by you of enacting a statute in Kansas aimed at the prevention of future strikes so-called such as now exist (which in fact are really rebellions against the social order) by a tribunal before which all disputes between employers and employees shall come for adjudication and venture the following suggestions:

This tribunal to be known as

Such a statute should absolutely forbid and foreclose any abandonment of employment by employees workmen or laborers by any acts or form of proceeding now commonly called a "strike", during the term of contract or agreement to serve of such person or persons employees, under penalty of forfeiture of all rights of pay from such employer or re-employment by him or them as may be determined by judgment of this Court after due hearing.

All complaints by employees against their employers shall be set forth in writing clearly specifying the facts constituting complaint, signed by such complaining employees and such writing served upon the employer; a copy of such document to be filed with the Court or its Clerk within three days thereafter. The employer within three days after such service to file with the Court or its Clerk the answer of such employer corporate or otherwise, to the complaint and the matter set for hearing upon such complaint and answer within ten days after the period of answering complaint. Rules of procedure shall be made and adopted by the Court and printed for public information.

All final judgments or decrees to be appealable to the Supreme Court by either complainants or defendants without bond other than for court costs. Appeals to be taken within five days following final judgment, but such appeal shall not suspend the enforcing or execution of any judgment. Opinions of the Supreme Court upon such appeals not to be published as now required in ordinary Supreme Court cases. Motions for new trial or re-hearing not to be required except by order of the Court.

Such tribunal should also take cognizance of complaints, if any made by employers against employees. The Court to have the power to fix and assess all penalties either of fine or imprisonment or both as justice may require against parties found guilty of violation of statute or common law as well as of contracts of employment either express or implied as against each other.

All judgments of this Court or tribunal to be enforceable by it and likewise by any District Court of this State and of the

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Supreme Court of this State, to the end that all questions and issues as aforesaid shall be speedily adjudicated and determined. The term "strike" should be defined in such law in as many ways and forms as its Protean character or human perversity can possibly assume to avoid successful attack by the technicians and word-wrestlers acting as the vanguard of planned Anarchy.

The welfare of the people of this State shall be the paramount aim of the tribunal hereby created. The judges or commissioners of this Court shall be three in number and appointed and commissioned by the Governor of this State for a term of _____ and until further legislative enactment in this regard.

Very respectfully,

Frank Titus

FT/EM.