

BULLETIN



OF THE

AMERICAN LIBERTY LEAGUE

NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOL. 1

SEPTEMBER, 1935

No.2

MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

Letters that have come from members of the League in every state of the union indicate appreciation of the first issue of the Bulletin published a month ago. It is the hope of our national headquarters that this number may be equally worthy of your generous interest.

We are gratified to report steady progress in membership and influence. Each of you can do a part of real value by assisting in your individual community in securing as many members as possible and in uniting those members into a local unit or chapter. The larger and the more widespread the membership of the League, the greater becomes its opportunity for useful public service.

We deeply appreciate what you have done and anticipate a continuance of your enthusiastic and valuable work.

JOUETT SHOUSE President

LAWYERS COMMITTEE HOLDS LABOR RELATIONS ACT INVALID

The first report of the League's National Lawyers Committee was released on September 19. It was a declaration that this Committee of 58 of the most prominent members of the American Bar holds the National Labor Relations Act to be unconstitutional because that Act interferes with the individual freedom of employees, as guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment and because it represents an attempted invasion by the Federal government of a field of legislation not delegated to it by the Constitution.

Announcement of the report at a press conference by R. E. Desvernine, Chairman of the National Lawyers Committee; Earl F. Reed, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Industrial Relations and Labor Legislation; and President Shouse attracted nation-wide attention.

EXCERPTS FROM THE REPORT:

"The Act expressly declares that representatives selected by a <u>majority</u> of employees in a particular bargaining unit shall be the exclusive representatives of <u>all</u> the employees in that unit, to bargain with the employer on matters involving wages, hours of work and other conditions of employment...... It is our belief that this provision of the statute constitutes an illegal interference with the individual freedom of employees, as guaranteed to them by the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides in substance that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. The freedom sanctioned by the Constitution includes the right of each man to follow any occupation and to sell his own labor on his own terms......

"The Federal government is one of defined and limited powers, without jurisdiction to intervene in matters of internal policy. It is not a complete sovereign-