

# Eisenhower Said Taking Advice From Some Held Hostile To Organized Labor

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Editor's note: This is the second in a series on the record of the Eisenhower administration.

Washington—President Eisenhower has been taking advice from some people whom labor leaders regard as hostile to organized labor, and simultaneously the labor leaders who had easy access to the White House under Roosevelt and Truman are no longer the intimate advisors of the president who has held office since 1953.

This is all a manifestation of different concepts. Union leaders tend to equate unions and all laboring men, although union membership is a statistical minority of labor. The Eisenhower administration has a broader concept of labor and acts accordingly, although to many union leaders this is regarded as anti-union.

The record shows that the administration has dealt with unions and respected many of their demands. But it has not dealt with them exclusively.

When Eisenhower first formed his cabinet he chose a labor executive, Martin P. Durkin, as his labor secretary—a selection pronounced "incredible" by the late Sen. Robert A. Taft, co-author of the Taft-Hartley act which labor opposes. This gesture toward the unions soured in seven months.

Durkin had worked out a program of 19 changes in the Taft-Hartley Act which he believed Eisenhower endorsed. Other advisors persuaded the president differently, and when Eisenhower wouldn't back Durkin the labor leader quit, declaring the President had broken his word.

To succeed Durkin, Eisenhower chose James P. Mitchell, a New York department store executive who has won the confidence of some labor leaders, but gained the enmity of some employers who regard him as "leftist". Mitchell retained the best of Durkin's men in the Labor Department.

Union leaders talk quite differently of the president's appointments to the National Labor Relations Board, which handles labor-management disputes under the labor act. After appointments changed a majority of its membership, the board limited its jurisdiction over disputes, leaving thousands of employers and employees without the protection and restraints of the labor act. This would seem to cut both ways, but it is the unions that are crying foul.

The board's interpretation of free speech has been broadened. Thus an employer hoping to fend off a union invasion, has more freedom to talk to his workers without having an unfair labor practice complaint lodged against him with the NLRB.

Unions have won many NLRB decisions, but it is clear that management is now more comfortable with this board than it

ever had been. No board has ever been free of criticism from one side or another. Until recent years, it came from management, now from labor.

Claims Program Blocked  
The record on labor legislation is not as bad as labor feared it might be, nor as good as the administration claims. Secretary Mitchell claims that his labor program has been blocked in Congress by the chairman of the House Labor Committee, Rep. Graham A. Barden (D-N.C.) who is not friendly to labor. No changes have been made in the controversial Taft-Hartley act, for the Republican administration and the Democratic controlled 84th Congress have been at loggerheads over what changes would be acceptable to all sides.

The minimum wage has been raised from 75 cents to \$1—a compromise between the 90 cents asked by the administration and \$1.25 proposed by union leaders. The administration has talked much of extending the wage and hour law to cover several mil-

lion more employees, but the retail trade lobby has been so effective in opposing this, that nothing has come of it.

Following an announced policy of non-intervention in labor-management disputes, the administration has invoked the emergency injunction against strikes of the Taft-Hartley act only three times. But this is largely due to the fact that there have been so few disputes resembling national emergencies. Partisans will argue whether this state of affairs was just the good fortune of the Eisenhower administration or the result of its policies.

In any event, President Eisenhower has presided over an era of relative industrial peace. Wages, living standards and employment have touched new highs. Unemployment has not been a serious national problem. Prices had been stable until this summer.

Never Had it so Good  
Economically, labor has "never had it so good," as AFL-CIO President George Meany conceded last year.

This is reflected in the economic statistics which show that this spring the average factory worker had 16 per cent more spending money after taxes than he had in July, 1952. Employment in non-farm establishments went up more than four million in the same period, as the national economy and population expanded. And man-days lost in strikes went down 50 per cent.

In short, the administration has an economic record with a powerful political potential. It has played ball with labor leaders to some extent, but much less than Roosevelt and Truman. It has been more responsive to employer-minded advisors. It has acted on the assumption that unions are strong enough to extend their influence without White House assistance, that some workmen prefer to be unorganized and are entitled to protection of that choice, and that labor legislation is in reality labor-management legislation.

(NEXT—What about the welfare state?)



COMBING WATERS OFF CHINA, U. S. ships and planes are searching for Navy patrol plane with 16 aboard, attacked and believed shot down by Communist Chinese aircraft in international waters 32 miles off Wenchow, north of Formosa. (International)

## Motorist of Future May Follow Yellow Road, Color Expert Says

New York — (UPI) — Color experts think the motorist of the future may "follow the yellow brick road" instead of highway signs to his destination just as Judy Garland did in the fantasy, The Wizard of Oz.

Colored buildings, roads and sidewalks will be a natural step in the evolution of color, according to Paul Wrablica, an industrial designer.

He claims that increased use of color will save many hours and materials, and make living easier and happier for everyone. Among the conveniences he envisions are hot and cold water faucets colored red and blue, electrical switches with the "on" button colored green and the "off" button colored red, and bolts and nuts with a standard index color for each size.

"The idea is to use color instead of words to convey a message," he said. "It's easier and faster to 'read' color than it is to read words."

Wrablica has made some surprising discoveries in his experiments with color in industrial application. He thinks these and similar developments may give birth to whole new business and industries.

Wrablica and other color experts learned that a crane, tractor, or bulldozer operator often abused the dull and drab equipment he used on his job and at the same time took good care of his colorful private automobile.

They introduced color into such machinery and found it was given better care, needed fewer repairs, and often led the operator to do more and better work. Wrablica has used color in small mechanical and electronic parts to convey a message and at the same time produce the psychological reaction that results in better care.

His firm was commissioned to redesign a metal aircraft control panel switch in such a way it would convey a variety of in-

formation to the user. Wrablica designed the new switch with permanent color and markings. After it was put into use the manufacturer found workers abused the part so much less in handling that there were 25 per cent fewer rejects.

"That was an incidental bonus the manufacturer got by using color in the product," Wrablica said. "We are making discoveries like that constantly."

He thinks the color of a product made for general consumption can make the difference between its success or failure. "People sometimes don't know exactly why they buy or don't buy a product," Wrablica said. "The reason is that its design or color has a psychological effect that they don't completely understand."

"Good designers understand these things and build in sales appeal. One of the most effective ways to do that is with color."

## The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Emily — Our girl's ambition frightens me.  
Jerry — Emily's fear complicates the problem.

Emily — My husband and I usually get along very well, but we are having a very painful disagreement about our daughter, who is 14 and seems to be off her mind on the subject of modeling.

Ever since she got this idea into her head, she has become unmanageable. She stands before the mirror by the hour, refuses to eat at mealtime because she wants to be thin, and then gorges herself afterwards because she is hungry.

If I as much as say a word to her, she lets loose a tirade about my being antagonistic to her, competing with her and trying to hold her down. She is a pretty-enough girl and possibly could get to be a model, but she refuses to do anything to improve herself. She will not take lessons in anything that will give her grace or improve her personality. She simply stands before the mirror, wears tight clothes, and practices artificial gestures.

I am frightened for the future, but my husband pooh-poohs my fears and refuses to take a hand.

try not to be tense or frightened. The problem is not simple, and we have complicated our girl's situation by making our home in an isolated area where she cannot visit friends unless we provide transportation. This has greatly curtailed her social life. Besides, she does not seem to get along well with the girls in school. Perhaps they are jealous of her appearance, and she may be emphasizing that jealousy by her efforts to shine.

In any event, I think Emily has made the situation unnecessarily complicated by taking too serious and critical a view of our girl's childish ambition. I think that if we stopped appearing to be opposed to her ambition, we might better be able to guide her to do the things she needs for self-improvement, such as piano lessons, dancing, etc.

The Council: There is a risk in following the husband's inclination, but there is a greater risk in pursuing a course that will make the girl feel opposed, antagonized, and frustrated.

It would be constructive to give this girl the real facts about modeling, its requirements and its hardships as well as its potential rewards. Girls of her age are likely to get a fantastically glorified view of this profession. The best way to cure the

kind of daydreaming that becomes a substitute for self-improvement is to combine positive encouragement with hard facts. Try to have her meet some models who have been through the mill, and have them tell her what it takes.

Emily would be better equipped to deal with her daughter if she freed herself from an excessive prejudice against modeling, which is apparent in her attitude. On the fringe of this field, there are no doubt practices that should give caution to any person, but modeling is a useful and honest calling and

can also be good training for social life. Emily should educate herself on the facts of a modeling career as a first step towards educating and perhaps correcting her daughter. (Copyright 1956, General Features Corp.)

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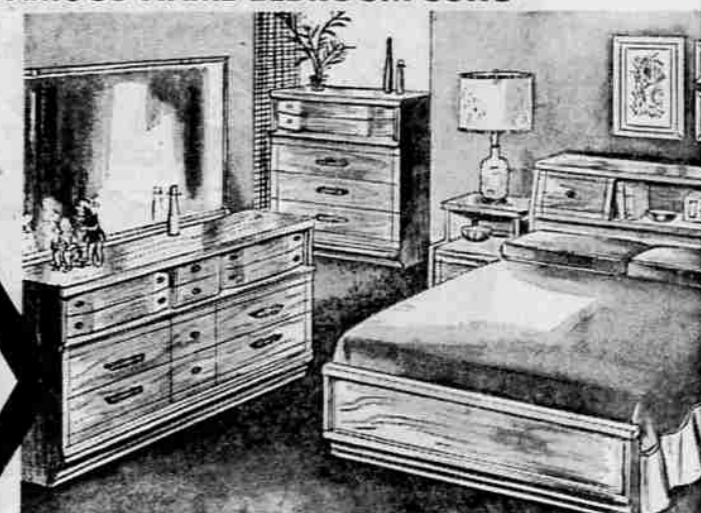


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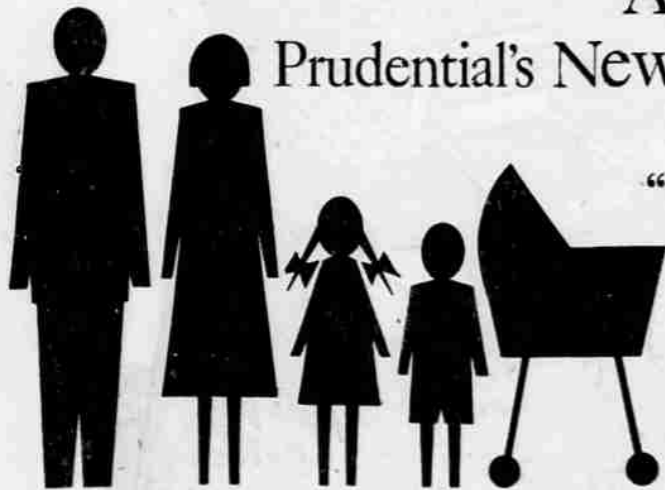
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