

Unions Win Round in Fight To Force Support of Activities

By Congressional Quarterly

Washington - Labor unions have won the latest round in a significant court battle testing their right to compel members to support their political and lobbying activities.

The North Carolina supreme court Feb. 25 ruled that workers who must join a union to hold their jobs can also be forced to pay dues to support the union's lobbying and political efforts, even though they oppose the objectives of those activities.

There was only one dissent to the North Carolina ruling, which reversed a lower court decision against the unions.

But the issue is far from settled. The Georgia supreme court, which ruled against the unions on a technical point in an almost identical suit in 1957, is expected to reaffirm its stand when the same case comes before it for final disposition next month.

The Georgia court has al-

ready declared unanimously that "we do not believe one (union member) can constitutionally be compelled to contribute money to support ideas, politics and candidates which he opposes."

Headed for High Court

The importance of the issue and the developing split between the high tribunals of two states make it almost inevitable that the question will come before the United States Supreme Court - perhaps next fall - for final resolution.

At stake are the multi-million dollar lobbying and political activities which have given labor unions a powerful voice in Congress and national affairs. Most of these activities are financed from union dues.

The plaintiffs in both the North Carolina and Georgia cases argued that they should not be forced to pay dues for such purposes.

In both cases, the suits were

filed by employees of the Southern Railway in an effort to block enforcement of a union shop contract between the Southern and various railroad brotherhoods. Under a union shop contract, all workers are required to join the union within a certain time - usually, 60 days - after they have been employed.

Congress in 1950 approved union shop contracts on the railroads even in states - like Georgia and North Carolina - where right-to-work laws forbid such contracts generally.

The Supreme Court in the 1956 Hanson case upheld the constitutionality of the union shop amendment to the Railway Labor Act.

But in that decision the high court used this significant language:

"The only conditions to union membership authorized by ... the Railway Labor Act are the payment of periodic dues, initiation fees and assessments ... The financial support required relates, therefore, to the work of the union in the realm of collective bargaining ... If assessments are in fact imposed for purposes not germane to collective bargaining ... or if the exaction of dues ... is used as a cover for forcing ideological conformity or other action in contravention of the First Amendment, this judgment will not prejudice the decision in that case ..."

That language in the Supreme Court opinion was interpreted by some lawyers to mean that workers covered by a union shop contract could be forced to pay dues only for their share of the union's collective bargaining work, and not for other purposes like lobbying or political education.

Georgia Ruling

That is exactly what the Georgia supreme court held in its ruling on the technical point of the Georgia case in 1957.

But last week the North Carolina supreme court interpreted the language very differently. The North Carolina judges said the Supreme Court decision "indicates that the required financial support embraces all activities of the (union) reasonably related to its maintenance of an effective bargaining agent," including lobbying and political education work.

They said there was no issue of "forcing ideological conformity" on union members by requiring them to support union lobbying and politicking because, "in all other respects, (they) are free to speak and act according to their own desires even if by so doing they speak and act at cross - purposes with the unions."

At the moment, then, railroad unions in North Carolina can collect dues from unwilling workers to support their lobbying and political education work, but railroad unions in Georgia cannot. It remains for the Supreme Court to settle the issue on a national basis.

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HORN BROOK Birthday Observed

By KATHERINE CHAPMAN

Hornbrook - To honor Mike Turnbow on his 13th birthday, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Skeahan, entertained a group of his friends at a buffet supper and dancing party at their home Saturday, Feb. 28. Several games were played, with prizes going to Randy Peters, Suzanne Kutzkey, Joan Kutzkey, and Jimmy Skeahan.

A three-tiered birthday cake and ice cream were served as a climax to the supper. Attending were Karen Baker, Suzanne Kutzkey, Joan Kutzkey, Donna Spearin, Jeanie Cardoza, Jennifer Cummins, Linda Peters, Marsha Farnsworth, Gloria Lara, Bonny Sue Blankenship, Jimmy Skeahan, Greg Skeahan, Mike Blankenship, Randy Peters, Jerry McMaisters, Furl Moore, Steve Farmer, Dale Farmer, Gene Farmer, Darrell Jones, Ernest Burrell, Aaron Peters, and George Chadwick.

Parents attending were Mrs. Loren Cummins, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Blankenship, and Mr. and Mrs. Harley Baker.

Girl Scouts from Troop 24 at Hills were in town Saturday selling Girl Scouts cookies from house to house.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at Gardner's Funeral chapel in Yreka for Eugene Smith, 53, of Dunsmuir, who died Friday, March 6, in Siskiyou General hospital in Yreka following a

years' illness.

Mr. Smith was born Aug. 27, 1895, in Hornbrook, a son of Adalbert and Grace Mcemar Smith. He attended grammar school here, but the greater part of his life was spent in Dunsmuir, where he was a clerk.

Survivors include a sister, Mrs. Hazel Stanley, of Dunsmuir and a niece, Grace Stanley, of Redding. He was a nephew of the late Fred J. Meamer, of Yreka. The Rev. John Martin of St. Mark's Episcopal church in Yreka officiated, and burial was in the family plot of the Henley-Hornbrook cemetery.

Visitors last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bear were her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Klontz of Auburn, Wash. On Saturday, the two couples went to Mt. Shasta Ski bowl.

Sweepstakes winner in the series of card parties given by Hornbrook Grange was Mrs. Lester Nye. The concluding party was held Saturday evening at the Grange hall, and Mrs. Nye also held high score for the evening's play.

Mrs. Al King, general chairman of the series, speaking in behalf of the Grange, expressed appreciation to those who attended, particularly those from Yreka and Montague, for their help in making the parties successful.

Mrs. Lennard Sloan is in Siskiyou General hospital in Yreka with a severely slashed hand, and cuts on her back. She was injured Saturday while horseback riding with her husband, when her horse shied and threw her. She was carrying two pop bottles at the time which fell and broke, and she was thrown onto them.

Mrs. James Kunkle arrived by plane in Medford Saturday evening from Oxnard, Calif. Her husband had returned home two weeks earlier, and met her at the airport. The Kunkles had been in Oxnard since shortly after Christmas. They had spent Christmas there with her parents, and had just returned to Hornbrook, when they received word that her father suffered a stroke, so they returned. Mrs. Kunkle said her father is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Smith left Sunday morning for San Francisco. They stayed overnight en route at Corning, Calif., with their son and daughter-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Edward M. Smith, and son, Mike. They expect to return next week end.

Miss Mary Lee Rutledge was home over the week end from Chico State college.

George Carey is in Southern Pacific hospital in San Francisco for a checkup. He was hospitalized in Yreka for several days in February with an apparent heart attack.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwain Hamner returned Sunday evening from a two weeks' visit in Bakersfield, Calif., with their children and other relatives.

Portland Woman Charges Gambling

Vancouver, Wash. - (UPI) - A Portland housewife told the Vancouver city council Tuesday night that her husband had lost large sums of money gambling in Vancouver.

She said he lost \$1100 in two days last October and on other occasions \$700 and \$900 a day. She said her husband lost the money at cards.

Mayor Irving Jensen, after the woman had completed her statement, said:

"If there has been gambling going on, this, I am sure, comes as a complete shock to all the council members."

The woman said she and her husband have a business that it being ruined by his gambling.

The mayor said the council would ask for a complete investigation.

REPLACES CABBAGE

Chicago - (UPI) - Old St. Patrick's church will serve fried chicken instead of corn beef and cabbage at its annual St. Patrick's day dinner Sunday. A church spokesman said that some parishioners don't like cabbage.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Wednesday, March 11, 1959 7

SUPPORT SUPREME COURT

New York - (UPI) - The New York City Bar association Tuesday night adopted a resolution in support of the U.S. Supreme court. The resolution, passed unanimously, urged all lawyers to back the high court's authority to interpret the Constitution and laws of the land.

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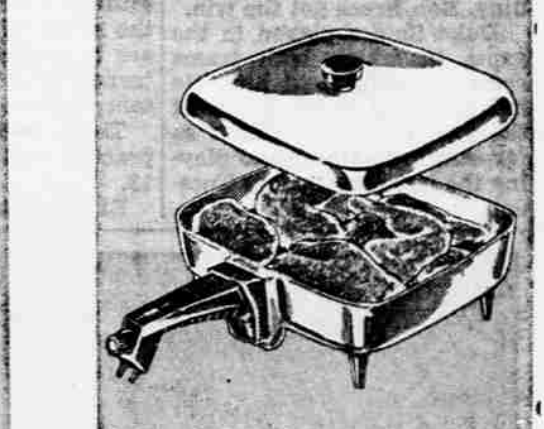


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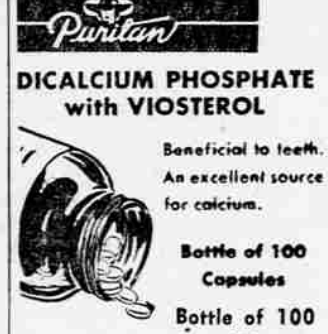
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