January 14, 1954

The Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Lehman:

This is in reply to your recent request for a report on a letter addressed to you by Mr. Adolph V. Flor, of New York City. Mr. Flor asks whether an employer engaged in interstate commerce might forbid his employees to engage in political activities after working hours without infringing their civil rights or violating any Federal laws.

I am advised that there is no Federal law forbidding such action on the part of the employer except that if such actions involve forbidding union activities generally, then they would be proscribed by the National Labor Relations Act.

It is my own personal view that procedures such as those allegedly manifested by the employer in this instance, are contrary to our democratic principles and evidence a fundamental lack of insight into proper labor-management relations.

I am returning Mr. Flor's letter as you requested.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Secretary of Labor

Enclosure