March ..., 1953

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Dear ...:

As a general proposition the principles set forth in your letter are sound and implement the observation I have made over and over both publicly and privately that any Act which deals with labor relations must be a two-way street.

I know of no way in which an enactment can be defended unless it accords equal rights, equal privileges and equal freedoms on both sides of the fence, and when it departs from this broad and basic rule, it is headed for trouble.

That was the real trouble with the old Wagner Act and it is not at all surprising that at long last the country decreed that it should be drastically modified. I assure you, therefore, that these principles I shall have constantly in mind as we deal with this broad subject in the present Congress.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen