

AN ACT

TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION

AT THE

GENERAL ELECTION

TO BE HELD

On Tuesday, the Seventh day of November, 1916,

Passed by the Legislature and Proposed to the People by Referendum Petition, filed in the office of Secretary of State February 11, 1916, commonly known as Picketing Measure.

(Will appear on the official ballot in the following form)

PROPOSED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION.

REFERENDUM MEASURE No. 6, entitled "An act defining picketing, prohibiting the same, and providing a penalty for the violation thereof."

To sustain the legislative act, vote "FOR."

FOR Picketing Measure

AGAINST Picketing Measure.....

Referendum Measure No. 6

BALLOT TITLE

"An act defining picketing, prohibiting the same, and providing a penalty for the violation thereof."

AN ACT defining picketing, prohibiting the same, and providing a penalty for the violation thereof.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Whoever shall, for the purpose of carrying on, calling attention to, or advertising, directly or indirectly, any controversy, disagreement or dispute between any labor union or organization, or member or members thereof, and any person engaged in any lawful business, or his employe, or for the purpose of hindering or preventing such person from conducting his business in any lawful way, or employing or retaining in his employ any person who may lawfully engage in such business.

(1) Stand or continuously move back and forth, on the sidewalk, street, public place or private property, in front of or within five hundred feet of, any place in which any lawful business is conducted by such other person, or home or place of abode of such other person or his employe, or

(2) Openly maintain, carry or

transport on any sidewalk, street, public place or private property, any banner, sign, transparency, writing or printing, or

(3) Cause any person to do any of the foregoing acts for any of the foregoing purposes:

Shall be guilty of picketing.

SEC. 2. Any person who shall engage in picketing shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SEC. 3. The singular number when used in this act shall include the plural, and the word "person" shall include individuals, firms, partnerships, associations and corporations.

SEC. 4. An adjudication of invalidity of any part of this act shall not affect the validity of the act as a whole or any part thereof.

Passed the Senate March 4, 1915.

Passed the House March 10, 1915.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1915.

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

Filed in the office of Secretary of State, March 25, 1915.

I. M. HOWELL, Secretary of State.

Argument in Favor of Referendum No. 6.

Picketing is an unlawful, vicious and destructive practice. It is an instrument employed only by Organized Labor. It derives its name from the "pickets" who are placed by the unions near a factory or business house to prevent non-union workers from obtaining employment and to stop the patronage or relations of the public with the concern they are attempting to damage. The openly expressed purpose of picketing is to force, by coercion and violence, the employer to accede to the demands the union made before it went on strike.

With few exceptions, picketing culminates in physical attacks both on the plant which is being watched and on non-union workers who may choose to work therein. Picketing wins a victory only by the threat or use of force. It is essentially criminal. It seeks to prevent the employer from carrying on his lawful business and thus interferes with his rights as a free American citizen. It seeks, and frequently succeeds, in keeping the non-union worker from obtaining employment. The latter is usually assaulted and rioting ensues; industrial and commercial plants are often wrecked.

The state sorely needs an anti-picketing law to incorporate into enforceable form the decisions of the courts with respect to this practice. Our own judges have repeatedly held that there is no such thing as peaceful picketing, as claimed by Organized Labor; and that threats and coercion are of themselves violent acts; that they create in the minds of those attacked a feeling of fear and apprehension and that it is an unjustified and unlawful interference with the legitimate conduct of business.

In April, 1915, the State Supreme Court declared that "To destroy a business is not different from the destruction of physical property. If employes may be intimidated while in their em-

ployment the business of the employer may be destroyed. It is as much the duty of the court to restrain conduct which will have the effect of destroying the business as it is to prevent the destruction of physical property." In the same manner by intimidation and threat of bodily attack, jeers and insults, the right of the non-union or free worker to remain at his employment is taken from him; he is deprived of one of his inalienable rights and is therefore entitled to the protection of law in the peaceful pursuit of the employment he has selected.

The Anti-Picketing law which you are asked to support by voting against Referendum No. 6 specifies exactly what are now known as the principal aspects of picketing and provides a penalty therefor. Even more important than its prohibition of picketing, is the provision that any person who instigates and encourages picketing shall also be guilty of such act. It has been a favorite practice of labor leaders to order their members to conduct a picketing campaign and then escape all blame for the lawlessness which results.

Your vote to abolish the practice of picketing, which is similarly being legislated out in other states, will help to remove serious handicap from our industrial and commercial life. It will guarantee all workers the peaceful pursuit of their labor and establish their right to seek employment where and as they choose.

**STAND FOR LAW AND ORDER:
VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS LAW.**

**EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION OF
WASHINGTON,**

G. N. SKINNER, Pres.

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

Filed in the office of Secretary of State,
June 29, 1915.

I. M. HOWELL, Secretary of State.