

HARTFORD WORLD COURT COMMITTEE

43 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Conn.

March 23, 1932

My dear Justice Brandeis:

Your dissenting opinion in the Oklahoma City Ice case is likely to become epoch making. You have focused the attention of the country on the weakest spot in our industrial and economic life. Competition, instead of being the life of trade, is its death. The Sherman Anti-Trust Law was perhaps necessary and beneficial for a while but it has long since outlived its usefulness. It should be repealed and the United States Government and the various State Governments should assume the regulation of our transportation systems and the coal, iron, and oil production and also all competing industries. This would, as you suggest, keep the production to the level of the consumption.

I am venturing to enclose a clipping from the Hartford Courant of February sixteenth containing an article entitled The Distribution of Labor and the Sharing of the Burden of Unemployment. I had no thought that such a scheme could be immediately put into operation but is it not a goal toward which the country must advance if we are to save our present industrial system from utter collapse? Should not, however, the national Government put its own house in order and set an example of cooperation and the stabilization of employment? The States should also put their houses in order and set an example to the industrial leaders. The municipalities should do the same. This would point to the necessity of legislation to regulate the business interests of the people.

But I must not weary you with a dissertation on questions which you have so long meditated upon and upon which you have shed so much light.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin Mitchell

Justice Louis D. Brandeis
Florence Court West
Washington, D. C.

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