

In addition, there are packing operations, some of which are in the field. This switches back and forth. In the 1950's in California, some of the packingshed operations were organized by a union, not ours, another union, the United Packinghouse Workers, AFL-CIO. To try to destroy the union, the people managing the packingsheds brought the operation into the field. However, other factors intervened. The companies found, for example, difficulty in getting labor and all sorts of other problems. I understand that the movement now is back out of the fields.

So in agriculture we are not only talking about unskilled workers. Well, let me give you another example. We have a local of sheepshearers out in the Rocky Mountain States. That work is a highly skilled operation and, by the way, a well-paid occupation. But it is considered agricultural. The sheepshearers could not go to an NLRB election.

There are a lot of skilled workers involved. And these workers perform duties similar to those covered under the National Labor Relations Act for many years. These skilled workers need the NLRA protection and the unskilled workers need it, too.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you very much, Mr. Mayer; we appreciate your statement.

Mr. MAYER. Thank you.

STATEMENTS OF MSGR. WILLIAM J. QUINN, CHICAGO, DIRECTOR, BISHOPS' COMMITTEE FOR SPANISH-SPEAKING, CHICAGO, ILL.; RABBI RICHARD G. HIRSCH, DIRECTOR, RELIGIOUS ACTION CENTER, UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS, ALSO REPRESENTING THE COMMISSION ON SOCIAL ACTION OF REFORM JUDAISM; AND REV. ISAAC IGARASHI, DIRECTOR OF EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE, DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MISSION, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Mr. THOMPSON. Our next witnesses are Msgr. William J. Quinn of Chicago, director of the Bishops' Committee for the Spanish-Speaking; Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch, director of Religious Action Center, Union of American Hebrew Congregation, also representing the Commission on Social Action of Reformed Judaism; and the Reverend Isaac Igarashi, the director of the Eastern Regional Office of the Division of Christian Life and Mission of the National Council of Churches.

Good morning, gentlemen; it is nice to have you here. You may proceed with your testimony as you wish. Monsignor, I see you are listed first.

Monsignor QUINN. My name is Msgr. William J. Quinn. I am director of the Chicago office for the National Bishops' Committee for the Spanish-Speaking and I am appearing on behalf of this committee.

Speaking on behalf of Cardinal McIntyre of Los Angeles, Archbishop Joseph McGucken of San Francisco and all the other bishops of California, Bishop Hugh Donohoe of Stockton, Calif., stated that:

1. Any group in society has the right to form an association to foster its own well-being. It is understood that this association act within law and therefore is concerned with the general welfare as well as with its own.
2. Applied to farmers, this principle justifies their membership in any legitimate organization of their own choosing. Those who seek to promote the organization of farmers are not to be looked upon as outside agitators.