

Affiliated  
Bodies Series  
Local Unions

#285, Detroit, Michigan,

1942.

285

October 6, 1942.

Mr. Henry Kaiser  
736 Bowen Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

Enclosed find copy of a letter under date of October 2, 1942 received from General Organizer R. J. Bennett, in the Detroit district, pertaining to the purchase of War Bonds and Stamps, by members of Local Union No. 285.

I will appreciate your opinion on this matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

ACTING FOR THE GENERAL PRESIDENT

THP:AM

Bennett  
10/2/42

JOSEPH A. PADWAY  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS  
WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS OF AMERICA  
736 BOWEN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



285

October 13, 1942.

Mr. Thomas E. Flynn, Acting President,  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters,  
Chauffeurs, Warehousemen & Helpers of America,  
222 East Michigan Street,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Re: Local Union #285,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Your letter of October 6th has been received, together with enclosure from Mr. R. J. Bennett, General Organizer, in which inquiry is made as to whether it would be legal to place a clause in a contract that all employees of the companies involved be compelled to contribute 10% of their wages toward the purchase of bonds in order to hold their jobs.

It is very doubtful whether such a provision would be legal. It is certain that an employee engaged for a definite period of time could not be discharged for such reason because it does not relate to the employment. We are inclined to believe the same principle would apply under the conditions set forth in the inquiry of Mr. Bennett. In any event, it does not appear advisable to provide for discharge of an employee upon failure to so invest his funds, even though it is desirable that all workers purchase bonds, as recommended by the American Federation of Labor.

If you have any further inquiry concerning the subject, please advise.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH A. PADWAY, General Counsel,  
I. B. T. C. W. H. A.

By

*James A. Glenn*  
James A. Glenn.

JAG-ER

*Bennett 10/12/42*

285  
TELEPHONE REPUBLIC 1717

JOSEPH A. PADWAY  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS  
WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS OF AMERICA  
736 BOWEN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

285

October 16, 1942.

Mr. Thomas E. Flynn, Acting President,  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters,  
Chauffeurs, Warehousemen & Helpers of America,  
222 East Michigan Street,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Re: Local Union #285,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Flynn:

On my return to the office, Mr. James Glenn submitted to me his opinion rendered October 13, 1942, in answer to the question propounded by Local #285, Detroit, Michigan, whether an employer and a union can agree to compel employees to purchase bonds, and for failure, to suffer the penalty of discharge.

I approve of Mr. Glenn's opinion. This cannot be done and it is not advisable. Unions should encourage their members to purchase bonds, but this should not be made compulsory. The doctrine of compulsion in matters which are not part of the employment relation is inadvisable from labor's viewpoint, even though the compulsion results from an agreement between the employer and a union.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph A. Padway*  
General Counsel,  
I. B. T. C. W. H. A.

JAP-NR  
*Copy to Mr. H. ... / 41*

*Bennett 10/16/42*