U. S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WOULD OUTLAW CLOSED SHOP

The United States Chamber of Commerce elected Earl O. Shreve vice presiden of the General Electric Company, New York, as its new president.

The organizations also adopted a labor program advocating outlawing of the closed shop as it neared the close of its annual meeting attended by 2,070 business men. Shreve succeeds William K. Jackson, of Boston, retiring president.

The labor resolution advocates legislation requiring a secret ballot of employes before a strike can be called, a prohibtion on "sympathy" strikes and secondary boycotts, and the regulation of "monopolistic practices" by labor unions.

The resolution was drafted by the chamber's 18-member policy committee headed by W. A. Klinger, Sioux City (Iowa) builder. It was far more drastic than some officers had anticipated. It did not call for the outright ban on industrial-wide bargaining contained in a House-approved labor bill, but did urge federal prohibition of "monopolistic practices" through industry-wide bargaining or other means.

As a first "basic principle" of industrial relations, the proposed statement declared:

"We hold that the right of the public to have uninterrupted production of goods and services must receive paramount consideration in disputes between labor and management."

Ralph Bradford, executive vice president of the chamber, told the delegates the chamber asked only for "simple justice" in calling for labor law revisions. It does not propose to punish labor or to give management an advantage, he said.

The chamber also heard Representative Halleck (R., Ind.), majority leader of the House, describe the House Labor Bill as one fixing "a sound basis for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes."

"It will enable management and labor to work as a team for greater production," Halleck declared.

Other key provisions of the program proposed by the chamber's policy committee included:

Strikes "should never be permitted" against Federal or local governments, or—until vital services are safeguarded — against functions affecting the safety, health and welfare of the people.

Sympathy and jurisdictional strikes should be banned.

Employes should have the right to organize and bargain collectively when such action results from their own "free and uncoered choice."

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