



### **What Goes Around Comes Around, or Hoist With One's Own Petard: Venerable Lefties at Harper's Divided by Union**

New York Magazine Online  
1/18/2011

Harper's, one of the last bastions of old-line liberalism and a lonely defender of a certain idea of what literary culture should be, has long been supported by the largesse of its owner and patron, John "Rick" MacArthur, an author and heir to a ceramics fortune who has long supported liberal causes. And now, in a strange, ironic endgame, MacArthur finds himself fighting against his own side: His staff has unionized.

### **Fighting to Free Workers' Paychecks from Union Bosses: Advancing the Right to Work**

Red State Online  
1/19/2011

There is a battle brewing in several states that is going to get very heated very soon. At issue is the question of whether or not workers have a "right to work" at unionized companies without being required to pay union dues.

### **Feds Make Record Mob Sweep**

Wall Street Journal Online  
1/21/2011

Court documents describe internal power struggles and revenge killings, control of a concrete and cement workers' union, extortion of pornography shops and nightclubs named the Satin Doll and Cadillac Lounge, and a scheme to take money from longshoremen working the New York and New Jersey piers at Christmas.

### **Don't Let Bureaucrats Stifle a Vote**

Wall Street Journal Online  
1/21/2011

A secret-ballot election before a company can be unionized mitigates accusations of coercion and improper influence on the part of Big Labor ("Labor Board Warns on Secret Ballots," U.S. News, Jan. 15). Of what are the unions and their allies on the National

Labor Relations Board afraid? If employees truly see the value of organizing, then unions should embrace the secret ballot, as it would add legitimacy to the election.

### **Mob's Waterfront Extortion: A Christmas Tradition**

Wall Street Journal Online  
1/20/2011

Three accused Cosa Nostra members would turn up before Christmas, when workers from the International Longshoreman's Association receive a check from the "container royalty fund"—a sort of year-end bonus for union members. According to the indictment, workers' payments to the alleged mobster were "induced by wrongful use of actual and threatened force, violence and fear."

In other words: extortion. The indictment cites incidents going back to 1982, making this scheme a holiday fixture over nearly three decades.

"It's tradition on the waterfront," said Ronald Goldstock, a member of the Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor, which is tasked with countering the influence of organized crime on the docks. "If you want to work there — if you want the good assignments or overtime — you kick back the Christmas check to the people who allow you to work there."

### **The Union Threat to the Democrats' Future**

Wall Street Journal Online  
1/20/2011

If the Democrats want to be competitive in 2012, they must move decisively back to the center. And unless they're able to break the stranglehold that government-employee unions have on the party on policy, as well as in financial and political support, it will be virtually impossible for Democrats to restore fiscal health to states like New York and California.

Working-class families are fleeing the Democratic Party en masse, a trend that is likely to continue if their own economic situation remains weak in the face of ever-higher taxes, deficits and debt. These working-class voters see that public employees are continuing to receive more generous benefits and enjoy greater job security than they are. Support for the Democratic Party is now well below 40% with working-class voters who are unionized, and as low as 33% with whites who are not college educated.

### **Court asked to reconsider e-mail ruling**

Livingstondaily.com  
1/20/2011

Rothoff, who is being represented for free by the Springfield, Va.-based National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, said the change on the court could make all the difference.

### **High Court Asked To Hear Suit Over Howell Teachers Union Emails**

WHFI 93.5 FM  
1/19/2011

Eric Rothoff of Muskegon, a former high school friend of Zarko and a partner in his company is continuing the lawsuit in his place and is being represented by the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation. Spokesman Anthony Riedel tells WHMI that they filed a motion for reconsideration Tuesday and with a new judge on the Supreme Court, they feel there's a good opportunity to at least get the case heard and have a chance at success. There's no time frame as to when the high court will decide if it will hear the case or not. (JM)

### **As Obama Woos Business, NLRB Pushes Union Agenda**

Inverstors.com  
1/19/2011

For Big Labor, it is a long-awaited moment. AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka told reporters Wednesday that he was looking forward to having an NLRB that promoted labor's interests after years of relative inactivity.

### **NLRB General Counsel Requires Mandatory Language in Settlement Agreements**

Mondaq Labor and Employment Online  
1/20/2011

Apparently continuing the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) recent aggressive pro-union agenda, the NLRB's General Counsel has directed Regional Directors to include in every document settling an NLRB proceeding mandatory language where the employer in effect agrees in advance that if it is even accused of violating the agreement, all of the prior charges against it have merit.

### **This Just In (Not): Unions Make Businesses Less Competitive**

Labor Pains.org  
1/19/2011

In a strikingly candid interview today, King admitted that the UAW's very survival depends on this campaign:

### **Trumka: White House review of government regulations a 'distraction'**

The Hill Online  
1/19/2011

One union-backed regulation has already been put on hold. On Wednesday, one day after the White House announced its review of regulations, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced that it was withdrawing a proposal that would toughen standards on noise in the workplace.

### **Big Labor's 2011 Wish List**

Workplace Fairness Institute  
1/18/2011

Big Labor's 2011 Wish List is long, but the small-business community is strong. Together, we can work to preserve American jobs, support small businesses, and beat back Big Labor.

### **Mr. President: The fight for the middle class isn't in Washington**

Huffington Post  
1/20/2011

At this very moment, conservatives are prepared with a scapegoat for the economic woes: unions and public employees. They have been very shrewd in using this time of crisis as an opportunity to drive a stake through the heart of the very organizations that have created the American middle class.

### **Unions Getting Help From Obama Appointees Republican Lawmakers Can't**

Bloomberg News Online  
1/20/2011

"The concern in the employer community is that the pendulum is going to swing far to the other side," says Michael Eastman, executive director of labor law policy with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

## **A Path Is Sought for States to Escape Their Debt Burdens**

New York Times Online  
1/21/2011

Unlike cities, the states are barred from seeking protection in federal bankruptcy court. Any effort to change that status would have to clear high constitutional hurdles because the states are considered sovereign

## **With Republican gains, number of Right-to-Work States about to expand across U.S.**

Charlotte Conservative News Online  
1/21/2011

Elections matter. Across the Rust Belt and other northern States, governors and legislatures are actively reviewing ways to revive their stalled economies. One serious proposal on the table is Right-to-Work. And the list includes at least two to three big union states.

## **Behind the Numbers: Workers vote with their feet as union membership rate drops**

Washington Examiner Online  
Diana Furchtgott-Roth  
1/20/2011

Today the Labor Department reported that in 2010 the union membership rate fell by four tenths of a percentage point, from 12.3 percent to 11.9 percent of wage and salary workers. Both private- and public-sector union membership rates declined.

Among private-sector workers, the rate fell from 7.2 percent to 6.9 percent, continuing a long-term trend. Public-sector unionization, declining from 37.4 percent to 36.2 percent, bucked a prior trend of rising government-sector union membership.