Without UNIONS, workers will lose many of the protections AGAINST abusive employers. Wages for all will be depressed, even as corporate profits soar. The American dream will be destroyed for millions. And we will have government of the corporations, by the already powerful, for the wealthy.

- Kenneth Bernstein, Teacher & Blogger, in a 2011 CNN.com opinion poll piece on the Wisconsin measure to STRIP public employees of their collective bargaining RIGHTS

LABOR cannot stand still. It MUST not retreat. It MUST go on, or go under.

- Harry Bridges

LABOR will remain UNITED and continue to work to protect the interests of America’s working families.

- William Burris

The only effective answer to organized GREED is ORGANIZED LABOR.

- Thomas Donahue

If you go to the city Washington DC, you will find that almost all of those corporation lawyers and cowardly politicians, members of congress, and mis-representatives of the masses claim, in glowing terms, that they have risen from the ranks to places of eminence and distinction. I am very glad that I cannot make that claim for myself. I would be ashamed to admit that I had risen from the ranks. When I rise it will be with the ranks.

- Eugene V. Debs

To be FREE the WORKERS MUST have CHOICE. To have CHOICE they MUST retain in their own hands the RIGHT to determine under what CONDITIONS they will WORK.

- Samuel Gompers

Although it is true that only about 20% of American workers are in UNIONS, that 20% sets the STANDARDS across the board in salaries, benefits, and working conditions. If you are making a decent salary in a non union company, you owe that to the UNIONS. One thing that corporations do not do is give out money out of the goodness of the hearts.
Molly Ivins

The HOME is the MOST effective place to preach the gospel of UNIONISM.

Charles E. James, African-American Union Leader, 1905

One cannot have a TRADE UNION or a democratic election without FREEDOM of SPEECH, FREEDOM of ASSOCIATION and ASSEMBLY. Without a democratic election, whereby people choose and remove their rulers, there is no method of securing HUMAN RIGHTS against the state. NO democracy without Human RIGHTS, NO Human RIGHTS without democracy, and NO TRADE UNION RIGHTS without either. That is our BELIEF, that is our CREED.

George Meany, 1979

The Defense of our RIGHTS and our DIGNITY, as well as efforts to NEVER let ourselves to be overcome by the feeling of HATRED - this is the road we have chosen.

Lech Walesa

As can be seen in our history, the only answer to a powerful business leader is a powerful LABOR UNION.

Hilton M. Weiss

The basic GOAL of LABOR will not change. It is – as it always has been, and I am sure always will be – to BETTER the STANDARDS of life for ALL who WORK for wages and to SEEK decency and justice and dignity for ALL Americans.

George Meany

The true face of the UNIONS is not now a man in a hard hat as much as it is a woman in the classroom or in cleaning smocks.

Karen Nussbaum, SEIU

LABOR is not FIGHTING for a larger slice of the PIE – LABOR is fighting for a larger PIE.

Walter Reuther