

with the legitimate activities of organized labor, and some of them contending that the Act was designed for that purpose.

The draft of the Act proposed by the Federal-State Conference was largely the work of Professor Sam Bass Warner of Harvard University, and in an article which appears in the Harvard Law Review of February, 1941, Professor Warner analysed the Act and fully explained the purposes to be accomplished by it. In drafting the original Act, Professor Warner included, and the Federal-State Conference approved, Section 11, which was designed to protect the rights of labor. While the Act was being drafted, every effort was made by representatives of the Federal-State Conference to satisfy labor's views.

Unfortunately, these efforts were not successful, many labor organizations taking the position that the Act could be used to interfere with legitimate labor activities, despite Section 11 which provided that nothing in the Act should be construed to deprive labor of its just rights. Later on, while the Act was pending before the Maine Legislature, Professor Warner, himself, suggested, that the words "to strike, to picket" be inserted in Section 11, labor having contended that these rights were not sufficiently protected by the Act. The Maryland Legislature adopted this proposed amendment as a further evidence of its desire not to control or interfere with the legitimate rights of labor.

The purpose of the entire Act is to prevent sabotage. It was designed solely for this purpose, and the provisions of the Act were adopted after the most careful study and consideration. In order to draw an effective Act preventing sabotage, it was necessary to provide safeguards against damaging tools and machinery in industrial plants, and to safeguard the plants themselves for their products.

In addition to the four model Acts, the Legislature also passed an Act liberalizing the provisions of our Election Laws, under which those in the military service are permitted to vote by mail; passed an Act establishing the Maryland Council of Defense, and an Act, known as the "Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act," which follows closely the provisions of the Federal Act on the same subject.

It all adds up to one important consideration. Our Country is engaged in preparing to defend itself against the greatest military force the world has ever seen. That defense is necessary because this military force is seeking to impose on the world a philosophy of government and a way of life which are at total variance with our system of Government and with our way of life. No one knows what the future holds, and all of us fervently hope that we will not actually become engaged in armed conflict. However, the President of the United States has told us that we are in danger, and that it is necessary for us to prepare for any eventuality.

With this in mind, the Government of the State of Maryland is cooperating to the fullest extent with the National Government, and with our sister States in furthering and strengthening the National Defense Program, and in this effort we ask the support of every citizen of Maryland.