

ARGUMENT OVER ADAMSON LAW

Supreme Court of the United States Hearing Arguments on the 8-Hour Daw Law.

RAILROADS REPRESENTED, GOVERNMENT ARGUES CASE

Just When a Decision is Expected is Not Known, But the Court is to Hurry it Along.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Arguments over the constitutionality of the Adamson Law came up today in the Supreme court.

First upon the court's call of cases today, following its three-weeks' holiday recess, was the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad case, chosen by the Department of Justice and the railroads for the test.

When the court will announce a decision is problematical, but it is expected within a few weeks as the court has consented to expedite the proceedings and placed the test case ahead of all others upon today's call.

The railroad lawyers were headed by Walker D. Hines. Arthur Miller represented specially the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf road.

In charge of the defense of the Adamson act for the Department of Justice were Solicitor General John W. Davis, Assistant Attorney General E. Marvyn Underwood and G. Carroll Todd, and Frank Hagerman of Kansas City, special assistant to the Attorney General.

The railroad brotherhoods were not formal parties to today's test suit; Judge Hook dismissed the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad's bill as to union officers named defendants.

Today's argument, technically, were upon appeal of United States Attorney Francis M. Wilson of Kansas City from Judge Hook's decision in an injunction suit brought by Alexander New and Henry C. Ferris, receivers for the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf, to enjoin enforcement of the law.

By a stipulation, signed by railroad and Department of Justice counsel, all other litigation over the Adamson act has been suspended pending the Supreme Court's decision.

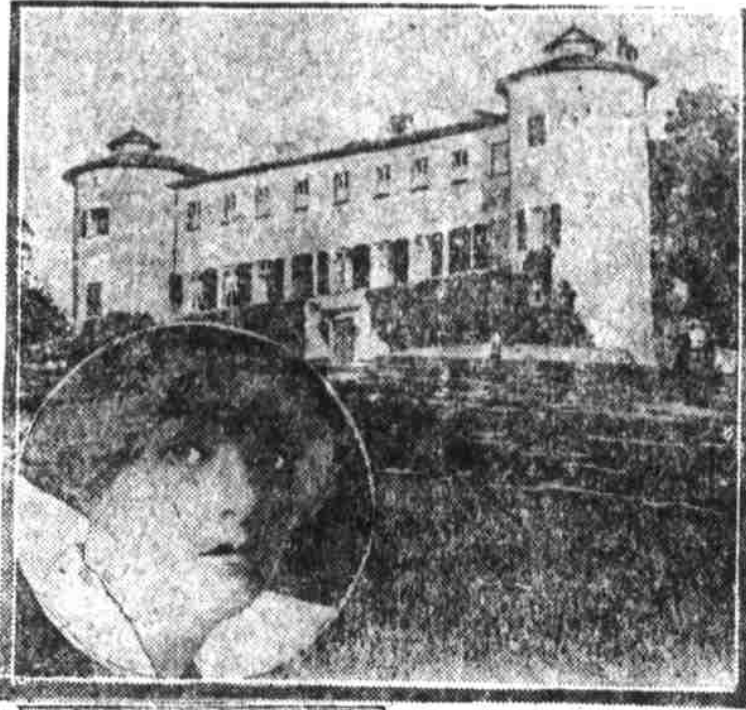
The principal provision of the Adamson act which became effective January 1 and whose operation was suspended by the present legal proceedings, declares "eight hours shall, in contracts for labor and service, be deemed a day's work for the purpose of reckoning compensation for service of all employees—employed by any common carrier by railroads actually engaged in any capacity in the operation of trains."

The law was passed by the House Sept. 1, by the Senate on Sept. 2 and signed by President Wilson twice, Sept. 3 (a Sunday) and 5. The general strike of railroad brotherhoods previously ordered for Labor Day, Sept. 4, was called off.

That the law is not in reality an 8-hour day statute, but a wage increase act is contended by the railroads. In the present case it is also contended that the law is unworkable, in capable of application; is not a regulation of commerce within the authority of congress, but a temporary experiment, and "unreasonably and arbitrarily" interferes with constitutional liberty of contract, as well as depriving the railroads of property in violation of the "due process of law" clause of the constitution.

While the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf has put few employees subject to the act, being a small line and "in hands of receivers, counsel admitted that the test case is not typical of many other large trunk lines, having thousands of employees under contract. Utmost freedom to present evidence regarding operation of the law upon all railroads, under all conditions, was agreed upon in the present case, so that the Supreme court should have complete data affecting all railroads.

LAFAYETTE HOME IS BOUGHT BY AMERICANS.



MRS. WM. ASTOR CHANLER

Americans making up the American Committee of the French Heroes' Fund, headed by Mrs. William Astor Chanler, have purchased the old chateau of the Marquis de Lafayette, the Chateau de Chavaniac Fayette, birthplace of the Frenchman who helped to win American independence.

FIELD MARSHAL VON MACKENSEN BREAKS THROUGH STRONG BARRIER

IMPORTANT RUMANIAN GROUND CAPTURED ALONG THE RIVER SERETH WHICH WAS WON BY SUCCESSFUL FLANK OPERATIONS—RUSSIANS ALSO LOSE GROUND FURTHER NORTH ALONG THE MOLDAVIAN FRONTIER—RUSSIAN LINES TOWARD THE DANUBE ARE HOLDING MORE SUCCESSFULLY.

Field Marshal von Mackensen has broken through the strongly fortified barrier before the river Sereth which the Russians had constructed at Pokshani and has captured important Rumanian ground and taken 4,000 prisoners and three guns.

This notable success in the attack upon the Sereth line was won by successful flank operations, Berlin reports indicate.

The Russians also have lost ground further north along the Moldavian frontier, Berlin announces.

Toward the Danube from Pokshani, however, the latest reports showed important Russian offensive which admittedly had successfully gained ground from von Mackensen's forces.

While Pokshani is some distance from the river Sereth itself and the Russians are still have that river on which to fall back, the capture of the town, it appears, weakens the whole Russian position in this area and makes the river line more defenseless.

While this fighting is in progress in the Rumanian war theatre the Russian line between Dvinsk and Riga.

TWO KILLED IN EXPLOSION ON A SOUTHERN TRAIN

Bottle of Nitroglycerine Explodes in Smoking Compartment of Birmingham-New York Special—Believed a Passenger Committed Suicide.

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 6.—Two men were instantly killed and four others badly injured early tonight by an explosion in the smoking compartment of the rear day coach of the Southern railway's Birmingham Special, from New York.

The dead are: W. J. Oliver and Lewis D. Wlton, both of Birmingham.

The police are working on the theory that the explosion was due to a quantity of nitroglycerine being set off by Walton with suicidal intent. Walton has been in the lavatory about 30 minutes when the explosion occurred. The blast blew the steel partition between the lavatory and smoking compartment entirely away.

Just outside the door was a table on which was written: "See my suitcase for important papers. Lewis D. Walton."

Walton was formerly a grocer in Birmingham and was charged with killing his partner, M. A. Barton April 9, 1915. His trial on the charge resulted in a mistrial several months ago and he was still under bond.

Congressman-elect William B. Bankhead, of Jasper, Ala., who was in the observation car with Mrs. Bankhead, said the explosion could be felt all over Woodstock.

SUBAN SUIT HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN

Ending of What Gave Promise of Being a Strong Fought Litigation Over Bonds.

COURT GRANTS REQUEST OF THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT

Result Was Brought About Through Resolution Introduced in the Senate by Mr. Overman.

CUBAN SUIT WITHDRAWN.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Cuba's suit against the State of North Carolina for the collection of \$2,186,000 of railway bonds issued during reconstruction period and repudiated as fraudulent, was today withdrawn from the Supreme Court.

The court granted the request of Cuba for the abandonment of the suit.

This is the suit of which much has been written recently. Coming into possession of these repudiated bonds, the Republic of Cuba asked the Supreme Court of the United States for permission to bring suit against North Carolina for the collection of the bonds.

Senator Overman in the Senate introduced a resolution calling on Cuba to state where she got the bonds and how much was paid for them. After Senator Overman had been notified by the Cuban minister that the suit would be withdrawn he asked for and secured the withdrawal of the resolution.

Today, as set forth in the above Washington dispatch, the case is finally ended by the withdrawal of the suit by Cuba and permission given by the court for the withdrawal.

BICKETT'S SECRETARY TO TAKE SHORT REST.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 7.—Stanford Martin, editor of the Morning Journal, and recently appointed private secretary of Governor-elect T. W. Bickett, left early this morning for Eastern North Carolina, where he will spend several days before going to Raleigh on Tuesday.

He will begin his duties as Bickett's secretary on next Thursday, the day on which the inauguration will be.

COMMISSIONERS TO REDUCED TO FIVE

Senator Linn Gets Such a Bill Through the Senate Reducing the Board to Five Members.

Rowan is to have her board of commissioners reduced from seven to five members by a bill which Senator Stable Linn has had passed through the Senate, and which will probably be endorsed by the House the first of the week.

There was some sentiment for a reduction to three members, but Mr. Linn, who spent today at home, says it was determined on further study of the situation, as changed by the empowering of the commissioners with greater law-making power, that it would be better to have five men on the board.

PROFESSIONAL YEGGMEN ROB THE BANK AT BLUFF CITY.

Bristol, Tenn., Jan. 7.—Two professional yeggmens, with dynamite and crow bars, robbed the Bank of Bluff City early this morning and later ransacked a large store at Pink Flats. The amount of booty secured is not known.

The two men used a Bristol jitney to reach both places, taking on the dynamite and tools in the outskirts of the city. They forced the driver at the point of a revolver to wait while they pulled off both jobs.

RED CROSS CHRISTMAS SEALS.

Sale this season 15,100. Last season 10,700. Sale conducted by the Girls Club. Money to be used this year as last for a community nurse. Prizes were presented to the young ladies selling the largest number of seals by Saleeby Candy Kitchen, Olympia Candy Company, Oestreicher's and the Iris Theatre. DR. S. O. HOLLAND, Chairman.

UPROAR IN COMMITTEE ROOM DURING "LEAK" INVESTIGATION; LAWSON FLIES INTO A RAGE

CHAIRMAN HENRY OF HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE THREATENS TO CONTINUE HEARING IN EXECUTIVE SESSION—HOUSE CLERK HAD TO FORCE THE BOSTON FINANCIER INTO HIS CHAIR—LAWSON SAYS "LEAKS" HAVE COME FROM SUPREME COURT, THE SENATE, CABINET AND EVEN THE WHITE HOUSE ITSELF AND DECLARES IN TWO YEARS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ROBBED OF FROM THIRTY TO FORTY BILLION DOLLARS.

HON. EDWIN Y. WEBB



Author of Webb-Kenyon Bill Upheld by United States Supreme Court Today.

WEBB-KENYON LAW IS CONSTITUTIONAL

United States Supreme Court Holds Act Forbidding Shipments of Liquor.

WEST VA. PROHIBITION LAW IS ALSO UPHELD

Citizens Cannot Receive Liquor for Personal Use Shipped by Common Carrier.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The Federal Webb-Kenyon law designed to prevent liquor shipments from "wet" to "dry" States was today declared constitutional by the United States Supreme Court by a vote of 7 to 2, which also upheld the West Virginia prohibition amendment prohibiting citizens from receiving liquor for personal use shipped by common carrier in inter-State commerce.

Rollin Hyams Loses a Leg at Old Fort.

Old Fort, Jan. 7.—Rollin Hyams, the twelve-year-old son of George Hyams, fell under a freight train here this afternoon and suffered the loss of his left leg, which was crushed off at the knee. The boy, it is stated, with several companions, was stealing a ride on the freight, and his hold on the car slipped. He was picked up and rushed to his home, where medical attention was given him. Reports late tonight are to the effect that the injured boy is resting well, and that all chances favor his recovery.

MR. ADAMSON BUSY ON EIGHT HOUR LAW

Congressman Seeking to Get Action on the Bill He Introduced to Establish the 8-Hour Day—Wants Action on the President's Program.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Representative Adamson today started an effort to get some action in the House on his new railroad bill of last Saturday to establish the 8-hour day, forbid strikes and lockouts within 90 days and permit the President to take over the management of railroads in emergency cases such as war and blocking of commerce. He expects to push the bill without waiting for the senate to act on the program of the President for hearing in the senate today.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL LAW

Mulberry Local of County Farmers' Union Strong for a Compulsory Law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY URGED TO ACT IN MATTER

Farmers Deplore Slackness of Parents and Others in Charge of Schooling Their.

Salisbury, R. 3, Jan. 5.—Mulberry local Farmers union at its regular meeting December 19 ultimo, passed strong resolutions declaring for compulsory education. Following is a copy:

Whereas, the Farmers union stands for education, and for a more enlightened and intelligent citizenship; and whereas, We deplore the slackness of parents and those having children under their care in sending them to school, fully fifty per cent of them being sent at all;

And whereas, Believing as we do that no parent or other person has the right to deprive a child or children of that God-giving privilege to secure an education, or to have the opportunity to secure it, we deplore and declare that in our opinion the State should take hold of the matter with an iron claw, that our coming legislature should pass such a law or laws as will force the attendance of our children in our schools.

Therefore be it resolved: That we, members of Mulberry local No. 451, Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union of America, urge the enactment of a statute or statutes by the General Assembly of North Carolina, which convenes in January next, that will be absolutely compulsory in effect in placing every child in our public schools and from which there shall be no legal recourse, only Provisional hindrance being an equitable and adequate excuse;

And be it resolved: That we further urge and insist that the said statute or statutes shall make it compulsory for every child between the age of eight years and fourteen years to attend school at least four months during each school term that the school teachers shall be required to furnish the chairman of the school committees in their respective districts a report every two weeks, showing the violations of the law, if any; that a similar report be sent to the county superintendent or to some one specially appointed for the work, that it shall be a misdemeanor for either or both of these officers to fail to prosecute any and all persons violating this school law and shall be liable on failure of such duty and be punishable by a fine in the discretion of the courts.

And be it resolved: That we furnish a copy of this action to our county papers, to our state organ, the Progressive Farmer, and that it be presented to our county meeting to be held with Gold Knob local, Dec. 29 and 30 and urge similar action by that body.

"I will give testimony," said Mr. Lawson, "regarding the same condition which has existed for two years for the purpose of finding a remedy for conditions causing hundreds of thousands of persons great losses."

Mr. Lawson flew into a rage after proceeding half an hour and when interrupted by Representative Chipperfield. He declared he proposed to say all he had to say regardless of the consequences.

"Whatever the penalty," he added, "and I take it in advance."

The committee room was in an uproar and Representative Henry threatened to clear it and hold the proceedings in executive session. Mr. Lawson gesticulating shook a pointed finger in Representative Chipperfield's face and declared he was an American citizen and would see to it that he got his rights.

The clerk of the House threw Mr. Lawson back in his chair until order was restored. Mr. Lawson declared all he said in the press regarding the "leak" he believed to be true.

"I repeat it all now," declared Lawson. "It is one of the commonest things in Wall Street to get advance information from Washington on government affairs; affairs of such importance that they frequently affect the country's security. I mean also 'leaks' from the Supreme Court, advance information on important Senate matters; actions of Congressional committee; cabinet affairs, and advance information direct from the White House itself."

Mr. Lawson declared in two years the American people had been robbed of from thirty to forty billion dollars.

Referring to the day the "leak" occurred Mr. Lawson said the "fraud-inflated" market was ready to burst. He said he knew who was responsible for the "leak" and that when they saw the havoc they had caused they tried to make him the goat. He said he was convinced the committee did not want an investigation.

"And after I had been bombarding the country with my telegrams and had offered to do what I could to bid the committee I was told to 'put up or shut up,'" said Mr. Lawson.

"What difference did it make to this committee or Congress whether a little private citizen from Boston put up or shut up about a matter almost as important as the European war is to England or Germany or France? I came to Washington to aid in an honest investigation only to have hell blasted out of me as soon as Congress convened. Promptly when the Senate met a leather-lunged, sewer-mouthed old blatherer—" Here Mr. Lawson was interrupted by Chairman Henry: "You must conduct yourself—"

"I know," Mr. Lawson broke in, "that you are going to try to stop me from saying things you think I have a right to say, and what shall I do?" Chairman Henry then said the "lid was off" so far as concerning any confidential conference with him.

TEXTILE WORKERS WILL DEMAND EIGHT-HOUR DAY Support For Striking Operatives of Anderson, S. C., is Asked at Boston. Boston, Jan. 7.—A demand for an eight-hour day for textile workers throughout the country will soon be made, according to John Golden, international president of the United Textile Workers of America, who tonight made an appeal to the Boston Central Labor union for support for the strike of 700 operatives in the mills at Anderson, S. C. The shorter day would be asked for President Golden said, notwithstanding the increase in wages during the past year amounting in some cases in northern mills to 28 1-2 per cent.