

DOCTRINE OF STATE'S RIGHTS EXPLAINS VOTE OF SENATOR TILLMAN

Fiery South Carolinian Denounced the Employers of Child Labor in Mills.

SHOCKED AT THEIR VIEW

Letters Asking Him to Oppose Bill Indicate Opposition of Wealthy Is a Fear of Reduced Revenue.

Washington, Aug. 14.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL.)—One of the most remarkable speeches on the child labor bill was by Senator Tillman of South Carolina, in the closing hours of debate in the senate. He spoke and voted against it, because of his devotion to the doctrine of state's rights, but at the same time he tore the mask from the mercenary opposition in the knowledge of all men to be grounded in their desire to coin dividends from childhood.

In vigorous, homely language, the South Carolina senator told of letters he had received from his state asking him to oppose the bill, and said:

Mill Owners Are Battered.
"The quibbling and selfishness of cotton mill owners make me almost willing to vote for the Keating bill despite my honest conviction of its unconstitutionality, and I have so told them in my replies to their letters. The reasons they advance against the measure lead me to think that they oppose it not because it sets a bad and dangerous precedent, but because it reduces their dividends."

"I have been shocked to see men in South Carolina, rich, intelligent, well educated men, who were willing to swell their dividends at the expense of little children. The well of selfishness in their letters could not hide their heartlessness. Their plea, stripped of verbiage, is: 'Let the children toil that we may live in luxury.' And yet we wonder at the spread of socialism and the increasing hostility of labor against capital."

Says Law Unconstitutional.
"Some senators who feel like I do on this subject say that they give the children the benefit of the doubt, but my conscience will not permit me to do that, much as I would like to. It is not a matter of expediency or wisdom or un wisdom, but constitutional law is involved. For the life of me I cannot see how any one who can read the English language and understand it can for a moment argue that the interstate commerce clause of the constitution gives congress the power necessary to enact this bill."

From another southern senator, Vardaman of Mississippi, came a plea for the bill in which the opposite view was invoked that doubt should be resolved in favor of the children. "I am going to resolve the doubt of constitutionality, if there be any," he said, "which opposes it not because the minds of certain distinguished senators, and I am going to resolve that doubt in favor of the bill."

Vardaman Enjoins Measure.
"I recognize that the United States government, acting with the states, is the only power beneath the stars that can save the children of America from the evils of the child labor, the scourge of the gold worshiping capitalists of this country. The measure is full of good for the present generation, and it promises greater blessings for the generations of the future."

Affirming that the constitution, as strictly construed in the old days, might be invoked against the bill, the Mississippi senator quoted poetry: "New conditions teach new duties. Time makes ancient good uncouth. They must upward still and onward go who would be abreast of truth."

Credit Due Southerners.
Considering the pressure to which many of the southern senators were subjected, the fact that only ten of them voted against the bill on its final passage tells a story of progress in the south. Southern senators who voted for the bill deserve mention, and here they are:

James and Beckman of Kentucky, Chilton of West Virginia, Cuberson and Sheppard of Texas, Lee of Maryland, Martin and Swanson of Virginia, Ransdell of Louisiana, Robinson of Arkansas, Shields of Tennessee, Underwood of Alabama and Vardaman of Mississippi.

BILL WILL DISPOSE OF PRIVATE HOLDINGS IN THE WHITMAN FOREST

Washington, Aug. 14.—Representative Sinnott of private lands in the Whitman national forest in Oregon for government timber is unique in its kind, and is thought by many to open a way whereby a large share of private holdings in the forests can be eliminated.

Heretofore effort has been largely devoted to securing the exchange of private land in forest boundaries for public land elsewhere. In the Sinnott bill the plan is for exchange of land for timber only, as it is understood that numerous owners of land are willing to part with it in return for tracts of ripened timber, which can soon be cut and marketed.

The same principle is embodied in the Lane and McArthur bills for exchange of private holdings in the Bull Run reserve, except in that case exchange is also authorized for government land in other parts of the Oregon national forest.

There are about 130,000 acres of private lands in the Whitman forest. Exchange may be made for timber in other parts of the forest or on other lands near the forest.

SYSTEM THAT TRIES TO MAKE THE INDIAN FARMER WRONG--Lane

Washington, Aug. 14.—Senator Lane takes a great interest in Indian affairs. He thinks the system of Indian administration is wrong, and his membership on the Indian affairs committee has brought him in touch with many tales of wrong from the reservations, from which he has drawn observations on the floor of the senate to sustain the contention that poor Lane has been repeatedly robbed, without any effort at adequate protection by Uncle Sam.

It was quite natural, therefore, that

in debate on the child labor bill the Oregon senator should touch upon the way the government has treated its Indian wards. These are also "children" who, in his view, should be afforded better treatment.

"The theory of the Indian bureau is that the Indian should be self supporting," he said, "and that is right, but the officials are submerged in a mass of detail and they do not realize the conditions. They say the Indian should get to work, but he has no way to work. They slap him on a farm, with no seed and no hoe."

"In our state," interrupted bluff old Senator Nelson of Minnesota, "the Indians have some of the finest agricultural lands, but they won't work. They rent their lands to white people. We even gave them oxen, and the Indians ate them."

"If you gave them a reindeer or a buffalo, they would have eaten them quicker," responded Lane. "The Indian back is a hunter and the system is wrong that tries all at once to make him a farmer. It is done without a proper understanding of the problem."

PLANS OUTLINED FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN NATIONAL FORESTS

Washington, Aug. 14.—Officials of the forest service, in outlining their work in connection with the appropriation for road construction "in and adjacent to the national forests," state that applications for aid in building roads to connect with forest roads should be filed by September 1 to obtain an allotment of funds for the first year.

Applications may be filed either with the department of agriculture or the local forest officials. Trunk line roads to connect with forest railways should be applied for the state highway commission.

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Two elements are considered. First, the proportion in each state of national forest resources, comprising the estimated value of the timber and of grazing privileges. Second, is the area of forest land in each state to the total area of land in the forests. The apportionment will be based half and half upon these elements, 10 per cent of the total being first reserved for operating expenses, surveys and contingencies.

Mendell of Wyoming desired to make the apportionment on the basis of 60 per cent for area and 40 per cent for resources. The effect of this would have been to reduce the share of Oregon and California for the benefit of the other forest land states. The reduction for Oregon alone would have amounted to \$14,000.

Mendell's proposition was voted down at a meeting of the western members of congress with Associate Forester Potter, which was called to discuss the proper division of funds. The half and half division between resources and area, as proposed by Representative Hawley and adopted, is believed to accord with the views of the forestry officials as tending toward a fairer division of the road building benefits.

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The complaint was sworn to by a representative of the American Fair Trade league, who is also cooperating with the advertising vigilance committee of the Washington Retail Merchants' association.

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Mr. Wood was born at Jersey Shore in 1838. At the beginning of the Civil war he joined a Pennsylvania regiment as a private and later joined the navy as an engineer and was mustered out when he had been raised to a first assistant. He was married July 14, 1869 to Miss Molly A. Hart, who survives him.

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