

# CALDER HEARINGS SPEED REGULATION OF COAL INDUSTRY

Bill May Fail of Passage at Present Crowded Session, but Die Is Cast.

## "SPECULATORS" CURBED

Disclosures Have Saved Government Large Sum on Year's Fuel Cost.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Chairman La Follette of the Senate Manufacturing Committee has indicated his intention to bring the hearings on the Calder bill to a close. The measure will probably be reported out this week. The investigation by the Calder sub-committee on coal, which resulted in the introduction of the regulatory measure and its reference to the Manufacturing Committee, undoubtedly has helped in reducing the country's coal bill.

The efforts of Senator Calder and his associates to bring to light all the facts in the coal situation saved the United States a tidy sum on its army coal bill for the coming fiscal year, as the publicity given to the unbusinesslike practice of the army buying its coal in the open market three months after the coal year has set in and the majority of operators had contracted for the sale of their entire output will bring a reform in this custom.

The Calder committee's investigation of the coal industry is one of the few Congressional inquiries where the result has justified the time spent in probing. It will probably result in the curbing of coal "speculators" or brokers to a large degree in the future. The producers no less than the consumer in many cases have been the victims of these profiteers.

The investigation has uncovered the headless manner in which the United States Shipping Board and other governmental agencies rushed into the market and helped send the price of coal skyward by keenly competing with each other for great quantities of fuel. The taxpayers lost not only by being profiteered on directly by the coal men for their own needs, but twice over, by reason of the exorbitant prices charged the Government.

There is no question that the disclosures in the coal trade brought out by the Senatorial inquiry have established for the first time a sentiment for Government regulation of the industry. Whether this sentiment is strong enough to force the Calder bill through Congress is doubtful, especially at the short session, with its jam of appropriation bills.

Opposition was made before the Senate Manufacturing Committee against the Calder bill by W. J. Thompson, Secretary of the Anthracite Coal Operators' Association of Philadelphia, representing eighty-seven companies; by Charles A. Pedersen, a District of Columbia anthracite wholesaler, and by former Gov. Curtis of Maine, all of whom declared the bill would work more harm than good.

Effort was made by Chairman La Follette and Senator Walsh of the committee to close the hearings, but objection was made by Senator Reed of Missouri, who insisted that he wanted further testimony from three large operators he asked should be deputed to appear. Senator Reed said he wanted more information as to the relation between labor and prices.

Mr. Thompson said prices of \$15 a ton which had been referred to were extreme and not average prices, and explained the difference in the anthracite and bituminous coal trade. He pointed out that steam anthracite was sold below cost to compete with bituminous.

He also pointed out that there had been increased freight rates to add to

coal prices, and that the operators were not obtaining a fair return on their investment. He said that 90 per cent of the bituminous coal was sold at the mines, while anthracite sales depended upon a fluctuating demand. Price advances, he declared, had not kept pace with increased wages and production costs.

One of the reasons which Mr. Thompson gave for the cry against increased coal prices was the fact that coal sold in dollars while most commodities of necessary use sold in cents and the consumer noticed an advance in coal price to a more marked degree than an article selling at less than a dollar. He also declared that the margin of the operator did not represent profit, as there were other overhead charges such as interest.

The witness also said that coal moves more rapidly than other commodities and it was not subject to price manipulation. He also referred to price fixing by the Fuel Administration and said that body had not remedied the conditions under which most operators were working at a loss. He declared that Fuel Administrator Garfield, after he left office, said the prices for anthracite should have been fixed at higher figures. Mr. Thompson also stated that the independent companies had to compete with the railroad fuel companies and that they also attempted to limit resale. He declared that there was a shortage of from 15,000 to 20,000 miners in the anthracite region to-day.

## 5 DAYS FOR "HANGING" WIFE.

Neighbor Says She Was Struck When She Interfered.

Rosalie Battaglio of No. 461 First Avenue was in Men's Court last night as complainant against Rosario Compton, a neighbor who she said, struck her.

"I heard him fighting with his wife," she told Magistrate Simpson, "and I went into the flat. There I saw Compton had a rope around his wife's neck and was trying to hang her to a gas jet. When I interfered he went after me."

"So you were trying to hang your wife, were you?" inquired the Magistrate turning to the prisoner.

"I was starting to punish her," he answered.

"Five days in the workhouse," the Magistrate said.

## LIFE TERM FOR BURGLARY.

Jersey Assemblyman Would Give Maximum Sentence.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 25.—Bills designed to stem the so-called crime wave were introduced in the Assembly last night by Assemblyman Tattersall of Passaic. The bills provide for life imprisonment as the penalty for burglary and highway robbery.

# NEW YORK FIGHT ON JERSEY SEWAGE ARGUED TO-DAY

Hughes and Wickersham Will Oppose Each Other as Counsel in Case.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Charles Evans Hughes, former Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and possibly Secretary of State in President Harding's Cabinet, and George Wickersham, former Attorney General in President Taft's Cabinet, will appear as opposing counsel to-day in the Supreme Court in one of the most important sanitation cases ever argued before that tribunal.

A suit of the State of New Jersey against the State of New York, to prevent the construction of a huge trunk sewer carrying into New York Bay the sewage from a New Jersey suburban district numbering two million people, is scheduled for argument. Mr. Hughes will argue the case for New York, and Mr. Wickersham will appear for New Jersey.

The case has been in the Supreme

Court since 1908. New York seeks to restrain the construction and operation of a trunk line sewer proposed for conducting sewage of the Passaic Valley district, including Paterson, Passaic, Newark and other Jersey towns, to a point in New York Bay, near Robbins Reef, and there discharging it almost under the nose of the Statue of Liberty. It is contended that this additional sewage, added to that already flowing into the upper bay from eleven New York State municipalities, including Manhattan and Brooklyn, would jeopardize the health of New York citizens and also interfere seriously with their comfort and recreation.

The point in the bay where it is proposed to fix the terminus of the big Jersey sewer is not far from Coney Island and other recreation beaches, where New York City people go in vast numbers for bathing and fresh air during the hot months. Edward Hatch Jr., Chairman of the Committee on Pollution of the Merchants' Association of New York, who is in Washington to be present at the final argument, illustrated the importance of the case by pointing out that the committee headed by him was the only civic committee the late

J. Pierpont Morgan ever consented to serve on. "The people in the property of the Nation," Mr. Morgan said, "should be consented to serve on the committee."

Many of the leading scientists in the field of sanitation have devoted years to study in connection with the present litigation with the result that several new principles in sanitary engineering have been brought to light.

The eyes of the whole Nation are said to be on this case, because it embodies in its principles involved in so many sanitary contentions arising between States where rivers constitute interstate boundaries.

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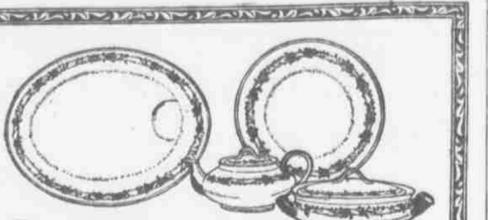
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# PERSONAL but not Confidential

THIS IS LETTER NUMBER NINE-TEN OF A SERIES WRITTEN TO ALL OF YOU ABOUT A MATTER WHICH IS VITAL TO YOUR SUCCESS. IF YOU MISSED ANY OF THE PREVIOUS LETTERS AND WOULD LIKE COPIES, I WILL MAIL THEM TO YOU.

To make plain that people who practice Thrift in the right way are the real pros of business—that they are the only ones who can be relied on to do buying twelve months in the year—I want to tell you a story about my secretary, Miss Lillian Greenberg, who is only one of millions of young people in this country who like nice things and are always able to buy them within reason, because they work steadily and take care of the money they earn.

This little lady has been self-supporting since she was sixteen years old. She is one of seven children—three boys and four girls—whose father died when the eldest was fifteen. The mother took care of this flock until each child was old enough to go to work. All did go to work. Three of the girls are happily married, but they were business girls before they did marry.

This is a typical American family, which looks upon work as the real stepping stone to happiness and prosperity.

My secretary appeared in my office in November wearing a handsome sealskin coat. I asked her if her brothers had given it to her, because I know she is living at home with her mother and three brothers.

She looked at me indignantly and said: "No, they didn't buy this coat; I bought it and paid for it myself, the same as I have bought and paid for everything else for myself ever since I started to work. I paid a lot of money for it, too, and it took me a long time to get the money together."

"Now, a year ago, I thought a fur coat was a terrible extravagance for a working girl, but when I got to thinking that I have to buy a coat of some kind every winter, costing not less than \$50 to \$75 and that after one year's wear it grows shabby, I thought it would be economical to buy a good fur coat, out of which I expect to get good wear for many years. Besides, it keeps me a whole lot warmer than any other kind of a coat ever did, and that's worth something, too."

"But I did not buy this coat until I had consulted my mother about it. I did not want to make so much of an inroad on the money I had in bank without her consent to do so. She told me to go ahead and buy the coat, but even then it gave me a wrench to part with so much money. I realized, however, that it would be a good investment. I believe in the kind of thrift that preserves health and gives one pleasures and comforts at the same time. You know I am thrifty with my time; I work every minute I am thrifty in lots of ways—in reading, in studying, in taking care of my things, in amusements. There is something more than just being thrifty with money, yet I know I couldn't have the things I like if I were not thrifty with my money."

Now, my secretary has become a capitalist. Heretofore whatever money she has laid by she has kept in bank. She did not understand that any house in Wall Street would be interested in advising her how to invest her small sum of money. But now she knows, and so do I.

She is keeping some money in bank, but she has purchased, since January 1, securities to the amount of \$250. She made her initial payment and agreed to pay for the balance on a monthly basis, but she has become so interested in being a capitalist in a small way that she will pay for these securities within the next few weeks instead of over a period of months. She also tells me that when these securities are paid for she will buy some more. Furthermore, she tells me that she is interesting a number of her personal friends to become investors in a small way.

Does this story appeal to young men and young women? I am sure it will.

I WONDER IF MERCHANTS THINK FOR A MINUTE THAT THEIR BUSINESSES WOULD BE PROSPEROUS WITHOUT THE TRADE OF THE THRIFTY WORKERS.

If you will write to Henry L. Doherty & Company, 60 Wall Street, or call at their offices, they will be glad to advise you how you, with your small sums of money, can become capitalists, because investors in safe securities, even though in small amounts, are really capitalists.

Sincerely yours,  
WILLIAM C. FREEMAN,  
117 West 46th Street, City.

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