

NIAGARA GRAB REPORTED SNAP HEARING HELD.

New-York Civic Representatives Fooled—Only Hope in Governor.

Albany, April 18.—Precisely as was forecast in The Tribune to-day, the well greased wheels that are carrying the Niagara power "grab" brought the measure back to the Assembly, after a brief and futile hearing, granted, not to have the bill exposed, but merely to save Assemblyman Thompson's political face.

The hearing was set down for the absurdly early hour of 9:30 a. m., the earliest hearing of the whole session, possibly to preclude the appearance of any of the representatives of civic bodies opposing the measure, lasted less than an hour, and with the proposition that the city of Lockport was not getting its share of the booty contained in the measure.

The sole voice raised for the falls was that of Superintendent Perry of the State Reservation at Niagara, who demolished the theory that the 400,000 horsepower provided by the bill would not injure the flow and was a sincere effort to limit the amount of water to be taken.

Howard Whitbeck, Mayor of Lockport, declared that if the bill reached him unamended he would veto it; the amendment desired, of course, simply being to give Lockport more and not to take less from Niagara. He also insisted that the measure was a local bill, and there seemed to be more or less agreement on this point.

The only unkind thing said about the bill came from J. Frank Smith, the City Attorney of Lockport, who disturbed the even discussion over the conflicting interests in the measure by declaring that the amendment, alleged to be satisfactory to Lockport, and made the excuse for reporting the measure out, was adopted "when rascality sat at the head of the table where it was framed."

With this awful calamity in sight, the committee met and in executive session promptly reported the bill out again, and placed it on the Assembly calendar, where it can be voted on to-morrow. This was the extent of the farce, less than an hour being consumed in the whole performance; and now the bill is to pass without more than a passing debate in the Assembly, be hustled over to the Senate, taken in charge by the non-participating group of legislators that have looked out for all similar propositions in the present and in previous sessions, and passed.

If Lockport interests can be satisfied the measure will then be sent to the Mayor of Lockport to sign. If not, it may be sent to Governor Higgins, but of legislative assistance in defeating it there is not the slightest hope. The votes have been secured and secured by means that no one has any doubt about.

The snap hearing this morning was kept an absolute secret. Representatives of various New-York organizations who came here to-day to speak about the bill learned too late that the hearing was over. Members of the committee were as dumb as oysters about the action. Not one in the circle of Assemblymen knew that the bill had been reported back after a hearing, and every advantage of machinery was employed to assist in advancing this bill.

When it became known that it had had little exposure there was general indignation, but this came too late. The hope of defeating the bill lies with the executive, not with the legislative, force, and the irony of the whole situation lies in the fact that no one charges or imagines that votes on this bill will cost more than \$500, and many will be much cheaper.

LA PETRA SMOKED OUT. Finally Asks to Have Sprinkling Bill Reported.

Albany, April 18.—Out maneuvered and powerless longer to hold up the measure, Assemblyman La Petra, Charles F. Murphy's personal legislative representative, to-day asked the Assembly Committee favorably to report his bill, introduced at the request of Commissioner Woodbury, giving the Street Cleaning Commissioner the power to regulate street sanding and sprinkling. But Assemblyman La Petra did not take this action until the committee had agreed favorably to report a similar bill, introduced by a Republican assemblyman, Mr. Prentice, of New-York.

The La Petra bill was introduced in January; it was supported by the city administration and endorsed by many civic bodies, but soon after it was introduced it was discovered that the street sprinkling was done by contract, and this put a new plane on the affair from a Tammany point of view and nearly defeated the bill.

For weeks La Petra refused to move the bill. When Commissioner Woodbury came up and asked that the bill be passed, La Petra insisted that he had been ignored, and declared that he would never move the bill unless he saw fit. At last the situation became so scandalous that a bill of similar character was introduced by Mr. Prentice. On this bill a hearing was had to-day, and President John P. Haines of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals appeared before the committee and urged the passage of the bill. Then Mr. La Petra was forced to let go, and after the Prentice bill has been reported his was put out. The Prentice bill will probably pass soon.

REPUBLICANS SWEEP NEW-HAVEN. Mayor Studley Re-elected—Victory, Unparalleled in City.

New-Haven, Conn., April 18.—After the liveliest municipal campaign in New-Haven in many years Mayor John P. Studley, Republican, was elected to office for the third time to-day, and his party won nearly all the other offices in the City Hall, the exceptions being those of Controller and Tax Collector, which went to the present Democratic incumbents, Jonathan N. Howe and Francis G. Anthony.

The result is unparalleled in local political history. It has been a common thing for the Republicans to win the majority, but seldom have they won the more important offices. Many of the Democrats who were defeated to-day have been in office for years, and never before has a majority candidate carried all of the offices won, as did Mayor Studley to-day.

Mayor Studley's plurality over William S. Pardee, Democrat, who had the Citizens' League endorsement, was approximately 2,500.

TO SEE WASHINGTON. Pennsylvania Railroad three-day tour, April 24. Including hotel accommodations, \$15 or \$18. Apply to ticket agents—Advt.

PRESIDENT WILLIS BEAR. Is Satisfied with His Hunt and Calls It "Bully Sport."

Greenwood Springs, Col., April 18.—President Roosevelt has killed a bear and a bobcat. He is satisfied with his hunt for the biggest game the Rockies afford. To quote his own words, "I got what I was after. It was bully sport, and I hope I keep up."

This is the story brought to Secretary Loeb to-night by Elmer Chapman, a courier, who was chosen to bear messages between the President and the temporary seat of government at the Hotel Colorado in this city.

While he came through New-Castle, where are camped numerous correspondents of newspapers, he brought his story intact. There was no leakage, and all information obtained at that place was from a view of a closely rolled fresh bearskin, which Chapman transferred from his saddle to the car at the railway station.

"Is that all you've got?" he was asked. "Isn't that enough?" he replied. This was about the substance of the conversation in which Chapman participated at New-Castle. He was chosen because he knows when not to talk. Before starting on his hunt the President said he did not want any newspaper men to follow him.

To three correspondents representing press associations who accompanied him from Washington the President said: "You stick by Loeb, and I will help you all I can. I cannot send you out on any day, but as soon as there is anything worth telling you shall have it."

The courier got through New-Castle without talking, and the President made good to those who complied with his wishes.

But if the courier was reticent at New-Castle, he was different when his journey was at an end. Secretary Loeb had removed the injunction of secrecy. His eyes kindled with a fire that told his admiration for the President's prowess as a hunter more than could the words at his command. One expression which the hardy mountaineer injected into his story was: "Say, fellows, he's a beauty, and no mistake. The way he scents game would make you think he was born in the mountains and had never left them."

Say, now, being President don't make any difference with a man that's got the real stuff in him. Goff said he was the real thing and didn't need showing, but I didn't believe it.

It was late when Chapman finished his talk with Secretary Loeb.

MR. JEFFERSON SINKING. The End May Come at Any Time, Though There Is Still Hope.

West Palm Beach, Fla., April 18, 10 p. m.—Joseph Jefferson's condition remains unchanged, except that he is gradually growing weaker. His trouble is a complication of diseases from which he suffered last summer. His physicians regard his condition as critical in the extreme, and it would not be surprising if he should pass away at any moment, yet he may rally and live for days or even weeks.

The veteran actor realizes that his end is near and looks forward to it without fear. All hope for his recovery has been abandoned by his family.

For a number of years Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Cleveland have spent a week or two of each year together fishing in Florida. It was on his return from one of these fishing trips that Mr. Jefferson's illness developed. He went to Hobe Sound about three weeks ago on his annual fishing outing, and returned about ten days ago to his home here slightly ill. He had taken a severe cold. He improved for a few days, but relapsed. Dr. Worley, of St. Augustine, was sent for, but at the time his condition was not considered serious except that his age was against him.

His illness was diagnosed as pneumonia, and he was treated accordingly. He was taken to St. Augustine, where he was cared for by Dr. Worley, of St. Augustine, who has been called in consultation, remain with him all the time.

SHAW GETS HIS CHOICE. Not to Have a Gravedigger for a Coachman.

Washington, April 18.—Instead of the gravedigger finally assigned to him by the Civil Service Commission for a coachman, Secretary Shaw is to have his first choice, Robert Sheppard, to whom the commission had objected because of the presentation by Sheppard of letters from political supporters. The affair was satisfactorily adjusted to-day at a visit which Civil Service Commissioner Cooley paid to the Secretary.

The following statement was issued after the conference: Secretary Shaw refused to discuss the gravedigger coachman further than to say that he was not responsible for the incident being made public. The gravedigger himself says that Commissioner Cooley told him that it is his brother who was coachman for the superintendent of the insane hospital, and that he has never been coachman for any one.

The Secretary said he was surprised, and regretted that the commission's examination, as disclosed by Mr. Cooley's interview, failed to show that the gravedigger had never been a coachman, and that Sheppard was a former coachman of Senator Sherman, Dr. Harbin, and for seven years coachman for Alfred Henry Lewis, and that he is reasonably familiar with the streets and numbers of the residence portions of Washington. Mr. Sheppard never disclosed to any one in the Treasury Department that he had ever done political work for the Republican party, but that fact would not have prejudiced him in the Secretary's return to his job, and the Secretary regrets that he should have influenced adversely the Civil Service Commission.

Secretary Shaw says there is no quarrel between him and the commission over the incident, and he is sure the commission will gladly favor an executive order giving him an experienced coachman, a man of suitable character, and one who knows the streets and numbers of the city. He recognizes that the Civil Service examination will discover such a man.

RADIUM CURES CANCER. Lieber's Solution Does Wonderful Work at Flower Hospital.

A solution of radium discovered by Hugo Lieber, the chemist, has been used for some weeks at the Flower Hospital in the treatment of cancer, with wonderful success. The preparation received the severest of initial tests. Mrs. Sarah Olson, of New-Canaan, Conn., eighty-two years old, was brought to the hospital, dying from a cancer which had attacked the base of her left foot. To avoid undergoing a surgical operation, she eagerly agreed to the use of Dr. Lieber's discovery.

She was first treated with the solution two weeks ago. Six days later the malignant growths literally dropped away, showing the healthy flesh beneath. To the amazement of Dr. William H. Dieffenbach, who had personally directed the treatment, that it now remains with a cancer on the right foot was treated by the same method to-day. A woman who was dying from a uterine cancer was treated once with the preparation and has already shown marked improvement.

The Lieber preparation is spread as thin as possible upon cotton plates and placed in direct contact with the growth to be removed, the rays being absolutely unimpeded.

AGENTS INDOORSE ALEXANDER. EQUITABLE MEN URGE ACTION FOR MUTUALIZATION—HYDE AGAIN SHOWS FIGHT.

Gage E. Tarbell Makes a Warm Retort—Brackett Resolution Is Lost in Senate After Fierce Attack on Society.

Senator Brackett's resolution to take from the Insurance Committee of the Senate his bill to facilitate policyholders' suits for accountings was defeated at Albany by a vote of 56 to 7. This action followed a long and sensational attack on the Equitable Society by Mr. Brackett.

Agents and general managers of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, meeting at the Hotel Savoy yesterday, indorsed President Alexander and Gage E. Tarbell and urged them to keep up their fight for mutualization.

Mr. Hyde renewed his attack on President Alexander by a letter giving a list of checks said to have been received by Mr. Alexander as profits in the Hyde syndicate. Mr. Alexander still denied membership in the syndicate.

H. H. Knowles, a supervisor of Equitable agencies, said he had been suspended for alleged insubordination because he had refused to let President Alexander keep him away from the meeting by a trick.

SAVOY THE STORM CENTRE BRACKETT OVERWHELMED. Big Equitable Rivals Meet and Talk Before Subordinates. Long Attack on Equitable Musters Only Seven Votes.

From two long sessions at the Hotel Savoy yesterday the agents and general managers of the Equitable Life Assurance Society were summoned to this city to discuss the factional strife in the society evolved five resolutions of various scope and intent. Of these, the most important was one calling on the legislature to pass an amendment to the charter of the Equitable, forcibly making over the society into a mutual concern in which all the directors shall be policyholders' representatives. Just how the legislature could annul the stockholders' interest and abrogate the present charter was not set forth.

Of the other resolutions, one expressed confidence in President Alexander and urged him to continue his work for mutualization. Another set forth the agents' affection for Gage E. Tarbell, the man from whom they obtain their contracts. A third praised the Frick committee and said its investigation surely would be thorough. The fourth called for an official announcement that the company was now a mutual concern, as its organization provided for a mutual business scheme, and only the policyholders had any right to the surplus.

Two sessions were held, the morning session being devoted entirely to speeches by President Alexander, James H. Hyde and Gage E. Tarbell and the resolution praising President Alexander's conduct of the business. The afternoon session was enlivened by much vigorous argument, and a rather strong Hyde spirit manifested itself at times. Another meeting will be held this morning. It was declared last night by Alexander partisans that a resolution would be pushed through "by some of the wild Westerners," calling on Mr. Hyde to resign as vice-president, if he wanted to see the Equitable weather this struggle.

The most dramatic feature of the afternoon's session came when John C. Fische, of Newark, N. J., denounced the entire meeting for hissing at him when he was advocating delay in the radical course proposed. He asserted that in hissing him they also hissed Mrs. A. M. Cruick, of Philadelphia, who had declared for caution and delay.

"Such action is a disgrace," said Mr. Fische, vehemently. "It's not only a disgrace to the Equitable Society, which you say you're so proud of, but it's a disgrace to your manhood. To think a lot of men would hiss a woman! I don't care for myself. I come from a State where we treat every man as a gentleman until he proves he's not. I've got something to say at this meeting, and I intend to say it. You've interrupted me with hisses. You know there are only two kinds of animals which hiss—snakes and geese. You can make it fit to suit yourself."

Continued on second page.

CAR WRECKS FIRE TRUCK. Several Hurt in Collision—Blaze at Washington Irving House.

A 3d-ave. surface car and fire truck No. 7 came together yesterday, and as a result two firemen were injured, several cut and bruised and many passengers in the surface car were thrown into a panic. The truck was responding to an alarm at 16th-st. and Irving Place. John Hurley, tillerman of the truck, and John Brennan, fireman, were taken to Bellevue. The truck was almost demolished, and the windows in the car were broken and the front platform was battered in.

The collision was in 28th-st., near 3d-ave. When the truck, going at top speed, swerved into the northbound track, a car approached. The motorman did not hear the bell. The truck turned sharp to the right, to avoid the northbound car. The car crashed into the truck, however, near the rear wheel. The two firemen were thrown from the truck and were picked up unconscious. There were about thirty persons in the car, and all made a rush for the rear door. Many were thrown to the floor.

The fire was in the old Washington Irving House, at the northeast corner of Irving Place and 17th-st., now the home of Miss Elsie De Wolf, the actress, and Miss Elizabeth Marbury, the play broker.

A maid, in the absence of Miss De Wolf, started a grate fire, and the flames communicated to woodwork near the grate. The maid with a broom extinguished the flames before the department arrived. There was little damage.

BELL MAY AID CASTRO. Is Thinking of Commanding Army and Fighting the United States.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Denver, April 18.—Sherman Bell, former adjutant general of Colorado, is seriously considering accepting an offer to be commander in chief of the army of Venezuela. A large salary and almost arbitrary power goes with the position, and Bell says he is much tempted to "take the offer and make men of those greasers." He adds: "If I go down there half measures in anything will not go with me. I will fix that little army up so that it cannot only take care of its own country, but also do a little business in trouble outside. I could get a hundred of the best men would be more to it than mere commander of the army in a short time."

Bell says he doesn't want to fight Roosevelt, but believes if he goes to Venezuela he will have contact with the growth to be removed, the rays being absolutely unimpeded.

CITY SALARIES JUMP. UP \$425,000 SINCE JAN. 1. Rapid Increase Under Tammany Control Alarms Mayor and Friends. EFFECTS OF DECISION. Difficult to Estimate Number of Agreements Affected.

The McClellan administration, in one way or another, has, since January 1, increased salaries in the aggregate, about \$425,000. Up to March 1, the increase had been \$325,000, and since then about \$100,000 has been added to the annual budget in the way of salaries and increases. The rapid increases in the salary list are beginning to alarm the Mayor and his friends. The extent of the increases was not appreciated until the various items were shown to the Mayor a day or two ago by one of his political advisers.

Hardly a meeting of the Aldermen takes place without the introduction of a resolution calling for an increase in wages. As soon as a particular grade of clerks gets a slight increase in one department, it is almost impossible for the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to deny a similar increase for similar clerks in other departments. By the end of the year it is believed by those familiar with the situation, the increases will figure up \$600,000.

Commissioner McAdoo, with the assistance of the legislature, which authorized special revenue bonds for the purpose, got an appropriation of \$200,000 for new policemen. The aldermen last week voted a similar sum for tenement house inspectors, on a showing made by Commissioner Crain that it was impossible for his men to compel tenement house occupants to obey the law, as the men were overworked and could not be in two places at once.

It is the custom of heads of departments to get first a resolution passed by the Board of Aldermen appropriating funds for an addition to the force. The resolution will be attacked on the ground that the officials responsible for the enforcement of the law are not diligent. This naturally sidetracks the measure for the time. Then some sort of an accident will happen, and the explanation will be that the department has not enough men to enforce the law. This is what happened in Commissioner Crain's case, and a similar argument was used by Commissioner McAdoo.

The amended city charter provided for secretaries, assistant secretaries, chief clerks and assistant clerks in many of the departments. Under the low administration many of these places were left vacant, because the commissioners could not in good conscience put on men for whom there was no work. The Tammany conscience is not built that way. Every place provided for by the charter has been filled, and wherever it was possible to construe the charter as authorizing more employes they have been added.

The increases have been just as marked in the Finance Department as in any other, but Controller Grout says there is good and sufficient reason for the increases there. He said: "I have found it imperative to raise the salaries of many of the engineers connected with this department. The city has under way a vast amount of construction work requiring skilled engineering supervision. Bright young engineers are willing to go to other cities for higher wages for the sake of acquiring practical experience. In many instances, where the circumstances warranted it, this department has raised the salaries of engineers to make it necessary to break in new men. Where the circumstances warranted it, we have raised the pay of engineers in order to retain them. We considered it economy to do it."

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CAT'S CLAWS SAVE HOME. Drowsy Master Roused in Time to Put Out Fire. Plainfield, N. J., April 18 (Special).—Toby, a big tiger cat, belonging to Mrs. Joseph H. Tryon, undoubtedly saved not only her home, but the lives of those who were asleep in the house, last night. Toby is generally kept below stairs during the night, but last night the door was left ajar and he wandered upstairs. Taking a seat on Mr. Tryon's pillow, he began slowly to scratch his tail back and forth across Mr. Tryon's face. It tickled Mr. Tryon's nose and ears until it finally woke him. Toby moved then, and in a hurry, but came back again, when his master fell asleep. This time he explored Mr. Tryon's face with his cold nose until he sat up with a yell and threw the cat to the floor. Toby instantly jumped back on the bed, and left the marks of all his claws down Mr. Tryon's cheek.

Toby, being a wise cat, fled then, with Mr. Tryon in hot pursuit. Downstairs the pair went, Toby leading well. He was cornered at the kitchen door, but was instantly forgotten by Mr. Tryon, who saw smoke eddying through the cracks. Rushing back upstairs, he roused his wife, two sons and Miss Fanny Van Riper, of Upper Montclair, who was visiting them. All got out safely, and the fire was extinguished with little difficulty. Mrs. Tryon insists that Toby knew the danger, and awoke them because of it.

"AUTO" DRIVER HELD. Havemeyer Man's Machine in Central Park. Achille Jackhard, a French automobile driver, living at No. 122 East 66th-st., which is said to be the Havemeyer garage, was arrested in the East Drive in Central Park, near 98th-st., yesterday afternoon, on a charge of speeding.

Mounted Patrolman McNulty said the man was driving the big touring car at eighteen miles an hour. Two young women were in the automobile. At McGowan's Pass Tavern the young women said: "We'll have to get papa to give bail for Achy right away."

Soon after the young women left the station a man who gave his name as H. L. Havemeyer appeared at the station house, and gave bail. Mr. Havemeyer gave as security the house at No. 1 East 66th-st., the home of Henry O. Havemeyer.

VANDERBILT'S GRANDSON DEAD. Oakley S. Barker Expires Suddenly—His Wife and Son on the Ocean. BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Stamford, Conn., April 18.—Oakley S. Barker, a grandson of Commodore Vanderbilt, died suddenly at the Hotel Carlton here to-day from heart disease. His wife and only child, Harold, are on the steamer Kroonland, having sailed from Dover on Saturday.

Mr. Barker's mother was Catherine Vanderbilt, sixth child of Commodore Vanderbilt. She married Smith Barker, of New-York. Subsequently Mrs. Barker married Gustave Laflite, of France, and went abroad to live. Oakley Barker remained in this country, and was brought up by Commodore Vanderbilt. He was educated at Williams College, since leaving college he has engaged in no active business. He has been a resident here for fifteen years. Mr. Barker was about fifty years old.

Keep your liver active and enjoy life. Bobb's Laxatives act pleasantly.—Advt.

FATAL EXPLOSION OF GAS BUOY. Canadian Lighthouse Tender Badly Damaged—One Dead and Several Hurt. BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Kingston, Ont., April 18.—While several men were filling a gas buoy on the government lighthouse tender Scout to-day it exploded, killing one man and seriously injuring four others, of whom two will probably die. The boat caught fire, and is badly damaged. The explosion was terrific and windows were broken all over the city. The dry-dock shed was wrecked.

SPECIAL TRAIN RETURNING FROM ATLANTIC CITY EASTER MONDAY. On Easter Monday, April 24, the Pennsylvania Railroad will run a special train of Parlor Cars, Dining Cars and Coaches from Atlantic City to New York, leaving Atlantic City at 8 p. m., and stopping at Trenton, New Brunswick, Elizabeth and Newark.—Advt.

THE EFFECT OF THE DECISION IS PRACTICALLY IN THE MAIN LINE OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COURTS OF THIS STATE, EXCEPT THAT THE STATE OF BAKERS IN THE SAME GENERAL CLASS OF EMPLOYERS. THE DECISION IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE, AS IN THE CASE OF ATIN vs. THE STATE OF KANSAS, THE SUPREME COURT UPHOLD KANSAS BECAUSE THE DECISION OF THE KANSAS COURTS WOULD BE INTERFERED WITH BY THE SUPREME COURT, AND THIS INDIRECTLY SUSTAINS THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE EIGHT HOUR LAW. BELIEVE THAT IF THE PRINCIPLES IN THE ATIN DECISION HAD BEEN APPLIED TO THE DECISION OF THE BAKERS' CASE, THE LABOR LAW WOULD HAVE BEEN UPHOLD, INSTEAD OF BEING DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Alfred Steckler, on the other hand, thought the bakers' case would be rearranged. "In view of the strong dissenting opinions, and the fact that it was only five against four," he told the reporter, "I think it quite possible that counsel will ask for a reargument of the case. Before the decision, I admit, I thought the labor law was constitutional. The fact remains, however, that it is now declared unconstitutional." Mr. Steckler could give no estimate of the number of agreements in this State which are affected by the decision.

THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS WHICH HAS JUST BEEN REVERSED BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT WAS MADE ON JANUARY 12, 1904. THE OPINION OF THE COURT WAS WRITTEN BY CHIEF JUSTICE PARKER, AND THE CASE WAS DECIDED BY A MAJORITY OF ONE. WHEN THE CASE WAS IN THE APPELLATE DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE FOURTH DEPARTMENT IT WAS DECIDED BY THE SAME MAJORITY. IN THE COURT BELOW, WHERE THE CASE HAD ITS ORIGIN, THE DECISION WAS IN FAVOR OF THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE LAW.

THE RESULT OF THE VARIOUS APPEALS IS THAT TWELVE JUDGES, INCLUDING THE FOUR DISSIDENTING JUDGES IN THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, HAVE BEEN OF THE OPINION THAT THE LAW WAS CONSTITUTIONAL, WHILE TEN HAVE BEEN OF THE CONTRARY OPINION. THERE IS A LARGE NUMBER OF PROVISIONS OF LAW WHICH HAVE BEEN ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE VARIOUS STATES IN RECENT YEARS WHICH THE DECISION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY MAKE INVALID.

JERSEY LAW IN DANGER. "Bakers' Act" Similar to That Declared Unconstitutional. Trenton, April 18 (Special).—The decision by the United States Supreme Court, which denies the right of a State to fix the hours of labor, as it appeared in The Tribune this morning, has attracted much attention here to-day. The interest in the Tribune article was caused by the fact that the New-Jersey Legislature at its last session passed a bill in relation to and regulating the hours of work in bakeries in this State, which is almost identical with the act passed by the New-York Legislature. The New-Jersey bill was known as the Bakers' Act, and was signed by Governor Stokes on April 5. It was earnestly advocated by A. J. Gottlieb, of Newark, and other members of the New-Jersey Federation of Labor.

GOMPERS ON DECISION. Declares That He Would Strike Hard for a Ten-Hour Day. At a meeting of the Quill Club, held last night at the Hotel Manhattan, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, discussed the decision of the United States Supreme Court, which declared unconstitutional the bakers' ten-hour law. He said, in part: "I cannot restrain myself from saying that if the majority of the members of this court who signed the opinion had visited modern bakeries in this State and had seen the conditions that prevail even under the ten-hour law, they would have declared that it was within the police power of this State to regulate the hours, and would have declared for the ten-hour law. What are the bakers going to do? I'd strike and strike hard until I got the ten-hour day."

When it becomes necessary in the manufacture of the staff of life to make the baker work longer than ten hours a day, then it is time to pause and ask, 'Whither are we drifting?'

Mr. Gompers also discussed the Russian situation and said in part: "I am a trade unionist in America for the same reason that I would be a revolutionist in Russia. The trade union here is revolutionary. It has the right of free speech and a free press in which they present their demands. No man to-day is satisfied with the conditions. There is here, as in every land, a feeling of discontent with wrong, with injustice."

A. Cahan, Editor of "The Forward," and Edward A. Moffett, Editor of "The Bricklayer and Mason," also spoke.

UNION TO TAKE ACTION. Journeymen Bakers May Ask Supreme Court for a Rereading. The executive board of the Journeymen Bakers and Confectioners' International Union yesterday issued a call for a meeting next Saturday to take action on the decision of the United States Supreme Court on the Bakers' Ten-Hour Law. The board will meet at Chicago and consider the question of asking the court for a rereading of the case.

General Organizer Herman Robinson, of the American Federation of Labor, and President Benjamin Schlesinger of the International Ladies' Garment Makers' Union, in discussing the decision yesterday, said: "It would be in no way protection guaranteed by law, should be unconstitutional. The judges concurring in the decision announce that it only deals with the right of contract and that the State still holds the right to enforce its own sanitary measures."

The effort of the bakers to enforce the ten-hour workday on May 1 for the coming year will mean serious trouble as many of the smaller employers will refuse to consider any clause in their contracts providing for the ten-hour workday.