

# ADAMSON LAW BRANDED AS SUBTERFUGE BY HUGHES

## TEXT OF NOMINEE'S ADDRESS TO RICHMOND CROWD

Following is, in part, the address delivered at the coliseum last night by Governor Hughes:

In the first place, I want to see protection of American rights at home and abroad, and the dignity of American citizenship maintained throughout the world. We cannot have a driving power of progress unless we have a patriotic sentiment. We must have such a strong feeling in this country of love and devotion to the interests of our people that we may be able to promote our national efficiency and meet the exigencies which are sure to be severe in this twentieth century. It is not the path of war. It is the path of peace and security. Weakness and vacillation breed contempt. Yes, indeed; they breed contempt. Resentment is sure to follow some actions which take advantage of weakness.

### Nation Demands Respect

It is the part of a great nation, erect in its self respect, worthily and firmly to maintain its just rights. It loses no friendship by that course. It exposes itself to no serious struggles by that course. It maintains the esteem of all. It prepares itself for controversies that it may have a peaceful settlement of the difficulties, and it maintains its influence and prestige throughout the world because it is ready to maintain its just rights. And therefore, I say it here, putting it in a sentence, that I am for the enforcement of American rights throughout the world, on land and on sea, with respect to American lives, American property and American commerce.

I go further in defining the extent of protection, used in this comprehensive way, and I say that we must protect our great natural resources. We must protect and conserve and safeguard them for the benefit of our people.

### Advocates Tariff

I would, of course, emphasize under this head of protection, protection through tariff adjustment for legitimate American enterprise. We have reached a time in our economic development when most of our problems will concern the success of enterprise. They will be economic problems. We know at the present time what is the source of such prosperity in trade as we enjoy it today. There was a time a couple of years ago when we did not have that prosperity.

America was alert, America had its resources, our working men were able and willing to work; but, instead of our factories being run at full time, instead of there being a full output of our works, we had idleness to a great extent and the unemployed were walking the streets of the country. It was due in a large measure to a mistake in the application of the theory, which had never really received the support of the American electorate, of a tariff for revenue only.

### No Room for Debate

If there was room for debate in the past over that great question, there is not in the presence of the economic conditions of this time, it seems to me, any room for serious controversy. There has been on the other side a revelation of discipline and organization that has amazed the world. There is not one of the belligerent nations in which there is not an extraordinary discipline, an extraordinary self-knowledge. They have their resources too well examined and considered. They know how to drive their talent, and despite the wastes of war, there is an economic potentiality in these nations which is greater than has ever before been known. America must be alert; it must wisely use its governmental powers. And, there never was a time when there was more need than at this time, in the face of the cessation of the abnormal demands created by the war for the application of the historic doctrine of the Republican party of protection to American industry.

Now, our friends on the other side are talking a little more softly about

their favored doctrine of a tariff for revenue than they spoke a little while ago. Four years ago it was unconstitutional to have a protective tariff. Now they propose protection in dry-stuff. Perhaps we have a special constitution for the protection of dry-stuff. At least, the argument as to unconstitutionality is not so readily pressed. Not so very long ago a tariff commission was derided, — no friends among our opponents for a tariff commission.

It was denounced by the leading spokesman of the administration. But now a tariff commission is proposed. The other day in Congress, however, one of the leaders of our opponents arose to say that he supposed that it had to do with the furnishing of statistics. I believe in a tariff commission because it is one of my fundamental principles, and if I am entrusted with executive responsibility, I propose to apply the principle then when I want to know a fact I want to get all the most expert opportunities for information that the country affords. We desire to have experience and investigation and talent devoted to the examination of facts.

### No Favoritism Needed.

I do not propose that abuses shall creep through tariff adjustment. We have settled as I have said the question that the public interest is supreme and that selfish exploitation shall not be allowed. But I do not propose to see honest enterprise languish and suffer in this country because we are afraid to use wisely a great governmental power for fear that abuses will come in. Let us check the abuses, let us correct evils, let us cut down the selfish and let us go ahead with the prosperity of the country. (Applause.)

I say I believe in a tariff commission. We want all the information we can get, but a tariff commission does not legislate; it is Congress that legislates; and, if you believed that in this economic era, when we are to face a commercial rivalry more keen than we have ever experienced before, with disciplined nations more alert than ever before, and more competent than ever before; if we are to have protection for American industry, it is plain common sense to say that you must put in power an administration that believes in protection.

### Means Broad Sense.

Now I put under this head of "protection" not only this particular application of protection, but protection in the broad sense. As I intimated a moment ago in speaking of our human resources, I would ask why do we want a tariff adjusted so as I have said, to promote American enterprise? Is American enterprise a sort of thing in itself that we should worship? That is, is it an abstraction? Not at all. What we are after is the bettering of the lives of American citizens throughout this country. (Applause.)

We want work, stability of enterprise; we want conditions under which man can plan a little ahead. It is perfectly idle to suppose you can go ahead and have prosperous conditions in the country where nobody knows what is to happen next.

You must plan and prepare with a wise regard for future exigencies.

### Offers Open Door.

Now I propose that the business men of this country shall have an open door for every honorable achievement; that we shall have stable achievements under which planning can be done, and to the end not that a few men may prosper at the expense of the many, but to the end that all may share in the generous prosperity, and that we shall have a foundation on which to erect social justice. You cannot have social justice unless you have a foundation. You can have agitation, you can have disturbance, you can have social disorders, because desires are not met; because wholesome conditions of living are not obtainable, because work is not to be had, and because men do not understand the reasons of their distress.

I see a very easy road to disaster in

this country along the line of agitation and distress and social disturbance. We cannot have what we want unless we have a foundation in stability. We must have our differences. We will have our controversies; we will have the race by a trained and educated childhood, instead of a wornout and impoverished childhood, that man, whatever he may think of himself, is blind to the necessities of American life.

You would think that our friends on the other side had discovered children. You would think that the necessities of preventing undue labor of children were discovered when this administration first came into power. Now, as I was just saying, nine years ago we were recommending enactment after enactment, for the prohibition of limitation of child labor in New York. New York was not exceptional in that regard. We had similar legislation in many states and a commendable record of progress in that regard. We have a bill which has just passed. It is a bill relating to child labor. It has been much spoken of and I would be the last to withhold any proper credit for its enactment. But the fact that it only affects 150,000 children and there are 1,850,000 children still awaiting the exercise of State legislation with respect to their childish activities. Now I say this: If you examine the roll of the states with respect to the prohibition of child labor you will find Republican states in the majority.

I want to see reasonable hours of work and fair wages and a sound basis for contentment.

### Want Safe Condition.

I want safe conditions of work. I want every opportunity for recreation and education. We need a wholesome manhood, a wholesome womanhood and a wholesome childhood in this country. Nine years ago in the State of New York I proposed enactments with reference to child labor. I test a man's vision of the future of this country by his attitude toward child labor. A man who does not want to save children from exploitation, and to the best of his ability, to assure the future of

not uniting—but they promised that they would economize. Instead of that, they have manifested worse extravagance than any administration that preceded them. By the tremendous sum of \$150,000,000, at least, their appropriations—apart from those relating to preparedness—have exceeded the appropriations of former congresses.

Congress. We must have a business-like administration. Taxation presses. We cannot indefinitely extend the burden of expanding governmental activities unless we learn to safeguard the National treasury, and I am for protection to the National treasury.

### Protect Civil Service

I am also for the protection of our government against inefficiency. Our friends on the other side promised that they would be faithful to the merit system. They have not been faithful to the merit system. They have shockingly betrayed the merit system. Upwards of 30,000 offices have been created under general bills which excepted appointment to these offices from the application of the civil service law. Special exemptions have been given to an extraordinary degree. In various departments there

has been a marked disregard of the principles of the merit system. That system was erected as a barrier against spoils. It is a very important barrier, and I stand here to say that if I am invested with executive responsibility I shall faithfully apply the

[Continued On Page Eleven.]



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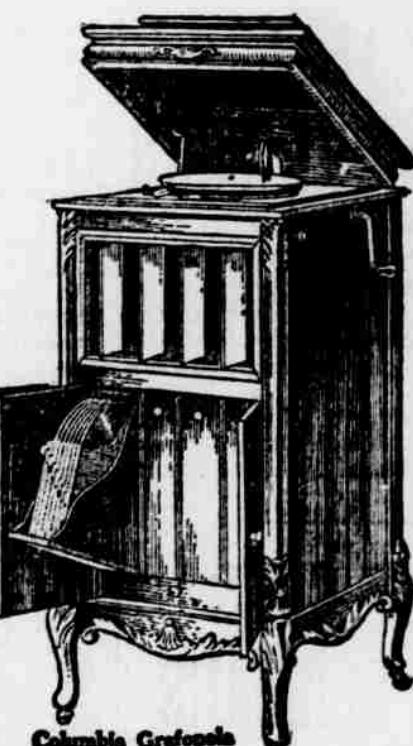
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