

## Protest Against Hughes

Following is the protest filed by the American anti-trust league with the United States senate against the confirmation of the nomination of Governor Hughes to be justice of the supreme court:

Washington, D. C., May 1, 1910.  
To the Honorable, the Senate of the United States and the Committee on the Judiciary:

The undersigned respectfully petition the members of the judiciary committee and the senate of the United States to proceed with especial deliberation and caution in the matter of confirming the appointment of Charles E. Hughes of New York as a justice of the supreme court of the United States.

Our reason for so doing is that we desire to protest most emphatically against the confirmation of said Charles E. Hughes, on the ground that in several respects his appointment to the supreme court is highly improper and unsafe for the best interests and welfare of the people of the United States.

We make our protest to your honorable committee with no personal bias or malice whatever toward Mr. Hughes and solely with the view of performing a public duty in the public interest.

It is now universally recognized by citizens of every state and of every calling that a grave crisis exists in the conflict of interests between the great lawless combination known as trusts on the one side and the people of these United States on the other.

We protest against the confirmation of Charles E. Hughes as a justice of the supreme court for the reason that no one familiar with Mr. Hughes' public record can believe that his mental leanings are other than friendly to the purposes and plans of the men at the head of these great trust conspiracies against the people, which are now so menacing to this country.

We protest against his confirmation for the reason that it is a matter of public record that many of the men of the greatest power at the heads of these trusts and who control the unlawful monopolies in the necessities of life as well as those persons who control the transportation trusts and the money trusts were his active supporters and large contributors to the campaign funds used to elect Mr. Hughes as governor of New York.

Among those trust officials who contributed most heavily to elect their friend, Mr. Hughes, to the governorship of New York and who undoubtedly are now favoring his appointment to the supreme court bench, were men prominent in the control of the tobacco trust, the Standard Oil trust, the coal trust and the railroad trust, who are now on trial for their offenses against the laws of the United States, and their cases will be among the very first which Governor Hughes will be called to decide if he were confirmed by and with the advice and consent of the senate to sit as a justice of the supreme court of the United States.

The specious claim of the friends of Governor Hughes, who are making such an active campaign for his campaign, that he would only decide what he thought was honestly right, is no sufficient warrant for his confirmation when we realize that the records of human history are full of the names of men who, when in positions of great power, performed acts which they thought were honestly right, and yet those acts resulted in terrible and irreparable in-

jury and suffering to their fellow men.

One of the most dangerous of all men to intrust with great power is the strong-headed, able and determined man who thinks he is right when he is wrong. And in no public office in these United States are there greater possibilities of public injury than in having men so constituted sitting for life on the supreme court bench.

We protest against the confirmation of Charles E. Hughes because we are convinced that a thorough investigation by the judiciary committee and the senate will disclose the fact that he is a man of the type above described, and that his preconceived views, to which he holds most tenaciously on public questions such as the income tax, the two-cent fare law, the propriety of accepting large amounts of money for campaign purposes from trust officials whose cases are now pending, in sums which may practically decide an election, show that much beside his legal learning and amiable personality should be taken into consideration in deciding on his confirmation.

We especially protest against his immediate confirmation to this life position of great power which in the ordinary course of events he will fill for a quarter of a century with unlimited opportunity to affect the weal or woe of the American people, for the reason that he has announced that he will not undertake the duties of the office until after the first of October, so that no public injury can possibly arise from the senate taking time to make a most thorough inquiry into Mr. Hughes' qualifications and fitness for the supreme court.

We protest against the appointment of Governor Hughes to the supreme court for the reason that, should he prove as we fear he will, a judge friendly to the pretensions of the great lawless trusts, then all the ground that the people have won against the trusts in the last twenty years of struggle will be practically lost. We respectfully ask a reasonable time to present to your honorable body the evidence which will verify the statements contained in this protest.

Vice Chairman Executive Committee, American Anti-Trust League, H. J. Schultis.

National Secretary, H. B. Martin.

### SUTTEE AS IT USED TO BE

Monday, June 11.

East Indies.

Interesting account of a suttee: Being informed that a suttee was about to take place in the vicinity of my house (in the neighborhood of Calcutta) I repaired to the spot, in company with a friend instigated by a strong and natural curiosity, to observe narrowly the deportment of a human being about to take a voluntary and public leave of existence, and believing from what we had read of similar cases, that our feelings would not be shocked by any open exhibition of the actual pains of dissolution. I do not recollect to have seen any account of a suttee, which did not, upon the whole, tell rather favorably for the humanity of those whom an imperious ordinance of religion calls upon to preside or officiate at such ceremonials. I think it therefore a duty which I owe to the cause of truth, to record at least one instance on the other side of the question. With this view I beg leave to address myself to you in the hope you will give the narration a place in your valuable newspaper, when

you have nothing more interesting or novel to insert.

"The suttee in question took place at a spot by the river side, about a quarter of a mile below Barnagore, at eleven in the morning. We arrived about half an hour before that time, and found the widow, bathing in the river, surrounded by a troop of friends, chiefly men. It was then low water, and the deep mud left by the tide prevented our approaching sufficiently near to observe with ac-

curacy the ceremonies that were performing. Our attention was attracted to the pile, which was placed about high water mark. It was not altogether more than four and one-half or five feet long, to the best of our observation, and consisted merely of some long billets of chopped soon-dry wood, fresh and green from the bazar, retained in their places by four stakes driven into the ground at the angles. The whole was exceeding little, if at all, longer, or

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