

## AGAINST CHILD LABOR BILL.

### Southern Democratic Senators Coming Out in Open Opposition.

*Special to The New York Times.*

WASHINGTON, July 21.—The situation among Democratic Senators in regard to the Child Labor bill which President Wilson is urging them to pass is becoming acute. The Republican Senators have given formal notice that they will be only too glad to assist in the passage of the measure, which the President thinks is of such importance that he has decided to postpone receiving notification of his nomination in order to give his party in the Senate a chance to put the bill through.

The underlying embarrassment on the Democratic side of the chamber is that a group of Southern Senators are opposed to the bill. These Southerners have given notice quietly on more than one occasion that they will not vote for it even to please President Wilson and if necessary will come out in open opposition to it. Today Senator Hardwick of Georgia did come out openly during consideration of the naval bill and declared he thought the child labor measure was unconstitutional. He said he was willing it should be taken up this session, but should insist that there be full debate on it.

Senator Borah, from the Republican side, at once proposed an agreement under unanimous consent to take the bill up as soon as the big money bills had been passed. The naval bill, however, was the business before the Senate and Chairman Swanson of the Naval Committee refused to have it displaced.

Senator Borah took manifest pleasure in referring to President Wilson's interest in the Child Labor bill and said that the President had evidently experienced a change of heart. Challenged by Senator Hardwick to explain, he read from pages 178 and 179 of President Wilson's book entitled "Constitutional Government in the United States" the following extract:

"Its power is 'to regulate commerce between the States,' and the attempts now made during every session of Congress to carry the implications of that power beyond the utmost boundaries of reasonable and honest inference show that the only limits likely to be observed by politicians are those set by the good sense and conservative temper of the country.

"The proposed Federal legislation with regard to the regulation of child labor affords a striking example. If the power to regulate commerce between the States can be stretched to include the regulation of labor in mills and factories, it can be made to embrace every particular of the industrial organization and action of the country. The only limitations Congress would observe should the Supreme Court assent to such obviously absurd extravagance of interpretation would be the limitations of opinion and of circumstance."