

United States Circuit Court of Appeals,

EIGHTH CIRCUIT.

St. Louis, Mo., April 25, 1914.

My dear Judge:-

I received the opinion of the Supreme Court written by Mr. Justice McKenna in the case of the Insurance Company v. Lewis, Insurance Commissioner, and at the same time received the dissenting opinion written by Mr. Justice Lamar and concurred in by yourself and the Chief Justice. I want to thank you for sending me those opinions. They are a landmark in jurisprudence, I think. I always had an idea that the Munn case went a good ways in justifying state regulation of private contracts on the ground that elevators were affected with a public use, but I now see that I had something more to learn still. I cannot understand how the majority of your court could agree to the decision of Mr. Justice McKenna in this case. I want to congratulate Mr. Justice Lamar and yourself and the Chief Justice in furnishing to the profession a vigorous dissent and one which I think in the end will bring about a correction of the doctrine of the main case.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Elmer B. Adams

To Hon. Willis Van Devanter,
Justice United States Supreme Court,
1923 Sixteenth Street, W.,
Washington, D.C.