

FEDERAL CHILD LABOR LAW WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE SEPT. 1

Children's Bureau of Department of Labor Responsible for Its Enforcement.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Saturday, Sept. 1, the new federal child labor law takes effect. Hereafter no child under 14 may be employed in any factory, mill, workshop or canery in the United States whose products are to be shipped in interstate commerce, and no child under 16 in any mine or quarry. The working day of children 14 and 15 years of age in factories may not be longer than 8 hours and they may not be employed between 7 p. m. and 6 a. m.

The enforcement of the law has been delegated by the secretary of labor to the children's bureau of the department of labor and the head of the new child labor division of that bureau is Miss Grace Abbott of Chicago. Miss Abbott has been at work for several weeks on the details of administration with a staff of temporary assistants in order that there might be no delay in enforcing the law.

The issuing of federal certificates of age in states where the state requirements for proof of age are below the federal standards has already begun and the methods of co-operation with state officials have been worked out. Although the children's bureau will have its own permanent staff of inspectors and will, when necessary, initiate its own proceedings for prosecution in case of violation, it will, so far as possible, avoid duplication of the work of state labor officials.

Miss Abbott has had broad experience in industrial matters in this country and abroad. She has lived for many years in an industrial neighborhood and has visited Europe repeatedly to observe industrial conditions, especially in countries from which immigration has been large in recent years. Since 1908 she has been actively engaged in work on industrial problems as they have affected immigrants, part of the time as executive secretary of the Massachusetts state immigration commission and more recently as director of the Immigrants' Protective League of Chicago. The permanent staff of assistants will be selected from candidates approved by the United States civil service commission as a result of special examinations to be held on Sept. 18 and 19.

FOOD SAVING FIRST

Day by day we come into a fuller realization of the fact that we are at war. Our industries are being changed from peace to war needs. Hundreds of thousands of workers all over the country find the war entering into their daily lives through changes in occupation.

Food saving was the first great war measure to touch every American home. Many Americans do not yet realize how necessary this is to the war effort. They continue their old schemes of liberal living in the belief that others will do the saving, they excuse themselves from this national service because they see others who are still wasting. But the necessity for economy in food is the most definite thing about the war. There is just so much food in the world, there is not enough to go around among the allied nations. We have the means of producing food. Other nations are helping us fight the battle for democracy. We must have our food. It would be possible to write reams of advice and suggestions from the fact that there is really nothing more to be added to it. These are the plain facts. These are the reasons for economizing.

INDUSTRIAL STANDARDS MAINTAINED

Board Established to Control Conditions in Manufacture of Army Clothing.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Secretary Baker has announced the establishment of a board of control for labor standards in army clothing, under the chairmanship of Louis Kirstein, of Boston. The other two members are Mrs. Florence Kelley, general secretary of the National Consumers' League, New York, and Capt. Walter E. Kruesi, quartermaster corps, United States reserves. Through this board the quartermaster general will be enabled to enforce the maintenance of sound industrial and sanitary conditions in the manufacture of army clothing, to inspect factories, to cause that proper standards maintained by bidders on army clothing, and act so that just conditions prevail.

The government can not permit its work to be done under sweatshop conditions, and it can not allow the evils widely complained of to go uncorrected. Only through the establishment of such a body as the board of control now created will the government be assured that army clothing is manufactured under recognized industrial standards and in an atmosphere of good will between manufacturers and operatives. This alone will assure fit clothing and its prompt delivery for army needs.

LABOR TREATY BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND SHIP-BUILDING UNIONS SIGNED

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pated by some labor officials. It does provide that all demands for better wages, shorter hours and improved conditions shall be considered and all circumstances arising since the existing conditions were fixed (such as the rise in cost of living, and the spread of the eight-hour rule) shall be given due weight. That means that any set of crafts in any yard that fails to get union conditions of wages and hours established there will be to blame for its own lack of force in presenting its case.

Macy to Head Board.

The nomination of V. Everit Macy, president of the National Civic Federation, to head this board, does not give any indication just now as to the leaning of the board. The Civic Federation has never risked its life in defense of organized labor, but it seems to be much impressed, recently, by the strength of the various parts of the labor movement. Macy will probably generally reflect the views of President Wilson, anyhow, in any decision of national importance as to wages in the shipyards.

The government statement, given out with the text of the treaty, says that action was hastened by the fact that a strike vote had been taken affecting 100,000 men in the shipyards on the Pacific coast, and that since Aug. 14 the stoppage of work on 750,000 tons of steel and wooden ships had been momentarily possible. Union officials had held off the strike, and they still hope to have the men agree to their demands up to the new board. The New York shipyard strike, affecting 12,000 men, was admitted to be another good reason for the signing of the compact. Admission of these facts would seem to point to the willingness of the government to consider early adoption of union standards of hours and wages, so long as work is not stopped through strikes.

10 TO 40 PER CENT GAIN

BOSTON, Aug. 30.—The Artificial Stone Makers' union, affiliated with the A. F. of L., has raised rates from 10 to 40 per cent. This is the first time a standard wage in this industry has been secured in Boston.

AVERT SHIP YARD STRIKE

QUINCY, Mass., Aug. 30.—The Fore River ship building corporation has averted a general strike by agreeing to pay prevailing rates, time and one-half for overtime and double time for Sunday and holiday work.

M'ADOO'S PLAN FOR LIFE AND INDEMNITY INSURANCE FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

The plan of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo for life and indemnity insurance for the soldiers and sailors of the United States, after discussions by representative insurance men and report on by advisory committees, has been put in definite form and submitted to President Wilson.

The president's comment was as follows:

"I have examined the enclosed papers very carefully and take pleasure in returning them with my entire approval."

A bill has been introduced in congress along the lines suggested by the secretary of the treasury and approved by the president.

In essentials it is proposed that the government furnish at cost to the soldiers and sailors of the United States life and indemnity insurance.

Features of Plan.

The main features of the secretary's plan are that the government shall bear all the cost of the administration of the insurance plan and that no expense of any kind shall be a charge on the funds created by the payment of premiums by the soldiers and sailors. Relieved of over-head charges, \$5 a year for every \$1,000 insurance will be an adequate charge, under the plan, and this figure will put the maximum insurance of \$10,000 within the reach of practically every private soldier or sailor. Insurance in private companies would cost many times this sum for men actually engaged in warfare.

After the war the insurance may be converted into other forms. The insurance is to be payable in installments, is non-assignable and free from the claims of creditors of the insured or of the beneficiary, and is limited to the wife, children, and other specified kindred.

If total disability results or disease is contracted in the course of service, the compensation is to be based on percentage of pay, with a minimum, however, of from \$40 to \$75 a month, according to the size of the family. Partial disability are to be computed on a basis of percentages of total disability.

Rehabilitated Injured Men.

Medical, surgical and hospital treatments, supplies and appliances are to be given. Rehabilitation and re-

education of the injured soldiers or sailors, fitting them for lives of activity and usefulness is part of the plan. The plan also contemplates free allowances to the families of soldiers and sailors, the government supplementing the sums set aside by the soldiers and sailors out of their wages.

The insurance is not to be a gift of the government but is to be paid for out of the pay of the insured men. The government, however, is to take upon itself the cost of collecting and administering the funds and also the extra hazard caused by the war, the rate of \$8 per \$1,000 being a normal rate in peace time and an entirely inadequate rate for war risk.

The workmen's compensation laws and the experiences of insurance companies in this country and the laws and experiences of other countries have been studied and used in the preparation of this bill.

Function of Government.

Secretary McAdoo emphasizes the justice and rightfulness of such a function of the government by citing the fact that in this war we are not relying upon the volunteer system but are drafting American men and compelling them to undergo danger and, if necessary, make the supreme sacrifice for their country. A higher obligation, he says, therefore rests upon the government not only towards the fighting men but towards those dependent upon them and a just, generous and humane government should see to it that so far as is practicable they should be given this protection, not as a matter of mercy or charity but as a matter of right. And that they should enter into the service of their country with the certain knowledge that if death or misfortune comes to them they and their dependents are protected by insurance afforded them by their government as part of the compensation for the service they are rendering their country.

In conclusion Secretary McAdoo points out that while this plan may call for considerable expenditures at present, yet the eventual cost to the government of this plan will be very much less than that which would result from the adherence to the present pension program of the country, and, further, that the pension system will not provide the same benefits nor cover the subject in the same comprehensive, humane and equitable way.

TRIUMPHANT TRUTH.

Truth never dies. The seas come and go; The mountains wear away; the seas retire; Destruction lays earth's mighty cities low; And empires, states and dynasties expire; But, caught and handed onward by the wise, Truth never dies.

WIRE MEN RAISE WAGES

BALTIMORE, Aug. 30.—Practically every electrical contractor in this city has accepted the new wage scale of Electrical Workers' union No. 28. Beginning Nov. 1, wages will be \$5 a day.

BREWERY WORKERS GAIN

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 30.—The Pacific bottling works has signed the wage contract of the Brewery Workers' union, and every Tacoma concern in this industry is now operated on a union-shop basis.

HUMAN LIFE NEEDLESSLY SHORTENED, SAYS EDUCATOR

Prof. Irving Fisher Declares Neglect of Elemental Sanitation Is the Principal Cause.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 30.—There are more than 600,000 preventable deaths in the United States every year and there are 1,500,000 people lying on sick beds in this country who should be engaged in useful occupations.

Such are the declarations made in the last issue of the Journal of Agriculture, published by students of the University of California, by Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale university.

"Human life is needlessly shortened in the United States," writes the eastern educator. "Preventable diseases, even when not fatal, cripple the power to work and mar the joy of living. I venture the opinion that the average man or woman in the United States is not doing half of the work nor having half of the joy of work of which the human being is capable.

"While there is now a decreased loss of life from infection by the germ diseases, there is an increased loss of life after middle age from the degenerative diseases, such as hardening of the arteries or Bright's disease."

Neglect of elemental sanitation is declared to be the chief cause of this condition.

Every time a great man goes out from the rear to view the Russian army, the bewhiskered troopers become so overjoyed that they rush right back to meet him half way.

PREPAREDNESS LECTURE



THIS war is awakening men to the truth about a lot of things besides Preparedness—and chewing tobacco is one of them. Soldiers are strong for W-B Cut and the facts are right before you. These shreds are all tobacco, no gummy sweetening—rich tobacco—more sap in the leaf than in ordinary tobacco by a long shot. That's why it's so satisfying and so economical—a little bit goes a long way.

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LOYALTY TO LABOR AND DEMOCRACY IS MINNEAPOLIS CONFERENCE IDEAL

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ment a part of its regular work, thus revealing its true character.

The call for the conference is as follows:

Call For Conference.

New York City, Aug. 17, 1917. To the Organized Working People of America and Their Forward Looking Friends, We the Undersigned, Issue the Following Call:

Throughout the world today the great human aspiration for internationalism, democracy and human freedom is being tested in the fires of the world war.

Our own beloved republic has thrown its weight into the scales on the side of freedom and democracy in international relations. Our nation has entered the war without thought of conquest or reward, impelled by the passion for liberty and democracy that is in the very heart and soul of the American people.

Whatever may have been the causes of this war at the outset, it has become a contest between the ideals of liberty and democracy on the one hand, and the brutal, iron heel of autocracy on the other.

Nothing has done more to bring the war to that basis than the enlistment of our own great nation in the struggle on the side of the allied democratic nations of Europe. America, through the call of our president, has centered the thought of the world on the necessity for achieving democracy everywhere. Democracy is today the secret hope of all the oppressed peoples of the world and the war must be carried to a successful conclusion in order that democracy may prevail.

In our midst in this crucial hour are many whose efforts are being directed against victory for America and America's cause. Whatever may be the motives of these people, the effect of what they do and say in unmistakably antagonistic to the triumph of the democratic principle of this war, and just as unmistakably helpful to the cause of the autocratic Teutonic alliance.

At present these efforts are being directed largely through so-called workmen's councils which in no sense represent the American labor movement and through a so-called people's council whose aims are in complete accord with the present needs of the German government.

It is of prime importance that at this juncture we, whose primary interest in this war is the success of democracy and the welfare of all

working people, consider the situation as it affects these things today. Moreover, we should consider now the record already made by the Labor Movement of America in this war and what can be done in the immediate future to forward the aims and ideals toward which the labor movement has been striving.

To the end that the American people—especially the American working people—may be aroused to the need for a clearer understanding of the effect of the war on the American and international labor movement, we issue this call for a representative conference to be held in the city of Minneapolis, Minn. (to be named later), beginning on Sept. 5 and lasting until adjournment may be determined upon by the body.

We ask trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor to send representatives, and we ask those American Socialists who have been driven from their party by its treachery to the democratic cause to join with us in this conference which will be truly representative of the spirit of democratic internationalism.

This conference should make plain and unmistakable the devotion of the workers of America to the cause of industrial democracy, and should concern itself with everything that will make for the welfare of our nation and its people, and for the victory of the allied cause.

The Provisional Conference Committee: Albert Abrahams, New York; Joseph Barondess, New York; Ernest Bohm, secretary, A. F. of L., New York; W. J. Ghent, Los Angeles; Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Boston; James P. Holland, president of State Federation of Labor, New York; William Kohn, president C. F. U., New York; John E. Lewis, New York union printer; Robert Miesel, secretary N. L. P. O., New York; Mills Tupper Maynard, Los Angeles; R. A. Maynard, New York; Charles Edward Russell, Washington; John Spargo, Old Remington, Vt.; Rose Pastor Stokes, New York; John B. Walker, Chicago; Chester M. Wright, New York.

WANT LABOR LAW CHANGED

BOSTON, Aug. 30.—Cigar Makers' union No. 97 is urging Massachusetts trade unionists to support an amendment to the state workmen's compensation law which will include occupational diseases. The cigar makers call attention to a recent decision by the state supreme court which excludes occupational diseases. Much publicity is necessary to offset the lobby of the private insurance companies, it is urged.

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McDonald uses the best of materials only, and puts more of it into a single shirt than any other manufacturer.

Besides shirts we have gloves, suspenders, hats and shoes with the union label.

We also carry dress shirts of the McDonald make.

Overalls are here in three famous brands—the Headlight, the Carhart and the Crown.

Work shirts are 65c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Flannel shirts, \$1.50, \$2 and up to \$4. Dress shirts, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.

Two brands of union label suits for men are on sale here. A fresh shipment of fall styles is in transit and due to arrive most any day.

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