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Review Status Women's Working Hours, Wages

U. S. Women's Department of Federal Bureau Makes Study of the Current Status.

"The payment of a living wage and the assurance of a short work day are perhaps the two most important health measures that industry can institute for women workers," stated Miss Mary Anderson, director of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor when commenting on a recent publication of this bureau, which summarizes state hour laws for women and minimum wage rates.

"Since the NRA codes, which went a long way toward setting up nationwide and more uniform standards of maximum hours and minimum wages for women, were undermined by the supreme court's decision, regulation of substandard industrial practices has been made the direct responsibility of individual states," Miss Anderson said.

The bulletin is divided into two parts. Part I is concerned with the present minimum-wage situation in the 16 states with mandatory minimum-wage laws and contains much fresh material not previously published. The states covered by such laws include, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

Part II of the bulletin on hour legislation is valuable in presenting the current status of hour laws in the 43 states which put some legal limit to women's working hours—daily or weekly or both.

"In general the effects of minimum-wage laws have been exactly what is claimed by proponents," Miss Anderson pointed out. "The depressed wages of women receiving the lowest pay have been raised, and the long experience of several states has shown that the fixing of a minimum has not had the effect of depressing wages at the higher levels. During a period of depression all wages naturally show decline, but the essential fact is that the establishment of some minimum does actually fix a bottom and thus prevent wages from falling into a hopeless abyss.

"For instance, as a result of a recent minimum-wage order in New York, weekly earnings of women workers employed in laundries in New York City have risen from an average of \$10.75 for 45 hours of work to \$12.55 for 41 hours of work."

Many of the questions most frequently asked about minimum-wage legislation are answered by the bulletin. The data show that minimum-wage laws generally are applicable to women and minors of both sexes. In 7 states all occupations come under the law, but in actual practice Wisconsin alone has included domestic workers in the rates set and no state has fixed rates for agricultural workers. Seven of the 8 states passing laws in 1933 and 1934 exclude

domestic service in the home of an employer and labor on a farm.

Seven of these recent laws are of the so-called standard type and base their function on the establishment of minimum wages "fairly and reasonably commensurate with the services rendered" and on living costs. The earlier minimum-wage laws are based exclusively on the cost of living as the basis for determining wage rates.

Machinery for minimum-wage administration is provided for by the various laws. Minimum-wage states with one exception provide for the establishment of wage boards representing employers, employees, and the public to study the various industries, to determine and to recommend specific minimum-wage rates to the particular state agencies authorized to issue the orders fixing the rates to be paid. The exception to where the wage is fixed by the law itself.

A resume of the effects of minimum-wage legislation in specific states as included in the bulletin presents striking evidence of the effect of minimum-wage provisions in maintaining women's wages. For example, an investigation of Massachusetts laundries in 1918-19 showed 56 percent of the women receiving less than \$11; 14 percent \$13 or more. In 1923 after a decree in 1922 made the minimum weekly wage for this industry \$13.50, only 12 percent of the women were receiving less than \$11 while 51 percent earned \$14 or more. By 1929 the proportions were 2 and 70, respectively.

There is also evidence to show that states with minimum-wage laws have resisted far more effectively the encroachment of depression sweatshops than did the states without such legislation.

A wide variation in the provisions and the coverage of hour laws in the different states is revealed by the new bulletin. Only one state limits weekly hours to less than 48, Oregon having set a 44-hour maximum for the needlecraft and for the laundry, cleaning and dyeing occupations. Eleven states set 48; 4 set limits above 48 but under 54; 18 restrict to 54; 16 allow over 54 hours; 7 states fix no weekly limit though they have a daily limit. In all cases the limits referred to apply to one or more occupations.

"This recent publication," Miss Anderson concluded, "while technical in form should prove invaluable to students of labor legislation, to legislators faced with the necessity of determining how they should vote on minimum-wage bills, to women voters everywhere whose purpose it is to protect the interests of women workers."

MOVIE DIRECTOR WEDS

Louisville, Ky.—David Wark Griffith, movie director, was married to a 26 year old New York blonde actress whose mother said Griffith was an old friend of the family. Griffith, 56, was divorced last week from the wife from whom he parted 25 years ago. The bride, Evelyn Marjorie Baldwin, is the daughter of Capt. Robert A. Baldwin, drowned on his schooner years ago.

PUBLISHER URGES STATE TO HONOR GRASSHOPPER

Lincoln, March 3.—Earl Marvin, Beatrice newspaper publisher, Tuesday advised members of the Lincoln Advertising club to "have confidence in Nebraska, honor the grasshopper and his constitutional gift to the state and have calmness during the coming political campaign."

Marvin asserted the grasshopper is qualified to be the symbol of the state because its debtless condition is due to the grasshopper visitation in 1874.

"The grasshopper added to the poverty of a people already poor," he related. "As a result the legislative session of 1875 declared the credit of the state could not be pledged in excess of \$100,000 except to repel an invasion."

"The first farm relief Nebraska ever had was from that legislative session. Our rugged individualists were getting ready to be regimented. A \$50,000 grasshopper bond issue was floated to raise money to enable the farmers to buy seed."

BRIEF FOR HOUSING FILED

Washington.—The right of the government to condemn land for slum clearance and low cost housing projects was upheld in a brief filed with the supreme court by the city of Louisville and sixteen state and municipal housing authorities.

The document was presented preparatory to arguments Wednesday on a case from Louisville in which the PWA unsuccessfully attempted to condemn a tract of land. The federal district court for western Kentucky ruled against the government. Signers of the brief included the Sioux City, Ia., municipal housing commission.

SHIFTS BLAME ONTO PUBLIC

Manchester, N. H.—Potsmaster General Farley asserted the American people repealed the economy plank in the 1932 democratic platform after President Roosevelt had carried out his word to enact it in law. Farley said the economy bill, passed in 1933 cutting "normal expenditures of government by 25 percent," was erased from the statute books in 1934 "over the veto of President Roosevelt."

"The members of congress who overrode that veto came before the voters of the country in the fall of that year and most of them were re-elected and vindicated by the voters," he said.

NORFOLK TO VOTE ON A BOND ISSUE

Norfolk, Neb., March 3.—Norfolk voters on April 7, at the regular city election, will ballot on the proposition of issuing not more than \$96,000 worth of bonds for constructing a combination city hall and fire station.

Plans for the election were made Monday night by the council after it had received petitions favoring the proposition from a committee representing the fire department. They were signed by more than the number necessary to call the election.

STATE IS PREPARING TO BUY AIRPLANE

Lincoln, March 3.—Bids to be received by the new Nebraska aeronautics commission on what may become Nebraska's first state-owned airplane will be opened March 18. Delivery of the ship is expected about April 15. It will be piloted by Charles Doyle, commission secretary. Specifications call for a cabin plane with accommodations for four passengers. Painting of the commission seal on the fuselage in gold leaf also will be required.

HURT AS TIRE BLOWS OUT

Blair, Neb.—Louis Schubert, 30, employe of the Nebraska Power company of Omaha, was severely cut about the face when a tire on his truck blew out, hurling gravel and bits of concrete into his face. He was adjusting a chain on the tire at the time. He was given emergency treatment at a hospital here and then removed to his home in Omaha.

RATTLESNAKES OUT EARLIER THAN USUAL

Hucson, Arl., March 3.—Pienickers and hikers watched their step Tuesday. Rattlesnakes in great numbers are appearing earlier than usual in the desert and hills surrounding Tucson because of the unusually warm weather. Forty-two brought in from the hills, were displayed here.

Plattsmouth offers a splendid market for farm produce. Local dealers pay top prices.

Denies Controversy Over License Fees

Attorney General Wright Endeavors to Explain Distribution of Liquor License Money.

Denying that there is any controversy between himself and the state superintendent, Attorney General Wright has "issued an opinion for a second time" upon the question of distribution of about \$146,000 of liquor license money collected by the state liquor commission. Answering questions of State Superintendent Taylor, the attorney general says his second opinion is "for such use as any officer or citizen may desire to make of it."

With reference to the threatened mandamus suit against the state superintendent, uttered by Representative Truman of Douglas county, for proper distribution of the fund, the attorney general says if the state superintendent fails to comply with Truman's demand, with the exception of the distribution within Douglas county, "we would know of no means of defending any mandamus action that might be commenced against you."

The January apportionment of state school funds made by the state superintendent was under the law for apportionment of school funds and the liquor licenses came to the state superintendent thru the state treasurer without earmarking and so the liquor license money was commingled with other state school funds. The liquor commission had also failed to report to the state treasurer the amounts coming from each county.

Not On Population Basis.

The attorney general contends the liquor license money is not to be distributed to counties and school districts on a population basis, but should be distributed separately by the treasurer and state superintendent. He says the liquor license law does not state that the liquor licenses issued are state licenses and therefore the old opinion of the supreme court in the case of fishing and hunting licenses does not apply.

He holds the liquor license money must be distributed according to the constitution, to the "county school funds of the respective counties from which said fees accrued."

He denied that Representative Truman is correct when he asks that all license fees collected in Omaha be turned over to the county treasurer of Douglas for the benefit of Omaha's school fund.

Taking Douglas county as an example, the attorney general said if the liquor commission receives liquor license fees from licensees in Douglas county, after May 25, 1935, "every cent of such license fees so received from such county should be paid to the general county school fund of Douglas county and distributed pro rata among the various school districts in that county," and that the city of Omaha would be entitled only to its pro rata share of such fees, "together with its pro rata share of fees collected from licensees outside the city of Omaha."

INSTALL YOUNG PASTOR

Bellevue, Neb.—Rev. Paul Denise, 28, youngest Presbyterian minister in Nebraska, was installed as pastor of the Bellevue Presbyterian church, the oldest of that faith in the state. The church is in its eighty-sixth year. The pastor was installed by his father, Dr. Larimore C. Denise, president of the Omaha Presbyterian theological seminary.

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WIN A \$10,000 DREAM HOME FREE! Lge. Pkg. 18c

SUGAR Granulated Beet 100 lb. \$5.09; 10 lb. 51c C & H Cane 100 lb. \$5.29; 10 lb. 55c

HOMINY No. 2 1/2 Cans... 3 for 25c No. 300 Cans, each... 5c

Lettuce, solid iceberg, each... 7 1/2c Potatoes, 100 lbs. \$1.69; Peck... 25c Celery, extra large size, each... 15c Grape Fruit, each... 5c

White King Granulated Soap 40-oz. Pkg. 33c

Casco BUTTER 1-lb. Carton 35c

Woodbury's Facial SOAP 3 Bars for 25c

MATCHES 19c Carton of 6 Boxes

Italian Prunes No. 2 1/2 Cans... 2 for 25c

Dog Food Ready Brand Special 1-lb. Tins... 4 for 25c

Shoulder Beef Roast Finest of Corn Fed Beef. Special price... 1b. 16c

Swift's Sliced Bacon Coral Brand. Mild and Sweet. 1-lb. Layers... 1b. 35c

Gem Bacon Squares Gudahy's Mild Sugar Cure Specially Priced at... 1b. 18c

Round Steak... 1b. 25c Sirloin Steak... 25c Rib Steak... 25c

Armour's Frankfurters... 1b. 15c Armour's Minced Ham... 15c Ring Bologna... 15c

Country Sausage and Head Cheese!

FREE YOUNG AMERICA MAGAZINES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS! IGA BLUE 'G' Coffee 1-LB. BAG 23c

Standard Pack Tomatoes No. 2 Cans... 3 for 25c

FLOUR West Best 48-lb. Bag... \$1.39 Golden Sun 48-lb. Bag... \$1.49 IGA or Sunkist 48-lb. Bag... \$1.59 Omar, \$1.79

First Prize SPINACH No. 2 1/2 Cans... 2 for 25c No. 2 Cans, each... 10c

Carrots, 3 lbs. for... 10c Oranges, large juicy Texas, doz... 39c Apples, Jonathan, Rome Bty, 4 lbs... 25c Apples, small size, peck... 15c

Powdered or Brown SUGAR 3-lb. Bag... 19c

Macaroni or Spaghetti 2 lbs... 17c

Our Mother's COCOA 2-lb. Can... 17c

MUSTARD 12c Full Quart Jar

Midwest Brand CATSUP Large 14-oz. Bottle... 10c

SOUP First Prize Tomato or Vegetable... 4 for 19c

Fresh Pork Brains... 1b. 10c Fresh Beef Hearts... 10c Rib Boiling Beef... 1b. 12 1/2c Fresh Pork Liver... 12 1/2c

Swift's Prem. Lamb Steaks... 1b. 22c Lean Sliced Pork Steaks... 22c

Filletts of Haddock, lb... 12 1/2c

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