

1913, states that out of 29,282 persons who applied for work, 28,862 had been referred to positions, and of this number 15,660 had secured them at an average cost, to the bureau, of 35 cents per person.

"An interesting feature of the report is that employers seem to use the bureau more than employees. In 1913, a total of 30,922 applications for help were made. A serious problem which confronts the state employment agencies is how to secure employment for the jack-of-all trades. There is not an employment agency which will keep this man out of the labor market. He belongs in a different set, and there are more of these men than there are of the legitimately unemployed. They tell me that if there are 100 jobs for 250 applicants, the office does not worry. Why? Because so large is the number of the unfit, the roving, the untrained, the lazy, other agencies must handle these.

"There seems to be no reason why other states can not do what Wisconsin is doing. And if cities within a state can co-operate to reduce unemployment, why can not these different states co-operate with a federal agency acting as a clearing house for them?

"Keep the wheels moving! That is the great responsibility of those who presume to employ. It is no less a responsibility than for the bank to keep its doors open. To co-operate with the employers in this work is the duty of the community, of the state and of the federal government."

A NOVEL TEMPERANCE LESSON

The Philadelphia North American tells of a novel and effective plan adopted by temperance workers to bring home to drinkers just what their spending means to their families. The article follows:

"Hundreds of men and women stopped last night on Frankford avenue to look in the window of temperance headquarters, where they saw a pile of groceries; enough for many substantial meals. The groceries are worth \$46.75 the cost of three 'beers' a day for one year.

"This is a new temperance lesson the anti-rum workers of Frankford want to teach the drinking people. The pile of groceries presented an economic argument that went home to the drinking people who saw it last night, or will see it through the week. They were impressed with the nourishing food. They thought of the good meals for themselves and their families, which they had thrown away over brass rails and wooden bars, in exchange for three beers a day.

"The exhibition is at 4361 Frankford avenue, and will continue through the week. The W. C. T. U., the Sons of Temperance, the Good Templars and missionary societies of Frankford are in charge. At night representatives of these societies are at headquarters to tell any drinker who may stop in about the curse of drink. Beginning tonight Frankford ministers will give temperance sermons each night, and choirs will sing gospel hymns.

"The workers will distribute during the week \$10 worth of temperance literature. This literature is in the form of leaflets. Among the inscriptions on these leaflets are: 'Use the ballot box and wash your hands on election day.' 'The drink bill in the United States is \$1,410,236,702. All the corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, buckwheat and potatoes put together will not pay it.'

"Other leaflets attack the cigarette habit. These are directed to boys and young men."

LOSSES IN THE INDUSTRIAL ARMY

At the recent session of the American Federation of Labor at Philadelphia, Commissioner of Labor Bryant of New Jersey, startled the delegates when he presented facts and figures in his plea for safeguarding the life, limb and health of workers. He declared that if it were possible to secure complete statistics of men, women and children in this country who have had their health impaired and their lives shortened by employment conditions, the revelation would be more appalling than the losses during the present European war. Among other things Mr. Bryant said:

"It has been calculated that out of our normal industrial army of 36,000,000 workers there are about 3,000,000 incapacitated for full service and it is further calculated that of this 3,000,000, one-third are from causes probably controllable. It is, therefore, apparent that this is a problem of equal interest to the employer and the employe. It is to the interest of this country to recognize that it is quite as important for us to keep our men in the same state of high efficiency

as our machinery, and further that there is a very decided difference in the work performed by the man who is simply negatively well and the man who is enjoying the fullest degree of health.

"We read much of the efficiency expert; and I know of no other field that presents greater opportunities for his efforts than that of scientifically surrounding workers with conditions calculated to keep them in condition fit to perform their best service. This field presents the great problem of industrial disease.

"The importance of safeguarding may best be gathered from the statement that for every fifteen seconds of a twenty-four-hour day some workman is injured, and for every sixteen seconds of a twenty-four-hour day some member of the industrial army is killed. These figures are more lamentable when authorities generally concede that at least 40 per cent of these accidents are in the preventable class."

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT EXEMPLIFIED

One of the finest examples of the Christmas spirit is shown in the movement that inspired the sending of the United States collier Jason to Europe, laden with Christmas gifts for children in belligerent countries from children in the United States. The idea originated with the Chicago Herald. It was adopted by many American newspapers, and in response to a public appeal, gifts came pouring in from all sections of the United States as well as from other countries. A ship of the American navy was selected to carry the unusual cargo, and when it arrived at its first European port on November 25 it received a royal welcome. Of this cargo less than 10 per cent were toys, and included in the 6,000,000 gifts were millions of articles of clothing, shoes, sweaters, caps, stockings, underwear, shawls, gloves, mittens and dresses of every kind. These gifts will be distributed in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Russia, France, England, Servia and Montenegro.

An incident related by the Chicago Herald, under the caption "The Blind Girls of Korea Understood," illustrates the widespread interest in the movement. The article follows:

"In the Herald office window is displayed a collection of gifts sent to the Christmas ship by little blind girls of Pyeng Yang, Korea; a baby jacket, baby stockings, baby gloves and similar useful articles.

"These gifts came too late to reach the Christmas Ship. But they will follow soon, and to a most distinguished addressee — the Queen of Belgium. In view of their source, it has been decided that these tributes from the children of the East to the children of the West are entitled to an unusual form of recognition.

"As one stands before these little articles and thinks that far away in Asia those blind girls worked joyously to help the little children of an alien race—as one pictures the scene when they were told of the Christmas Ship project and their willing aid was enlisted—the world seems a little place after all.

"We talk about the East being the East and the West the West — about how difficult it is for people of one race to understand people of another race. Those little blind Korean girls understood. We talk of the irreconcilably different ideas that must divide the races and ultimately lead to conflict. Those blind little Korean girls felt no irreconcilability in the ideas of the East and the West.

"We often act on the theory that our own people, our own nation, or our own race are all that we should consider. 'Let the others take care of themselves' is the motto. We may be sure that there was no thought of selfish racial division in the minds of the blind little Korean girls as their thin little fingers darted to and fro in the knitting and their faces lighted up with smiles at the thought of how good those things would feel to little babies living half way 'round the world.

"There is a lesson here for statesmen, diplomats and politicians. We do not understand the East and the East does not understand us when we approach it and it approaches us with plans of superficial friendship and disguised self-interest. Let us approach it in the spirit of frankness, nobleness and generosity and it will understand in the end—as those blind Korean girls have understood."

"LIVES GONE TO SCRAP"

The problem of what to do with the "dead timber" of the churches is age-old and, it would seem, little nearer solution than it was years

ago. Discussing this subject an editorial in the Pittsburg Leader says:

"The statement from Rev. William Fulton, chairman of the Presbyterian general assembly committee on educational policy, that in the last five years more than 250,000 members of that denomination have been put on the suspended list is likely to strike the public as a shock. When more than a quarter million members of any church are placed on the punishment list it is a shock, no matter how large or powerful in numbers that denomination may happen to be. For, in round figures, that is an average of about 50,000 each year for five years.

"They slipped back into the world," says Dr. Fulton in his report. "They fell away, were relegated to the ecclesiastical scrap heap."

"Dr. Fulton, in discussing causes for this extraordinary movement toward the ecclesiastical scrap heap, gives it as his judgment that it is due to 'the modern view of life.'

"It doesn't matter what the cause is when the falling away from any great denomination reaches such figures. The thing to do is to look for means of adjustment between the church's demand and the views of life that are common to our time. The report that in five years some quarter million members of a single church have gone to the scrap heap because of a lack of adjustment between their views of life and the demands of their religious organization is serious.

"It might be unfair to other denominations to assume that they have been affected in membership in like ratio, but at the same time it might appear unfair to the Presbyterian church to assume that it is the only sufferer because of this lack of harmony between the attitude of the church and the 'modern view of life.' Certainly this report would seem to demand that the churches look up this matter of disharmony and see if it can not be adjusted. The how of the adjustment is best left in the hands of those who know most about it."

FRIENDSHIP FOR THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO

John Lind, personal representative of the administration in Mexico during the Huerta regime, made a plea at a recent banquet of the Industrial club at Chicago for a warmer and kindlier spirit on the part of Americans toward the Mexican people. Among other things Mr. Lind said:

"I want to make a plea for a warmer and kindlier interest in our neighbors. They bear us no ill will. They need our good will. We need theirs. We must be friends in peace and allies in trouble.

"The people of Mexico dwell in a rich and beautiful land. I feel that they are a people of great promise.

"They have suffered vicissitudes which we have escaped. I believe that they are emerging into the light of a new and better day. They may still stumble politically. They may fall at times. But I would rather have them stumble and fall traveling our way than to see them slide peacefully back into the bondage, the ignorance, the vice and sloth of the sixteenth century.

"I have asked myself, and I asked some of the critics of President Wilson's policy, whether it was not within the range of probability that a people who within a brief generation had responded with great facility to the new social and economic environment might make equivalent progress in the field of politics and government if afforded a fair chance. I am hopeful, eye confident, that they will.

"The hard experience of the Mexican has made him wary and suspicious. It has been difficult for the Mexican people to believe that our president did not have some ulterior motive in his proffered assistance and good offices.

"Europe condemned the idealism of our president as well as his diplomacy. They are reaping the fruit of their diplomacy, we of ours. Which do you prefer? Fortunately, in the case of Mexico, idealism and practical statesmanship followed parallel lines."

It was really believed by a large number of persons, following the extensive personal advertising given Secretary Wilson, that the national department of agriculture would suffer through his departure from the cabinet. Secretary Houston has just made public the report of his department for the year. It teems with interest to the farmers of this country. It makes very plain that under the wise guidance of Mr. Houston, this department has expanded and developed more rapidly than in any previous period, that its organization has been made more compact and efficient and that it is doing better and bigger work than ever before.