

Unseen Effects of Wage Law

By GUS W. DYER

Professor of Economics and Sociology, Vanderbilt University

The average man thinks of the industrial life of this country as confined almost exclusively to a group of big factories and medium sized



factories, located in big cities or big industrial centers. Conditions in these big industries are the foundation for practically all of the labor legislation at Washington.

The public in general is under a delusion that the big industries have driven out practically all of the small factories. The few left are not considered worthy of consideration in labor legislation. As a matter of fact, the big industries have not driven out the small factories. The small factories make up a very large part of our industrial life today.

In 1929, 210,954 factories of all types were in operation in this country. Over 7,000 of these factories employed no wage earners; 95,787 employed from one to five wage earners; 53,524 employed from six to 20 wage earners; and 25,022 employed from 21 to 50 wage earners. The total number of wage earners employed in these small factories was 1,589,847. The average number of wage earners in the 174,213 small industries in operation was 10.

These little factories that give employment to nearly two million people are located in cities, towns, villages in the rural sections, everywhere. Among them we find sawmills, grist-mills, feed mills, chair factories, furniture factories, mattress factories, textile factories, sheet-iron industries, clothing factories, overall factories, etc.

The wages of each employe are determined by the productivity of the worker. Each gets the market value of his services. The skilled get high wages; the unskilled, the untrained, the slow, the inefficient get relatively low wages. But all are paid by the same standard—the standard of their productive capacity. With two or

three members of a family at work, even at low wages, the family is able to maintain its independence and respectability.

A very large proportion of these small industries are located in small towns, villages and rural communities. There are 13,433 small towns in this country that have populations of 2,500 and less. Over 10,000 towns have populations of less than 1,000. The combined population of these small towns is 2,181,035. This is a population greater than the combined populations of Boston, St. Louis, St. Paul, Buffalo, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Dallas, Houston, Indianapolis and Chicago. Yet little thought is given to the life and problems of these little towns.

Few of those who are operating these small industries are making much above a simple, decent living. These industries are in no condition to absorb any extra business cost. The productivity of labor is a definite, fixed quantity that can be determined definitely on the market. The labor in an industry must produce the value of the wages paid or the industry is doomed. These small industries have no reserve out of which to pay continuous losses. A minimum wage of 40c an hour or \$3.20 a day for eight hours would mean the elimination of all workers who cannot produce the minimum, and this would, perhaps, mean the elimination of over one-half of the workers in the small industries, and the closing of a very large proportion of these industries. It is doubtful if the serious results of the minimum wage on these industries would ever reach the newspapers.

The 13,433 small, independent, self-supporting, self-respecting communities in which small business lives and thrives are the very heart of real American life and American ideals. If left alone they will take care of themselves under American Constitutional industrial freedom. It is little less than a crime for an absentee, centralized government to make it illegal for honest, upright citizens to offer millions of workers in these towns an opportunity to work and support their families by their work. It is far worse for a government to force these people to join the ranks of the dependent and the wantants.

Woman's Club Christmas Session

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program depicting styles of the long, long ago by very attractive models, starting with a wedding gown, 27 years old beautifully modelled by Mrs. Helen Matthews. Other old time costumes followed, even the bathing suits of the 90's with the high topped boots, etcetera. Finally an old-fashioned Christmas scene was enacted on the platform where a fireplace was the center of attraction. The maid, (Mrs. Harbison), appears in old-fashioned nightie, holding a candle and followed by her three charges, Joe Berg, Gregory Hornecker and Diana Schroeder. They hang their stockings by the fireplace, while a trio, composed of Mrs. Marie Wagner, Mrs. Juanita Clabaugh and Mrs. Margaret Dement, sing lovely old-fashioned Christmas carols. The maid leaves and the mother, (Mrs. Eunice Barrow), reads the ever familiar Christmas story, "It Was the Night Before Christmas," to a trio of very interested youngsters.

Following this lovely program, a social time was enjoyed, with refreshments. Mrs. E. E. Leslie and Mrs. Ted Hornecker presided at the attractive tea table, which was centered with red tapers and greens. Present were: Mesdames R. A. Wernich, Lloyd

Rosa, F. L. Greenough, J. A. Lamb, O. B. Harriman, C. J. Fuhrman, A. J. Sherwood, Frank Leslie, R. E. Boober, Keith Leslie, E. E. Leslie, Jennie Adams, Harry Godard, J. A. Berg, Jas. Watson, Elbert Schroeder, Albert Powers, Harry Slack, Geo. Oerding, J. L. Smith, H. L. Claterbos, Ida Owen, Cyril McCurdy, Leland Petersen, C. P. Zumwalt, M. M. Newdall, G. W. Tyrrell, C. V. Smith, Lee Hand, Wm. Campbell, M. O. Hawkins, G. A. Ulett, F. S. Emery, R. B. Rogers, B. W. Dunn, A. A. Hall, Wm. Candlin, Ray Jeub, Geo. Jenkins, C. A. Rietman, V. A. Dimmick, C. W. Kline, W. E. Sproul, K. P. Lawrence, Bert Folsom, Louis Fugelson, W. S. Parke, Geo. Chaney, Ted Hornecker, Fred Grant, R. E. Harbison, John Clabaugh, Ernest Watkins, J. S. Barton, Belmont Ireland, Wm. Barrow, Eric Tucker, J. D. Rankin, Carl Dement, Lefe Compton, M. Earl Wilson, O. C. Sanford, Marie Wagner and T. J. Matthews.

Recreation Institute Next Monday at H. S.

The Recreational Institute for Coos County on Monday, December 19, and Tuesday, December 20, will be held in the Coquille high school auditorium. The Institute will be under the supervision of Mrs. Mary Bones, of Gaylord, and the meeting will be in charge of the county committee's recreation chairman, Mrs. Rex Ingram, of Marshfield. Accompanist for the evenings will be Margaret Smith, of Coquille high school.

Townsend Club News

Tuesday evening being business meeting, the attendance was not so great, but those attending enjoyed a wonderful luncheon.

All Townsendites are urged to get behind the new membership campaign. If each one brings in two new members Coquille will be about 90% per cent Townsend.

Next Tuesday is social night, with two and a half hours of dancing. Shady's Shadows will be there; so should you.

Now is the time to join the Townsend Plan, The Key to Success.

Keys made for all locks. Stevens Cash Hardware, Coquille, Ore.



Say It With

POINSETTIAS

This Christmas

The traditional Christmas flower—the only truly correct flower to give.

Let us take your order now. Many other plants and potted flowers; cut flowers for the season.

Bergen's Better Blossoms

Coquille

Design for a Ready-Made Christmas

Gift ROBES

That Man of good taste, is the man who will welcome your gift of one of these handsome robes. Special planning brings both brocade and flannel to choose from at the same price!

\$5.00 to \$10.50

The brocade robe has shawl rever and silk fringed sash of satin. The flannel robe has shawl rever, cuffs, pocket trim and belt of plaid.



Gift Robes will be enjoyed every day of the year...

Give LUGGAGE

Among The "Big Ten" of Christmas gifts is Luggage. We have only the latest and finest grade and priced most reasonably. Regular Airplane style with hard durable finish covering. Sturdily built for long use. Neatly lined with fine quality lining.

Priced from 98c and up to \$22.50



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LORENZ STORE

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Grayco from 49c to \$2.00



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So Hurry and make a selection from these very attractive values for men of all ages—all tastes. Only Quality Merchandise in These Fine Ties

MOGADORS, CREPES, SPITALFIELDS!

and OTHERS

Please Him With PAJAMAS

Sateen and Broadcloth Masterfully Tailored

\$1.49 to \$1.98



Regular and Extra Sizes

Barn Burned At Fairview Sunday

The 40x50 barn of T. H. Benham at Fairview burned last Sunday morning, destroying with it 40 tons of hay, a plow and considerable small equipment. Five or six hundred pounds of squash and \$100 worth of apples were also lost. How the fire started is unknown as Mr. and Mrs. Benham had gone to Bridge some time before.

Mr. Benham says the insurance will just about cover the cost of feed for his cows until spring.

1 MORE WEEK TO SHOP

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