

State for the purpose of securing employment for the unemployed and for the purpose of securing help or labor for persons applying for such.

To arbitrate all disputes between employer and employee. To enforce the hours of labor for females; to enforce the Factory Inspection and Child Labor Laws; the Steam Boiler Inspection and the State Mine Inspection Laws.

The Child Labor Law applies to all children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years, who must pass an educational test and also a physical examination made by the physicians connected with the Bureau, before receiving employment certificates.

Under the Child Labor Law, Acts 1912, Chapter 731, the total number of applications made at the Baltimore office for all classes of permits was 11,828 in 1922, compared with 10,210 in 1921. The number of inspections made under this act in 1922 was 718, compared with 573 in 1921, and the number found employed was 2,589 in 1922, compared with 3,082 in 1921. The average wage which children between 14 and 16 years received in 1922 was \$6.69, compared with \$7.20 in 1921.

Under the Hours of Employment for Females, Acts 1916, Chap. 147, the number of establishments inspected, it is found that there was a total of 3,613 inspections in 1923, compared with 2,616 in the previous year, or an increase of about 38 per cent. This increase was particularly noticeable in the counties, where in 1922 there were 80 inspections and in 1923, 368, or an increase of 360 per cent. The inspections in Baltimore city numbered 3,245.

The number found employed in Baltimore city and the counties under this law were 44,769 in 1922 and 52,183 in 1923, or an increase of about 16 per cent.

During the year 1923 the inspectors for Baltimore city visited 8,895 establishments, making therein 10,120 inspections of different kinds, viz.: Factory inspections, 1,496; Ten Hour Law inspections, 3,245; Child Labor inspections, 589, and general inspections, 4,790. Under general inspections are listed places which are visited by the inspectors, but where no women or children are found at work. The total number employed in these establishments was 171,937, of which number 115,631 were males over 16 years of age; 1,685 males under 16 years; 52,786 females over 16 years and 1,835 females under 16 years.

During the year 1923 the State boiler inspectors examined 277 boilers, 45 of them were old inspections and 232 were inspected under the A. S. M. E. Code. Of the 232 A. S. M. E. inspection 99 were in Baltimore City and 133 in the counties of Maryland. The decrease in the number of inspections is attributed to old boilers being used.

There were no violations of the Boiler Inspection Law and no boilers were condemned during 1923.

The collections amounted to \$2,652.00, of which 1,227 were from insurance companies and \$1,425.00 were for inspections.

Under the Mining Inspection Law 1902, Chap. 124, the total tonnage of coal and clay mined in the State for the fiscal year ending May 1, 1922, was 1,688,095.1, compared with 3,479,153 in 1921. There were 5 fatal and 265 non-fatal accidents in the mines during 1922, compared with 7 fatal and 280 non-fatal in 1921.

The number of strikes during the calendar year 1922 was 12, compared with 11 in 1921, 21 in 1920; 22 in 1919 and 37 in 1918.