

FOREWORD

Pennsylvania has probably been subjected to more generalizations regarding its employed children than any other state in the union. It is the second largest industrial state in the country and the leading state in a number of industries in which children are traditionally employed, yet until now it has never on a state-wide basis attempted to gather authoritative, unbiased information regarding the conditions under which its children are being employed.

In Pennsylvania no child under 14 may be certificated to work. The Child Labor Law regulates, in the main, conditions of work for all 14- and 15-year-old employed children, delegating the responsibility for the supervision of these children to two state departments, the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Public Instruction. It is fitting that it should be these two departments which have collaborated in this first official study to secure information regarding 14 and 15-year-old children working in the Commonwealth.

The Bureau of Women and Children which has prepared this study wishes to recognize the assistance of the teachers and principals of the continuation schools throughout the Commonwealth who supervised the making out and assembling of the basic material on which the report has been formulated. It would acknowledge particularly the contribution of J. Y. Shambach, Director of the Bureau of Child Helping and Accounting, and of P. L. Cressman of the Bureau of Vocational Education of the Department of Public Instruction, both of whom have given generously of their advice in the planning of this study.

The Bureau wishes also to express its appreciation to the Bureau of Inspection for its splendid educational work in the burdensome task of investigating the reported illegal employments, and to the Bureau of Statistics for its assistance and advice in coding and tabulating the data.

The study was written by Beatrice McConnell, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Women and Children.

Charlotte E. Carr, Director
Bureau of Women and Children
Department of Labor and Industry