BUREAU OF INSPECTION



Harry D. Immel Director

The Bureau of Inspection is the Department's agency for enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to safety and to health. In its application of industrial safety it has kept pace with the modern educational trend until today no function of the Bureau is so important as its service as a highly trained consulting safety organization. In that capacity its expert services are available to every industrial group and to every individual concern, and to every individual worker.

The Work of the Bureau of Inspection is performed through an organization which includes a field force of one hundred inspectors and twenty section chiefs and supervisors acting under a Bureau director. General factory inspectors constitute the largest single body. Their activities are directed by supervisors from nine divisional offices so located that the supervising office of any division is as accessible as

possible to all parts of its division. Elevator, boiler, building, and quarry inspections are made by especially trained field men operating under section chiefs, who are located in the central office of the Bureau in Harrisburg. The general field force includes female inspectors located where their services are of most advantage for the application of those laws and regulations applying especially to female workers. There is a section especially devoted to the interests of women and minors in industry.

Reduction of accidents and maintenance of health are the important services for industry which the Bureau of Inspection is charged to perform. The

providing of mechanical safeguards and of such physical conditions as will advance sanitation are given to the Bureau to enforce through law. The same applies to special restrictions set about the employment of women and of minors, Inspectors are trained to note departures from these requirements and have them corrected. Ample police power is given to inspectors, but the bulk of industrial accidents being due only indirectly or not at all to causes which can be corrected mechanically, the Bureau of Inspection must go far beyond an exercise of police powers to realize its goal.

Today the State factory inspector, while continuing the enforcement of mechanical safeguarding, devotes even more attention to enlisting the cooperation of industry in safety work through the formation of plant safety committees, or through the assignment of a distinct responsibility for safety to the persons in supervisory positions in factories of whatever size. It is the aim of the Bureau of Inspection that every factory inspector shall be a competent safety engineer, prepared by his training to apply the sum of all safety knowledge ac-cumulated in the Department to whatever problems he encounters. When desired by industry, shop meetings are addressed by representatives of the Bureau as a further means of imparting safety education.

Every industrial accident of any consequence is investigated by



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