

inspectors of the Bureau. In these investigations every effort is made to discover underlying or contributory causes and to determine the best means of avoiding a repetition of the accident. This information is available to the Bureau of Industrial Standards, and to the Industrial Board, for guidance in developing new safety regulations or for revising existing ones.

The breadth of regulation of employment assigned by law to the Bureau of Inspection goes considerably beyond the factory. Wherever labor is employed in Pennsylvania, excepting on the farm or in domestic service it comes within the scope of laws enforced by this Bureau, regulating conditions of work for all, and hours of employment for women and for minors. All places of employment are visited systematically by Bureau inspectors.

Elevator and boiler inspections are special activities of the Bureau. Each is conducted by a staff of specialists. Boiler inspection is conducted everywhere in the Commonwealth excepting in Philadelphia, Scranton, and Erie; elevator inspection everywhere excepting in Philadelphia, Scranton, and Pittsburgh. The communities excepted have their own boiler and elevator inspectors. Inspections are made periodically and no boiler or elevator may be operated unless there is conspicuously posted a certificate indicating that inspection has been made within the period of time fixed by law. Installations of elevators and boilers must be made in accordance with regulations. Before any elevator is installed, plans and application for permit must be submitted to the Chief of the Elevator Section.

Perhaps the most important service rendered by the Bureau of Inspection, aside from its main function of promoting industrial safety, is its enforcement of the Fire and Panic Act of Pennsylvania. This Act requires the construction and maintenance of almost all buildings, other than private dwellings, in such manner that there may be safe egress in any emergency. It applies everywhere in the Commonwealth except in first, second, and 2-A class cities. For the purpose of administering this law, a Building Section, headed by competent engineers, is maintained in the Bureau, and the general factory inspection force is augmented by a field staff of building specialists. Plans for the erection and remodeling of all buildings over which the Department is given jurisdiction by the Fire and Panic Act must be submitted to the Buildings Section of the Bureau of Inspection for approval before work is begun. The seal of the Department of Labor and Industry is not attached to such plans unless they indicate that every requirement of law and regulation for safe egress is to be provided. Inspectors are charged with noting such existing buildings as have insufficient stairways and exits, and with ordering the erection of additional stairways or fire escapes. Every building project for which plans are approved is inspected on completion and final approval given.

Theatre requirements are especially exacting because of the frequent assemblages in these places. In connection with theatre safety the Bureau enforces a Motion Picture Act which throws definite safeguards about the use of motion picture projectors. All motion picture operators must undergo examinations and be licensed by the Bureau. The Buildings Section conducts this special activity and, besides, is responsible for administering Emergency Lighting Regulations, whereby an emergency source of illumination is required in all places where the public is assembled after darkness.