

In addition to any general educational work the Bureau might do in the carrying out of its routine work, it is engaging in certain special forms of educational work such as assisting in the formation of community safety organizations; in cooperating with existing local organizations already established; in the holding of safety conferences through the furnishing of speakers and by making efforts to increase the attendance. The Bureau takes a leading part in the development of the program and other features of the annual state-wide conferences. It is prepared to assist any organization interested in accident-prevention work in the educational phase of its program.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION

The function of the Hygiene and Sanitation Section of the Bureau of Industrial Standards is to deal with the problem of health as affected by employment. All reports of industrial accidents received by the Compensation Bureau refers to this section all reports of disabilities caused by disease. In the present Workmen's Compensation Law "injury" and "personal injury" as used in that Act "mean only violence to the physical structure of the body, and such disease or infection as naturally results therefrom." Reports of disabilities arising in the course of employment other than those coming under that classification are not received in large numbers. They do not, in any degree, indicate the frequency with which the industrial population of the state is being disabled by materials or through methods of manufacture carrying with them a health hazard. They do, however, offer an avenue of approach, and, together with reports from other sources of clearly defined, or of supposed cases of industrial disease, are investigated and suggestions are made for removing the conditions responsible for them. This service is sought by employers, employes, physicians, and other interested persons.

In addition to dealing with these individual cases, it receives information on health hazards in general, studies the conditions producing such hazards, or, without specific reports on such conditions, initiates studies of related problems. If the carrying on of such studies requires technical knowledge and equipment not available in the Department of Labor and Industry, the Hygiene and Sanitation Section calls on cooperating bodies of individuals to assist in the research necessary for their completion. The results of such investigation are made public through bulletins published by the Department. If definite dangers are found, the section recommends methods of eliminating them by means of regulations based on the findings, and developed and issued by the Department. This work is restricted because of the inability of the Department to enlist the aid of agencies not under its jurisdiction for the carrying on of needed investigation. Were it not hampered by such limitations increased service would be available for prompt technical research into a number of important problems which must now remain untouched. Adequate protective measures can be based only on facts. Since it is the function of this Department to develop these measures, it should, of necessity, be in a position to determine the conditions calling for such action.

The Hygiene and Sanitation Section cooperates with the Bureau of Inspection by inviting the field inspectors to bring to the Section prob-