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put competition on a higher basis of business morality and prevents the cutting of wages by unfair competitors.

Organized labor has ceased to oppose (for the time being, at least) this legislation. They have found that it has helped the women workers and has not driven trade unionism from the field. Many of the labor leaders of the State are now working hard to support the minimum wage law.\*

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\*An interview with Daniel C. Murphy, prominent labor leader of California and former President of the California State Federation of Labor. Mr. Murphy says that although the minimum wage law is not evenly enforced throughout the State, it is very successful and he would hate to see the law repealed or invalidated.

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The History of California Labor Legislation, 1910-1930.

Chapter V.

The Regulation of Child Labor.

The enactment of child labor legislation has resulted from the abuse of children in industrial activities, especially manufacturing, where demands have often been made upon children for long hours of labor under improper conditions. Although the conditions in California have not been nearly as bad as in many of the industrial states of the East and South,\* during recent years the need for comprehensive and stringent child

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\*Eaves, Lucile, History of California Labor Legislation, p. 287.

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labor legislation has become greater.

One of the chief purposes\* for regulating child labor

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is to protect the physical welfare of minors. This is accomplished through raising the age limit at which they are allowed to work, by the elimination of night work and through the prohibition of employment of children in the operation of machinery that is dangerous to life and limb. Normal physical development of children cannot take place in factories or workshops where production is often carried on under conditions which produce nervous tension, detrimental even to the well-being of adults.

Another purpose of child labor legislation is to protect the educational rights of children. It is generally recognized that children should be compelled to attend school and it is easier to enforce the school laws if children cannot work in gainful occupations.

A third purpose of such legislation is based upon economic grounds. It is claimed that child labor (1) shortens the period of the trade life, (2) prevents development of efficiency, (3) produces unstable labor, (4) reduces the wages of adults, (5) produces poverty and (6) causes race deterioration.\*

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\*The economic arguments are brought out by Senator H. C. Jones of California, in a speech for ratification of the child labor amendment, Journal of the Senate, January 8, 1925.

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California enacted considerable child labor legislation, copied after that in other states, during its early history. The first acts were passed in the sixties of the last century.\*

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\*Cal.Stats. 1868, p.63.

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Other protective statutes followed -- the most important being the acts of 1889,\* 1901\*and 1905\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1889, p. 4.

\*Cal. Stats. 1901, p. 631.

\*Cal. Stats. 1905, p. 12.

See Eaves, Lucile, History of California Labor Legislation, pp. 295-307.

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The act of 1905, a comprehensive measure, repealed the previous child labor laws and was the only California statute pertaining to the subject for several years. The act was amended a number of times, however, and by 1908 its provisions were as follows:

Section one provided that "no minor under the age of eighteen shall be employed in laboring in any manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishment, or other place of labor, more than nine hours in one day, except when it is necessary to

make repairs to prevent the interruption of the ordinary running of the machinery, or when a different apportionment of the hours of labor is made for the sole purpose of making a shorter day's work for one day of the week; and in no case shall the hours of labor exceed fifty-four in a week."

Section two provided that "no minor under the age of sixteen years shall be employed or permitted to work in any mercantile institution, office, laundry, manufacturing establishment, or workshop between the hours of ten o'clock in the evening and six o'clock in the morning.

"No child under fourteen years of age shall be employed in any mercantile institution, office, laundry, manufacturing establishment, workshop, place of amusement, restaurant, hotel, apartment house, or in the distribution or transmission of merchandise or messages.

"Provided, that the judge of the juvenile court.. shall have authority to issue a permit to work to any such child over the age of twelve years, upon a sworn statement being made to him by the parent of such child that such child is past the age of twelve years and that the parents or parent of such child are incapacitated for labor, through illness.....

"And provided, that any such child over the age of twelve years may be employed at any of the occupations mentioned in this act during the regular vacation of the public schools of the city county, or city and county, in which the place of employment is situated, upon the production of a permit signed by the principal of the school which such child has attended during the term

next preceding any such vacation...

"No minor who is under sixteen years of age shall be employed or permitted to work at any gainful occupation during the hours that the public schools of the city, town or school district in which his place of employment is situated are in session, unless he or she can read English at sight and can write legibly and correctly simple English sentences, or unless he or she is a regular attendant for the then current term at a regularly conducted night school..."

Section three stated that "every person, firm, or corporation employing minors under eighteen years of age, in any manufacturing establishment, shall post, and keep posted, in a conspicuous place in every room where such help is employed, a written or printed notice stating the number of hours per day for each day of the week required of such persons.

"Every person, firm, or corporation...employing or permitting minors under sixteen years and over fourteen years of age to work...shall keep a record of the names, ages and places of residence of such minors, and shall have on file a certificate of age and schooling, as provided in this act, for every such minor so employed, said record and certificate to be open at all times to the inspection of those whose duty it is to enforce the provisions of this act.

"An age and schooling certificate shall be approved only by the superintendent of schools of the city or city and county, or by a person authorized by him, in writing, or where there is no city or city and county superintendent of schools, by a person authorized by the local school trustees"....

Section four provided that violaters of the provisions of the act were guilty of a misdemeanor and should be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars or more than two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than sixty days, or by such fine and imprisonment, for each offense.

Section five provided that "nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the employment of minors at agricultural horticultural, viticultural, or domestic labor, during the time the public schools are not in session, or during other than school hours. For the purpose of this act, horticulture shall be understood to include the curing and drying, but not the canning, of all varieties of fruit."

Section six stated that "it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to enforce the provisions of this act."\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1905, p.12, Amended Stats. 1907, pp. 978, 589.

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Miss Eaves was of the opinion in 1908 that the great need in California was not more legislation for the protection of children, but a better enforcement of such laws as were already on the statute books. "Just because the child labor problems have not assumed the distressing proportions of other sections of the country, there has been much indifference about the enforcement of the measures that might protect the relatively small number among us whose unfortunate circumstances have forced them to become bread-winners at an early age."\*

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\*Eaves, Lucile, History of California Labor Legislation, pp. 309-910.

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The same year the Labor Commissioner reported that the Bureau could well utilize the entire available staff in the enforcement of the child labor act in the city of San Francisco alone\*. It is evident, therefore, that many parts of the state

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\*Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1908, p. 188.

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of California, comprising 158,000 square miles, were not being visited by inspectors of the Bureau.

Slight amendments were made to the child labor law in 1909. Minors under sixteen were prohibited from working in places of amusement, restaurants, hotels, apartment houses and in the distribution or transmission of merchandise or messages;\* one-half of the fines for violations of the act, imposed and collected

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\*Cal. Stats. 1909. p. 978.

The previous requirement had been fourteen years in these industries.

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as a result of prosecutions by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, were to be credited to the contingent fund of the Bureau; and the Labor Commissioner as well as his deputies were given the powers and authority of sheriffs to make arrests for violations of the provisions of the child labor law.\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1909. p. 391.

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Organized labor was dissatisfied with child labor conditions in the state as is shown by the following resolution presented by the Committee on Law and Legislation at the 1910 convention of the California State Federation of Labor:

"On the question of child labor law, your committee recommends that this convention insist and demand the enforcement of its provisions to the letter. The highest duty this or any other body can assume is the protection of the children of the poor from the ravages of wage slavery. This question of child labor is a burning one in this country at present; nearly every institution for good has recognized the necessity for legislation protecting children, and organized labor should make the force of its blows felt on this legislation while there is an opportunity."\*

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\*Proceedings, p. 38.

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John P. McLaughlin, the newly appointed Labor Commissioner under Governor Johnson, determined "to make the child labor law of the state something more than an ornament in the statute books".\* A general plan of action was layed out by the Bureau

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\*Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1912, p.21.

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by means of which it was hoped the law could be made more effective. The plan included the following four courses of action:

First, systematic and uniform issuance of certificates and permits, by a designated person, which person should be responsible for the proper issuance and recording thereof.

Second, co-operation of all the members of the school departments, juvenile court and probation officers, attendance and truant officers with the Bureau in carrying out the provisions of the law.

Third, wide publicity, so that the employer would be ever reminded of his liability, and the public of its responsibility to observe and report violations.

Fourth, inspection, at short intervals, of all establishments that were apt to employ children.\*



\*Ibid. p. 21.

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A determined effort was made to carry out this plan of the Bureau and as a result the law was very much better enforced.\*

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\*Commissioner McLaughlin in the Biennial Report of 1912, page 21, states, "One of the most gratifying results of the work of this Bureau during the past two years has been the practical elimination of child labor in this state and the laying of a firm foundation for the enforcement of the child labor laws, with a view to prevent this evil from ever obtaining a foothold in California. All children under sixteen years, except in a few isolated spots in the state, who are working are doing so under a permit."

Ibid. 1914, page 21, he says, "We believe we have the child labor problem well in hand, and that the majority of the employers are earnestly striving to live up to the law."

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In 1911 the child labor law was slightly strengthened by two amendments. Minors under eighteen (previously had been sixteen) years were not to work between ten o'clock in the evening and five o'clock (previously had been six o'clock) in the morning;\*and minors under fifteen (previously fourteen) years were not to be employed in any mercantile institution, office, laundry manufacturing establishment, workshop, place of amusement, restaurant, hotel, apartment house, or in the distribution or transmission of merchandise or messages.\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1911, Ch. 456.

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The same year an independent measure, sponsored by several religious and social organizations, was enacted by the legislature.\* The statute prohibited minors under eighteen years

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\*Its presentation in the legislature and its ultimate passage was due largely to Reverend Charles M. Lathrop of the Church

of the Advent, San Francisco. Father Lathrop had photographs made of youngsters, who as venders of papers, candies and like frequented the dives and saloons at all hours of the night. These photographs furnished arguments which could not be met. (Hickborn, Frnkalin, Story of the California Legislature of 1911, pp. 234-235.

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from engaging in any business between the hours of ten o'clock in the evening and five o'clock in the morning.\* The principal

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\*Cal. Stats. 1911, Ch. 688.

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purpose of the measure was to protect the morals of children by keeping them out of dives and saloons at hours when shamelessness ran riot.

Two years later another amendment to the child labor law established an eight-hour day and a forty-eight-hour week for minors under eighteen years of age;\* and an improvement was

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\*The law previously had allowed a nine-hour day and fifty-four hour week.

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made regarding the issuance of work permits and certificates.\*

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\*No minor under the age of sixteen was to be at gainful occupations during school hours unless he had completed the grammar grades or else was attending night school. (Cal. Stats. 1913 Ch. 214.)

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Although the Labor Commissioner was attempting to enforce stringently the child labor law and despite the several amendments to the statute, child labor in certain industries and localities of the state was far from satisfactory. This was largely because the law was not comprehensive enough to include all children within its provisions. According to Mrs. H. H. Fleischer, representative of the National Child Labor Committee on the

Pacific Coast, speaking in 1912, the thousands of children working in canneries and orchards should be protected by law. Mrs. Fleischer claimed that foreigners were the worst offenders of the child labor law and that conditions in Southern California were worse than elsewhere in the state.\*

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\*Retail Clerks' International Advocate, October 1912, pp.10.

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In 1915 the Women's Legislative Council of California, representing twenty-five women's organizations with a total membership of 75,000 determined to improve the child labor law. A bill was drafted, known as the the North-South Child Labor bill, and was presented in both branches of the legislature. The social agencies of the state got behind the measure and worked for its passage and it finally became a law, but not with the provisions it had contained when the women endorsed it.

As originally introduced, the measure raised the age limit at which children might be employed in gainful occupation. prohibited street vending by boys under fourteen and girls under eighteen, prohibited children under sixteen from working in specified dangerous industries and provided that labor in canneries should not be construed as a horticultural pursuit.\*

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\*This latter provision was an attempt to regulate child labor in the canneries. Horticultural, agricultural and domestic labor of minors had always been permitted except while the public schools were in session and during school hours.

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The Seante was in favor of the major provisions of the bill, but not so with the Assembly. After the latter body had amended the measure, boys were permitted to act as street vendors as soon as they were ten years old, and practically all

on the employment of children in canneries were removed. The Senate concurred in the first amendment providing for boy street vender, but refused to concur in the latter change regarding canneries. The Assembly receded on this one point and the bill became a law\*. The only important improvement however, over the

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\*Highborn, Franklin, Story of the California Legislature of 1915, pp. 175-178.

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old statute was a prohibition of child labor in specified dangerous occupations and industries.\*

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\*Section four provided that "no child under the age of sixteen years shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in any of the following occupations or in any of the following positions; adjusting any belt to any machinery, or sewing or lacing machine belts in any workshop or factory, or oiling, wiping or cleaning machinery or assisting therein, or operating or assisting in operating any of the following machines: (twenty-four machines are listed)....; or in proximity to any hazardous or unguarded belts, machinery or gearing; or upon any railroad, whether steam electric or hydraulic; or upon any vessel or boat engaged in navigation or commerce within the jurisdiction of this state; provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to the courses of training in vocational or manual training schools or in state institutions."

Section five provided that "no child under the age of sixteen years shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in any capacity (1) in, about or in connection with any processes in which dangerous or poisonous acids are used; (2) nor in the manufacture or packing of paints, colors, white or red lead; (3) nor in soldering; (4) nor in occupations causing dust in injurious quantities; (5) nor in the manufacture or use of dangerous or poisonous dyes; (6) nor in the manufacture or preparation of compositions with dangerous or poisonous gases; (7) nor in the manufacture or use of compositions of lye in which the quantity thereof is injurious to health; (8) nor on scaffolding; (9) nor in heavy work in the building trades; (10) nor in any tunnel or excavation; (11) nor in, about or in connection with any mine, coal breaker, coke oven, or quarry; (12) nor in assoring, manufacturing or packing tobacco; (13) nor in operating any automobile, motor car or truck; (14) nor in a bowling alley; (15) nor in a pool or billiard room; (16) nor in any other occupation dangerous to the life or limb, or injurious to the health or morals of such child."

Section six provided that the Bureau of Labor Statistics might prohibit the employment of minors under sixteen years of age in additional occupations or industries if it found that they

were dangerous to the lives or limbs or injurious to the health or morals of children under that age. (Cal. Stats. 1915 Ch. 625.)

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The new law almost entirely superceded the child labor statute of 1905. As originally presented, the measure was poorly drafted, but after several amendments had been incorporated in its provisions, the law had so many inconsistencies that its enforcement was difficult.\* There was particular difficulty in co-

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\*Reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1916, p. 23; 1918, pp. 26-27.

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ordinating it with the compulsory education law. The child labor provisions of the education law were enforced by labor authorities, while the working permits for children were issued by the Department of Education. There was, therefore, divided responsibility regarding the administration of the act.\*

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\*It was felt by many that permits to work were issued too freely, yet under the provisions of the law it was almost impossible to do anything by way of correction. See "Child Labor and Education", California Women's Committee of Councils of National and State Defense, Bulletin No. 2, pp. 1-6 (1918)

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As early as July 1918, the Juvenile Protective Association of San Francisco called a meeting of the State officials from the Departments of Education, Labor Statistics and Industrial Welfare, together with representatives from the Child Labor Committee of Northern California, the State Federation of Labor, the Local Labor Council, and the Juvenile Protective Association. The purpose of the meeting was the discussion of suitable laws regulating the education and labor of children.

Previously, a questionnaire had been sent to numerous people throughout the state in an effort to have all those interested

take part in framing the new bills which were to be introduced in the legislature of 1919.

Thus, interest was aroused in the subject and many people became firmly committed to the idea that something should be done to correct the child labor evil in the state. Mrs. Schlesinger describes in the following concise manner the progress of the child labor bill presented in the 1919 session of the legislature: "The child labor bill was framed by a lawyer, sponsored by the Federation of Labor, introduced by a labor assemblyman, referred to the Committee on Labor and Capital of the Assembly, read out of the committee to pass, and amended with higher provisions than those in the original bill, despite the lobby maintained at the Capital by certain newspapers to fight all changes in the bill. This lobby combined with the agricultural interests. They promised, and lived up to their promise, to retire if these amendments were dropped. Thus the original bill was passed without opposition."\*

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\*Schlesinger, Mrs. Bert, "What California did in 1919 for Child Protection", The American Child, August 1919, p. 147.

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The law of 1919 repealed the old law of 1905 as well as the newer one of 1915. It shows more careful framing than the other laws and provides better protection for children. A digest of this statute by sections follows:

Section 1. No minor under the age of sixteen years shall be employed in any "place of labor" unless permitted by the compulsory education law or the part-time vocational training act.

Section 2. No minor under the age of eighteen years shall

work more than eight hours in a day of twenty-four hours---or forty-eight hours per week, nor before 5 a. m. or after 10 p. m.

Exemptions: Section 5 below.

Section 3. Messenger, telegraph, telephone service in towns of more than 15,000 population: No boy under sixteen years shall work during daytime; no boy under eighteen years shall work after 9 p. m. or before 6 a. m.; no girl under eighteen years shall work day or night.

Section 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  Street Trades: In cities of over 23,000 population: No boy under ten years nor girl under eighteen years shall work.

Section 4. Occupations dangerous to life, limb, health or morals; No minor under sixteen years shall work in eighteen specified occupations.\* The Bureau of Labor Statistics may

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\*These occupations are the same as those enumerated in the 1915 act, see Supra.

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make additional listings;\*

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\*Child Labor Order No. 1, given out by the Department, May 8, 1928, prohibits the employment of minors in "all occupations where children come in close proximity to moving machinery, in all building and construction work, and in delivering goods, etc. from moving vehicles." (Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1928, p. 51.)

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Section 5. Exemption Section: In agricultural pursuits and domestic service minors of sixteen years may work outside of school hours or in vacation more than eight hours per day and more than forth-eight hours per week. Child actors at any age and after 10 p. m. may perform with the written consent of the Commissioner

of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Section 6. Employers must keep a separate register for minors under eighteen years. Permits must be returned to issuing authority within five days after minor's employment ceases. The permits are cancelled. There must be a semi-annual report of permits filed by issuing authorities with the State Board of Education and with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Section 7. Penalty: Employer, parent or guardian, fine \$50 to \$200 or maximum of sixty days' imprisonment in the county jail, or both fine and imprisonment.

Section 8. Enforcement shall be made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Section 9. Former child labor laws and all other inconsistent acts are repealed.

Section 10. Constitutionality: Law is valid if any part held to be unconstitutional.

Soon after the new law became effective, a sensational article entitled "California the Golden", written by Emma Duke, exposed a universal evasion of the school and child labor laws in the Imperial Valley of California.\* It was stated that many

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\* The article was published in *The American Child*, November 1920 pp. 233-256.

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of the cotton pickers of the valley were children of school age and younger who ought not to be working according to the laws of the state.

By 1924, the newspapers had taken up the fight for better enforcement of the child labor laws throughout the agricultural parts of the state.\* Statements were circulated to the effect



\* The newspaper stories were based upon two articles by Arthur Gleason published in the Hearst International February and March 1924.

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that thousands of children were being ruthlessly exploited in the harvesting of California crops.

In answer to this public demand, the Bureau of Labor Statistics began an investigation of the whole matter in the latter part of March 1924.\* Among other things it was found that (1) during

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\*The findings of this investigation together with recommendations for improvement are found in the Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1924, pp. 89-120.

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the summer school vacation migratory families, mostly Mexicans, and their children were employed in the harvesting of crops: (2) The children were used mostly in picking grapes, prunes, cotton and walnuts; and (3) the principal crops harvested during the time schools were in session were asparagus, cotton and walnuts. Many children were found illegally employed in cotton fields of Imperial Valley and of Fresno County.

An attempt was immediately made to enforce strictly the child labor laws of the state. As a result, the report of Commissioner Mathewson in 1926 states that "because of the sustained efforts during the last two years in the Imperial Valley, child labor in the fields during school hours has been practically stamped out".\* An article in The American Child, January 1927, declares that "the greatest drive ever conducted by the State Labor Commissioner to wipe out child labor in the cotton fields has just been ended.

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\* Page 51.

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This campaign, part of a state-wide move started two years ago, began last January in Northern Imperial County. Raids by state Labor Bureau deputies on cotton plantations in the vicinity of Catipatria, resulted in the filing of 47 criminal complaints against employers, and 10 complaints against parents of children of school age. The success of the Commissioner is shown by the increased enrollment in the public schools of Imperial County in October 1926 than in the corresponding month of 1925."

Two amendments to the child labor law, recommended by the Bureau, were passed in 1925. One of these were designed to curb the exploitation of children on the stage by prohibiting minors under twelve years from performing except during the public school vacation.\* The other amendment facilitates the enforce-

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\*Cal. Stats. 1925 Ch. 141.

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ment of the law by providing that "proof that any defendant was the manager or superintendent of a place of employment subject to the provisions of the act at the time any minor is alleged to have been employed therein in violation thereof, shall be prima facie evidence that said defendant employed and suffered and permitted the said minor to so work."\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1925 Ch. 123.

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In 1929 a defect in the law was corrected. The statute had been construed to permit children under school age to work while the schools were in session. Many employers were taking advantage of this by working children under eight years of age in the

orchards and fields.\* An amendment in 1929, however, made it

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\*Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1928, p. 29.

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illegal to continue this practice.\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1929 Ch. 546.

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The number of complaints of violations of the child labor law received and investigated by the Bureau since 1913 is shown in the accompanying table.

*Table I*

Fiscal Year	Number of Complaints
1913	108
1914	173
1915	108
1916	141
1917	130
1918	211
1919	601
1920	298
1921	166
1922	117
1923	128
1924	203
1925	342
1926	527
1927	556
1928	818

Sources Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1928, p.49. (*Figures for 1929-1930 were not available*)

The large number of complaints filed in 1919 was due to the efforts of the Bureau to stamp out violations of the new law passed <sup>in that</sup> year. The reported increase in the number of child labor violations since 1925 has been due primarily to the sustained efforts made to eliminate child labor in the Imperial Valley and also because of investigations of cases of injuries to miners referred to the Bureau by the Industrial Accident Commission. In 1928 the Bureau investigated 237 cases of injuries to minors with a view to ascertaining whether the employment of the injured was legal.

Director Will J. French, of the Department of Industrial

Relations, in the latter part of 1929, stated that "the records of this Division (Labor Statistics and Law Inforcement) show fearless, rigid, and impartial enforcement of the child labor law...Every child complaint received by the Division is sedulously investigated and offenders are either warned or prosecuted, depending upon the nature and extent of the violation... As a result of enforcement campaigns, child labor has been practically eliminated in the cotton fields of our state."\*

\*French, Will J., "Are California Children protected from Child Labor?", Alameda County Public Health News, November 1929, p. 7.

The Ratification of the Federal Child Labor Amendment.

The realization by the people of California of the value of child labor regulation was shown in 1925, when all forces rallied to the support of the Federal Child Labor Amendment. There was some opposition, but this was dwarfed by the overwhelming demand for ratification of the amendment.

Immediately after the organization of the legislature the matter was taken up. Lively debates were presented in both the Senate and Assembly and the speeches were printed in the Journals,\* but it was evident from the beginning how the final

\*Senate Journal, 1925, p. 42; Assembly Journal, 1925, pp. 248-256.

vote would be. In the Assembly, the vote was 69 to 9 and in the Senate 36 to 3 in favor of ratification.\*

\*Labor Clarion, January 16, 1925, p.6.

The Compulsory Education Laws.

The education laws strengthen in several ways the child labor law. A law entitled "An act to enforce the educational Rights of Children" was passed in 1903. After amendments in 1905 and 1907, the law provided that children between eight and fourteen years of age must attend the entire term of the public schools.\* The act was amended in 1911 so as to include

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\*Cal. Stats. 1903, p. 388; Amended Stats. 1905, p. 388; 1907, p. 95.

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children fifteen years of age,\* and in 1919 to include sixteen

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\*Cal. Stats. 1911, *Ch. 482,*

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year old minors.\* During the latter year a part-time education-

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\*Cal. Stats. 1919, *Ch. 258,*

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al act was passed to supplement the full-time law of 1905.

The part-time educational act provides that minors between the ages of eight and sixteen years are compelled to attend full-time school; and minors under eighteen who are not attending full-time school, and who are not graduates of high schools maintaining four-year courses, are obliged to attend part-time school for not less than four hours per week.

The 1919 act vested the enforcing power regarding work permits in the same authority which has always issued the

permits, the educational authorities of the state. Permits to work may be issued to:

(1) Children over fifteen years who have completed the 7th grade.

(2) Children over fourteen years who have completed the 8th grade, and whose family is in extreme financial need.

(3) Children over fourteen years to work outside of school hours, work and schooling not to exceed eight hours per day.

(4) Children over twelve years to work during vacations and on school holidays.

In all cases where permits are issued, the child must be in good physical condition, his family in need of financial aid and, in addition, a job must be available.\*

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\*Cal. Stats. 1919 Ch. 506.

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Other Legal Protection to Minors.

The Industrial Welfare Commission has issued orders establishing minimum wages and working conditions for minors in many of the industries of the state.\* These orders are as binding as laws passed by the legislature.

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\*See chapter on The Minimum Wage.

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The Industrial Accident Commission protects minors in cases

of injury sustained in the course of employment, regardless of whether such employment was legal or illegal.\*

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\*See chapter on Workmen's Compensation.

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The Department of Social Welfare gives financial aid to parents or agencies for the support of orphans, half-orphans, or abandoned children, or for the support of children whose fathers are tuberculous or permanently incapacitated. This provision includes children under sixteen years of age.

*In conclusion it may be stated that*  
Conclusion.

California has a respectable body of legislation for the protection and benefit of neglected, dependent and delinquent children. The child labor law should be improved, however, by raising the age limit for forbidden employments and by extending protection to children now legally engaged in occupations not covered by the law. A strict enforcement of the school laws would automatically protect many minors from objectionable child labor. A particular problem in California of late years has been the protection of children of migratory workers. As the state becomes more industrialized, constant vigilance on the part of the school authorities and child labor inspectors will become increasingly necessary.