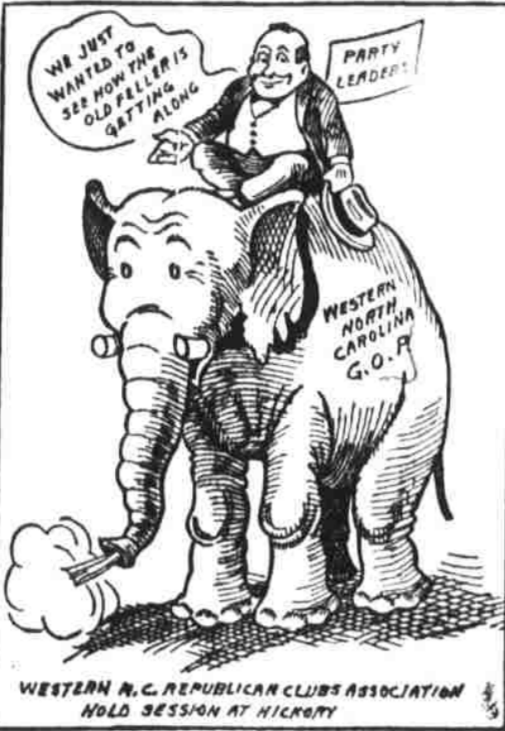


Events of the Week as Seen by the Cartoonist :-: Billy Borne



Expert Tells Why it is More Necessary During War Than in Peace Time.

THE FEDERAL CHILD LABOR LAW

United States Benefits by Experience of Her Allies Across the Seas.

(By James H. Collins.) Right in the midst of the war, in September, a law went into effect which, at first sight, seemed to have no bearing whatever upon our war problems. It was the Federal Child Labor Law, which makes products of industries in which the labor of children is utilized subject to regulation if shipped in interstate or foreign commerce, and will have a very definite effect in states where social legislation has tended to lag a little behind industrial development.

The more one looks into the experience of European countries with child labor during the war, the more one sees that the work and welfare of children are distinctly a war matter, and something calling for even more attention during the excitement of hostilities than in the more orderly times of peace. England and France, particularly, yielded to the apparent necessity of war time work, and grant certain "exemptions" under their laws for the protection of children, taking the latter out of school, permitting them to work in factories, sanctioning night labor, and doing under the necessity for war production what they would never have done in peace. After two years of this relaxation, a careful study of the effects upon the children and upon the officials of both countries their peacetime regulations should be restored.

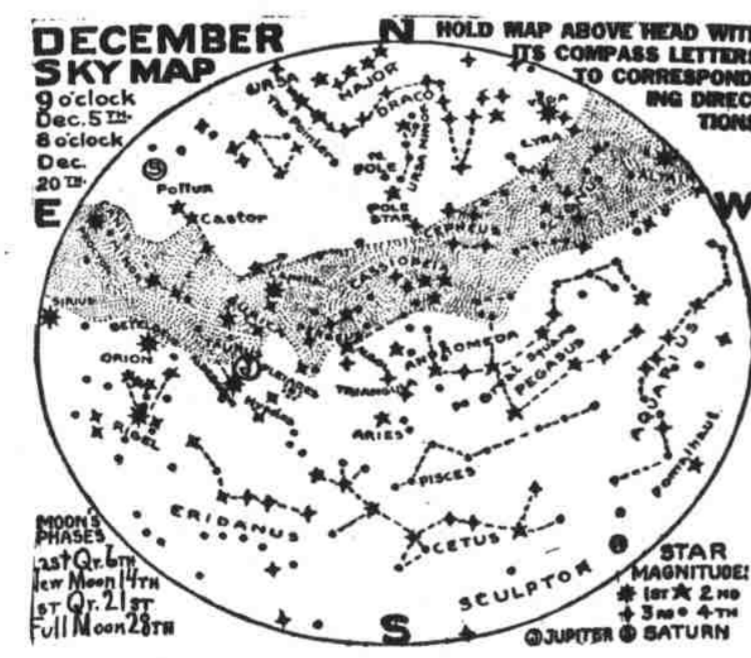
France and England Both Realized the Mistake of Making "Exemptions" for Children to Work During the War, and Quickly Reversed Their Rules, Tightening Them Up to Before-the-War Strictness, and the New Federal Child Labor Law, it is Believed, Will Do More for the United States Than Any Other Measure Passed at the Last Session of Congress, in That it Will Aid in Conserving the Youth of the Land—Production Stimulated Rather Than Retarded by the New Law.

ceding subdivision or subdivisions can not be obtained. It is impossible to say with any accuracy how many children have been taken out of industry by this law. In those states where standards of age and hours of work for children are higher than under the Federal law, no children are affected, of course. But the standards in a large number of states are below those of the Federal law and on the basis of figures of the thirteen census, now more than seven years old, it is estimated that the 27,823 children under fourteen years of age who were employed in manufacturing establishments have been released, and that the 17,687 children under sixteen years of age who were reported working in mines and quarries are no longer employed at that work. No one can say how many of the children between fourteen and sixteen who have been employed for ten and eleven and over twelve hours a day in the past will not be permitted to work more than eight hours under the new law. In 1910 there were 119,690 of these children between fourteen and sixteen employed in states where they were not protected by an eight-hour law. These census figures do not include the large number of children that have worked during the busy months of August and September in canneries and other seasonal industries.

The Heavens in December

By DR. C. S. BRAININ, of the Columbia University Observatory Staff.

THE astronomer of America will be treated to a total eclipse of the moon this month which will be visible in its entirety throughout North America. Such an eclipse, while not of the same scientific value as the total eclipse of the sun, is nevertheless a most interesting phenomenon to the astronomer in particular. It serves to impress upon his mind the wonderful achievements of modern astronomy in learning and reducing to mathematics the laws of the motions of the solar system and emphasizes to him the remarkable power of prophecy which science possesses. It serves as a new confirmation of the fact that the laws of nature govern the universe.



ence lies in the fact that, as stated above, a lunar eclipse, when it happens, is visible to the inhabitants of an entire hemisphere, whereas a solar eclipse is visible only to a rather limited area. The sun is the source of its own light, but the moon shines by reflected glory only. At the time of a lunar eclipse the earth interposes its bulk between the sun and the moon, thus cutting off the moon's light entirely, and any person situated in that hemisphere where it is night at that particular instant will have the eclipse. The moon's surface is entirely dark, except for the very weak "earthshine," which is sunlight reflected from the earth's surface to the moon and back again to us.

Circumstances of the Eclipse. The eclipse will take place on the night of December 27-28. We will give the exact time data in eastern standard time (Washington, New York, etc.) from which the corrections for the other standard time belts of the United States and Canada can easily be made. At 1:54 in the morning the moon enters the so-called penumbra, the part or outer shadow, which will produce a hardly noticeable darkening of the moon's disk. At five minutes past three the moon enters the umbra or complete shadow thrown by the earth, and this is really the beginning of the visible eclipse, for from then on the shadow creeps rapidly over the surface of the moon, eating out more

and more of the bright surface, until the total eclipse commences at 4:38. The middle of the total eclipse is at 4:46 and its end at 4:56; the totality has thus lasted about 17 minutes. The first bright patch now appears, and the shadow retreats as rapidly as it came on, until finally, at 6:27, the umbra has entirely left the moon. The latter passes out of the penumbra finally at 7:39. The most interesting part to watch, of course, is from just before the entrance into the dark umbra until the end of the totality and the reappearance of the bright surface. There is no use in sitting out the whole performance as listed above.

To change the above time data to other standard times than the eastern, it is necessary to subtract one hour for those who live in the central belt, to subtract two hours for those in the Rocky Mountain belt and three for those in the most westerly, or Pacific, time belt. Observers in the easterly tip of North America, which is in the intercolonial or Atlantic standard time belt, add one hour to the above times. As an example, the middle of the eclipse will be at 5:46 by Atlantic time, 4:46 by eastern time, 3:46 by central time, 2:46 by Rocky Mountain time, and finally, 1:46 by Pacific time. The phenomenon is visible over an entire hemisphere at practically the same instant, for every person who has the moon above his horizon will be able to see it.

Lunar and Solar Eclipses. The lay reader will probably be very much surprised to learn that the lunar eclipse is really a rarer phenomenon than the less often observed solar. This is true in the actual number of occurrences, but the intrinsic difference between the two phenomena makes the solar apparently the rarer. The difference

Soon after the law went into effect the children's bureau received a complaint from a state commissioner of labor stating that children were employed on a certain government reservation. They were working in restaurants, laundries and similar establishments not engaged in interstate commerce, but under the provisions of the United States Child Labor act does not apply. The complaint was brought to the attention of the secretary of war, who, in order to make conditions in army forts and posts conform to the standards laid down by the United States Child Labor act, issued the following instructions through the adjutant-general: "The United States Child Labor act is in effect for government reservations children under fourteen years of age are not to be employed. That children between fourteen and sixteen years of age are not to be employed (a) more than eight hours a week, (b) more than six days a week, (c) before 6 a. m. or after 7 p. m. 3. In order to enforce these standards it is desired that certificates be demanded and kept on file for every child between fourteen and sixteen.

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The Federal law specifically includes canneries, while these are exempt under the State child-labor laws of California, Maryland, Delaware, Michigan, Virginia, and Indiana—states which have in other respects good standards. Roughly speaking, at least 150,000 child workers have been released or benefited under this law, and perhaps many thousands more. That the Federal Child Labor law is wise and in keeping with national conservation of our human resources, and especially that it is justified during such a crisis as that of the war, is shown by the fact that nine states have strengthened their standards in this matter during the past few months—since the declaration of war in April. Arizona, California, Illinois, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and Wisconsin. That higher regulations for child workers are necessary as a matter of general experience is shown in the fact that these states are widely separated, and therefore it is clear that they are meeting by legislation the demand for a higher national standard.

The principal machinery for enforcing the law is that under which age certificates are issued. When employers, parents, and children observe the simple regulations governing these age certificates, the law is largely automatic in its operation. These certificates are issued by authorities designated for that purpose, upon the application by the child desiring employment, accompanied by its parents, guardian, or custodian, with approved documentary evidence of age. The child must be fourteen years or over if employment is contemplated in a mill, cannery, workshop, or manufacturing establishment, and must be between sixteen and seventeen years of age for employment in or about a mine or quarry. According to the rules and regulations adopted by the United States Child Labor board, certificates must contain the following information: 1. Name of child. 2. Place and date of birth of child, together with statement of evidence on which this is based, except when a physician's certificate of physical age is accepted by the issuing officer, in which case physical age shall be shown. 3. Sex and color. 4. Signature of child. 5. Name and address of child's parent, guardian, or custodian. 6. Signature of issuing officer. 7. Date and place of issuance. Evidence as to age consists of one of the following named proofs: (a) A birth certificate, or attested transcript thereof, issued by a registrar or vital statistics officer of other officer charged with the duty of recording births. (b) A record of baptism, or a certificate or attested transcript thereof showing the date of birth and place of baptism of the child. (c) A certain, indisputable, record of the date and place of the child's birth kept in the Bible in which the records of the births in the family of the child are preserved, or other documentary evidence satisfactory to the secretary of labor or such person as he may designate, such as a passport showing the age of the child, a certificate of arrival in the United States issued by the United States immigration officers and showing the age of the child, or a life insurance policy; provided that such other satisfactory documentary evidence has been in existence at least one year prior to the time it is offered in evidence; and provided further that a school record or a parent's, guardian's, or custodian's affidavit, certificate, or other written statement of age shall not be accepted except as specified in paragraph (b).

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Doctor Tells How To Strengthen Eyesight 50 per cent In One Week's Time In Many Instances. A Free Prescription You Can Have Filled and Use at Home. Philadelphia, Pa.—Do you wear glasses? Are you a victim of eye strain or other eye weaknesses? If so, you will be glad to know that according to Dr. Lewis there is real hope for you. Many whose eyes were failing say they have had their eyes restored through the principles of his wonderful free prescription. One man says, after trying it: "I was almost blind; could not see to read at all. Now I can read everything without any glasses and my eyes do not water any more. At night they would pain dreadfully; now they feel fine all the time. It was like a miracle to me." A lady who used it says: "The atmosphere seemed hazy with or without glasses, but after using this prescription for fifteen days everything seems clear. I can even read fine print without glasses." It is believed that thousands who wear glasses can now discard them in a reasonable time and multitudes more will be able to strengthen their eyes so as to be

apared the trouble and expense of ever getting glasses. Eye troubles of many descriptions may be wonderfully benefited by following the simple rules. Here is the prescription: Go to any active drug store and get a bottle of Bon-Opto tablets. Drop one Bon-Opto tablet in a fourth of a glass of water and allow to dissolve. With this liquid bathe the eyes two to four times daily. You should notice your eyes clear up perceptibly right from the start and inflammation will quickly disappear. If your eyes are bothering you, even a little, take steps to save them now before it is too late. Many hopelessly blind men have been saved if they had cared for their eyes in time. Note: Another prominent physician to whom the above article was submitted, said: "Bon-Opto is a very remarkable remedy. Its constituent ingredients are well known to eminent eye specialists and widely prescribed by them. The manufacturer guarantees it will strengthen eyes 50 per cent in one week's time in many instances or refund the money. It can be obtained from any good drug store and is one of the very few preparations I feel should be kept on hand for regular use in almost every family." It is sold in this city by the leading druggists. Advt.

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