

# New Labor Laws Of State Prohibit Women Working At Night And Set 55 Hour Week For Mill Employees

(By George B. Lay.)

The 1931 general assembly of North Carolina made several changes in the laws which regulate the employment of women and children in industry, proving thereby that its members were progressively inclined and fully awake to the needs of a growing industrial state, cognizant of the necessity of promoting education and health among the people and convinced of the righteousness of granting increased protection and shorter hours to working men and women.

**Four Regulatory Laws.**  
Four regulatory laws were passed by the legislature during the 141-day session. The major accomplishments were: (1) adding more protection for children in hazardous undertakings; (2) limiting employment of children under 16 years of age to eight hours a day and 48 hours each week, with certain minor exceptions; and (3) practically prohibiting the employment of women under 18 years of age for night work.

A fifth bill completely reorganized the department of labor, creating a new sub-division, to be known as the division of standards and inspections. The child welfare commission will be known as this division on July 1st. Further, under the new machinery set-up of the so-called-to-be-created division of standards and inspections, the executive secretary of that division will have a much wider range of supervision and more intimate control of employment, with power to set up rules and regulations and to enforce them. This new division is now charged with the duty of taking all investi-

gations and surveys of industry in North Carolina.

**55 Hour Week.**  
One of the major pieces of regulatory legislation was passage of the 55-hour bill, which struck out that part of the old statute which prohibits any worker in any "factory, manufacturing establishment or mill" from working over 11 hours a day or 60 hours each week and for longer periods under a signed employer-employee contract. The change, however, prevents the employment of women over 16 years of age for more than 55 hours a week or for over 11 hours in any one day in any "factory, manufacturing establishment or mill." However, by striking out the old section of the law, the employment of men and women in any other industry or employment is unlimited; and only women are limited at all and only in the designated employments. Women in "seasonal industries," such as "conditioning and preserving perishable or semi-perishable products" or "in agriculture," are exempt from the new 55-hour law.

**No Women Night Work.**  
The second law prohibits the employment of any woman, between 16 and 18 years of age, in any "mill, factory, cannery, or manufacturing establishment," after 9 o'clock at night or before 6 o'clock in the morning. The old law, still in effect, prohibits the employment of women, under 16 years of age, for more than 48 hours a week or eight hours each day and not after 7 o'clock at night nor before 6 o'clock in the morning. The 1931 addition to the law practically means the elimination of women from mills and fac-

tries at night, up to 16 years of age.

A third change allows newspaper carrier boys, under 16 years of age, on fixed routes, to work until 8 o'clock at night and from 5 o'clock in the morning, but not for more than four hours each day nor for more than 24 hours each week. The new law specifies further that school and work hours combined shall not total more than eight hours each day.

The fourth law strengthens the statute as to employment of children under 16 years of age in hazardous employments. The former law prohibited such employment "in or about quarries and mines." Such employment of children under 16 years of age is now prohibited in "rolling or cleaning hazardous machinery in motion, or in running elevators, or around exposed electric wires, or in the manufacture, preparation or use of any poisonous substance or gas or explosive." The child welfare commission is also given the right to designate other "hazardous employments."

A "joker" appears in the law, which allows any boy between 14 and 16 years of age to work more than eight hours a day, if he is his own sole support or the support of a widowed mother. Determination of such a status is left up to the county welfare officer but must be approved by the state child welfare commission. Where a boy, so situated, cannot obtain an eight-hour job, he can work up to 11 hours a day or 60 hours each week, with permission and a certificate from the commission.

**Fourth Grade Clause.**  
This fourth law does away with the famous "fourth grade clause" which allows children under 16 years of age to work as many hours as if over 16, if such children had completed the fourth grade in school. By doing away with this "fourth grade clause," both boys and girls now must be over 16 years of age to work over eight hours a day or over 48 hours each week, except in the case of boy orphans. No child under the old or new law and under 16 years of age, of either sex, can work after 7 o'clock at night or before 6 o'clock in the morning, regardless of school attainments.

## Kentucky Paper Praises M. L. White

Native of Kentucky, Now Residing in Cleveland County, and His Newspaper Work.  
(Adair County (Ky.) News)  
About thirty-five years ago fifty or more citizens of Adair county formed a corporation for the purpose of publishing a newspaper in Columbia. Charles S. Harris, who now resides in West Point, Miss., was unanimously elected editor and general manager, launching the first edition of the Adair County News in November, 1897. Mr. Harris secured the co-operation of many public-spirited citizens who became regular contributors to the News and the letters written by these correspondents materially contributed to the success of the paper.

A native son of Adair county who had taken up his abode in the Old North State, soon became one of the most interesting correspondents of the News, and it is probable that he is the last survivor of that original group of contributors:

Melvin L. White was born June 8th, 1857, in that section of Adair county lying between Tabor Methodist church and Zion Baptist church near the place then called "Butter Pint" which later became the prosperous village of Gadberry. After attending the public school in that neighborhood and the male and female high school in Columbia, Col. White taught in the public schools of Adair county until he and other enterprising citizens reached the conclusion that they should go to North Carolina and distribute among its citizens the then popular work, "Hitchcock's Analysis of the Bible." The other members of the party returned, Colonel White settled in Cleveland county and became a "far heel" to the manor born. He taught in the public schools of that State, was active in all movements for the uplift of the community and became one of the leading Good Roads advocates of that State. It was there he found his life companion and they have reared a large and highly respected family. Three of his sons saw service in the World War. Col. Melvin L. White is a forceful and interesting writer, contributing to many publications under the nom de plume of "Corn Cracker." His interesting letters to the News are reminiscent of the families and incidents in the Tabor and Zion section of Adair county during the period following the Civil War.

We extend to Col. White our hearty congratulations on his seventy-fourth birthday and entertain the hope that he will be permitted to continue for many years his contributions to the News.

### BIRTHDAY DINNER SUNDAY JUNE 28, FOR C. F. GRIGG

There will be a birthday dinner at the home of C. F. Grigg on Sunday, June 28th, near Stony Point. Everybody is invited to attend with baskets full of dinner.

## Fallston News Of Current Week

Rev. W. C. Lynch Preaches, Christian Endeavor Officers Elected, Twin Daughters.

(Special To The Star.)  
Fallston, June 16.—The home economics club will meet Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the club room.

In the absence of the pastor, Rev. W. A. Elam, who is attending summer school at Meredith college, Rev. W. C. Lynch, Bible teacher of Boiling Springs college, preached a splendid sermon at the Baptist church Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kendrick of Winston-Salem spent the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Kendrick.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Warlick visited Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Warlick of Gastonia Sunday.

Mrs. Stough Beam attended commencement exercises at State college. Her brother, Mr. Grier Beam was a member of the graduating class.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moore and children of Rutherfordton visited Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Lee Sunday.

**Endeavor Officers.**  
The Christian Endeavor society of Friendship church reorganized Sunday night, the following officers were elected: joint president, Watson Falls and Clarence Morris; secretary and treasurer, Nixon Baxter; pianist, Thelma Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hamrick and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hamrick of Beams Mill Sunday.

**Twins Born.**  
Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Lattimore on Thursday, June 12th, twin girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Willis and their father, Mr. M. C. Willis attended birthday dinner of Mr. Willis' sister, Mrs. Martin of Toluca Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Adlai Elliott's baby who has been very ill with whooping cough, is improving.

Mrs. A. L. Hoyle accompanied Mr. and Mrs. George Spurling to Toluca where they were the dinner guests of their sister Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ledford Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Sigmon visited relatives at Davidson Sunday. They stopped in Charlotte to visit their mother, Mrs. W. H. Sigmon who is in the hospital there.

Mr. Adlai Elliott went to Lincoln Saturday afternoon on business.

The woman's missionary society

of the Baptist church will meet at the church Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Stamey and little son, Charles, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Peeler of Belwood, visited their uncle, Mr. and Mrs. William Boggs of near Statesville Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Grier Martin visited Mr. and Mrs. Clem Royster Sunday.

Miss Edna Dixon is attending summer school at N. C. C. W. Greensboro.

Miss Nathalee Lackey spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Fields Toney.

Mrs. Ida Allen and daughter, Miss Minnie Katherine, and Miss Margaret Dixon of near Shelby were Fallston visitors Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Deams Hoyle and sons, Hubert and Wayne, and Mrs. Phoebe Beam attended the funeral of Mr. John Beam of Grover Friday.

**On Vacation.**  
Miss Helen Falls who is employed by the Stamey Co., is taking her vacation this week.

Miss Rhea Lattimore and Miss Stella Wright spent the week-end with Miss Elizabeth Bridges of Beams Mill.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hamrick spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilson of the Zion community.

Mr. and Mrs. Clem Hoyle and family visited their mother, Mrs. W. C. Biggerstaff of near Hickory Sunday.

Miss Josephine Ganit and Mr. Clarence Wright visited Mr. and Mrs. Adlai Elliott Sunday.

Miss Rosa Ganit has returned from Shelby hospital where she has been taking treatment.

Mrs. J. M. Morgan and daughters, Misses Ruth and Juanita, and Master Paul and Mr. and Mrs. Clem Martin and family visited Miss Lou Petty Sunday.

Mr. Charles Kendrick returned last Tuesday from Chapel Hill where he has been in school at the University.

Mr. and Mrs. Broadus Dellinger and family, Mr. E. F. Dellinger, Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Cline and family, Mr. and Mrs. Deams Hoyle and family and Mrs. Phoebe Beam went to Cherry Mountain Sunday and while there they visited Mr. and Mrs. John Glover.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloane Elliot spent Sunday with their sister, Mrs. Ed Crawford of Gastonia.

**BUTTER SUBSTITUTE USED BY FARM FAMILIES, IS SAID**

Charlotte Observer.  
It is estimated that at present there are some 30,000,000 pounds of

quality dairy butter in storage. Prices are the lowest in 25 years. This may seem a tremendous surplus but, as the Dairymen's League co-operative association of New York points out, it could be entirely eliminated if each of the six million American farm families would use one extra pound of butter per week for a period of five weeks.

It is brought out, further, that the dairy farmer himself is not with out blame. A survey of cross-roads and village grocery stores disclosed that a large part of butter substitutes sold in this country are purchased and consumed by farm families, in spite of the fact that these substitutes are lacking in the protective vitamin found in genuine quality dairy products.

It looks as if the solution to the dairy phase of the farm problem is largely a matter for the farmer himself to solve through his own dinner table.



MRS. MARGARET THOMPSON, Covington, Ky.

## Given Six Months To Live, By Doctors

Mrs. Margaret Thompson, 20 East 15th Street, Covington, Ky., was given six months to live by doctors whom she consulted. She had severe pains in the stomach, could not sleep at night, had a lazy but restless feeling during the day, and was forever tired physically and mentally.

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