

COMPENSATION LAW CHANGES OUTLINED

Digest of Alterations Made in Statute by Last Illinois Legislature

A digest of important changes in the laws affecting employment in Illinois made by the last General Assembly, has been sent out to business men of the state by the legislative policy committee of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. The changes affect the Child Labor Law and the Workmen's Compensation Act, the new laws having gone into effect July 1, 1929.

A number of changes were made in the Child Labor Law. Under the new enactment a minor between 14 and 16 years of age must complete eight grades in school before being allowed to work. The old law requires school attendance for 130 days during the year preceding employment or while 13 years of age. The old law set the age at 14 years. Under the new law permits can be issued to minors between 14 and 16 years of age either for vacation certificates or for part-time work regardless of the schooling completed. If the labor is part time work, the minor may work while going to school but the working hours and the school hours together cannot exceed eight in one day. If the minor's health or school work is impaired by working the permit may be revoked. The new law also permits over-age employment certificates to be issued to minors over 16.

Compensation Changes

Under the new Workmen's Compensation Law, totally blind persons are excluded entirely from the Compensation Act. Concerns which buy, sell or handle junk and salvage, demolish or rebuild machinery, are added to the businesses that automatically come under the act. Under the old law the compensation providing for collateral heirs in cases of fatal injury was based upon the extent of their dependency. The new law provides that such collateral heirs must have been dependent upon the employee for 50 per cent or more of their support. Compensation increase to a widow and children has been left at \$450, if there are two or more minor children. The new law provides, however, for \$600 increase for three or more minor children. The maximum amount payable in death cases is increased by the new law depending upon the number of surviving children. The maximum is increased from \$4,450 to \$4,550 in the case of two children and from \$4,550 to \$4,700 in the case of three or more.

Other changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act include the increasing of the maximum payment for total incapacity from \$14 to \$15 per week. Under the new law, if the injured employee is able to return to work and thus ends the award or reduces it, he may file a petition within one year to determine whether any disability still exists as a result of the original injury.

Amendments make possible physical examinations of employees outside of the state, but the necessary travel money advanced for such examinations is limited to employees

residing in Illinois. Of interest to business men in the state is the change whereby the new law provides that a compensation award is given preference over unsecured debts of the employer contracted after the date of injury to the employee, wage debts excepted.

Insurance Methods

The new enactment in relation to the provision as to an employer carrying insurance for liability as one of the four methods for securing payment of compensation to employees requires a coverage of his entire liability and forbids any policy provision which limits or modifies his liability. The insurance carrier who secures or insures compensation payments for an employer must, under the new law, deliver a certificate to the state Industrial Commission within five days of the date of the policy and this policy to remain in effect ten days after notice of cancellation or expiration and shall cover all compensation liable during that period.

Church School Nears Its Closing Session

The closing days of the Vacation Church school at the Presbyterian church are full to the overflowing. Each child is busy finishing up his bit of work or project so that he may have a complete record. Many of the children have had perfect attendance and they, together with others, will receive special awards for their faithfulness.

The out of door Christmas service was a fine success and many of their friends and parents enjoyed this service. Many gifts were brought and the children voted to send them to the Dorland Bell school so that Miss Pollock might distribute them to the children there as gifts from this school.

The closing services will be held on

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Friday evening at seven-thirty o'clock to which all friends and parents are invited. Each department will demonstrate some of the work which it has done during the past weeks. There will also be a display of the handcraft materials. The work of the past five weeks can not be estimated by mere exhibition but is shown in the lives of the boys and girls in years to come. That the school has meant something to the boys and girls is shown by the interest which

they have held, changed attitudes and habits, and greater care and thought shown for their companions. Those in charge wish to take this opportunity to thank the many parents and friends for their interest and kindness toward the school and the teachers.

Some people who lost their money in foolish stock speculations, are convinced that there is no chance for a poor man in this country.

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