

NEW YORK SETTING WAGE SCALE FOR U. S.

Contractors of Empire City Are Making Standards in Building Trades Pay

London and gay Paree may set the styles of American dress, but during the last decade New York building contractors have been setting the wage standards for American building trades workers.

Drastic changes in working conditions for building mechanics also are generally given initial tryouts in New York. Wage scales and contracts between building trades and contractors are usually negotiated on terms that are regulated by the resident volume of construction.

While building programs in most cities have slumped to a considerable degree during the last six months, the construction activities in New York have continued at a brisk pace. Those conversant with labor conditions in the nation's building industry claim that when the volume of building in any large city is large and continues unabated, the building mechanics are wont to ask for higher pay rates and more time off to spend their earnings.

Five Days Week Soon

August 26 has been set as the date for the establishment of the forty hour, or five day, week for New York's 150,000 building workers. It is said the building workers shelved

any general demand for pay raises to procure the five day week.

In Chicago, however, there was no mention of the five day week when agreements were negotiated between a majority of trades and builders. It was contended by both employe and employer that shelving of the five day week could stimulate interest in the construction of Chicago's World's Fair in 1933. For that reason practically all the trades that had agreements to negotiate moved a notch on the wage scale.

Then came the movement to start the five day week in New York for the workers in that city. Chicago builders have been asked to give the five day week consideration. They are now giving the proposition the once over. Labor representatives of the local trades maintain that the forty hour week would aid the unemployment situation that now confronts practically all Chicago building trades.

Physical Condition of Illinois School Pupils

Added to the woe of having to go back to school, children of Illinois have this extremely gloomy outlook, on authority of the state director of health.

Of the approximately 1,125,000 who will answer the school bells, 933,000 will carry defective teeth to their class rooms.

Just 565,000 will have defective throats, with enlarged tonsils predominating; 235,000 will have defective vision of one sort or another.

More than 800,000 will not have been immunized against diphtheria,—with every indication pointing toward a heavy prevalence of diphtheria, while smallpox has been widespread throughout the year.

This pessimistic prediction is made by Dr. Andy Hall, state health director, on the basis of a careful examination of all school children in Mason county. Findings there were applied to the state as a whole.

Dr. Hall pointed out that all of the defects or deficiencies are correctable.

Dean of Northwestern Law School Retiring

Prof. John H. Wigmore, dean of the school of law at Northwestern university for almost thirty years and one of the outstanding teachers of law in this country, will retire from active deanship with the opening of the fall term, President Walter Dill Scott announced last week. He will continue as professor of law, and will occupy the John H. Wigmore Chair of Evidence, with the title of dean emeritus.

Leon Green, professor of law at Yale university, has been appointed dean to succeed Dean Wigmore, President Scott announced.

"The retirement of Dean Wigmore," President Scott's announcement said, "is in keeping with the policy of the university to retire all deans at the age of 65. He will continue as professor of law without the burden of administrative work."

Chain Store Leases Old Waukegan Site

Announcement was made this week through the Wm. L. Lyon real estate office, that the Lyon building at 7 and 9 Genesee street and also the building at 132 Washington street, Waukegan, had been leased to the Interstate Department Stores of New York City.

The Interstate Department Stores operate a chain of 33 stores in the East and Middle West. They have taken a long term lease on the Lyon building and, after the complete remodeling of the exterior and interior, will open a cash department store early in October.

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