

ARMY CAMPS

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE COMMISSION

STATE OF KANSAS

P. J. McBRIDE, Chairman
CHARLES HAMLIN
MRS. A. C. MITCHELL



October 31st,
1 9 1 8.

OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
TOPEKA

LINNA E. BRESETTE,
Secretary

NOV 2 - A.M.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director,
Women in Industry Service,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:-

We will give attention to the
laundry at Camp Funston at a very early date and will
make a report to you.

I wrote the Y. W. workers at
Funston that I had heard from you and they are very happy
that we will be able to relieve the condition of the
women workers there.

Sincerely yours,

Linna E. Bresette
Sec'y. Industrial Commission.

LB/A

NOV 5 - A.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK
CHAIRMAN
LEE F. HANMER
THOMAS J. HOWELLS
JOSEPH LEE
MALCOLM L. MCBRIDE
JOHN R. MOTT
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JOSEPH E. RAYCROFT
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W. PRENTICE SANGER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

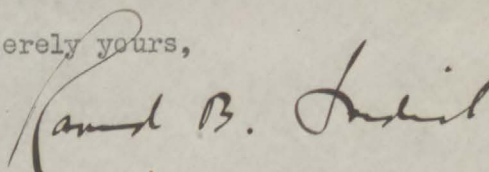
October 31, 1918.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck,
Woman in Industry Service,
Department of Labor.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:

Thank you for your letter and enclosure
relating to Camp Funston. I am as you know much interested
and shall be glad to have the result of Miss Bresette's
inspection when completed.

Sincerely yours,



Chairman.

RBF/KMS

October 28, 1918.

Miss Linna E. Bresette, Secretary
Industrial Welfare Commission,
State Capitol Building,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Miss Bresette:

Your letter regarding the hours of laundry workers at Camp Funston comes at an opportune time as we have been conferring with the Commission on Training Camp Activities regarding the possibility of a more adequate supervision by the War Department. I am referring to Mr. Fosdick the information which you sent. Meanwhile we should be very glad to have you make a complete inspection of the laundry, especially with a view to making ~~constructive~~ suggestions which may be useful to the commanding officer. A copy sent to this office will be brought to the attention of the War Department and will be of assistance in dealing with similar problems in other camps.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Van Kleeck, Director
Woman in Industry Service.

MVK/ALL

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE COMMISSION

STATE OF KANSAS

P. J. McBRIDE, Chairman
CHARLES HAMLIN
MRS. A. C. MITCHELL



October 21st,
1918.

OCT 24 A.M.

copy
OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
TOPEKA

LINNA E. BRESETTE,
Secretary

Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director,
Women in Industry Service,
U. S. Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Hours of Laundry Workers
at Camp Funston.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:-

I know you will be interested in a copy of the letter which I am enclosing to you from a woman employed in the laundry at Camp Funston. I have had a number of similar complaints, not only from the women at Funston in regard to their work, but from the Y. W. workers at Funston, who have complained that the women are worked long hours in the laundry at the Camp.

You will understand, of course, that we have no jurisdiction over this. I have made an investigation there on one or two occasions but have always come away feeling that I had not been able to accomplish anything so far as the hours were concerned, and as the Officer in charge has made the statement that, "There are no hours for anyone in war time", I am very well received over there and would like very much to send you a complete inspection from the laundry if it will help to remedy conditions there.

Best wishes to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Linna E. Bresette

Sec'y. Industrial Welfare Commission.

LB/A

Army City, Kansas,
Sept. 25th, 1918.

Mr. Arthur Capper,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor:-

I am writing you in regard to the Kansas labor law. Do we have a law in Kansas in regard to eight hour per day labor for women? If so would you please advise me of such.

I have been working for a living in the Camp Funston laundry, and since August 5th the laundry has run every day except one Sunday and I have missed work only 2 days since August 5th and I have never worked less than 10 hours per day, except 2 days, and from that up to 13 hours several days.

Last Saturday I worked 8 hours and wanted off but the manager wanted me to work ten hours, but I went home, and because of it, he will not let me work there any more. Is this right? Women cannot work so many hours and work every day.

Would you please write a letter to me that I may give it to my employer? My work has been satisfactory, and this is the only cause for my being turned off.

May I please hear from you?

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Miss Lena Whitehead,

Army City, Kansas.

October 28, 1918.

Mr. Raymond B. Fosdick, Chairman
Commission on Training Camp Activities,
War Department, 19th and G Streets,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Fosdick:

We have just received the enclosed letter from Miss Linna E. Bresette, Secretary of the Industrial Welfare Commission of Kansas, sending a copy of a letter from a laundry worker at Camp Funston. I am sure that you would wish these facts to be brought to your attention. I am replying to Miss Bresette that we should be glad to have her make the inspection of the laundry to which she refers and to send her recommendations so that they may be taken up at once with your office.

Sincerely yours,

Enc. 2
MVK/ALL

Mary Van Kleeck, Director
Woman in Industry service.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY SERVICE

August 1, 1918.

My dear Mr. Fosdick:

We are much concerned over the conditions affecting women employed in the cantonments, and I am writing to offer you our co-operation in dealing with this subject. Miss Denman writes me that she is now preparing a report. Would it be feasible and desirable to call together as soon as possible the original committee appointed by you to work out a plan so that we may be prepared to take prompt action? It is probable that the organization of a Women's Army Auxiliary Corps would take a good deal of time, and it has seemed to me that we might in the meantime make sure that the conditions were safeguarded in some other way. We are at your service if we can assist the Commission in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Director, Women in Industry Service.

Mr. Raymond B. Fosdick,
Chairman, Commission on Training Camp Activities,
War Department, 19th and G Streets,
Washington, D. C.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK
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JOSEPH E. RAYCROFT

W. PRENTICE SANGER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

July 30th

1918

My dear Miss Van Kleeck,

Your letter to Mr. Nichols has come into my hands, as Mr. Nichols is no longer with the Commission and the Committee's report on women in training camps has been turned over to me.

I am just back from France and England where I collected material in regard to the English Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. At present I am writing a report on it for Mr. Fosdick to present to the Secretary of War, and I should like very much to talk over with ^{you} plans for starting such an organization in this country, as soon as I get my material in hand a little and have thought out clearly how it seems to me the scheme ^{could} ~~should~~ be adapted to our needs.

Sincerely yours,

Mairon A. Korman

November 4, 1918.

Mrs. Jane D. Rippin, Director
Section on Women and Girls,
Commission on Training Camp Activities,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Rippin:

The report of conditions at Camp Custer was specific. It came to us through Mrs. Samuel B. Harding, Executive Chairman of the Department of Women in Industry of the Woman's Committee and from the context evidently related to conditions of employment obtaining in the camp. Possibly your report dealt with a different aspect of conditions there. I am writing Mrs. Harding asking her to report at once to you if she has further information. It is to the conditions of employment that we are anxious to call attention especially, as there is at present no adequate provision for supervision of the women in the camps as workers.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Van Kleeck, Director
Women in Industry Service.

MVK/ALL

WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON

OCT 28 A.M.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
SECTION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

October 25, 1918.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck,
Director, Women in Industry Service,
Department of Labor,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:

Mr. Fosdick has called to my attention
the fact that specific reports of bad conditions at
Camp Custer have come to you.

As this is one of the camps of which we
have a favorable report, I am much interested to know
what the conditions are of which you speak, in order
that we may check up our report.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley D. Ripplinger
Director

JDR:H

October 30, 1918.

Miss Jane Rippin, Director,
Section on Women and Girls,
Commission on Training Camp Activities,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Rippin:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of October 25th
to Miss Van Kleeck which came during her absence from the city
for a few days. It will be brought to her attention upon her
return.

Very truly yours,

IMP

Secretary to Miss Van Kleeck.

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

WASHINGTON

WOMAN'S COMMITTEE

1814 N STREET NW

September 21, 1918.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck,
209 Southern Building,
15th and H Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:

At the Middle West Conference of the Departments of Women in Industry of the Woman's Committee, I was requested to call to your attention the conditions surrounding women workers in and in the neighborhood of camps and cantonments. I was also asked to inquire of you under whose jurisdiction these women fall.

It was reported at the Conference that conditions in Camp Custer are bad; also that women are doing night work at Camp Grant.

Very truly yours,

Margaret S. Harding
(Mrs. Samuel B. Harding,)

Executive Chairman,
Department of Women in Industry.

Miss Agnes Nestor, Chairman,
Department of Women in Industry.

H:C.