

CONFERENCE OF Trade
Union Women
OCT. 4-5, 1918

See
CONFERENCE 5, 1918
The Director
B. J. [unclear]

Thornton

Xerox for

~~Xerox for~~
~~Wm. G. Moore~~

Reproduction Job For

Tarasevich

15444

- added to my files III

CROWN Laundry Co.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CROWN LAUNDRY COMPANY.

This case was not handled by the Woman in Industry Service. Report was made to us after action was taken by the War Department. Attention is called to the fact that the letter from the Secretary of War to the chief inspector certified to the existence of an emergency "warranting suspension of the weekly day of rest law" and requesting the Department of Factory Inspection "pursuant to Section 8-a, subdivision 5 of the labor law, to permit the Crown Laundry Company, Chattanooga, Tennessee, to vary from the requirements of this law in respect to the work done for the government." The labor law referred to is evidently that of New York State. So far as we can discover Tennessee has no one rest day in seven law, and moreover, in this instance the laundry did not wish to employ its people seven days. What they appear to have asked for is permission to work overtime. Doubtless in notifying the chief factory inspector of the recent order of the War Department it will be advisable to call attention to this error.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

No Ref I am in
Tennessee
& no variation
has been granted
under
N.Y. law

No. 203
Ed. 6-13-18-200,000

NOV 7 - A.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON.

November 6, 1918.

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

Dear Miss Van Kleeck:

I am forwarding for your information copy of certificate of emergency issued by the Secretary of War, requesting the Chief Inspector, Department of Workshop and Factory Inspection, Nashville, Tenn., to suspend the Weekly Day of Rest Law at the Crown Laundry Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., and papers connected therewith.

The facts leading up to the granting of the certificate are as follows:

This office received a telegram from the Commissioner of Labor of Tennessee, asking if approval could be had for a variation in the State laws with respect to the Crown Laundry Co. of Chattanooga, because at the time the epidemic at Ft. Oglethorpe was imposing extraordinary demands upon such laundry. There being nothing to indicate that this was a case in any way affecting Women in Industry, this office replied by telegram asking for a ten days suspension of the laws as suggested, during which time an investigation should be made. The report of this investigation by the head of the labor section, Cincinnati District Ordnance office, disclosed the fact that such a variation in the laws would affect the work of women in this plant. The matter was therefore referred to the Secretary of War, who in view of the peculiar character of the emergency, insofar as it affected conditions at the Military Camp of Ft. Oglethorpe, felt it necessary to grant a certificate, limited to thirty days - the probable duration of this emergency.

The case, as you see, is an exceptional one, and because of military factors involved could not be decided in consonance with the usual policy of this Department in regard to womens work.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck #2

November 8, 1918.

Will you be so kind as to return attached papers to this office at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

F. W. Tully (per D. K.)

F. W. Tully,
Major, Ord. U. S. A.

Detailed to Office of Secretary of War.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck,
Director, Bureau of Industry, Department of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Van Kleeck:

I am forwarding for your information copy of certificate of emergency issued by the Secretary of War, requesting the Chief Inspector, Department of Industry and Factory Inspection, Louisville, Tenn., to attend the Weekly Day of Work Law at the Green Laundry Co., Louisville, Tenn., and papers connected therewith.

The State has put up to the printing of the certificate as follows:

This office received a telegram from the Commissioner of Labor of Tennessee, advising he desired to ask for a variation in the State Law with respect to the Green Laundry Co. of Louisville, Tenn., in the case of the certificate of St. Catharines and requesting a certificate to be given to the laundry. There being nothing to indicate that this was a case in any way affecting public health, this office, notified by telegram asking for a variation in the State Law with respect to the Green Laundry Co. of Louisville, Tenn., advised the Commissioner of Labor of Tennessee, advising he desired to ask for a variation in the State Law with respect to the Green Laundry Co. of Louisville, Tenn., in the case of the certificate of St. Catharines and requesting a certificate to be given to the laundry. There being nothing to indicate that this was a case in any way affecting public health, this office, notified by telegram asking for a variation in the State Law with respect to the Green Laundry Co. of Louisville, Tenn., advised the Commissioner of Labor of Tennessee, advising he desired to ask for a variation in the State Law with respect to the Green Laundry Co. of Louisville, Tenn., in the case of the certificate of St. Catharines and requesting a certificate to be given to the laundry.

The case, as given, is an exceptional one, and no change of military nature involved could not be devised in accordance with the usual policy of this Department as regards such cases.

November 6, 1918.

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

Dear Miss Van Kleeck:

I am forwarding for your information copy of certificate of emergency issued by the Secretary of War, requesting the Chief Inspector, Department of Workshop and Factory Inspection, Nashville, Tenn., to suspend the Weekly Day of Rest Law at the Crown Laundry Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., and papers connected therewith.

The facts leading up to the granting of the certificate are as follows:

This office received a telegram from the Commissioner of Labor of Tennessee, asking if approval could be had for a variation in the State laws with respect to the Crown Laundry Co. of Chattanooga, because at the time the epidemic at Ft. Oglethorpe was imposing extraordinary demands upon such laundry. There being nothing to indicate that this was a case in any way affecting Women in Industry, this office replied by telegram asking for a ten days suspension of the laws as suggested, during which time an investigation should be made. The report of this investigation by the head of the labor section, Cincinnati District Ordnance office, disclosed the fact that such a variation in the laws would affect the work of women in this plant. The matter was therefore referred to the Secretary of War, who in view of the peculiar character of the emergency, insofar as it affected conditions at the Military Camp of Ft. Oglethorpe, felt it necessary to grant a certificate, limited to thirty days - the probable duration of this emergency.

The case, as you see, is an exceptional one, and because of military factors involved could not be decided in consonance with the usual policy of this Department in regard to womens work.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck #2

Will you be so kind as to return attached papers to
this office at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

F. W. Tully,
Major, Ord. U. S. A.
Detailed to Office of Secretary of War.

(COPY)

November 4, 1918.

Mr. Lewis L. Allen, Chief Inspector,
Department of Workshop and Factory Inspection,
Nashville, Tenn.

My dear Sir:

The Crown Laundry Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., is doing the laundry work for Base Hospital No. 4, Ft. Oglethorpe, Chattanooga. Owing to the epidemic of influenza at Ft. Oglethorpe extraordinary demands have been made upon the laundry by the Base Hospital, making it imperative to work an additional number of hours in order to meet the laundry needs of the hospital.

I am enclosing with this a letter from Lt. Burns, Head of Labor Section, Cincinnati District, Ordnance Office, from which it appears that an emergency exists. I therefore desire to certify to the existence of an emergency warranting the suspension of the Weekly Day of Rest Law, and to request your Board, pursuant to section 8-a, sub-division 5 of the Labor Law, to permit the Crown Laundry Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., to vary from the requirements of this law with respect to the work done for the Government.

This certificate of emergency will extend for a period of thirty days. If at the end of that period the emergency should continue a further certification will be submitted.

Cordially yours,

Secretary of War.

(COPY)

WAR DEPARTMENT

November 4, 1918.

MEMORANDUM for the Secretary of War.

From the attached report from Lt. Burns, Head of Labor Section, Cincinnati District, Ordnance Office, it appears that an emergency exists warranting the suspension of the Weekly Day of Rest Law at the Crown Laundry Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Annexed hereto for your signature is a letter to the Chief Inspector, Department of Workshop and Factory Inspection, Nashville, Tenn., certifying to the existence of an emergency.

(Sgd) Samuel J. Rosensohn.

Letter returned from the Secretary, signed Nov. 5, and sent out.

(COPY)

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT
Office of Ordnance District Chief
Walsh Building, S.E. cor. Third and Vine Streets
CINCINNATI, OHIO.
PRODUCTION DIVISION.

October 28, 1918.

From: Lt. Burns, Head of Labor Section, Cincinnati District
Ordnance Office.

To: Maj. F. W. Tully, Office of the Assistant Secretary
of War, State War & Navy Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Subject: Suspension of State Law at Crown Laundry Co.,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

1. Under date of October 18, this office was asked by wire to investigate need for further extension of the State Law of Tennessee, to permit women to work over time at the Crown Laundry Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

2. This Section Detailed Mr. Jos. L. Bowles to investigate the situation. Mr. Bowles proceeded to Chattanooga, and as a result of his visit we are prepared to report as follows:

The request for the suspension of the law in question emanated from the Commanding Officer of Base Hospital No. 4, Ft. Oglethorpe, Chattanooga. The emergency at this plant is due to the epidemic of influenza at Ft. Oglethorpe. The extraordinary demands made upon this laundry by the Base Hospital make it imperative to work an additional number of hours in order to meet the laundry needs of the Hospital. Furthermore, the laundry is short of help because of influenza amongst its own force.

3. In view of all these conditions it is the opinion of this Section that the original granting of the ten day's extension was entirely justified. Furthermore, we are advised by the medical authority at Ft. Oglethorpe that the epidemic is still prevalent, and hence the same conditions exist at the present time. It would seem, therefore, that for a period of the epidemic the suspension of the State laws should be in force. Hence we wired you today recommending that this privilege be granted.

4. While we realize that it is advisable that the period of suspension be given for a definite period, it will be seen that in this case the proper recommendation is to make the extension cover the period of the emergency. In this connection we are ad-

vised by our investigator that the State Factory Inspector is very zealous in his efforts to enforce the State Law, and that he has an inspector in Chattanooga, who will keep in close touch with this situation, and whenever conditions justify restoring the operation of this plant to a normal basis, this will be recommended.

G. S. HAYDOCK,
Production Manager.

BY:
LT. G. W. BURNS,
Head of Labor Section.

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