

MILTON BRICK CO.

October 7, 1918.

From: Mary Van Kleeck, Director, Woman in Industry Service
To: Major F. W. Tully, War Department
Subject: Application of Milton Brick Company for Certificate
of Emergency to permit women to work sixty hours instead
of fifty-four hours a week.

In view of the policy of the federal government not to permit the lengthening of hours of work beyond the limit set by state labor laws, it is recommended that this application be denied, with the suggestion that the matter be referred to the Women's Branch of the Ordnance Department, to advise the plant on the best methods of employing women under satisfactory conditions.

MVK/AL

Mary Van Kleeck, Director
Woman in Industry Service.

OCT 7 - A.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON.

October 5, 1918.

From: War Department, Major F. W. Tully.
To: *him* Mary Van Kleeck, Director, Women in Industry Service.
Subject: Application of Milton Brick Company for Certificate of Emergency to permit women to work sixty instead of fifty-four hours a week.

In the application of the Milton Brick Company, of Milton, Penna., for a variation of the state laws permitting women to work sixty instead of fifty-four hours a week, you will doubtless note the application is lacking in many essentials. I am attaching also my memorandum to the Industrial Service Section of the Ordnance Department, and am repeating request to you for such action as you may deem appropriate.

F. W. Tully

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Major, Ordnance U. S. A.
Detailed to Office of Secretary of War.

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To: Mary Van Kleeck, Director, Women in Industry Service.
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F. W. Tully,
Major, Ordnance U. S. A.
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October 5, 1918.

From: War Department, Major F. W. Tully.
To: Ordnance Department, Industrial Service Section.
Subject: Application of Milton Brick Company for Certificate
of Emergency to permit women to work sixty instead
of fifty-four hours a week.

In the general character of the application it appears the circumstances would not warrant issuing the certificate, but the matter is referred to you for your investigation and recommendation.

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

(COPY)

MILTON BRICK COMPANY.

Milton, Penna. 9-24-18.

Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: MR. CROWELL.

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing a copy of a letter which we wrote to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor regarding the subject of employing women sixty hours a week instead of fifty-four hours as per the present statute.

We are also enclosing their reply and wish that you would please advise us on the subject matter.

Yours very truly,

MILTON BRICK COMPANY

(Sgd) Jas F. Williams

(COPY)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Bureau of Inspection

HARRISBURG September 23, 1918.

Subject: Employment of Women More than 54 Hours
in one week

Milton Brick Company,
Milton, Pa.

File WD-54

(Attention Mr. J. P. Williams)

Gentlemen:

Your letter of September 18th, upon the above subject, addressed to the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Labor has been referred to me for attention.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of Act 254, July 5, 1917 and would call your attention particularly to Section 5 of this Act, from which you will see that this Department is not allowed to give permission to employ women more than 54 hours in one week.

If you are engaged in work essential to the carrying on of the war, it is, however, your privilege to apply to the Secretary of War direct or through the department for which your work is being done, asking for relaxation of the labor laws in this case.

This procedure has been followed by several firms in this State but I shall advise you that up to this time no case has been found to be of sufficient urgency to cause the Secretary of War to take any step to have the laws of labor for women changed in any of the establishments that have made the request.

I shall be pleased to have one of our inspectors call upon you to take up the matter of employment of women in detail with you.

If I can be of further service to you in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Very truly yours,
(Sgd) John H. Walker
Acting Chief, Bureau of
Inspection

JHW- B - L

9-18-18

Pennsylvania State Bureau of Labor,

Harrisburg, Penna.

Gentlemen:-

Our plant is working one hundred per cent direct Government orders and we have been seriously handicapped by our inability to secure enough labor to operate to capacity, so on last Monday, we took up the problem of manning our plant with women labor and now have at work about fourteen or fifteen of the latter kind.

The question of working women fifty-four hours a week interferes seriously with our ten hour schedule for the men and we were just wondering whether or not as a war measure to tide over the emergency, if we could not get a permit from your Department to work the women sixty hours a week the same as we do the men.

Should your Department see its way clear to issue this permit, it, of course, would be accepted with the understanding that it was to last for the period of the war emergency only.

Yours very truly,

MILTON BRICK COMPANY

JFW/B