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POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

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TELEGRAM

DELIVERY NO.

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank

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Form 16

d61NY. GF. 7.45PM. 14

File: Willow + Son

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 4, 1918 824

Miss Mary Van Kleeck.,

Director Women in Industry Section, Dept. of Labor.,

Southern Bldg.,

Washington, D.C.

Your telegram received Miss Siebert will meet Dr. Kier Saturday October fifth nine thirty.

L. R. Palmer.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-COMMERCIAL CABLES ALASKA BREWFOLINDI AMB CHINA PACIFIC BJAPAH UNITED OCEAN SAN FRANCISCI YORK ATLANTIC OCEAN AFRICA ST. VINCEN WIMANILA PANAMI EXTENDS OVER TWO-THIRDS OF THE WAY AROUND THE EARTH THE GREATEST TELEGRAPH AND CABLE SYSTEM IN THE WORLD.

OPERATOR'S NOTATIONS TIME SENT, ETC

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY (INCORPORATED)

RANSMITS AND DELIVERS THE WITHIN TELEGRAM SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a telegram should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for semention. For this, one-half the unrepeated telegram rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, THIS IS AN UNREPEATED TELEGRAM AND PAID FOR AS SUCH, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the telegram and this Company as follows:

- 1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED telegram, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the framemission of delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED telegram, beyond fifty amount received for sending the same, UNLESS SPECIALLY VALUED; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of the lines; NOR FOR ERRORS IN CIPPLER OR OBSCURE TELEGRAMS.
- 2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for any mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery or for the non-delivery of this telegram, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond fifty times the REFEATED telegram rate, at which amount this telegram, if sent as a REFEATED telegram, is breity valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing person at the times the relegram is offered to the Company for transmission, and an additional sum paid or agreed to be paid based on such value equal to one per dent, thereof.
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The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within staty days after the

- The above terms and conditions shall be binding upon the receiver as well as the sender of this telegram.
- Special terms governing the transpitssion of messages under the classes of messages enumerated below shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all foregoing terms.
- 1. NO EMPLOYEE OF THIS COMPANY IS AUTHORIZED TO VARY THE FOREGOING.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

CHARLES C. ADAMS.

EDWARD REYNOLDS, VICE-PREST, AND GENERAL MANAGER.

CHARLES P. BRUCH.

CLASSES OF SERVICE

AST DAY TELEGRAMS. A full rate expedited service.

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SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT MESSAGES. The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within thirty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

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SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERGRAMS. In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special "Night Lettergram" service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

(a) Night Lettergrams may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destina-tion to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Lettergrams at destination.

(c) The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within thirty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

THE FASTEST TELEGRAPH SERVICE IN THE WORLD

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WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON.

October 17, 1918.

From: War Department, Major F. W. Tully.

To: Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director, Woman in Industry Service.

Subject: Application of H. O. Wilbur & Son, 235 N. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, Pa. for permission to employ women at night.

Dear Miss Van Kleeck:

I beg to acknowledge receipt today of your letter of October 8th.

The adjustment of this matter seems entirely satisfactory.

In one paragraph you speak of Miss Peterson of your office conferring with me and Mr. McLane regarding this case, but I have no recollection of such conference. I think Miss Peterson conferred with Mr. McLane, which, however, was the thing to have done.

Very truly yours,

F. W. Tully,

Major Ord. U. S. A.

Detailed to Office of Secretary of War.

October 17, 1918. Prom: War Department, Major F. W. Tully. To: Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director, Woman in Industry Service. Application of H. O. Wilbur & Son, 235 N. 3rd Street, Subject: Philadelphia, Pa. for permission to employ women at night. Dear Miss Van Kleeck: I beg to acknowledge receipt today of your letter of October 8th. The adjustment of this matter seems entirely satisfactory. In one paragraph you speak of Miss Peterson of your office conferring with me and Mr. McLane regarding this case, but I have no recollection of such conference. I think Miss Peterson conferred with Mr. McLane, which, however, was the thing to have done. Very truly yours, F. W. Tully. Major Ord. U. S. A. Detailed to Office of Secretary of War.

MAJOR JOHN PRICE JACKSON

COMMISSIONER

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE - WAR SERVICE



LEW R. PALMER

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY HARRISBURG

October eleventh, Nineteen hundred and eighteen.

DOT 14 A.M.

SUBJECT: Application of H. O. Wilbur & Son, to employ women twelve hours per day.

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

My dear Miss Van Kleeck:-

Your letter of October eighth relative to the above subject has been received and I desire to thank you for your courtesy in advising me of disposition of the case in question.

wishes, I beg to remain,

With kind regards and best

LRP/J

Acting Commissioner.

Cordially yours

October 8, 1918. Acting Commissioner L. R. Palmer, State Department of Labor, Harrisburg, Pa. Subject: Application of HQQ. Wilbur & Son My dear Mr. Palmer: to employ women 12 hours per day. You will recall that when the application from this Company was first brought to our attention on September 21st, we arranged with you by telephone on September 22nd, to detail Miss Siebert to meet Dr. Keir of the Quartermaster's Department in Philadelphia Monday morning, Sept. 23rd. It was subsequently reported to us that a satisfactory adjustment had been made which would make this employment unnecessary. On October 4th, the matter was again brought to our attention by the war Department and Dr. Keir arranged to visit the plant again with Miss Seibert, Saturday morning, Oct. 5th. We have received today a telegram containing the following statement from Dr. Keir: "No danger Wilbur violating law. Do not want women work more eight and half hours. Emergency order will be fimished Tuesday noon." We may therefore regard this case as closed with a satisfactory adjustment. With reference to procedure it would be very helpful to this office if when an investigator is detailed by the Pennsylvania Departs ment to make such inspections, we might receive a written report from her to assist us in making our recommendations to the Office of the Secretary of War. Sincerely yours. Mary Van Kleeck, Director MVK/AL Woman in Industry Service. igitized for FRASER tps://fraser.stlouisfed.org

SYMBOL
Blue
Nite
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appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTE

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRE

CLASS OF SERVICE SYMBOL Day Message Blue Day Letter Night Message Nite Night Letter NL

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a way message. Otherwise its charactur is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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MISS VANKLEET

CHIEF WOMENS SECTION DEPT OF LABOR SOUTHERN BLDG

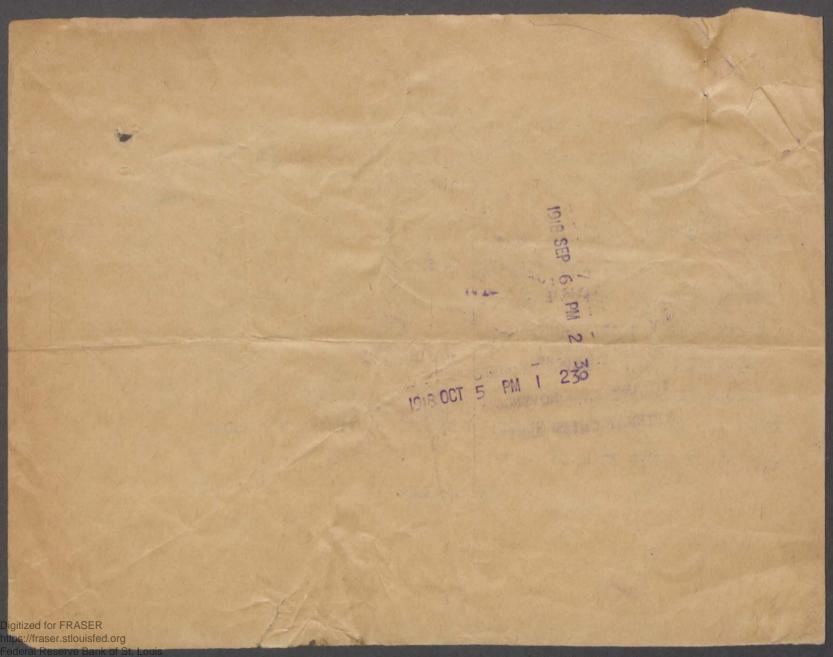
WASHINGTON DC

NO DANGER WILBUR VIOLATING LAW DO NOT WANT WOMEN WORK MORE EIGHT AND HALF HOURS EMERGENCY ORDER WILL BE FINISHED TUESDAY NOON STOUT CHIEF TROUBLE MAKER

MALON KEIR.

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LEW R. PALMER MAJOR JOHN PRICE JACKSON ACTING COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE - WAR SERVICE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY HARRISBURG September seventeenth, Nineteen hundred and eighteen. SUBJECT: Employment of Women Twelve Hours per Day on War Emergency Work, H. O. Wilbur and Son, 235 North Third Street, Philadelphia, Penna. Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director of Women in Industry, U. S. Department of Labor, Southern Building, Washington, D. C. My dear Miss Van Kleeck:-Lieutenant Walter R. Stout, representing the Quartermaster's Department, advised my office this morning by telephone that H. O. Wilbur and Son, of Philadelphia, are packing for the Quartermaster's Department an emergency ration which must be completed within the next thirty days; firm has a force of about seventy-five girls who are now working eight hours per day, but in order to produce this work within the specified time, it will be absolutely necessary that these girls put in twelve hours a day, two hours in excess of the time allowed by the Pennsylvania Female Labor Law per day. Lieutenant Stout desires that special permission be granted to this firm to work their females twelve hours per day for the next thirty days and the nature of the work is packing chocolate which must be shipped to Armour and Company to be repacked with other rations for shipment over seas. We have wired H. O. Wilbur and Son as per copy hereto attached and would appreciate anything you can do toward obtaining a prompt decision in the matter. Yours very sincerel Acting Commissioner. P/P/J gitized for FRASER tps://fraser.stlouisfed.org

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY HARRISBURG, PA. TELEGRAM

Western Union

Date Sept. 17, 1918. Time sent 1:35 P. M.

Postal
'Phoned
Messenger

C O P X

RUSHED

Messrs. H. O. Wilbur and Son, 235 N. Third St., Philadelphia, Penna.

Referring telephone conversation Lieut. Walter R. Stout, this morning, suggest you immediately make appeal direct to Sec. of War for short-term permit to employ women twelve hours per day.

Pennsylvania Dept. Labor and Industry.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Moved like to see Dr. Kiers
report for it he omits
reference to sealing & lefting
om onoty y wrapping
for 12 hoursets will add
what he said about it.

#L.P.

No. 203 Ed. 6-13-18-200,000 Gase, H. O. Wilbur & Sons 235 N. 3rd , Philadelphia, Pa. October 4, 1918.
True Peterson

Requestfor permission to work women *** 12 hours received Sept. 26 and 30

M isses Truz and Peterson Interviewed Mr. McLean Industrial Relations Quartermasters Department.

Mr. McLean thought the matter adjusted, had no written report from Dr. Kier but had spoken with him about it at a casual meeting in New York
On inquiry found that

Major Rowensohn received telephone message this morning from Mr. Stout (a buyer of chocolate, etc. for the government) demanding permission for an 12 hour day.

When Dr. Kier arrived he reported that the matter had been adjusted by the securing of more help. That the firm was not exclusively at work on war contracts. Dr. Kier had depended upon Miss Siebert to report to Miss Van Kleeck. Will dictate his report and mail it this afternoon. Will report later on his interview with Major Rosensohn this afternoon, for if the firm claims the contract can not be completed by the 15th of October a priority order can be issued ordering them to work exclusively on government contract until order is filled.

Mr. McLean advised Major Rosensohn of the fact that as Dr. Kier was leaving for Philadelphia today he would make investigation tomorrow.

Sent telegram to Mr. Palmer asking that Miss Siebert meet Dr. Kier in her Philadelphia office 9:30 A. M. Saturday 5th, if not possible that same one else from the State Department be detailed to do so.

This It is quite evident that in cases of this kind some one be detailed for follow up work. Dr. Kier will report to Miss Van Kleeck tomorrow.

over

In reference Miss Siebert reply is to effect that she will be in her office in Phila elphia tomorrow morning at 9.30.

October 8, 1918. Mary Van Kleack, Director, Woman in Industry Service From: To: Major F. W. Tully, War Department Subject: Application of H. O. Wilbur & Son, 235 N. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, Pa. for permission to employ women at night. On September 21st, Mr. John McLane of the Quartermaster's Department, telephoned us that Mr. Stout of the Quartermaster's Dept. regarded it as of urgent importance that this plant should be permitted to employ women 12 hours a day on an emergency order, packing chocolate for emergency rations for the Army. We immediately arranged in conference with Dr. Keir that he would visit the plant on Monday, September 23rd with an investigator to be assigned by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry and determine how some other adjustment, such as the employment of women on two 8 hour shifts or two 6 hoursshifts might not result in more satisfactory production than a 12 hour day. On Saturday, Sept. 22nd, we telephoned this information to Mr. L. R. Palmer, Acting Commissioner of Labor in Pennsylvania, who arranged to have Miss Siebert of his Department meet Dr. Keir on Sept. 23. Copy of the report by Dr. Keir dated Oct. 4th, is attached. Subsequently it was informally reported to us that a satisfactory adjustment had been made but on Oct. 4th, the matter was again brought to our attention by Major Rosensohn and Miss Peterson of our office conferred with you and with Mr. McLane regarding it. Arrangements were made for Dr. Keir and Miss Seibert to visit the plant on Oct. 5th and on Oct. 7th, a telegram was received from Dr. Keir stating: "No danger Wilbur violating law. Do not want women work more eight and half hours. Emergency order will be finished Tuesday noon." This information is sent you in order to complete the record in your office. Evidently no further action is necessary at this time. Sincerel Mary Van Kleeck, Director Enc. Woman in Industry Service. MVK/AL igitized for FRASER tps://fraser.stlouisfed.org

October 4, 1918.

Memorandum .

FromN

Miss Peterson

To:

Miss Van Kleeck

Subject:

For reference to the War Labor Board Request of H. O. Wilbur & Son. 235 N. Third. Philadelphia, for permission to employ women twleve hours a day.

Interviewed: In company with Miss True, War Labor Policies Board. Mr. McLean, Industrial Relations Quartermasters Dept. Dr. Kier

> Date of request, September 30, 1918. Mr. McLean thought the matter adjusted, had not written report from Dr. Kier but had spoken with him about it at a casual meeting in New York. On inquiry found that

Major Rowensohn received telephone message this morning from Mr. Stout (a buyer of chocolate, etc. for the government) demanding permission for an 12 hour day.

When Dr. Kier arrived he reported that the matter had been adjusted by the securing of more help. That the firm was not exclusively at work on war contracts. Dr. Kier had depended upon Miss Siebert to report to Miss Van Kleeck. Will dictate his report and mail it this afternoon. Will uport later on his interview with Major Rosensohn this afternoon, for if the firm claims the contract cannot be completed by the 15th of October, a priority order can be issued ordering them to work exclusively on government contract until order is filled.

> Mr. McLean advised Major Rosensohn of the fact that as Dr. Kier was going to Philadelphia he would look into the matter. Wired Mr. Palmer asking that Miss Siebert meet Dr. Kier in her Philadelphia office 9.30 A. m. Saturday 5th, if not possible that some one else from the State Department be detailed to do so.

It is quite evident that in cases of this kind some one should be detailed for follow up work. Dr. Kier will report to M iss Van Kleeck tomorrow.

In reference Miss Siebert reply is togeffect that she will be in her office in Philadelphia 9:30 tomorrow morning.

230.14 CE IR

October 5th, 1918.

Dr. Malcolm Keir, Industrial Relations Branch, C&E Divn. Q.M.C.
Maj. Sam. J. Rosensohn, Office of the Secretary of War, Washington.

Delinquency of H.O. Wilbur Choc. Co., in delivering cakes of chocolate for emergency rations.

- rations was put before the H.O. Wilbur Sons Co., of Philadelphia, two things prevented the immediate compliance with the request from the Subsistence Division. In the first place, the company did not have sufficient moulds to materially increase their production and secondly the force of wrappers was not large enough to keep pace with an enhanced output. Within the last month the first of these difficulties has been overcome and the company now has in its possession enough moulds to turn out 180,000 cakes of chocolate per day, a number sufficient to permit Armour & Co., to produce 60,000 rations per day, the number necessary to comply with General Pershing's request.
- The second difficulty, however, still remains unsolved. Mr. Walter R. Stout, representing the Subsistence Division, attempted to help this situation by four devices: First, by talking to the employees to arouse their patriotism so as to stimulate production. Second, the commandeering of employees from other chocolate plants in the city of Philadelphia. Third, removing some of the work of wramping to companies doing similar work in other lines. Fourth, appealing to such voluntary organizations as the Emergency Aid Aides. Mr. Stout assured Dr. Wilbur that these efforts would produce the result required and therefore Dr. Wilbur himself took no steps whatever to arise to the emergency. After three weeks, Mr. Hotchkins, one of the three principal executives in the firm, reports as follows: The effort to stimulate workers by speeches was entirely negative, because of Mr. Stout's manner. If the matter of stimulation had been left to Mr. Hotokins himself he assures me that greater production would have been the result than has actually taken place as the consequence of Mr. Stout's speeches. The commandeering of labor from other plants resulted in the introduction of only four employees to the Wilbur Company, two of whom the company claims are of very little value. On this point, too, Mr. Hotchkins claims that if the matter had been left to him the fraternal feeling and general good will which exists between the chocolate firms of Philadelphia would have enabled him by his personal influence to have obtained many more workers of much better quality. The Volunteers, fourteen in number, who came from the Emergency Aid Aides, were of course totally unaccustomed to factory conditions and practice. Twelve of the fourteen have proven utterly unfit for the occupation. Only two of them have made good in any sense, So it would seem that Mr. Stout's efforts to increase the labor force have been without much practical result.
 - Another method by which Mr. Stout expected to obtain greater

production was to employ the women engaged in wrapping for a greater length of time per day. The past working hours have been but eight hours and Mr. Stout's proposal was to get permission from the State authorities and also from the Secretary of War under the existing emergency to employ the women for twelve hours per day. Anyone with experience in factory operations of a character similar to that involved in this dase is very well aware that the employment of people for greater hours does not result in larger output. The job is so excessively wearisome and exceedingly monotonous that nine hours is the extreme limit of human endurance. Of course for a period of two or three days people could work for the longer hours and perhaps gain an increase in production, but to be employed for a space of a month or longer at twelve hours a day would have to result exactly opposite from that expected, namely, a decrease rather than an increase. This has been the experience in England during the War and it is attested by long years of practice and many attempts at longer hours without result in this country, so this scheme of getting greater production by increasing the working hours seems entirely impracticable. Mr. Hotchkins guarantees that if the matter be left in his hands he will immediately, from the present working force, get an increased production of 25%, and that within the next three weeks he will each day bring up the production until at the end of that period the required 180,000 cakes per day is reached. He guarantees that he can secure the labor and will get the output. Since the efforts of the Quartermaster Corps so far have taken three weeks without appreciable results it would seem desirable to give Mr. Hotchkins the chance to operate his own plant in his own way without interference or advice from any Division of the War Department. In a previous letter the writer suggested that the Wilbur Company could employ girls then working on civilian contracts for Government work instead. A visit to the plant on Saturday, October 5th, showed that the company had already taken this step and at that time there were no girls employed wrapping chocolate for cavilian contracts. In the emergency now existing the company has changed its 70 policy of the eight hour day to one of eight and a half hours and finds that this is the limit for employment of women with efficiency. The contract on which the original delinquency arose was to have been finished last Friday, October 4th. The company found it impossible to complete it at that time because the serious epidemic of influenza which has swept over Philadelphia has taken 81 of their 450 employees out of the shop and has attacked all but one of the executive officers. However, this contract was finished on Tuesday, October 8th. The company now has two new contracts, one for 1,505,000 cakes and the other one for 1,500,000. They will begin work on them immediately. (Dr. Malcolm Keir) LABOR EXPERT. MK: VC igitized for FRASER tps://fraser.stlouisfed.org

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WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

In Answer Refer to File No. 230.14 CE IR

WASHINGTON.

No:

October 4th, 1918

From: Acting Quartermaster General.

To: Miss Van Kleek, Chf. Women in Industry Division, of the Department of Labor, Southern Bldg., Washington.

Subject: Concerning employment of women in the Wilbur Chocolate Co., in an emergency contrary to State Law.

- 1. Upon my arrival in Philadelphia on Monday, September 23rd, I immediately got in touch with Miss Siebert, of the Pennsylvania State Department of Labor. She and I went to the Wilbur Chocolate Co., where we had a conference with Dr. Wilbur, its head. He informed us that although he had orders from Mr. Stout, a buyer of chocolate and chief of that procurement branch of the Subsistence Division that buys chocolate, to operate his factory at the fullest capacity, that action had not been taken up to the time of Miss Siebert's and my visit. So there had been no actual violation of the State Law.
- When Miss Siebert and I went through the plant we found that there were two places where more workers were needed to get out the emergency rations within the time directed by General Pershing. These operations were: (1) The wrapping of the cake of chocolate in tin foil and packing the wrapped cakes in boxes. (2) The settling of warm chocolate in the moulds. The first operation called for unskilled, untrained women workers, whose chief requirements were deftness and quickness. The second, since it involves the moving of fifty pound trays at waist level from one bench to another bench at the same level, made necessary the employment of extra-strong women of the stolid type. In order to comply with Mr. Stout's demand for speed the company felt that it needed 25 more "wrappers" and 10 "settlers."
- Miss Siebert and I then went to the U.S. Employment office, the woman's section, where I gave a talk to all of the women who were in the office at the time seeking employment, with the result that several applied for positions. Miss Siebert and I then made the rounds of the employment offices and also went to such volunteer organizations as the "Emergency Aid Aides", Telephoning to the company late in the afternoon we found that applications had come in from all of these sources. Since I had to leave Philadelphia on Tuesday morning I left the matter in Miss Siebert's hands and I do not know what has happened since that time. However, I intend to go to Philadelphia this evening at 5 o'clock and will take the matter up with Miss Siebert and the Wilbur Chocolate Company the first thing on Saturday morning, October 5th. Before leaving Washington I will have a consultation with Major Rosensohn so that I may know the exact legal grounds and proceedings proper in this case.

Sincerely, Malcolm Keir

(Dr. Malcolm Keir)

Industrial Relations Branch, CLOTHING & EQUIPAGE DIVISION.

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WAR DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON.

-2-

230.14 CE IR

October 4th, 1918.

(Miss Van Kleek)

P.S. I may add to the foregoing letter that while passing through the wrapping department I observed that the company had a large force of girls at work upon its own civilian orders, in fact it was my impression that there were more girls wrapping "Buds" than were employed upon the Emergency Ration cake. If matters come to a serious point it seems to me that the Government could bring pressure to bear upon the company to enforce them to turn the girls they already have in their factory from work of a purely private nature to work for the public good.

Malcolm Kein.

MK: VC