EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN SEPTEMBER 1946

In the year September 1945-September 1946, the number of employed women decreased by 1,150,000, and those unemployed by 230,000. Women nonworkers numbered 2,230,000 more in September 1946 than in September 1945. From August 1946 to September 1946, the number of women in the civilian labor force increased by 100,000, a rise of 70,000 employed and 30,000 unemployed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of women</th>
<th>Change since August 1946</th>
<th>Total persons</th>
<th>Percent women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (14 years and over)</td>
<td>53,980,000 + 90,000</td>
<td>106,630,000</td>
<td>50.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>16,780,000 + 70,000</td>
<td>57,370,000</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>490,000 + 30,000</td>
<td>2,070,000</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed forces</td>
<td>30,000 - 10,000</td>
<td>2,220,000</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonworkers</td>
<td>36,680,000 -</td>
<td>44,970,000</td>
<td>81.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROGRESS IN LABOR STANDARDS

The first minimum-wage rate to be established in Massachusetts since the minimum-wage law was made applicable to men as well as women and minors became effective on October 15. It sets 60¢ an hour as the minimum wage for experienced employees in clerical, technical and similar occupations. This is the highest legal hourly minimum in the country.

Voided in September was the Washington State minimum-wage order issued in April 1946 establishing a 65¢ minimum hourly wage. A lower court held that statutory procedure had not been followed in issuing the order. The State industrial welfare committee is now working toward establishment of new minimum-wage rates in conformity with statutory requirements.

COST OF LIVING

A working woman living with her family in New York State in 1945 needed $32.50 a week to support herself adequately, reports the New York State Department of Labor. This is 2.9 percent more than was needed in 1944.

WOMEN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Health services long needed by migrant agricultural workers, including thousands of women, are now being provided in New Jersey through agreement between the N. J. Dept. of Health and the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Worker's Health Association, Inc., an organization supported by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Cost of the program is being met by the N. J. Dept. of Labor.

The National Farm Labor Union, a formerly independent union with a large woman membership, became affiliated in August with the American Federation of Labor.
MARRIED WOMEN WORKERS

A blow at employment practices unfavorable to married women workers was struck on September when a discriminatory clause was eliminated from the contract made in 1941 between the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, AFL, and the Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company. The clause had provided that when a female employee married, she would immediately lose all seniority rating. A Board of Arbitration decided in favor of the union's contention that the clause unfairly discriminated against married women workers.

THE PACE MAKERS

On October 11, Miss Sarah Gibson Blanding was inaugurated first woman president of Vassar College. The first Negro woman assigned by the U. S. State Department to study social conditions in South America, Miss Irene Diggs of New York City, left recently for Uruguay, where she will do research on the history of the descendants of African slaves brought into Montevideo. Cooper Union School of Engineering in New York now has its first woman instructor in 87 years. Mrs. Mary Blade, 33-year-old electrical engineer, will teach machine drawing. Two women have been named to the executive committee of the U. S. National Commission on International Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation. They are Dr. Kathryn McHale, general director of the American Association of University Women, and Dr. Maycie K. Southall, a professor of education at George Peabody College for Teachers and president of the Association for Childhood Education.

WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

The UN Subcommission on the Status of Women recently became a full commission. Countries selected early this month by ECOSOC to nominate members for the Commission are Australia, Byelo-Russia, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Guatemala, India, Mexico, Syria, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, USSR, Venezuela. Leaders of U. S. women's organizations who had attended meetings of their international affiliates this summer reported their observations in an informal conference at the Women's Bureau on October 4. Speakers included Miss Anna Lord Strauss, President, U. S. League of Women Voters; Mrs. J. B. Calkins, President, YWCA's; Mrs. LaFell Dickinson, President, General Federation of Women's Clubs; Dr. Helen Reid, reporting for Dr. Meta Glass, American Association of University Women; Miss Emma Carr Bivins, reporting for Miss Sally Butler, President, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

At South Kortright, New York, from October 13-21, 200 women from over 50 nations gathered for a meeting of the International Assembly of Women. Early arrivals among the delegates met in New York City on October 10 and were greeted by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, sponsor of the Assembly.

YOU | Standards for Employment of Women...Recommended by the Women's Bureau. U. S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau Leaflet No. 1, 1946.