

act to any State unemployment fund when such amounts are unpaid and owing to such State unemployment fund at the time of such bankruptcy or insolvency.

Although unemployment insurance does not provide a panacea, any bill should establish minimal standards and in our opinion nothing less should be encouraged by the Federal Government which has proposed a program of social security to the workers of the country. We recommend that minimum standards similar to those in the proposed New York State bill be incorporated in the Wagner bill as an additional condition to granting employers credit for contributions made under State laws and in order to avoid confusion, conflict, and the evasion of responsibility by the States in moving toward the goal of social security. Prompt action is urged in order to permit the enactment of suitable laws by States whose legislatures are soon to adjourn.

Senator BLACK. I would like to ask you just one question. There is a provision in this bill which was based on the theory that you can work out a system whereby an employer who stabilizes employment could get certain exemptions. Do you believe it is possible for that to be done fairly without having a constant pressure of lobbyists on both legislatures and on bureaus, to try to get certain exemptions?

Mr. ANDREW. As I stated before, Senator, we say that at the end of the 3 years, the industrial commission shall make a report to the legislature as to whether such a thing would be feasible.

Senator BLACK. No; what I am getting at is this: Do you believe that from your experience that would give rise to a constant pressure on the part of certain employers on both the legislatures and bureaus to get exemption from part of those taxes? Isn't that human nature?

Mr. ANDREWS. Oh, yes; there is no doubt about that.

Senator BLACK. And where there is a loophole left for exemption, some will get it.

Mr. ANDREWS. That is true of all of our labor laws.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. Mrs. Mary T. Bannerman.

STATEMENT OF MRS. MARY T. BANNERMAN, CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION, CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mrs. BANNERMAN. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers is an organization of a million and a half members with organized branches in every State except Nevada, and in the Territory of Hawaii, and the District of Columbia.

It was organized in 1897—

1. To promote child welfare in home, school, church, and community; to raise the standards of home life; to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children.

2. To bring into closer relation the home and the school that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child, and to develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, and spiritual education.

This explains why we have not discussed or taken action on old-age pensions, and unemployment insurance, as they of course, do not deal directly with the welfare of children.

Regarding title II, "Appropriations for aid to dependent children", as far back as 1911 State branches of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers were interested in legislation providing assistance to mothers of children of tender years who were without means of normal support. Throughout the intervening years resolutions favoring such legislation have been repeatedly adopted at the annual conventions of State branches of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. At the 1934 convention in Des Moines, mothers' pensions were recommended as a means of safeguarding the child. In none of our resolutions do we find that mothers' pensions as a Federal project have been considered. We are aware, however, that during the economic depression some States have become so impoverished that Federal assistance of this type seems desirable. We are thoroughly committed to local control and responsibility for child welfare. However, if a method of administration whereby such local control and responsibility may be retained and needs be more adequately met through the use of Federal funds, States desiring this aid, we believe, should be permitted to avail themselves of the opportunity offered through this or similar legislation.

Regarding title VII, section 701, "Maternal and child health." since the organization of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in 1897, State branches have taken a vital interest in extending and strengthening provision for the health of mothers and children. The maternity and infancy bill enacted in 1921 was actively supported by this organization. Our national legislative program has carried each year since the expiration of the Sheppard-Towner Act provision for this type of cooperation between the States and the Federal Government. Statistics indicate that stimulation and promotion of more efficient services in this field through voluntary cooperation are important.

Section 702 "Care of crippled children." Provision for the care and education of crippled children has always been regarded by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers as one phase of work considered under the broader term ("exceptional children." As so considered, the following resolution was adopted at the annual convention held at Hot Springs, Ark., May 1931:

We urge the United States' Office of Education to make a survey of all exceptional children in order to gain a more complete knowledge of their needs, and to provide adequately for their care and education.

Many State school systems are doing highly commendable and effective work in caring physically for crippled children and at the same time providing an educational program designed to equip them as self-sustaining citizens. If this work is to be undertaken by the Federal Government, we believe that it should be coordinated with educational agencies now operating in this field as to aid rather than impair the fine work already being done. Provision for coordination of health and educational agencies is imperative in providing adequately for the needs of crippled children.

If "care of crippled children" is to be undertaken as a Federal project, definite provision, we believe, should be made in this bill not alone for their physical care by the Children's Bureau or State public-health agencies, but also for their education by regularly constituted educational authorities. The Federal agency having responsibility

for the education of these children should be the United States Office of Education and State plans for education developed to correlate with Federal plans should be prepared by State departments of public instruction and should be submitted to the United States Office of Education. It appears quite illogical to submit plans for the education of children to any agency other than one whose personnel has been trained for this particular task.

Section 703, Aid to Child Welfare Services; section 704, Participation by Children's Bureau.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers regards a child-welfare division in State departments of public welfare as important in carrying out an effective child-welfare program within the States. Plans for the education of these children should be developed by regularly constituted educational agencies just as are welfare plans by welfare agencies. State plans for education should be developed by State departments of public instruction and submitted for approval to the United States Office of Education.

Regarding title VIII, "Appropriations for public health", rural sanitation is a project which the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has supported for many years. The drastic curtailment of funds for this work during the past 2 or 3 years has greatly impaired the health work done by State congresses of parents and teachers. The enactment of title VIII of this bill would make possible the training of personnel and setting up of an organization and program for a period of time long enough to demonstrate its value and thus induce State departments of health to make it a part of their permanent program.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

The committee will meet again tomorrow morning at 10 a. m.

(Whereupon, at 12 o'clock noon an adjournment was taken until Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1935.)