

the introduction of joint control, decision on scientifically ascertained audits, and the education of worker, manager, engineer and capitalist to the habit of looking at the function and interest of an industry as a whole. That is by no means the view of organized labor today, nor is it the view of the leading employers. Yet it seems to us the only feasible and constructive view. And there are where we find Garyism among employers or Brindellism among the workers we oppose it. Where we find a Hart, Schaffner and Marx or a Sidney Hillman, a Herbert Hoover, or a Gantt, an Owen Young, a Johnston, we recognize a similar purpose.

The Children of Europe

MR. HOOVER has eloquently charged the bodily wants of 3,500,000 European children against the conscience of America. But even deeper seams than starvation, in the wretched child life of central and eastern Europe, are disclosed in Miss Lathrop's Eighth Annual Report as Chief of the Federal Children's Bureau. With characteristic statesmanship President Masaryk of the Czecho-Slovak Republic sought the experience of the United States in dealing with the basic problems of every country's child-welfare. He, therefore, requested from this government the personal assistance of Miss Lathrop. During her stay in Czecho-Slovakia invitations came to her from the other new republics and she thus saw the whole of central Europe from the Baltic to the Adriatic. In her report just published, the social life and atmosphere of central Europe are revealed with the sombre calmness of the scientist. No tender eyes have looked upon that cruellest wastage of the war, wrecked child-life. Yet no one has made a more rigorously scientific approach to the solution of these appalling problems.

Czecho-Slovakia is the most favored country of central Europe. By her condition we can measure the more poignant miseries of the other nations. "At present every social problem is intensified by the conditions created by the war, and none is more urgent and immediate than that of child welfare." Out of an estimated 2,500,000 children between two and fourteen nearly 700,000 were in need of relief—of which 500,000 received food from the European Children's Fund, while 174,000 were not reached. For six years children have undergone dwarfing of body and retarding of mind; an unknown but large number suffers from malnutrition and its consequences; an unknown but again large number is tuberculous. Worse, if anything, is the moral aspect. Through war mortality of fathers

typhus deaths of mothers, the resultant impairment of family protection, the breakdown of the accustomed conventions and safeguards, juvenile waywardness and delinquency have become widespread. The close tie between economic condition and moral resistance is joltingly brought home in a report, last spring, of the Czecho-Slovak Minister of Social Welfare:

Most of all our youth have suffered. Deprived of the guidance of the fathers and the care of the mothers, who had to stand day and night in lines in front of the shops waiting for their ration of food; in many cases also without a regular school attendance, the children were left entirely to the influences of the streets. The increase in the number of youthful criminals and of young girls abandoned to prostitution is terrifying.

Very much worse, of course, are the glimpses we get of Poland. Thus, the careful observation in Warsaw of 1,631 dispensary children (to be sure "the poorer classes," but they are predominant), under five years, showed that in the fourth year, those able to walk reached 65 per cent, while in the fifth year 69 per cent were walking, but 27 per cent stopped walking because of general debility and 4 per cent had never begun to walk. Consumption claimed 14 per cent of the children in the second year of life, 17 per cent in the third year, 26 per cent in the fourth year, and in the fifth year 37 per cent—every third child had tuberculosis. These dead figures really tell no tale. For the sight of children in Vienna hospitals, or at the Friends' Clothing distribution, or the long line of children waiting, in the early morning in Warsaw, for the opening of the Joint Distribution Committee's milk-stations cannot be pictured statistically.

Splendid as is the extent and effectiveness of American, Allied and neutral relief Miss Lathrop speaks for every sensitive visitor in being "above all . . . awed by the unmeasured devotion and skill with which citizens in all the war-harassed nations have themselves labored since 1914 to protect their children."

Miss Lathrop directs attention to an achievement even more striking than this gallant effort for the children.

The visitor is impressed not only with the unbounded devotion of the civilian efforts to protect children in the war areas and their great effectiveness under the most depressing conditions but also with the fact that much of the underfeeding and social injury has taken place under the observation of scientific authorities of the highest standing, who have unsparingly devoted themselves to practical amelioration, and whose observations would have great weight if summed up and published. The practical effect of scientific research pursued under the pressure of war food shortage is illustrated by the immediate adoption of Pirquet's new feeding systems in the kitchens of the Vienna European Children's Fund. From scientific

studies in all the phases of child life touched by the war we may look not only for immediate help in solving the various urgent problems now confronting the countries of central Europe, but also for data invaluable for other purposes.

Miss Lathrop suggests three chief directions that such correlated studies of child welfare in central Europe would naturally take—studies of underfeeding, studies of behavior and delinquency, and studies of children in industry.

"The most obvious war consequence is, of course, the continent-wide phenomenon of underfeeding." One would suppose that to a self-critical and self-protective civilization the scientific ascertainment of the extent and exact nature of this phenomenon would be equally obvious. Doctors and scientists overwhelmed with practical tasks have given hints here and there, have indicated the lack of data and urged the need of wider study. Some of the results of underfeeding are on the surface, others are far more subtle and await more concerted and penetrating scientific attack.

Similarly, the war's effects upon the conduct of children and young people have arrested the attention of criminologists and social scientists. But thus far only partial and isolated statistical studies have been made. The phenomenon is wide spread, varying in intensity, doubtless, with the impairment of family restraints and the degree of economic pressure. Moreover, subtle factors are here, too, at work—the influence on Belgian children of disobedience of the invader's laws, the effect on the child mind of the soldier-father's exploits.

How far the lack of food and physical welfare is responsible, how far the absence of fathers and the breakdown of the family is accountable, in what degree the lack of schooling, how far the excitement and abnormal social conditions of war have unsettled nervous and mental balance and hence led to delinquency, are among the questions whose answers would be useful in the readjustment to peace conditions in every country, in the establishment of the new laws and institutions which are urgently necessary.

The studies thus far made are chiefly from the approach of the physician, but other scientific observations are also necessary, including those of the educator and the student of applied social science.

Finally the physical effects of industrial life upon children offer a long-delayed field for scientific study. "The intelligent protection of the health of working children and the studies upon which that protection should be based are subjects of increased urgency wherever marked underfeeding and hardship have prevailed for a period covering the war and postwar years of the child's life." This need has been heretofore recognized by such authorities as Dean Edsall of the Harvard Medical School and the American Academy of Medicine.

Only the United States can secure the fulfillment of this urgent scientific program. The materials for study and the scientists to pursue it are available abroad. Miss Lathrop herself, in conjunction with a scientific advisory committee, could organize such a survey as she outlines. Europe can furnish men and material, this country must furnish the necessary money. And what a mere pittance would suffice for so fruitful a work! Here, surely, is a proposal for research that should make a compelling appeal, at once scientific and humanitarian, to those men, like Dr. Vincent, Dr. Flexner, Dr. Pritchett, Dr. Scott, Professor Farrand, who guide the destiny of the great foundations.

A Truce to Immigration

TO close our doors against immigration, even temporarily, is a measure no one imbued with the American spirit can contemplate without misgivings. We are essentially a nation of immigrants. Our history of colonization is a romance of immigration which has impressed itself deeply on the minds of all Americans. Our traditions are tinged with the color of new life blooming from stocks transplanted to a fertile soil under a new sky. What is the characteristic American optimism and courage but the collective reflection of the new hopes springing from the opportunities thrown open to the newcomer? Has the time now come when we must reverse our policy, and guard our national heritage jealously for those already here? In that case we must look forward to a different kind of America, less generous, less free, less brave.

For our part we do not believe the time has come, or is even near at hand, when our national welfare may require the permanent exclusion of those who wish to make their homes in America. We believe that it is a superficial view that room can not be made for additional population without lowering the standards of living already established, or without checking present tendencies toward higher standards. The chief possibilities of American economic development still lie in the future. We believe that it is a timid and mean-spirited view that American ideals and institutions can not prevail over any new and strange ideals and institutions the prospective groups of immigrants may bring with them. America is not a China, compelled either to exclude the "foreign devils" or be warped out of her self-chosen orbit.

But though we believe that there is no valid reason why a permanent dyke should be erected against immigration, we can not accept the laissez-faire view, that it is no concern of the American people what kind of immigrants come, what in-