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ABBEVILLE, S. C.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1919.

**THE LABOR SITUATION.**

There may be a general strike on the railway lines in the United States within the next month. It is to be hoped that the members of the railway labor unions will put faith in the words of President Wilson, who tells them that now is not the time for raising wages, but a time to in-trench. The leaders in Washington saw fit to reject the proposal of the administration. We hope that the men as a whole will respond to Wil-son's appeal.

Americans of all classes are im-patient of delay. What we want, we want now. Better living conditions are sought by the labor unions. This is to be done either by raising wages or cutting the cost of living. The result is the same, but the result must be obtained instanter.

Awaiting policy right now, we be-lieve, would solve the difficulty. Give production time to make a showing; to affect the law of supply and de-mand.

On the other hand we wonder whether more wages is all that labor wants. The soviet system with all its thaumaturgic possibilities has become an insidious and sinister idea that tempts. It lured Russia on to its ruin. But child or man can only learn by experience.

Labor is strong; its influence is potent and is felt in the councils of the land. But it must function thru secondary channels. The Plumb plan would give direct control. The pomp and glory and pageantry of power would be the laboring man's. It sounds too good to pass up.

If there is a strike there is a con-sideration which should appeal to every man, whether he be a member of a labor union or not—the law of the land.

The union member or any other wage earner has a legal right to strike. Furthermore, any man has the right to work. If men leave their jobs and other men are secured to fill their places there is no legal or moral right that force be used to keep these strike-breakers from working.

We earnestly hope there will be no strike. We do not believe in that method. It is not fair to the rest of mankind. Arbitration should be used to settle difficulties between employer and employees.

**REPORT OF THE HOME SERVICE SECTION FOR MONTH OF JUNE**

During the month of June, 125 people visited the Home Service Section office; of this number 67 have been eligible and have received some sort of Home Service.

A considerable increase is shown in the number applying for service other than information: Last month the report stood 17 for service, and 49 for information only. This month the order is reversed and is 44 for service, and 23 for information only.

This is very gratifying to the Sec-retary, as the Section is intended to provide a definite service, and the fact that people are applying for the service voluntarily, shows that the section is fulfilling its purpose, and that no mistake has been made in establishing this important part of Red Cross work in Abbeville.

Up-to-date the office has filed the records of 143 soldiers and sailors, to whom the Home Service Section stands ready to give every possible assistance, in every possible way, at every possible time.

Just at present the office is giving

assistance to the soldiers and sailors in the matter of arrears of pay; helping secure final payment of al-lotments and allowances, and advis-ing as to conversion of Insurance. In a few cases, delayed bonuses have been applied for, and additional travel pay secured. Delivery of Lib-erty Bonds bought by soldiers has also been one of our appreciated services.

Financial relief has been given to two people: one, a colored soldier, was on furlough from Camp Upton, and because of miscalculation of routing, did not have money enough to get back to camp. He came di-rectly to the Home Service office, and told his troubles, and after a con-ference with Mr. Cochran, Chairman of Civilian Relief Committee Red Cross, and a wire to the Red Cross Field Director at Camp Upton, he was loaned transportation back to New York.

The other was the case of a colored woman who wanted to keep up her son's insurance after discharge, and asked for help until she could sell her cotton in the fall. This wo-man was given this kind of aid only after due consideration of the effects of precedence, and probable loss to the Chapter. Helping this way is but carrying out the policy of the Red Cross to give such aid as will enable the Home Service Section to help the family in the most adequate way to raise the standard of living.

The Home Service Section has 36 families in which there is opportu-nity for doing a great deal of good. Volunteer visitors are necessary to do this work.

During the month, Joel Morse, President of the Chapter; J. S. Coch-ran, Chairman of Civilian Relief

Committee and head of the Home Service Section, Mrs. C. C. Gambrell, Secretary of the Chapter, Mrs. J. Dendy Miller, Chairman of the Can-teen Committee and Prof. Daniel, Chairman of the Committee on Edu-cation, are the only members of the Executive Committee who have vis-ited the office. Prof. Daniel, who is acting Publicity Chairman, has called once for news. Mrs. F. B. Gary, Miss Mae Robertson, Mr. W. M. Barnwell, Dr. C. H. McMurray, Rev. H. W. Pratt, W. P. Greene, F. B. Gary, Mrs. F. E. Harrison, Mrs. J. C. King, Mrs. W. F. Nickles, or Mrs. T. G. White of the Executive Commit-tee have not visited the office yet, and no other members of the Red Cross have taken any interest at all in this department.

The office has been open every day during the month—except Sun-days of course. The rooms have been nicely kept by our small janitor, Halley Coggins. We have only one untidy spot on the premises, and that is a pile of trash which partly accu-mulated before we came into the of-fice, and which we have not been able to get the trash wagon to haul away, although we have made re-peated requests of Supt. McCombs. Our county map is also incomplete, through no fault of ours, as we have been unable to get Supervisor Ste-venson to tell us the boundary lines of the various townships.

The greatest need of the office to successfully carry on the work of Home Service is a way to get about. There are a number of cases, in the county that should be visited, and to whom the best service cannot be given without personal interview outside the office. It is certain that later on when a visiting nurse is installed in

the county in connection with Red Cross work, an automobile will be a necessity, but until that time Home Service will have to depend upon the patriotism and interest of the public. Several people who own cars have signified their willingness to help in this way, but so far when the Sec-retary has called upon them, something has prevented the use of the auto-mobile.

There are eight more weeks of summer, (or until the middle of Sep-tember when summer is over in this section) during which time dozens of cars will be driving every afternoon aimlessly. It does not seem to be asking too much to call for sixteen volunteers to do this work, which is not at all hard, or to take the secre-tary. The help of the Executive Committee is earnestly solicited in this matter.

Hannah Hemphill Coleman, Sec.

Mrs. C. D. Brown, Misses Louise and Charlotte Brown and Miss Plev-na Seal came home this week after an extended stay in Waynesville.

AMERICAN RED CROSS  
Home Service Section.

**Home Service.**

The public has replied very gener-ously to our request for help in the matter of an ex-private who is "up-against it," and we wish to thank very heartily all who have helped. There are two other cases in which we would like help:  
One, is a good-looking discharged

soldier who has some mending he wants done. Of course we believe all he wants is a wife, but until he finds the right girl, who will help us take care of his mending and darn-ing? This work may be taken home or done in the Home Service office, and presents a fine opportunity for service for girls or young women who are good needle workers.  
The other case will have to be done by railroad conductors and trav-

eling men: We have been sent the photograph and description of a young Canadian soldier, who, fol-lowing shell shock has had a com-plete loss of identity and memory, and is lost to his family. All Home Service Sections have been asked to look for the man, and this office would like so much to be the one to restore him to his distressed parents. Who will help us hunt this man?  
H. H. C.

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