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LITTLE MILL WORKERS

TRUE TALES TOLD BY CHILD ELAVES UNDER OATH TO THE ANTHRACITE STRIKE COM-

MISSION.

These Little Girls Stood All Night In the Midst of Dangerous, Whirling Machinery For a Mere Pittance, and All This Under a Law That Experience Has Proved Inefficient.

Conditions surrounding child labor in Pennsylvania have been such that the State has become a gathering place for factories that rely upon cheap labor, no matter how obtained, for great

Particularly true is this of the silk and woolen factories that have drained the schools of the anthracite and bituminous coal regions of thousands of For these little ones, the bill which has been framed and modified under the supervision of the Pennsylvania Child Labor Committee will be a means of rescue and a permanent safeguard against future imposition.

The character of work that has been required from these children of the mining regions is best told in the offi-cial notes of testimony given before the Anthracite Strike Commission in Scranton, Dec. 15, 1902. Following are excerpts from that evidence:

Theresa McDermott called to the

How old are you? Eleven past. Are you working anywhere? Yes, sir, in the silk mill.

Here in Scranton? No. sir, up in

About four months. Days or nights? Days.

What time do you go to work? We start at seven o'clock in the morning.
What time do you stop at night? Six o'clock.

What do you do there? I learned reeling.

Stand up or sit down? Stand up. What do you get a week? About \$2. Have you been to school? Yes, sir. How far did you get in the readers? Third reader.

Annie Denko called: How old are you? Thirteen. Where do you work? In the silk

Do you work days or nights? Nights. What time do you go to work? I start to work at half-past six.

How long do you work? Twelve

You are about thirteen hours alto-

and working? Yes, sir.
You go home at half-past six in the morning? Yes, sir.
Winter and summer? Winter and

summer.
How long have you worked there?

I am working here over a year.

Do you stand up or sit down? Stand

up all night. What do you do? I twist.

Do you stop in the middle of the

night to eat? We have half an hour. How much do you get? I get five cents and a half an hour.

For twelve hours or ten? We work twelve hours.

The Chairman (Judge Gray)-What is the law in this state about working in textile factories, do you know, Mr. Mr. Torrey-No. I do not. The Chairman-Any law about work-

mr. McCarthy--No, no law about working at night.

By the Chairman:

Would you rather go to school? We can't; I have to go to work.

Would you rather work in the mill than to live out at service? I would rather live out at service than go to the

Commissioner Parker-Would you rather go to school than go to the mill?

Yes, sir.
The Chairman—I think the father ought to be seen, Mr. Torrey, and the employers, too. There is no use in disguising the fact that it may be a necessity, but there must be many cases in which the fathers allow this and give their own consent to coin the flesh and blood of their children into noney to help their income when there s no absolute necessity for it. It is an

Helen Sissak called: How old are you? Eleven years,

Where do you work? I work in cummore in the Cambria Silk Mills. How long have you worked there?

Do you work days or nights? Nights. How many hours? What time do you go there and what time do you get back? I go at half-past six and leave he mill at half-past six in the morn-

How far do you live from the mill? About a mile from the mill; takes half an hour to get to the mill.

What do you do in the mill? Carry bobbins.

Carry them from one place to another? No; one bobbin gets empty and I take the empty bobbin off the frame and clean the bobbin and put it on a board.

unmore.

How I hg have you worked there? Do you stand up all night or sit down? I have to walk around to get the bobbins and sit down and clean

> How long have you worked nights? Always worked nights? Yes

How much do you get? Three cents an hour.

Have you a certificate of your age as required by law, or don't they require certificates? Yes, they won't permit us in the mills unless you have

Wanted a Few Pointers

It is barely possible that Mr. Bryan's object in calling on the president last Saturday was to obtain a few pointers as to the most effectual method of reorganizing the Democratic party.—Chi-

THE GRANGE

Conducted by J. W. DARROW. Press Correspondent New York State
Grange

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only Woman Who Ever Held Post-

tion of Master of Any State Grange.

Mrs. Sarah G. Baird of Minnesota, the only woman who has held the office of master of a state grange, is one of the strongest women in an order that encourages the women in every way to take places on the level with men. Under her leadership the grange in her own state has prospered, and the state shows greater activity in grange work than for years. It is needless to say that Mrs. Baird is a magnificent speaker, a fine presiding officer and a strong



MRS. SARAH G. BATRD.

ninth year of her mastership of the state grange. George W. Baird is gate-keeper of the national grange, and be and Mrs. Baird are charter members of Minnehaha grange, 389, which was or-ganized twenty-eight years ago and has never become dormant. Mr. Baird is master of Minnehaba grange. Speak-ing of his work, he says:

"Our work in the subordinate grange is now principally along educational lines. Our members have the **gree** test faith in the Order and have clung to its principles during all the years of our organization. We now see the benefits of organization as never before, and we are enjoying to the fullest the social and educational advantages of our work. We have a well equipped hall and everything necessary to make

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any other make.

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