



JAMES A. WILSON, Labor Relations Counsellor, International Labor Office, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., and a native Pennsylvanian, expressed his appreciation at being invited to address an industrial safety conference in his home State. "Safety and the International Labor Organization" was the subject of his talk. In it he told how three of the Organization's treaties, dealing with longshoremen and seamen; and a fourth, referring to safety of workers in the building industry, are meeting with success. He also told how the Recommendations on Safety adopted by the I. L. O., while they do not have the force of treaties, have enjoyed wide acceptance by the member states and have had their provisions worked into National legislation.

Following are excerpts taken from the address of Mr. Wilson:

"The record discloses that much progress has been made in reducing the number of accidents and the days lost through accidents. The co-operation of labor and industrial management (together with their education and their cooperation) in conjunction with the State Department of Labor has been responsible in large measure for the progress that has been made.

"What you have been doing here in Pennsylvania to safeguard the lives of your working population is analogous to the world-wide efforts of the International Labor Organization in that direction.

WORLD PEACE THROUGH SOCIAL JUSTICE

"The International Labor Organization, as its title might suggest, is not a labor union nor a federation of labor unions. It is the semi-official voice of nearly 50 nations to which is added equal representation from national labor and employer organizations. These three groups—government, employer and worker—are brought together in the organization for the express purpose of establishing world peace based upon social justice. The United States has been a member of the organization since 1934 and the three groups from this country have cooperated to the fullest extent.

"While the Office cannot under its Constitution dictate to the member states what they shall and shall not do in the matter of industrial safety, it is in a unique position to study national methods of technique, safety propaganda and instruction, and to determine what methods are most likely to give the maximum benefits to the workers.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY COMMITTEES

"An important and indispensable part of the set-up of the International Labor Office is its system of committees, made up of experts on the particular problems with which the Office is faced. In this way, the Office is able to consult the best thought in any given field. In the field of safety, this system has been of inestimable value.

"The International Labor Office has published safety monographs dealing with individual problems of accident prevention in such industries as hydro-extractors, metal-working presses, acetylene, celluloid, spray painting, and elevators.