

**FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE ILLINOIS FREE  
EMPLOYMENT OFFICES FOR  
THE ENDED OCTOBER 1, 1902**

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Various

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**VARIOUS**

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1903

**FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

OF THE

**ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES**

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 1, 1902.



DAVID ROSS, *Secretary*, Springfield.



SPRINGFIELD, ILL.  
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1903.

## ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

### CHICAGO.

NORTH SIDE OFFICE, 259-261 N. Clark st., Turner Hall Building.

D. M. BROTHERS, *Supt.*

THOS. DEVENISH, *Asst. Supt.*

MISS SELMA BOSTRUM, *Clerk.*

SOUTH SIDE OFFICE, 429-431 Wabash Avenue.

GEORGE W. GEARY, *Supt.*

ANGUS A. BARNES, *Asst. Supt.*

MISS MARGARET E. MAY, *Clerk.*

WEST SIDE OFFICE, S. W. Cor. Canal and Randolph Sts.

S. P. REVERE, *Supt.*

P. J. MEANEY, *Asst. Supt.*

MISS LIZZIE HENNEBERRY, *Clerk.*

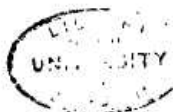
### PEORIA.

OFFICE, Masonic Temple.

EDWARD E. WALKER, *Supt.*

DAVID CONIGISKY, *Asst. Supt.*

CHARLES S. EASTON, *Clerk.*



## ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 2, 1899.

Reviewing the work of the Free Employment Offices since their establishment, August 2, 1899, to the close of the last fiscal year, October 1, 1902, the following statement is presented:

### *Statement.*

YEAR.	APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT.			APPLICATIONS FOR HELP.	
	Number filed.	Number of positions secured.	Number unfilled.	Number filed.	Number unfilled.
*1899.....	13,097	5,497	6,600	10,370	3,873
1900.....	37,285	21,218	6,067	35,542	4,324
1901.....	37,605	23,596	3,609	33,124	4,128
1902.....	44,900	40,181	4,719	47,497	7,316
Total.....	122,887	101,592	20,995	121,533	19,641

\* Nine weeks.

This shows a total of 122,887 applications for employment, and 121,533 applications for help; also, that 101,892, or 83 per cent of those seeking employment were placed in positions, thereby supplying 84 per cent of those applying for help.

It may be well to mention in this connection, the cost to the State for maintaining these offices, as some criticisms touching this question have been made.

There are two distinct classes of our citizens that are directly concerned or to be included in whatever advantage or benefit may be brought about by or through the agency of these offices: these are the employer and the employé.

The foregoing statement shows that during the three years and nine weeks since these offices were established, 101,892 persons were assisted to obtain positions where they could work for wages, and, consequently, a like number of persons, who have use for the services of others, were supplied with such service. This makes a total of 203,784 persons directly involved and benefited by the assistance of these offices.

The total expense or cost to the State during the same period has been fifty-seven thousand three hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$57,375.00), or 28.2 cents for each position secured and filled. This should satisfy any reasonable person that for this small, almost insignificant, cost per capita, this large number of persons have been put in position to earn a livelihood and the same number furnished with the service sought for.

Considerable difficulty has been encountered in the enforcement of the law relating to private employment agencies. Two suits affecting the constitutionality of the act have been instituted, one affirmed by the court and the other still pending. The former case sought to have section 10 of the law set aside for the reasons that the fee, \$200.00 per annum, was excessive, and that the State could not engage in the same business for which it required a license from others. The court's decision held that the subject was one wholly within the police powers of the State, and that it declined to interfere with the discretion and prerogatives of the Legislature in enactments of that character. The pending suit attacks the validity of the entire law on the alleged grounds that the title embraces two distinct subjects, and is for that reason void. The principal defects of the law is the failure to provide the necessary machinery for its enforcement, and the omission to prescribe regulations governing the operation of private employment agencies. At present the only condition exacted of persons employed in that business is that they shall file a bond and pay a license fee of \$200.00 per annum. Governor Yates, in his message to the present General Assembly, recommended that the act be amended so as to provide that private employment agencies should be placed under the supervision and control of the Commissioners of Labor; that the annual fee be reduced to a more reasonable sum; that certain requirements relating to the keeping of records; the charging of registration fees; the sending of female help to places of



bad repute; prohibiting such agencies in places where intoxicating liquors are sold, should be observed. A bill embracing these suggestions has been offered for the favorable consideration and action of the Legislature.

NOTE. The General Assembly enacted an entirely new law to govern free employment offices and to regulate private employment agencies. This law went into effect May 11, 1908, and is published in full at the close of this report.

## RECORD OF THE WORK OF THE FOUR OFFICES FOR THE YEAR 1902.

The work performed by the offices is set forth in condensed form as follows:

TABLE I—Showing the Combined Business of the Four Offices for the Year.

OFFICES.	APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT.			APPLICATIONS FOR HELP.	
	Number Filed.	Number of Positions Secured.	Number Unfilled.	Number Filed.	Number Unfilled.
North Side Office—Males.....	5,068	5,428	178	7,050	2,157
North Side Office—Females.....	4,226	4,117	109	5,158	1,096
Totals .....	9,294	*9,545	287	12,208	3,253
South Side Office—Males.....	12,428	11,761	677	12,549	779
South Side Office—Females.....	5,013	5,791	222	7,481	1,650
Totals .....	18,451	†17,552	909	20,021	2,429
West Side Office—Males.....	5,580	4,918	1,913	5,247	429
West Side Office—Females.....	2,358	2,038	200	2,704	676
Totals .....	7,938	‡6,956	2,113	7,951	1,105
Peoria Office—Males.....	5,223	4,469	784	4,705	216
Peoria Office—Females.....	2,145	1,554	562	1,917	233
Totals .....	7,368	‡6,023	1,346	6,622	449
Total Males—Four Offices.....	30,157	28,661	2,496	30,242	3,581
Total Females—Four Offices.....	14,743	15,320	1,222	17,255	2,735
Grand total .....	44,900	‡43,981	3,718	47,497	6,316

\* Of this number 510 males and 257 females, a total of 767, were secured positions on applications filed last year.

† Of this number 200 males and 23 females, a total of 223, were secured positions on applications filed last year.

‡ Of this number 551 males and 25 females, a total of 576, were secured positions on applications filed last year.

§ Of this number 1 male and 3 females, a total of 4, were secured positions on applications filed last year.

¶ Of this number 1,223 males and 426 females, a total of 1,670, were secured positions on applications filed last year.

Here it is shown that 44,900 persons applied to these offices, during the year for employment. This is an increase over last year of 17,295, or 62.65 per cent; however, the Peoria Office only reported for three months last year. It will be noticed in the foot note to the table, that 1,670 applicants were brought forward from those filed last year, of which 1,262 were males and 408 females; thus making a total of 46,570 applications for employment. To this number may be added 47,497 applications of persons seeking help, which gives a total of 94,067 applications handled and cared for by these offices during the year.

Calling attention to the 46,570 applications for employment, it is found that 31,319 or 67.46 per cent were males and 15,151 or 32.54 per cent females. Turning to the applications for help it is found that of 47,497 filed, 30,242 or 63.67 per cent were for male help and 17,255 or 36.33 per cent for female help. The proportion of both, applications for employment, and applications for help, being very nearly in the same ratio. Of the 46,570 applications for employment there have been 40,181 or 86.28 per cent who have been placed in positions, of this number 26,661 or 66.35 per cent were males, and 13,520 or 33.65 per cent females.

Referring to the 31,419 males applying for places to work, it is shown that 26,661 or 84.85 per cent were secured positions, and that of the 15,151 females, 13,520 or 89.24 per cent were put in position to get employment. Considering, in this connection, the applications for help, it is found that of the 47,497 applications filed, 40,181 or 84.60 per cent were supplied.

The following table gives the percentages for each of the offices and for all offices combined:

TABLE II—*Percentages of Positions Secured and Percentages of Help Furnished, both Male and Female.*

OFFICES.	PERCENTAGE OF POSITIONS SECURED APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT.			PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS FOR HELP FURNISHED.		
	Male.	Female.	Both male and female.	Male.	Female.	Both male and female.
North Side Office.....	88.92	89.88	89.32	71.60	79.90	75.06
South Side Office.....	83.06	96.94	88.99	93.79	77.41	87.67
West Side Office.....	66.63	85.10	71.14	91.98	75.00	86.29
Peoria Office.....	86.93	73.71	82.23	95.41	82.63	91.71
The four offices.....	84.95	89.24	86.28	86.18	78.35	84.80