

**HOUSE DOCUMENT, NO. 1190. REPORT OF
THE JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LABOR,
APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
ON CERTAIN BILLS SPECIALLY REFERRED TO
IT, RELATING TO LABOR MATTERS AND
OTHER KINDRED SUBJECTS, JANUARY, 1908**

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REPORT

OF THE

ss. - Sen. Court. 1908 -

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LABOR,

APPOINTED TO

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JANUARY, 1908.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Jan. 24, 1908.

To the Great and General Court.

In accordance with an order of the General Court of 1907, we have the honor to transmit the following report of the Joint Special Committee on Labor, appointed to investigate and report on certain bills specially referred to it, relating to labor matters and other kindred subjects.

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LABOR.

SENATE MEMBERS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. FEIKER of Northampton, *Chairman*.
Hon. WILLIAM OTIS FAXON of Stoughton.
Hon. WILLIAM W. CLARKE of Boston.

HOUSE MEMBERS.

Rep. WILLIAM TURTLE of Pittsfield, *Chairman*.
Rep. ELMER C. POTTER of Worcester.
Rep. CHARLES D. B. FISK of Boston.
Rep. WILLIAM E. WEEKS of Everett.
Rep. THOMAS PATTISON of Osterville.
Rep. SAMUEL ROSS of New Bedford.
Rep. DANIEL J. McDONALD of Boston.
Rep. FRANCIS J. FENNELLY of Fall River.

JAMES C. WHITE, *Clerk*.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT OF THE JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LABOR.

Ordered, That a joint special committee, to consist of three members of the Senate and eight members of the House of Representatives, be appointed to sit during the recess of the General Court to consider the expediency of legislation within the scope of the following petitions: petition (with accompanying bill, Senate, No. 116) of William P. Hayes for legislation relative to bringing certain actions under the employers' liability act; petition (with accompanying bill, Senate, No. 159) of Frank J. Linehan that the provisions of the employers' liability law, so called, may be extended to Massachusetts sailors and fishermen; petition (with accompanying bill, Senate, No. 204) of John J. Mitchell that the word "conspiracy" in disputes between employers and employees may be better defined; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 24) of Malcolm E. Nichols to provide for further protection of employees; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 27) of Samuel Ross for legislation relative to picketing and to the use of injunctions in labor disputes; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 28) of W. E. Weeks, relative to peaceful picketing; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 23) of John J. Conway for legislation to regulate the hours of employees of street railway companies; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 266) of W. M. Brigham for legislation relative to assumption of risk by employees; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 366) of T. F. O'Leary for legislation relative to the hours of labor of conductors and motormen of street railway companies; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 402) of Joseph A. Parks for legislation relative to the liability of employers and others for injuries to employees; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 403) of Conrad Reno for profit-sharing in public-service corporations; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 409) of William H. Frazier for further legislation relative to the enticing of seamen to leave their vessels; petition (with

accompanying bill, House, No. 623) of Timothy J. Buckley for legislation relative to the liability of employers for injuries to employees; petition (with accompanying bills, House, Nos. 765 and 766) of P. J. McCusker for legislation to permit juries to determine the degree of negligence in actions of tort and relative to verdicts; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 768) of Philip A. Kiely for legislation to provide for compensating workmen who are accidentally injured in the course of their employment; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 769) of Philip A. Kiely for legislation relative to the liability of employers in cases of contributory negligence; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 773) of F. W. Mansfield for legislation to provide for safeguarding the interests of injured employees; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 774) of Frederick W. Mansfield and another for further legislation relative to the liability of employers; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 775) of Richard S. Teeling for legislation relative to the amount of damages which may be awarded and recovered under the law relative to the liability of employers; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 925) of William Taylor for further legislation relative to the liability of employers; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 936) of Edward H. O'Brien for legislation to limit and define the powers of courts in equity relative to trade disputes between employers and employees and to regulate proceedings upon contempts therein; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 941) of William J. Lyons for legislation relative to penalties to be paid by corporations for loss of life or injuries incurred by passengers, employees or other persons; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 942) of Frank K. Foster for legislation to limit and define the powers of courts of equity relative to trade disputes between employers and employees and to regulate proceedings upon contempt therein; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 1032) of William N. Osgood to limit the powers of courts of equity in trade disputes, — and such kindred subjects of legislation, if any, as may hereafter be referred to it by concurrent vote of the two branches. Said committee shall have authority, subject to the approval of the Governor and Council, to employ such assistance as it may consider necessary, and its authorized expenses, as far as approved by the Governor and Council, together with such compensation to the members as shall be determined by the Governor and Council, shall be paid from time to time from the treasury of the Commonwealth. It shall be furnished by the Sergeant-at-Arms with a room in the State House or elsewhere, and shall be provided with stationery and postage. It shall report to the next General Court on or before the second Wednesday of January next, and shall accompany its report with such recommendations of legislation as it may determine to be expedient.