PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

“New Minimum Wage Bill Introduced in Congress”

Both H.R. 10948, introduced by John Dent (D-Pa.) and S. 2070, submitted by Senator Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) will be considered by the Committees on Education and Labor in the House and Labor and Public Welfare in the Senate. While Congressional action may not be rapid it would be well to review the important points of this proposed law. They are:

1. Immediate increases to $2.00 an hour for all employees currently receiving $1.60 an hour.
2. An increase to $2.00 an hour in 1972 for all employees reaching the $1.60 level in 1971.
3. Repeal of the provisions in the present law which permits tips to be applied to 50% of the minimum wage.
4. Repeal of all special exemptions to both the minimum wage and the overtime provisions presently applying to clubs, restaurants, and hotels.
5. Removal of the gross volume and interstate commerce tests. The new definition would be “is engaged in retail or service business, including any activity relating thereto,” and “engaged in commerce or the production of goods for commerce or is employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce or the production of goods for commerce.” This would bring every social club in the country under the law without regard to size.

This new proposal is regarded as most important. It is as serious as the amendments passed in 1966, and may have an even broader impact on our industry.

We all realize that our valued employees must receive a fair wage. In order to retain them, I am certain managers reward them financially. But we are in an industry that could provide a good training ground for youngsters who would like to work at menial jobs, for less than the minimum wage. Due to age restrictions and existing minimum’s, we must send our valued employees on the menial tasks.

We have no voice in the government process of continuing rules and regulations, so we tend to think of mechanizing the golf course, enabling our small crew to cover the job. But aren’t we avoiding the issue? The boy we could not hire because he was too young to operate a mower (legally) may go door to door mowing lawns, without supervision, instructions, demonstrations or proper equipment.

Bob Milligan

OTHER NEWSLETTERS

This month we are reprinting several articles or items we feel might be of interest that are from other newsletters and publications. Copies of several other chapter newsletters are on file each month and comparison is both worthwhile as well as interesting.

The first item of interest comes from an outside source, however, the May issue of the Ladies Home Journal. The items states “keep old golf balls away from children who might try to find out what makes them bounce by taking them apart. What is inside? Sulphuric acid, barium salts, zinc sulfide, silicon, gelatin, corn syrup — under incredibly high pressure (up to 2500 pounds per square inch). If cut open, some golf balls can explode; a group of Philadelphia ophthalmologists have already treated eight children with serious injuries resulting from such explosions.” Makes you wonder about all the times you have cut up balls yourself to see what’s inside, doesn’t it?

And from Our Collaborator, the newsletter from the Northeastern Chapter, a prose poem called “A Friend”.

A friend is someone who likes you. Some one with whom you can really be yourself one who appreciates the good in you overlooks the bad in you and brings out the best in you.
With a friend you can share