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HISTORICAL SURVEY OF
INTERNATIONAL ACTION
AFFECTING LABOR



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PREFATORY NOTE.

This bulletin consists of an historical survey of international action affecting labor, and carries the story up to 1914. It includes a brief account of the international political labor movement as seen in the early International and its later organization as the International Socialist Bureau; it describes briefly the international trade-union movement, and the international organizations of so-called "social reformers" interested in labor problems, considering particularly the International Association for Labor Legislation; and finally it recounts the efforts of governmental conferences to arrive at agreements as respects the control of labor conditions within their respective jurisdictions. Analysis is made of the treaties and conventions entered into by the various Governments.

The bulletin is based partly on a manuscript furnished by Mr. Boutelle Ellsworth Low, New York City, and partly on material prepared in this Bureau. Mr. Low's manuscript was extensively revised by the Bureau. The parts of Mr. Low's manuscript used consist of portions of Chapters I and V, the whole of Chapters II, VI, VII, and VIII, and the appendixes. Chapters III and IV and the larger part of Chapters I and V were prepared by Mr. Leifur Magnússon, of the staff of the Bureau.