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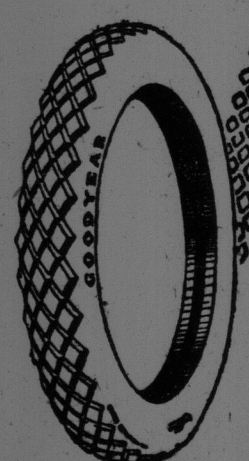
## THE CAUSE OF INFLUENZA SAID TO BE UNKNOWN

Remains an Unsolved Problem, Says American Medical Association Journal—Argues Against Bacillus.

Commenting editorially on a review of medical knowledge concerning the cause of influenza, written by Dr. Hans Zinsner, visiting bacteriologist to Presbyterian Hospital, New York, The Journal of the American Medical Association asserts that "the cause of the disease still remains an unsolved problem." Dr. Zinsner in his review devotes special attention to the relation of the influenza bacillus to the disease the name of which it bears, and, in fact, apparently inclines to the theory that this germ is actually the cause of the malady.

"Zinsner defines influenza as a mild fever of a few days," says the writer, "with sudden onset, characteristic pains in the head, back and limbs, and great prostration. Slight sore throat, mild

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as early as when infection sets in, the hope of solution of this etiologic problem lies in the study of adolescent epidemics rather than of epidemics already in full swing."

### AGAINST CHILD LABOR IN THE UNITED STATES (New York Tribune.)

The Congress of the United States, not much given to making Christmas presents, has the opportunity this year of doing something for the children of America worth many presents. That is to approve the child labor amendment to the Federal Constitution, thereby submitting it to the several states for ratification.

Americans, as a people, are so far won to the children's cause that they do not realize how much remains to be done and how urgent is the need of this grant of power to the national government. For instance:

In Georgia, twelve-year-old dependent children may still be worked ten hours a day, sixty hours a week, in woolen and cotton mills, and from sunrise to sunset in other factories. Children of fourteen and one-half years



all below the moderate standard set by the last Federal child labor act, that of 1918. This law prohibited the employment of children under fourteen years in mills, factories, canneries, of those under sixteen years in mines and quarries. It prohibited night work and provided an eight-hour day for children under sixteen years in mills, factories and canneries. The aim of the statute was simply to follow sound, average practice.

The need of the constitutional amendment comes from the fact that this Federal law was, in May last, declared unconstitutional. A preceding Federal act, written upon a different theory, had previously been declared unconstitutional. Thus, the hands of Congress were effectively tied and the need arose to grant to Congress a broad authority touching the protection of children. A joint resolution proposing such an amendment was introduced in the Senate and is now in committee. The amendment reads as follows:

"The Congress shall have power to limit or prohibit the labor of persons under eighteen years of age, and power is also reserved to the several states to limit or prohibit such labor in any way which does not lessen any limitation of

A cold day calls for Hot Bovril

such labor or the extent of any prohibition thereof by Congress. The power vested in the Congress by this article shall be additional to and not limitation on the powers elsewhere vested in the Congress by the Constitution with respect to such labor."

Much care has been given to the drafting of this amendment. Its language is now before the best legal minds of Congress. Amending the Constitution is never a light task, but the sentiment of the country is overwhelmingly in favor of such a step. Both parties have advocated it. The President is known to be a staunch friend of its policy.

Even in a short session, cannot room be found to consider this resolution, perfect its language, if necessary, and send the amendment on its course? Many months must elapse before the necessary states can ratify it. Thereafter Congress will have to frame an act and pass it.

Surely, there is urgent occasion for enactment forthwith. The question could not arise at a better season of the year, and seldom does a Congress have the chance to do a better deed.

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