

## CHILD LABOR BILL ATTACKED.

John D. Lindsay, on Behalf of Society,  
Objects to Proposed Law to Affect  
Children of the Streets.

*Special to The New York Times.*

ALBANY, March 9.—Assemblyman Bostwick received to-day from John D. Lindsay of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children a strong protest against the passage of the Child Labor bill upon which a hearing was given before the Senate Judiciary Committee last Wednesday. This bill, which was first introduced by Mr. Agnew in the Assembly, provides for the licensing of newsboys and newsgirls, limits the hours in which they shall be allowed to be on the streets engaged in their occupations, and makes attendance at school a requisite for securing a permit.

"The evils of vicious and depraved association and the tendency to moral degeneracy to which street children are subjected are certainly no greater in the case of newsboys than in that of those unfortunateurchins who have no occupation to engage even a part of their time," says Mr. Lindsay. "There is nothing wrong or injurious in the mere selling of newspapers, and the average newsboy, who does not make the selling of newspapers the pretext for begging, is not as likely to get into trouble as the boy who has no occupation.

"The bill requires the issuance of licenses to girls between ten and fourteen years of age, as well as to boys, to peddle, black boots, or sell newspapers in the streets. Girls between fourteen and sixteen are not referred to at all, so that they may act as peddlers, bootblacks, or newsgirls without any license.

"Nothing could be more unfortunate to the child-saving cause than the enactment of a statutory permission of this character. The suggestion of allowing girls under sixteen years of age to sell newspapers in the streets is shocking when it is recollected that the grossest cases of immorality are traceable directly to the employment of young girls in street occupations.

"Girls are to be allowed to peddle in the streets until 9 o'clock at night. Licenses must be issued on application. No discretion is vested in the school authorities.

"No orphan child for whom no guardian has been appointed or who has no custodian, and no child who has been deserted by its parents or guardian, can obtain a permit under the bill. This class of unfortunate children, who have greater need for employment than any other class, is absolutely denied the privilege of the law."

