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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
Washington

TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FOR HANDICAPPED
EMPLOYEES IN "SHELTERED WORKSHOPS"

A temporary certificate of exemption was signed today by Administrator Elmer F. Andrews, Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, covering handicapped workers in nonprofit charitable institutions of the type generally characterized as "Sheltered Workshops."

This temporary ruling is designed to avoid any disruption of the work of rehabilitation being carried on by such charitable groups where the general temporary exemption granted for handicapped workers calling for the payment of at least 75 percent of the 25-cent-an-hour minimum would not be practicable. Payment to the handicapped workers involved will be made on the basis of earning capacity.

This method of meeting the problem temporarily was worked out at a series of conferences attended by leaders in the field of rehabilitation work among the handicapped, at which Merle D. Vincent, Chief of the Hearings and Exemptions Section of the Wage and Hour Division, represented Mr. Andrews.

Among those attending the conferences were Col. John N. Smith, Director of the Institute for the Crippled and Disabled of New York City, and Monsignor John O'Grady, Secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, both members of the National Sheltered Workshop Committee, Charles Reynolds of the Division's legal staff, Miss A. Louise Murphy of the Department's Division of Labor Standards, and Linton Collins, formerly Deputy Administrator in charge of "Sheltered Workshops" under the NRA.

Under the temporary certificate signed by Mr. Andrews today it is provided that "in no event shall the minimum wage paid any such handicapped individual during this period of temporary exemption be less than that proportion of the minimum wage applicable under Section 6 which the handicapped individual's earning capacity bears to the earning capacity of a non-handicapped worker."

The temporary certificate will remain in force until February 1, 1939, unless further determination is made by the Administrator before that date. It was issued as an amendment to Regulations, Part 524, applicable to the employment of handicapped persons.