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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Wage and Hour Division
Washington, D.C.

R. J. Watkins Named Assistant Administrator of Wage Hour Division

Ralph J. Watkins, Director of the Bureau of Business Research of the University of Pittsburgh, was named today as Assistant Administrator in charge of the Wage and Hour Standards Branch of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

Mr. Watkins will supervise the work of assisting Industry Committees which are appointed to raise minimum wage rates industry by industry toward the 40 cent an hour goal set in the Fair Labor Standards Act. His appointment completes the staff of immediate administrative aides to Administrator Elmer F. Andrews.

A native of San Marcos, Texas, Mr. Watkins is 41 years old and now lives in Pittsburgh. He is currently engaged in several tasks in which his specialized knowledge has been sought in the field of statistical research. He is serving on the Advisory Committee on Metropolitan Areas of the Census Bureau; the committee on Chemical Economics of the National Research Council, and he was one of the United States delegates to the Technical Tripartite meeting on the Coal Mining Industry of the International Labor Office at Geneva this year.

After his graduation from the University of Texas with the degrees of B. B. A. and A.B. in 1922, Mr. Watkins continued his studies at Columbia University where he obtained his master's degree in 1924 and his Ph.D. in 1927. He taught business and statistical research at the University of Texas and later at Ohio State University, before joining the National Bureau of

Economic Research in 1929. He has been professor of statistics and director of the Bureau of Business Research at Pittsburgh since 1930.

Mr. Watkins became a member of the technical advisory committee on labor statistics to the Secretary of Labor and Industry of Pennsylvania in 1933 and since then has been engaged continuously in research work for various state and federal bodies.

Mr. Watkins was a First Sergeant in the Army from 1917 to 1919. He is a member of the American Economic Association and of the Royal Economic Society and is review editor of the Journal of the American Statistical Association.