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

WAGE AND HOUR ADMINISTRATOR ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF WOOL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

Elmer F. Andrews, Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, today announced the appointment of Industry Committee No. 1A to recommend a minimum wage schedule for the wool textile industry, an industry employing more than 150,000 wage earners.

The Committee:

Public Members

Donald M. Nelson, Chicago, Ill., Chairman George W. Taylor, Philadelphia, Pa. Vice Chairman E. N. Allen, Hartford, Conn.

Z. Clark Dickinson, Ann Arbor, Mich. Charles H. Eames, Lowell, Mass.

Employee Members

Francis P. Fenton, Boston, Mass. Louis Guilmet, Lawrence, Mass. Sidney Hillman, New York, N. Y. Emil Rieve, New York, N. Y. Horace Riviere, Boston, Mass.

Employer Members

Thurmond Chatham, Winston Salem, N. C. Willard H. Cummings, Newport, Maine John H. Helford, Bridgeport, Pa. Moses Pendleton, New York, N. Y. Harold Walter, Uxbridge, Mass.

This Committee, the Administrator pointed out, is the third created under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Previously appointed Committees are Industry Committee No. 1 (for cotton, silk, rayon and certain other textiles), and Industry Committee No. 2 (apparel). The function of these industry committees, the Administrator explained, is to review the economy of the industry and to make recommendations for industry-wide minimum wage orders for the purpose (as outlined in the Act) of "reaching, as rapidly as is economically feasible without substantially curtailing employment, the objective of a universal minimum wage of 40 cents an hour..."

The **Co**mmittee is authorized to recommend a minimum wage of not less than 25 cents an hour (the minimum already in effect under the Act), nor more than 40 cents an hour.

The committee for the wool industry has the same chairman, Donald M. Nelson of Chicago, as the committee for the textile industry (Industry Committee No. 1). The vice chairman of the Wool Industry Committee, George W. Taylor, of Philadelphia. is also a public member of the Textile Industry Committee.

This interlocking of the Textile Committee and the Wool Committee, the Administrator said, was in accordance with a recommendation from the Textile Committee after a conference with leaders of the wool industry.

It was considered advisable because of the fact that many textiles are mixtures of wool and cotton, wool and silk or wool and synthetic fibres. As presently defined the textile committee has jurisdiction over manufacture of textiles containing any percentage of cotton, silk or synthetic fibre, and the wool committee has jurisdiction over all textiles with any percentage of wool or other animal fibre except silk.

This overlapping of jurisdiction between the two committees, the Administrator said, will be dealt with by appointment of subcommittees from each committee These subcommittees will cooperate in evolving a mutually satisfactory recommendation as to demarcation of industry committee jurisdiction over mixed textiles.

As the manufacture of these mixed goods within the jurisdiction of either committee would seem to require similar and simultaneous treatment in the matter of wage orders to avoid conferring competitive advantage, the Administrator said, the minimum wage recommendations of both industry committees will be considered concurrently.

The minimum wage determination of Industry Committee No. 1A will be made for employees engaged in:

 (a) The manufacturing or processing of all yarns (other than carpet yarns) spun from wool or animal fibre other than silk; and all processes preparatory thereto.

-2-

- (b) The manufacturing, dyeing or other finishing of fabrics and blankets (other than carpets, rugs and pile fabrics) woven from yarns spun of wool or animal fibre other than silk.
- (c) The manufacturing, dyeing, or other finishing of fulled suitings, coatings, topcoatings, and overcoatings knit from yarns spun of wool or animal fibre other than silk.
- (d) The picking of wool rags and clips, and the garnetting of wool fibre from rags, clips, or mill waste; and other processes related thereto.
- (e) The manufacturing of batting, wadding or filling of wool or animal fibre other than silk.
- (f) The manufacturing, dyeing or other finishing of the products enumerated above from all mixtures of fibres in which any wool or animal fibre other than silk has been incorporated.

When the Committee has finished its investigation, it will file a report of its recommendations with the Administrator. The Administrator will then give notice to interested persons and allow them to be heard. If he finds that the recommendations are made in accordance with the law, are supported by the evidence received at the hearing and will carry out the purposes of the law, taking into account all factors required to be considered by the Committee, he will approve the recommendation and make it effective by a minimum wage order.

If, taking into account the same factors, he disapproves the recommendation, he may refer the question back to the same Committee for another recommendation or may appoint a new Committee. The Administrator, himself, cannot change a recommendation.