

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Wage and Hour Division
Washington

POSTPONEMENT OF APPAREL LEARNER HEARING

Acting Administrator Paul Sifton announced today that he was postponing until September 12 the hearing to review the findings of the presiding officer on applications for permission to employ learners in the apparel industry. The National Association of Shirt and Pajama Manufacturers and the National Association of House Dress Manufacturers had requested the postponement.

The Apparel Industry Committee has recommended to the Administrator that minimum wages in that industry be set at from $32\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ an hour to 40¢ an hour, depending upon the kind of apparel being worked on. If the Administrator after a hearing approves these rates they will become the applicable minimum wages in the various branches of the apparel industry. In addition, the minimum wage in this industry, as in others subject to the Act, becomes 30¢ on October 24, 1939. At the hearing on September 12, evidence will be taken and argument heard on the effect of these rates upon the necessity for the allowance of learner rates in the apparel industry. Consideration will be given to the question whether these higher rates will result in the curtailment of opportunities for employment unless further provision is made for the employment of learners at less than the applicable minimum.

Mr. Sifton stated that, pending the decision on the September 12 hearing, the present learner regulations and the findings originally made by Merle D. Vincent, Chief of the Hearings and Exemptions Section, for the apparel industry will continue in effect. These findings were based on the present 25¢ minimum wage, and individual applications are now being acted on in accordance with Mr. Vincent's determination.

-----#####-----