

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

LABOR DAY STATEMENT  
of  
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WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In the year that has elapsed since last Labor Day the American people through their Government have begun the work of putting a floor under wages and a ceiling over hours. At least 300,000 of the lowest paid workers in industry have received some increase in pay, and more than a million have benefited either by shorter hours or by time-and-a-half pay for overtime work. Those who predicted disaster because of the Fair Labor Standards Act have been happily disappointed. All indices show employment, payrolls and profits for this year far ahead of last year. Obviously, the new wage and hour regulations have not harmed business. On October 24, when the minimum wage for covered workers rises to 30 cents an hour and the maximum workweek falls to 42 hours, the benefits of the Act will be extended to many additional thousands. I congratulate not merely the workers upon these achievements, but also all the people -- consumers, business men and workers -- who alike have shared in them; and I pledge myself anew to the task not merely of holding the gains so far made, but, with their help, of extending them.

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