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

HEARING ON MILLINERY RECOMMENDATION OCTOBER 2ND

A public hearing on the 40-cents-an-hour minimum wage recommendation of the millinery industry committee (Industry Committee No. 5) under the Fair Labor Standards Act will be held beginning 10 A.M., October 2, at 939 D Street N.W., Washington, Administrator Elmer F. Andrews of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, announced today. (Federal Register, September 15, 1939) The hearing will be held before Paul Sifton, Deputy Administrator of the Division, who will determine whether the recommendation should be approved or disapproved under the terms of the Act. If approved, the Administrator will issue a wage order to carry out the recommendation.

The committee's report, containing the recommendation for the highest minimum wage which can be established under the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, has been signed by fourteen of the fifteen members of the committee, equally representative of the employers, employees and the public, and filed with the Administrator.

The 40-cents-an-hour minimum for the industry will increase the hourly wage rates of an estimated 3,500 workers during an average month, or of about 5,000 workers during peak periods, the report stated. This minimum will increase the wage bill of the entire industry by 1.51%, the report said. This industry as defined in the order creating the committee normally employs an average of 21,600 wage earners. The industry is defined as "the manufacture of all headwear except knitted headwear for ladies, misses, girls and infants, from any material but not including the manufacture of felt hat bodies of fur or wool."

A minority report was filed with the Administrator by L. D. Thompson of Atlanta, Ga., an employer member of the committee and the sole member dissenting. The minority report asked that there be no wage increase for the millinery industry above that set for all industries in interstate commerce by the Act, that is 30 cents an hour after October 24.

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