

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

HEARING ON LEARNERS IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY SET FOR OCTOBER 12

Reopening of a public hearing on applications for the employment of learners in the textile industry, including wool textiles, will be held at 10:00 A.M., October 12, at 939 D Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., it was announced today by Administrator Elmer F. Andrews of the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor.

The hearing is on the applications from the Cotton-Textile Institute and others, including rayon and silk groups, for permission to employ learners at rates less than the 32-1/2 cent minimum wage rate prescribed in the Textile Wage Order which goes into effect October 24.

The Cotton-Textile Institute and others made application regarding learners in 1938, but withdrew their applications after public hearings in November, without prejudice to renewal of the application at a later date when a higher minimum than the 25 cent one then prevailing might be set after industry committee recommendation by wage order.

Merle D. Vincent, Chief of the Hearings and Exemptions Section, Wage and Hour Division, who will conduct the hearing, will entertain evidence concerning the necessity of learners' certificates to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment in the industry. The original definition of the industry on which the November 1938 hearing was held included wool. Retaining this inclusion the definition of the industry has been extended to cover all operations which are subject to the Textile Wage Order of October 24, 1939. Opportunity will be afforded to any interested persons to submit evidence provided they notify Mr. Vincent before noon, October 11, 1939, of intention to appear, specifying the branch or branches of the textile industry to which their testimony will be directed, and the approximate length of their presentation.