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

SHOE LEARNERS HEARING NOVEMBER 20 BEFORE MERLE D. VINCENT

Applications for permission to employ learners in the shoe manufacturing and allied industries at wage rates less than the minimum under the Fair Labor Standards Act will be the subject of a hearing at 10:00 A. M. on Monday, November 20 in Room 214, Hutchins Building, 939 D Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., it was announced today by the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

The statutory minimum wage for those engaged in interstate commerce or in work necessary to the production of goods for commerce is 30 cents an hour, and this now applies in the shoe industry. The industry committee for the shoe industry has decided to recommend a 35-cents-an-hour minimum in this field, but the formal recommendation has not yet been received by the Administrator, who must either approve or reject it after a separate hearing. "Shoe manufacturing and allied industries" is defined in the notice of the learner hearing (Federal Register, November 4, 1939) in the same terms as those used in setting up the industry committee.

The hearing on November 20 is on the applications filed by the Florsheim Shoe Company, Selby Shoe Company, G. R. Kinney Company, Inc., Medwed Footwear Company, Blum Shoe Manufacturing Company, and other parties.

Merle D. Vincent, Chief of the Hearings Branch of the Wage and Hour Division who has been designated to preside, is to determine the need, if any, for learners in the industry and the wage, number, proportion, and length of learning period for which special certificates should be issued, for whatever occupations, if any, are found to require a learning period.

Those desiring to be heard must so advise Mr. Vincent prior to noon, Saturday, November 18, giving information regarding the company or organization which they represent, the branch of the industry with which their testimony will deal and the approximate length of time which they will require for their testimony.