

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT
on
REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
of
INDUSTRY COMMITTEE NUMBER 6
for the
ESTABLISHMENT OF MINIMUM WAGE RATES
in the
SHOE MANUFACTURING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES

By
R. W. Brown, Public Member
of the Committee

Note:

This document should be considered in connection with the "REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE NUMBER 6 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MINIMUM WAGE RATES IN THE SHOE MANUFACTURING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES" (Wage and Hour Division, R-511, November 22, 1939) and "SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS ON REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE NUMBER 6....." (Wage and Hour Division, R-511 A, November 30, 1939)

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JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

December 1, 1939

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Chairman
Industry Committee No. 6
Wage and Hour Division
United States Department of Labor
Washington, D. C.

My dear Father Haas:

I have been delayed because of absence from the office in replying to your letter of November 10, enclosing a copy of the report prepared by the Subcommittee for Industry Committee No. 6.

In accordance with your request, I am returning the last two pages of the report, to which you will find my signature attached. I cannot say that I entirely agree with the report, but to take exceptions would simply reopen some of the questions that were argued by the Committee and on which there are still differences of opinion.

I think we are all in sympathy with the purpose of the Wage-Hour Law. I have always felt, and still feel, that a gradual approach to a goal is less disturbing, and therefore tends to greater stability, than a sudden or arbitrary approach. To me, the language of the Act indicates that Congress had that same thought in mind.

There are one or two exceptions that might be taken to the conclusions set out in the report. For example, I hesitate to say that "there is small likelihood that retail prices would be affected." I would substitute after the comma following the word "extent", "it is not thought that these increases should have a material effect on retail prices."

I hesitate also to say, in reference to the trend toward relocation in smaller communities, that the effect of the recommendation "will not be felt sufficiently to reverse this trend." I very strongly feel that compulsory uniform wage rates in the

2. Msgr. Haas, 12/1/39

United States will tend in the direction of centralization. Whether that will make for stability or whether the result will be an improvement in social and economic conditions in this country remains to be seen. We can only hope for improvement.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) R. W. Brown

R. W. Brown

RWB CM

Mr. Brown affixed his signature to the Report and Recommendation of the Committee in the following manner:

"Approved, as to recommendation

(Signed)

"R. W. Brown
"Member of Committee No. 6

"November , 1939

"Exceptions could be taken to the above report, but to do so would reopen questions that were argued in sessions of the Committee and on which there are still differences of opinion. The result of the Committee's deliberations is the above recommendation, to which I subscribe.

(Signed) "R. W. Brown"