

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

SHOE HEARING SCHEDULED THROUGH WEEK

A public hearing on the unanimous 35-cent-an-hour minimum wage recommendation of the Shoe Industry Committee under the Fair Labor Standards Act begins today before Major Robert N. Campbell, of the Public Contracts Board, as Trial Examiner for the Wage and Hour Division. The hearing is to be held at the Hotel Raleigh, Washington, D. C. and opens at 10 A. M.

Some 33 witnesses representing Government Agencies, trade associations, labor unions and individual shoe manufacturing firms have notified the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of their intention to appear and present testimony.

The 35-cent minimum wage was recommended by a committee of 27, equally representative of the public, the employees and the employers of the industry, and under the chairmanship of Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Dean of the School of Social Science, Catholic University of America. The recommendation is for the manufacture of all footwear from any material and for the manufacture of cut stock and findings. A wage study of this industry, largely a piece-work industry, made in the first part of this year indicated that some 60,000 wage earners of the 239,000 employed by the industry were earning less than the recommended minimum rate.

Today's sessions were to be devoted to the presentation of economic data by William P. Fallon and Frank Delgado, economists of the Wage and Hour Division; and by Dr. Jacob Perlman and Miss Faith Williams of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

John J. Mara, of Boston, President of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union (A.F. of L.) will be the first witness in tomorrow's sessions, at which proponents of the recommendation will testify. Others will be Daniel K. Collins, secretary-treasurer, and Michael F. Lynch and Walter V. Risley of the same union. Also

twelve employers or employer representatives. They are: C. A. Dempsey, Farmington Shoe Manufacturing Co., Dover, New Hampshire; I. P. Sawyer, National Shoe Co., Worcester, Mass.; David R. Hilliard, Haverhill Shoe Manufacturers Board of Trade, Haverhill, Mass.; Edward F. Casey, Freedlender Shoe Co., Haverhill, Mass.; Mark F. Cormier, Conrad Shoe Co., North Abington, Mass.; Irving S. Florsheim, The Florsheim Shoe Co., Chicago, Ill.; Frank L. Weyenberg, Wayenberg Shoe Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; Morgan Grossman, Unity-Grossman, Inc.; John P. Troxell, Shoe Manufacturers Board of New York, Inc., New York City; Louis Carlin, Knight Slipper Manufacturing Corporation, Brooklyn, New York; Maxwell Field, New England Shoe and Leather Association, Boston, Mass.; Arthur E. Whittemore, New England Shoe and Leather Association, Boston, Mass. The last four are scheduled to testify on Wednesday.

Powers Hapgood of Indianapolis, Indiana, Director of the United Shoe Workers of America (C.I.O.) will testify on Wednesday; also Frank McGrath, Henry A. Schwarzott and Leo Goodman of the same organization. On Thursday, representatives of the St. Louis Manufacturers' Association of St. Louis, Mo., and of the National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association of New York will testify in opposition to the recommendation. They are: Joseph M. Klamon and H. Q. Whiteside, both of the St. Louis Manufacturers' Association; John D. Lynn, Leslie O. Diener, Miss Ruth S. Freeman, Dr. Frederick S. Diebler, Frederick A. Miller, and J. J. O. Ball, all of the National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association.

On Friday two trade associations representatives and three manufacturers supporting the recommendation will be heard. They are: Arthur A. Mullins, National Association Wood Heel Manufacturers, Boston, Mass.; Horace B. Davis, economist, National Association Wood Heel Manufacturers, Boston, Mass.; Nathan Fein, Fein & Glass, Inc., Reading, Pa.; Wm. F. Herlihy, Lowell Counter Co., Lowell, Mass.; and J. F. McElwain, J. F. McElwain Co., Nashua, New Hampshire.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Major Campbell will submit the record to Harold D. Jacobs, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, for his decision.

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