

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

HAT AND MILLINERY LEARNER HEARING JANUARY 31

A hearing on applications for permission to employ learners in the hat and millinery industries at wages lower than the 30 cents an hour statutory minimum rate, or higher minimums set by wage orders, is to be held January 31 at 10:00 A.M., 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.

Merle D. Vincent, Director of the Hearings Branch of the Wage and Hour Division, will preside and hear testimony to determine whether a learner period for skilled occupations at sub-minimum rates is necessary in order to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment in the industry.

Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, the minimum wage for employees engaged in (interstate) commerce or in the production of goods for (interstate) commerce is 30 cents an hour; this will automatically become 40 cents an hour on October 24, 1945. Effective January 15, 1940, a wage order, based on the recommendations made by the Millinery Industry Committee and promulgated by the Administrator, establishes the minimum wage to be paid employees engaged in that industry at 40 cents an hour.

The Hat Industry Committee recommended a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour for that industry with the exception of the manufacture of straw and harvest hats for which the recommendation was 35 cents an hour in the continental United States and 30 cents in Puerto Rico. Should this rate be approved by the Administrator after a public hearing in which interested parties may appear in support or opposition, he will issue a wage order making it mandatory.

Opportunity to present evidence will be afforded any interested person filing a Notice of Intention to Appear with Mr. Vincent prior to January 30, 1940.

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