

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
Washington, D. C.

REVIEW OF TELEPHONE OPERATOR LEARNER ORDER GRANTED

A review of the determination that a learning period is necessary in order to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment of telephone operators in the Independent Branch of the Telephone Industry was granted today by the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor (Federal Register, June 15, 1940).

The United States Independent Telephone Association petitioned for a review of the findings and determination made by Dr. Gustav Peck, Assistant Director of the Hearings Branch, Wage and Hour Division.

In granting review of these findings and determination, the Wage and Hour Division announced that it would receive briefs from interested parties either in support of, or in opposition to the determination, provided that they are filed in triplicate with the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division before the close of business on July 1, 1940.

The Administrator has authorized Henry T. Hunt, Principal Hearings Examiner of the Wage and Hour Division, to review the action and to make final determination of the matter. Under the previous determination, exchanges with 500 or more stations in the Independent Branch of the Telephone Industry would be permitted to employ learners for a period of 320 hours (approximately 8 weeks) at 25 cents an hour instead of the present minimum wage of 30 cents an hour under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Operators in exchanges with less than 500 stations were exempted from the provisions of the Act by an amendment passed at the last session of Congress.

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