

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

MINNESOTA LABOR DEPARTMENT TO MAKE INSPECTIONS
FOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

Minnesota today became the third state to sign an agreement with the Wage and Hour Division and the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor providing for investigations and inspections as provided for in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The agreement was signed by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, and Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau. Similar contracts previously had been signed with the Labor Departments of North Carolina and Connecticut.

The agreement was in accord with provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act under which state agencies may be designated by the Wage and Hour Division to extend enforcement of the Act. In general, it followed regulations which have been approved by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins. Accompanying it is a Plan of Cooperation under which the Wage and Hour Division, the Children's Bureau and the Minnesota Industrial Commission's Division of Women and Children will cooperate in making inspections under the Federal Wage-Hour law.

Six new inspectors will be added to the Minnesota State Department, one of whom will be designated as assistant chief of the Division of Women and Children. Two stenographic clerks will also be added to take care of the clerical work provided for in the agreement.

The Minnesota Labor Department's Division of Women and Children now has five investigators who, in their routine or other inspections,

will investigate for violations of the Federal Wage-Hour law. The Division of Women and Children of the State Industrial Commission will be reimbursed by the Wage and Hour Division and the Children's Bureau for salaries and other expenses incurred in enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Headquarters of the investigation staff will be in the State Office Building, St. Paul, but inspectors may be assigned to duty in any part of the State, the agreement provides. Regional headquarters of the Wage and Hour Division are at 406 Pence Building, Minneapolis.

Any complaint of violation of either the state minimum wage law or the Federal Wage and Hour Act will be referred by the regional office of the Wage and Hour Division to the chief of the Division of Women and Children. All Federal complaints, from whatever source, will however be referred to the Wage and Hour regional office for analysis and review. The State Department also will submit to the regional office reports of investigations and inspections conducted.

Another provision of the agreement is that representatives of either the Wage and Hour Division or the Children's Bureau may conduct any investigations or inspections deemed necessary for the effective administration of the Wage and Hour law. Attorneys of the Wage and Hour Division and the Children's Bureau will be available for consultation with the staff of the State Department.

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