

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

PUERTO RICO LINENS AND APPAREL TIED UP AS "HOT GOODS"

A substantial volume of art linen goods and infants wearing apparel were tied up today under the "hot goods" clause of the Fair Labor Standards Act by Judge Robert A. Cooper, of the District Court of the United States for Puerto Rico in a temporary injunction directed against the Rose Needlework Company, of Santurce, Puerto Rico.

Advices of the court's action were received today in a Navy radiogram to the Wage and Hour Division from Philip F. Herring, regional attorney for Puerto Rico.

As a part of his order, Judge Cooper directed that the company might obtain release of any portion of the "hot goods" by paying restitution of illegally withheld wages to those employees who had been worked in production of the goods. The court directed that if the company desires to avail itself of this privilege, it must satisfy the court that the restitution had been paid and the Act fully complied with in regard to the goods named.

The company employs 30 to 70 employees in its plant, but receives goods produced by 2,000 to 3,000 homeworkers. Judge Cooper, in issuing the temporary injunction, said no evidence had been submitted showing that the homeworkers were employees of the company or anyone else. Attorneys of the Wage and Hour Division said this evidence would be supplied promptly in order to extend the injunction to cover goods produced by the homeworkers.

The Wage and Hour Division charged that the company has been in violation of the Act since it became effective October 24, 1938. No computation of unpaid back wages and overtime has been made.

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