

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

FLEMING CLARIFIES DENIAL OF PERMIT FOR LEARNERS IN CIGAR INDUSTRY

Further clarification of his denial of permission to employ learners in the cigar industry at wages lower than the minimum of 30 cents an hour was made today by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division.

On July 19, Colonel Fleming announced his affirmation of conclusions reached by Morle D. Vincent, Director of the Hearings Branch, following a review of Mr. Vincent's findings by Henry T. Hunt, Principal Hearings Examiner.

Mr. Vincent determined that an eight-weeks period for the machine-made branch and a six-months period for the hand-made branch of the cigar industry were necessary as a learning period. However, he found that due to a large number of unemployed cigar makers in both branches, no need exists at the present time for learners. Hence, he denied permission to employ them at subminimum wages.

Mr. Hunt, in his review, upheld Mr. Vincent's recommendation denying the desired permission, but held that since there is no necessity for learners, it was superfluous to determine learning periods and set aside those fixed by Mr. Vincent.

The effect of Mr. Hunt's decision on review is to leave learning periods undetermined but to uphold Mr. Vincent's denial of permission to employ learners at subminimum wages.

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