

INACTIVE

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

DRUG, MEDICINE, AND TOILET PREPARATIONS INDUSTRY COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Appointment of a committee of eighteen members to recommend minimum wages for the drug, medicine, and toilet preparations industry was announced today by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor (Federal Register, December 20, 1940). The committee will meet in Washington on January 8. Sumner H. Slichter, Professor of Economics, Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, will be Chairman.

The "drug, medicine, and toilet preparations industry," for which the committee will recommend minimum wages up to 40 cents an hour, is defined as

"The manufacture or packaging of any one or more of the following products:

- "(1) Drugs or medicinal preparations (other than food) intended for internal or external use in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease in, or to affect the structure or any function of, the body of man or other animals, or
- "(2) Dentrifices, cosmetics, perfume, or other preparations, designed or intended for external application to the person for the purpose of cleansing, improving the appearance of, or refreshing the person.
- "(3) Provided that this definition shall not include the manufacture or packaging of shaving cream, shampoo, essential (volatile) oils, glycerine, and soap, or the milling or packaging without further processing of crude botanical drugs."

All occupations in the industry, necessary to the production of the specified articles, including clerical, maintenance, shipping and selling occupations, are covered. However, the definition does not include employees of a manufacturer who are engaged exclusively in marketing and distributing products of the industry

which have been purchased for resale; or in distribution establishments whose sales are mainly of articles purchased for resale, any employees other than those who are engaged directly in the manufacturing or the packaging in consumer packages of products covered by the definition of the industry.

The industry is carried on in nearly every state in the union but principally in the northeastern and midwestern states. Approximately 44,000 workers are employed in about 1,500 establishments, according to the 1937 Census of Manufacturers. It is estimated that some 9,000 of these employees are receiving less than 40 cents an hour, the highest rate the Committee can recommend as a minimum.

The Committee is equally representative of the public, the employers and the employees. The public members, in addition to the Chairman, are Charles O. Gregory, Professor in the Law School, University of Chicago, Chicago; Jonathan Daniels, Editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, Raleigh, North Carolina; Joseph A. McClain, Jr., Dean of the School of Law, Washington University, St. Louis Mo.; Stuart F. Heinritz, Editor of Purchasing, New York City; and Egbert Harold van Delden, Assistant Professor, School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance, New York University, New York City.

Employer members are James M. Buck, Jr., Plough, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.; M. C. Eaton, The Norwich Pharmacal Co., Norwich, New York; Alvin G. Brush, American Home Products Corp., New York City; Paul Vallee, Roger & Callet, New York City; Edward Beardsley, Miles Laboratories, Inc., Elkhart, Indiana; and George R. Flint, Flint, Eaton & Co., Decatur, Illinois.

The employee members are Herman Edelsberg, Washington, D. C., Irving Weiland, Brooklyn, New York, and Louis Weiner, Chicago, all of the United Mine Workers of America, C.I.O.; and Leonard Johnston, Kansas City, Mo., Boris Shishkin, Washington, D.C., and H. A. Bradley, Akron, Ohio, all of the American Federation of Labor.

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