

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

MINIMUM WAGE FOR PAPER PRODUCTS SUPPORTED AND OPPOSED AT WAGE-HOUR
HEARING

Sixteen witnesses appeared in support of the minimum wage recommendations of 36, 38 and 40 cents an hour for the Converted Paper Products Industry at the public hearing conducted by the Wage and Hour Division, on January 29, 30 and 31 in Washington. Seven witnesses appeared in opposition to the minimum wage recommendations.

Highlights of the testimony at the public hearing centered around the definition of the Converted Paper Products industry and classifications within the industry. Urging that the definition be interpreted to include calendars, and supporting the recommendations of the Committee, John B. Haggerty, President of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders was joined by an employer representative, Thomas V. Sullivan, attorney for Brown and Bigelow, Chicago, Illinois, one of the largest calendar manufacturing concerns in the country.

Another part of the definition of the industry that came in for attention was the inclusion of paper toy products. These products are included in the industry as defined. Sam Sandberg, Vice-President of the United Paper Novelty and Toy Workers International Union, Clinton, Massachusetts, defended the inclusion of paper toy products within the definition of the industry, in opposition to James L. Fri, Managing Director of the Toy Manufacturers of the U.S.A., Inc., New York, who argued against such inclusion.

Testimony regarding classifications within the industry was primarily centered around folding paper boxes and set-up boxes. William R. Kreeger, Secretary and W. C. Moore representing the National Paper Box Manufacturers Association,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania supported the recommendations for a 36-cent minimum for the set-up boxes, while A. E. Murphy representing the Folding Paper Box Association of America, Chicago, Illinois, although appearing in opposition to the committee's recommendation, testified in support of a 40-cent minimum for both folding paper boxes and set-up boxes.

Henry T. Hunt, Principal Hearings Examiner for the Division, opened the hearing and presided. Kenneth Maiklejdm representing the Solicitor's Office offered a group of exhibits relating to the deliberations and action of the Converted Paper Products Industry Committee. Witnesses for the Administrator, Colonel Philip B. Fleming, included: H. E. Riley, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Joseph Shaw, Senior Industry Committee Advisor, Wage and Hour Division; Theodore Reedy, Economist, Research and Statistics Branch, Wage and Hour Division; and Alice Hanson, Assistant Chief, Cost of Living Section, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Supporting the minimum wage recommendations of the committee, the following witnesses appeared: Harry M. Levy, Pak-It-Rite Paper Box Company, Inc., Brooklyn, New York; J. H. Patterson, General Manager, F. N. Burt Company, Inc., Buffalo, New York; George E. Haw, Secretary, The Randolph Paper Box Co., Richmond, Virginia; Fred R. ZurSchmiede, President, The Finger Paper Box Co., Inc., Louisville, Kentucky; A. N. Weinberg, Paper Box Makers Union, Local 299, International Brotherhood of Pulp Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, New York; Samuel E. Hill, Research Assistant to the American Federation of Labor, Wash., D. C.; Walter P. Miller, Jr., President, Walter P. Miller Company, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Paul S. Hanway, Executive Secretary, National Fibre Gas and Tube Association, New York; Charles Bridgewater, President, United Bag Workers & Allied Trades Union, Local No. 35, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Murray Maxwell, Business Agent, Sample Book & Allied Workers Local 57, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Frank Grasso, CIO.

Opposition to the committee's recommendations was expressed in testimony of the following witnesses: Richard S. Wechsler, Esquire, Lily-Tulip Cup Corp., New York; Norvin H. Rieser, President, The Rieser Company, Inc., New York; and G. Edgar Mooney, Mooney and Mooney, Inc., Newark, N. J. A brief was submitted in opposition by a representative of the Paper, Stationery and Tablet Manufacturers Association.

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