

For Release Tuesday,
March 11, 1941

R-1307

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

Inactive

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SPECIAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE FOR PUERTO RICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING EVIDENCE TO BE CONSIDERED IN RECOMMENDING MINIMUM WAGE RATES FOR EMPLOYEES IN PUERTO RICO ENGAGED IN THE LEAF TOBACCO INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, having under consideration the question whether the Regulations defining the term "area of production" as used in Section 13(a)(10) should be modified by striking therefrom subsection (c) dealing with Puerto Rican leaf tobacco, has determined to hold a public hearing in Puerto Rico for the purpose of adducing evidence thereon; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated February 19, 1941, the Administrator has directed the Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico to investigate conditions in the leaf tobacco industry in Puerto Rico with a view to recommending the highest minimum wage rates for all employees in such industry within the jurisdiction of said Committee and including such employees as would be within the jurisdiction of said Committee should the Regulations defining the term "area of production" as used in Section 13(a)(10) be revised by striking therefrom subsection (c).

NOW, THEREFORE, in conformity with the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 52 Stat. 1060, as amended by Section 3(c), (d), (e), and (f) Public Resolution No. 88, 76th Congress, Chapter 432--3rd Session, approved June 26, 1940, and with Section 511.11 of Part 511 of the Rules and Regulations issued pursuant thereto, notice is hereby given to all interested persons that a public hearing will be held beginning April 22, 1941, at 10 A. M. in Room 3229, U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of receiving evidence to be considered by the Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico in determining the highest minimum wage rates for employees in Puerto Rico in the leaf tobacco industry, which, having due regard to economic and competitive conditions, will not substantially curtail employment and will not give any industry in Puerto Rico a competitive advantage over any industry in the United States outside of Puerto Rico.

The Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico was created by Administrative Order No. 58. It is charged, in accordance with the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended and Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, with the duty of investigating conditions in the industries of Puerto Rico and of recommending to the Administrator minimum wage rates which may be lower than 30 cents but not higher than 40 cents per hour for all employees in Puerto Rico who within the meaning of said Act are "engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce," excepting employees exempted by the provisions of Section 13 (a) and employees coming under the provisions of Section 14. Before any minimum wage rates recommended by the Committee are made effective and before any change is made in the Regulations defining the term "area of production" a public hearing will be held pursuant to Section 8 of the Act in Puerto Rico at which all interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard.

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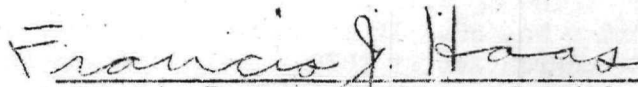
Any person who, in the opinion of the Committee or its duly authorized subcommittee, has a substantial interest in the proceeding and is prepared to present material pertinent to the question under consideration, may appear on his own behalf or on behalf of any other person. Persons wishing to appear are requested to file at the office of Burton E. Oppenheim, Director of the Industry Committee Branch of the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C., not later than April 10, 1941, a notice of Intention to Appear containing the following information:

1. The name and address of the person appearing.
2. If he is appearing in a representative capacity, the name and address of the person or persons whom, or organization which, he is representing.
3. A brief summary of the material intended to be presented.
4. The approximate length of time which his presentation will consume.

All testimony will be taken under oath and subject to reasonable cross-examination by any interested person present. Testimony so received will be offered as evidence at the public hearing to be held by the Administrator on such minimum wage recommendations as the Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico may make.

Written statements of persons who cannot appear personally will be considered by the Committee provided that twenty copies thereof are received not later than April 10, 1941, at the office of the Industry Committee Branch of the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C. Any person appearing at the hearing who offers written material must submit twenty copies thereof.

Signed at Washington, D. C., this 7th day of March 1941.


Francis J. Haas, Chairman, Special
Industry Committee for Puerto Rico

Published in Federal Register, March 11, 1941.

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