

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

Inactive

RUBBER COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 40 CENT MINIMUM WAGE

A 40 cent minimum wage for the rubber industry was recommended in a report filed with the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division today by the Rubber Products Manufacturing Industry Committee, Arthur T. Martin, Ohio State University Law School Dean, Chairman. The recommendation was voted unanimously by the committee at the closing session of its meeting in the Hotel Washington.

The recommendation, if approved by General Philip B. Fleming, the Administrator, after a public hearing, will raise the hourly wage rates of 9,900 workers. The industry employs approximately 132,000.

In its report the committee requested "the Administrator to give sympathetic consideration to any application received from the industry for permission to employ learners at a reasonable rate lower" than 40 cents an hour, and for "a reasonable period of time."

The industry is defined as:

"1. The manufacture of all products which have as an ingredient any form of natural rubber (including latex); reclaimed rubber, scrap rubber, compounded rubber, rubber derivatives, balata, gutta-percha, or synthetic rubber, including parts for use in other products, and including footwear made by the vulcanizing of the entire article or the vulcanizing (as distinct from cementing) of the sole to the upper; the manufacture of reclaimed rubber; and the preparation of scrap rubber for use in the manufacture of reclaimed rubber or rubber products.

"PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the manufacture of the following shall not be included:

"(a) Any product the manufacture of which is covered by an order of the Administrator defining an industry; and approving the recommendations of an industry committee or appointing an industry committee for such industry, issued prior to the signing of this order.

"(b) Abrasive wheels, brake linings, and insulated wire and cable.

"The term 'synthetic rubber' as used herein means a synthetic substance which has physical properties resembling those of natural rubber.

"The term 'preparation' as used herein means all operations involved in making scrap rubber suitable for use in the manufacture of reclaimed rubber or rubber products, and includes, but not by way of limitation, the separating, sorting and assembling of scrap rubber. It does not include, however, the mere collection and handling of scrap rubber by waste material dealers who perform no operations changing the shape or form of such scrap rubber.

"2. The definition of the rubber products manufacturing industry covers all occupations in the industry which are necessary to the production of products covered by the definition, including clerical, maintenance, shipping, and selling occupations; provided, however, that this definition does not cover clerical, maintenance, shipping, and selling occupations when carried on in a wholesaling or selling department physically segregated from other departments of a manufacturing establishment, or when carried on in an establishment the greater part of whose sales are of products not covered in the definition; and provided, further, that where an employee covered by this definition is employed during the same workweek at two or more different minimum rates of pay, he shall be paid the highest of such rates for such workweek, unless records concerning his employment are kept by his employer in accordance with applicable regulations of the Wage and Hour Division."

In addition to the Chairman, the committee was comprised of:

FOR THE PUBLIC

Edmund D. McGarry
School of Business Administration
University of Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Dr. William Haber
Professor of Economics
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Alexander Hamilton Frey
The Law School
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dr. Frank Lewand
Catholic University
Washington, D. C.

FOR THE EMPLOYEES

Sherman H. Dalrymple, President
United Rubber Workers of America
Akron, Ohio

Margaret Cowger Hemrick
United Rubber Workers of America
230 Pratt Street
Ravenna, Ohio

George Cummins, President
Local, United Rubber Workers of America
1026 East Broadway
Mishawaka, Indiana

George R. Bass, President
Goodrich Local No. 5, United Rubber Workers of America
708 S. Main Street
Akron, Ohio

Frank P. Fenton
Director of Organization
American Federation of Labor
Washington, D. C.

FOR THE EMPLOYERS

Thornton G. Graham
Vice President
B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company
Akron, Ohio

Leo Larkin
General Manager
La Crosse Rubber Company
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Paul H. Henkel
Secretary and General Manager
Continental Rubber Company
Erie, Pennsylvania

G. L. Lawrence
Vice President
Tyer Rubber Company
Andover, Massachusetts

M. I. Woythaler
Treasurer
Hodgman Rubber Company
Framingham, Massachusetts

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