

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

Inactive

34 CENT MINIMUM WAGE RECOMMENDED FOR CLAY PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WORKERS

Recommendation by an industry committee that the minimum wage for all wage earners in the clay products industry (bricks, tile, etc.) be established at 34 cents an hour was received today by General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. The minimum wage for all workers covered by the law, but not under a wage order setting a higher rate, is 30 cents an hour.

George E. Osborne of Palo Alto, California, Chairman of the committee, filed the report, which represents the majority opinion of a 21-man group named by the Administrator to represent employers, employees, and the public, following a two-day session here. The recommendation was opposed by all seven labor representatives

Some 3,900 wage earners in the industry in 14 southern states would benefit by the wage increase, if the recommendation is approved by General Fleming. Practically all workers in the industry in the remainder of the nation receive at least 40 cents per hour, and therefore will not be affected by the Administrator's action, it was revealed at the committee sessions. Workers considered by the committee included those in the industry engaged in producing all fired clay products except refractories, pottery, and ceramic whiteware.

The Administrator is not bound by law to accept recommendations of industry committees. Before acting on a committee recommendation he schedules a public hearing, after which he may either accept the recommendation, or reject it. He may refer it back to the committee or appoint a new committee.

The clay products industry committee is the 34th which has reported to the Administrator, in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (Wage and Hour Law), which provides that the Administrator appoint committees to consider the advisability of raising individual industry wages up to 40 cents, the ultimate aim for all industries.

The clay products industry committee was composed of the following representatives:

For the Public

George E. Osborne, School of Law, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Walter T. Fisher, 135 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois

Dr. James M. Herring, Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, 311 Logan Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dr. Ralph McDonald, Associate Director, Extension Division, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Harry Elmer Barnes, 230 Park Avenue, New York, New York

H. H. Willis, Dean, School of Textiles, Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina

Edgar M. Hoover, Jr., Associate Professor of Economics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

For the Employees

Frank Kasten, General President, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 1550 West 95th Street, Chicago, Illinois

William Tracy, General Secretary, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 1550 West 95th Street, Chicago, Illinois

Lee Lightfoot, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 103 Exchange Building, Birmingham, Alabama

Harold R. Flegal, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 307 Market Avenue, South, Canton, Ohio

Clyde Myers, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 223 $\frac{1}{2}$ Grant Street, Dennison, Ohio

Ernest Holt, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, Route 3, Box 212, Seattle, Washington

Alfred G. Wagner, United Brick and Clay Workers of America, 409 Simpson Place, Peekskill, New York

For the Employers

Paul B. Belden, Belden Brick Company, Canton, Ohio

Robert H. Gamble, Florida Brick & Tile Corporation, Jacksonville, Florida

George A. Bass, Hydraulic-Press Brick Company, Centray Bank Building, St. Louis, Missouri

E. R. Rankin, Statesville Brick Company, Statesville, North Carolina

M. D. Judd, Vice-President, Mason City Brick & Tile Co., Mason City, Iowa

George M. Schaulin, The Robinson Clay Product Company, Akron, Ohio

William H. Powell, President, Atlantic Terra Cotta Company, Perth Amboy, New Jersey.