

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

ADMINISTRATOR ADOPTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION, ISSUES WAGE ORDER FOR
40, 38 AND 36-CENT RATES IN CONVERTED PAPER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

Adopting the recommendation of a committee appointed to study the industry, General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, today issued a wage order establishing minimum wage scales of 40, 38 and 36 cents per hour in the converted paper products industry. The order, effective June 30, will increase the wage rates of almost 50,000 workers.

In issuing the order, General Fleming announced adoption of the committee's recommendation establishing minimum wage scales for each of 33 product divisions of the industry. The industry is distributed throughout the nation, with some phases to be found in virtually every state.

More than one-third of the employees in the industry are girls and women. Probably more than half the persons to be given wage rate increases are women, as they are the lowest paid workers in this industry. There are 2,120 separate establishments in the industry employing about 200,000 workers.

The committee, appointed by General Fleming in accordance with Section 8 of the Fair Labor Standards Act which provides for committee recommendations of wage rates up to 40 cents per hour for individual industries when such recommendations "will not substantially curtail employment in the industry," was composed of 27 members, an equal number selected to represent labor, employers and the public. A member of the public group, Wayne Lyman Morse, Dean of the University of Oregon Law School, Eugene, Oregon, was chairman. A public hearing was held following the committee's recommendation to the Administrator.

Products included in the 40-cents per hour minimum rate are: folding paper boxes; shipping containers; paper cups; bottle caps and hoods; waxed papers; waterproof paper; glazed and fancy papers; commercial envelopes; tags and labels; gummed papers; carbon paper; towels and toilet tissues; auto panels; photo mountings; die cut specialties; sensitized papers; sand paper; loose-leaf and blank books, tablets and pads, and index cards; stationery; playing cards; book matches; all other products in which the principal basic component consists of synthetic materials; all other products made by the coating or impregnating of paper or paper board with any material.

The 38-cent minimum applies to workers engaged in the manufacture of: shipping sacks; paper bags; miscellaneous rolls and wrapping specialties; products not elsewhere classified.

Included in the 36-cent minimum grouping is the manufacture of: set-up boxes; cans, tubes, cores and related products; expanding envelopes and related products; plain rolls; lace and fluted paper products; twisted paper products.

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