

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

40-CENT MINIMUM WAGE FOR DRUG, MEDICINE AND TOILET PREPARATIONS
INDUSTRY APPROVED

A wage order establishing a minimum wage rate of 40 cents an hour for the drug, medicine and toilet preparations industry, effective July 7, 1941 was issued today by General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. The minimum was recommended by a committee representative of the public and employees and employers of the industry.

It is estimated that 9,000 workers of the approximate 44,000 employed in the industry will benefit by the wage increase.

The industry is defined as:

"The manufacture or packaging of any one or more of the following products:

- (1) Drugs or medicinal preparations (other than food) intended for internal or external use in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease in, or to affect the structure or any function of, the body of man or other animals, or
- (2) Dentrifrices, cosmetics, perfume, or other preparations designed or intended for external application to the person for the purpose of cleansing, improving the appearance of, or refreshing the person,
- (3) Provided that this definition shall not include the manufacture or packaging of shaving cream, shampoo, essential (volatile) oils, glycerine, and soap, or the milling or packaging without further processing of crude botanical drugs."

This definition covers all occupations in the industry which are necessary to the production of drugs, medicines and toilet preparations including clerical, maintenance, shipping and selling occupations. Not included are employees of an independent wholesaler or employees of a manufacturer who are engaged exclusively in marketing and distributing products of the industry which have been purchased for resale.

If an employee covered by this definition is employed during the same workweek at two or more different minimum rates of pay he must be paid the highest for that week unless records concerning his employment are kept in accordance with regulations on record keeping issued by the Division.