

For Release Tuesday,
July 1, 1941

R-1480

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

NO GENERAL LEARNER REGULATIONS TO BE ISSUED FOR SHADE DIVISION OF
PORTABLE LAMP AND SHADE INDUSTRY

Coincident with establishment of a 40-cent per hour minimum wage order in the industry effective today, announcement was made that no general learner regulations will be issued for the shade division of the portable lamp and shade industry under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Employer applications for special certificates will, however, be examined and issued on an individual basis, for the industry's recommended learner rate of 35-cents per hour, where conditions so warrant, in the opinion of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

Announcement was made by General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Division, on the basis of a finding submitted to him by Dr. Gustav Peck, presiding officer for the Division at a learner hearing for the industry held on June 9.

From the evidence of the record, it was Dr. Peck's finding that there was no agreement between the parties at the hearing as to the need for certificates, under which learners in an industry may be permitted by law to be employed for specified periods at minimum wages lower than the basic minimum for the industry. However, Dr. Peck referred in his finding to the statutory duty of the Administrator to issue certificates where necessary to prevent a curtailment of opportunities for employment, and recommended accordingly that certificates be issued where an individual employer shows a need therefor.

In this connection, Dr. Peck recommended that, in accordance with the opinion of the industry committee which recommended the 40-cent minimum wage base in the industry, special learner certificates "in amounts found necessary by the Administrator should be granted to those who have not previously been employed in the shade industry for a period of not more than two months at 35 cents per hour."

In announcing his decision, General Fleming referred to evidence submitted to the hearing by both a number of employers' and employees' organizations, holding that the contentions of both, which were representative of the entire industry, were such that the finding of Dr. Peck recommending that no learner regulations be issued was just.

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