

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

Inactive

MISCELLANEOUS APPAREL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETS AUGUST 28

Appointment of an industry committee for the miscellaneous apparel industry was announced today by General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. The committee will meet on August 28 in Washington.

Under provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the committee is to investigate competitive and economic conditions in this industry and to recommend the highest minimum wage up to 40 cents an hour which will not substantially curtail employment.

The miscellaneous apparel industry as defined for the committee is:

"The manufacture of men's and boys' neckties, scarfs and mufflers from any woven materials or from purchased knitted materials; the manufacture of robes from any woven materials or from purchased knitted materials, including without limitation men's, women's and children's bath, lounging and beach robes and dressing gowns; the manufacture of garters, suspenders, arm bands, other elastic woven products, and similar products (except orthopedic and athletic products) from webbing, leather, or other material; the manufacturing process of covering buttons and buckles with cloth, leather or similar materials; the manufacture and processing, for use on apparel, of artificial flowers, buds, foliage, fruits, plants, and feathers, or parts thereof from any material; and the preservation and processing, for use on apparel, of natural flowers and feathers."

Manufacture of apparel described above is now carried on under a 35-cent minimum hourly wage which went into effect July 15, 1940, under a section of the apparel wage order. It was estimated that approximately 7,000 of the 22,400 persons employed in this industry group received pay increases as a direct result.

For the most part the miscellaneous apparel industry is centered within the New York metropolitan area. The other establishments in the industry are mainly located throughout the Northeast section of the country.

Max Meyer of New York is chairman of the new committee. Other members representing the public are: Teresa M. Crowley of the Carroll Club, Inc., New York City; G. Allan Dash, Jr., of the Wharton School of Finance in Philadelphia; Mary Barnett Gilson of the University of Chicago Economics Department; Marian D. Irish, Director of the Division of Political Science at the Florida State College for Women, Tallahassee, Fla.; and David A. McCabe of the Princeton University Department of Economics.

Employee representatives are Dorothy J. Bellanca, Louis Fuchs and Alex Cohen, New York, of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (C.I.O.); Frederick F. Umhey, Joseph Tuvim, and Harry Greenberg, New York, all of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (A. F. of L.)

The employer members are Tillman Cahn, of the Pioneer Suspender Co., Philadelphia; Jack Roth of Cohan, Roth and Stiffson, New York; Herman Cohen of Superba Cravats, Rochester, N. Y.; Norman Gerstenzang of A. Gerstenzang and Co., Leo C. Safir of the Robe Corporation of America, and J. M. Wise of the J. M. Wise Company, the last three of New York.

Persons wishing to present testimony at the committee meeting beginning 10 a.m., August 28 in Room 3229, Labor Building, Washington, D. C., are requested to notify Burton E. Oppenheim, Director, Industry Committee Branch, Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

#