

For Release Monday  
March 23, 1942

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
165 W. 46th St.  
New York, N. Y.

COMMITTEE NAMED TO RECOMMEND MINIMUM WAGE FOR BUTTON AND  
BUCKLE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

A committee of 15 to study economic conditions in the button and buckle manufacturing industry and to recommend a minimum wage up to 40 cents per hour was named today by H. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

The committee, composed equally of representatives of the public, employers, and employees in the industry, will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 26, in the Hotel Astor, New York City. T. L. Norton, professor of Economics, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, a member of the public group, will serve as chairman.

Named in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act to study conditions in the industry with the view of recommending a minimum wage, above the statutory 30-cents per hour level, but not higher than 40 cents per hour, the committee is guided by the following definition of the industry:

"The manufacture of buttons, buckles, and slides, and the manufacture of blanks and parts for such articles from any material except metal, for use on apparel, but not including the manufacture of products covered by any definition of an industry in any administrative order heretofore issued."

It is estimated that some 11,700 persons are employed in the industry as defined, of whom 4,500 now receive less than 40 cents per hour.

Membership of the committee is:

For the Public: Mr. Norton; E. Night Bakke, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.; David A. McCabe, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.; Clarence Updegraff, Iowa University, Iowa City, Iowa; Myrtle Brooke, Alabama College for Women, Montevallo, Ala.

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For the Employees: Martin Feldman and Lazare Teper, New York, N. Y., (International Ladies Garment Workers); Edward Schultheis, Muscatine, Iowa, and Joseph Plati, Rochester, N. Y., (Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America); Boris Shishkin, Washington, D. C. (American Federation of Labor).

For the Employers: N. O. Broderson, Rochester, N. Y.; Moo Zweibel, New York, N. Y.; George Adey, Philadelphia, Pa.; Charles C. Hagerman, Muscatine, Iowa; G. F. Holt, McKinney, Va.

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