

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
165 West 46th Street
New York 19, New York

FORTY CENT MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE RATE ESTABLISHED IN INDUSTRIES
EMPLOYING 2,500,000 UNDER WAGE-HOUR ACT

Four wage orders setting a 40 cent minimum hourly wage effective February 7 in industries employing nearly 2,500,000 workers subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act, of whom an estimated 175,000 will thereby receive direct wage increases, were announced today by L. Metcalfe Walling as Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

The affected industry groups, as defined under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, are Construction, with about 200,000 covered workers, of whom an estimated 5,000 are directly affected; the Chemical, Petroleum and Coal Products and Allied Manufacturing Industries, with about 875,000 covered workers, of whom an estimated 30,000 are directly affected; the Logging, Lumber and Timber and Related Products Industries, with about 500,000 covered workers, of whom an estimated 85,000 are directly affected; and the Wholesaling, Warehousing and Other Distribution Industries with about 900,000 covered workers of whom an estimated 55,000 are directly affected.

The Administrator pointed out that the Logging, Lumber and Timber and Related Products Industries order supplants a 35-cent minimum wage order previously established for the Lumber and Timber Products Industry. Moreover, the new order is considerably broader in scope and now covers logging of all types, including logging for pulpwood and chemical and fire wood, as well as a variety of products not previously subject to any wage order. The present order does not, however, extend to the manufacture of wood pulp and paper, for which a 40-cent minimum has been in effect for well over two years.

The four wage orders were issued in accordance with recommendations of Industry Committees for the several industries after public hearings in each case. Copies may be obtained through any Regional, Branch, or Field office of the Division, or through the National Office, 165 West 46th Street, New York 19, New York.

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