For Release Friday, July 14, 1944

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Wage and Hour Division 165 West 46th Street New York 19. N. Y.

A preliminary determination that the processing of sugar beets into sugar is a seasonal industry and thereby partially exempt from overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, was announced today by L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor. Any objections to the determination, and requests for a hearing must be filed with the Administrator before July 29, 1944.

Certain operations performed in the processing of sugar beets into sugar are at the present time exempted under the seasonal determination made in 1940 for the first processing of perishable or seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables. The new determination, if and when made final and effective, will include further operations. Under the proposed exemption employees on such operations will be permitted to work up to 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week for a period or periods of not more than 14 workweeks each calendar year without being paid for overtime at time and one-half their regular rates of pay.

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