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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions
165 West 46th Street
New York 19, N. Y.

One out of every two inspected establishments covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act or the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act whose cases were closed during the first nine months of the fiscal year 1946 were in violation of the minimum wage, overtime, or child labor provisions of one of the Acts, according to L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions of the U. S. Department of Labor.

Mr. Walling emphasized that inspected firms were selected on the basis of complaints of employees and on the basis of other knowledge which indicated a high percentage of violations in certain industries or areas.

Of 30,809 closed cases of covered establishments during the nine months ending April 1, 15,963 firms paid \$10,087,804 in illegally withheld wages to 212,284 employees as a result of violations of either the minimum wage or overtime provisions of the Acts. Seven percent of the inspected firms were in violation of the child labor provisions.

Other figures released by the Divisions reveal this picture for the first three quarters of the fiscal year:

One hundred and twenty-one firms were found to have falsified their records -- a criminal offense.

Two hundred and four firms employed home workers illegally.

Eleven percent of the inspected establishments covered by the Acts failed to pay to at least some of their employees the required minimum wage, -- which is 40 cents an hour under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the prevailing locality minimum under the Public Contracts Act.