

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions
Washington 25, D. C.

HEARING SET FOR DECEMBER 3 ON PROPOSED REVISION OF CHILD-LABOR
HAZARDOUS OCCUPATIONS ORDER NO. 4

Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwellenbach today scheduled a public hearing to be held in Washington on December 3 to consider an order extending coverage of Hazardous Occupations Order No. 4 so as to include most occupations in the logging of pulpwood, chemical wood, excelsior wood, cordwood, fence posts, and similar woods not now subject to the 18-year age minimum under the Fair Labor Standards Act. In addition, the proposed revision would make permanent some of the war-time exemptions to it, and terminate others.

The hearing will begin at 10 a.m. in Room 3428 of the Department of Labor Building. As stated in formal notice of the hearing, published in the Federal Register, interested parties may appear in person, or may file briefs or statements which will be made a part of the record of the hearing. Intention to appear should be filed with the Secretary by November 28. Briefs of statements should be filed by December 2.

Issued by the Secretary under the child-labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the effect of a hazardous occupations order is to raise the minimum age for employment from 16 to 18 years in occupations found upon investigation to be particularly hazardous for minors. Hazardous Occupations Order No. 4, which became effective in 1941, established a minimum age of 18 years in saw-timber logging and sawmilling occupations, but did not apply to occupations in the logging of pulpwood, etc.

Six other Hazardous Occupations Orders have been issued since the basic minimum wage, overtime and child-labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act went into effect in 1938. Issued after investigation and study of the industries concerned, these orders establishing 18 years as the minimum age for employment deal with occupations in plants manufacturing explosives; occupations of motor-vehicle driver and helper; coal-mining; operation of power-driven woodworking machines; occupations involving exposure to radioactive substances; operation of power-driven hoisting apparatus.

Copies of the proposed revisions of Hazardous Occupations Order No. 4 and of the report of investigation upon which the revisions are proposed are available on request to the Washington Office of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor, and for inspection at the Divisions' regional offices in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Birmingham, Cleveland, Chicago, Kansas City, Dallas and San Francisco, and at the North Carolina State Department of Labor offices, Raleigh, N. C.