

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

SETS PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 15 TO CONSIDER NEW MINIMUM WAGE DETERMINATION
FOR "MEN'S HAT AND CAP INDUSTRY" UNDER PUBLIC CONTRACTS ACT

A public hearing will be held June 15 to consider a proposal to increase the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act minimum wage determination for most of the "Men's Hat and Cap Industry" from the present $67\frac{1}{2}$ cents an hour to 85 cents an hour. The fur-felt hat branch of the industry is specifically excluded from the scope of the hearing.

This was announced today by Wm. R. McComb, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor. The hearing will be held in Room 7128 of the Department of Labor Building, Washington, D.C., beginning at 10 a.m.

Requested by the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, the proposed increase also would raise the minimum wage rate for certain auxiliary workers in the industry from the present 40 cents an hour to 65 cents an hour. In addition, the hearing will afford interested parties an opportunity to testify with respect to the desirability of establishing special provisions at a lower rate for learners, and on a proposed clarification of the definition of the industry, McComb said.

Evidence obtained by the Administrator at the hearing will be made available to Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwellenbach, who determines the prevailing minimum wage on an industry basis for performance on Government contracts in amounts over \$10,000, to which the Public Contracts Act applies. The existing minimum wage for the Men's Hat and Cap Industry originally was established on July 28, 1937.

Notice of intention to appear at the hearing may be filed with the Administrator through June 8. Written statements in lieu of personal appearance will be accepted through the same date, but must be submitted in quadruplicate.

A survey of wages filed by the union in support of its petition for the increase, as well as the formal notice of the hearing which is published in full in the Federal Register today, may be obtained from the Administrator without cost on request.

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