

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

ADOPTS NEW MINIMUM WAGE ORDER, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2, FOR RAILROAD, RAILWAY EXPRESS, AND PROPERTY MOTOR TRANSPORT INDUSTRY IN PUERTO RICO

Adoption of a new minimum wage order under the Fair Labor Standards Act for the Railroad, Railway Express, and Property Motor Transport Industry in Puerto Rico was announced today by Wm. R. McComb, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor.

Effective August 2, the new wage order contains two parts. One will raise the minimum wage for some 1,800 employees in the Railroad Division of the industry from the present 20-cents-an-hour level to 25 cents an hour; the other part covers the remaining 3,200 employees, in the Rail-way Express and Property Motor Transport Division of the industry, for whom the minimum will be increased from the present 20-cent level to 35 cents an hour.

Text of the new wage order is published in the Federal Register today. It was adopted following a public hearing on a recommendation of a tri-partite industry committee which studied conditions in the industry. Under a special provision in the Wage and Hour Law, it is possible to establish minimum wage rates for Puerto Rican industries lower than the 40-cents-an-hour minimum which prevails for the continental United States.

Copies of the new wage order and the findings and opinion on which it is based may be obtained from the Divisions without cost on request.