U. S. DÉPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION WASHINGTON

WAGE-HOUR DIVISION SENDS OUT INITIAL FIELD STAFF

The first group of representatives of the Wage and Hour Division, of the U. S. Department of Labor, moved into the field today to begin the work of securing cooperation in and enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Administrator Elmer F. Andrews, of the Division, dispatched 20 inspectors to larger industrial centers in the country to set up temporary offices where employers and employees can bring their problems under the law.

The initial field staff will represent the division in all matters dealing with complaints, inspections, and requests for information and advice on how to observe the Wage and Hour law. They will be under the direction of Arthur L. Fletcher, Assistant Administrator in Charge of Cooperation and Enforcement.

The departure of the inspectors brought the total field force under Mr. Fletcher to 22. Earle W. Dahlberg, of Atlanta, Georgia, had previously been chosen as regional director for Region VII, to have temporary charge of the Southern area and Wesley O. Ash had been selected as Regional Director in Region XII, to have temporary charge of the Western area.

Mr. Andrews announced the appointment of Ernest R. Strempel,
Yellow Springs, Chio, as supervising inspector for the Northeastern area,
to have temporary charge of the area headquarters at Boston.

He also announced appointment of O. J. Libert, of Madison, Wisconsin, as acting supervising inspector for the Mid-western area, temporarily in charge of the area headquarters at Chicago.

Due to the restricted funds available, Administrator Andrews explained, the Wage and Hour Division will not be able to set up its contemplated 12 regional offices at this time. In the interim, the enforcement will be handled through the area offices.

These and the states which they include are:

Area I. Headquarters - Boston; Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

Area II. Headquarters - Washington, D. C., Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas.

Area III. Headquarters - Chicago; Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Area IV. Headquarters - San Francisco; Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

The 20 inspectors have just completed an intensive training course of three weeks under the officials of the Division and of other government agencies to equip them for enforcement of a law affecting 11,000,000 persons directly and individually.

Mr. Strempel, who will be in charge of the Boston office temporarily, was Executive Secretary of the Labor Relations Office of the Public Works

Administration from 1936 to 1938 and has recently served as a Trial Examiner for the National Labor Relations Board. He was in business in New York City and Buffalo for 20 years. In 1932 he became director of the Antioch Industrial Research Institute at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. From 1934 to 1936 he was executive secretary of the Petroleum Labor Policy Board.

Mr. Libert, who will be temporarily in charge of the activities of the Chicago office, was Administrative Officer of the Bureau of Old Age Insurance, Social Security Board. From 1933 to 1936 he was an assistant deputy administrator in the NRA. From 1930 to 1933, Mr. Libert was Trade Commissioner to Santiago, Chile, for the Department of Commerce.

The inspectors will be available sometime during the coming week.

Wherever possible, they will locate at the Social Security Board office.

More inspectors will be sent into the field as soon as they can be selected and trained.

They are temporarily assigned as follows:

In Area No. 1. Ernest R. Strempel, Supervising Inspector, Boston.

William H. Buck, Hartford, Connecticut; F. E. Galvin, Newark, New Jersey;

E. E. Little, Buffalo, New York; Miss Eleanor Mishnum, New York City; Howard

P. Young, Wilmington, Delaware.

Washington, D.C., In Area No. II. Earle W. Dahlberg, Acting Area Director, J. L. Bass, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; W. M. Eaves, Nashville, Tennessee; Miss Carrie B. Farmer, Richmond, Virginia; William F. Gaffney, Charlotte, North Carolina; L. H. McCormick, Baltimore, Maryland; Miss Bertha Paret, Washington, D. C.; Leland S. Reid, Little Rock, Arkansas.

In Area No. III. O. J. Libert, Acting Supervising Inspector, Chicago.

L. H. Cavanaugh, Detroit, Michigan; Leo H. Erck, Cincinnati, Ohio, E. F.

Halverson, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Joel D. Mason, St. Louis, Missouri, Miss

Catherine Tinty, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

In Area No. IV. Wesley O. Ash, Acting Area Director, San Francisco, California. L. A. Peifer, San Francisco, California.