

C O P Y:

U. S. Department of Labor
Wage and Hour Division
641 Washington Street
New York, New York

September 1, 1939

PRESS RELEASE

The Federal Grand Jury in Brooklyn today indicted Irving O. Rosen for violating the Federal Wage and Hour Law by paying industrial homeworkers wages of from 3¢ to 10¢ an hour instead of the required 25¢ an hour.

Rosen does business under the name of the Rose Manufacturing Company, and maintains a factory at 168 Walworth Street in Brooklyn, New York. The Rose Manufacturing Company manufactures and sells shade pulls and tassels for distribution throughout the country.

The Government maintains that the 3¢ per hour rate is one of the lowest rates of pay in the manufacturing business in the entire country. The homeworke employees are chiefly middle aged women with large families. In many instances they are assisted by their children.

The indictment, which contains seven counts, also charges failure to preserve records showing the amount of pay and the hours worked by each employee.

Lucien R. Tharaud, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, and Edward J. Fruchtman, Special Assistant to the United States Attorney, presented the case to the Grand Jury for the Department of Justice. The investigation of this case was conducted by Inspectors Raymond Lewis and Rose Carnesale of the Wage and hour Division.

George B. Kelly, New York Regional Director of the Wage and Hour Division, 641 Washington Street, New York City, stated: "In obtaining this indictment, the Federal Government has taken one further step in its effort to raise substandard wages in the sweatshop industries."

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