

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Public Contracts Division
165 West 46th Street
New York 19, N. Y.

HEARING ON AMENDMENT TO TEXTILE INDUSTRY WAGE DETERMINATION (PUBLIC CONTRACTS)

Notice of a public hearing October 17, 1945 at which opportunity will be given to show cause why the Textile Industry prevailing minimum wage determination under the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act should not be amended, was given today by L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Public Contracts Division, U. S. Department of Labor, by publication in the Federal Register.

Amendment of the determination, which would be made by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach, is proposed (1) by finding that the prevailing minimum wage for persons employed in the Industry is now 55 cents an hour or \$22 for a week of 40 hours, arrived at on a time or piece work basis; (2) by replacing the present provision for employment of learners with a provision permitting bona fide learners to be employed for a learning period of not to exceed 240 hours at subminimum rates not less than 50 cents an hour; and (3) by providing further that the employment of any such learners shall be, in all other respects, in accordance with the applicable regulations issued under the Fair Labor Standards Act and subject to the issuance of learner certificates as provided in such regulations.

Evidence presented to the Department of Labor, according to the notice, tends to show that the prevailing minimum wage in the industry is now not less than 55 cents an hour, instead of 40 cents an hour as provided in the present determination, and that learners in the industry are, in general, employed at rates not less than 50 cents an hour. The determination controls the minimum to be paid for work on Government supply contracts of more than \$10,000.

The definition of the Textile Industry, which remains unchanged, is given in full in the official notice. The hearing is to be at 10 A.M. in room 1410, 165 West 46th Street, New York, N. Y. before the Administrator or a representative. Notice of intention to appear, including the purpose of the appearance and the names and addresses of any persons or organizations represented, should be filed with the Administrator at the above address not later than October 10, 1945. Written statements in lieu of personal appearances may be filed in quintuplicate up to the date of the hearing.

A summary report containing wage and other statistical data on the Textile Industry will be available by the time of the hearing and may be had on request.