

Minimum Wage Rates For Men and Women in All Federal Contracts

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Ottawa, Jan. 2. — Establishment of minimum wage rates for both men and women on all future Dominion government contracts for factory work, and far-reaching steps to ensure payment of decent wages to this class of employment were announced on Monday by Minister of Labor W. A. Gordon. Government contracts for the manufacture of boots, shoes, clothing and the like will be affected.

Under an order-in-council approved Monday, said Mr. Gordon, provisions will be inserted in every contract which the government lets for factory work calling for:

(a) A minimum of 30 cents an hour to be paid to all males engaged on this work of 18 years of age or over.

(b) A minimum of 20 cents per hour for all females on government factory contract work of 18 years of age or over.

(c) Males and females under 18 years of age to receive wages not less than those provided for women and girls in the minimum wages scale of the province in which this work is performed.

These minimum rates will apply equally to skilled and unskilled labor. As unskilled labor will have the benefit of these specific minimum rates the tendency will be to maintain higher differentials in wages for the skilled class of employee on these contracts, said the minister. Thousands of male and female employees across Canada will benefit as a result of the new provisions, stated Mr. Gordon.

In any province where minimum rates may be higher than those specified in the order-in-council, these higher rates shall prevail, added the minister.

The present provision in government factory contracts merely contains a fair wage provision. The effect of this clause is that the prevailing rates in the district must be paid, or where there are no prevailing rates the minister of labor may specify what he considers to be fair in numerous instances. Complaint has been made in past year the prevailing rates were unfair and the minister of labor has been powerless to intervene.

REPORT ACCORD BY BRITISH-SOVIET TIMBER INTERESTS

Morning Post Says Agreement
Reached for 1935 Supply
at Lower Prices

(Canadian Press Cable.)

London, Jan. 2.—The Morning Post said today it understood a provisional agreement had been reached between Timber Distributors, Limited, and representatives of the Russian Timber Export agency for a supply to the British market of 400,000 standards in 1935 at lower prices than in 1934. (A standard is 165 cubic feet).

The shipment would represent an increase of 50,000 standards over the quantity the government permitted Timber Distributors to import from the Soviet last year.

The Morning Post said it understood strong representations were likely to be made again on behalf of Canadian timber interests for a reduction of the figure. It added the proposed cut price was said to be dependent on an increase in the quantity bought in Britain, and was aimed at enabling Russian producers to compete more favorably with a formidable and growing rivalry from British Columbia.

The newspaper added it was demonstrated clearly last year that Canada can easily fulfill all Britain's timber requirements and that Canadian producers had made every effort to adapt their timber to British specifications. The results, it declared, had proved much more satisfactory than was originally anticipated.

F. P. RANAHAN, WELL-KNOWN SHIPPING AUTHORITY, DIES

Buffalo, N.Y., Jan. 2.—Frank P. Ranahan, who moved freighters from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic during

MINIMUM WAGE IS SET FOR MEN ON PART-TIME WORK

Regulations Adopted for Those Who Do Work Usually Done by Boys

Men who do work usually done by boys and who do part-time and piece work have been placed under a schedule of minimum wages by the minimum wage board. Authorized by order-in-council of the Manitoba government the new schedule became effective March 1.

Occupations coming under the schedule are, delivery of telegrams, messages, delivery of newspapers, hand bills and advertising matter, delivering parcels on foot or on bicycle, office boy work, shoe shining, setting up bowling pins, and work of a similar nature when ruled as coming under the order by an inspector of the bureau of labor, and when employers hold a certificate in writing from the inspector.

The minimum wages specified in the order are, \$8 a week for the first six months of employment, \$9 a week for the second six months, \$10 a week after employment of one year. A 48-hour week is fixed by the order.

Part time and piece work regulations are, in brief, as follows:

If work by agreement is on a part-time or piecework basis, an amount at least equal to the minimum wage rate for work of such a nature, must be paid for the time an employee is required to be available for duty including the time spent on the premises when required by the employer.

Employees on a part-time or piecework basis shall be paid for not less than four hours consecutive work on any day such employees are required to report for duty.

In an apprenticeship agreement, when an employer undertakes to teach an employee a skilled trade or calling, the wages stipulated in the agreement may supercede the rates fixed by the minimum wage board provided a copy of the agreement is filed with and approved by the board, and also provided that the rate of wages shall not be less than the rate established for persons under the age of 18 in the industry.

Employers failing to comply with terms of the order are, under the Minimum Wage act, liable to fines of not less than \$25 nor more than \$300. In default of payment they may be imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than six months. The magistrate is given discretionary power to order both the fine and imprisonment. In cases of prosecution the onus is on the accused to show he has complied with the regulations.

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