

There is general agreement within the Committee and among Department of Labour officials that the above recommendations indicate the only practical road to more effective and acceptable wage control. There is a sharp divergence of view as to the results which can reasonably be expected. One group is of the view that under a new Order of the sort envisaged the rate of wage increases could be considerably slowed down, even with some greater consideration being shown to the injustices of the lowest or substandard rates. Others, particularly Department of Labour officials, are of the opinion that, while such a new order would be a great improvement, yet it too will be subject to irresistible pressures and the best that can be hoped for is that something approaching the present rate of increases should continue though the distribution would be improved. This divergence is so marked and so important in the formulation of policy that it is thought best to explain it frankly to the Government.

7. Children's Allowances

The Majority Report recommended that if collective bargaining free from control for rates less than 50 cents an hour would place too great a burden on the price ceiling, in the alternative a system of family allowances should be established. The Minority Report recognized that "the principle of family allowance in a program of social security is commendable, if it is available for all sections of society, rural as well as urban...", but vigorously repudiated any suggestion that it should be related to wage control or that it could justify wages that were otherwise unjustified.

There was general agreement in the Committee that family allowances ought not to be specifically related to wage control. It was felt that this was false in principle and dangerous having regard to labour opinion. There was also general agreement that a system of family allowances as an installment of a general social security program would have great merit and some

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