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ABSTRACT OF THE ACTS

— OF THE —

COAL MINES REGULATION ACTS

— AND —

1887 TO 1896

SPECIAL RULES.

ESTABLISHED UNDER THE

COAL MINES REGULATION ACTS, 1887 TO 1896.

FOR THE CONDUCT AND GUIDANCE OF THE PERSONS
ACTING IN THE MANAGEMENT OF, OR EMPLOYED
IN OR ABOUT

CHATTERLEY-WHITFIELD COLLIERIES L^D

WHITFIELD. *Colliery.*

NEWCASTLE.

E. PEAKE, PRINTER, HIGH STREET,

COAL MINES REGULATION ACTS, 1887 to 1896.

ABSTRACT

— OF THE —

COAL MINES REGULATION ACTS,
1887 to 1896.

(50 & 51 Vict. cap. 58.)

(57 & 58 Vict. cap. 52.)

(59 & 60 Vict. cap. 43.)

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NOTE.—This Abstract is intended mainly for the workmen and under officials employed in the mine.—Owners, Agents, and Managers must learn their duties by studying the Acts themselves. Among their duties not specified in this Abstract are those of sending notice to the Inspector of the opening or abandonment of any mine, shaft, or seam, of keeping accurate working plans of the mine, of sending to the Secretary of State accurate plans of the mine on its abandonment, of making annual returns, &c., &c.

N.B.—The references at the end of the paragraphs are, unless otherwise indicated, to the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887.

“1894” means the Coal Mines (Check Weigher) Act, 1894.

“1896” means the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.

The Acts apply to mines of coal, stratified ironstone, shale, and fireclay.

INSPECTION.

Inspectors.—Every mine is in the district of an Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State. The District Inspector and the Inspectors appointed to assist him are authorised to make such examinations and enquiries and to exercise such powers as may be necessary for carrying the Acts into effect.

No person may obstruct an Inspector in the execution of his duties. (Sections 39—41).

MANAGER AND UNDER-MANAGER.

Manager—Every mine, in which (1) more than 30 persons are employed below ground, or (2) the Inspector by notice requires it, must be under the control, management, and direction of a Manager, who may be the Owner or Agent or some other person nominated by the Owner or Agent, and must be registered as the holder of a first-class certificate. Notice in writing of the name and address of a Manager so appointed must be sent to the Inspector of the district. Under certain circumstances a temporary appointment of an uncertificated person may be made. (Section 20.)

Daily personal supervision of every such mine must be exercised either by the Manager or by an Under-Manager nominated in writing by the Owner or Agent. (Section 21 (1).)

An Under-Manager must hold either a first or a second-class certificate. In the absence of the Manager he will have the same responsibility and be subject to the same liabilities as the manager; but the nomination of an Under-Manager will not affect the personal responsibility of the Manager. (Section 21 (2).)

Disqualifications.—A contractor for mineral, or person in the employ of such a contractor, is not eligible for the post of Manager or Under-Manager. (Section 22.)

Examinations for Certificates of Competency.—There is a Board for Examinations for each district, which appoints examiners and makes rules as to the conduct of examinations and the qualifications of the applicants.

No person can be admitted to the examination without an authorisation from the Secretary of State, which can be obtained on payment of the requisite fee, viz: for a first-class certificate £2, for a second-class £1.

No person is entitled to a certificate unless he has had practical experience in a mine for at least five years, and gives satisfactory evidence of sobriety, experience, ability, and general good conduct. (Sections 23 to 26, and Schedule II.)

N.B.—For detailed information as to examinations, application should be made to the Secretary of the Board for the district.

ACCIDENTS.

Accidents.--The Owner, Agent, or Manager of a mine shall, within twenty-four hours of the occurrence, send to the Inspector notice in writing of any accident, whether above or below ground, which causes to any person employed in or about such mine (1) loss of life, or (2) serious personal injury, or (3) any personal injury whatever in the case of an accident by an explosion of gas or of any explosive material or of any steam boiler,* and shall specify in the notice the character of the explosion or accident, and the number of persons killed or injured respectively. (Section 35 (1).)

*NOTE.—Under the Boiler Explosions Acts, notice of all boiler explosions must be sent to the Board of Trade, Whitehall, London, S.W.

Place of Accident.—In case of loss of life or serious personal injury, the place where the accident occurred shall be left as it was immediately after the accident for a period of three days, or until the visit of an Inspector, unless this would tend to increase or continue danger or would impede the working of the mine. (Section 35 (2).)

Notice of Death.—When any personal injury, of which notice is required to be given, results in death, notice of the death must be sent to the Inspector within twenty-four hours after such death is known to the Owner, Agent or Manager. (Section 35 (3).)

Coroner's Inquest.—At an inquest on the body of a person whose death may have been caused by an explosion or accident in or about a mine (1) any relative of any such person, (2) the Owner, Agent or Manager of the mine, and (3) any person appointed by the order in writing of the majority of the workmen employed, is entitled to attend and examine witnesses, either in person or by his council, solicitor, or agent, subject, however, to the order of the Coroner. (Section 48).

EMPLOYMENT OF BOYS, GIRLS AND WOMEN.

"Boy" means a male under the age of 16.

"Girl" means a female under the age of 16.

"Woman" means a female of the age of 16 or upwards. (Section 75.)

A "Week" begins at midnight on Saturday and ends at midnight on the succeeding Saturday. (Sections 6 (3) and 7 (6).)

A "Period of Employment below ground" begins at the time of leaving the surface and ends at the time of returning to the surface. (Section 6 (2).)

If the Age of a boy or girl is misrepresented by a parent or guardian, the parent or guardian, and not the Owner, Agent, Manager or Employer, is liable to a penalty. (Section 64.)

A register of particulars concerning boys, girls, and women employed has to be kept (Section 8 (i).)

Below Ground:—

Girls and Women of any age Boys under 12 { May not be employed or be for the purpose of employment. (Section 4.)

Boys over 12. { Not for more than 54 hours in one week. Not for more than 10 hours in one day. Eight hours must elapse between the period of employment on Friday and that on Saturday, and Twelve hours between other periods of employment. (Sections 5 and 6.)

The immediate employer of every boy, if he is other than the Owner, Agent, or Manager of the mine, shall, before he causes the boy to be below ground, report to the Manager, or to some person appointed by the Manager, that he is about to employ the boy in the mine. (Section 8 (2).)

Above Ground:—

Girls under 12 Boys under 12 { May not be employed.

Girls under 13 Boys under 13 { Not for more than six days in one week. Not for more than six hours in any day if employed for more than three days in a week. Not for more than ten hours in any day if employed for only three days or less than three days a week.

Boys of 13 and upwards Girls of 13 and upwards Women { Not for more than 54 hours in one week. Not for more than 10 hours in one day.

{ Not to be employed between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Not on Sunday. Not after 2 p.m. on Saturday (except in those mines in Ireland which may have been exempted).

{ Eight hours must elapse between the termination of Employment on Friday and the commencement of employment on Saturday, and 12 hours between any other two days.

Boys Girls Women

{ Not to be employed continuously for more than five hours without an interval of at least half an hour for a meal.

{ Not to be employed continuously for more than eight hours without an interval or intervals for meals amounting to not less than an hour and a half.

{ Not to be employed in moving railway waggons (Section 7.)

Sanitary Regulations.—Any local authority may require the Owner of a mine in any portions of which persons of both sexes are employed or intended to be employed at one time, to construct a sufficient number of water-closets, earth-closets, or privies and ashpits for the separate use of each sex. (Section 74.)

WAGES.

Place of Payment.—Wages may not be paid on any premises used for the sale of intoxicating liquor, or in any place contiguous to such premises. (Section 11.)

(1) PAYMENT BY WEIGHT.

Payment according to Weight.—Where the amount of wages paid to any of the persons employed depends on the amount of mineral gotten by them, those persons shall be paid according to the actual weight gotten by them of the mineral contracted to be gotten, and the mineral gotten by them shall be truly weighed at a place as near to the pit mouth as is reasonably practicable. (Section 12 (1).)

Deductions.—The Owner, Agent, or Manager may agree with the persons employed that deductions shall be made in respect of stones or substances other than the mineral contracted to be gotten, which shall be sent out of the mine with the mineral contracted to be gotten, or in respect of any tubs, baskets, or hutches being improperly filled, in those cases where they are filled by the getter of the mineral, or his drawer, or by a person immediately employed by him.

The Owner, Agent, or Manager and the persons employed may further agree on *some special mode* of making the deductions. If no special mode is agreed on, the deductions will be determined in one or other of the following ways:—

- (a.) By a person appointed for that purpose by the Owner, Agent or Manager;
- (b.) By such person and the Checkweigher;
- (c.) (In case of difference) by a third person mutually agreed on by the Owner, Agent or Manager, and the persons employed;
- (d.) (In default of such agreement) by a third person appointed by the Chairman of Quarter Sessions (in Scotland the Sheriff). (Section 12.)

Checkweigher, Appointment and duties.—The persons employed, who are paid according to the weight of mineral gotten by them, may station at their own cost a checkweigher at each place appointed for the weighing of the mineral, and at each place appointed for determining the deductions, in order that he may, on their behalf, take a correct account of the weight of mineral or determine correctly the deductions. (Section 13 (1).)

The Owner, Agent, or Manager shall give proper facilities for the holding of a meeting for the purpose of appointing a Checkweigher; and shall not interfere with or improperly influence any such appointment. ("1894," section 1.)

The Checkweigher is entitled to have every facility afforded him for performing his duties, and for testing the weighing machines—which are subject to the Weights and Measures Acts, 1878 to 1893, and are to be examined once at least in every six months by an Inspector under those Acts—and for checking the taring of tubs and trams where necessary. The person weighing the mineral shall not impede the Checkweigher in the proper discharge of his duties, or improperly interfere with or alter the weighing machine or the tare.

The Checkweigher is at liberty to give to any workman an account of the mineral gotten by him or information with respect to the weighing or the weighing-machine, the taring of the tubs or trams, the deductions, or any matter within the scope of his duties as Checkweigher; but he may not in any way impede or interrupt the working of the mine, or interfere with the weighing or with any of the workmen, or with the management of the mine; and the absence of a Checkweigher is not to be any reason for interrupting or delaying the weighing or the determination of the deductions, unless the Checkweigher has had reasonable grounds to think that the weighing or the determination would not be proceeded with. (section 13 (2) (3) and (8).)

Checkweigher, removal for Misconduct.—The Owner, Agent, or Manager if he desires the removal of a Checkweigher on the ground that he has exceeded his duties or abused his position, may complain to a court of summary jurisdiction; and the court may, after hearing the parties, make a summary order for his removal.

The Checkweigher shall thereupon be removed, but another may be stationed in his place. (Sections 13 (4) and (5) and 61 (2).)

Checkweigher, Remuneration.—Where a Checkweigher has been appointed by the majority, ascertained by ballot, of the persons employed in a mine, and paid by weight of mineral gotten by them, and has acted as such, he may recover from any person for the time so employed and paid, such proportion of his wages as may be due from such person, notwithstanding that any of the persons by whom the Checkweigher was appointed may have subsequently left, and others have entered the mine.

The Owner or Manager may, where the majority of the said persons determined by ballot so agree, retain for the Checkweigher the agreed contribution from the wages of the said persons, and account for the same to the Checkweigher. (Section 14 (1).)

(2) PAYMENT OTHERWISE THAN BY WEIGHT.

Payment by measure or gauge.—The Secretary of State may, on the joint representation of the Owner or Owners of any mine or class of mines employing not more than thirty persons underground, and the persons employed, allow any method of payment other than according to weight, subject to such conditions (if any) as he thinks fit.

In that case the provisions of the Acts (see above "Payment by Weight") apply as if the term "weighing" included measuring and gauging. (Sections 12 (3) and 13 (7).)

SHAFTS AND OUTLETS.

Two Shafts or Outlets must be provided in communication with every seam for the time being at work, capable of affording separate means of ingress and egress to the persons employed in the seam.

The Shafts or Outlets shall not at any point be nearer to one another than 15 yards; and there shall be between them a communication not less than 4 feet wide and 4 feet high.

Proper apparatus for raising and lowering persons at each shaft or outlet shall be kept on the works belonging to the mine; and such apparatus, if not in actual use at the shafts or outlets, shall be constantly available for use. (Section 16.)

In certain cases (for details see sections 16 (1) (b) and 18 of the Act) compliance with the provisions as to the number of shafts or outlets and the dimensions of communications may be dispensed with.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RULES.

Rules.—In every mine, certain general rules (*set out in full on page 8 and the following pages*) are to be observed so far as is reasonably practicable, and also there must be established such special rules as are called for by the particular state and circumstances of the mine. (Sections 49 and 51, and "1896" section 1.)

Method of Establishing Special Rules.—The rules are framed by the Owner, Agent, or Manager, and transmitted to the Inspector of the district for approval by the Secretary of State.

Before being so transmitted, a copy of the proposed rules is posted up at the mine for not less than two weeks, and during that time any person employed in the mine may send objections to the Inspector. After the rules are established amendments or additions may be made from time to time. (Sections 51 to 54.)

EXPLOSIVES.

Dangerous Explosives.—The use of any explosive which is or is likely to become dangerous may be prohibited, or allowed only under special conditions, by an Order of the Secretary of State. ("1896" Section 6.) *A summary of the Order now in force is given at the end of this Abstract.*

OFFENCES.

Penalties.—Failure to comply with (1) Any of the provisions of the Acts; (2) Any General Rule; (3) Any Special Rule; or (4) Any order of the Secretary of State relating to explosives, is an offence against the Acts for which the offender may be prosecuted. An Owner, Agent, Manager, Under-Manager, or Contractor is liable for an offence to a penalty not exceeding £20—except in certain cases where a higher penalty is provided for. Any other person is liable to a penalty not exceeding £2. The penalty may, under certain conditions and if the Secretary of State thinks fit, be paid to the persons injured, or to the relatives of persons killed.

If the offence appears to the Court to be so serious that a fine is inadequate, and to have been committed wilfully and by the personal fault of the person accused, imprisonment for not more than three months may be imposed. (Sections 50, 51, 59, 60 and 75, "1894" section 1 and "1896" Section 6.)

COPIES OF ABSTRACT OF ACT AND SPECIAL RULES.

A printed copy of the Abstract of the Acts and of the Special Rules shall be supplied gratis to every person employed in or about a mine who applies for a copy at the pay office of the mine

Copies of the Abstract and of the Special Rules have to be kept posted up at the mine where they may be conveniently read; and it is an offence against the Acts to pull down, injure or deface such copies or any other notice or document posted up in pursuance of the Acts or of the Special Rules. (Sections 57 and 58.)

GENERAL RULES.

The following are the General Rules for every mine. (Section 49 and "1896" Section 5.)

Rule 1. *Ventilation.*—An adequate amount of ventilation shall be constantly produced in every mine to dilute and render harmless noxious gases to such an extent that the working places of the shafts, levels, stables, and workings of the mine and the travelling roads to and from those working places, shall be in a fit state for working and passing therein.

In the case of mines required by this Act to be under the control of a Certificated Manager, the quantity of air in the respective splits or currents shall at least once in every month be measured and entered in a book to be kept for the purpose at the mine.

Rule 2. *Return Air and Fire.*—Where a fire is used for ventilation in any mine newly opened after the passing of this Act, the return air, unless it be so diluted as not to be inflammable, shall be carried off clear of the fire by means of a dumb drift or airway.

Rule 3. *Ventilator.*—Where a mechanical contrivance for ventilation is introduced into any mine after the commencement of this Act, it shall be in such position and placed under such conditions as will tend to ensure its being uninjured by an explosion.

Rule 4.—*Examination of Mine.*—A station or stations shall be appointed at the entrance to the mine, or to different parts of the mine, as the case may require; and the following provisions shall have effect:

(i) As to inspection before commencing work:—

Before commencing work.—A competent person or competent persons appointed by the Owner, Agent, or Manager for the purpose, not being contractors for getting minerals in the mine, shall, within such time immediately before the commencement of each shift as shall be fixed by special rules made under this Act, inspect every part of the mine situate beyond the station or each of the stations, and in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, and all working places in which work is temporarily stopped within any ventilating district in which the men have to work, and shall ascertain the condition thereof so far as the presence of gas, ventilation, roof and sides, and general safety are concerned.

No workman shall pass beyond any such station until the part of the mine beyond that station has been so examined and stated by such competent person to be safe.

The inspection shall be made with a locked safety lamp, except in the case of any mine in which inflammable gas has not been found within the preceding twelve months.

A report specifying where noxious or inflammable gas, if any, was found present, and what defects (if any) in roofs or sides, and what (if any) other source of danger were or was observed, shall be recorded without delay in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and accessible to the workmen, and such report shall be signed by, and so far as the same does not consist of printed matter, shall be in the handwriting of the person who made the inspection.

For the purpose of the foregoing provisions of this rule, two or more shifts succeeding one another without any interval are to be deemed to be one shift.

(ii) As to inspection during shifts:—

During working Shifts.—A similar inspection shall be made in the course of each shift of all parts of the mine in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, but it shall not be necessary to record a report of the same in a book. Provided that in the case of a mine worked continuously throughout the twenty-four hours by a succession of shifts, the report of one of such inspections shall be recorded in manner above required.

Rule 5. *Inspection of Machinery.*—A competent person or competent persons appointed by the Owner, Agent, or Manager for the purpose, shall, once at least in every twenty-four hours, examine the state of the external parts of the machinery, the state of the guides and conductors in the shafts, and the state of the head gear, ropes, chains, and other similar appliances of the mine which are in actual use both above ground and below ground, and shall once at least in every week examine the state of the shafts by which persons ascend or descend; and shall make a true report of the result of such examination, and every such report shall be recorded without delay in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the person who made the inspection.

Rule 6. *Fencing.*—Every entrance to any place which is not in actual use or course of working and extension shall be properly fenced across the whole width of the entrance, so as to prevent persons inadvertently entering the same.

Rule 7. *Withdrawal in case of danger.*—If at any time it is found by the person for the time being in charge of the mine, or any part thereof, that by reason of inflammable gases prevailing in the mine, or that part thereof, or of any cause whatever, the mine or that part is dangerous, every workman shall be withdrawn from the mine or part so found dangerous, and a competent person appointed for the purpose shall inspect the mine or part so found dangerous, and if the danger arises from inflammable gas shall inspect the mine or part with a locked safety lamp; and in every case shall make a true report of the condition of the mine or part; and a workman shall not, except in so far as is necessary for inquiring into the cause of danger or for the removal thereof, or for exploration, be re-admitted into the mine, or part so found dangerous, until the same is stated by the person appointed as aforesaid not to be dangerous. Every such report shall be recorded in a book which shall be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the person who made the inspection.

Rule 8. *Naked Lights.*—No lamp or light other than a locked safety lamp shall be allowed or used.

(a) In any place in a mine in which there is likely to be any such quantity of inflammable gas as to render the use of naked lights dangerous; or

(b) In any working approaching near a place in which there is likely to be an accumulation of inflammable gas.

And when it is necessary to work the coal in any part of a ventilating district with safety lamps, it shall not be allowable to work the coal with naked lights in another part of the same ventilating district situated between the place where such lamps are being used and the return air-way.

Rule 9. *Safety Lamps.*—Wherever safety lamps are used, they shall be so constructed that they may be safely carried against the air current ordinarily prevailing in that part of the mine in which the lamps are for the time being in use, even though such current should be inflammable.

To be provided by Owner.—A safety lamp shall not be used in any mine or part of a mine by any person employed therein, unless it is provided by the Owner of the mine, and no portion of any safety lamp shall be removed by any person from the mine, while the lamp is in ordinary use.

Rule 10. *Examination and locking of Safety Lamps.*—In any mine or part of a mine in which safety lamps are required by this Act or by the special rules made in pursuance of this Act to be used—

- (i) A competent person appointed by the Owner, Agent or Manager for the purpose, shall, either at the surface or at the appointed lamp station, examine every safety lamp immediately before it is taken into the workings for use, and ascertain it to be in safe working order and securely locked; and such lamps shall not be used until they have been so examined and found in safe working order and securely locked:
- (ii) A safety lamp shall not be unlocked except either at the appointed lamp station, or for the purpose of firing a shot, in conformity with the provisions hereinafter contained:
- (iii) A person unless he has been appointed either for the purpose of examining safety lamps, or for the purpose of firing shots, shall not have in his possession any contrivance for opening the lock of any safety lamp:
- (iv) *Matches.*—A person shall not have in his possession any lucifer match or apparatus of any kind for striking a light, except within a completely closed chamber attached to the fuse of the shot.

Rule 11. *Lamp Stations.*—Where safety lamps are required to be used, the position of the lamp stations for lighting or re-lighting the lamps shall not be in the return air.

Rule 12. *Explosives.*—Any explosive substance shall only be used in the mine below ground as follows:

- (a) It shall not be stored in the mine:
- (b) It shall not be taken into the mine, except in cartridges in a secure case or canister containing not more than five pounds:
Provided that on the application of the Owner, Agent, or Manager of any mine, the Secretary of State may by order exempt such mine from so much of this rule as forbids taking an explosive substance into the mine except in cartridges:
- (c) A workman shall not have in use at one time in any one place more than one of such cases or canisters:
- (d) *Shotfiring.*—In the process of charging or stemming for blasting, a person shall not use or have in his possession any iron or steel pricker, scraper, charger, tamping rod, or stemmer, and only clay or other non-inflammable substances shall be used for stemming, and shall be provided by the Owner of the mine:
- (e) No explosive shall be forcibly pressed into a hole of insufficient size, and, when a hole has been charged, the explosive shall not be unrammed, and no hole shall be bored for a charge at a distance of less than six inches from any hole where the charge has missed fire:

(f) In any place in which the use of a locked safety lamp is for the time being required by or in pursuance of this Act or which is dry and dusty, no shot shall be fired except by or under the direction of a competent person appointed by the Owner, Agent, or Manager of the mine, and such person shall not fire the shot or allow it to be fired until he has examined both the place itself where the shot is to be fired, and all contiguous accessible places of the same seam within a radius of twenty yards, and has found such place safe for firing:

(g) *Where gas exists.*—If in any mine, at either of the four inspections under Rule 4 recorded last before a shot is to be fired, inflammable gas has been reported to be present in the ventilating district in which the shot is to be fired, the shot shall not be fired—

(1.) Unless a competent person, appointed as aforesaid, has examined the place where gas has been so reported to be present, and has found that such gas has been cleared away, and that there is not at or near such place sufficient gas issuing or accumulated to render it unsafe to fire the shot: or

(2.) Unless the explosive employed in firing the shot is so used with water or other contrivance as to prevent it from inflaming gas, or is of such a nature that it cannot inflame gas:

(h) *Dry and Dusty places.*—If the place where a shot is to be fired is dry and dusty, then the shot shall not be fired unless one of the following conditions is observed, that is to say:—

(1.) Unless the place of firing and all contiguous accessible places within a radius of twenty yards therefrom are at the time of firing in a wet state from thorough watering or other treatment equivalent to watering, in all parts where dust is lodged, whether roof, floor, or sides; or

(2.) In the case of places in which watering would injure the roof or floor, unless the explosive is so used with water or other contrivance as to prevent it from inflaming gas or dust, or is of such a nature that it cannot inflame gas or dust:

(i) *Main Haulage Roads.*—If such dry and dusty place is part of a main haulage road, or is a place contiguous thereto, and showing dust adhering to the roof and sides, no shot shall be fired there unless—

(1.) Both the conditions mentioned in sub-head (h) have been observed; or

(2.) Unless such one of the conditions mentioned in sub-head (h) as may be applicable to the particular place has been observed, and moreover all workmen have been removed from the seam in which the shot is to be fired, and from all seams communicating with the shaft on the same level, except the men engaged in firing the shot, and such other persons, not exceeding ten, as are necessarily employed in attending to the ventilating furnaces, steam boilers, engines, machinery, winding apparatus, signals or horses, or in inspecting the mine.

(k) *Definitions.*—In this Act “ventilating district” means such part of a seam as has an independent intake commencing from a main intake air course, and an independent return airway terminating at a main return air course; and “main haulage road” means a road which has been, or for the time being is, in use for moving trams by steam or other mechanical power:

(l) Where a seam of a mine is not divided into separate ventilating districts, the provisions in this Act relating to ventilating districts shall be read as though the word “seam” were substituted for the words “ventilating district”:

(m) *Clay and Ironstone Mines.*—So much of this rule as requires the explosive substance taken into the mine to be in cartridges, and so much of the provisions of sub-head (f) as relates to a dry and dusty place, and the provisions (g), (h), (i), (k), and (l) shall not apply to seams of clay or stratified ironstone which are not worked in connexion with any coal seam, and which contain no coal in the working.

N.B.—For additional provisions as to the kinds of explosives which alone may be used in certain cases and as to special precautions see page 8 of Abstract.

Rule 13. *Water and Bore-holes.*—Where a place is likely to contain a dangerous accumulation of water, the working approaching that place shall not at any point within forty yards of that place exceed eight feet in width, and there shall be constantly kept at a sufficient distance, not being less than five yards, in advance, at least one bore-hole near the centre of the working, and sufficient flank bore-holes on each side.

Rule 14. *Signals and Refuges for Travelling Planes worked by Machinery.*—Every underground plane on which persons travel, which is self-acting or worked by an engine, windlass, or gin, shall be provided (if exceeding thirty yards in length) with some proper means of communicating distinct and definite signals between the stopping places and the ends of the plane, and shall be provided in every case, with sufficient man-holes for places of refuge at intervals of not more than twenty yards, or if there is not room for a person to stand between the side of a tub and the side of the plane, then (unless the tubs are moved by an endless chain or rope) at intervals of not more than ten yards.

Rule 15. *Refuges for other Roads.*—Every road on which persons travel underground where the load is drawn by a horse or other animal shall be provided at intervals of not more than fifty yards, with sufficient man-holes, or with places of refuge, and every such place of refuge shall be of sufficient length, and at least three feet in width, between the waggons running on the road and the side of such road. There shall be at least two proper travelling ways into every steam engine room and boiler gallery.

Rule 16. *Refuge to be kept clear.*—Every man-hole and every place of refuge shall be constantly kept clear, and no person shall place anything in any such man-hole or place of refuge.

Rule 17. *Dimensions of Horse Roads.*—Every travelling road on which a horse or other draught animal is used underground shall be of sufficient dimensions to allow the horse or other animal to pass without rubbing against the roof or timbering.

Rule 18. *Fencing Old Shafts.*—The top of every shaft which for the time being is out of use, or used only as an air shaft, shall be and shall be kept securely fenced.

Rule 19. *Fencing Shafts in use.*—The top and all entrances between the top and bottom, including the sump, if any, of every working ventilating or pumping shaft shall be properly fenced, but this shall not be taken to forbid the temporary removal of the fence for the purpose of repairs or other operations, if proper precautions are used.

Rule 20. *Securing Shafts.*—Where the natural strata are not safe, every working or pumping shaft shall be securely cased, lined or otherwise made secure.

Rule 21. *Securing Roof and Sides.*—The roof and sides of every travelling road and working place shall be made secure, and a person shall not, unless appointed for the purpose of exploring or repairing, travel or work in any such travelling road or working place which is not so made secure.

Rule 22.—*Propping Timber.*—Where the timbering of the working places is done by the workmen employed therein, suitable timber shall be provided at the working place, gate end, pass bye, siding or other similar place in the mine convenient to the workmen, and the distance between the sprags or holing props where they are required shall not exceed six feet or such less distance as may be ordered by the Owner, Agent, or Manager.

Rule 23. *Use of Downcast Shaft.*—Where there is a downcast and furnace shaft to the same seam, and both such shafts are provided with apparatus in use for raising and lowering persons, every person employed in the mine shall, on giving reasonable notice, have the option of using the downcast shaft.

Rule 24. *Enginemen; competency and attendance.*—In any mine which is usually entered by means of machinery, a competent male person not less than twenty-two years of age shall be appointed for the purpose of working the machinery which is employed in lowering and raising persons therein, and shall attend for that purpose during the whole time that any person is below ground in the mine.

Where any shaft, plane, or level is used for the purpose of communication from one part to another part of a mine, and persons are taken up or down or along such shaft, plane, or level, by means of any engine, windlass, or gin, driven or worked by steam or any mechanical power, or by an animal, or by manual labour, the person in charge of such engine, windlass, or gin, or of any part of the machinery, ropes, chains, or tackle connected therewith, must be a competent male person not less than eighteen years of age.

Where the machinery is worked by an animal, the person under whose direction the driver of the animal acts, shall for the purposes of this rule, be deemed to be the person in charge of the machinery.

Rule 25.—*Signalling in Shafts.*—Every working shaft used for the purpose of drawing minerals or for the lowering or raising of persons shall, if exceeding fifty yards in depth, and not exempted in writing by the Inspector of the district, be provided with guides and some proper

means of communicating distinct and definite signals from the bottom of the shaft and from every entrance for the time being in use between the surface and the bottom of the shaft to the surface, and from the surface to the bottom of the shaft and to every entrance for the time being in use between the surface and the bottom of the shaft.

Rule 26. *Prevention of Over-winding.*—If in any mine the winding apparatus is not provided with some automatic contrivance to prevent over-winding, then the cage, when men are being raised, shall not be wound up at a speed exceeding three miles an hour, after the cage has reached a point in the shaft to be fixed by the special rules.

Rule 27. *Cover for Cage.*—A sufficient cover overhead shall be used for every cage or tub employed in lowering or raising persons in any working shaft, except where the cage or tub is worked by a windlass, or where persons are employed at work in the shaft, or where a written exemption is given by the Inspector of the district.

Rule 28. *Chain.*—A single-linked chain shall not be used for lowering or raising persons, in any working shaft or plane, except for the short coupling chain attached to the cage or tub.

Rule 29. *Winding Drum.*—There shall be on the drum of every machine used for lowering or raising persons, such flanges or horns, and also if the drum is conical, such other appliances as may be sufficient to prevent the rope from slipping.

Rule 30. *Winding Breaks: Position of Cage.*—There shall be attached to every machine worked by steam, water, or mechanical power, and used for lowering or raising persons, an adequate break or breaks, and a proper indicator (in addition to any mark on the rope) showing to the person who works the machine, the position of the cage or tub in the shaft.

If the drum is not on the crank shaft, there shall be an adequate break on the drum shaft.

Rule 31. *Fencing Machinery.*—Every flywheel and all exposed and dangerous parts of the machinery used in or about the mine shall be and shall be kept securely fenced.

Rule 32. *Steam Boiler.*—Each steam boiler, whether separate or one of a range shall have attached to it a proper safety valve, and also a proper steam gauge and water gauge, to show respectively the pressure of steam and the height of water in each boiler.

Rule 33. *Atmospheric Pressure and Temperature.*—A barometer and thermometer shall be placed above ground in a conspicuous position near the entrance to the mine.

Rule 34. *Ambulances.*—Where persons are employed underground, ambulances or stretchers, with splints and bandages, shall be kept at the mine ready for immediate use in case of accident.

Rule 35. *Damage or Interference.*—No person shall wilfully damage, or without proper authority remove or render useless, any fence, fencing, manhole, place of refuge, casing, lining, guide, means of signalling, signal, cover, chain, flange, horn, break, indicator, steam gauge, water gauge, safety valve, or other appliance or thing provided in any mine in compliance with this Act.

Rule 36. *Obedience to Orders.*—Every person shall observe such directions with respect to working as may be given to him with a view to comply with this Act or the special rules in force in the mine.

Rule 37. *Books.*—The books* mentioned in these rules shall be provided by the Owner, Agent, or Manager, and the books, or a correct copy thereof, shall be kept at the office at the mine, and any Inspector under this Act, and any person employed in the mine, or anyone having the written authority of any Inspector or person so employed, may at all reasonable times inspect and take copies of and extracts from any such books; but nothing in these rules shall be construed to impose the obligation of keeping any such book or a copy thereof for more than twelve months after the book has ceased to be used for entries therein under this Act.

* See Rules 1, 4, 5, 7, and 38.

Any report by this Act required to be recorded in a book may² be partly in print (including lithograph) and partly in writing.

Rule 38. *Inspection on behalf of Workmen.*—The persons employed in a mine may from time to time appoint two of their number or any two persons, not being mining engineers, who are practical working miners, to inspect the mine at their own cost, and the persons so appointed shall be allowed once at least in every month, accompanied, if the Owner, Agent or Manager of the mine thinks fit, by himself or one or more officers of the mine, to go to every part of the mine, and to inspect the shafts, levels, planes, working places, return air-ways, ventilating apparatus, old workings and machinery. Every facility shall be afforded by the Owner, Agent and Manager, and all persons in the mine for the purpose of the inspection, and the persons appointed shall forthwith make a true report of the result of the inspection, and that report shall be recorded in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the persons who made the inspection; and if the report state the existence or apprehended existence of any danger, the Owner, Agent, or Manager shall forthwith cause a true copy of the report to be sent to the Inspector of the district.

Rule 39. *Coal-getter working alone.*—No person not now employed as a coal or ironstone getter shall be allowed to work alone as a coal or ironstone getter in the face of the workings, until he has had two years' experience of such work under the supervision of skilled workmen, or unless he shall have been previously employed for two years in or about the face of the workings of a mine.

[If a person not being qualified to work alone, so works on his own representation that he was so qualified, the representation being accepted in good faith by the Owner, Agent, or Manager, such person, and not the Owner, Agent, or Manager, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against the Act. (Section 64.)]

EXPLOSIVES ORDER.

The following is a summary of the chief provisions of the Order now in force:—

The Order contains a list of explosives which have passed the Government test—called “Permitted Explosives.”

The Order applies specially to two classes of seams in Coal Mines:—
Class 1—Seams in which inflammable gas has been found within the previous three months in such quantity as to be indicative of danger; and Class 2—Seams which are not naturally wet throughout.

In these seams the use of all explosives except the permitted explosives is prohibited—in Class 1 throughout the seam—in Class 2 in all roads and in all dry and dusty places: and the use even of the permitted explosives is subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) The charge to be placed in a properly drilled shot hole with sufficient stemming.
- (b) The charge to be fired by an efficient electrical apparatus or other means equally safe.
- (c) The charge to be fired by a competent person appointed in writing by the Owner, Agent, or Manager, not being a person whose wages depend on the amount of mineral to be gotten.

The use of permitted explosives in main haulage roads and main intakes is subject to the further condition that every part of the roof, floor, and sides within a distance of 20 yards from the place where the shot is fired must, unless naturally wet, be thoroughly watered at the time of firing.

In seams not included in the two classes just mentioned, the Order applies only to the main haulage roads and main intakes: in them an alternative is allowed:—If explosives not in the permitted list are used, the workmen, with certain exceptions, must be withdrawn from the mine when the shots are fired; but if permitted explosives are used, the workmen need not be withdrawn, provided the roof, floor, and sides within 20 yards from the place where the shot is fired must unless naturally wet, be thoroughly watered at the time of firing.

The list of permitted explosives may be seen in the copies of the Order, which are supplied by the Home Office to the mine owners. To each explosive certain further conditions are attached which must be carefully observed; and the provisions of the Order are not in substitution for those in the Coal Mines Regulation Acts or Rules, or of any Special Rules of the mine, but are in addition to them.

Special Rules.

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SPECIAL RULES.

All persons employed in or about the Mine must make themselves acquainted and comply with "The Coal Mines Regulation Acts, 1887 to 1896" and these Special Rules, or they will subject themselves to the penalties imposed by such Acts.

General Directions.

1. In collieries where the duties of more than one department devolve upon the same person, that person shall be bound by and observe the rules attached to all such departments.
2. Every workperson shall, in the performance of his work, obey such directions as he may receive from the Manager, Under-Manager (if any), Underlooker, Fireman, or any other Official appointed in accordance with the Act, or Special Rules, with a view to safety, or to the convenience and proper discipline of the Mine or Colliery.
3. All persons who are casually employed underground, (Masons, Enginewrights and others,) shall be amenable to the Act, and the Special Rules, and shall make themselves acquainted with the same.
4. No person shall interfere with any Manager or other Officer in the discharge of his duties.
5. No person acting in a place of trust shall depute anyone to do his work without the sanction of the Manager, Under-Manager or Underlooker.
6. Any person acting in a place of trust unable to attend his work shall if possible, cause his superior to be informed thereof in sufficient time to enable him to find a substitute.
7. No person shall go to sleep whilst on duty or in the Mine, and where there is more than one shift no person having charge of men, machinery, signals or ventilating apparatus shall leave work until relieved, unless authorised by his superior officer.
8. No person shall do anything to endanger his own or another person's life.
9. The immediate employer of every boy shall see that such boy leaves the Mine when his period of work has expired, and no boy shall continue to work beyond the hours of employment authorised by the Act.
10. Any person receiving injury shall (if able) report the same to the Fireman or other official before leaving the Mine.
11. No person shall pull down, injure, or deface any notice or notice-board without the authority of the Manager.
12. No person shall ill-treat any animal which may be employed underground or in connection with any Mine.
13. No person shall come to or be at the Mine in a state of intoxication. Nor shall any person take any intoxicating drink into the pit, nor drink it upon the works, except by permission of the Manager.
14. Where an Under-Manager is appointed, the Owner or Agent shall give notice in writing of such appointment to the Inspector of Mines for the district as in the case of a Manager, and such notice shall name the mine for which such Under-Manager is appointed.
15. A sufficient supply of suitable timber shall be kept at or within 25 yards of every working place where mineral is being gotten.

Certificated Manager.

16. He shall be responsible for the control, management, and direction of the Mine, above and below ground, and shall comply with the Act, and shall to the best of his power enforce the observance of the Act and of the General and Special Rules.

17. He shall appoint such competent persons as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act and Special Rules, and he shall inform each of them of his special duties, and in the case of underground officials, whether the whole, and if not the whole, what district of the Mine or Colliery is under his charge, and he shall also inform the Under-Manager (if any) of his special duties.

18. He shall also from time to time give or cause to be given the notices required by Special Rule 69, and such other notices as may be required by the Act or the General and Special Rules, and shall also specify the duration of the intervals for meals for surface workpersons not included in the hours of employment. He shall see that the required Registers and Report Books are provided and kept, and that they are duly entered up; and shall see that the Abstract of the Act and a copy of the Special Rules are published and supplied in accordance with section 57 of the Act.

19. Where timber or other material is used to support the roof, the Owner, Agent, or Manager shall keep posted up at the Mine a notice specifying for each seam or district of a seam, the maximum distances apart at which props or other roof supports at the working faces are to be set, and such notice shall fix the maximum distances that the face of coal may be taken in advance of the nearest row of props or other roof supports, and the persons setting props or other roof supports shall see that these maximum distances are not exceeded.

20. He shall order locked safety lamps to be used wherever requisite to comply with the Act, and shall specify what type and pattern of safety lamp shall be so used.

21. He shall, where safety lamps are used, from time to time, fix lamp stations at such points in the mine as he shall think fit, not being in any return aircourse, at which stations lamps may be lighted and re-lighted, and shall also fix a point in the mine, or in the ventilating district beyond which no light other than in a locked safety lamp shall ever be taken. All such lamp stations shall be indicated by a board with the words "Lamp Station" legibly inscribed thereon.

22. He shall appoint a competent person, who shall, either at the surface or at the appointed lamp station, examine every safety lamp before it is taken into the workings for use, and ascertain it to be in safe working order and securely locked; and no person shall take, or use, or have in his possession any safety lamp beyond such lamp station until it has been so examined and found to be in safe working order and securely locked.

23. He shall fix the stations referred to in General Rule 4.

24. He shall see that all pits and insets are so constructed that the Hooker-on can perform his duties without standing in the shaft when a load is ascending.

25. He shall from time to time determine the use and kind of explosives to be employed below ground, and shall specify what places

(if any) in the Mine shall be watered or subjected to other treatment equivalent to watering under General Rule 12.

26. He shall order where bore-holes shall be made, in accordance with the provisions of General Rule 13.

27. He shall take care that an adequate amount of ventilation shall be constantly produced in every Mine under his charge, to enable the requirements of General Rule No. 1, to be complied with, and that at least once in every month the quantity of air in the respective splits or currents is measured and entered in a book as provided for by General Rule 1.

28. He shall see that a barometer and thermometer are placed above ground in a conspicuous position near the entrance to the Mine.

29. He shall see that sufficient materials and appliances are always provided for the proper carrying out of all necessary operations, and if he be not the Owner or Agent, he shall report in writing, to such Owner or Agent when anything is required that is not within the scope of his authority to order, so as to enable him to carry out the Act.

Under-Manager.

30. The Under-Manager (if any) shall comply with Section 21 of the Act, and in the absence of the Manager shall perform the Manager's duties as required by the Act and these Special Rules, and when the Manager is exercising daily supervision the Under-Manager (if any) shall discharge the duties assigned to him.

Under-Manager or Under-Looker.

31. Subject to the order and control of the Manager, he shall have the responsible charge of the underground workings, or portion of underground workings, to which he is appointed.

32. He shall so far as practicable confer daily with every fireman on duty in his district.

33. He shall at once inspect personally such district of the Mine under his charge as may be reported to him as unsafe, or in any way to need his attention, and shall remedy or cause to be remedied any defect.

34. If any part of the pit be unsafe, either from the presence of gas or other causes, he shall at once withdraw the men, and shall see that such precautions are taken as will prevent any person entering such part of the pit, except for inquiring into the cause of danger, or for the removal thereof, or for exploration; he shall also inform the Manager and also the Fireman of the district, and record a report of the same in the book provided for that purpose. He shall not allow any serious accumulation of gas to be removed except when the ordinary workmen are out of the pit.

35. He shall not make nor allow to be made any change in the general direction of the ventilation without the consent of the Manager, nor when any person is in any part of the Mine affected by such change.

36. He shall see that the communications between shafts or outlets provided in accordance with Section 16 (b) are constantly maintained.

37. He shall frequently and carefully examine all accessible parts of the Mine or district of the Mine under his charge, whether frequented by workmen or not. He shall see that the furnace, fan, or other ventilating apparatus (if any) is in good repair and carefully attended

to, and if doors be used instead of a stopping between any main intake and return air-courses, that they are doubled, so that one door checks the other. He shall see that all air-doors are fixed to close of themselves and not stand open. He shall frequently and carefully examine the state of the ventilation, and of the air-doors, air-crossings, air-stoppings, and of the bratticing and see that they are kept in good repair, and that all permanent stoppings are built of brick or stone and mortar. He shall see that there is sufficient ventilation in the sump and water lodge, and below each scaffold, and elsewhere in the shaft, and that where practicable every place in the pit be ventilated, that every air-way is travelled not less than once a week, and where practicable the stables shall be ventilated into the return air-course

38. He shall see that the General Rules 8 (sub-section *b*) and 13 are carried out and before any opening is made into any place not in working, and likely to contain an accumulation of gas or water, that requisite precautions are taken, and that proper plugs are provided.

39. He shall see that proper means of signalling are provided and so fixed that the person using the same shall be safe whilst doing so on every underground plane on which persons travel which is self-acting or worked by an engine, windlass, or gin, and which exceeds thirty yards in length; and that, where required by the Act, sufficient man-holes or places of refuge are provided, and that the same are kept free from all rubbish and loose material, as provided for by General Rules 14, 15, and 16, and he shall also carry out General Rule 17 as to dimensions of travelling roads on which horses or other draught animals are used, and see that sufficient space is provided for the safety of persons opening doors.

40. He shall see that all necessary props, timber, stores, and other materials are provided in the Mine, and that they are sent into the districts where required, and shall report any deficient supply to the Manager.

41. He shall see that the ambulances or stretchers, with splints and bandages provided in accordance with General Rule 34, are kept in order and available for use when required.

42. He shall see that the provisions of the Act respecting the employment of boys as contained in sections 4, 5, and 6, and of workmen as contained in General Rule 39 are carried out.

43. He shall examine daily, and initial the report books in his department at the Mine, and see that the reports are properly recorded therein.

44. He shall give immediate notice to the Manager of any accident causing injury to any person, and of any danger, serious defect, or want of repair in the Mine, or of any machinery or structure thereat.

45. He shall see that where necessary, food and water are sent into the workings for the horses.

46. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager.

Fireman and every other Competent Person (if any) to whom special duties are entrusted.

47. Subject to the order and control of the Manager, Under-Manager (if any), and Underlooker, the Fireman shall be responsible for the safe working of the Mine or district of the Mine under his charge, and shall see that the orders of his superiors are carried out.

48. In Mines worked with safety lamps he shall examine the Barometer and Thermometer at the commencement of his shift, and register the same and use extra caution when any sudden or unusual change has taken place.

49. The Fireman or Firemen, or other competent person or persons not being a contractor or contractors for getting minerals in the Mine, nor in the employment of such contractor or contractors who may be appointed to make the inspection required by General Rule 4, shall within two and a half hours immediately before the commencement of each shift inspect with a locked safety lamp every part of the Mine beyond the station or stations appointed as required by General Rule 4, and in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, and shall ascertain the condition thereof so far as the presence of gas, ventilation, roof and sides, and general safety are concerned. In making this inspection the date shall be written with chalk at the face of each working place to show that it has been examined, and all entrances to any place which may be found to be unsafe shall be fenced off at such a distance from the point of danger as to prevent any person inadvertently approaching the danger. A true report of the result of the inspection (whether any danger or source of danger is discovered or not), shall be recorded, signed and written in the manner and to the extent required by General Rule 4, before he leaves the station or within half-an-hour after meeting the workmen.

50. He shall examine all the working places under his charge at least once during each shift, and on finding any person working without sufficient timber or sprags set, he shall stop the Miner from working until he has commenced to make his place safe. He shall also examine all air-ways in his district at least once a week, and all other accessible parts of the pit under his charge not frequented by workmen at least once in every 24 hours. Should he find any place dangerous through noxious gas, or from any cause whatever, he shall withdraw the men, and shall fence off such place across the whole width, placing a danger signal at a sufficient distance from the point of danger, and report the same to the Under-Manager (if any), or Under-looker, and enter a record of the same in his report book. He shall enter a record in his report book of any gas met with at any time.

51. The Fireman and other competent person in authority shall have power to send out of the Mine any person who contravenes any of the General or Special Rules, and shall report the same to the Under-Manager (if any), or Under-looker.

52. The Fireman, or other person appointed for the purpose shall once at least in every 24 hours examine the state of the ropes, chains, signals, brakes, jig-wheels and posts, and such other apparatus as may be in actual use in his district, and stop the use of any of them that he finds unsafe.

53. He shall see that all air-doors are fixed to close of themselves, or if not in use taken off their hinges, and shall frequently and carefully examine the state of the ventilation, and of the air-doors, air-crossings, air-stoppings, fences, and bratticing, and see that the same are kept in good repair.

54. In addition to the examination of lamps, under General Rule 10, he shall see that all safety lamps in his district are properly secured and in safe working order by examination from time to time of all the lamps coming under his notice.

55. The Fireman or other competent person appointed for that purpose shall be responsible for the proper carrying out of General Rule 22 and Special Rule 15, and he shall at once report to the Under-Manager (if any) or Under-looker, any deficiency of timber, brattice, or other material, or any neglect on the part of the Miner to sprag and prop his place. In the latter case the Miner shall be warned, if he be present at the time of the discovery of the neglect, or if not present he shall be informed of such report within a reasonable time.

56. The Fireman or other competent person appointed for the purpose shall see that every entrance to every place which is not in actual use or course of working, and extension, or any dangerous place adjoining any road on which persons have to travel is properly fenced across the whole width of the entrance, so as to prevent persons inadvertently entering the same.

57. Wherever consecutive shifts are worked, or where not more than one hour intervenes, no Fireman shall leave the Mine until he has seen the Fireman coming on the following shift and reported to him whatever may require attention in his district.

58. He shall at the close of each day's work ascertain that the whole of the men and boys are out of the portion of the Mine assigned to him, but should it be necessary for any of them to remain he shall ascertain that the persons are left in charge of a responsible person, and before leaving he shall ascertain that unnecessary lights are extinguished, and see that all main doors are closed, and that the ventilation is taking its proper course.

59. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Under-looker or Manager.

Contractor, Stallman or Driftman.

60. When a stall, drift, or other working place is at work it shall be under the charge of a competent person duly qualified under General Rule 39.

61. He shall before allowing any person to work satisfy himself by personal examination that the place is in a safe state, and he shall also further examine the place at frequent intervals during his shift, and especially after any stoppage for meals or other purpose.

62. He shall see that the working is carried on in accordance with the method ordered by the Manager or Under-Manager, and that the necessary timber, sprags, or other supports are set, renewed, and removed at the proper time, but he shall not allow timber to be drawn during working hours where the fall of roof may force gas out upon the

persons employed; and should he find that at any time there is not a sufficient supply of timber as required by Special Rule 15, he shall at once report the fact to the Fireman.

63. He shall build or cause to be built such packs and chocks as may be considered necessary for the safe working of the Mine by the Manager, Under-Manager, or Fireman, and he shall see that such packs are so built as not to interfere with the ventilation.

64. He shall not use nor allow to be used any explosive, except in conformity with the General and Special Rules.

65. He shall not allow timber, rails, or other material to be used for any improper purpose.

66. He shall not employ any person unless he is satisfied that such person understands, and is competent to carry out the work he has assigned to him.

67. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Under-looker or Manager.

Miners and all other Workpersons.

68. Every underground workperson shall present himself at the pit at which he is employed at the usual hour for descending to commence work, and shall proceed without delay to the appointed station. If no other place or station has been appointed, every person shall wait at the pit-head or other entrance to the Mine until the necessary examination under General Rule 4 has been made and announced, and where locked safety lamps are used he shall not pass beyond the point (if any) fixed underground by the Manager for that purpose, with any light except in a locked safety lamp.

69. All persons employed in and about the Mine, both above and below, shall obey the directions of the Manager, which shall be from time to time given by notice or notices, to be put up and maintained in a legible state at the entrance to the Mine, on the following matters:—

- (a). The number of persons to ride at one time on any cage, tram, or tub, in any pit, incline, or engine plane.
- (b). With respect to each shift, the earliest time at which boys may enter the Mine, and the latest time at which they shall leave it.

70. No person shall descend or ascend the pit contrary to the instructions of the Banksman or Hooker-on; all persons shall leave the cage when requested to do so by the Banksman or Hooker-on, and where the shaft is used for raising or lowering material and there are two ropes in the shaft, no person shall get on to the cage or tub except in case of emergency or by special leave until the Banksman or Hooker-on shall have been signalled to send down or up the opposite tub empty, or the cage with empty tubs, but this shall not prevent men ascending and descending at the same time in opposite cages or tubs.

71. No person shall ascend or descend the pit except in the cage or tub, or before or after the specified time, unless for the purposes of repairs or examination, or by the special permission of the Manager, Under-Manager, Under-looker, or Fireman, who shall give permission in cases where men are stopped working, from causes over which they

have no control; nor until the proper signals have been given and returned, and no unauthorised person shall use or interfere with any signalling apparatus.

72. Except in case of emergency, or by special leave, no person shall ride in the cage or tub with more than the specified number of persons, or on the same deck with his tools, gear, or loose material of any description, or on the same deck with full tubs of coal or other mineral or material, or in any cage to which no cover is attached, or on the cage top. No person shall pass under the cages whilst the cages are in motion. No person shall attempt to get in or out whilst the cage is in motion, or except in cases provided for by Special Rule 182, where catches are provided, until the catches are under. This rule shall not apply to sinking pits.

73. No person (not employed as a coal or ironstone getter at the passing of the Act, 16th September, 1987) shall work alone as a coal or ironstone getter in the face of the workings until he has had two years' experience of such work under the supervision of skilled workmen, or unless he shall have been previously employed for two years in or about the face of the workings of a Mine.

74. Every person before being engaged to work underground shall be seen by the Manager, Under-Manager or Underlooker, and obtain his sanction.

75. Each workperson shall work where directed, and no workperson, unless in case of emergency, shall go into any other part of the workings, except such as he may necessarily pass through in going to and from his work.

76. No person shall enter a place known to contain gas, or go beyond or remove a danger board, or other indication of danger, unless specially authorised by the Manager, Under-looker, or Fireman.

77. In addition to the Fireman's examination every person shall, before commencing and whilst at work, carefully examine his working-place and see that it is free from gas and safe in every respect.

78. Where the timbering of the working-places, is done by the workmen employed therein, every miner shall secure the roof and sides of his own working-place, and should he be unable to do so or to procure suitable material for these purposes, he shall cease working, leave the place, and at once report to the Under-looker or Fireman, and if upon application to them he shall not be provided with sufficient props for that purpose, he is to cease working, and report the same at the Colliery office, and in the case of his complaint being substantiated, he shall be paid for his time lost by so doing; but this rule shall in no way relieve any person from any obligation prescribed by any General or Special Rule.

79. Where holing is being done, every Miner shall set sprags or holing props as soon as there is room, and the distance between such sprags or holing props shall not exceed six feet, or such less distance as shall be ordered by the Owner, Agent, Manager, Under-Manager, Overman or Fireman; and he shall keep them set during the whole time he is holing, cutting, or drilling, or whilst any person is engaged near the coal face; they shall not be removed until actually necessary for the purpose of wedging or blasting, or otherwise for bringing down the coal. Should the measures taken fail to bring the coal down, he

shall not resume holing, or do or suffer any work to be done near the face until he has cautiously re-set such sprags, or holing props, and every loose end shall be securely spragged before commencing to hole.

80. Every Miner after a fall of coal, shall carefully examine and secure the roof and sides before he or his loader commences to load his tub or tram.

81. Wherever timber has to be withdrawn from the waste or other disused parts of the mine, the prop drawer shall have with him a "ringer and chain," "dog and chain" or other suitable appliance ready for use.

82. No person shall place anything in any manhole or place of refuge, and unless authorised to do so, no person shall interfere with any timber, door, fence, air-course, brattice, stopping, screen, switches, or other appliances, or leave open any door he found shut, or do anything to check the ventilation of the Mine, or to impede the working thereof, or to damage the property of the owner.

83. Each Miner shall as far as practicable, leave his working place at the close of every day's work in good order and condition.

84. No light shall be left in any working-place, nor in any part of the workings, unless it be left under the care of some person remaining therein.

85. Should any workperson notice any firedamp or other noxious gas, or an unusual quantity of water, or any insecurity of the roof, or sides, or other part of the workings, or any derangement in the ventilation, or any breach of the Act or these Rules by whomsoever committed, he shall give immediate information to the Manager, Under-Manager, Under-looker or Fireman, and if danger be apprehended shall immediately warn, if practicable, the workpersons in the part of the Mine likely to be affected.

86. Any person holing into old workings shall at once stop up the hole, and report the same to the Fireman.

87. No person shall ride upon any animal, tub, or waggon except where permitted by the Manager, Under-Manager or Under-looker.

88. Where underground trains are permitted to be run for the convenience of workmen they shall be under the entire charge of the guard appointed to look after them, and no person shall attempt to get into or out of the train while in motion, nor refuse to enter or leave it when directed to do so by the guard, and any person refusing to comply with this rule or interfering with or obstructing the guard in the discharge of his duties shall be reported by him to the official in charge of the Mine.

89. No person shall try for gas with a naked light or brush out gas.

90. No person shall change, alter, or without proper authority remove any mark, tally, or token which is placed on any loaded tub of coal or other mineral.

91. No person under the age of 16 years shall interfere in any way with the movement of railway waggons.

92. The person or persons having charge of the moving of railway waggons under the screens shall, before they are moved, give warning to those at the screens and staging who are likely to be affected.

93. No one shall pass immediately in front of or between waggons moving under the screens or on adjacent sidings.

94. Any person who contravenes any of the General or Special Rules shall be liable to be sent out of the Mine by the Fireman or by any other officer in addition to liability to be proceeded against under the Act.

Jig Dips, Cage Dips, Self-acting Inclines and Engine Planes.

95. A copy of the authorised code of signals shall be placed in a conspicuous position at every jig brow, cage dip, and self-acting incline exceeding thirty yards in length, and at all signalling places on engine planes, and the haulage on such roads shall be carried on in accordance with the code of signals. The signals shall be so arranged that the person signalling shall be in a place of safety should the ropes or tubs be moved while he is signalling, and no unauthorised person shall use or interfere with any signalling apparatus.

96. Stop-blocks or some other efficient appliance to prevent tubs accidentally running down shall be provided and used at the top of all self-acting inclines, jigs, engine dips, and entrances to cage dips.

97. In Mines where the inclination exceeds 30 degrees, the top and all entrances to self-acting inclines, cage dips, and sladders shall be provided with an efficient fence so as to prevent any person falling into them.

98. In Mines where the inclination exceeds 45 degrees proper climbing ways shall be provided for workmen to go to and from their working places.

99. All brakes shall be so constructed that it shall not be necessary for the brakeman to cross the rope or chains whilst in motion in order to use the brake.

100. No unauthorised person shall travel on any jig brow, cage-dip, self-acting incline or engine plane when the rope is in motion unless the road is worked by an endless chain or endless rope, nor until the proper signal for persons to travel has been given to the further end of the road and the reply signal received.

101. When any work is being done on a jig brow, cage-dip, self-acting incline or engine plane, no tubs shall be run on such roads except for the purposes of the work being done.

102. All persons in charge of or using self-acting inclines or engine planes shall see that the stop-blocks are properly secured and in position before allowing any tub to be brought on; and in addition to the examination by the Fireman or other competent person, under General Rule 5 and Special Rule 52, each workperson must satisfy himself of the safety of any tub, chain, rope, windlass, or other appliance in his personal use before commencing and whilst at work, and he shall not use anything that he finds unsafe. Where a drag or backstay is ordered to be used, the person whose duty it is, shall in all cases attach the drag or backstay to the tubs before they are drawn up.

103. When working in any engine plane, jig, or slant, every workperson shall secure his tub from getting loose, and when taking a tub down any incline roadway by hand he shall always be behind it, and shall use sufficient lockers or other means of stopping the tub on the way if required, he shall not place a tub on the plates or rails so that it can run down, unless it be hooked or otherwise secured. When a tub runs off the rails, or is stopped accidentally in a dip, or jig, the tub shall not be replaced or liberated until the brake or other appliance

for securing the tub has been properly applied, and it shall not be moved until all persons employed about it are again in places of safety or out of the jig. No person at the bottom of a jig shall be in front of a tub when in motion, except where an endless rope or chain is in use.

Horsekeepers and Drivers.

104. The horsekeeper shall see that no animal is allowed to go to work in an unfit state, and shall report to the Manager or Under-Manager any injury received by any animal.

105. Every person in charge of any animal shall report immediately to the Horsekeeper or Fireman any injury received by such animal whilst under his charge.

106. Every person in charge of any animal shall report to the Manager, Under-Manager, or Fireman, in case he finds the animal under his charge cannot pass along any road without rubbing against the roof or timbering.

107. Every horsedriver shall carefully convey his tubs and use sprags, lockers, or other means of scotching the tubs when necessary.

108. Every person in charge of any animal shall be responsible for the safe return of such animal to the stable.

Safety Lamps.

109. In any Mine or district of a Mine where safety lamps are ordered to be used no person shall use or have in his possession any lamp or light other than a locked safety lamp, of a type and pattern approved by the Manager.

110. The Lampman shall see that each lamp is in perfect order and properly cleaned, trimmed and locked before being given out.

111. Every person entrusted with the duty of cleaning safety lamps shall at once report any defect therein to the lampman.

112. Whenever any defective or damaged lamp is received by the Lampman he shall report the fact to the Manager or Under-Manager, and shall keep such lamp in the state in which it was received until seen by one of them.

113. Every person on receiving a safety lamp, and before leaving the lamp-house or station, shall externally examine it and see that it is in safe working order and securely locked, and shall personally return the same to the lamp-house; and no person shall have in any Mine an open, or, so far as can be ascertained by external observation, an insecure or defective safety lamp.

114. Every person using a safety lamp is strictly prohibited from unlocking, opening, or interfering with it in any way whilst in use, beyond the necessary trimming of the wick with the pricker or wire, but this shall not preclude a shot firer or other authorised official from raising the shield (if any) of a lamp for the purpose of igniting a shot or testing for gas.

115. Should any person in charge of a safety lamp lose his light, he shall take or send it to the station to be re-lighted, re-examined, and locked by some person duly authorised under Special Rule 120 before being again used.

116. Should any accident happen to a lamp whilst in use, by which the gauze is injured, oil is spilled upon the gauze, or the glass cracked or otherwise damaged, or the lamp be in any other way rendered un-

safe, the person using it shall at once carefully extinguish the light and immediately take the lamp to the appointed station, and report the occurrence to the Fireman in charge of the district, and such lamp shall not be again used until properly examined by some person duly authorised under Special Rule 120.

117. No person must allow any gas to explode in his safety lamp under any circumstances, where it can be avoided. When trying or examining for the presence of gas, the lamp must not be raised higher than will allow the presence of gas to be detected.

118. Should any workperson get into fire-damp, he shall not throw away his lamp, nor attempt to blow it out, but shall shelter it, hold the lamp near the floor, avoid jerking it, and take it steadily into the fresh air. If the gas fires in the lamp where he cannot take it into fresh air, he shall smother out the light, or extinguish it in water.

119. Each person shall be careful to place and keep his lamp in a safe position, and shall not work at the face or load with it suspended from his belt or clothing, or place it on the floor except when holing, and in all cases it shall be at least two feet from the swing of the pick.

120. In any Mine or part of a Mine in which safety lamps are required by the Act or by these Special Rules to be used, no person other than a person duly authorised by the Manager, in writing, either for the purpose of examining safety lamps or for the purpose of firing shots, shall have in his possession any unlocked safety lamp, or naked light, or means or apparatus for obtaining a light or opening a safety lamp, and no lamp key or apparatus for opening a safety lamp shall be in the Mine, except as provided for in this and the following Rule; and no person shall have in his possession underground in any such Mine, or part of a Mine, any match, pipe, or tobacco for smoking, cigar or cigarette, and if there be any ground for suspicion he shall be subject to be personally searched for the same, but his clothes shall not be searched in his absence. When required by the Manager or Under-Manager all persons having safety lamp keys and authorisations, shall produce them, and each person on leaving the Colliery or changing his employment shall deliver up his safety lamp key and authorisation to the Manager or Under-Manager, and a record of persons authorised to light lamps and fire shots shall be kept at the Mine.

121. No Contractor nor any person in the employ of a Contractor shall be authorised to carry a lamp key, or to open a safety lamp in the Mine except at lamp stations where a lamp key may be kept in a locked box of which box such Contractor or other person, if duly authorised by the Manager in writing shall be provided with a key.

122. Where safety lamps are re-lighted underground by electricity, the electrical apparatus shall not be placed in a return airway, and shall be securely locked so as to be unavailable for use except by persons authorised in writing by the Manager to carry a key to open the apparatus and to re-light safety lamps.

Gunpowder, Explosives, and Blasting.

123. No shot shall be fired in any Mine or district of a Mine in which safety lamps are required, or which is dry and dusty, except by a competent person or shot firer, who has been appointed by the Manager for that purpose, and then only in such district of the Mine as the Manager may from time to time direct.

124. In any place in which locked safety lamps are required by the Act to be used or which is dry and dusty, not being a sinking pit or a stone drift the person appointed to fire shots shall not be a Contractor nor any person in the employ of a Contractor.

125. All persons engaged in firing shots shall strictly observe the provisions of General Rule 12, and when more than one shot is to be fired in the same place, (except in sinking pits and stone drifts) the examination specified under General Rule 12 shall be made before and after the firing of each shot.

126. Before firing a shot the shot-firer shall see that all persons are out of reach of danger from the probable effect of such shot in that or any adjoining place and shall take such precautions as may be necessary to prevent any person inadvertently approaching until the shot has exploded.

127. Where shots are fired by electricity the shot firer shall himself couple up the cable to the charge, and whilst doing so shall have the battery with him; he shall also himself couple the cable to the battery. This Rule shall not apply to sinking pits.

128. The shot-firer shall examine the reports, made under General Rule 4, and in cases where inflammable gas has been reported in any of the four reports last recorded in any ventilating district where he proposes to fire shots he shall carefully examine the place where the said gas had been discovered, and unless he find it cleared away and safe he shall not fire any shot in such ventilating district, except with an explosive which will not inflame gas, and the shot shall be lighted by a method incapable of igniting gas, nor shall he fire any shot until he has examined immediately before firing both the place itself where the shot is to be fired, and all contiguous accessible places of the same seam within a radius of twenty yards, and has found such place safe for firing.

129. In all cases of shot-firing in main return air-ways in dry and dusty mines the provisions of sub-section (i) of General Rule 12, as to main haulage roads, shall be observed.

130. No person shall fire a shot until the coal has been properly holed, or cut and dressed, and after a shot has been fired the shot-firer shall immediately return to and examine the working-place, the brattices, sheets, doors, and roof, and satisfy himself that everything is safe.

131. If a shot misses fire, the person who tried to fire it shall, as early as possible, inform the person working in the place, and shall at once put up a danger board or signal, and fence off all entrances to the working-place, which danger-board or signal and fence shall not be removed—except in case of emergency, or when specially allowed—until after the lapse of at least one hour. If, however, the shots are fired by electricity, the authorised shot-firer or competent person may return immediately, after disconnecting the cable of the battery and taking the battery with him. In the case of a missed shot a report shall be made to the Manager or Under-Manager by the person in charge of the shot, and where a high explosive with detonator misses fire he shall take care that the missed charge is carefully searched for and report made whether it has been discovered or not.

132. Where explosives which are dangerous when frozen are used, proper warming-pans shall be provided, and a competent person appointed to see that such explosives are thawed before being issued for use.

Persons in charge of a Furnace and Ventilating Apparatus..

133. Every person in charge of a furnace or other ventilating apparatus shall carefully attend to it; when night and day men are employed, one shall not leave until the other comes, except to give information of the non-attendance of the other man, or in case of any accident or apprehension of danger, and in such case the man on duty shall return with all speed.

134. He shall frequently in the course of his shift observe the number of strokes per minute made by the apparatus, and the amount of pressure shewn on the water gauge, and shall once in every six hours enter in a book to be kept for the purpose a register of the number of strokes per minute made by the apparatus and the pressure shewn on the water gauge.

Machinery, Plant and Shafts.

RULES TO BE ATTENDED TO BY THE ENGINEER, OR OTHER COMPETENT PERSON APPOINTED BY THE OWNER, AGENT, OR MANAGER FOR THAT PURPOSE.

135. The whole of the machinery, with its appendages, and all erections on the surface and underground are to be in charge of the Engineer or other competent person appointed for that purpose by the Owner, Agent, or Manager; and the Engineer, or such competent person as aforesaid, shall see that the machinery under his supervision is kept in thorough and efficient repair at all times under the direction of the Manager, and he shall inspect and report upon such machinery and appliances as provided for by General Rule 5.

136. He shall at once examine, and if necessary remedy anything reported to him in his department as unsafe or defective, and within the district assigned to him shall carry out General Rule 18 as to fencing old shafts.

137. He shall see that signals are put from the pit to the engine in all cases where they are 50 yards apart.

138. Where safety hooks are used, he shall see that they are cleaned and refitted at least once in every six months.

139. GENERAL RULE 19.—He shall see to the fencing of all entrances to shafts.

140. GENERAL RULE 20.—He shall see to the securing of shafts.

141. GENERAL RULE 24.—He shall see that the Engineman therein referred to is of competent age, and attends to his duties under that rule; also that the person in charge of the machinery mentioned in the second part of General Rule 4 is a competent male person of the age there mentioned.

142. GENERAL RULE 25.—He shall see that the guides and means of signalling referred to in this rule are provided and kept in working order.

143. GENERAL RULE 26.—He shall observe this rule as explained by Special Rule No. 160., and shall have marked on the indicator the point upon it corresponding with two revolutions of the drum in the shaft from the landing plates at the top.

144. GENERAL RULE 27.—He shall see that the sufficient cover referred to in this rule is used as thereby required, and that every cage in which persons ordinarily descend or ascend is provided with a bar inside to hold on by.

145. GENERAL RULE 28.—He shall observe the requirements of this rule as to chains.

146. GENERAL RULE 29.—He shall attend to this rule for the prevention of the rope slipping on the drum, and shall see that not less than two coils of rope remain on the drum when the cage is at the bottom of the shaft.

147. GENERAL RULE 30.—He shall see that the brakes and indicators required by this rule are provided and kept in working order.

148. GENERAL RULE 31.—He shall see that the provisions of this rule as to fencing are carried out, and in addition he shall see that all gangways, platforms and screen stages and all the works and erections on the surface are securely fenced where necessary for the prevention of accidents.

149. GENERAL RULE 32.—He shall see that the safety valves, floats and gauges for boilers are provided and kept in working order, as required by this rule.

150. After the cleaning of any boiler he shall examine it externally, and also the mountings. He shall also see that it is examined internally by the person appointed. No boiler shall again be set to work unless so examined and passed.

151. The Engineer shall keep a record of the extent and nature of all repairs done to a boiler, the date when every boiler is cleaned, and the name of the person by whom it was examined after it was cleaned or repaired.

152. He shall instruct the Stokers or Boiler-minders as to the proper pressure of steam and depth of water to be maintained in each boiler, in the working and regulation of the safety valves, steam gauges, water gauges, and other apparatus; and once a day shall see that they are free and in good order.

153. He, or such other person appointed as aforesaid, shall report any defect to the Manager or Under-Manager and to his superior officer.

154. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager.

Shaft Signals.

155. The following signals shall be observed:—

ONE knock or ring when the engine is at rest,—“GO ON.”

ONE knock or ring when the engine is in motion,—“STOP.”

TWO knocks or rings,—“LOWER.”

THREE knocks or rings,—MEN ABOUT TO DESCEND OR ASCEND.”

When three is knocked the signal must be returned from the top or bottom, as the case may be, before men are allowed to enter the cage. Other signals shall be appointed for special occasions, when they arise.

Engineman.

156. Every Engineman shall examine at every opportunity, during any temporary cessation of winding, and after the winding shall have ceased for the day, the state of the engine, machinery, and boilers (if any) under his care, and shall report any defect therein to the Colliery Engineer or Manager as soon as possible, and if the defect be of a nature to endanger the safety of the workmen employed, he shall discontinue working the engine until repaired. He shall in no case clean or oil the machinery (excepting such machinery the stoppage of which would endanger the working of the Mine) whilst in motion, nor allow any one else to do so.

157. He shall have a thorough understanding of every signal used, and shall attend to the same, and on no account start his engine until he has received the proper signal. If a signal be indistinct, he must not move the engine until a distinct signal has been given.

158. He shall use every care in the handling and working of the engine, and shall see that every bearing is regularly and sufficiently lubricated.

159. In the absence of the Banksman, he shall see that no person descends the pit without permission from the Manager, Under-Manager, or Engineer; that no person goes down the pit in a state of intoxication; that no intoxicating drinks are taken down the pit unless authorised by the Manager; and that the safety gates are in proper position.

160. If the winding apparatus is not provided with some automatic contrivance to prevent over-winding, the Engineman shall reduce the speed of his winding-engines when men are being raised, so that the cage shall not be wound up at a speed exceeding three miles an hour after the cage has reached within a distance in the shaft of two revolutions of the drum from the landing plates at the top, as shown by the mark on the indicator.

161. When lowering or raising persons he shall use extra care, and after an intermission of working of four hours, shall run the ropes of the pit up and down before lowering or raising persons.

162. He shall not leave the handles of his engine for any purpose, or on any pretence, during the time anyone is being raised or lowered by it up or down the pit, or suspended by it in the pit, or when any person is being drawn by it along or in any incline or other plane, and in the case of any Mine usually entered by machinery which is employed in raising and lowering persons therein, he shall attend for the purpose of working such machinery during the whole time that any person is below ground in the Mine.

163. He shall not allow any unauthorised person to enter the engine-house or work or handle the engine.

164. He shall see that all oily waste is consumed at once, or stored in a place especially appointed for the purpose.

165. Whenever the winding engine ceases work he shall leave the cage in such a position as not to impede the ventilation or leave the shaft unfenced.

166. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager or Engineer.

Stoker.

167. He shall not exceed the allowed pressure of steam, and shall maintain a proper depth of water in each boiler. Should anything prevent this, he shall at once withdraw the fire and report the same to the Engineman, and also to the Enginewright or Engineer.

168. He shall carry out the instructions of his superior officer with respect to the working and the regulation of the safety valves, steam gauges, water gauges feed-water valves, and other appliances, and shall see that they are kept free and in good order.

169. If no other person be appointed for the purpose, he shall examine every boiler internally after cleaning or repairing, also the mountings, and shall make a true report of the state of the same to the Engineer.

170. He shall see that the General and Special Rules applying to his department are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager or Engineer.

Surface Inspector or Head Banksman.

171. Subject to the order and direction of the Manager, he shall have responsible control of the pit banks, screens, and sidings, and of the work-persons employed thereon.

172. He shall see that no person under the age of 16 years is employed in the movement of railway waggons, and that the person in charge of the moving of railway waggons at each pit gives warning before allowing any such waggons to be moved from under the screens.

173. He shall see that the requirements of the Act as to the employment of persons in his department above ground are complied with, and that the Manager's instructions, as to the hours of working and intervals for meals for surface workpersons are observed.

174. He shall see that all unnecessary fires and lights are extinguished when the winding has ceased.

175. He shall see that the Act and the General and Special Rules are strictly observed, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager.

Banksman and Hooker-on.

176. The Banksman, Hooker-on, and Engineman, respectively shall prevent from going down the pit or entering the Mine any person not employed therein, or not duly authorised, unless by the special order or direction of the Owner, Agent, Manager or Under-Manager (if any).

177. He shall not allow more than the stated number of persons to descend or ascend at one time, nor allow boys to travel in the cage unless accompanied by a man.

178. He shall not allow any person to descend or ascend the pit before or after the time fixed, except as provided for by Special Rule 71.

179. Where the shaft is used for raising or lowering material, and there are two ropes in the shaft, he shall not allow any person to get on to the cage or tub, except in case of emergency or by special leave, until he shall have been signalled to send down or up the opposite tub empty, or the cage with empty tubs; but this shall not prevent men ascending and descending at the same time in opposite cages or tubs.

180. Except in cases of emergency, or by special leave, he shall not allow anyone to ride on the cage top, or in any cage to which no cover is attached, or to ride on the same deck with full tubs of coal or other mineral or material, or allow anyone to take their tools or gear or loose material of any kind on the same deck with them in the cage, and he shall not pass under, or allow any person to pass under the cages whilst they are in motion. He shall see that all tools, gear and timber are properly stowed or secured before being sent down or up the shaft. This rule shall not apply to sinking pits.

181. The Banksman, where catches are used, shall not allow any person to get into or out of the cage until the catches are under, except in cases provided for by Special Rule No. 182.

182. Persons whose work requires their presence in the Mine when the persons ordinarily employed therein are absent may be authorised by the Manager, Under-Manager, or Engineer to ascend or descend without the attendance of a Banksman or Hooker-on and without the necessity of applying catches, such person having been specially instructed in the use of the signals by the Manager, Under-Manager, or Engineer.

183. He shall not allow any intoxicating drinks to be taken down the pit except by permission from the Manager, nor any person to descend in a state of intoxication.

184. He shall make himself thoroughly acquainted with the signals.

185. He shall not allow anyone to interfere with the signals.

186. He shall attend to and shall remain near the signals when persons ordinarily employed are ascending or descending, in order to signal the Engineman in case of accident.

187. He shall keep the landing plates, cage bottoms, and all places near the pit mouth free from coal, stone, and loose material, and shall see that the lights provided are properly attended to.

188. He shall at once report to his superior officer anything falling in the shaft.

189. The Banksman shall frequently examine the pit pulleys, ropes, chains, cages, water tubs, and landing apparatus during working hours, and on observing any defect or weakness in any part he shall immediately inform the Engineman, and the Manager or Under-Manager, or Engineer, and shall prevent the use of the same until such defect is dangerous be remedied.

190. One or more Banksmen and Hookers-on shall remain in attendance at their respective posts until all the men and boys ordinarily employed are out of the pit.

191. He shall, before leaving the shaft, see that all the rails, gates, chains, and other fences, at any openings into the pit or sump and at the landings are in proper position.

192. Where the inset is not at the bottom of the shaft, or where there is no scaffold over the sump, he shall close the fence immediately after loading each cage, and he shall see that while the fence is open no person shall unnecessarily approach the shaft, and that when winding ceases, or when he has occasion to leave the inset for any purpose whatever, the fence is securely set up. Where there is a self-acting fence he shall see that the same is in good working order.

193. He shall see that the General and Special Rules are strictly observed in his department, and shall immediately report any non-observance of the same to the Manager or Under-Manager.

Pit Bank Weighing Machines.

194. The weigher or other competent person appointed for the purpose shall balance each pit bank weighing machine every working day at a convenient time (and the check-weigher, if any, may be present if he thinks proper to attend), and if found incorrect the weigher or other competent person aforesaid shall report the defect without delay to the Manager or Engineer.

Additional Rules for Sinkers

195. The Banksman shall in all cases steady the bowk or tub, or anything about to be sent down, before it leaves the top of the shaft, and shall see that all bricks and other small materials are kept below the level of the top of the bowk or tub, that no stones or loose materials are sticking to the bottom of the bowk or tub, and that all tools, gear, or timber are properly stowed and secured, and in no case shall permit any material to be filled into a bowk or tub hanging over an uncovered shaft.

196. The Banksman shall see that in every case the bowk or tub is lifted off the landing waggon by the engine, and is steadied over and into the pit.

197. The Banksman shall secure the "landing waggon," where used, by a catch when "off" and "on." He shall not when landing give the signal to lower the bowk or tub on to the waggon until the latter is in position over the shaft and properly secured, and when men have ceased working in the Mine the Banking waggon shall be left so as not to impede the ventilation or to leave the shaft unfenced.

198. The Banksman shall immediately before shots are to be fired ascertain from the Engineman that the bowk or tub is in proper position, and that he is ready at once to draw away on receipt of the signal to do so; he shall then signal to the bottom of the shaft to this effect.

199. The Banksman shall not leave the top of the pit whilst men are ascending or descending the shaft.

200. The Chargeman in each shift shall have full charge of the sinking operations, and shall once in every shift, or oftener if necessary, examine the sides of the shaft and pluck any loose stones, and if anything is unsafe, stop sinking until it is made secure; and shall after such examination make a true report of the condition of the pit in a book provided for that purpose, and shall sign the same.

201. The Chargeman at the bottom of the pit shall see that the bowks and tubs are so filled that the filling, when it consists of brick or other small materials, shall be below the level of the top of the bowk or tub, and he shall also see that stones are properly packed; that no stones or loose materials are sticking to the bottom; that all tools, gear, and timber are properly stowed or secured, and that the bowks and tubs are put in a line with the rope and properly steadied before being sent away.

202. The Chargeman shall not allow any shot to be fired except under his supervision, nor until the bowk or tub is conveniently placed, and a signal has been received from the surface that the Engineman is in perfect readiness to draw away.

203. The Chargeman, after every cessation of work, whether caused by the withdrawal of the workmen for shot firing purposes or other causes, shall, accompanied at least by one other person, descend and examine the pit and ascertain it to be safe before allowing the rest of the men to descend; and after the firing of a sumping or breaking down shot, when inflammable gas is likely to be given off, such examination shall be made with a safety lamp. After an intermission of four hours in working, the pit shall not be entered until a light has been lowered, and in case danger from inflammable gas is apprehended not until a safety lamp has been lowered to ascertain if any gas has accumulated.

204. The Chargeman shall descend in the first bowk or tub and ascend in the last in each shift.

205. The Chargeman when walling or bricking shall see that the shaft under the bricking scaffold is properly ventilated, that the scaffold is not overweighted with material, and that the brickwork is of the specified strength.

206. Explosives shall not be kept or taken into the pit until immediately before they are required for use.

207. When directed by the Manager, locked safety lamps only shall be used in the pit.

208. All persons, when ascending or descending, shall keep within the bowk or tub. No person shall ride on a loaded bowk or tub.



Interpretation of Terms.

In the interpretation of these Special Rules, the following words shall have the following meanings, unless excluded by the subject or context:—

- The "Act" means the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, and any amendments thereof.
- The "Abstract" means the Abstract referred to in section 57 of the Act.
- "General Rules" means the General Rules enacted in the 49th section of the Act.
- "Special Rules" means these Rules when established under the 52nd section of the Act.
- "Mine" includes every shaft in the course of being sunk, and every level and inclined plane in the course of being driven, and all the shafts, levels, planes, works, tramways, and sidings, both below ground and above ground, in and adjacent to and belonging to the Mine. "Mine" also includes division of the same in terms of the Act, section 19.
- "Shaft" includes pit.
- "Owner" and "Agent" have the same meaning respectively as in the Act.
- "Manager" means a manager holding a certificate of the first class.
- "Under-Manager" means a person appointed under the 21st section of the Act, and holding a certificate of the first or second class.
- "Persons" or "Workpersons" means all men, boys, girls and women.
- A "Boy" means a male under the age of 16 years.
- "Miner" means a practical working miner.
- Words importing singular number include the plural number.
- Words importing plural number include the singular number.
- The male includes the female.

Name of Mine or Colliery—

Where situated—

Name of Owner—

Name of Agent—

Name of Manager—

Name of Under-Manager (if any)—

Name and Address of the Inspector of Mines of the District—

W. N. ATKINSON, Esq.,

Barlston,

Stoke-on-Trent.

Interpretation of Terms.

In the interpretation of these Special Rules, the following words shall have the following meanings, unless excluded by the context:

"A. A. S. P." means the Association of Agricultural Societies of the A. A. S. P. ...
"A. A. S. P. Officers" means the Officers of the Association of Agricultural Societies of the A. A. S. P. ...
"A. A. S. P. Members" means the Members of the Association of Agricultural Societies of the A. A. S. P. ...
"A. A. S. P. Societies" means the Societies of the Association of Agricultural Societies of the A. A. S. P. ...
"A. A. S. P. Societies' Officers" means the Officers of the Societies of the Association of Agricultural Societies of the A. A. S. P. ...
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