STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1961 No. 2055

MINES AND QUARRIES

EMPLOYMENT BELOW GROUND

The Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1961

Made - - - - 24*th October*, 1961
Coming into Operation 25*th October*, 1961

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 24th day of October, 1961

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908(a), makes provision regarding the times during which certain persons employed in mines below ground may be below ground in a mine for the purpose of their work:

And Whereas by section four of that Act it is provided that Her Majesty may, in the event of war or of imminent national danger or great emergency, or in the event of any grave economic disturbance due to the demand for coal, or for the product of any other mines to which the Act applies, exceeding the supply available at the time, by Order in Council suspend the operation of the Act to such extent and for such period as may be named in the Order, either as respects all mines or any class of mines:

And Whereas circumstances exist such as contemplated by the said section four and accordingly the powers conferred by the said section four are exerciseable:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred on Her as aforesaid, and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say:—

"the Act of 1908" means the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, as amended by the Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1917(b), the Coal Mines Act, 1919(c), the Coal Mines Act, 1931(d), the Coal Mines Act, 1932(e), and the Mines and Quarries Act, 1954(f);

"coal" means bituminous coal, cannel coal and anthracite.

2. For the period beginning on the date of the coming into operation of this Order and ending on the thirtieth day of April, nineteen hundred and sixty-two, the operation of the Act of 1908 in relation to mines of coal is suspended so far as concerns the application of sections one and three thereof to workmen being below ground for the purpose of their work and of going to and from their work on any Friday after two o'clock in the afternoon and on any Saturday before two o'clock in the afternoon.

(a) 8 Edw. 7. c. 57. (b) 7 & 8 Geo. 5. c. 8. (c) 9 & 10 Geo. 5. c. 48.
(d) 21 & 22 Geo. 5. c. 27. (e) 22 & 23 Geo. 5. c. 29. (f) 2 & 3 Eliz. 2. c. 70.

3. This Order shall come into operation on the twenty-fifth day of October, nineteen hundred and sixty-one, and may be cited as the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1961.

W. G. Agnew.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

The Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, as amended by subsequent enactments, limits the time during which the main categories of workmen in mines may be below ground for the purpose of their work, and of going to and from their work, to 7½ hours during any period of 24 hours. The corresponding time for certain other categories is 8½ hours.

This Order suspends the operation of the relevant sections of the Act, in so far as it applies to coal mines, on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings for the period from the coming into force of the Order, to the 30th April, 1962.