(2) EXPLOSIVES

[*See* also Class 15 of the Classified List of Local Instruments printed at the end of this volume.]

The Explosives in Coal Mines Order, 1948

1948 No. 181

Made - - - - 4*th February*, 1948
Coming into Operation 16*th February*, 1948

The Minister of Fuel and Power (in this Order referred to as " the Minister "), in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section sixty-one of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, and of all other powers, him enabling, hereby orders as follows:—

1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 50.

PART I

Restriction on firing of shots in roof of longwall working or in longwall waste

1. The Explosives in Coal Mines Order, 1934(a), shall have effect subject to the modification that in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (*f*) of Clause six thereof there shall be inserted after the words " any other apparatus that may be approved for the purpose." the following words:—

" Nor shall any shot be fired in the roof of any longwall working between the coal face and the waste or in any longwall waste without a written authority signed by the agent (if any) and the manager. An authority as aforesaid may be granted so as to apply to any part or parts of the mine specified therein; but shall not be granted unless the agent (if any) and the manager are satisfied both, by examination of the method of working, that it is unreasonable or impracticable to break down the roof otherwise than by shot-firing, and, by systematic examination of air samples drawn from that waste, that the proportion of inflammable gas present therein does not normally exceed one per centum."

PART II

Restriction of number of shots to be fired

2.—(1) The Explosives in Coal Mines Order, 1934, shall have effect subject to the further amendments specified in this Article.

(2) There shall be inserted in Clause six thereof after paragraph (*a*) the following paragraph:—

" (*aa*) Unless in stone drifts or sinking pits, no shotfirer shall in any one hour or in any one shift fire a greater number of shots than the appropriate maximum number fixed for him in accordance with the provisions of the next following Clause."

(a) S.R. & O. 1934 (No. 6) I, p. 221.

(3) The following Clause shall be inserted after Clause six:—

"6A.—(1) The maximum number of shots which each shotfirer may fire in any one hour and in any one shift respectively shall be fixed by the manager in accordance with the provisions of the two next following paragraphs:

Provided that if in the case of a shotfirer for whom statutory duties under section fourteen of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, have been appointed, the said maximum number in any one shift exceeds ten, the manager shall give notice thereof in writing to the Inspector of the Division on a form prescribed by the Minister, and shall furnish all such relevant information as the said Inspector may reasonably require:

Provided also that the said Inspector may at any time if he thinks it necessary for the safety of the persons employed in or about the mine require the manager to fix a lower maximum number for any shotfirer for any hour or shift, whereupon the manager shall fix a lower number accordingly; so however that the manager may thereafter refer the matter to be determined in manner provided for settling disputes by the Coal Mines Act, 1911.

(2) The manager shall ascertain in relation to the conditions in which each shotfirer will work the time normally required to prepare and fire a shot in accordance with the provisions of this Order; and the maximum number as aforesaid fixed for any shotfirer shall be based upon:—

(*a*) the time ascertained as aforesaid;
(*b*) the time required for that shotfirer to move between shots;
(*c*) the assistance (if any) available to him in the performance of his said duties; and
(*d*) any other duties assigned to him whether by statute or otherwise.

(3) The manager may at any time increase, and shall at all times reduce, the maximum number fixed as aforesaid for any shotfirer, where requisite by reason of any material change in any of the matters upon which that number is required to be based; so however that the provisos to paragraph (1) of this clause shall apply in relation to any number varied as provided in this paragraph as they apply in relation to a number fixed as provided in the said paragraph (1)."

Part III

Miscellaneous and General

Commencement and citation.

3.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Explosives in Coal Mines Order, 1948.

(2) This Order shall come into operation on the sixteenth day of February, nineteen hundred and forty-eight; so however that:—

(*a*) any manager may fix any maximum numbers as provided in Part II of this Order at any time between that date and the twenty-second day of March in that year; but

(*b*) save as aforesaid Part II of this Order shall not come into operation until the said twenty-second day of March.

Dated this fourth day of February, 1948.

Donald Fergusson,
Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order amends in two respects the Explosives in Coal Mines Order, 1934, as it applies to mines where permitted explosives only are allowed to be used:—

(*a*) with effect from the 16th February, 1948, the firing of shots in the roof of a longwall working or in any longwall waste is prohibited without a written authority signed by the agent and the manager, which may only be granted in specified circumstances.

(*b*) with effect from the 22nd March, 1948, a shotfirer is prohibited from firing a greater number of shots in any one hour or in any one shift than the maximum number fixed for him by the manager in accordance with the provisions of the Order.

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(3) FIREDAMP DETECTORS

The Firedamp Detectors (No. 5) Order, 1948

Made - - - - *28th April*, 1948
Coming into Operation *3rd May*, 1948

1948 No. 903

In pursuance of Regulation one of the Coal Mines General Regulations (Firedamp Detectors), 1939(**a**), the Minister of Fuel and Power (in this Order referred to as " the Minister ") hereby orders as follows:—

Approval of the Ringrose Automatic Firedamp Alarm. Type 47/125 subject to certain conditions.

1.—(1) The Ringrose Automatic Firedamp Alarm, Type 47/125 (in this Order referred to as the " detector ") more particularly described in Part I of the First Schedule to this Order is, subject to the provisions of the next following paragraph, hereby approved as a type of detector.

(2) The approval aforesaid is in the case of any detector subject to the conditions that:—

(*a*) the detector is constructed in accordance with the design and specification set out in Part I of the First Schedule to this Order;

(*b*) the detector is set to operate at one and one quarter per centum of firedamp;

(*c*) no component part is used therein which is not of a make and type approved for use therein by the Minister;

(*d*) a new unit comprising a combustion filament and support shall be fitted before the beginning of each working shift in which the detector is to be used; and no combustion filament or support shall be used in connection therewith which has not been supplied by the makers of the detector;

1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 50.

(*e*) examination in pursuance of section thirty-four of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, shall be by the methods specified in Parts I and II of the Second Schedule to this Order and shall be made immediately before issue for use in any shift;

(**a**) S.R. & O. 1939 (No. 322) I, p. 368.