

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND *AD HOC* BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

During September, 1943, eight awards, five of which related to disputes reported under the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Orders, 1940-1942, were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. One of the awards is summarised below; the other seven awards related only to individual undertakings.

Parties: Transport and General Workers' Union and the Milford Haven Ship Repairers' Federation. *Claim:* To decide whether a section of general labourers employed in assisting boilermakers should be regarded as platers' helpers, the number to be employed as such in relation to the platers employed and the rates of wages to apply to those so designated. *Award:* The Arbitrator, sitting with Assessors, reported that the whole matter had been amicably settled at the hearing. He approved and adopted the settlement as if it were his award.

COURT OF INQUIRY.

On 20th July, 1943, the Minister of Labour and National Service appointed the Hon. Lord Wark (Chairman), Mr. William Elger and Mr. Herbert E. Parkes, as a Court of Inquiry to inquire into and report upon the causes and circumstances of a dispute regarding the terms of employment of women engaged in engineering work at an undertaking in Scotland. The Court issued its Report* on 6th September, 1943.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

During September, 1943, proposals to vary minimum rates of wages were issued as shown below.

Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).—Proposal W. (46), dated 21st September, 1943, to vary minimum rates of wages for a certain class of female workers.

Baking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.Bk. (N. 25), dated 3rd September, 1943, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain male workers employed in establishments other than Home Bakeries.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 49), dated 7th September, 1943, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

Further information concerning any of the proposals listed above may be obtained by persons engaged in the respective trades from the Secretary of the Board concerned at Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1., for the Board in Great Britain, or at 31, Eglantine Avenue, Belfast, for the Boards in Northern Ireland.

CONFIRMING ORDERS.

During September, 1943, Orders confirming variations of minimum rates of wages for all classes of male and female workers in the trades concerned were made as follows:—

Milk Distributive Trade Board (England and Wales).—Order M.D. (38), dated 10th September, 1943; effective from 24th September, 1943.

Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).—Order N. (28), dated 24th September, 1943; effective from 6th October, 1943.

Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Order N.I.F. (17), dated 10th September, 1943; effective from 16th September, 1943.

Other Orders were also made as follows:—

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Order N.I.T.R.B. (48), dated 31st August, 1943, confirming the fixation of general minimum piece rates and variation of general overtime rates for certain male workers employed in certain areas; effective from 6th September, 1943.

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Northern Ireland).—Order N.I.W.D. (41), dated 15th September, 1943, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piece work basis time rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and the general minimum piece rates for certain female workers employed in the Factory Branch of the trade; effective from 20th September, 1943.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

Since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared the under-mentioned Orders relating to matters with which the Ministry of Labour and National Service is concerned, either directly or indirectly, have been published in the series of Statutory Rules and Orders. The price of each Order,† unless otherwise indicated, is 1d. net (2d. post free).

The Ministry of Fuel and Power (Information) Order, 1943 (S.R. & O. 1943, No. 1358. 2d. net (3d. post free)).—This Order, made on 10th September, 1943, by the Minister of Fuel and Power, requires (a) the owners of coal-mining undertakings and (b) the owners of certain other undertakings involving the production, handling, stocking, transport or use of fuel, to make periodical returns to the Minister, as he directs, in relation to their undertaking, as provided by the Order. As regards persons carrying on coal-mining undertakings the Order prescribes *inter alia*, that such persons shall, for each period of one week, beginning on Saturday, 2nd October, 1943, and on each Saturday thereafter, furnish a statement giving specified information relating to their undertakings, including particulars as to the quantity of coal raised; the number of pit shifts that could have been worked and actually were worked; the numbers of wage earners on the colliery books; the number of manshifts lost by wage earners owing respectively to recognised holidays, disputes (specifying cause), absenteeism, accidents, breakdown and other causes; and the guaranteed wage payments made under the relevant Essential Work (Coalmining Industry) Order for the time being in force.

The Unemployment Insurance (Emergency Powers) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1943 (S.R. & O. 1943, No. 1363).—These Regulations, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service on 14th September, 1943, exclude from insurance under the Unemployment Insurance Acts certain temporary employments under a war scheme or arrangement made or approved by a Government Department or a County War Agricultural Executive Committee. The Regulations apply to students and others so employed during their holidays or while on special leave and also to other persons on temporary agricultural work in the circumstances specified in the Regulations. If, however, Unemployment Insurance contributions have, in fact been paid for any of these persons during the twelve months immediately preceding the employment in question that employment is not excluded from insurance by these Regulations. The Regulations consolidate and extend the scope of earlier relevant Regulations set out in the Schedule to the Order, which are accordingly revoked.

Order in Council amending Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939 (S.R. & O. 1943, No. 1374. 2d. net (3d. post free)).—This Order, made on 24th September, 1943, amends Regulation 58A (which relates to the control of employment) by the addition of a new paragraph which prescribes that the provisions of the Regulation shall have effect in relation to a person in the United Kingdom who has been directed to perform services therein by the Governor of the Isle of Man or a National Service Officer on his behalf as if the direction had been given by a National Service Officer appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service.

Order in Council making Regulations entitled the Defence (Service in the United Kingdom) Regulations (Isle of Man), 1943 (S.R. & O. 1943, No. 1376).—By the Regulations made by this Order, dated 24th September, 1943, the Governor of the Isle of Man or a National Service Officer is empowered, subject to the limitations imposed by the Emergency Powers (Isle of Man) Defence Act, 1943 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1943, page 110), to direct any person in the Isle of Man to perform services in the United Kingdom, and by virtue of the above-mentioned Order (S.R. & O. 1943, No. 1374) amending Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, such directions continue in force when the persons concerned arrive in the United Kingdom and may be withdrawn by a National Service Officer in the United Kingdom.

* Cmd. 6474. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4d. net (5d. post free).

† Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in this GAZETTE may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at the addresses below.

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