

# THE BRITISH COAL TRADE



A T L A N T I C  
O C E A N

# GEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE BRITISH ISLANDS.

BASED ON THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP OF THE  
ROYAL COMMISSION ON COAL SUPPLIES, 1905. THE  
FOLLOWING ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS HAVE BEEN  
MADE WITH THE SANCTION OF THE CONTROLLER OF  
H. M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

1. North of Great Britain is omitted.
2. Productive Coal Measures are printed green.
3. The Scale is omitted.
4. Undersea extensions of Coalfields are added.
5. Extensions of several Coalfields are added.
6. East Kent Coalfield is added.






N O R T H  
S E A

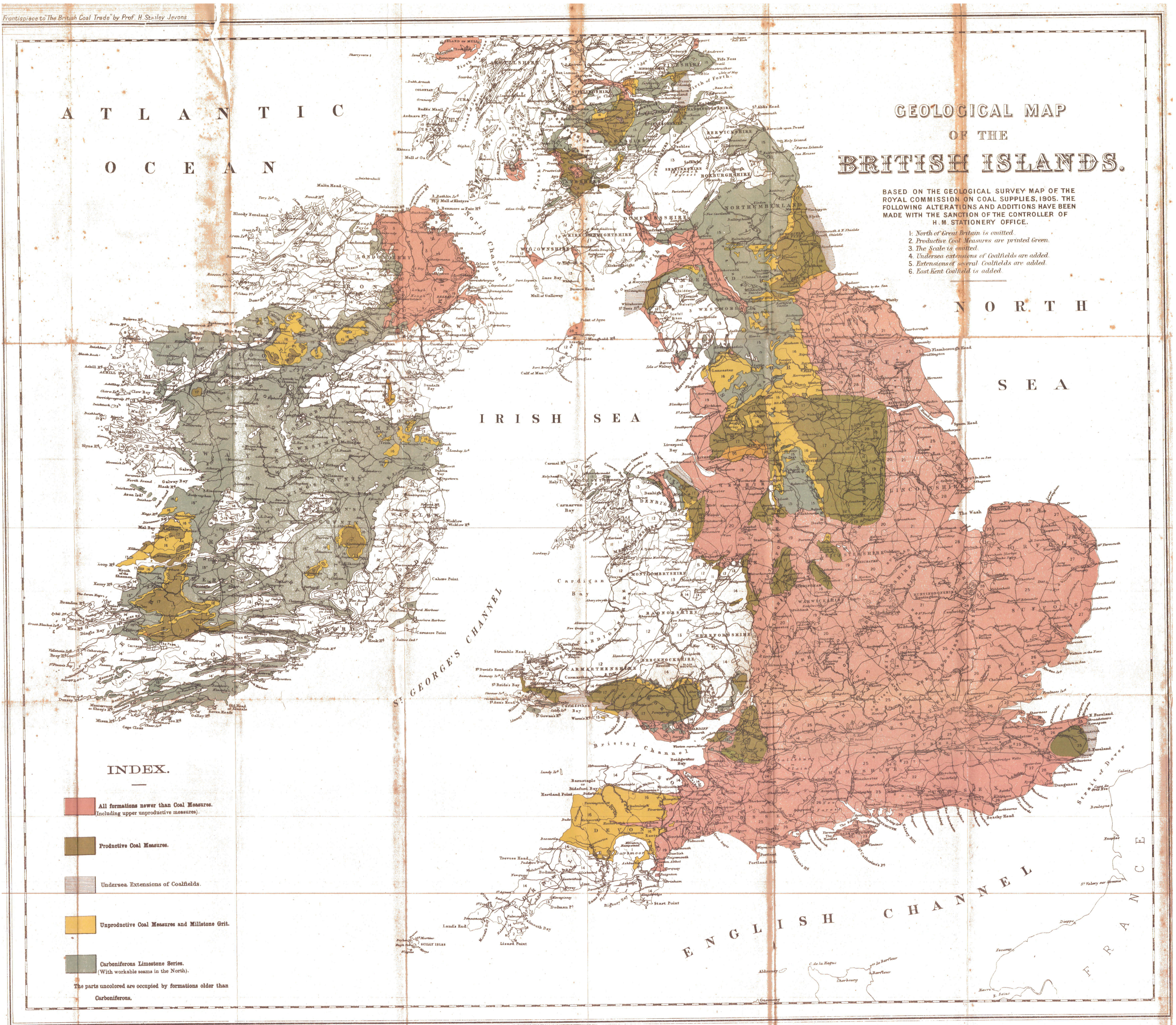
I R I S H S E A

S T. G E O R G E S ' C H A N N E L

E N G L I S H C H A N N E L  
F R A N C E

## INDEX.

-  All formations newer than Coal Measures. (Including upper unproductive measures).
  -  Productive Coal Measures.
  -  Undersea Extensions of Coalfields.
  -  Unproductive Coal Measures and Millstone Grit.
  -  Carboniferous Limestone Series. (With workable seams in the North).
- The parts uncolored are occupied by formations older than Carboniferous.





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## APPENDIX I

### COLLIERIES OF THE NORTHERN COALFIELD

THE following are amongst the largest and best known colliery companies, each employing several thousand men :—

#### *Durham*

John Bowes & Partners, Ltd.  
Bell Brothers, Ltd.  
Bolckow, Vaughan, & Co., Ltd.  
Consett Iron Co., Ltd.  
Harton Coal Co., Ltd.  
Horden Collieries, Ltd.  
James Joicey & Co., Ltd.  
Lambton & Hetton Collieries, Ltd.  
Londonderry Collieries, Ltd.  
North Bitchburn Coal Co.  
Charles Perkins & Partners.  
Pease & Partners, Ltd.  
Priestman Collieries, Ltd.  
South Hetton Coal Co., Ltd.  
South Moor Colliery Co., Ltd.  
Stella Coal Co., Ltd.  
Weardale Steel, Coal & Coke Co., Ltd.  
Wearmouth Coal Co., Ltd.



*Northumberland*

Ashington Coal Co., Ltd.  
Backworth Collieries, Ltd.  
Bedlington Coal Co., Ltd.  
Cowpen Coal Co., Ltd.  
Cramlington Coal Co., Ltd.  
Seaton Delaval Coal Co., Ltd.  
Throckley Coal Co., Ltd.



## APPENDIX II

## COLLIERIES OF THE YORKSHIRE COALFIELD

THE following are amongst the largest and best known colliery companies in Yorkshire :—

Ackton Hall Colliery Co.  
Henry Briggs & Son, Ltd. (also Steel-makers).  
Brodsworth Main Colliery Co., Ltd.  
John Brown & Co., Ltd. (also Steel-makers).  
Carlton Main Colliery Co., Ltd.  
J. & J. Charlesworth, Ltd.  
Dalton Main Collieries, Ltd.  
Denaby & Cadeby Main Collieries, Ltd.  
Dinnington Main Coal Co., Ltd.  
Glas Houghton & Castleford Collieries, Ltd.  
Hickleton Main Colliery Co., Ltd.  
Houghton Main Colliery Co., Ltd.  
New Monkton Collieries, Ltd.  
Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd.  
Rother Vale Collieries, Ltd.  
South Kirby, Featherstone, & Hemsworth  
Collieries, Ltd.  
Tinsley Park Colliery Co., Ltd.  
Wheldale Coal Co., Ltd.



## APPENDIX III

## WELSH COLLIERY COMPANIES

THE following is a list of some of the largest and best known colliery companies in the South Wales coalfield :—

*Steam Coal Collieries*

(Many produce also some Gas and House Coals)

	Number of Men employed:
Albion Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,196
Bedwas Navigation Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,000
Burnyeat, Brown & Co., Ltd. . . . .	4,035
Blaenavon Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,485
Baldwin's, Ltd. . . . .	1,110
Bute, Marquis of . . . . .	1,813
Cardiff Collieries, Ltd. (Llanbradach) . . . . .	2,832
Consolidated Cambrian, Ltd. (D. A. Thomas) . . . . .	12,035
Cory Brothers & Co., Ltd. . . . .	5,776
Crawshay Bros., Ltd., Cyfarthfa . . . . .	2,796
Cwmavon Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,260
D. Davis & Sons, Ltd. . . . .	8,793
Ebbw Vale Steel & Iron Co., Ltd. . . . .	7,630
Fernhill Collieries, Ltd. . . . .	1,867
Ffaldau Collieries, Ltd. . . . .	1,300
Glenavon Garw Collieries, Ltd. . . . .	1,306



## APPENDIX III

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	Number of Men employed.
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd. . . . .	10,487
Great Western Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	4,461
Hill's Plymouth Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,878
Insoles, Ltd. . . . .	3,069
International Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,045
John Lancaster & Co., Ltd. . . . .	5,084
Lancaster's Steam Coal Collieries, Ltd.	2,986
Lewis' Merthyr Consolidated Collieries, Ltd.	7,352
Locket's Merthyr Collieries (1894), Ltd.	3,000
Main Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,847
Newport Abercarn Black Vein Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,873
Nixon's Navigation Collieries (1889), Ltd.	5,160
Oakdale Navigation Collieries, Ltd. . . . .	1,860
Ocean Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	9,496
Partridge, Jones & Co. . . . .	4,316
Penrikyber Navigation Colliery Co., Ltd.	1,974
Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	13,611
Powell's Tillery Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	3,516
Rhymney Iron Co., Ltd. . . . .	3,886
Tir Pentwys Black Vein Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,422
Tredegar Iron & Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	6,480
United National Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,965
Windsor Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	2,246
Ynysheir Steam Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,502

*Anthracite Collieries*

Glamorgan—

Gwaun-cae-Gurwen Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,270
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	Number of Men employed.
<b>Breconshire—</b>	
Abercrave Collieries Co., Ltd. . . . .	380
Gurnos Anthracite Colliery Co., Ltd. . .	300
International Anthracite Colliery Co. . .	320
South Wales Anthracite Colliery Co., Ltd.	958
<b>Carmarthenshire—</b>	
Ammanford Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	1,454
Blaina Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	600
Caerbryn & Empire Collieries, Ltd. . . .	460
Emlyn Anthracite Co., Ltd. . . . .	700
Garnant Anthracite Collieries, Ltd. . . .	450
Gellyceidrim Collieries Co., Ltd. . . . .	583
Great Mountain Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	862
New Cross Hands Collieries, Ltd. . . . .	700
Pentremawr Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	496
Ponthenry Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	358
Rhos Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	550
Tirydail Colliery Co., Ltd. . . . .	460
Williams, Thomas & Sons (Llangennech)	500
<b>Pembrokeshire—</b>	
Bonville's Court Coal Co., Ltd. . . . .	324



## APPENDIX IV

## SALE CONTRACTS

The following is a form of Contract for the Sale of Coal, which was fixed by a Committee representing all the chief buyers and sellers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and which is generally used:—

## WELSH COAL CONTRACT, 19. F.O.B.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT entered into at.....  
 .....this.....day of.....19....  
 between.....of.....  
 hereinafter called the "Purchasers" and.....  
 .....hereinafter called the "Vendors."

1.—*Quantity*

The Purchasers agree to buy and the Vendors agree to sell.....tons of.....  
 Large.....Coal on the following conditions:—

2.—*Delivery*

The Purchasers will provide tonnage to take delivery of the Coal from the.....to the  
 .....in as nearly as possible equal proportions per calendar month. Such delivery shall be into Ship at one of the following Docks.....



.....as ordered, on application to the Vendors, before Ship's arrival.

- 3.—*Loading*

The time for Loading to be mutually agreed between the Purchasers and the Vendors when each Vessel is placed on stem, and being subjected in the case of Steam Vessels to the conditions and exceptions of Clauses 2 and 3 of the Chamber of Shipping Welsh Coal Charter, 1896, and in the case of Sailing Vessels to the Vendors' usual printed Form of Guarantee. In the event of the Purchasers and Vendors not being able to mutually arrange a stem, the Purchasers shall have the right to place a Vessel on stem for the portion of the month's deliveries then due on giving seven days' notice to the Vendors, in which case the Vendors shall be allowed customary hours for loading.

4.—*Trimming*

The Trimming shall be done by Trimmers who shall be some duly qualified persons selected by the Vendors or their Agents, and shall be appointed by the Purchasers at the Tariff Rates of the Port. The Vendors shall not be responsible for fire, explosion, or accident in connection with the Trimming, or for any act, default, or negligence of the Trimmers or Foremen.

5.—*Wharfage*

The Purchasers undertake to pay the Vendors or the Dock Company the usual Wharfage of 2d. per ton.



**6.—Quantity and Weights**

The Purchasers shall inspect the Coal in the Waggon on the tip-road at the place of shipment, and any objection to quality or condition shall be raised before shipment or be deemed to be waived. The returns of weight as ascertained at the Loading Tips by the Dock or Railway Company shall be final and conclusive for all purposes whatsoever.

**7.—Price**

The purchasers shall pay the Vendors the price of—

- .....per ton for Colliery Screened Coal.
- .....per ton if Single Screened at time of shipment.
- .....per ton if Double Screened at time of shipment.

**8.—Payment**

The Purchaser shall make payment as follows  
 .....

**9.—Strike and Accidents**

In the event of a stoppage or partial stoppage of the Vendors' Pits, or any of them, or on the Railway or Railways over which the Vendors' traffic is usually carried between any of the Vendors' Pits and the place of shipment, or at the Dock named as the place of shipment, or of a suspension of work by Trimmers, or Dock, Railway, or other

hands connected with the working, delivery, or shipment of the said Coal, or from any cause whatever, whether or not of the same nature, the Vendors shall not be called upon to deliver any Coal during a total stoppage, and in the event of a partial stoppage the Vendors shall be entitled to a reduction in the deliveries proportionate to the reduction in their output. No liability shall attach to the Vendors for any such default of shipment, notwithstanding the fact that during such period Coal may have been shipped by them. The time within which the above named quantities are to be taken and delivered shall be extended for a period at least equal to that during which deliveries are suspended, or as otherwise arranged by mutual agreement.

#### 10.—*Insolvency*

In case of any default on the part of the Purchasers in making any payment on the dates specified, the Vendors may suspend deliveries until such payment is made, and it shall be at their option whether they will afterwards make up any deficiency in deliveries so caused ; or if the Purchasers shall have been declared bankrupt, called any meeting of their creditors, or made any acknowledgment that they are unable to pay their debts in full, it shall be at the Vendors' option to consider the contract null and void.

#### 11.—*Damage for failure to take or deliver*

Unless otherwise mutually arranged, Purchasers agree in the event of their failing to charter and



stem tonnage to take each month their regular monthly quantity in accordance with the terms of this contract to pay to the Vendors as and for liquidated damages the difference between the current price on the last day of such month and the contract price on the quantity they have so failed to take, and the Vendors agree that in the event of their declining to accept tonnage to take each month the regular monthly quantity in accordance with the terms of this contract, to pay to the Purchasers as and for liquidated damages the difference between the current price on the last day of such month and the contract price on the quantity for which they have so declined to accept tonnage.

12.—*Prohibition of re-sale in the United Kingdom*

The Purchasers undertake, the whole of the Coal herein named being purchased by them for *bona fide* exportation, that no part of it will be sold by them, either directly or indirectly, to any Export Merchants or other person or persons in the United Kingdom, and that none of this Coal shall be sent to the Vendors' excepted ports, which are.....

The Purchasers agree to pay to the Vendors as liquidated damages two shillings per ton for every ton sold in violation of this clause, or the Vendors may, at their option, decline to make further deliveries under this contract.

13.—*War*

In the event of the United Kingdom being at war with any European Power or any prohibition

being made by the British Government of the export of Welsh Coal, the quantity due for delivery under this Contract during the period over which such war or prohibition extends shall be cancelled.



## APPENDIX V

## EXTRACTS FROM COAL MINES ACT, 1911

## PROVISIONS AS TO SAFETY

*Ventilation*

" 29. (1) An adequate amount of ventilation shall be constantly produced in every mine to dilute and render harmless inflammable and noxious gases to such an extent that all shafts, roads, levels, stables, and workings of the mine shall be in a fit state for working and passing therein, and in particular that the intake airways up to within one hundred yards of the first working-place at the working-face which the air enters shall be normally kept free from inflammable gas. . . .

" (3) For the purposes of this section, a place shall not be deemed to be in a fit state for working or passing therein if the air contains either less than nineteen per cent. of oxygen or more than one-and-a-quarter per cent. of carbon dioxide, and an intake airway shall not be deemed to be normally kept free from inflammable gas if the average percentage of inflammable gas found in six samples of air taken by an inspector in the air current in that airway at intervals of not less than a fortnight exceeds one quarter: . . .

*Safety Lamps*

32.—(1) No lamp or light other than a locked safety lamp shall be allowed or used—

(a) in any seam, where the air current in the return airway from any ventilating district in the seam is found normally to contain more than one half per cent. of inflammable gas ;

or

(b) in any seam (except in the main intake airways within two hundred yards from the shaft) in which an explosion of inflammable gas causing any personal injury whatever has occurred within the previous twelve months, unless an exemption is given by the Secretary of State on the ground that, on account of the special character of the mine, the use of safety lamps is not required ;

(c) 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 ;

(d) in any working near to or approaching a place in which there is likely to be an accumulation of inflammable gas ;

(e) in any place where the use of safety lamps is required by the regulations of the mine : . . .

34.—(1) In any mine or part of a mine in which safety lamps are required by this Act or the regulations of the mine to be used—



- (i) A safety lamp shall not be used, unless it has, since last in use, been thoroughly examined at the surface by a competent person appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose and found by him in safe working order and securely locked, and a record shall be kept of the men to whom the several lamps are given out :
- (ii) A competent person appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose shall also examine every lamp on its being returned, and if on such an examination any lamp is found to be damaged, he shall record the nature of the damage in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and the damage shall be deemed to have been due to the neglect or default of the person to whom the lamp was given out, unless he proves that the damage was due to no fault of his own and that he immediately gave notice of the damage to the fireman, examiner, or deputy, or some other official of the mine appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose :
- (iii) A safety lamp shall not be unlocked except at an appointed lamp station (which shall not be in a return airway) by a competent person appointed in writing by the manager for the purpose, nor, except in the case of electric hand lamps, shall it be relighted except by such a person at an appointed lamp station after examination by him, and no person

other than such person as aforesaid shall have in his possession any contrivance for relighting or opening the lock of any safety lamp :

- (iv) No part of a safety lamp shall be removed by any person whilst the lamp is in ordinary use.

*Prohibition against Possession of Lucifer  
Matches*

35.—(1) In any mine or part of a mine in which safety lamps are required by this Act or the regulations of the mine to be used, no person shall have in his possession any lucifer match nor any apparatus of any kind for producing a light or spark except so far as may be authorised for the purpose of shot firing or relighting lamps by an order made by the Secretary of State, or any cigar, cigarette, pipe, or contrivance for smoking.

(2) The manager of a mine in which, or in any part of which, safety lamps are required by this Act or by the regulations of the mine to be used, shall, for the purpose of ascertaining before the persons employed below ground in the mine or in the part of the mine, as the case may be, commence work whether they have in their possession any lucifer match or such apparatus as aforesaid or cigar, cigarette, pipe, or contrivance for smoking, cause either all those persons, or such of them as may be selected on a system approved by the inspector of the division, to be searched in the prescribed manner after or immediately before entering the mine or that part of the mine. . . .



*Electricity*

60.—(1) Electricity shall not be used in any part of a mine where, on account of the risk of explosion of gas or coal dust, the use of electricity would be dangerous to life.

(2) If at any time in any place in the mine the percentage of inflammable gas in the general body of the air in that place is found to exceed one and a quarter, the electric current shall at once be cut off from all cables and other electrical apparatus in that place, and shall not be switched on again as long as the percentage of inflammable gas exceeds that amount : . . .

(4) The use of electricity in any mine shall be subject to general regulations under this Act.

*Explosives*

61.—(1) The Secretary of State may, by order of which notice shall be given in such manner as he may direct, regulate the supply, use, and storage of any explosives at mines or any class of mines, and may, by any such order, prohibit the use of any explosive which appears to him of a kind to be or to be likely to become dangerous in mines or any class of mines, either absolutely or subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the order.

(2) No explosives shall be taken into or used in any mine except explosives provided by the owner, and the price, if any, charged by the owner to the

workman for any explosives so provided shall not exceed the actual net cost to the owner.

*Prevention of Coal Dust*

62. In every mine, unless the floor, roof, and sides of the roads are naturally wet throughout,—

- (1) arrangements shall be made to prevent, as far as practicable, coal dust from the screens entering the downcast shaft ; and, in the case of a mine newly opened after the passing of this Act, no plant for the screening or sorting of coal shall be situated within a distance of eighty yards from any downcast shaft unless a written exemption is given by the inspector of the division ;
- (2) the tubs shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent, as far as practicable, coal dust escaping through the sides, ends, or floor of the tubs, but any tub which was in use in any mine at the date of the passing of this Act may, notwithstanding that it is not so constructed, continue to be used in that mine for a period of five years from the said date ;
- (3) the floor, roof and sides of the roads shall be systematically cleared so as to prevent, as far as practicable, coal dust accumulating ;
- (4) Such systematic steps, either by way of watering or otherwise, as may be laid down by the regulations of the mine shall be taken to

prevent explosions of coal dust occurring or being carried along the roads ;

- (5) The roads shall be examined daily and a report (to be recorded in a book kept at the mine for the purpose) made on their condition as to coal dust and on the steps taken to mitigate arising therefrom.

*Inspections as to Safety*

63. For the purpose of the inspections before the commencement of work in a shift hereinafter mentioned, one or more stations shall be appointed at the entrance to the mine or to different parts of the mine, as the case may require, and no workman shall pass beyond any such station until the part of the mine beyond that station has been examined and reported to be safe in manner hereinafter mentioned.

64. (1) The firemen, examiners or deputies of a mine shall, within such time not exceeding two hours immediately before the commencement of work in a shift as may be fixed by the regulations of the mine, inspect every part of the mine situated 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.



(2) Except in the case of a mine in which inflammable gas is unknown, the inspection shall be made with a locked safety lamp, and no other light shall be used during the inspection.

(3) A full and accurate report specifying whether or not, and where, if any, noxious or inflammable gas was found, and whether or not any, and, if any, what defects in roofs or sides and other sources of danger were 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.

(4) For the purpose of the foregoing provisions of this section, two or more shifts succeeding one another so that work is carried on without any interval are to be deemed to be one shift.

65. A similar inspection shall be made twice at least in the course of each shift of all parts of the mine situated beyond the station or each of the stations aforesaid and in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, but it shall not be necessary to record a report of the first of such inspections in a book: Provided that, in the case of a mine worked by a succession of shifts, no place shall remain uninspected for an interval of more than five hours.

## APPENDIX VI

RULES OF THE MINERS' FEDERATION OF GREAT  
BRITAIN.*Name and Place of Business*

1.—This Federation shall be called "The Miners' Federation of Great Britain," its office or place of business shall be at 925, Ashton Old Road, Manchester, or at such other place as may at times be most convenient. It shall consist of Federations and Districts who are eligible to join, by paying an Entrance Fee of One Pound per Thousand Members, or fractional part thereof, but no section of a County, where a Federation or County Association exists, shall be eligible to join.

*Objects of the Federation*

- (1) To provide funds to carry on the business of this Federation, the same to be disbursed as provided in the following rules.
- (2) To take into consideration the question of Trade and Wages, and to protect Miners generally.
- (3) To seek to secure Mining Legislation affecting all Miners connected with this Federation.

- (4) To call Conferences to deal with questions affecting Miners, both of a Trade, Wage, and Legislative character.
- (5) To seek and obtain an eight hours' day from bank to bank in all mines for all persons working underground.
- (6) To deal with cases of accidents, and attend inquests upon persons killed, in and about mines, whenever the Executive Committee considers it necessary to do so.
- (7) To assist all Federations and Districts, in law cases, where they may have to appeal, or are appealed against, on decisions of the lower Courts.
- (8) To provide funds to pay for the election expense of Labour Candidates and support Members who may be returned to the House of Commons.

#### *Officials and Executive Committee*

3.—There shall be in connection with this Federation a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of not less than twelve members exclusive of officers.

#### *Election of Officers*

4.—The Officials of this Federation shall be elected or re-elected annually at the Yearly Conference. Each Official and Committee shall be duly nominated by a financial Federation or District.



5.—No person shall be eligible for election or re-election whose Federation or District is more than one month in arrears in contributions or levies.

#### *Auditors*

6.—There shall be two Auditors appointed annually, at the Annual Conference, to Audit the Accounts of the Federation.

#### *Trustees*

7.—There shall be three Trustees appointed who must be Members of the Federation, and shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Federation. In the event of any of such Trustees dying or being removed from office, at the first meeting of the Federation after the vacancy has been reported to Districts, another or others shall be appointed to supply such vacancy. They shall do and execute all the functions required of them by the Federation. They shall attend at the Audit, and examine the Treasurer's Bank Books, and Bonds, and Documents of Investments.

#### *Annual Conference*

8.—There shall be an Annual Conference of this Federation held in the month of October each year.

9.—Special Conferences shall be called by the President and Secretary when necessary.

10.—That all the Officials' Salaries shall be fixed at the Annual Conference.

*Voting at Conference*

11.—That the voting at all Conferences shall be by show of hands, but, in the event of a District or Federation claiming a vote by numbers, the voting shall be One Vote for every One Thousand financial members or fractional part thereof.

12.—No Official shall be allowed to vote at any Conference except the Chairman, and then only when there is a tie he shall give the casting vote.

*Committee Meetings*

13.—The Executive Committee shall meet when required. The President and Secretary shall call all Committee Meetings.

14.—The Executive Committee shall, in the absence of a Conference, take into consideration all questions affecting the Mining interests, appoint Delegates to attend Coroners' Courts, Appeal Cases, inquire into Disputes on General Wage Questions, and the watching of legislation affecting the Members of the Federation. In cases of emergency the President and Secretary shall have power to appoint representatives to attend an inquiry.

*Contributions*

15.—That the ordinary contributions to this Society shall be at the rate of One Penny per Quarter per member, and that the same be paid the first week in each quarter to the Treasurer. The quarters to commence January, April, July and October in each

year. The Executive Committee shall have power to call levies when necessary.

16.—That any Federation or District allowing its contributions or levies to fall into arrears shall not be entitled to any financial support until three months after all arrears have been paid up ; neither shall arrears be paid up at any time for the purpose of obtaining support in any case from the funds of this Federation.

*When Support shall be Given*

17.—That whenever any stoppage of collieries occurs, arising out of any action taken by a Conference, a Special Conference shall be called to determine whether support shall be given to any Federation or District.

18.—The Conference shall, after duly considering each dispute, have power to raise by levy upon the members of the Federation such sum as will meet the requirements.

19.—No Federation or District shall receive support unless more than 15 per cent. of the said Federation or District is out of work, consequent upon any action taken by a General Conference.

20.—Members shall be supported, in accordance with Rules 17 and 18, who may have been out of work twenty-one clear days from the commencement of the dispute ; and that pay at the rate of 7s. 6d. per week per member shall commence on the



first day after the expiration of fourteen days from the commencement of dispute.

*Defensive Action*

21.—That whenever any Federation or District is attacked on the Wages Question, or the conditions of labour, or with the approval of the Conference especially called for that purpose, has tendered notice to improve the conditions of labour or to obtain an advance in wages, a Conference shall be called to consider the advisability of joint action being taken.

*Standing Orders*

The Conference (after first day) meet each day at ten a.m., adjourn at one, meet again at two p.m., and adjourn again at four.

The movers of resolutions be allowed for speaking ten minutes, and subsequent speakers five minutes. Replies to be confined to movers of resolutions only.

E. EDWARDS, PRESIDENT.

THOS. ASHTON, SECRETARY.

**APPENDIX VII**  
**VARIATIONS IN PERCENTAGE ADDITIONS TO STANDARD WAGES IN**  
**DIFFERENT DISTRICTS<sup>1</sup>**

	Percentage of wages above Standard at end of 1896.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on or off Hewer's Standard wages in years.						Percentage of wages above Standard at end of 1912.
		1897-1900.	1901-1905.	1906-1907.	1908-1909.	1910-1911.	1912.	
Northumberland . . . . .	3½	+57½	-46¼	+32½	-17½	-2½	+11½	38½
Durham . . . . .	15	+50	-37½	+26½	-8½	-6½	+7½	46½
Cumberland . . . . .	30	+30	-22½	+17½	-7½	..	+7½	55
Federated Districts . . . . .	30	+20	-10	+15	-5	..	+5	55
Sth. Staffs. & East Wor- cestershire . . . . .	30	+20	-10	+15	-5	..	+5	55
Forest of Dean . . . . .	15 <sup>a</sup>	+35	-25	+20	-10	+5	..	35
Bristol . . . . .	17½	+22½	-10	+15	-5	..	+5	45
	22½ <sup>a</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Somersetshire (Radstock)	15	+27½	-15	+17½	-5	..	+5	45
South Wales & Mon. . . . .	10.	+63½	-43½	+30	-12½	+2½	+7½	57½
Fifeshire & Clackmannan	4	+97½	-60	+50	-37½	..	+18½	68½
West Scotland . . . . .	12½	+81½	-62½	+50	-37½	..	+18½	68½

- <sup>1</sup> From Board of Trade Report, "Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour" (Cd. 7080).  
<sup>a</sup> At certain collieries the percentage above standard was 5 per cent. more.  
<sup>b</sup> The lower percentage was on the Gloucestershire side of the district, the higher on the Somersetshire side.  
<sup>c</sup> At Standard.

## APPENDIX VIII

SOUTH WALES MINERS' FEDERATION  
WAGES AGREEMENT OF 1910 (TO REMAIN IN FORCE  
UNTIL MARCH 31, 1915).*Memorandum of Agreement*

made this Eighth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and ten, BETWEEN the undersigned Owners' Representatives duly authorised to act on behalf of the Owners of Collieries in Monmouthshire and South Wales, whose names or titles are set forth in the Schedule hereto (hereinafter called "the Owners") of the one part, and the undersigned Workmen's Representatives, duly authorised to act on behalf of the Workmen (excepting Enginemen, Stokers, and Outside Fitters) now employed at the Collieries of the said Owners (hereinafter called "the Workmen") of the other part, whereby it is mutually agreed as follows:—

1.—That a Board of Conciliation shall be established to determine the general rate of wages to be paid to the Workmen, and to deal with disputes at the various Collieries of the Owners subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned.

2.—The title of the Board shall be "The Board



of Conciliation for the Coal Trade of Monmouthshire and South Wales " hereinafter called " The Board."

3.—The Board shall consist of 24 duly authorised Owners' Representatives and 24 duly authorised Representatives of the Workmen employed at the Collieries of the Owners, and when dealing with questions relating to general advances or general reductions in the rates of wages also of a Chairman from outside who shall not be financially interested in any Coal Mine in the United Kingdom, and who shall have a casting vote only.

4.—The first Chairman of the Board from outside as aforesaid shall be Viscount St. Aldwyn, who is hereinafter called " the Chairman."

The Representatives on the Board of the Owners and Workmen respectively shall be appointed, and notice of such appointment given to the Secretaries, on or before the 30th day of April instant.

### *Wages*

There shall be elected from the Members of the Board two Presidents, one elected by the Owners' Representatives and the other by the Representatives of the workmen.

Whenever a vacancy on the Board occurs from any cause (except in the office of Chairman) such vacancy shall be filled by the body which appointed the Member whose seat has become vacant, but during such vacancy the Board may transact the business of the Board. Intimation of such appoint-

ment shall be at once sent to the Secretaries. When and so often as the Office of Chairman becomes vacant the Board shall endeavour to elect a Chairman, and should they fail to agree will ask the Lord Chief Justice of England for the time being or, in case of his refusal, the Speaker of the House of Commons, to nominate one.

5.—The parties to this Agreement pledge their respective constituents to make every effort possible to avoid difficulties or disputes at the Collieries, and in case of any unavoidable difference the Owners or their Officials together with their Workmen or their Agent or Agents shall endeavour to settle all matters at the Collieries, and only in case of failing to effect a settlement shall a written appeal setting forth clearly the facts of the dispute and the contention of the parties making the claim be made to the Board by either or both of the parties concerned in the dispute to consider the same, and no notice to terminate contracts shall be given by either Owners or their Workmen before the particular question in dispute shall have been considered by the Board, and it shall have failed to arrive at an Agreement. The Board shall have power to refer such questions to a Committee consisting of one or more Owners' Representatives and an equal number of Workmen's Representatives, all of whom shall be members of the Board, to consider, and if so directed, with power to settle, and in all cases to report to the Board either a settlement or a failure to agree within three calendar months from the date of the refer-

ence to such Committee, and should the Board then fail to arrive at an agreement within one month or any extended period that may be agreed upon by the Board either party may give notice to terminate contracts. Any notices wrongfully given to terminate contracts on any question shall be withdrawn before the Board or any Committee thereof shall consider such question.

Both parties hereby respectively undertake to make every effort possible to secure the loyal observance by the Owners and workmen respectively of any Award made by representatives of the Board on any questions which may have been referred to them by the Board.

6.—Rules of procedure for the conduct of the business of the Board are set forth at the end hereof, and the same shall be deemed to be incorporated with and to form part of this Agreement.

7.—The Mineral to be gotten is clean large coal only as hereinafter described.

The cutting prices to be paid to the Collier shall be the several standard prices prevailing and paid at the Collieries of the Owners respectively.

Such standard cutting price shall be paid upon the weight of the large coal to be ascertained in manner hereinafter appearing, and includes all services in respect of the small coal necessarily produced in filling the large coal, in conveying it from the working places to the screen at the surface, and in the process of screening, that price being equal

to the value of all the services involved in getting such large coal and small coal, and being more than the value of the services rendered in respect of the large coal only.

The respective weights of such large coal and small coal for the purpose of paying the Collier shall be ascertained as follows :—

After each tram of coal is brought to the weighing machine it shall be weighed, and the tare of the tram shall be deducted from the gross weight. The coal shall then be tipped over the screen in use at the Colliery to separate the small coal passing through the screen from the large coal passing over it.

The small coal which shall pass through the screen shall be weighed, and that weight shall be deducted from the gross weight of the coal in the tram in order to ascertain the weights of such large screened coal and small coal respectively, and the cutting price paid to the collier upon the weight of the large screened coal as aforesaid shall, during the continuance of this Agreement, be deemed to be the value of the services rendered in respect of both the large screened coal and small coal, the weights of which respectively shall be ascertained as aforesaid.

8.—It is distinctly understood that Clause 7 in this Agreement is not intended to change the system of weighing and screening the coal as it at present exists, but the Owners shall be at liberty to adopt such improved methods of screening and cleaning as they may consider necessary, provided

that any methods so adopted shall not in any way prejudicially affect the wages of the workmen.

9.—Clause 7 shall not apply to or alter or in any way interfere with any agreements now existing or hereafter to be made for payment for through and through coal or where small coal is now separately paid for.

10.—The Board shall at the meetings held under Rule 6 of the said Rules of Procedure determine the general rate of wages to be paid for the three months commencing on the first day of the month following the dates of such meetings, but should neither party desire to vary the rate of wages, the then prevailing rate of wages shall continue until the same shall be varied in accordance with the said Rules of Procedure.

- (a) All standard rates and prices shall be the Standards known as the Standards of December 1879 and 1877 respectively.
- (b) The wages payable to the workmen shall until the same is advanced or reduced be 50 per cent. above the several rates actually paid at the respective Collieries under the Standard of December, 1879.
- (c) During the continuance of this agreement the rate of wages shall, subject to subsection (d) hereof, not be less than 35 per cent. above nor more than 60 per cent. above the December, 1879, Standard of wages paid at the respective Collieries. The minimum of 35 per cent. above the December, 1879, Standard of wages shall,



subject to subsection (d) hereof, be paid when the average net selling price of large coal is at or below 12s. 5d. per ton f.o.b. When the nett selling price of large coal reaches 14s. and does not exceed 14s. 9d. per ton f.o.b., the rate of wages shall, subject to sub-section (d) hereof, be 50 per cent. above the rates paid under the Standard of December, 1879, and when the nett selling price exceeds 14s. 9d. per ton f.o.b. the workmen shall be entitled to claim advances in the general rate of wages in excess of the 50 per cent. and up to the said maximum of 60 per cent., but in cases of claims to advances above 50 per cent., 50 per cent. shall be taken to be the equivalent of 14s. 9d. per ton f.o.b., and in the case of claims to reductions 50 per cent. shall be taken to be the equivalent of 14s. per ton f.o.b. The average nett selling prices shall be taken as for large Colliery screened coal delivered f.o.b. at Cardiff, Barry, Newport, Swansea, Port Talbot, and Llanelly.

- (d) At Collieries where the Standard or basis upon which wages are now regulated is the rate of wages paid in the year 1877 the percentage payable thereat shall be 15 per cent. less than at the Collieries where the 1879 Standard prevails, and in cases where workmen have hitherto been paid net rates of wages or fixed or other percentages whether upon the 1877, 1879 Standards, or any other existing Stan-

dards, they shall continue to be paid such net rates fixed or other percentages only.

11.—At the Collieries under this Agreement all wages due to the workmen shall be paid once in each fortnight, provided that at those Collieries where wages are now paid weekly such practice shall continue in force.

12.—The hours of labour of workmen employed below ground at the said Collieries respectively shall be such as are authorised by the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, except that such workmen shall not be under any obligation to work the extended hours mentioned in Section 3 (1) of the said Act, and that notwithstanding the limitation of hours to be worked under the said Act no alteration shall be made in the Standard rates and prices hitherto paid to such workmen during the continuance of this Agreement.

13.—Where payment of six turns for five worked by night has hitherto been paid the same shall continue. As under the said Act no overtime can be worked other than in cases of emergency as defined in Section 1 (sub-section 2) payment for overtime will cease. In cases of dispute as to whether any overtime or extra turns paid previous to the coming into operation of the said Act were in part paid for work done in the workmen's ordinary hours of work the same shall be referred to a joint Committee of the Conciliation Board with power to settle, and if the decision is in favour of the workman it shall date back to the time the dispute is

placed on the Agenda. In cases of failure to settle either side may determine the Contracts of the workmen affected by a month's notice to be given on the first day of the following month.

14.—The Owners will not press for double shift in the face, but shall be given an effective afternoon shift of such number of workmen as are required by the Owners for clearance purposes, repairing, double shift in headings and places that require to be pressed on for opening the Collieries.

Where six shifts for five are now paid at night the Owners shall pay six shifts for five in the afternoon shift, and where six shifts are paid for six shifts worked at night, the Owners shall only be required to pay six shifts for six in the afternoon.

15.—An overlapping shift shall be worked where required by the Owners, such shift shall start not earlier than 6 a.m. and not later than 9 a.m. On Saturdays this shift shall start and finish at the same time as the first shift.

The two sides of the Board shall unite in procuring an amendment of the Eight Hours Act making this early starting on Saturday legal.

16.—That where Sunday night shifts are worked they shall be eight hours shifts, only one shift to be paid.

17.—The mealtime for underground day wagemen (day and night) shall be twenty minutes, which shall be so arranged as not to interfere with the haulage and general working of the Colliery; and

in the case of all workmen connected with the winding, whether employed upon the surface or below ground, the mealtime shall be twenty minutes, and shall be so arranged as to secure the continuous winding of coal without interruption during the shift.

18.—Workmen on the surface engaged in handling the coal shall work half an hour per day beyond the coal winding time, either starting fifteen minutes before coal winding and working fifteen minutes afterwards, or, at the option of the Owners, working the half hour after winding, it being agreed that the hours of working of such workmen shall be  $8\frac{1}{2}$  hours per day. The only workmen intended to come under the operation of this clause are those who handle the trams between the cage and the tipplers, the screenmen, slag pickers, and wagonmen. Banksmen are excluded.

19.—Where serious but non-fatal accidents occur an agreed number of men (but not more than 20) to be selected by the Management may accompany the injured workman out of the pit.

20.—No stoppage for funerals shall take place except by arrangement with the Management.-

21.—The workmen shall be entitled to twelve General Holidays in each year, which shall include all Bank Holidays and Federation Demonstration Holidays, the dates to be agreed upon by the Board; and the workmen's representatives agree that in arranging such holidays they will issue instructions

to the workmen requesting them to resume work immediately after such holidays have terminated and will use every effort to see that such instructions are complied with.

At any Collieries where "Mabon's Day" now exists, the custom of keeping such a holiday shall be forthwith abolished.

22.—The prices to be charged to workmen entitled to house coal for their own domestic purposes shall be the same prices as are fixed to be paid by the award of Sir David Dale, Bart., of the 11th day of July 1903.

23.—During the continuance of this Agreement all notices to terminate individual contracts on the part of the Owners as well as on the part of the workmen shall be given on the first day of any calendar month and shall terminate upon the last day of the same month, provided that if the first day of any calendar month fall on a Sunday, the notice shall be given on the previous Saturday.

24.—Subject as aforesaid the Owners and Workmen at the respective Collieries shall be bound to observe and fulfil and shall be subject to all customs, provisions and conditions existing in December 1899, at the Collieries respectively, and no variation shall be made therein by the Owners or workmen except by mutual arrangement at the Collieries respectively, or by a decision of the Board after reference thereto in accordance with the provisions of Clause 5 of any proposal for a variation.



25.—Subject to the provisions of Clause 10 (c) hereof nothing in this Agreement or in the Rules of Procedure is to preclude either party bringing any matter before the Board or independent chairman which they consider as factors bearing upon the General Wage Question, but any evidence brought forward as to the selling price of large coal shall be confined to the price of large coal delivered f.o.b. at the shipping ports named in Clause 10 (c) hereof in the three calendar months immediately preceding the first day of the month prior to the month in which the meeting is held to consider any proposal to vary the General Wage Rate.

26.—This Agreement shall continue in force from the 1st April, 1910, until the 31st March, 1915, and thenceforth until either party gives to the other three calendar months' notice terminating the same, such notice to be given to the Secretary of such other party in writing, or left at his usual or last known address. Upon the termination of this Agreement all contracts of service between the Owners respectively and their workmen respectively shall cease.

27.—A copy of this Agreement shall be placed in a Contract Book at each Colliery, which shall be signed by or on behalf of the Owners of such Colliery and also by each workman employed thereat, as one of the terms of the engagement between the Owners and the said workmen.

*Rules of Procedure*

1.—The Constituents of the Board, *i.e.*, Owners' Representatives and Workmen's Representatives, are for brevity herein referred to as "the Parties."

2.—The Meetings of the Board shall be held at Cardiff or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine.

3.—Each of the parties shall appoint a Secretary, and shall give notice of such appointment when made to the other party, and such Secretaries shall remain in office until they shall resign, or be withdrawn by the parties appointing them. The Secretaries, or their respective deputies for the time being, shall attend all Meetings of the Board, and be entitled to take part in the discussion, but they shall have no power to move or second any resolution or vote on any question before the Board.

4.—The Secretaries shall conjointly convene all Meetings of the Board and record the names of the persons present thereat, and at all Meetings held under Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure full minutes of the proceedings thereof shall be taken under the conjoint supervision of the Secretaries by an official shorthand writer to be mutually agreed on by the parties, which minutes shall be transcribed into duplicate books, and each such book shall be signed by the Presidents or other persons presiding at the Meetings at which such minutes are confirmed. One of such minute books shall be kept by each of

the Secretaries, such minutes to be for the private use of the Board and not for publication. The Secretaries shall also conduct correspondence for their respective parties and conjointly for the Board.

5.—The Board shall meet once at least in each month for the purpose of dealing with difficulties or disputes arising at the several Collieries, and referred to in Clauses 5 and 24 of the foregoing Agreement, and the same shall be dealt with by the Board without reference to the Chairman. The Secretaries shall give to each Member of the Board seven days' notice of the intention to hold any such Meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat, and, except by mutual agreement, no subject shall be considered which has not been placed on the <sup>4</sup> Agenda to the Notice convening the Meeting.

6.—Should there be a desire by either party to vary the rate of wages the Board shall meet to consider the same on the 10th day of the months of February, May, August, and November in every year (except when the 10th day of any of the said months falls on a Sunday, when the Meeting shall be held on the following day), to determine the general rate of wages to be paid for the three months commencing on the first day of the month next following the date of such Meetings. Either party intending to propose at such Meetings any alteration in the general rate of wages shall, ten days before the said 10th day of the months of February, May, August, and November for holding such Meetings, give to the

Secretary of the other party notice in writing of the proposition intended to be made, and of the grounds thereof, and the Secretaries shall enter such intended proposition and the grounds thereof on the Agenda to the notice convening the Meeting. The Secretaries shall send to each member of the Board seven days' notice of each such Meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat.

At all such last mentioned Meetings the questions to be dealt with thereat shall, in the first instance, be considered by the Board, it being the desire and intention of the parties to settle any differences which may arise by friendly conference if possible. If the parties on the Board cannot agree then the Meeting shall be adjourned for a period not exceeding twelve days, to which adjourned Meeting the Chairman shall be summoned, and shall attend and preside thereat, when the questions in difference shall be again discussed by the parties, and in the event of their failing to arrive at an agreement with regard thereto, the Chairman either at such Meeting or within five days thereafter shall give his casting vote on such questions, and the parties shall be bound thereby.

7.—Both Presidents shall preside at all Meetings (other than at Meetings at which it shall be the duty of the Chairman to preside in accordance with Clause 6 of these Rules), but if either or both of them shall be absent then a member or members of the Board shall be elected by the respective parties to preside

at such Meetings according as such Presidents who shall be absent shall represent the Owners or workmen. The Presidents or other persons presiding shall vote as representatives, but shall have no other votes.

8.—All questions submitted to the Board shall be stated in writing and may be supported by such verbal, documentary, or other evidence and explanation as either party may submit, subject to the approval of the Board.

9.—Each party shall pay and defray the expenses of its own Representatives, Secretary, and Accountant; but the costs and expenses of the Chairman, Official Shorthand Writer, Joint Auditors (if any) and of the stationery, books, printing, and hire of rooms for Meeting shall be borne by the respective parties in equal shares.



## APPENDIX IX

EXTRACTS FROM COAL MINES (MINIMUM WAGE)  
ACT, 1912*Minimum Wage for Workmen Employed Under-  
ground in Coal Mines*

1.—(1) It shall be an implied term of every contract for the employment of a workman underground in a coal mine that the employer shall pay to that workman wages at not less than the minimum rate settled under this Act and applicable to that workman, unless it is certified in manner provided by the district rules that the workman is a person excluded under the district rules from the operation of this provision, or that the workman has forfeited the right to wages at the minimum rate by reason of his failure to comply with the conditions with respect to the regularity or efficiency of the work to be performed by workmen laid down by those rules; and any agreement for the payment of wages in so far as it is in contravention of this provision shall be void.

For the purposes of this Act, the expression "district rules" means rules made under the powers given by this Act by the joint district board.

(2) The district rules shall lay down conditions as respects the district to which they apply, with respect to the exclusion from the right to wages at the minimum rate of aged workmen and infirm workmen (including workmen partially disabled by illness or accident), and shall lay down conditions with respect to the regularity and efficiency of the work to be performed by the workmen, and with respect to the time for which a workman is to be paid in the event of any interruption of work due to an emergency, and shall provide that a workman shall forfeit the right to wages at the minimum rate if he does not comply with the conditions as to regularity and efficiency of work, except in cases where the failure to comply with the conditions is due to some cause over which he has no control.

The district rules shall also make provision with respect to the persons by whom and the mode in which any question, whether any workman in the district is a workman to whom the minimum rate of wages is applicable, or whether a workman has complied with the conditions laid down by the rules, or whether a workman who has not complied with the conditions laid down by the rules has forfeited his right to wages at the minimum rate, is to be decided, and for a certificate being given of any such decision for the purposes of this section.

(3) The provisions of this section as to payment of wages at a minimum rate shall operate as from the date of the passing of this Act, although a

minimum rate of wages may not have been settled, and any sum which would have been payable under this section to a workman on account of wages if a minimum rate had been settled may be recovered by the workman from his employer at any time after the rate is settled.

*Settlement of Minimum Rates of Wages and  
District Rules*

2.—(1) Minimum rates of wages and district rules for the purpose of this Act shall be settled separately for each of the districts named in the Schedule to this Act by a body of persons recognised by the Board of Trade as the joint district board for that district.

Nothing in this Act shall prejudice the operation of any agreement entered into or custom existing before the passing of this Act for the payment of wages at a rate higher than the minimum rate settled under this Act, and in settling any minimum rate of wages the joint district board *shall have regard to the average daily rate of wages paid to the workmen of the class for which the minimum rate is to be settled.*

(2) The Board of Trade may recognise as a joint district board for any district any body of persons, whether existing at the time of the passing of this Act or constituted for the purposes of this Act, which in the opinion of the Board of Trade fairly and adequately represents the workmen in coal mines in the district and the employers of those

workmen, and the chairman of which is an independent person appointed by agreement between the persons representing the workmen and employers respectively on the body, or in default of agreement by the Board of Trade.

The Board of Trade may, as a condition of recognising as a joint district board for the purposes of this Act any body the rules of which do not provide for securing equality of voting power between the members representing workmen and the members representing employers and for giving the chairman a casting vote in case of difference between the two classes of members, require that body to adopt any such rules as the Board of Trade may approve for the purpose, and any rule so adopted shall be deemed to be a rule governing the procedure of the body for the purposes of this Act.

(3) The joint district board of a district shall settle general minimum rates of wages and general district rules of their district (in this Act referred to as general district minimum rates and general district rules), and the general district minimum rates and general district rules shall be the rates and rules applicable throughout the whole of the district to all coal mines in the district and to all workmen or classes of workmen employed underground in those mines, other than mines to which and workmen to whom a special minimum rate or special district rules settled under the provisions of this Act is or are applicable, or mines to which and workmen

to whom the joint district board declare that the general district rates and general district rules shall not be applicable pending the decision of the question whether a special district rate or special district rules ought to be settled in their case.

(4) The joint district board of any district may, if it is shown to them that any general district minimum rate or general district rules are not applicable in the case of any group or class of coal mines within the district, owing to the special circumstances of the group or class of mines, settle a special minimum rate (either higher or lower than the general district rate) or special rules (either more or less stringent than the general district rules) for that group or class of mines, and any such special rate or special rules shall be the rate or rules applicable to that group or class of mines instead of the general district minimum rate or general district rules.

(5) For the purpose of settling minimum rates of wage, the joint district board may subdivide their district into two parts or, if the members of the joint district board representing the employers agree, into more than two parts, and in that case each part of the district as so subdivided shall, for the purpose of the minimum rate, be treated as the district.

(6) For the purpose of settling district rules, any joint district boards may agree that their district shall be treated as one district, and in that case those districts shall be treated for that purpose



as one combined district, with a combined district committee appointed as may be agreed between the joint district boards concerned, and the chairman of such one of the districts forming the combination as may be agreed upon between the joint district boards concerned, or, in default of agreement, determined by the Board of Trade, shall be the chairman of the combined district committee.

*Revision of Minimum Rates of Wages and District Rules*

3.—(1) Any minimum rate of wages or district rules settled under this Act shall remain in force until varied in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(2) The joint district board of a district shall have power to vary any minimum rate of wages or district rules for the time being in force in their district—

- (a) at any time by agreement between the members of the joint district board representing the workmen and the members representing the employers; and
- (b) after one year has elapsed since the rate or rules were last settled or varied, on an application made (with three months' notice given after the expiration of the year) by any workmen or employers, which appears to the joint district board to represent any considerable body of opinion amongst

either the workmen or the employers concerned ;

and the provisions of this Act as to the settlement of minimum rates of wages or district rules shall, so far as applicable, apply to the variation of any such rate or rules.

## APPENDIX X

DISTRICT RULES FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH WALES  
(INCLUDING MONMOUTHSHIRE)

1.—The following Rules shall apply to the working of all Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912, hereinafter called "the Act" within South Wales and Monmouthshire.

2.—In these Rules the word "Workman" means any person to whom the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912, applies, the word "pay" means the period in respect of which the workman's wages are for the time being payable, and the word "day" means a colliery working day.

3.—A workman who has reached 63 years of age shall be regarded as an aged workman, within the meaning of the Act, and shall be excluded from the right to wages at the minimum rate. A workman who from physical causes is unable to do the work ordinarily done by a man in his position in the mine or who is partially disabled by illness or accident shall be regarded as an infirm workman within the meaning of the Act and shall be excluded from the right to wages at the minimum rate. Where there is no disagreement as to whether a workman has reached the age of 63 years or is infirm or partially disabled

by illness or accident, a Certificate signed by the workman affected and the Manager of the Mine shall be conclusive evidence in reference thereto. Provided that in a case of a workman partially disabled by illness or accident such Certificate shall only apply during the period of such partial disablement.

4.—A workman shall forfeit his right to wages at the minimum rate on any day on which he delays in going to his working place or work at the proper time, or leaves his working place or work before the proper time, or fails to perform throughout the whole of the shift his work with diligence and efficiency and in accordance with the reasonable instructions of the Official having charge of the district in which such workman shall be engaged.

5.—A workman shall regularly present himself for work when the Colliery is open for work, and shall forfeit his right to wages at the minimum rate during any pay in which he has not worked at least five-sixths of his possible working days, unless prevented from working by accident or illness. Provided that a workman in a colliery open for work for less than 6 days in any pay shall not forfeit his right to wages at the minimum rate by absence from the Colliery not caused by accident or illness for one day during that pay, if he has worked on every day during the previous pay on which the Colliery was open for work and he was not prevented by accident or illness from working. In case of accident or illness the workman shall if

required submit himself to the examination of a duly qualified medical man to be appointed by the employer ; and in case he shall refuse to do so he shall forfeit his right to wages at the minimum rate during that pay.

Every Collier or Collier's helper shall at all times work, get and send out the largest possible quantity of clean coal contracted to be gotten from his working place and shall perform at least such an amount of work as, at the rates set forth in the price list or other agreed rates applicable, would entitle him to earnings equivalent to the minimum rate. If at any time any workman shall in consequence of circumstances over which he alleges he has no control be unable to perform such an amount of work as would entitle him under the price list or other agreed rates to a sum equal to the daily minimum rate, then and in such case he shall forthwith give notice thereof to the official in charge of the district in which he shall be engaged, and if such official shall not agree that the workman cannot earn at the work upon which he shall be engaged a sum under the price list or other agreed rates equal to the daily minimum rate, then the matter shall be decided in the manner provided by Rule 8. The Management shall be at liberty to remove the workman to some other part of the Colliery.

If any workman shall act in contravention of this rule he shall forfeit the right to wages at the minimum rate for the pay in which such contravention shall take place.

6.—If a case of emergency in or about or connected with the Colliery shall render a workman's services for the time being unnecessary, and such workman shall be informed of such emergency when or before he reaches the pit bottom or a station within 300 yards therefrom, then such workman shall forthwith return to the surface (facilities being given) and shall not be entitled to any payment in respect of that shift. If the workman travels to his working place and is there informed or discovers that something has happened to prevent him working in his place and is offered but refuses other work which he may properly be called upon to perform, he shall not be entitled to claim any wages in respect of that shift. In the event of any interruption of work during the shift of any workman due to an emergency over which the management has no control whereby he shall be prevented from working continuously until the end of his shift, then he shall be entitled only to such a proportion of the minimum rate for the shift as the time during which he shall have worked shall bear to the total number of hours of such shift. Facilities shall be given to enable him to ascend the mine as soon as practicable.

7.—(1) In ascertaining whether the minimum wage has been earned by any workman on piece-work the total earnings during two consecutive weeks shall be divided by the number of shifts and parts of shifts he has worked during such two weeks.

Upon the average earnings of any workman for two weeks being ascertained in accordance with

this rule, the wages of such workman shall be adjusted and the amount found to be due to or from him ascertained and paid or debited to him as the case may be, and in the latter event the amount debited shall be deemed to be a payment on account of wages to become subsequently due to him.<sup>1</sup>

(2) In cases where workmen are working as partners on shares and pooling their earnings no member of such partnership shall be entitled to be made up to the minimum rate if the average earnings per day of the set over the whole week shall amount to the minimum rate.

(3) In ascertaining the earnings of workmen employed upon piece-work for the purposes of the minimum wage there shall not be deducted from the gross earnings for the helper more than the actual wages paid to the helper by the workman. All rates of wages so paid to the helper by the workman shall be registered with the Management. No workman on piece-work shall, without the consent of the Management, fix the wage paid to his helper at more than a Standard rate of 6d. per day, plus percentage, above the minimum Standard rate fixed for the class of helper in Schedule 1.

8—Should any question arise as to whether any particular workman employed underground is a workman to whom the minimum rate is to apply, or whether a workman has failed to comply with any

<sup>1</sup> It has been decided by the Court of Appeal that this portion of Rule 7 is *ultra vires*.

of the conditions contained in these rules, or whether by non-compliance with any of these rules such workman has forfeited his right to the Minimum rate, such question shall be decided in the following manner :—

(a) By agreement between the workmen concerned and the Official in charge of the Mine.

Failing agreement, by two officials of the Colliery representing the employer on the one side and two members of the Committee of the local lodge of the Workmen's Federation (or not more than two representatives appointed by them) on the other side.

Again failing agreement, by the Manager of the Mine and the District Miners' Agent.

(b) Still failing agreement, by an umpire to be selected by them (or if they disagree in the selection, by lot) without delay from one of the Panels constituted as hereinafter provided.

Three panels of persons having a knowledge of Mining to be prepared by the two Chairmen of the Employers and Workmen's Representatives on the Joint District Board. One of such panels shall be constituted for questions arising in the Newport District, one for questions arising in the Swansea District (including Pembrokeshire), one for questions arising in the Cardiff District. In case of difference as to the constitution of any panel, such panel shall be settled by the independent chairman of the Joint District Board. The Newport District shall consist of Collieries situated to the east of the Rumney



River. The Swansea District shall consist of Collieries situated westwards of the Llynfi River and of a line drawn from the top of that river into the Neath River at Ystradfellte. The Cardiff District shall consist of Collieries situated between the Newport and the Swansea District

If required by either employer or workman, a panel may be revised at the end of every twelve months from the constitution thereof. For the determination of any question arising under this rule the employers and workmen respectively shall be entitled to call such evidence as they may think proper before the person or persons who may have to determine such question, and such person or persons may make such inspections of workings as he or they may deem necessary for the proper determination of the matter in question.

Any questions that may arise for determination under paragraph (a) of this rule shall be determined within a period of three clear days from the date upon which the question to be determined first arose; and any question to be determined by the Umpire shall be determined within seven clear days from the said date, or such further time as the Umpire shall appoint in writing. The colliery representative and the District Miners' Agent shall be entitled to attend and represent the employers and workmen respectively before the Umpire.

9.—A certificate in writing of any decision by any person or persons under the last preceding rule

shall be given by such person or persons to both or either of the parties when requested, and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the decision. Any certificate so given as to the infirmity of a workman may be cancelled or varied on the application of either party after the expiration of six weeks from the date of the certificate. Any application to cancel or vary such certificate shall be determined as a question under the last preceding rule. The expenses and charges of the Umpire shall be paid by the Joint District Board and apportioned in the same manner as the expenses of the Joint District Board.

10.—Except as expressly varied by these rules, all customs, usages and conditions of employment existing at the respective Coal Mines to which these rules are applicable shall remain in full force unless altered by a mutual agreement.

11.—Overmen, Traffic Foremen, Firemen, Assistant Firemen, Bratticemen, Shotfirers, Master Hauliers, Farriers, and persons whose duty is that of inspection or supervision, are not workmen to whom the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act applies.

12.—In the event of any question arising as to the construction or meaning of these rules, it shall be decided by the independent chairman of the Joint District Board.

(Signed) ST. ALDWYN.

July 5th, 1912.

Revised Dec. 26th, 1913.

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OUTPUT STATISTICS OF THE COALFIELDS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1912-18.

(Output in tons. The figures given in this and the following table have been supplied by the Home Office).

Year.	Durham.	Northumberland.	Yorkshire.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	Midland.	South Wales.	S. Wales % of U.K.
1912	37,890,404	13,381,641	65,980,984	23,063,198	22,328,042	50,116,264	19.2
1913	41,532,890	14,819,284	74,192,949	24,627,515	24,015,950	56,830,072	19.7
1914	37,549,304	12,471,999	67,992,153	22,890,357	23,238,834	53,879,728	20.2
1915	33,737,865	11,040,501	68,787,419	21,685,256	23,111,253	50,452,600	19.9
1916	33,742,979	11,244,895	69,301,446	21,733,498	23,367,737	52,080,709	20.3
1917	30,842,539	10,221,430	70,439,440	22,063,093	23,492,462	48,507,902	19.5
1918	28,404,190	9,883,064	62,406,752	19,870,519	20,884,729	46,716,535	20.5

Year.	North Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Other Coalfields in Great Britain	United Kingdom.
1912	3,250,749	90,307	39,518,629	4,778,360	260,398,578
1913	3,505,724	82,521	42,456,516	5,348,448	287,411,869
1914	3,315,092	92,400	38,847,362	5,365,901	265,643,030
1915	3,241,002	84,557	35,596,856	5,442,137	253,179,446
1916	3,178,765	89,833	36,094,031	5,513,858	256,348,351
1917	3,146,830	95,646	34,245,744	5,418,033	248,473,119
1918	2,809,379	92,001	31,890,218	4,758,192	227,714,579



**NUMBERS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN COAL MINING, ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND, IN  
THE COALFIELDS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1910-1918.**

(The page number given in each column refers to the page of this volume where the  
figures for earlier years will be found.)

Year.	Durham and Northum- berland. p. 62.	Yorkshire. pp. 68-69.	Lancashire and Cheshire. p. 74.	Midland. p. 92.	South Wales. p. 117. (and foot- note to this table.†)	North Wales. p. 138.	Ireland. p. 141.	Scotland. p. 164.	Other Coalfields in Great Britain.	Total for U.K.
1910	212,343	241,767	104,659	87,539	213,161	15,171	725	131,315	26,022	1,032,702
1911	216,733	245,111	103,959	89,160	220,815	15,424	790	131,314	26,591	1,040,897
1912	218,926	250,962	105,748	91,551	225,483	15,680	862	136,656	26,525	1,072,393
1913	226,806	261,808	107,992	95,903	233,091	15,941	770	140,834	27,739	1,110,884
1914	227,639	265,291	107,684	97,354	234,090	16,251	793	139,264	28,282	1,116,648*
1915	166,779	233,511	90,717	88,718	202,614	14,983	739	116,419	25,592	940,072
1916	173,912	244,016	95,396	92,547	214,066	15,688	767	121,638	26,527	984,557
1917	176,943	249,101	98,202	95,122	219,684	15,847	863	123,916	26,685	1,006,363
1918	178,927	244,550	97,362	93,826	218,785	15,479	893	118,507	25,898	994,227

Footnotes :—† The years before 1912 are not given in the book for S. Wales. They are: 1895, 126,135; 1900, 147,652; 1905, 165,609; 1910, 213,161; 1911, 220,815.

\* Number of persons ordinarily employed from January to July, 1914. The number of persons employed under and above ground on the last pay-day in December, 1914, was 966,469.

DEATH RATES IN MINES FROM DIFFERENT CAUSES.  
(Per 1,000 workers employed).

In continuation of Table on p. 371. Figures from  
Mines and Quarries—General Report, Part I. (Annual).

Year.	Underground workers taken separately.					Surface workers taken separately.
	Explosions of Fire-damp or Coal dust.	Falls of ground.	Shaft accidents.	Miscellaneous.	All causes underground.	
1913	·51	·68	·11	·44	1·74	·79
1914 <sup>1</sup>	·03	·65	·07	·43	1·19	·61
1915	·05	·89	·08	·52	1·55	·65
1916	·03	·89	·06	·49	1·47	·73
1917	·02	·89	·08	·50	1·50	·74
1918	·20	·86	·06	·48	1·61	·58

<sup>1</sup> These death-rates are calculated on the number of persons ordinarily employed at mines under the Coal Mines Act during the period from January to July, 1914.

AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF STEAM COAL.  
F.O.B. CARDIFF (continuing Table, p. 489).

	LARGE—Colliery Screened.				SMALLS.			
	Best.		Seconds.		Best.		Ordinary.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1913	20	3	18	9	12	6	10	3
1914	20	2	17	11	10	2	7	7
1915	Nominal.		25	10	17	8	14	3
1916	Do.		39	4	24	1	19	2
1917 <sup>1</sup>	Do.		26	4	16	10	13	7

(Figures from *South Wales Coal Annual*, 1919).

<sup>1</sup> To end of June only. Since 28th June, 1917, prices have been fixed from time to time by the Controller of Coal Mines for export purposes, and at different levels for different markets, and preferential prices were given to Allied Countries, consequently average prices cannot be given. Home prices were also controlled, lower maxima being fixed. For details of orders see *South Wales Coal Annual*.

## STATISTICS

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**TABLE ILLUSTRATING THE GROWTH OF THE EXPORT  
TRADE IN COAL FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM**  
(in continuation of Table in Chapter on Foreign Trade, p. 676).

Year.	Total Value of Exports of Produce of United Kingdom, 000's omitted.*	Value of Coal Exported, 000's omitted.*	Percentage of Coal to Total Exports.	Total Production of Coal in United Kingdom, 000's omitted.	Quantity of Coal Exported, 000's omitted.	Percentage of Coal Exported to Total Raised.
	£	£		Tons.	Tons.	
1911	454,119	38,447	8.47	271,892	86,536	31.83
1912	487,223	42,584	8.74	280,416 <sup>3</sup>	85,327	32.76
1913	525,245	53,659	10.21	287,430	97,719	34.00
1914	430,721	42,202	9.79	265,664	80,365	30.25
1915	384,868	38,824	10.08	253,206	59,401	23.46
1916	508,280	50,670	10.01	256,375	54,155	21.13
1917	527,080	51,341	9.74	248,473	48,029	19.33
1918	498,473	52,416	10.51	227,715	42,930	18.85

\* The figures in this column differ from those in the table on p. 676 because the value of new ships exported is included here. The values of new ships exported were:—1914, £6,982,554; 1915, £1,692,661; 1916, £1,290,585; 1917, £1,086,209.

† The value of bunker coals shipped on all vessels is excluded.

‡ In this and succeeding years the amount of dirt in the coal has been deducted, whereas in previous years no estimate was returned. In 1911 the weight of dirt raised was 2,268,000 tons.

§ Coke and manufactured fuel are included at the actual weight returned; and bunker coal shipped for the use of foreign going vessels is also included.

**TABLE SHOWING RISE OF OUTWARD FREIGHT  
RATES FROM CARDIFF TO REPRESENTATIVE  
FOREIGN PORTS, 1913 TO 1919.<sup>1</sup>**

	Bordeaux.	Lisbon.	Genoa.	Port Said.	Buenos Ayres.
	fcs.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1913	6-94	7 0½	8 8	6 2	17 6
1914	7-16	6 1½	8 11	9 7	13 10
1915	24-95	20 10	31 8	35 10	29 8
1916	58-00	41 11	79 4½	83 4	54 0
	s. d.				
1917	67 9 <sup>3</sup>	67 6 <sup>2</sup>	170 0 <sup>3</sup>	108 4	104 0
1918	28 0 <sup>3</sup>			160 0 <sup>4</sup>	125 0 <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From *The South Wales Coal Annual, 1919* (Business Statistics Co., Cardiff).

<sup>2</sup> Neutral Freight Rate average.

<sup>3</sup> Shipping Controller's Maximum Rate from Feb. 5th, 1918.

<sup>4</sup> Approximate figure.

QUANTITIES OF COAL EXPORTED TO VARIOUS MARKETS FROM THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICTS  
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1913 AND 1915.  
(Compare with Table in Chapter XXIV. on Foreign Trade, p. 683).  
(In thousands of tons).

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THE COAL TRADE

Ports.	Baltic and North Sea.		France and Mediterranean.		Africa and India.		Ceylon and Far East.		N. America, W. Indies and Central America.		Brazil, Argentine, Uruguay and Paraguay.		S. America, Pacific Coast.	
	1913	1915	1913	1915	1913	1915	1913	1915	1913	1915	1913	1915	1913	1915
Bristol Channel	1,820	233	20,723	15,702	956	523	400	56	74	12	5,440	2,031	456	44
North-Western	143	31	458	427	21	13	15	2	8	6	93	42	14	3
North-Eastern	12,132	5,433	10,502	8,448	45	92	5	0	4	8	203	151	133	0
Humber Ports	7,008	1,470	1,583	2,210	21	6	5	0	4	0	262	105	0	0
East Scotland	7,050	3,050	1,039	643	2	0	0	0	8	0	153	30	1	0
West Scotland	476	110	1,413	2,417	20	5	2	2	88	20	183	158	1	2
All other Ports (mainly E. Coast)	375	22	49	14	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20,004	10,350	35,708	29,803	1,065	639	433	60	180	55	6,334	2,517	605	49

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# THE BRITISH COAL TRADE

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OF SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

*With Twenty-three Illustrations in Black and White  
and two Maps*

SECOND IMPRESSION

WITH APPENDIX OF RECENT STATISTICS

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## PREFACE

THIS book is intended to be a popular account of the coal mining industry and of the coal trade of the British Isles, in which special attention is paid to the economic and social aspects. Whilst on the technique of mining or selling coal, and on the geology of the Coal Measures I have written for the lay reader, there is a good deal of information in some of the chapters which will be new, I believe, to students of economic and social science—at any rate it has not previously been collected in one book. Many of the facts which I have obtained orally from persons engaged in coal mining, or by my own observation, are not generally known and have not been published before.

The growing part which the coal trade and the miners are destined to play in the economy and the politics of this country has always been before me as defining the object and scope of this book. Stricter and more extensive legislative regulation of the mining industry will be demanded, and the nationalisation of mines will be seriously proposed and discussed. No adequate discussion of such measures by the public or in Parliament is possible whilst there is widespread ignorance of the modern methods of working coal, and of the conditions

of employment of miners. My purpose has been to provide knowledge of facts and a point of view. It is always the lives and personality of the workers in an industry which appeal to me as the most important aspect of it, as indeed they are to the nation ; so I have grudged no space for the chapters dealing with miners' lives and their organisations.

I collected materials dealing with the history of coal mining, the finance of mining enterprises, mineral royalties and coal leases, a comparison of American and continental mining methods with our own, export duties in coal, the retail coal trade, the nationalisation of mines, and other subjects, but want of space forbade my treating them adequately—I also rejected them in some cases because they were too technical, and in others because I had determined to avoid controversy. The book has had to be written in my spare time, so that although I have been engaged on it for some four or five years, there has been no time for me to make minute verification of all my information. I can hardly hope, therefore, that there are not a few errors or misstatements ; but I believe they are not many, as I have read carefully the earlier written portions without finding anything serious amiss. One great difficulty arises from difference of usages and technical names in the principal coalfields, which are so confusing that both the employers and the miners' leaders are constantly troubled by them when they meet together in national conferences. I must also point out that almost the whole of the

book was written before the outbreak of the Great European War; and some of my rather confident predictions may be vitiated, or at least postponed, by this tremendous and unexpected calamity.

My thanks are due to so many persons for information and assistance that it is hard to name them. In particular I must express my indebtedness to Professor Galloway, whose kindness I have much appreciated. Colliery owners and managers have always answered my questions with the greatest readiness and frankness. Amongst the miners' representatives I am indebted to Messrs. Robert Smillie, J.P., President of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, Thomas Ashton, J.P., William Brace, M.P., Tom Richards, M.P., J. Winstone, J.P., George Barker, Vernon Harts-horn, J.P., Hubert Jenkins, Edward Gill, T. I. Mardy Jones, and several others. To Mr. David Evans, of Cardiff, I am indebted for much of the information connected with the sale of coal and with shipping; and I have had much extremely valuable assistance in collecting information and statistics and in seeing the book through the press from Mr. Edgar L. Chappell, Secretary of the South Wales Garden Cities Association. Other friends also have given generous help.

To the Business Statistics Publishing Co., of Cardiff and Newcastle-on-Tyne, who issue the South Wales Coal Annual and the North Country Coal and Shipping Annual, I am also indebted, not only, in common with the general public, for these excellent annuals,

of which I have made extensive use, but also for kindly allowing me the use of their proof sheets of the issue for 1915, and for permitting me to reproduce several valuable illustrations. I wish also to thank the Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Co. and the Ashington Coal Co. for kindly providing me with several photographs.

#### PREFACE TO SECOND IMPRESSION

The first impression of this book having been exhausted, a second is being printed from moulds of the original edition. The opportunity has been taken to make a few verbal corrections of errors which somehow crept into the original manuscript. It has seemed better thus to limit the changes, rather than to attempt any revision of the book so as to make a new edition. The time for this is not appropriate because the coal mining industry and coal trade of this country are in an extraordinary state of flux, and any description of present conditions would very soon be out of date.

The interference of the War with the normal condition and expansion of the coal trade is indicated, however, by some of the principal statistics for recent years which I have collected and printed in a new Appendix to this book. (See page 864). It will be seen that the output for the United Kingdom began to decline in 1914, went still lower in 1915, recovered a little in 1916, and since then has continually decreased. Some three or four different causes, have

## PREFACE TO SECOND IMPRESSION ix

combined to give this result; curtailment of the export trade to neutral countries through shipping difficulties and high freights; difficulties of obtaining pitprops and materials for further development of collieries; shortage of labour due to recruiting; also in the last two or three years, in some coalfields, a tacit adoption amongst the hewers of a "stint," or maximum number of trams to be filled per day; and since 16th July, 1919, the reduction of the statutory working hours from eight to seven. This Act of 1919 brings the average time spent by men below ground to about 7 hours 40 minutes. A further reduction to a statutory working day of six hours will come into effect from 1st January, 1921, if Parliament resolves that the condition of the coal-mining industry then permits it.

One of the first effects of the War was to increase the price of food, and generally to raise the cost of living. This was reflected everywhere by demands for wages to be increased. In 1915 Mr. Asquith, then Prime Minister, gave an award to the effect that wages should be increased substantially, but that the Conciliation Boards of the various districts must settle the amounts separately. In South Wales the increase was 17½ per cent., and similar advances were made elsewhere. Immediately afterwards the Wages Agreement of 1915 expired in South Wales, and a new standard was adopted at 50 per cent. above the standard of 1879. Since 1915 there have been considerable increases of the percentages throughout the country, whilst in September, 1917, a general War Wage of 1s. 6d. per day for all adult workers and 9d.

for boys for every working day that the man attends for work was granted for the whole country—subsequently increased, in June, 1918, to 3s. and 1s. 6d. respectively. 2s. a day extra was granted from Jan., 1919.

Coincidentally with the fall of output there was a great increase in demand for coal for Admiralty and transport purposes, as well as for munition-making, and export to France and Italy. A considerable shortage of coal developed in the home market; and in 1917 the Government was obliged to assume control, and private customers were rationed. The supply of coal was a vital national question, and there was much investigation of labour troubles and of the conditions of mining before the Government went to the length of assuming control of the industry. Much extraordinarily interesting information was thus made public for the first time in the history of the coal-mining industry.

A list of the principal special Government publications dealing with coal-mining during the War period will be found on page 863 of this impression.

Government control of the mining industry has taken the form of guaranteeing to the colliery companies the same average rate of profit which they made during the three years previous to the outbreak of war. This arrangement has been criticized as tending to introduce slackness into the management. The great rise in the price of coal which has resulted from the increased working costs during the War is shown in the table on page 867. When the statutory reduction of hours was brought into operation (July, 1919) and the miners refused to pledge themselves to Govern-



## PREFACE TO SECOND IMPRESSION xi

ment not to strike, the Coal Controller raised the price of coal by 6s. per ton for all retail and wholesale transactions—a measure which was extremely unpopular with the miners as well as the public. The demands of the miners for nationalisation of the coal mines, as a means towards realising better conditions of work and a higher standard of life, came to a head in 1919. The Sankey Commission, appointed towards the end of February, 1919, held that a case for nationalisation had been made out, and put forward a scheme. This, however, was rejected by Government, which in August put forward its own plan of uniting the privately-owned collieries in groups to be worked for private profit under strict Government control. This was rejected by the miners, on the ground that it would create huge “trusts” working for private profit, and also by the Labour movement as a whole of the Trade Union Congress held in Glasgow during September, 1919; and the demand for the nationalisation of the mines with joint control was reiterated. At the time of writing, it is clear that some practical scheme for the nationalisation of mines must receive very careful consideration by Government and by Parliament at no distant date.

In conclusion, there are some further acknowledgements to be made for assistance which I received in preparing this book. The original manuscript was scarcely completed for first printing by the time I sailed for India in 1914 to take up my appointment in Allahabad. As a result it fell to Mr. Edgar L. Chappell, now Housing Inspector in the Ministry of Health, to complete some of the chapters, provide

statistics, and arrange the appendixes and the photographs, and many of the diagrams. This work he carried out with the greatest care and judgement, and my indebtedness to him is altogether insufficiently acknowledged in the Preface, which I wrote soon after leaving England. Very regrettable, too, has been the accidental omission of an important acknowledgement. Most of the matter referring to early Trade Unions amongst coal miners, in Chapter XVII., was based on manuscript notes collected by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb for their works on Trade Unionism. These original notes were, with others, deposited by them in the library of the London School of Economics; and I was much indebted, not only to Mr. and Mrs. Webb for so kindly offering the use of these notes, but also to the then Director of the London School of Economics, and the Librarian, for the permission and ample facilities given for using them. This acknowledgement was purposely omitted from the Preface, with a view to placing it as a footnote on the first page of Chapter XVII.; but through my absence it was unfortunately overlooked—a circumstance which I much regret.

I wish again to thank the Business Statistics Publishing Company of Cardiff, and particularly Mr. C. P. Hailey, of that firm, for very kindly assisting me in the preparation of the tables which will be found in the new Appendix of recent statistics on page 864 of this volume. The object of this Appendix has been to bring up to date the principal series of statistics of output, labor, prices, and freight rates, which are scattered through the body of the book.

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