

Evidence in Support of Price Required where Coal is Hawked or Sold in the Streets.

68. Any person selling or offering for sale coal in quantities not exceeding 2 cwts. may be required to produce evidence to show that the coal which he is selling or offering for sale is of a class or quality entitling him to charge the prices which he is demanding, and for this purpose shall, on the request of a Local Fuel Overseer, or any authorised representative of him or of the Controller, or on the request of the purchaser, produce a sale ticket or loading ticket, as provided in the next paragraph, or produce the invoice relating to the purchase of the coal by him from the colliery or factor. This provision shall also apply to any servant employed by any registered coal merchant or licensed coal dealer in the sale or delivery of coal in quantities of 2 cwts. or less at one time.

A receipt must be taken for and a sale ticket or loading ticket must be given with every load or part of a load of coal supplied for resale by a registered coal merchant to a licensed coal dealer, stating the class or quality of the coal supplied and the price paid therefor or applicable thereto.

These provisions shall not apply to coke unless expressly so required by the Local Fuel Overseer.

Evidence in Support of Correctness of any Charges Required.

69. A purchaser of coal may require the seller to produce evidence as to the correctness of the charges made by him in accordance with this Order. A Local Fuel Overseer, or any authorised representative of him or of the Controller, may require any person selling or dealing in coal to satisfy him as to the correctness of the prices exhibited by such person, or as to the prices charged or proposed to be charged for any supply or delivery, or as to the quantity of coal contained in any bag or other receptacle or load being offered for sale or being delivered

PART VIII.—GENERAL.

Offences, Defence of the Realm Regulations.

70. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Order or who neglects or fails to comply with any requirement or obligation imposed on him by or in virtue of this Order or who in any application, requisition, return, report or other document in pursuance of or for the purposes of this Order knowingly makes any false statement shall be guilty of a summary offence against the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

Prosecutions.

71. In England and Wales, a Local Fuel Overseer, with consent in writing given by or on behalf of the Controller, may institute and carry on proceedings for the prosecution of any offence committed within his district against the provisions of this Order or against the Defence of the Realm Regulations applicable thereto, or the Controller may himself institute and carry on such proceedings and may designate officers to carry out this work on his behalf.

Readjustment of Coal where Gas or Electricity Consumed in Excess.

72. Where a consumer shall have taken in connection with any premises more gas or electricity in any period than his quarterly allowance, the Local Fuel Overseer may, in his discretion, reduce in respect of such premises the quantity of coal due to such consumer to such extent as appears to him to be reasonable.

Where such consumer shall have obtained all the coal due to him the Local Fuel Overseer may similarly reduce the allowance of coal of such consumer for any future period.

Power to Cut off Supplies from Consumers.

73. Any undertaker of gas or electricity supply may, and at the request of the Local Fuel Overseer, with approval given by or on behalf of the Controller, shall, cut off the supply to any consumer in respect of any premises at which more than the allowance for any period has been consumed in the period or prior to the conclusion of such period, and shall restore such supply on such terms and conditions as may be necessary to secure the observance of the restrictions on consumption laid down in this Order.

An undertaker of gas or electricity supply may for the purposes of this clause enter upon the premises of such consumer, and any costs to be incurred in connection with the cutting off or restoration of any supply of gas or electricity shall be borne by such consumer.

Any action taken under this clause shall be without prejudice to any proceedings which may be taken against such consumer for failure to observe the terms and provisions of this Order.

Contracts Affected by Terms of Order.

74. Where by reason of any compliance with the provisions of this Order the fulfilment of any contract by any party thereto is interfered with, the necessity of complying with the provisions of this Order shall be a good defence to any action or proceeding taken against such party in respect of the non-fulfilment of such contract so far as it is due to such interference.

The Metropolitan Fuel Area

75. The Metropolitan Fuel Area for the purposes of this Order shall comprise the City of London and the district of any Local Authority so far as such district is included within the Metropolitan Police District, and the following districts or parts thereof of Local Authorities without the Metropolitan Police District, namely:—

The Municipal Boroughs of—

Hemel Hempstead and St. Albans.

The Urban Districts of—

Caterham, Chertsey, Chorley Wood, Dartford, Egham, Epping, Esher and the Dittons, Leatherhead, Rickmansworth, Romford, Walton-on-Thames, Watford, and Weybridge.

The Rural Districts of—

Bromley, Epsom, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Romford, and Watford.