

Gold Mining Company. The miner who was in charge of the explosives reported the occurrence to Mr. Van Straate, who was working on the level below that in which the fire occurred. Mr. Van Straate at once realised that the air current proceeding up the stope would carry the poisonous fumes engendered by the fire through the working places on the level above, and would thus endanger the lives of those working on the higher level. Without any hesitation, Mr. Van Straate ran up the stope past the burning explosive and up the raise for 170 feet to the level above. In passing through the raise he was enveloped in the poisonous fumes from the burning explosive.

The air current on reaching the higher level split into two—one current proceeding up a south stope and one up a north stope. Mr. Van Straate proceeded first to the south stope and there warned a miner to leave at once, together with the other workers. He then proceeded towards the north stope and met the miner in charge of that stope on his way out. The miner was already overcome by the fumes and on the point of collapse. He was, however, able to tell Mr. Van Straate that there were still two natives in the north stope and a third in another part of the workings who was in danger. Mr. Van Straate continued to the north stope and fetched out the two natives. By this time he was feeling the effect of the fumes, and instead of looking for the third native with the chance that he himself might be overcome and unable to convey the warning, reported the native's danger to the shift boss.

Mr. Van Straate then took personal charge of the rescued persons and conducted them to the surface.

Mr. Van Straate's prompt and courageous action, in the course of which he put his own life in peril, undoubtedly saved the lives of a number of persons. The Government Inspector of Mines for the district described the risk which Mr. Van Straate took as appalling, and as Mr. Van Straate is a man with many years' experience of mining and its dangers, the risk must have been well known to him.

Admiralty, 26th April 1928.

R.N.R.

His Majesty The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Royal Naval Reserve Officers' Decoration to the following Officers:—

Lieut.-Comdr. (Actg. Comdr.) J. R. Stenhouse, D.S.O., O.B.E., D.S.C.
 Lieut.-Comdr. R. B. Wood.
 Lieut.-Comdr. A. W. C. Robinson.
 Lieut.-Comdr. S. Robbins.
 Lieut.-Comdr. A. V. Cowell.

R.N.V.R.

His Majesty The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Officers' Decoration to the following Officer:—

Surg. Comdr. T. B. Dixon, M.S.

R.A.N.R.

His Majesty The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Volunteer Officers' Decoration to the following Officer:—

Lieut.-Comdr. R. S. Veale.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

VARIATION AND FIXING OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES IN THE JUTE TRADE.

The Jute Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a Notice J.(45), dated 2nd May 1928, setting out Minimum Rates of Wages as varied and as fixed by the Trade Board and confirmed by Order of the Minister of Labour, to take effect as from 7th May 1928.

Full particulars of these rates may be obtained from the Secretary, Jute Trade Board (Great Britain), 1 Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.1.

F. POPPLEWELL, Secretary.

4th May 1928.

*Board of Trade,
 Great George Street,
 London, S.W.1,
 1st May 1928.*

The Board of Trade hereby give notice that they have, under Section 7 of the Pilotage Act, 1913, made the Lerwick Pilotage Order, 1928, dated 28th April 1928, in respect of the Lerwick Pilotage District.

This Order has been published as Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928, No. 330, and copies of the same can be purchased (price 1d. net), either directly or through any bookseller from His Majesty's Stationery Office at the following addresses:—Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; York Street, Manchester; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 120 George Street, Edinburgh; and 15 Donegall Square West, Belfast.

Attention is directed to the provisions of Section 7 (5) (b) of the Act of 1913.

*Board of Trade,
 Great George Street,
 London, S.W.1,
 1st May, 1928.*

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2, Sub-section (4), of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, the Board of Trade give notice that, in pursuance of applications received by them for the making of Orders in Council to require imported goods of certain classes and descriptions to bear an indication of origin, they have made a reference to the Standing Committee appointed by them under the Act in respect of