

compressed air, rapidly invaded the shaft. When the accident occurred, George Thorpe was partially sheltered from the falling material, but was rendered unconscious for a short time by the concussion. On regaining consciousness, he heard the cry of a companion, Martyn, who was pinned under fallen timber. Despite the fact that he was dazed by the explosion, and by the sudden release of air pressure, he left his shelter and held Martyn's head above the water until rescue came, preferring so to risk his life rather than to seek safety by climbing out of the shaft. He was all the time exposed to falling material and the water was rapidly flooding the shaft.

As soon as the explosion occurred, Gaunt, a foreman, Taylor and Perkins at once sought means to descend the shaft and finally, by improvising a ladder 40 feet long, reached the bottom. They succeeded in freeing Martyn and bringing him and Thorpe to the surface. Further descents were made in a vain search for the other four workers who were held down by wreckage and were submerged in the rising water. Martyn subsequently died from his injuries.

During the time they were engaged on the work of rescue debris was continually falling, and as the cause of the disaster was unknown so was it unknown whether the first explosion would not be followed by a second. They started rescue operations with great promptitude and embarked on a highly perilous enterprise in a calm and intelligent manner, with a total disregard for their own safety.

PETROLEUM ACT, 1926.

Notice is hereby given under the Rules Publication Act, 1893, that the Secretary of State for the Home Department proposes, after the expiration of forty days from this date, to make Regulations under Section 9 and the Third Schedule of the Petroleum Act, 1926, amending Nos. 1 and 6 of the Regulations made on the 18th October, 1926, for the conveyance of petroleum spirit by road.

Draft copies of the Regulations may be obtained on application to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

Whitehall,
1st April, 1927.

The Home Secretary gives notice that in pursuance of Section 2 (1) of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, he has made an Order authorising the employment on two day-shifts of women of 18 years of age and over in facing piston rings at the St. John's Works of Messrs. Hepworth and Grandage Limited, Ounsworth Street, Wakefield Road, Bradford, subject to the conditions that a worker shall not be employed in the afternoon shift in consecutive weeks, and that suitable protective clothing, cloakroom accommodation and adequate arrangements for taking meals at the works shall be provided.

Whitehall,
31st March, 1927.

The Home Secretary gives notice that in pursuance of Section 2 (1) of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, he has made an Order authorising the employment on two day-shifts of women of 18 and young persons of 16 years of age and over in winding yarn at the works of Messrs. Vann and Company Limited, Park Street, Lenton, Nottingham, subject to the conditions that suitable cloakroom accommodation, washing facilities, facilities for sitting, and adequate means of warming food shall be provided.

Whitehall,
29th March, 1927.

The Home Secretary gives notice that in pursuance of Section 2 (1) of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, he has made an Order authorising the employment on two day-shifts of women of 18 and young persons of 16 years of age and over in winding yarn and machine knitting fancy half hose at the works of Messrs. Albert Martin and Company, Limited, Park Street, Lenton, Nottingham, subject to the conditions that a worker shall not be employed in the afternoon shift in consecutive weeks and that suitable cloakroom and messroom accommodation, washing facilities and facilities for sitting shall be provided.

Whitehall,
29th March, 1927.

Downing Street,
25th February, 1927.

The KING has been pleased to approve of the retention of the title of "Honourable" by William John Schutt, Esq., lately a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

VARYING OF MINIMUM RATES IN THE CEREMENT MAKING SECTION OF THE COFFIN FURNITURE AND CEREMENT MAKING TRADE.

The Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a Notice, dated 30th March 1927, setting out variations in the Minimum Rates for Female Workers in the Cerement Making Section of the Trade, for periods *not* dependent on the Cost of Living Figure, which became effective under an Order of the Minister of Labour as from 1st April, 1927.

Information with regard to the Minimum Rates of Wages operative in the Trade under the Trade Boards Acts may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (Great Britain) 1, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W. 1.

F. Popplewell,
Secretary.

1st April, 1927.