1970. No. 131 **[C]**

COAL AND OTHER MINES

First-Aid

REGULATIONS, DATED 1ST JUNE 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE UNDER SECTIONS 91(2) AND 120 OF THE MINES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1969.

WHEREAS in pursuance of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(a) the Ministry of Commerce has published notice of its intention to make the following regulations and has not received any objection to the draft thereof in respect to which it is required to refer the draft regulations for inquiry and report:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ministry of Commerce in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 91(2) and 120 of the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

PART I

GENERAL

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Coal and Other Mines (First-Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970.

Application

2. These regulations shall apply (except where the contrary is provided) to every mine of coal, stratified ironstone, shale or fireclay and in these regulations "mine" means such a mine.

Interpretation

3.—(1) In these regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

"the Act" means the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969;

"deputy's district" has the meaning assigned thereto in the Coal and Other Mines (Managers and Officials) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(b);

"enrolled nurse" means a person enrolled in the roll of nurses maintained for Northern Ireland under section 2(1)(*b*) of the Nurses and Midwives Act (Northern Ireland) 1959(c) or in either the roll of nurses maintained for England and Wales under section 2(1)(*b*) of the Nurses Act 1957(d) or the roll of nurses maintained for Scotland under section 3(1) of the Nurses (Scotland) Act 1951(e);

"mine" has the meaning assigned thereto in regulation 2;

"the Ministry" means the Ministry of Commerce;

(a) 1969. c. 6 (N.I.).
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970, No. 128.
(c) 1959. c. 19.
(d) 5 & 6 El. 2. c. 15.
(e) 14 & 15 Geo. 6. c. 55.

"registered medical practitioner" has the same meaning as is assigned to the expression "fully registered person" in section 54 of the Medical Act 1956(f);

"registered nurse" means a person registered in the general part of the register maintained for Northern Ireland under section 2(1)(*a*) of the Nurses and Midwives Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, or in either the general part of the register maintained for England and Wales under section 2(1)(*a*) of the Nurses Act 1957, or the general part of the register maintained for Scotland under section 2 of the Nurses (Scotland) Act 1951;

"training organisation" means a society or body within the meaning of the First-Aid (Standard of Training) Order (Northern Ireland) 1960(g).

(2) For the purposes of regulations 5(3), 7(4), 10(1) and 17, "approved" means approved for the time being for the purposes of the First-Aid Boxes in Factories Order (Northern Ireland) 1960(h).

(3) Expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Act or by these regulations shall (unless the contrary intention appears) have the same meanings in any document issued under the provisions of these regulations.

Exemptions

4. The Ministry may by notice served on the manager of any mine exempt that mine, or any part thereof from the application of any provision of these regulations if an inspector is satisfied that the comfort and health of any person who, while employed at the mine, suffers bodily injury or becomes ill, will not be prejudiced by the granting of the exemption.

PART II

SURFACE ORGANISATION

First-aid room

5.—(1) The manager of every mine at which at any one time there are more than fifty persons at work shall secure the provision on the surface thereat of—

(*a*) a first-aid room which shall—

(i) be so situated that it is near to, and there is easy access thereto from, a shaft or outlet normally used by persons employed below ground thereat, and that ambulances may approach it without difficulty, and that it does not communicate with any sanitary conveniences except through a ventilated space;

(ii) have a floor area of not less than one hundred and fifty square feet;

(iii) have interior surfaces which may easily be kept in a clean and dust free condition;

(iv) be fitted with a glazed, stainless steel or other suitable sink and suitable drainage therefor, and a telephone connected to the telephone system of the mine; and

(v) be easily identifiable from the outside by the prominent display of the words "First-Aid" or "Medical Centre";

(f) 4 & 5 El. 2. c. 76.
(g) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1960, No. 180.
(h) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1960, No. 86.

(*b*) waiting accommodation which shall—

(i) be so situated that there is convenient access to the first-aid room therefrom;

(ii) be indoors; and

(iii) be furnished with seats; and

(*c*) sanitary conveniences which shall be situated near the first-aid room unless there is easy access to constantly available sanitary conveniences therefrom.

(2) The manager of every mine at which a first-aid room is provided pursuant to paragraph (1) of this regulation shall make and ensure the efficient carrying out of arrangements to secure that—

(*a*) the first-aid room—

(i) is used exclusively for first-aid or medical work;

(ii) is provided with adequate means for its heating and lighting and is kept ventilated by clean and fresh air;

(iii) is kept clean and properly maintained; and

(iv) has readily available hot and cold running water;

(*b*) the waiting accommodation provided pursuant to sub-paragraph (*b*) of the preceding paragraph—

(i) is provided with adequate means for its heating and lighting and is kept ventilated by clean and fresh air; and

(ii) is kept clean and properly maintained;

(*c*) any sanitary conveniences provided pursuant to sub-paragraph (*c*) of the preceding paragraph—

(i) are provided with adequate means for their lighting; and

(ii) are kept clean and properly maintained.

(3) In every such first-aid room there shall be provided—

(*a*) a stretcher and separate facilities for its support at carrying level when loaded, blankets and hot-water bottles;

(*b*) a couch and either a bench or at least two chairs;

(*c*) splints suitable for the immobilisation of any injured limb and appropriate bandages and padding therefor;

(*d*) suitably filled sandbags in waterproof coverings, being sandbags designed to prevent the movement of broken bones;

(*e*) an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water;

(*f*) plain wound dressings and roller bandages;

(*g*) sterilized cotton wool in half ounce packets and adhesive wound dressings of an approved type;

(*h*) approved eye ointment in a container of an approved type and size, sterilized eye pads in separate sealed packets and a bottle suitable for washing eyes;

(*i*) a rubber bandage or pressure bandage, scissors and safety pins;

(*j*) soap, towels and a nail brush; and

(*k*) clean white aprons, coats or overalls suitable for use by persons rendering first-aid.

6. The manager of every mine at which a first-aid room is provided pursuant to regulation 5(1) shall appoint persons to be in charge thereof, each of whom shall be a registered medical practitioner, a registered nurse, an enrolled nurse, or subject to regulation 19 a holder of a qualification in first-aid issued by a training organisation, and shall make arrangements to secure that one such person is on duty in the first-aid room while the main body of workmen is entering or leaving the mine and is readily available while any person is working at the mine.

First-aid accommodation at smaller mines

7.—(1) The manager of every mine other than a mine referred to in regulation 5(1) shall ensure that there is constantly available on the surface thereat or adjacent thereto a room where first-aid may be rendered to persons who while employed at the mine suffer bodily injury or become ill, which room shall—

(*a*) be provided with adequate means for its heating and lighting;

(*b*) have interior surfaces which may easily be kept in a clean and dust free condition; and

(*c*) have readily available hot and cold water.

(2) The manager of every such mine shall make and ensure the efficient carrying out of arrangements to secure that the room is kept clean and properly maintained, and ventilated by clean and fresh air.

(3) In every such room or in some other suitable place there shall be provided—

(*a*) a stretcher and separate facilities for its support at carrying level when loaded, blankets and hot-water bottles;

(*b*) a couch and either a bench or at least two chairs;

(*c*) splints suitable for the immobilisation of any injured limb and appropriate bandages and padding therefor;

(*d*) suitably filled sandbags in waterproof coverings, being sandbags designed to prevent the movement of broken bones;

(*e*) an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water;

(*f*) soap, towels and a nail brush; and

(*g*) a first-aid box clearly marked "First-Aid" and containing only first-aid materials including the materials specified in the next following paragraph and one copy of the current leaflet giving advice on first-aid treatment issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Services for purposes of Factories legislation.

(4) Each such first-aid box shall contain—

(*a*) plain wound dressings of large, medium and small sizes, and roller bandages;

(*b*) sterilized cotton wool in half ounce packets and adhesive wound dressings, of an approved type;

(*c*) approved eye ointment in a container of an approved type and size, sterilized eye pads in separate sealed packets and a bottle suitable for washing eyes; and

(*d*) a rubber bandage or pressure bandage, scissors and safety pins.

(5) The manager of every such mine shall appoint persons to be in charge of the room and equipment therein each of whom shall be, subject to regulation 19, a holder of a qualification in first-aid issued by a training organisation, and shall make arrangements to secure that one such person is readily available while any person is working at the mine.