1969. No. 46 **[NC]**

FACTORIES

The Abstract of Factories Act (Northern Ireland) Order 1969

ORDER, DATED 4TH MARCH 1969, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES UNDER SECTION 138 OF THE FACTORIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1965.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland in exercise of powers conferred by Section 138(1) of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965(a) and of all other powers in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Abstract of Factories Act (Northern Ireland) Order 1969, and shall come into operation on the 10th day of March 1969.

(2) The Abstract of Factories Act (Northern Ireland) Order 1967(b) is hereby revoked.

2. Except as provided by Article 3, the abstract of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 required by Section 138(1) of that Act to be kept posted at the principal entrances of a factory at which employed persons enter shall be in the form set out in the Schedule.

3. Nothing in this Order shall apply to any premises to which provisions of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 apply by virtue of Section 123 (docks, etc.) or to any place to which provisions of that Act apply by virtue of Section 125 thereof (building operations and works of engineering construction).

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland this 4th day of March 1969.

(L.S.)

W. Slinger,
Assistant Secretary.

(a) 1965. c. 20 (N.I.).

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 177.

SCHEDULE Article 2
N.I.1

Abstract of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Social Services by virtue of section 138(1) of that Act (except as respects docks, wharves, quays and certain warehouses and except as respects building operations and works of engineering construction)

HEALTH

1. CLEANLINESS—Every factory must be kept clean. In particular accumulations of dirt and refuse must be removed daily from floors and benches, the floor of every workroom must be cleaned at least once a week, and all inside walls, partitions and ceilings must (*a*) if they have a smooth impervious surface, be washed with hot water and soap or cleaned by other approved method every 14 months, or (*b*) if kept painted in a prescribed manner or varnished, be repainted or revarnished at prescribed intervals (of not more than 7 years) and washed with hot water, etc., every 14 months, or (*c*) in other cases be whitewashed or colourwashed every 14 months. (Certain factories and parts of factories are excepted from these provisions because of the nature of the work carried on.) The prescribed particulars must be entered in the General Register. (Section 1).

2. OVERCROWDING—A factory must not be overcrowded. There must be in each workroom at least 400 cubic feet of space for every person employed, not counting space more than 14 feet from the floor. (Section 2).

3. TEMPERATURE—A reasonable temperature must be maintained in each workroom by non-injurious methods. In rooms in which a substantial proportion of the work is done sitting and does not involve serious physical effort, the temperature must not be less than 60°F. after the first hour, and at least one thermometer must be provided in a suitable position. (Section 3).

4. VENTILATION—Adequate ventilation of workrooms must be secured by the circulation of fresh air. All practicable measures must be taken to protect workers against inhalation of dust, fumes or other impurities likely to be injurious or offensive, and local exhaust ventilation must be provided and maintained where practicable. (Sections 4 and 62).

5. LIGHTING—There must be sufficient and suitable lighting in every part of the factory in which persons are working or passing. (Section 5).

6. DRAINAGE OF FLOORS—Where wet processes are carried on, adequate means for draining the floor must be provided. (Section 6).

7. SANITARY ACCOMMODATION—Sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences, separate for each sex, must be provided subject to conformity with standards prescribed by regulations. The conveniences must be maintained and kept clean and effective provision must be made for lighting them. (Section 7).

8. MEALS IN CERTAIN DANGEROUS TRADES—A person must not partake of food or drink or remain during meal times in workrooms where any poisonous substance is so used as to give rise to dust or fume; nor may a person remain during meal times in any room in which is carried on any process prescribed by regulations as one which gives rise to siliceous or asbestos dust. Suitable provision must be made to enable persons employed in all such rooms to take their meals elsewhere in the factory. (Section 63).

9. UNDERGROUND ROOMS—No work is to be carried on in any underground room (unless used only for storage or other specially excepted purpose) if the Chief Inspector certifies that it is unsuitable as regards construction, height, light or ventilation or on any hygienic ground or because the means of escape in case of fire are inadequate. Notice must be given to the Chief Inspector before an underground room is used as a workroom in a factory if it was not so used on 1st July 1939. (Section 68).

10. LIFTING EXCESSIVE WEIGHTS—No one must be employed to lift, carry or move any load so heavy as to be likely to cause injury. (Section 71).

11. LEAD PROCESSES—See also paragraph 55.—A woman or young person must not be employed in certain lead processes or in cleaning workrooms where any of those processes are carried on. (Section 73).

12. Where women or young persons are employed in any other process which involves the use of a lead compound producing dust or fume, or if they are liable to be splashed with any lead compound, (*a*) the dust or fume produced must be drawn away by an efficient exhaust draught; (*b*) they must undergo medical examination as prescribed and may be suspended from further employment in lead processes; (*c*) no food, drink, or tobacco may be brought into the workroom; (*d*) protective clothing must be provided by the occupier and worn; (*e*) suitable cloakroom, messroom and washing accommodation must be provided as prescribed; and (*f*) all tools and apparatus must be kept clean. (Section 74).

13. NOTIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL POISONING OR DISEASE—Cases of poisoning by beryllium, cadmium, lead, phosphorus, arsenic, mercury, carbon bisulphide, manganese, or aniline; chronic poisoning by benzene; compressed air illness; anthrax; toxic jaundice due to tetrachloroethane or nitro or amido-derivatives of benzene or other poisonous substance; toxic anaemia; epitheliomatous ulceration, and chrome ulceration, must forthwith be reported to the Chief Inspector and to the Appointed Factory Doctor and entered in the General Register. (Sections 80 and 140 and regulations).

SAFETY

14. FENCING—Every part of the transmission machinery and every dangerous part of other machinery, and all parts of electric generators, motors, rotary converters, and flywheels directly connected to them, must be securely fenced unless in such a position or of such construction as to be as safe to every person employed or working on the premises as if securely fenced; and any part of a stock-bar which projects beyond the headstock of a lathe must be securely fenced unless it is in such a position as to be as safe to every such person as if securely fenced. A male person over 18 may, however, approach unfenced machinery in motion in certain strictly limited contingencies and subject to conditions specified in regulations. (Sections 13 to 16).

15. Moving parts of other prime movers, and flywheels directly connected to them, and the head and tail race of a water wheel or water turbine, must be securely fenced irrespective of their position. (Section 13).

16. Fixed vessels, pits, etc., containing scalding, corrosive or poisonous liquids must, unless the edge is three feet above the adjoining ground or platform, be securely fenced to at least that height or be securely covered; where this is impracticable, other precautions, so far as practicable, must be taken. Where any such vessel is not securely covered, no ladder, stair or gangway may be placed above, across or inside it which is not at least 18 inches wide and securely fenced to a height of at least three feet and securely fixed. When any such vessels adjoin each other, and the space between them is either less than 18 inches in width or is not securely fenced to at least three feet, barriers must be placed so as to prevent passage between them. (Section 19).

17. All fencing must be of a substantial construction and be maintained in an efficient state. (Section 17).

18. FURTHER REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSMISSION MACHINERY—Devices or appliances for promptly cutting off the power from the transmission machinery must be provided in every room or place where work is carried on. Efficient mechanical appliances must be provided to move driving belts to and from fast and loose pulleys. Driving belts must not rest or ride on revolving shafts when the belt is not in use. (Section 14).

19. NEW MACHINES—New power-driven machines must not be sold, let on hire, or used unless certain parts are effectively guarded. (Section 18).

20. CLEANING MACHINERY—A woman or young person must not clean (*a*) a prime mover or transmission machinery while it is in motion or (*b*) any part of

any machine if there is risk of injury from any moving part of that machine or of any adjacent machinery. (Section 21).

21. TRAINING OF YOUNG PERSONS—A young person must not work at any machine specified by the Ministry to be dangerous unless (i) he has been fully instructed as to the dangers and precautions and (ii) he has received sufficient training in the work or is under adequate supervision by an experienced person. (Section 22).

22. PROTECTION OF EYES—Suitable goggles or effective screens must be provided in processes specified by the Ministry. (Section 64).

23. HOISTS OR LIFTS—Every hoist or lift must be of good mechanical construction, sound material and adequate strength and must be properly maintained. It must be thoroughly examined every six months by a competent person whose report must be entered in or attached to the General Register.

Every hoistway must be efficiently protected by a substantial enclosure and landing gates, with efficient interlocking or other devices. The safe working load must be marked conspicuously on each hoist. Additional safeguards (e.g., devices to prevent over-running) must be provided on hoists used for carrying persons, whether with goods or otherwise. The requirements are somewhat less stringent in the case of hoists constructed before 24th November 1938, hoists not connected with mechanical power, and continuous hoists.

Every teagle opening or similar doorway used for hoisting or lowering goods must be fenced (except when the hoisting or lowering is going on at that opening) and be provided with a secure hand-hold on each side of the opening. (Sections 23 to 26).

24. CHAINS, ROPES AND LIFTING TACKLE—No chain, rope or lifting tackle used for raising or lowering persons or goods may be used unless it is of good construction, sound material and adequate strength and free from patent defect. Tables of safe working loads must be posted in the stores and elsewhere, but need not cover any lifting tackle the safe working load of which is marked on the tackle itself. No tackle shall be used for any load exceeding its stated safe working load. Chains, ropes and lifting tackle in use must be thoroughly examined by a competent person every six months, and must not (excepting fibre ropes and fibre rope slings) be taken into use for the first time in the factory unless they have been tested and certified.

Periodic annealing is required except in the case of ropes and rope slings and other tackle exempted by the Chief Inspector.

A register of all chains, etc., and also the certificates of tests, must be kept. (Section 27).

25. CRANES, ETC.—All parts and working gear (including anchoring appliances) of cranes and other lifting machines must be of good construction, sound material, adequate strength and free from any patent defect, and must be properly maintained. A thorough examination of all such parts and gear by a competent person must be made every 14 months. A lifting machine must not be taken into use for the first time in the factory unless it has been tested and certified. A register of examinations and tests must be kept. The safe working load or loads must be shown on every lifting machine; in the case of cranes with a derricking jib, an automatic indicator or a table of safe working loads must be attached to the crane. No lifting machine shall be loaded above its stated safe working load.

Rails and tracks of travelling cranes and transporters must be of proper size and construction. If any person is working near the wheel-track of an overhead travelling crane, steps must be taken to ensure that the crane does not approach within 20 feet. Effective measures should also be taken to give warning of the approach of such a crane to anyone working above floor level and liable to be struck by it or by its load. (Section 28).

26. CONSTRUCTION OF FLOORS, ETC.—Floors, steps, stairs, passages and gangways must be soundly constructed, properly maintained and so far as is reasonably practicable, kept free from obstruction and any substance likely to cause persons to slip. Handrails must be provided for stairs. All ladders must be soundly