

No. , 1920.

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## A BILL

To amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1912 ;  
to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation (Amend-  
ment) Act, 1917 ; and for purposes consequent  
thereon or incidental thereto.

[MR. GEORGE CANN ;—16 *September*, 1920.]

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**B**E it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty,  
by and with the advice and consent of the Legis-  
lative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South  
Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of  
5 the same, as follows :—

**1.** This Act may be cited as the " Coal Mines Regu- Short title  
lation (Amendment) Act, 1920," and shall be construed  
with the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1912, herein  
referred to as the Principal Act.

10 **2.** The Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Act, Repeal.  
1917, is hereby repealed.

Amendment  
of s. 35 of  
Principal  
Act.

Plan of mine  
to be left at  
office.

**3.** Subsections one to four inclusive of section thirty-five of the Principal Act are repealed, and the following subsections are inserted in lieu thereof :—

**35.** (1) The owner, agent, or manager of every mine shall keep in the office at the mine an accurate plan showing— 5

(a) The boundaries of the measured portions of freehold and leasehold lands comprising the colliery holding of such mine ;

(b) the workings of the mine ; 10

(c) the levels of the roof of the workings, obtained—

(i) in respect of workings under the ocean or tidal waters by adopting mean high-water mark as the datum ; 15

(ii) in respect of workings under other waters by adopting a datum to be determined by the Minister ;

(d) all streets, roads, reserves, buildings, creeks, rivers, bays, swamps, navigable waters, and limits of any tidal waters within the colliery holding ; 20

(e) the general direction and rate of dip of the strata, together with the section of the strata sunk through, or, if that is not reasonably practicable, a statement of the depth of the shaft, with a section of the seam. 25

(2) (a) Every such plan shall show the workings and levels up to a date not more than three months previously, and shall be on a scale of not less than two chains to an inch, or on the same scale as the plan for the time being in use at the mine. 30

(b) The owner, agent, or manager of the mine shall, on request at any time of an inspector, produce such plan to him at the office of the mine, and shall also on the like request mark on such plan the then state of the workings of the mine, and the 35

the inspector shall be entitled to examine the plan, and for official purposes only to make a copy of the whole or any part thereof.

5 (c) The owner, agent, or manager of every mine in which more than twenty persons are employed underground shall furnish to the Minister a certificate signed by a licensed surveyor that the  
10 position of the colliery workings within two chains of any barrier, or of any boundary of the colliery holding, or dividing lines between privately-owned and Crown coal, or privately-owned coal the subject  
15 of a lease under the Mining Act, within the colliery holding, are correct in relation to the surface boundaries as defined on the plan; and also that the levels of the roof of the workings noted on the plan are accurate. Every such certificate shall be furnished not later than the thirty-first day of  
20 December in each year, and shall relate to the plan charted up to the thirtieth day of September preceding or some later date.

(3) If the owner, agent, or manager of any mine fails to keep, or wilfully refuses to produce or allow to be examined, the plan aforesaid, or wilfully withholds any portion thereof, or wilfully refuses on  
25 request to mark thereon the state of the workings of the mine, or conceals any part of those workings, or produces an imperfect or inaccurate plan, he shall (unless he shows that he was ignorant of the concealment, imperfection, or inaccuracy) be guilty  
30 of an offence against this Act; and further, the inspector may by notice in writing (whether a penalty for the offence has or has not been inflicted) require the owner, agent, or manager to cause an accurate plan, showing the particulars hereinbefore  
35 required, to be made within a reasonable time at the expense of the owner of the mine.

(4) If the owner, agent, or manager fails within twenty days after the requisition of the inspector, or within such further time as is allowed by  
40 the Minister, to cause such plan to be made as hereby required, he shall be guilty of an offence against this Act. **4.**

Repeal of  
General Rules  
2 and 3. **4.** General Rules two and three of section fifty-four  
of the Principal Act are omitted, and the following  
General Rules are inserted in lieu thereof:—

Ventilation  
by fire.

*Rule 2.* Where a fire is used for ventilation in  
any mine, the return air, unless it is so diluted as  
not to be inflammable, shall be carried off clear of  
the fire by means of a dumb drift or airway. 5

Ventilation  
by machinery.

*Rule 3.* (a) From and after the first day of  
January, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-  
three, ventilation shall be produced by mechanical  
means at every mine, unless not more than twenty  
persons are employed underground, and the owner  
agent, or manager has obtained the consent of  
the Minister in writing to dispense with such  
mechanical means. 10 15

(b) Every mechanical contrivance for  
ventilation at a mine shall be in such position and  
placed under such conditions as will tend to insure  
its being uninjured by an explosion.

Amendment  
of General  
Rule 9  
(Safety  
lamps).

**5.** General rule nine of section fifty-four is amended 20  
by inserting the words “be of a pattern approved by the  
Chief Inspector of Coal Mines, and shall” after the word  
“shall” in line one of such rule.

Repeal of  
General Rule  
43.

**6.** General rule forty-three of section fifty-four of  
the Principal Act is omitted, and the following general 25  
rules are inserted in lieu thereof:—

Sanitation.

*Rule 43.* Suitable sanitary conveniences shall  
be provided underground in every mine wherever  
a group of four or more persons is employed; and  
the pattern, situation, and mode of cleansing such  
conveniences shall be to the satisfaction of an  
inspector. The position of every place of conven-  
ience shall be indicated by having the roof and  
sides regularly coated with lime-washing. 30

Change-  
houses and  
baths.

*Rule 44.* (a) Upon the request of a majority, 35  
ascertained by ballot, of the persons employed in  
and about a mine, the owner, agent, or manager  
shall provide above ground and near to the  
principal entrance of the mine (but not in the  
engine-house or boiler-house) sufficient change 40  
houses and baths to enable such persons to change  
and dry their clothes and wash themselves.

(b)

5 (b) Every such ballot shall be conducted by a committee of three persons, composed of a representative of the owner, agent, or manager of the mine, a representative of the underground workmen, and a representative of the above ground workmen.

10 (c) Such change houses shall be supplied with hot and cold water, and while in use the temperature in every such house shall be maintained at not less than seventy-six degrees Fahrenheit, and suitable apparatus shall be provided for drying clothes.

15 (d) The persons using such change houses and baths shall pay to the owner, agent, or manager of the mine a sum not exceeding threepence per week per man.

20 (e) If it is proved to the satisfaction of the Minister that the water supply at any mine is inadequate, or that, owing to the configuration of the land in the vicinity of the mine, a suitable site for a change house cannot be found, or for any other reason, the Minister may grant exemption from the operation of this rule in respect of such mine.

25 *Rule 45.* Every cage in which men are raised or lowered at a mine shall be provided with suitable gates or other appliances to prevent men falling out. Gates to cages.

30 *Rule 46.* A telephone service shall be installed below ground in every mine unless expressly exempted by the Minister. Telephone.

*Rule 47.* The owner, agent, or manager shall provide water and horse feed on every flat where horses are working in a mine. Water and feed for horses.

