

PROFITEERING.

ORDER OF THE TRADE BOARD, DATED JUNE 11, 1920, UNDER SECTION 2 OF THE PROFITEERING ACT, 1919 (9 & 10 GEO. 5, C. 66), AMENDING THE REGULATIONS AND DIRECTIONS AS TO THE CONSTITUTION, POWERS, AND PROCEDURE OF LOCAL COMMITTEES AND JOINT LOCAL COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Whereas under Section 2 of the Profiteering Act, 1919, the Board of Trade are empowered to authorise Local Authorities to establish Local Committees and to make Regulations and give directions as to the constitution, powers, and procedure of the Local Committees so established :

And whereas by Order dated the 9th September 1919,* the Board of Trade did authorise Local Authorities to establish Local Committees, and did make the Regulations set out in the Schedule to the said Order giving directions as to the constitution, powers, and procedure of the Local Committees established by Local Authorities :

And whereas by Order dated the 2nd October 1919,† the Board of Trade did make Regulations and did give directions as to the constitution, powers, and procedure of such Joint Local Committees as may from time to time be established by two or more Local Authorities with the consent of the Board of Trade :

And whereas by Order dated the 24th November 1919,‡ the Board of Trade did rescind Regulations 3, 6, 13, 15, 16, and 30 of the Regulations made on the 9th September 1919 and 2nd October 1919 respectively, and did make the Regulations set out in the Schedule to that Order in lieu of the Regulations thereby rescinded :

And whereas it is now deemed expedient further to amend the said Regulations :

Now, therefore, the Board of Trade in exercise of the above recited powers do hereby rescind Regulation 22 of the Regulations made on the 9th September 1919 and 2nd October 1919 respectively, and do hereby revoke the said Order dated the 24th November 1919, and do hereby rescind Regulations 3, 6, 13, 15, 16, and 30 set out in the Schedule to the said Order, and do hereby make the Regulations set out in the Schedule to this Order in lieu of the Regulations hereby rescinded, and the Board of Trade do further hereby rescind Regulations 29 and 31 of the Regulations dated the 9th September 1919, and 2nd October 1919 respectively.

R. S. HORNE.

Dated this 11th day of June 1920.

By the Trade Board.

SCHEDULE.

AMENDED REGULATIONS FOR LOCAL COMMITTEES AND JOINT LOCAL COMMITTEES UNDER THE PROFITEERING ACTS, 1919 AND 1920.

3. In the appointment of members of the Local Committee the Local Authority shall provide that not fewer than two members of the Committee shall be women.

The Local Authority shall also provide for the

adequate representation of labour and of the retail trade on each Local Committee.

6. The Local Committee may appoint a Clerk and with the consent of the Board of Trade such other officers as may be considered necessary, and the Clerk may take proceedings on behalf of the Local Committee in a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

13. Notices and other documents required to be delivered to the Local Committee shall be sent to the Office of the Clerk of the Local Committee, and may be delivered at or sent by post to that office. Notices required to be sent to a complainant or to a respondent may be sent by post to or delivered at such person's place of business or usual or last known place of abode.

15. The complaint shall be made in writing to the office of the Clerk to the Local Committee, and shall be delivered at, or sent by post, so as to be delivered at, that office within four days of the date of the sale or transaction which is the subject of complaint or where the complaint is in respect of a hire purchase transaction at any time during the currency of the agreement or within four days of the date upon which the final payment under the agreement is due to be paid, or in any case within such extended time as may be allowed by the Local Committee in any particular case, provided that in no case shall the time be extended beyond fourteen days without the consent of the Board of Trade.

16.—(I.) The Local Committee shall, within seven days of the receipt of a complaint or within such extended time as may be allowed by the Board of Trade in any particular case, forward to the respondent a copy of the complaint with an intimation that if a *prima facie* cause of complaint is disclosed on the preliminary investigation he will receive due notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing of the complaint.

(II.) The written complaint shall be considered by the Local Committee, and in any case in which the Local Committee are of opinion that the complaint does not give the required particulars, or does not disclose *prima facie* grounds for hearing the complaint, it shall be competent to the Local Committee (a) after giving the complainant an opportunity of being heard to dismiss the complaint without calling upon the respondent; or (b) to notify the complainant that unless further and better particulars or grounds of complaint, as the case may be, be given, the complaint will be dismissed; and in the latter case unless such further and better particulars, or grounds of complaint, as appear to the Committee to justify further action on their part, are delivered to them not more than three days after such notification has been sent to the complainant, or within such extended time as may be allowed by the Local Committee, the complaint shall be dismissed.

22. If upon the hearing of the complaint, the Local Committee are satisfied that a profit has been made or sought, which is in view of all the circumstances unreasonable, the Local Committee shall declare the price which would yield a reasonable profit, and shall require the seller to repay to the complainant any amount paid by the complainant in excess of such price, and they may also take proceedings against the seller before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

Provided always that in declaring the price which would yield a reasonable profit the profit

* S.R. & O., 1919, No. 1515.

† S.R. & O., 1919, No. 1521.

‡ S.R. & O., 1919, No. 1725.