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\* \* For Table of Contents, see last page.

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FRIDAY, 1 MARCH, 1918.

By THE KING.

## A PROCLAMATION

UNDER THE MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS, 1915 TO 1917.

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS by section three of the Munitions of War Act, 1915, as amended by the Munitions of War (Amendment) Act, 1916, it is provided that the differences to which Part I of the first-mentioned Act applies are differences as to rates of wages, hours of work, or otherwise as to terms or conditions of or affecting munitions work, and also any differences as to rates of wages, hours of work, or otherwise as to terms or conditions of or affecting employment on any other work of any description, if that Part of that Act is applied to such a difference by His Majesty by Proclamation, on the ground that in the opinion of His Majesty the existence or continuance of the difference is directly or indirectly prejudicial to the manufacture, transport, or supply of Munitions of War; and it is also provided that the said Part of the said Act may be so applied to such a difference at any time, whether a lock-out or strike is in existence in connection with the difference to which

it is applied or not; Provided that if in the case of any industry the Minister of Munitions is satisfied that effective means exist to secure the settlement without stoppage of any difference arising on work other than on munitions work, no Proclamation shall be made under the said section with respect to any such difference:

And whereas a difference within the meaning of the said section exists between employers and persons employed as enginemen and boiler tenters in Cotton Mills in and in the immediate vicinity of the Towns and Districts of Blackburn, Darwen, and Great Harwood, as to rates of wages, hours of work, and otherwise as to terms and conditions of or affecting employment on the work carried on by such enginemen and boiler tenters:

And whereas the Minister of Labour has investigated the matter and the Minister of Munitions, having considered the results of the investigation made by the Minister of Labour and his representations to the Minister of Munitions, is not satisfied that effective means exist to secure the settlement of the said difference without stoppage, being a difference arising on work other than munitions work:

And whereas in Our opinion the existence or continuance of the said difference is directly