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[1919.]

## THE WAR PRECAUTIONS (COAL) REGULATIONS.

**I**, ALEXANDER POYNTON, Acting Minister of State for the Navy, in pursuance of the War Precautions (Coal) Regulations (Statutory Rules 1917, No. 195, as amended by Statutory Rules 1917, Nos. 240 and 252, and Statutory Rules 1919, Nos. 103, 119, 141, 147, 182, and 183), and on the recommendation of the Central Coal Board, do hereby order as follows:—

### USE AND CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRIC CURRENT IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA.

1. The use and consumption of gas by any consumer in any private house or boarding house in the State of Victoria is prohibited subject to the following:—

The average daily rate of consumption of gas for any period by the consumer shall not exceed—

- (i) half the average daily rate of consumption of gas by that consumer during the corresponding period in the year 1918 as calculated in accordance with this order; or,
- (ii) where that person was not a consumer during that period, the average daily rate of consumption notified to the consumer by a Coal Board or a person thereto authorized in writing by the Minister or a Coal Board.

2. The average daily rate of consumption of gas by a consumer during the corresponding period in the year 1918 is calculated by ascertaining the amount of gas consumed by that consumer between the date of the meter reading last preceding the commencement of that period and the date of the meter

reading next succeeding the termination of that period, and dividing the amount by the number of days between those dates, one (and one only) of those dates being included for the purposes of this calculation.

3. In this Order "consumer" means the person liable to pay the company or other authority supplying the gas for gas used or consumed in the private house or boarding house.

4. It shall not be deemed to be a contravention of this Order if the consumer satisfies the Minister or a Coal Board that exceptional circumstances exist, and that having regard to such exceptional circumstances the consumption of gas to the extent to which it was consumed was reasonable.

5. The use and consumption of electric current in private houses and boarding houses in the State of Victoria are prohibited between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on each day.

6. The use and consumption of gas and electric current by any person in any office, factory, shop, workshop, or warehouse in the State of Victoria for other than lighting purposes are prohibited between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on each day.

7. Clauses (1), (2), and (3) of the Order made on the twenty-first day of September, 1917, and published in the *Gazette* of the said twenty-first day of September are cancelled.

8. This Order shall take effect on and after Saturday, the twenty-sixth day of July, 1919.

Dated this twenty-fifth day of July, 1919.

A. POYNTON, Acting Minister of State for the Navy.

