The Catrine Bleachworks Operatives Annual Equitable Benefit Society

Revised Rules

GIBB's PRINTERY, Lugar Street, Cumnock

1937.

The Workers of the Catrine Bleachworks met together on the 2nd day of January, 1866, for the purpose of forming a Benefit Society, and it was designated "THE CATRINE BLEACHWORKS OPERATIVES ANNUAL EQUITABLE BENEFIT SOCIETY."

RULES

- (1)—The object of the Society shall be to raise funds by weekly contributions of Threepence for each member; and to provide an allowance of not more than Five Shillings and Threepence per week, (odd days to be paid at the same rate) to any member when disabled for work, from injury received at his regular employment, or from disease or sickness, not being the result of debauchery, intemperance, or reckless conduct.
- (2)—The Society shall hold one General Meeting on the 20th December or nearest available date as decided by the Committee. This meeting shall decide on what date the Society shall be dissolved and (after deducting all expenses) each member shall receive an equal dividend of all the funds then belonging to the Society. The Committee shall hold four stated meetings, viz., at the end of March, June, September, and December, to transact any business connected with the Society; the meetings to be held at whatever time or place the President shall appoint.

- (3)—The affairs of the Society shall be under the management of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, Collector, and three Directors.
- (4)—It shall be the duty of the President to call, attend, and keep order at all meetings, and shall generally conduct to the best of his judgment all affairs in conformity with the Rules of the Society.
- (5)—The Treasurer shall attend all meetings, receive the contributions weekly from the Collector, and be responsible for same; pay all aliments when directed by the President; pay all lawful demands upon the Society, and take proper vouchers for the same; regularly enter all receipts and payments in the Society's books; and give the Secretary a statement of his transactions every two months. He shall, on receipt of the last week's contributions in December, make out a particular account of gross receipts and payments during the year, give the balance on hand, and bring same before the General Meeting.
- (6)—The Secretary shall attend all meetings, keep Minute, Cash and Roll Books, enter regularly the Minutes of all General and Committee Meetings, and sign the same with the President and report them at all meetings connected with the Society.
 - (7)—The Members of Committee shall attend at

all Meetings, give their advice and assistance in all the affairs of the Society, and act as Visiting Stewards, two of them alternately shall, when directed by the President, visit all sick members, and give their opinion regarding their being entitled to the benefit, having power to demand a certificate signed by the claimant's Medical Attendant if thought necessary.

- (8)—In case of the funds and weekly contributions not being adequate to meet the expenditure, the Committee are empowered to collect not more than Sixpence weekly from each member, which contributions shall be equally divided among the claimants.
- (9)—Any member rendered incapable for his employment shall, on or before the fifth day of his disability, intimate his claim to the President. Upon this notice the President may instruct the Stewards to visit such member, and if they consider him entitled to the Society's allowance, they shall report to the President, who shall direct the Treasurer to pay the aliment, which shall be payable on the Friday following the week of visitation. Upon resuming work it shall be the duty of all Sick Members to notify the President.
- (10)—No member shall be entitled to the Society's allowance until he has been six working days unable for his work.

- (11)—No member, while receiving the Society's allowance, shall be at liberty to engage in any employment, and if detected in a state of intoxication, or out of his lodgings or regular place of abode (without the sanction of the President) past 10 o'clock p.m. from the 1st of March to the 1st of October, or past 6 o'clock p.m. from the 1st of October to the 1st of March, he shall forfeit that week's benefit. It shall be the duty of every member who may know of anyone transgressing this rule to give immediate information to the President.
- (12)—No member shall be entitled to more than thirteen weeks' allowance, unless with the sanction of a general meeting called to consider such a case, but shall, while further disabled, be exempt from payment of his weekly contributions, and shall receive his equal dividend of the same. Any member who is disabled when the Society dissolves and who has not got his full allowance of thirteen weeks' benefit will continue to receive benefit for the full thirteen weeks provided he is still a member of the Society.
- (13)—Any member leaving the works shall receive his full proportion of the funds then belonging to the Society. In the event of death, the heirs of deceased shall receive the same.
 - (14)—Should any member run more than three

weeks in arrears, he shall be liable to a penalty of One Penny for each succeeding week, until the whole arrears are paid. Members two months in arrears shall be liable to be struck off the roll. All arrears or fines if not previously paid, to be deducted from the first benefit paid to the member, or from his dividend of the funds.

- (15)—No member shall be admitted unless he pays up his contributions from the beginning of the term. Members may be admitted for the half-year, receiving half-share of the dividend.
- (16)—Any misunderstanding or dispute arising between Members and Committee to be laid before a General Meeting called for that purpose by the Committee or by a petition signed by ten or more members.
- (17)—Any rule may be repealed or altered or a new rule added by a vote of the majority of twothirds of the members at a General Meeting. Notice of any intended alteration of rules must be given at a general meeting previous to the general meeting at which the proposed alteration takes place.

List of Supplementary Rules to govern the Savings Bank

Administration

The Office-bearers and Directors of CATRINE BLEACHWORKS OPERATIVES ANNUAL EQUITABLE BENEFIT SOCIETY shall be responsible for the management of the Savings Bank.

The expenses incurred to be met by the interest earned by the capital.

Collections

Any sum, not less than Sixpence, may be deposited weekly. The amount to be stated on enrolment, and not more than one change allowable during each term.

Withdrawals

A member may withdraw from his or her account not more than four times a year, by giving notice of One Week to the Treasurer.

The Total Funds to be disbursed on the first Saturday after the 20th December each year, or on an alternative date fixed by general consent of the members at the General Meeting to be held on 20th December, or nearest available date as decided by the Committee.