

on the basis of the provisions contained in the preceding Articles of the present Act, and for introducing and maintaining in each branch of industry justice, prosperity, and industrial peace.

The functions of the councils of industry shall include the following :—

(1) To draft, discuss, conclude, interpret, and revise agreements for the regulation of the profit-sharing system;

(2) to fix rules concerning the relations between the works councils, the joint commissions, the trade unions and confederations;

(3) to fix minimum wages and the prices of products;

(4) to decide any cases of appeals, requests, and disputes originating in the joint commissions or the trade union organisations;

(5) to exercise technical and administrative control in the second instance (so-called trade union control);

(6) to distribute equitably the products of labour through the channels of commerce and co-operation, without harmful speculation;

(7) To settle all questions referred to them by confederations, by laws and regulations, by the authorities, or by bodies of any kind.

The councils of industry shall take care that individual undertakings or labour co-operative societies, and particularly those operating under specially favoured conditions, shall not accumulate excessive products or profits to the prejudice of the consumers, or an excessive number of labour shares for the benefit of a few persons, thus tending not to restrict or abolish capitalist exploitation and the wage system, but to perpetuate them by depriving the producers of the benefits of profit-sharing and labour co-partnership.

When all or the great majority of undertakings have been transformed by means of the new scheme, the councils of industry will automatically become more and more highly developed organs of co-operation between the various classes of producers, in the same way as the joint commissions within the individual undertakings.

D. — General Provisions

Article 31 — All undertakings which employ regularly more than ten persons, exclusive of the owner and the members of his family, shall, within three months' time, be requested to conclude with the staff employed by the undertakings and represented by the works council (assisted by the workers' organisations concerned who accept the profit-sharing scheme) a collective labour agreement, on the basis of which the provisions of the present scheme may be put into force.

Article 32 — In addition to its chief functions as laid down in Article 3, the works council shall assume in small