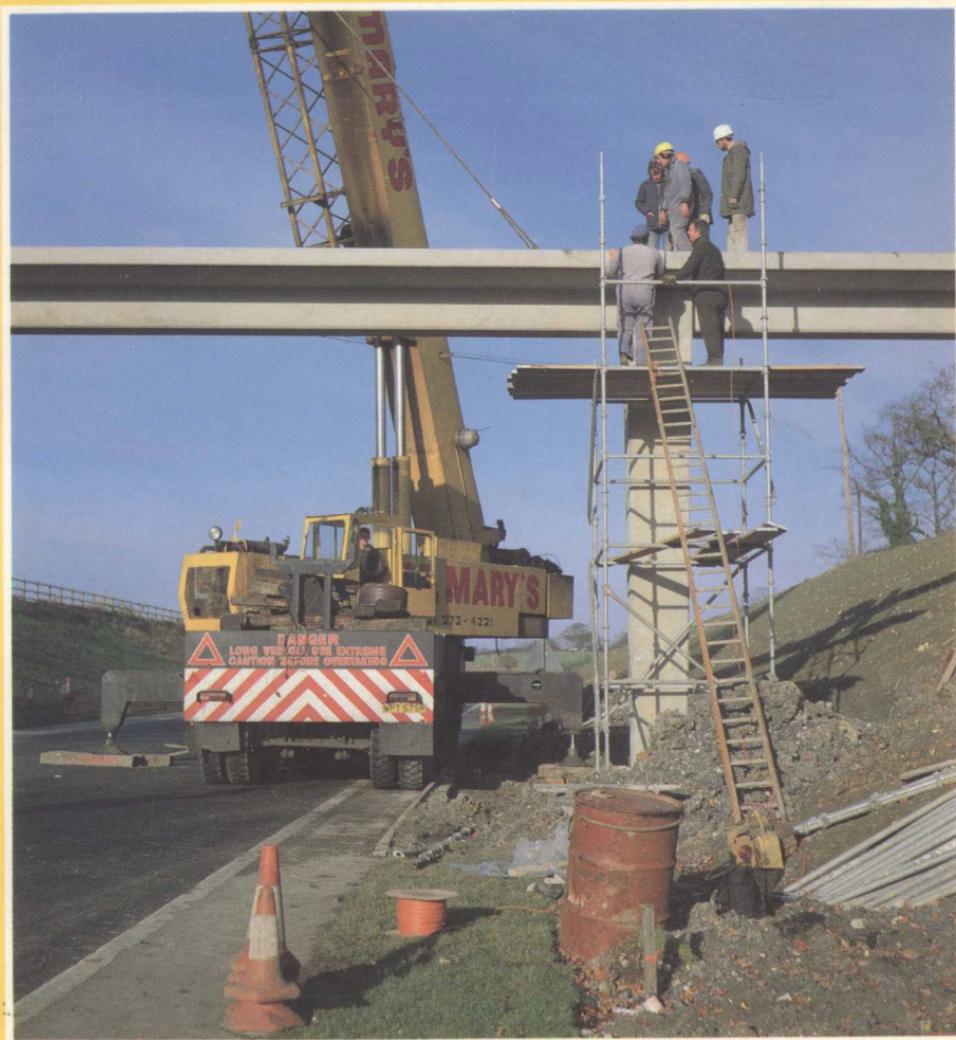


Selwyn's Law of Employment

Sixth edition



Butterworths

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Law of Employment

Preface

This book aims to state the modern law of employment in a manner which is accurate, up-to-date and readable, for the benefit of employers and employees generally and, in particular, for lawyers, students, managers, personnel specialists and trade union advisers.

Since the last edition there has been the usual spate of legislative activity and relevant provisions have been incorporated into the text. These include the Wages Act 1986, the Sex Discrimination Act 1986, the Social Security Act 1986, the Consumer Protection Act 1987, the Employment Act 1988 and the Local Government Act 1988.

The courts have continued to expound and expand the parameters of employment law and decisions of particular importance have been incorporated into the text, including the recent cases of *Polkey v A. E. Dayton Services Ltd*, *Rigby v Ferodo Ltd* and *Brown v Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council*. I have also revised the text in various parts, in an attempt to increase clarity and understanding. I decided to include in the Appendix the guidance booklet issued by ACAS entitled 'Discipline at Work'. Although this is non-statutory, and hence without any legal force, the booklet contains a great deal of sound commonsense and may be usefully studied by all levels of management.

The Government have announced an intention to change the law so that statutory redundancy payments will be payable to men and women up to the age of 65 (or normal retiring age where this is below the age of 65 and non-discriminatory) but at the time of writing the appropriate legislation has not been introduced. Also in the pipeline are proposals to make further amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act, to amend the restrictions which are placed on the hours and times when young persons may work, and to lift certain restrictions which are currently placed on the type of work which women may not do on health and safety grounds. The inexorable march of employment law goes on!

Preface

The Government have recently issued a consultative document proposing certain changes to industrial tribunal procedure. One suggestion is that the pre-hearing assessment should be abolished, and replaced by a pre-trial review. A tribunal chairman would be given power to order that a party be required to make a deposit of up to £150 as a pre-condition of a case proceeding further, if he thought that the claim was likely to be ill-founded. A further suggestion is that interest should be paid on awards made by industrial tribunals, to be paid from the end of 28 days from the date when the award was promulgated.

In the first edition of this book, I made a plea for some form of consolidation and/or codification of the law, so that rights and duties should not be overlooked due to ignorance. With so many amendments to the law being made in recent years, the need is greater than ever.

My thanks are due to the various members of the staff of Butterworths Ltd for seeing this edition through with their usual courtesy and helpfulness.

Solihull
West Midlands
April 1988

NORMAN SELWYN

Table of Statutes

References to *Statutes* are to Halsbury's Statutes of England (Fourth Edition) showing the volume and page at which the annotated text of the Act may be found.

References in the right-hand column are to paragraph numbers.

| | PARA | | PARA |
|---|------------------------|---|--|
| Arbitration Act 1950 (2 <i>Statutes</i> 535) | 1.12 | Dock Work Regulation Act 1976 (66 <i>Statutes</i> 348) | 8.18 |
| Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 | | Docks and Harbours Act 1966 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 132) | |
| Sch 1 | 3.71 | s 51 | 1.21 |
| Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 17) | 4.4 | Education Act 1918 (15 <i>Statutes</i> 105) | |
| s 22-26 | 4.4 | s 14 | 4.4 |
| Children and Young Persons Act 1969 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 227) | 4.4 | Education (Scotland) Act 1962 | 2.20 |
| Civil Evidence Act 1968 (17 <i>Statutes</i> 155) | | Employers' Liability Act 1880 | 4.2 |
| s 11 | 12.23 | Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 181) | 6.35 |
| Companies Act 1967 (19 <i>Statutes</i> 70) | | Employer's Liability (Defective Equipment) Act 1969 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 180) | 6.35 |
| s 16 | 12.52 | Employment Act 1980 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 639) | 1.18, 8.2, 8.98, 13.1, 13.42 |
| 26(1) | 2.7 | s 1 | 1.16, 13.16, 13.17 |
| Conciliation Act 1896 | 0.2 | 2 | 13.16, 13.18 |
| Congenital Disabilities (Civil Liability) Act 1976 | 6.28 | (4) | 1.21 |
| Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act 1875 (12 <i>Statutes</i> 155) | | 3(2) | 1.42 |
| s 5 | 13.180 | 4 | 1.18, 13.44, 13.46, 13.62 |
| 7 | 13.170, 13.181, 13.182 | (4) | 1.21 |
| Consumer Protection Act 1987 | | 5 | 1.19 |
| Sch 3 | 12.4 | 8 | 13.9 |
| Continental Shelf Act 1964 (29 <i>Statutes</i> 435) | 8.18, 12.3 | 12 | 5.33 |
| Contracts of Employment Act 1963 | 8.1 | 16 | 13.150 |
| Contracts of Employment Act 1972 | | (2) | 13.171 |
| s 4 | 3.45, 8.1 | 17 | 13.118, 13.137, 13.138, 13.143, 13.148 |
| Copyright Act 1956 (11 <i>Statutes</i> 236) | 6.69 | (1), (2) | 13.139 |
| Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 83) | 4.126 | (3) | 13.140, 13.144 |
| Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1958 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 109) | 4.126 | (4) | 13.145 |
| | | (5) | 13.150 |
| | | (8) | 13.108, 13.124 |
| | | Employment Act 1982 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 691) | 1.6, 1.18, 8.2, 13.1, 13.111, 13.112, 13.123, 13.151 |

Table of Statutes

| | PARA | | PARA |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Employment Act 1982— <i>contd</i> | | Employment Protection Act | |
| s 11 | 13.176 | 1975— <i>contd</i> | |
| 12 | 13.174 | s 105 | 10.48, 10.65 |
| 13 | 13.177 | 106, 107 | 10.48 |
| 14 | 13.176 | 116 | 12.3, 12.28 |
| Employment Act 1988 | 1.18, 1.21, 1.27, 1.41, 1.42, 13.1 | 118(1) | 10.59 |
| s 1 | 1.28, 13.71, 13.133 | 121(4) | 2.64 |
| 2 | 13.56 | 126A | 1.6 |
| 3 | 13.58, 13.62, 13.63 | Sch 1 | 1.1 |
| 4 | 13.61 | Sch 15 | 12.3 |
| 5 | 1.19, 13.61 | Sch 16 | |
| 6 | 1.28, 13.34 | Pt I | 0.9 |
| 7 | 5.44, 5.92, 13.89 | Pt III | 13.158 |
| 8 | 13.74 | Employment Protection (Con- | |
| (3) | 1.28 | solidation) Act 1978 (16 | |
| 9 | 1.28, 13.76 | Statutes 381) | 1.18, 5.1, 5.76, |
| 10 | 13.136 | s 1 | 1.21, 2.14, 2.16, 2.17, 2.44, 2.60, 3.27, 3.45, 3.63, 3.67, 3.68, 3.73, 8.33, 8.61 |
| 11 | 5.43, 8.187 | 2 | 2.60 |
| 13 | 13.30, 13.31 | (2) | 8.61 |
| 15 | 1.28, 13.20 | 3 | 2.60 |
| 16 | 13.80 | 4 | 2.56, 2.60 |
| 17 | 13.134 | 8 | 1.21, 3.69 |
| 29 | 2.15 | 9, 10 | 3.69 |
| Sch 3 | 5.92 | 11 | 1.21 |
| Employment of Children Act | | 12–14 | 5.2 |
| 1973 (6 Statutes 332) | | 15 | 5.2, 5.4 |
| s 2 | 4.4 | 16 | 5.2 |
| Employment of Women, Young | | 17 | 5.2 |
| Persons and Children Act | | (1) | 1.21 |
| 1920 (16 Statutes 61) | | 18 | 5.2 |
| s 1–3 | 4.4 | 19–21 | 5.7 |
| Employment Protection Act 1975 | | 22 | 5.7 |
| (16 Statutes 291) | 0.2, 1.16, 1.18, 8.2, 10.66, 13.1, 13.7 | (1) | 1.21 |
| s 1, 2 | 1.1 | 23 | 5.39, 5.40, 13.16 |
| 3 | 1.1, 1.12 | 24 | 5.39 |
| 4 | 1.1, 1.4 | 24 | 5.39 |
| 5 | 1.1 | (1) | 1.21 |
| 6 | 1.1, 1.15 | 25, 26 | 5.39 |
| 7 | 1.16 | 26A | 5.46 |
| 8 | 1.18, 13.9 | 27 | 1.14, 5.49, 5.53, 13.16 |
| 10 | 1.17 | (1) | 5.50 |
| 17 | 1.14, 13.16, 13.95 | (7) | 1.21 |
| 19 | 1.17 | 28 | 1.14, 5.54, 13.16 |
| 99 | 8.159, 10.48, 13.16, 13.100 | (4) | 1.21 |
| 100 | 10.48, 10.64 | 29 | 1.14, 5.55, 5.56, 5.57 |
| 101 | 10.48 | (6) | 1.21 |
| (1) | 1.21 | 30 | 1.14 |
| 102 | 10.48 | 31 | 1.14, 5.59 |
| 103 | 10.48 | (6) | 1.21 |
| (1) | 1.21 | 31A | 5.62 |
| 104 | 10.48, 10.64 | | |

Table of Statutes

| | PARA |
|--|---|
| Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978— <i>contd</i> | |
| s 31A (6) | 1.21 |
| 32 | 1.14 |
| 33 | 5.24 |
| 34–38 | 5.13 |
| 39 | 5.13 |
| 40–44 | 5.13 |
| 45 | 5.24 |
| (3) | 5.24, 5.35 |
| 46 | 5.24 |
| 47 | 5.24, 8.79 |
| 48 | 5.24 |
| 49 | 2.60, 5.77 |
| (1) | 8.11 |
| (2) | 8.12 |
| 50 | 2.60, 5.77 |
| 51 | 2.60, 5.77 |
| (1) | 4.42 |
| 53 | 8.204, 8.205, 8.206, 8.207 |
| (2) | 9.8 |
| (4) | 1.21 |
| 54 | 8.15 |
| 55 | 8.15, 8.47 |
| (2) | 8.85 |
| (4) | 9.7 |
| (5) | 8.10, 8.18, 9.7, 9.8 |
| (6) | 8.76 |
| 56 | 5.31, 5.32, 8.15, 8.79 |
| 56A | 5.33, 5.35 |
| 57 | 8.15, 8.97 |
| (3) | 4.6, 8.98, 8.114, 8.168, 8.169, 8.180, 10.32 |
| 58 | 5.39, 8.15, 13.16 |
| (1) | 8.185 |
| (3) | 8.187 |
| (4)–(12) | 8.187 |
| 59 | 8.15, 8.167 |
| 60 | 5.9, 5.11, 5.11A, 5.12, 8.15, 8.164A |
| (1) | 5.28 |
| 61 | 2.48, 8.15 |
| (1) | 8.179 |
| (2) | 5.8, 8.179 |
| 62 | 8.15, 8.196 |
| (1) | 8.191, 8.192 |
| (2) | 8.192 |
| 63 | 8.15, 8.199 |
| 64 | 8.15, 9.8 |
| (3) | 8.186 |
| 64A | 9.8 |
| 65 | 8.15 |
| 67(1) | 1.21 |

| | PARA |
|--|------------------|
| Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978— <i>contd</i> | |
| s 67(2) | 9.1, 9.8 |
| (4) | 9.5 |
| 69 | 9.33 |
| 72 | 9.36 |
| 72A | 9.48 |
| 73 | 9.36 |
| (3) | 9.8 |
| (4A) | 9.38 |
| (7A) | 9.39 |
| (7B) | 9.25, 9.39 |
| (7C) | 9.39 |
| 74–76 | 9.36 |
| 76A | 5.87, 8.200 |
| 77 | 5.81, 9.1, 13.16 |
| (1) | 1.21 |
| (3) | 5.87 |
| 78 | 2.56, 5.81 |
| 79 | 5.81 |
| 82 | 10.21 |
| (2) | 10.40 |
| (5) | 9.37 |
| (6) | 9.37, 10.25 |
| 83 | 10.5 |
| (2) | 10.16 |
| 84 | 9.37, 10.32 |
| 87 | 6.15, 10.35 |
| 88 | 10.38 |
| 91 | 10.10 |
| (1) | 1.21 |
| (2) | 10.19 |
| 92 | 10.39, 10.40 |
| 93 | 10.5 |
| 94 | 10.25, 10.28 |
| 96 | 10.41 |
| 100 | 10.41 |
| 101(1), (2) | 9.1 |
| 108(1) | 1.21 |
| 112 | 1.21 |
| 121 | 5.76 |
| 122 | 5.76 |
| (1) | 1.21 |
| 123 | 5.76 |
| 124 | 5.76 |
| 125–127 | 5.76 |
| 130 | 1.21 |
| 131 | 1.24, 3.74 |
| 133 | 13.67 |
| 135, 136 | 1.18 |
| 138 | 2.14 |
| (4) | 2.64, 8.203 |
| (5) | 2.16 |

Table of Statutes

| | PARA | | PARA |
|--|--|---|---|
| Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978— <i>contd</i> | | Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974— <i>contd</i> | |
| s 139 | 2.14 | s 4 | 12.23, 12.36, 12.51, 12.54 |
| 140(1) | 8.95 | 5 | 12.23, 12.37, 12.51, 12.54 |
| (2) | 1.9 | 6 | 12.4, 12.23, 12.38, 12.44, 12.51, 12.54 |
| 141(5) | 8.18 | (7) | 12.44 |
| 151 | 8.21 | (8) | 12.38 |
| 153 | 2.4 | 7 | 12.23, 12.47, 12.51, 12.54 |
| (1) | 2.56 | 8 | 12.23, 12.48, 12.51 |
| (4) | 8.38, 13.49 | 9 | 12.23, 12.49, 12.51 |
| Sch 1 | 5.7 | 15 | 12.50 |
| Sch 2 | 5.24 | 16 | 5.7, 12.54 |
| Sch 3 | 8.11 | 21 | 12.7 |
| Sch 11 | 2.58 | 22 | 12.8 |
| Sch 12 | 5.80 | 24 | 1.21, 12.10 |
| Sch 13 | 8.20, 8.22, 8.23, 8.24, 8.25, 8.26, 8.27, 8.28, 8.29, 8.31, 8.32, 8.34, 8.38, 8.191, 10.25 | 25 | 12.18 |
| Sch 14 | 3.35, 9.8 | 26 | 12.21 |
| Equal Pay Act 1970 (16 Statutes 187) | 1.18, 1.44, 2.62, 4.17, 4.23, 4.66, 4.68, 4.69, 4.80 | 28(8) | 12.22 |
| s 1(2) | 4.75 | 33 | 12.57 |
| (3) | 4.75, 4.84, 4.85, 4.88, 4.93 | 36 | 12.59 |
| (4) | 4.72 | 37 | 12.57, 12.58 |
| (5) | 4.78 | 40 | 12.24, 12.37 |
| 2 | 1.21, 4.95 | 42 | 12.19 |
| 6(1A) | 4.69 | 47 | 12.23 |
| European Communities Act 1972 (17 Statutes 28) | 1.50, 4.96 | 50 | 1.251 |
| Factories Act 1961 (19 Statutes 425) | 3.23, 3.72, 4.75, 4.137, 12.1, 12.50 | 53 | 12.45 |
| s 1 | 12.15 | 79 | 12.52 |
| 13 | 12.12 | Sch 1 | 12.52 |
| Sch 5 | 5.24 | Sch 3 | 12.50, 12.52 |
| Finance Act 1975 | | Highways Act 1959 | 13.169 |
| s 38 | 2.47 | Hours of Employment (Conventions) Act 1936 (16 Statutes 68) | 4.140 |
| Finance Act 1978 | 3.75 | Industrial Relations Act 1971 | 1.14, 6.3, 8.2, 13.3, 13.7, 13.49, 13.110 |
| Finance Act 1979 | 2.41 | s 34 | 13.162 |
| Finance Act 1987 | 3.75 | Industrial Training Act 1964 (15 Statutes 226) | 1.20 |
| Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (19 Statutes 613): | 1.23, 1.46, 2.43, 2.57, 5.61, 6.65, 12.1 | s 12 | 1.21 |
| s 2 | 4.45, 12.23, 12.25, 12.51, 12.54 | Industrial Training Act 1982 (16 Statutes 659) | 1.39 |
| (3) | 12.27 | Interpretation Act 1978 | |
| (4) | 12.28, 12.30 | s 6 | 8.38 |
| (5) | 12.28 | Juries Act 1974 (22 Statutes 409): | 5.63 |
| (6) | 12.28, 12.30 | Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act 1945 (31 Statutes 185) | 6.48 |
| (7) | 12.28 | Limitation Act 1980 (24 Statutes 624) | 6.49 |
| 3 | 12.23, 12.35, 12.51, 12.54 | Local Government Act 1988 | |
| | | s 17 | 4.133 |

Table of Statutes

| | PARA |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Local Government Act 1985 | |
| —contd | |
| s 18(2) | 4.134, 4.135 |
| Mines and Quarries Act 1954 (29 Statutes 168) | 4.140 |
| s 124 | 4.4 |
| (1) | 4.137 |
| National Health Service (Amendment) Act 1986 | 12.17 |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 (19 Statutes 563) | 12.1, 12.50 |
| Partnership Act 1890 (32 Statutes 636) | |
| s 3 | 2.10 |
| Patents Act 1977 (33 Statutes 127) | 6.66 |
| s 39 | 6.66 |
| Public Health Act 1936 (35 Statutes 140) | |
| s 205 | 4.137, 5.24 |
| Public Order Act 1986 | |
| s 1–5 | 13.184 |
| Race Relations Act 1976 (6 Statutes 765) | 1.18, 1.45, 2.58, 2.68, 4.9 |
| s 1(1) | 4.100, 4.103 |
| (2) | 4.101 |
| 2 | 4.104 |
| 3 | 4.105 |
| (1) | 4.107 |
| 4(1), (2) | 4.110 |
| 5 | 4.111 |
| 7 | 4.112 |
| 8, 9 | 4.113 |
| 16 | 2.18 |
| 28 | 4.114 |
| 29 | 4.115 |
| 30 | 4.116 |
| 31 | 4.117 |
| 32 | 4.119 |
| 54 | 1.21, 4.122 |
| 58 | 4.125 |
| 59, 63, 64 | 1.21 |
| 71 | 4.132, 4.134 |
| 75(5) | 4.110 |
| Redundancy Payments Act 1965: | 6.15, 10.1 |
| Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (12 Statutes 680) | 4.130, 13.40 |
| s 4(3) | 4.131 |

| | PARA |
|---|---|
| Road Traffic Act 1972 | 6.19 |
| Road Traffic Act 1974 | |
| s 84 | 8.172 |
| Sale of Goods Act 1979 | 12.46 |
| Sex Discrimination Act 1975 (6 Statutes 696) | 1.18, 1.44, 2.3, 2.58, 2.62, 4.8, 4.34, 4.41, 4.68, 4.98, 4.111 |
| s 1(1) | 4.10, 4.12, 4.13, 4.37 |
| 3 | 4.33 |
| (1) | 4.12, 4.13 |
| 4(1) | 4.17 |
| 5(3) | 4.35 |
| 6(1) | 4.18, 4.22, 4.24 |
| (2) | 4.26, 4.27, 4.33, 4.37 |
| (4) | 4.43 |
| 7 | 4.54 |
| (4) | 4.56 |
| 10(1) | 4.46 |
| 12 | 13.41 |
| 17 | 2.18 |
| 38 | 4.57, 4.60, 4.63 |
| 39, 40 | 4.59, 4.60, 4.63 |
| 41 | 4.61 |
| 42 | 4.59 |
| 47 | 4.27 |
| 48 | 4.56 |
| 51(1) | 4.45 |
| 52 | 2.65 |
| 57–61 | 4.65 |
| 63 | 1.21, 4.62 |
| 64, 65 | 4.62 |
| 67 | 4.66 |
| 68 | 1.21, 4.66 |
| 69–71 | 4.66 |
| 72 | 4.60, 4.63 |
| (3) | 1.21 |
| 73 | 1.21, 4.63 |
| 82(1A) | 4.28 |
| Sex Discrimination Act 1986 | 1.18, 4.8, 4.55, 8.18 |
| s 6 | 4.94 |
| 7 | 4.139 |
| Shops (Early Closing Days) Act 1965 (19 Statutes 606) | 4.140 |
| Social Security Act 1975 | 2.38 |
| s 56A | 13.16 |
| Social Security Act 1985 | 5.65 |
| Social Security Act 1986 | |
| s 46–49 | 5.13 |
| Social Security and Housing Benefits Act 1982 | 5.65, 5.76 |

Table of Statutes

| | PARA | | PARA |
|---|---|--|---|
| Social Security Pensions Act 1975: | 3.63, 4.49 | Trade Union and Labour Re- | |
| State Immunity Act 1978 (10 <i>Stat-</i> | | lations Act 1974— <i>contd</i> | |
| utes 641) | 8.18 | s 13(2) | 13.123, 13.124, 13.173 |
| Trade Union Act 1871 | 3.38 | (3) | 13.108, 13.124 |
| Trade Union Act 1913 (16 <i>Stat-</i> | | (4) | 13.125 |
| utes 38) | 1.16, 1.18, 13.1, 13.78 | 14 | 13.151 |
| s 3(1) | 1.28 | 15 | 13.150, 13.166, 13.168 |
| 4(1D) | 13.79 | (1) | 13.166, 13.167, 13.171 |
| Trade Union Act 1984 (16 <i>Stat-</i> | | (4) | 13.167 |
| utes 710) | 13.1 | 16 | 6.6 |
| s 1-3 | 13.24 | 17 | 13.158 |
| 4 | 13.24, 13.91 | (4) | 13.145 |
| 5 | 1.28, 13.24, 13.32, 13.70 | 18 | 3.38, 13.160, 13.161, 13.163, 13.164 |
| 6-9 | 13.24 | 28 | 13.2 |
| 10 | 13.129 | (2) | 13.5 |
| 11 | 13.71, 13.129 | 29 | 13.111, 13.148 |
| (1B) | 13.134 | 30(1) | 13.9, 13.14 |
| 12-17 | 13.78 | Sch 1 | 4.6 |
| 18 | 13.78, 13.88 | Sch 2 | |
| Trade Union (Amalgamations, etc.) Act 1964 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 120) | 1.16, 1.18, 13.1, 13.87, 13.93 | Pt I, II | 13.33 |
| Trade Union and Labour Re- | | Trade Union and Labour Re- | |
| lations Act 1974 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 248) | 1.6, 1.16, 2.3, 8.2, 13.1, 13.8, 13.110, 13.113, 13.127, 13.149 | lations (Amendment) Act 1976 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 348) | 13.1, 13.37, 13.42, 13.49 |
| s 2 | 13.3, 13.4 | Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 | |
| 5 | 13.42 | (11 <i>Statutes</i> 214) | 6.47 |
| 6 | 13.37 | s 2 | 3.13, 6.47 |
| 7 | 13.49 | Transport Act 1968 | 4.140 |
| 8 | 1.18, 13.7 | Truck Act 1831 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 12) | 5.88 |
| 10, 11 | 13.33 | Truck Act 1896 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 30) | 5.89 |
| 13 | 2.15, 13.119, 13.136, 13.138, 13.140, 13.143, 13.144, 13.151, 13.155, 13.171, 13.176, 13.183 | Wages Act 1986 | 1.18, 1.21, 1.34, 5.88 |
| (1) | 8.188, 13.121, 13.124, 13.128, 13.129, 13.133, 13.137, 13.139, 13.173 | s 1 | 5.90, 5.92, 5.94, 5.97 |
| | | (1) | 13.90 |
| | | 2 | 5.93, 5.94, 5.96, 7.38 |
| | | (4) | 5.96 |
| | | 5 | 5.44, 5.97 |
| | | 6(1) | 5.99 |
| | | 8 | 2.3 |
| | | Sch 5 | 4.127 |
| | | Young Persons (Employment) Act 1938 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 76) | |
| | | s 9 | 4.4 |

Table of Rules and Regulations

References in the right-hand column are to paragraph numbers.

| | PARA | | PARA |
|---|------------------|---|------------|
| British Transport (Compensation to Employees) Regulations 1970, SI 1870/187 | 1.21 | Industrial Tribunals (Scotland) Regulations 1965, SI 1965/1157 | 1.20 |
| Companies (Directors' Report) (Employment of Disabled Persons) Regulations 1980, SI 1980/1160 | 4.126 | Insolvency of Employer (Excluded Classes) Regulations 1983, SI 1983/624 | 5.78 |
| Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Business Regulations 1976, SI 1976/715 | 2.47 | Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) Regulations 1969, SI 1969/808 | 4.137, 5.9 |
| Construction (Health and Welfare) Regulations 1966, SI 1966/95 | 2.34 | Ionising Radiations (Unsealed Radioactive Substances) Regulations 1968, SI 1968/780 | 4.137, 5.9 |
| Employment Protection (Off-shore Employment) Order 1976, SI 1976/766 | 8.18 | Local Government (Compensation) Regulations 1974, SI 1974/463 | 1.21 |
| Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations 1983, SI 1983/1194 | 4.68, 4.80 | Occupational Pensions Scheme (Certification of Employments Regulations 1975, SI 1975/1927 | 1.21 |
| Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970, SI 1970/1172 | 8.173 | Occupational Pension Schemes (Disclosure of Information) Regulations 1986, SI 1986/1046 | 3.76 |
| Funds for Trade Union Ballots Regulations 1980, SI 1980/1252 | 13.17 | Occupational Pension Schemes (Equal Access to Membership) Regulations 1976, SI 1976/142 | 1.21 |
| Funds for Trade Union Ballots Regulations 1984, SI 1984/1654 | 13.17 | Operations at Unfenced Machinery (Amendment) Regulations 1976, SI 1976/955 | 4.137 |
| Funds for Trade Union Ballots Regulations 1988, SI 1988/1123 | 13.17 | Power Press Regulations 1965, SI 1965/1441 | 8.171 |
| Health and Safety (Youth Training Schemes) Regulations 1983, SI 1983/1919 | 2.57, 12.2 | Redundancy Payments (Local Government) (Modification) Order 1983, SI 1983/1160 | 8.40 |
| Industrial Tribunals (England and Wales) Regulations 1965, SI 1965/1101 | 1.20 | Redundancy Payments Pensions Regulations 1965, SI 1965/1932 | 10.41 |
| Industrial Tribunals (Improvement and Prohibition Notices Appeals) Regulations 1974, SI 1974/1925 | 1.23 | Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendment) Order 1986, SI 1986/1249 | 4.136 |
| Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations 1980, SI 1980/884 | 9.13 | Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975, SI 1975/1023 | 4.136 |
| Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations 1985, SI 1985/16 | 1.22, 1.23, 9.31 | | |

| | PARA | | PARA |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rules of the Supreme Court 1965, | | Transfer of Undertakings (Pro- | |
| SI 1965/1776 Ord 113 | 13.172 | tection of Employment) | |
| Safety Representatives and Safety | | Regulations 1981, SI 1981/ | |
| Committees Regulations | | 1974 | 1.21, 2.62, 3.60, 8.42, |
| 1977, SI 1977/500: 1.21, 5.61, 12.29 | | | 8.180, 10.28, 10.63, |
| Sex Discrimination (Amendment) | | | 13.16, 13.97 |
| Order 1988, SI 1988/249 . . . | 2.64 | | |

Table of Cases

| | |
|---|-------------|
| | PARA |
| AEI Cables v McLay [1980] IRLR 84 | 8.141 |
| Adams v Charles Zub Associates Ltd [1978] IRLR 551 | 8.66 |
| Addison v Babcock FATA Ltd [1988] QB 280, [1987] 2 All ER 784, [1987] IRLR 173, CA | 9.44 |
| Adlam v Salisbury and Wells Theological College [1985] ICR 786, EAT | 5.46 |
| Age Concern Scotland v Hines [1983] IRLR 477 | 8.2, 8.18 |
| Ahmed v National Car Parks Ltd IDS Brief 149 | 8.18 |
| Ahmet v Trusthouse Forte Catering Ltd IDS Brief 250 | 2.35 |
| Ainsworth v Glass Tubes and Components [1977] ICR 347, [1977] IRLR 74: | 4.95 |
| Air Canada v Lee [1978] ICR 1202, [1978] IRLR 392, 13 ITR 574 | 10.33 |
| Airfix Footwear Ltd v Cope [1978] ICR 1210, [1978] IRLR 396 | 2.30 |
| Albion Shipping Agency v Arnold [1982] ICR 22, [1981] IRLR 525 | 1.21, 4.91 |
| Allen v Flood [1898] AC 1, [1895-9] All ER Rep 52, HL | 4.67, 4.131 |
| Allwood v William Hill Ltd [1974] IRLR 258 | 8.157 |
| AUEW v Cooper Plastics 1976 IDS Brief 90 | 10.53 |
| AUEW v Sefton Engineering Co Ltd [1976] IRLR 318 | 10.55 |
| Anandarajah v Lord Chancellor's Department [1984] IRLR 131 | 8.101, 9.27 |
| Anderson v Dalkeith Engineering Ltd [1985] ICR 66, [1984] IRLR 429 | 8.181 |
| Appleyard v Smith (Hull) Ltd [1972] IRLR 19 | 8.172 |
| Argent v Minister of Social Security [1968] 3 All ER 208, [1968] 1 WLR 1749 | 2.30 |
| Armour v Skeen [1977] IRLR 310, 1977 SLT 71 | 12.58 |
| Armstrong Whitworth Rolls Ltd v Mustard [1971] 1 All ER 598, 6 ITR 79: | 3.55 |
| Artisan Press Ltd v Srawley and Parker [1986] ICR 328, [1986] IRLR 126: | 9.53 |
| Ashford v Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs [1973] ICR 296 | 13.49 |
| Associated Dairies Ltd v Hartley [1979] IRLR 171 | 12.14 |
| Association of HSD (Hatfield) Employees v Certification Officer [1978] ICR 21, [1977] IRLR 261 | 13.14 |
| APAC v Kirvin Ltd [1978] IRLR 318, 13 ITR 446 | 10.53 |
| ASTMS v Hawker Siddeley Aviation [1977] IRLR 418 | 10.59 |
| Atkin v Enfield Group Hospital Management Committee [1975] IRLR 217, CA | 8.147 |
| Attwood v Lamont [1920] 3 KB 571, [1920] All ER Rep 55, CA | 11.15 |
| Avon County Council v Haywood-Hicks [1978] ICR 646, [1978] IRLR 118: | 9.3 |

Table of Cases

| | PARA |
|--|-------------|
| Avon County Council v Howlett [1983] 1 All ER 1073, [1983] IRLR 171:5.92, 6.16 | |
| Avonmouth Construction Co Ltd v Shipway [1979] IRLR 14 | 8.157 |
| Aziz v Trinity Street Taxis Ltd [1986] IRLR 435; affd. [1988] IRLR 204, CA: | 4.104 |
| | |
| Balgobin v Tower Hamlets London Borough Council [1987] ICR 829, [1987] IRLR 401 | 4.38, 4.61 |
| Barcock v Brighton Corpn [1949] 1 KB 339, [1949] 1 All ER 251 | 6.37 |
| Barley v Amey Roadstone Corpn Ltd [1977] ICR 546, [1977] IRLR 299 | 8.161 |
| Barnes v BPC (Business Forms) Ltd [1976] 1 All ER 237, [1975] ICR 390, [1975] IRLR 313 | 9.15 |
| Barratt Developments (Bradford) Ltd v UCATT [1978] ICR 319, [1977] IRLR 403, 12 ITR 478 | 10.49 |
| Barrel Plating and Phosphating Co Ltd v Danks [1976] 3 All ER 652, [1976] ICR 503, [1976] IRLR 262 | 9.42 |
| Barretts and Baird (Wholesale) Ltd v IPCS [1987] IRLR 3 | 13.127 |
| Barthorpe v Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance [1979] ICR 900 | 2.11 |
| Batisha v Say [1977] IRLIB | 4.10, 4.25 |
| Baumann v Hulton Press Ltd [1952] 2 All ER 1121 | 6.12 |
| Beal v Beecham Group Ltd [1982] 3 All ER 280, [1982] ICR 460, CA | 5.49 |
| Beanstalk Shelving Ltd v Horn [1980] ICR 273 | 9.4 |
| Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd v Keys [1978] ICR 582, [1978] IRLR 34, CA | 13.119 |
| Bell v Lever Bros Ltd [1932] AC 161, 101 LJKB 129, HL | 6.72 |
| Beloff v Pressdram Ltd [1973] 1 All ER 241, [1973] RPC 765 | 2.26 |
| Bendall v Paine and Betteridge [1973] IRLR 44 | 7.54 |
| Bengey v North Devon District Council [1977] ICR 15, 11 ITR 211 | 9.4 |
| Bentley Engineering Co Ltd v Crown [1976] ICR 225, [1976] IRLR 146, 11 TLR 50 | 8.28, 8.41 |
| Bentley Engineering Co Ltd v Mistry [1979] ICR 47, [1978] IRLR 437 | 7.19 |
| Bents Brewery Co Ltd v Hogan [1945] 2 All ER 570 | 13.116 |
| Berkeley Garage (Southampton) Ltd v Edmunds [1975] ICR 228, [1975] IRLR 125, 10 ITR 228 | 9.59 |
| Berriman v Delabone Slate Ltd [1985] ICR 546, [1985] IRLR 305, CA | 8.180 |
| Berry v Stone Manganese Marine Ltd (1971) 12 KIR 13, [1972] 1 Lloyd's Rep 182 | 6.40 |
| Bex v Securicor Transport Ltd [1972] IRLR 68 | 3.56 |
| Bick v Royal West of England Residential School for the Deaf [1976] IRLR 326 | 4.33 |
| Bilka-Kaufhaus GmbH v Weber von Hartz: 170/84 [1987] ICR 110, [1986] IRLR 317, ECJ | 4.49 |
| Birch v University of Liverpool [1985] ICR 470, [1985] IRLR 165, CA:8.94, 10.6 | |
| Bird v British Celanese Ltd [1945] KB 336, [1945] 1 All ER 488, CA | 7.41 |
| Birds Eye Walls Ltd v Harrison [1985] ICR 278, [1985] IRLR 47 | 9.17 |
| Birmingham City District Council v Beyer [1978] 1 All ER 910, [1977] IRLR 211, 12 ITR 409 | 5.48, 8.185 |
| Blackman v Post Office [1974] ICR 151, [1974] IRLR 46 | 8.130 |
| Blake v Berkel Auto Scale Co Ltd [1974] IRLR 294 | 3.43 |
| Bliss v South East Thames Regional Health Authority [1987] ICR 700, [1985] IRLR 308, CA | 6.9 |
| Blower v Central Electricity Generating Board IDS Supp 25 | 5.52 |
| Blue Circle Staff Association v Certification Officer [1977] 2 All ER 145, [1977] ICR 224 | 13.13 |

Table of Cases

| | PARA |
|---|----------------------|
| Blumstead v John Cars Ltd [1977] IRLIB | 8.36 |
| Blyth v Scottish Liberal Club [1983] IRLR 245, 1983 SLT 260, Ct of Sess: | 8.4 |
| Bonsor v Musicians' Union [1956] AC 104, [1955] 3 All ER 518, HL | 13.55 |
| Boots Co plc v Lees Collier [1986] ICR 728, [1986] IRLR 485 | 9.34 |
| Boston Deep-Sea Fishing and Ice Co v Ansell (1888) 39 Ch D 339, [1886-90] All ER Rep 65, CA | 6.62 |
| Bouchaala v Trust House Forte Ltd [1980] ICR 721, [1980] IRLR 382 | 8.184 |
| Boulting v ACTAT [1963] 2 QB 606, [1963] 1 All ER 716, CA | 13.39 |
| Bowater Containers Ltd v McCormack [1980] IRLR 50 | 3.54 |
| Bowler v Lovegrove [1921] 1 Ch 642, 90 LJ Ch 356 | 11.15 |
| Boychuk v H J Symons Holdings Ltd [1977] IRLR 395 | 8.147 |
| Boyd Line Ltd v Pitts [1986] ICR 244 | 2.66 |
| Bradford (Earl) v Jowett [1978] IRLR 16, sub nom. Jowett v Earl of Bradford (No. 2) [1978] ICR 431, 13 ITR 141 | 9.27 |
| Bradford v Robinson Rentals Ltd [1967] 1 All ER 267, [1967] 1 WLR 337: | 6.34 |
| Bradley v Opperman Gears Ltd [1975] IRLR 13 | 6.10 |
| Bradshaw v Rugby Portland Cement Co Ltd [1972] IRLR 46 | 8.149 |
| Braithwaite v EETU [1969] 2 All ER 859, 6 KIR 169, CA | 13.53 |
| Brassington v Cauldon Wholesale Ltd [1978] ICR 405, [1977] IRLR 479: | 5.47 |
| Breach v Epsilon Industries Ltd [1976] ICR 316, [1976] IRLR 180 | 6.12 |
| Brear v Wright Hudson Ltd [1977] IRLR 287 | 5.12 |
| Brennan v Dewhurst Ltd [1984] ICR 52, [1983] IRLR 357, EAT | 4.20 |
| Brennan and Ging v Ellward (Lancs) Ltd [1976] IRLR 378 | 5.39 |
| Brewer & Son v Dunston IDS Supp 145 | 12.12 |
| Bridgen v Lancashire County Council [1987] IRLR 58, CA | 8.65 |
| Briggs v ICI (1968) 5 KIR 492, DC | 3.45 |
| Brindley v Tayside Health Board [1976] IRLR 364 | 4.19 |
| British Aircraft Corpn v Austin [1978] IRLR 332 | 8.67 |
| British Broadcasting Corpn v Beckett [1983] IRLR 43 | 7.58, 8.74 |
| British Broadcasting Corpn v Hearn [1978] 1 All ER 111, [1977] 1 WLR 1004, CA | 13.114 |
| British Broadcasting Corpn v Ioannou [1975] QB 781, [1975] ICR 267, CA | 8.60 |
| British Home Stores v Burchell [1980] ICR 303n, [1978] IRLR 379 | 7.19, 7.23, 8.138 |
| British Labour Pump Co Ltd v Byrne [1979] ICR 347, [1979] IRLR 94: 7.5, 8.160 | 7.5, 8.160 |
| British Leyland (UK) Ltd v Ashraf [1978] ICR 979, [1978] IRLR 330, 13 ITR 500 | 8.95 |
| British Leyland (UK) Ltd v Swift [1981] IRLR 91, CA | 8.102 |
| BSM (1257) Ltd v Secretary of State for Social Services [1978] ICR 894 | 2.35 |
| British United Shoe Machinery Co Ltd v Clarke [1978] ICR 70, [1977] IRLR 297, 12 ITR 473 | 8.158, 9.41 |
| Broadbent v Crisp [1974] 1 All ER 1052, [1974] ICR 248 | 2.3 |
| Bromley v H & J Quick Ltd [1988] ICR 47, [1987] IRLR 456; revsd. (1988) Times, 5 April, CA | 4.79 |
| Bromsgrove Casting and Machining Ltd v Martin [1977] 3 All ER 487, [1977] ICR 417 | 2.9 |
| Brooks v Ladbroke Lucky Seven Entertainment [1977] IRLIB | 4.133 |
| Brooks & Son v Skinner [1984] IRLR 379 | 7.24 |
| Broome v DPP [1974] AC 587, [1974] 1 All ER 314, [1974] ICR 84, HL | 13.169, 13.170 |
| Brophy v Bradfield & Co [1955] 3 All ER 286, [1955] 1 WLR 1148, CA | 6.45 |
| Brown v Rolls-Royce Ltd [1960] 1 All ER 577, [1960] 1 WLR 210, CA | 6.43 |