

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE GOVERNMENT. 30, July, 1953.

Report for 1952 on the work of the Factory
Inspection Service.

1. Under Section 118 (7) of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 an annual report of the proceedings of Inspectors of Factories must be laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas.

2. A formal report is prepared each year indicating the number of premises on the Register of Factories and Workshops; the percentage inspected; the number of young persons examined by certifying Surgeons for fitness for employment; the number of accidents classified according to industry, age, sex and causation; the number of prosecutions; the number of premises covered by special regulations for dangerous or unhealthy trades, together with a list of the Acts relating to conditions of work in factories and workshops.

3. On the 16th June, 1951 Ireland ratified Convention No. 81 of the International Labour Organisation concerning Labour Inspection in Industry. This ratification came into force for Ireland on the 16th June, 1952 and the report for 1952 is the first report to cover a period during which we were bound by the terms of the Convention. Some slight modifications have been made in the report to comply with the requirements of the Convention.

4. The following summary shows the position in 1952 as compared with 1951, as regards the inspection of factories:-

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
Number of premises on register	12,684	12,735
Number of premises visited	9,590	9,312
Prosecutions	35	11
Number of accidents reported	1,264	1,156
Number of these which were fatal	18	19
Number of young persons examined by certifying Surgeons for fitness for employment	5,478	4,325
Percentage rejected	1.6%	0.9%

5. The report is being submitted to the Government prior to its being laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas.