

## Call for Papers

# 100 Years of Minimum Wage Regulation

We are approaching the centenary of the introduction of minimum wage legislation in Britain in the form of the Trades Boards Act 1909, which was introduced under the direction of Winston Churchill when he was President of the Board of Trade. This remarkable new intervention by the state in the labour market was part of a period of momentous change which also saw the inauguration of labour exchanges, the introduction of old age pensions and the beginnings of the modern social insurance system. The *BJIR* plans to mark the occasion with a retrospective and prospective conference on a hundred years of wage regulation. The conference will be held at the London School of Economics on **14 December 2007**. The papers presented at the conference will be included, subject to the *BJIR*'s refereeing process, in a special issue of the journal which will be the first issue of volume 47 in 2009.

The Editors would like to receive papers exploring one or more of the following themes:

- Origins of the 1909 Act, and subsequent evolution of wage regulation in the period before WW2.
- The relationship between statutory wage regulation, social insurance, the 'breadwinner wage', and changing perceptions of male and female labour over the past 100 years.
- Accounts of the form of wage regulation that emerged in Britain, as compared with other industrialised countries.
- Historical accounts of the effects of minimum pay legislation on redistribution and on poverty.
- The role and attitudes of the trade union movement towards minimum wage regulation.
- The decline of wage regulation under Thatcherism; effects of deregulation during the Thatcherite period, consequences of the dissolution of the Wages Councils in the 1990s.
- The emergence of the national minimum wage strategy on the agenda of Labour while in opposition in the 1980s and 1990s
- Recent assessments of the impact of the national minimum wage and of the work of the Low Pay Commission
- The relationship between the national minimum wage and the tax credit system
- International comparisons, including explanatory pieces on the form and effects of minimum wage regulation in different countries

This list of themes is indicative, not prescriptive. The editors are happy to discuss proposals or suggested themes. Articles are invited from across the broad range of disciplines that contribute to the study of industrial relations and which are covered regularly in *BJIR*. These include economics, sociology, psychology, history, law, management and organisational behaviour and political science.

Papers should be submitted for consideration by the editors by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2007**. Please send full versions of papers to Sylvia Roesch, Managing Editor: [S.Roesch@lse.ac.uk](mailto:S.Roesch@lse.ac.uk) as a Word attachment. Papers should conform fully with *BJIR* length and stylistic requirements, which can be found in copies of the journal or on the journal website: <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/bjir>.

**Simon Deakin and Francis Green**

[s.deakin@cbr.cam.ac.uk](mailto:s.deakin@cbr.cam.ac.uk)

[g.f.green@kent.ac.uk](mailto:g.f.green@kent.ac.uk)