

1916.
NEW ZEALAND.

D E S P A T C H E S

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES TO THE
GOVERNOR OF NEW ZEALAND.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

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No. 1

New Zealand, No. 127.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 18th March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 579, of the 18th December, and to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of a Convention between the United Kingdom and Switzerland providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise between the two Governments, the ratifications of which were exchanged on the 3rd February.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 2

New Zealand, No. 129.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 19th March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 100, of the 2nd March, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Consul at Colon, with one copy of the handbook respecting the Panama Canal described therein. It is expected that a new edition of the handbook will shortly be issued, and His Majesty's Consul at Colon will be asked to send to you direct copies of this handbook, and of the regulations, circulars, &c., which may be issued in the future.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

Sir,—

British Consulate, Colon, 9th January, 1915.

I have the honour to forward, under separate cover, fifteen copies of a recently issued official handbook of general information concerning the Panama Canal, which contains in a concise form all information which it is thought will be required by shipping using the canal. Copies have been sent direct to most of the large British steamship lines.

The Executive Secretary of the Panama Canal is willing to send copies of this handbook to Government Departments and officials in the United Kingdom and the British Dominions, and to keep a record of their addresses for the supply to them of regulations, circulars, and other printed matter which may be issued in the future. I therefore suggest that comprehensive

lists of addresses might be furnished by the Board of Trade and by the Colonial Office for the purpose.

With regard to the Admiralty requirements, it might be preferable that the officer in charge of this Consulate should himself forward such information to the addresses which may be designated. I may mention that I have already sent copies of the handbook to the Naval Intelligence Officer at Kingston, Jamaica.

I have, &c.,

H. O. CHALKLEY.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, London.

No. 3.

New Zealand, No. 137.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 19th March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 8, of the 5th January last, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copy of a telegram from the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, on the subject of terminal rates charged in Australia on cable traffic.

2. I also enclose a copy of a notice issued by the Pacific Cable Board as to reductions of telegraphic rates to and from New Zealand, Fiji, and Norfolk Island, to take effect from the 1st proximo.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosures.

TELEGRAM.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

(Received Colonial Office 2.57 p.m., 16th March, 1915.)

Your telegram 5th January, terminal rates: Prime Minister informs me that as reduction from 5d. to 2d. would involve loss of revenue approximately £50,000 annually to Commonwealth Administration, as reduction would necessarily apply to Eastern Extension Company's business as well as Pacific Cable Board, and since such reduction would not benefit the partners of the Pacific Cable, Government of Commonwealth of Australia is unable to agree to it. Despatch follows by mail.

MUNRO-FERGUSON.

The Pacific Cable Board, Queen Anne's Chambers, S.W.

Reduction of Rates.

THE Pacific Cable Board beg to announce the following reductions of telegraphic rates to and from New Zealand, Suva (Fiji Islands), and Norfolk Island, commencing 1st April next:—

To New Zealand, Suva, and Norfolk Island the ordinary rate, now 3s. per word, is reduced to 2s. 8d. per word.

To New Zealand, Suva, and Norfolk Island the deferred ordinary rate, now 1s. 6d. per word, is reduced to 1s. 4d. per word.

To New Zealand and Suva the week-end rate, now 15s. for twenty words and 9d. for each additional word, is reduced to 13s. 4d. for twenty words and 8d. for each additional word.

The Board feel assured that they can count on the continued support of all their clients, and they will welcome a trial by those who have not hitherto used their route.

Messages "via Pacific" can be handed in at any postal telegraph-office in the United Kingdom, or at any of the Atlantic cable companies' offices.

11th March, 1915.

F. J. ADYE, Secretary.

No. 4.

New Zealand, No. 153.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 29th March, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the judgment of the Lords of the Judicial Com-

mittee of the Privy Council on the appeal from the Court of Appeal of New Zealand in the case of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand (Limited) v. the Wellington Harbour Board.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

Privy Council Appeal No. 69 of 1914.

THE UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED), Appellants, v. THE WELLINGTON HARBOUR BOARD, Respondents.

From the Court of Appeal of New Zealand.

JUDGMENT OF THE LORDS OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Delivered the 9th March, 1915.

Present at the hearing: Lord Dunedin; Lord Shaw; Sir George Farwell; Sir Arthur Channel.

[Delivered by Sir George Farwell.]

THIS is an appeal from the judgment dated 28th October, 1913, of the Court of Appeal of New Zealand, affirming a declaratory order dated 3rd April, 1913, of the Supreme Court.

The question depends on the true construction of section 116, subsection (1), of the Harbours Act, 1908, and of sections 17 and 32 of a contract dated 11th November, 1910, and made between the Postmaster-General of New Zealand on behalf of His Majesty of the one part and the defendant company of the other part. Section 116, subsection (1), of the Harbours Act provides as follows: "Nothing in this Act shall charge with any dues any steamship carrying mails under any contract made with the Postmaster-General in cases where it is provided by the terms of such contract that such steamships shall be exempt therefrom."

It is clear that no agreement *inter partes* can extend or enlarge the privilege given by this Act. The first and main question therefore is, What is the meaning of a "steamship carrying mails"? and it is best appreciated by taking the facts as arising under the above-mentioned contract. Under section 17 thereof no charge for harbour dues, dock dues, or other rates was to be made or levied under the Act of 1908 "at the Ports of Wellington or Auckland for any of the steamships employed in the services under this contract." The services under the contract bound the company to carry the mails whenever required from and to New Zealand and San Francisco; and under section 6 of the agreement such mails were to be conveyed thirteen times in the year (once every four weeks) from Wellington to San Francisco by way of Auckland, Rarotonga, and Papeete, and from San Francisco to Wellington by way of Papeete and Rarotonga. The steamships "carrying mails" under the contract are properly described as "employed in the services under this contract." But the company, under section 32, obtained liberty to extend the service thereby provided for by continuing the voyage of the vessels employed thereunder, and the conveyance of mails from San Francisco to Wellington to the Port of Sydney, and thence back to Wellington or Auckland, but without any payment from the Postmaster-General for the extended service, and with the duty of providing and maintaining a third vessel, "and such extended service shall be maintained by the company under and subject to all the provisions hereinbefore contained." Under this liberty the company has frequently carried mails from Australia to the United Kingdom, and from Australia to New Zealand. But these mails are not carried under the contract. Even if the appellants could bring these mails within the 32nd section this would not assist the appellants, for the exemption under the Harbours Act is confined to a steamship carrying mails "where it is provided by the terms of such contract that such steamships shall be exempt therefrom," and there is no such provision here: the company is bound to maintain the extended service "under and subject to all the provisions" thereinbefore contained, but there are no words giving it any of the benefits thereinbefore contained. A clause imposing obligations in general terms is a restrictive, not a donative clause. As is familiar in conveyancing, when a lease is assigned subject to the covenants and conditions by the lessee, the words "with the full benefit of the lessor's covenants" are added if such benefit is intended to pass.

Then, it was argued that whenever any of the company's vessels put into (say) Wellington from Sydney with a cargo, and either with or without mails, with the object and intention of discharging her cargo and then proceeding to San Francisco, she became entitled to exemption from the dues from the moment that she entered the harbour, because she then became "a steamship carrying mails under the contract." But the question is not one of phrases but of substance and facts. It is impossible to predicate of a vessel coming from Sydney with freight and mails for discharge there that she is on entry "a vessel carrying mails under the contract." She is then in truth a vessel about to discharge so as to qualify herself to carry mails under the contract. When she is in harbour for the purpose of receiving and ready to receive the mails, then from the time when her former venture was completed she entered upon her new venture of carrying mails under the contract. This new venture is not postponed until the mails are on board, but commences from the time when she is ready and willing to commence and carry out the terms of her contract; and she cannot be so while she remains with cargo wholly or in part undischarged,

for she was then on another errand; but as soon as she is ready and willing (and she is not the less ready and willing after discharge of her cargo because repairs, coaling, and the like remain to be done before she can actually receive the mails on board), she answers the description in the Act and contract, and becomes entitled to such immunity as the Harbours Act gives her.

The order as drawn up is in their Lordships' judgment correct, except that under (b), for the words "until the outgoing mails are received on board the vessel under By-law No. 55," there should be substituted the words "until she has discharged her former freight and is ready and willing to receive the outgoing mails on board, subject only to coaling, necessary repairs, and the like." And with this alteration their Lordships will humbly recommend His Majesty to dismiss the appeal, and that the appellants should pay the costs of the appeal.

No. 5.

New Zealand, No. 158.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 31st March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 597, of the 24th December, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that His Majesty's Government propose to appoint Lord Bryce as the member chosen from the United Kingdom to serve on the International Commission, under Article II of the Peace Commission Treaty with the United States of America.

A.—1, 1915,
No. 24.

2. His Majesty's Government would be glad if your Ministers would submit the name of the person whom they would wish to represent the Dominion Government under Article III of the treaty.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 6.

New Zealand, No. 161.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 31st March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 491, of the 6th November last, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that the Colombian Government has adhered to the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, with effect from the 1st January, 1914.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 7.

New Zealand, No. 178.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 15th April, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 169, of the 8th April, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that the Government of the Republic of Haiti have deposited with the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs their ratification of the Universal Postal Convention of the 26th May, 1906.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 8.

New Zealand.—Miscellaneous.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 15th April, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 153, of the 23rd April, 1913, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a certificate of the amount standing

to the credit of your Government in the books of the Crown Agents for the Colonies on the 31st December, 1914, and one return showing the variation during the quarter ended on that date in the cash balances and securities held in trust on behalf of your Government.

These statements have been prepared by the Crown Agents and verified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General, whose certificate is appended.

It will not be necessary for you to reply specially to this despatch unless the particulars shown in the Agents' statements should differ from the accounts which they have sent direct to the colony. In case of any discrepancy it is indispensable that an immediate advice showing the details of the differences should be sent to me.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

The Officer Administering the Government of New Zealand.

No. 9.

New Zealand, No. 177.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 16th April, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, a copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Consul at Colon to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, advising that all British ships should obtain a certificate showing the net tonnage under the United States measurement rules.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

PANAMA.—TRADE AND TREATY.

Decode of Telegram from MR. CONSUL CHALKLEY, Colon, 30th March, 1915.

In consequence of decision of Attorney-General of the United States that Panama Canal tolls must not exceed 1 dollar 25 cents per ton net, United States measurements, British ships should obtain certificate showing net tonnage under United States measurements rules as well as Panama Canal certificates.

No. 10.

New Zealand, No. 199.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 20th April, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the consideration of your Ministers, a copy of a letter from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries concerning the restrictions imposed by various Governments in the Empire in connection with the importation of animals from the United Kingdom.

2. Your Ministers will see that in this letter the Board put forward certain suggestions with a view to securing greater uniformity, and I should be glad to know the views of your Ministers regarding these suggestions.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosures.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, Whitehall Place,

London S.W., 18th March, 1915.

SIR,—

I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to say that they have had under consideration the restrictions imposed by the Governments of the various colonies and dependencies

of the Empire respecting the importation of animals from the United Kingdom, with special reference to the recent amended regulations issued by the Government of the Dominion of New Zealand as shown in the enclosed copy of a letter dated the 5th January, 1915, and enclosures, which the Board have received from the Department of the High Commissioner for New Zealand, and they desire me to offer for the consideration of the Secretary of State the following observations thereon.

As will be seen from the enclosed statement, there is a wide degree of divergence in the regulations which certain of the colonial Governments have made with a view to guarding against the risk of the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease from this country by means of imported animals, and it appears to the Board that it would be advantageous to the trade in animals that some general decision should be come to as to the principles upon which such restrictions should be framed, so that a measure of uniformity may be introduced in respect of the action to be taken where a colonial Government considers that precautions of the character above indicated are necessary in the interests of the particular colony.

It occurs to the Board that advantage might be taken of the presence in this country of representatives of the various colonial Governments in connection with the next Imperial Conference, which may be summoned to come to some more satisfactory arrangement, and that if the attention of the Governments which now impose such restrictions were called to the matter in advance some agreement might then be reached for action to be taken on the following lines, regard being had to the administrative procedure adopted in this country when outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease occur, as set out in the enclosed statement—viz., that for a period of, say, one month from the date of completion of slaughter in the latest confirmed outbreak shipment for the colony should, if thought necessary, be entirely suspended, and that subsequently for such further period, not exceeding two months, as may seem to the Government concerned desirable, the representative of the colony in this country should be authorized, after consultation with officers of the Board, to sanction the shipment of any animal or animals as regards which there did not, in the opinion of the Board, exist any reasonable danger in authorizing such shipment on account of the locality in which the animals then were or had recently been kept.

By such means the necessity might be obviated of specifying in the regulations any particular area as regards which the extended restrictions should apply, as is now done in the case of the regulations of the Australian, South African, and New Zealand Governments. Such a provision, especially when, as in the case of the New Zealand regulations, the radius to which it applies is as great as fifty miles, appears to the Board to go beyond what is either reasonable or necessary. In the case, for instance, of the outbreak at Deal, Kent, on the 18th October last, the effect of the provision is to prohibit for six months the exportation to New Zealand of animals from, say, the district of Harwich, in the north-east of Essex, although there is no reason whatever for supposing that any special danger would be involved in the exportation of animals from that locality on account of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease at Deal.

Further, the regulations might easily be found to operate prejudicially to the interests of the New Zealand importers with regard to the purchase of pedigree stock from one of the principal cattle shows—*e.g.*, that of the Royal Agricultural Society of England—should such show be held within fifty miles of premises on which an outbreak of the disease had occurred some four or five months previously, and as regards which the restrictions imposed by the Board had been for a considerable period entirely withdrawn.

The enclosed sketch-map shows the effect of this particular provision in the New Zealand regulations in relation to the four most recent outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in this country. So far as the Board are concerned, they feel that the effect thereof is to impose restrictions which it would be difficult to justify on the score of risk, and they are of opinion that a much more effective security would be obtained by procedure on the lines set out above, to the benefit of all concerned.

Moreover, a revision of the arrangements as regards the trade with the United Kingdom might pave the way for securing some modifications of the regulations of foreign Governments on similar lines to the advantage of stockowners in this country.

I am to add that reference as to the desirability of the regulations of colonial Governments as regards the importation of animals from Great Britain being of a uniform character was made by representatives of the Board who gave evidence before the Dominions Royal Commission (Cd. 6517, question 4739).

The Board would accordingly be obliged if the Secretary of State would take the matter into consideration and take such action thereon as appears to him desirable.

I am, &c.,

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

SYDNEY OLIVIER, Secretary.

Westminster Chambers, 13 Victoria Street,
London S.W., 5th January, 1915.

SIR,—

I am directed by the High Commissioner to inform you that authority has now been received from the New Zealand Government to recommence, under certain conditions, the shipment of cattle, sheep, and pigs from this country to the Dominion, and to enclose herewith copy of a circular letter setting forth those conditions, which is being sent by the Veterinary Officer attached to this Department to shipping firms and others interested in the matter.

I am, &c.,

C. WRAY PALLISER,
Secretary to the Department.

The Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4 Whitehall Place, S.W.

Westminster Chambers, 13 Victoria Street,
London S.W., 4th January, 1915.

DEAR SIR(S),—

Shipment of Live-stock to New Zealand.

In continuation of my circular letters of the 17th and 19th October last on the above subject, I now beg to inform you that authority has been received from the New Zealand Government permitting the shipment to the Dominion of cattle, sheep, and pigs under the following conditions:—

(1.) For one month from the date of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease no shipments may be made: this restriction not to apply to Scotland as long as no cases occur in that country.

(2.) After one month from the date of the last outbreak, cattle, sheep, or pigs may be shipped to New Zealand at London, Liverpool, or Glasgow from any part of the country, except from within a radius of fifty miles round the seat of an outbreak: this restriction to apply for a period of six months from the date of the outbreak.

(3.) At present the fodder accompanying live-stock (including horses) to New Zealand must be the produce of some county where no outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease has occurred for six months prior to date of shipment, must be sent *direct* from such county to the ship's side, not passing through any city warehouse, and a sworn declaration as to its origin must be provided.

This regulation regarding fodder may be relaxed when a period of six months elapses without any outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease occurring in this country.

I am, &c.,

F.R.C.V.S.,
Veterinary Officer.

RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY COLONIAL GOVERNMENTS ON THE IMPORTATION OF CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE OWING TO OUTBREAKS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Canada.—Animals must come from a "district" which has been free from foot-and-mouth disease, &c., during the preceding six months. The importation of animals is usually prohibited until three months after the date of any outbreak.

Australia.—Animals must not have been within fifteen miles of any place where foot-and-mouth disease has occurred during the six months preceding shipment. Importation was prohibited from the 17th July, 1912, to the 10th February, 1913, but special importation could be made by the State Governments with the approval of the Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Customs. No special restrictions have since been imposed.

South Africa.—Animals must not come from premises within fifteen miles of any place where foot-and-mouth disease has occurred during the preceding six months. (Importation has not been prohibited since December, 1912.)

East Africa Protectorate.—Animals must come from a district free from foot-and-mouth disease. No period of freedom indicated. The importation of sheep and swine was prohibited in 1912, but cattle were allowed to be exported after being isolated for a month at the Board's Laboratory. These restrictions were withdrawn in August, 1913, and none has been imposed since.

New Zealand.—Importation is prohibited for one month from the date of any outbreak, Scotland being regarded as a separate country. Animals may then be exported from any part of Great Britain except from places within a radius of fifty miles from premises where an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease has occurred during the preceding six months.

No other colony or possession imposes restrictions on account of foot-and-mouth disease in Great Britain.

No. 11.

New Zealand, No. 204.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 21st April, 1915.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch, No. 19, of the 1st February, giving the names of the Trade Representatives of the Dominion in foreign countries.

2. In reply to the inquiry referred to in the second paragraph of your despatch, I have to state for the information of your Ministers that it will be sufficient if a notification is made at the beginning of each year of any changes in existing appointments or new appointments made during the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 12.

New Zealand, No. 205.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 21st April, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 316, of the 22nd August, 1913, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your

Ministers, a copy of an Order of His Majesty in Council entitled the Seal Fisheries (Norfolk Island) Order in Council, 1915.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

At the Court at Windsor Castle, the 13th day of April, 1915. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty, Lord President, Lord Stamfordham, Sir Frederick Ponsonby.

WHEREAS by section 3 of the Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Act, 1912, all persons were prohibited from using any port within the United Kingdom for purposes of pelagic sealing contrary to any Order in Council made under the Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Acts, 1895 and 1912:

And whereas by section 4 of the Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Act, 1912, the importation of the skins of seals captured in contravention of any such Order as last aforesaid was prohibited:

And whereas by section 5 (1) of the said Act it was enacted that His Majesty might, by Order in Council, extend the provisions of the two hereinbefore-recited sections to any part of His Majesty's Dominions outside the United Kingdom, subject to such modifications and adaptations as might appear to him to be necessary:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf by the Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Act, 1912, in His Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order and it is hereby ordered as follows:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Seal Fisheries (Norfolk Island) Order in Council, 1915.

2. From and after the commencement of this Order sections 3 and 4 of the seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Act, 1912, shall apply to Norfolk Island, subject to the following modifications and adaptations, that is to say,—

(i.) For the words "The United Kingdom," in section 3 (1) of the said Act, there shall be deemed to be substituted the words "Norfolk Island."

(ii.) In section 3 (2) of the said Act, for the words "The Secretary of State," wherever those words occur, there shall be deemed to be substituted the words "The Administrator," and for the words "The Board of Trade or any officer of the Board" the words "any officer of Customs."

(iii.) At the end of section 3 (2) there shall be deemed to be added the words "or any law or Ordinance in force in Norfolk Island relating to navigation or shipping."

(iv.) In section 4 of the said Act there shall be deemed to be substituted for the words "be deemed to be included in the table of prohibitions and restrictions contained in section 42 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876, and that section shall apply accordingly," the words "be prohibited to be imported into Norfolk Island, and, if so imported, shall be forfeited to His Majesty, and any person directly or indirectly concerned in such importation shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds."

3. This Order shall come into operation on such date as may be fixed by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

No. 13.

New Zealand, No. 216.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 23rd April, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the following Acts of the Imperial Parliament:—

5 George V, Chapter 25: Army (Annual) Act, 1915.

5 George V, Chapter 26: Army (Amendment) Act, 1915.

5 George V, Chapter 23: Army (Suspension of Sentences) Act, 1915.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 14.

New Zealand, No. 219.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 23rd April, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 577, of the 18th December last, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the following Acts of the Imperial Parliament:—

- 5 George V, Chapter 22: Universities and Colleges (Emergency Powers) Act, 1915.
 5 George V, Chapter 24: Injuries in War (Compensation) Act, 1915.
 5 George V, Chapter 27: National Insurance (Part II Amendment) Act, 1915.
 5 George V, Chapter 29: National Insurance (Part I Amendment) Act, 1915.
 5 George V, Chapter 32: Irish Police (Naval and Military Service) Act, 1915.
 5 George V, Chapter 35: Naval Marriages Act, 1915.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
 G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 15.

New Zealand, No. 220.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 27th April, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying copy of an Order of His Majesty in Council appointing the Hon. Sir J. Rose Innes, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union of South Africa, to be a member of the Privy Council.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
 G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 3rd day of February, 1915. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

This day the Hon. Sir James Rose Innes, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union of South Africa, was, by His Majesty's command, appointed a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

No. 16.

New Zealand, No. 221.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 28th April, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 138, of the 19th March, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Legal Proceedings against Enemies Act, 1915 (5 George V, Chapter 36), of the Imperial Parliament.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
 G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 17.

New Zealand, No. 226.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 29th April, 1915.

With reference to Your Excellency's despatch, No. 39, of the 3rd March last, I have the honour to forward, for the information of your Ministers,

copy of a letter from the Meteorological Office on the subject of meteorological returns from the Cook Islands.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

SIR,— Meteorological Office, South Kensington, London S.W., 23rd April, 1915.

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 16607, of the 20th April, covering a copy of a despatch which has been received from the Governor of New Zealand.

I am glad to learn that the Meteorological Branch of the Marine Department of the New Zealand Government has rainfall returns from four stations in the Cook Islands. I shall be happy to receive copies of these returns.

Our general policy with regard to colonies which are responsible for the upkeep of their own meteorological stations is to transfer to the local authorities any instruments which may have been lent to them under a former regime. The instruments on the list enclosed herewith are in charge of Mr. F. Mathews, Lloyd's agent, Rarotonga, and I am glad to be able to place them at the disposal of the Marine Department of the New Zealand Government as a nucleus for the formation of a meteorological station.

I am communicating with Mr. Mathews with reference to this transfer.

I am &c.,

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, S.W.

W. N. SHAW.

LIST OF INSTRUMENTS IN THE CARE OF LLOYD'S AGENT, RAROTONGA, COOK ISLANDS.

Transferred from the Meteorological Office, South Kensington, to the Marine Department of the New Zealand Government as from 23rd April, 1915:—

- One barometer, Adie, B.T. 773.
- One thermometer, Negretti and Zambra, B.T. 4890 (?).
- One maximum thermometer, N. and Z. M.O. 1630.
- One minimum thermometer, N. and Z. M.O. 1634.
- One rain-gauge, Pastorelli and Rapkin, M.O. 374.
- One glass measure, M.O. 1404.

No. 18.

New Zealand, No. 227.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 30th April, 1915.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the usual number of bound copies of the statutes passed in the session of 1914 of the Imperial Parliament which are supplied for the use of your Government have been transmitted to you by book-post.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 19.

New Zealand.—Honours.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 12th May, 1915.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch, No. 47, of the 16th March, notifying the death on the 26th February of the Hon. Edward Richardson, C.M.G.

2. This intelligence, which has been received with regret, has been noted in the records of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 20.

New Zealand, No. 261.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 20th May, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 131, of the 19th March, I have the honour to request that you will inform your Ministers that the King's Exequatur empowering Mr. A. A. Winslow to act as Consul-General for the United States at Auckland received His Majesty's signature on the 26th April.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

The Officer Administering the Government of New Zealand.

No. 21.

New Zealand, No. 280.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 27th May, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 135, of the 3rd April, 1914, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that the Governments of the Republics of Guatemala and Paraguay have deposited at Rome their ratifications of the Universal Postal Convention signed at Rome on the 6th May, 1906, and of the final protocol and regulations.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 22.

New Zealand, No. 281.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 27th May, 1915.

In confirmation of my telegram of the 27th instant, I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that His Majesty has been pleased this day to entrust to my care, as one of the Principal Secretaries of State, the Seals of the Colonial Department.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering the Government of the
Dominion of New Zealand.

No. 23.

New Zealand, No. 287.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 3rd June, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 299, of the 25th August, 1911, I have the honour to state that I should be glad if Your Excellency would forward to me, for communication to the Governments of the other self-governing Dominions, fifty copies of the New Zealand Act No. 70 of 1913, relating to workmen's compensation.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 24.

New Zealand, No. 296.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 8th June, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the following Acts of Parliament:—

(a.) Copyright (British Museum) Act, 1915: 5 and 6 George V; Chapter 38.

(b.) Statutory Companies (Redeemable Stock) Act, 1915: 5 and 6 George V; Chapter 44.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 25.

New Zealand, No. 297.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 8th June, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Imperial Acts noted below:—

Fugitive Offenders (Protected States) Act, 1915.

Immature Spirits (Restriction) Act, 1915.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 26.

New Zealand, No. 300.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 10th June, 1915.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that I have laid your telegram of the 3rd June before His Majesty the King, who was pleased to command me to express his thanks to you and to your Government and the people of New Zealand for the loyal message of congratulations on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 27.

New Zealand, No. 311.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 11th June, 1915.

With reference to your predecessor's telegram of the 14th February, 1912, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Marriage of British Subjects (Facilities) Act, 1915 (5 and 6 George V, cap. 40), which has now received the Royal assent.

2. It may be convenient if I summarize briefly the history of this Act. Under the previously existing law no notice could be given in the United Kingdom in respect of a marriage to be celebrated in any Dominion or colony, and conversely a notice given or the publication of any banns in any of the oversea Dominions could not be accepted in the United Kingdom as authority for the celebration of a marriage in this country.

3. A proposal for increasing the facilities for marriage when one of the parties to the intended marriage resides in the United Kingdom and the other in one of the oversea Dominions was put forward in April, 1907, by the Registrar-General, and in June, 1907, Lord Elgin forwarded to the self-governing Dominions and the Australian States Governments a memorandum and draft Bill on the subject. The result of the replies received, as summarized in the memorandum on page 211 of Cd.5273 (two copies of which are enclosed), showed that some difficulty was felt in certain cases in accepting the Bill, the

A.—1, 1915,
No. 35.

Commonwealth of Australia being opposed to it on the constitutional ground that it purported to legislate with regard to marriages in Australia, while in other cases it was considered that no further facilities were necessary.

4. Subsequently, however, a revised draft Bill (see page 219 of Cd.5273) was prepared to meet the constitutional objection by providing for its application by Order in Council to any part of His Majesty's Dominions which might pass similar legislation, and as no objection was taken to this Bill by the self-governing Dominions it was submitted to the ecclesiastical authorities in this country, and also to the Secretary for Scotland, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Secretary of State for India.

5. The subsequent delay which has occurred in passing the Bill has been due chiefly to the fact that certain amendments were found necessary to meet the special circumstances of Scotland and Ireland. These difficulties were not settled till October last; but the Act as now passed meets with the concurrence of all authorities in the United Kingdom who are interested in the matter.

6. I should be glad to be informed of the passing of any legislation which will enable an Order in Council to be issued under the Act declaring that section 1 shall apply to New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

MARRIAGE OF BRITISH SUBJECTS (FACILITIES) ACT, 1915.

Chapter 40.

AN ACT to facilitate Marriages between British Subjects resident in the United Kingdom and British Subjects resident in other Parts of His Majesty's Dominions or in British Protectorates. [19th May, 1915.]

BE IT ENACTED by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. (1.) Where His Majesty is satisfied that the law in force in any part of His Majesty's Dominions outside the United Kingdom makes due provision for the publication of banns or for the giving of notice in respect of marriages between British subjects intended to be solemnized or contracted in the United Kingdom, and for the recognition of certificates for marriage issued by Superintendent Registrars in England, and of certificates for marriage issued by Registrars, and certificates of proclamation of banns, in Scotland, and of certificates for marriage issued by Registrars in Ireland, as sufficient notice in respect of marriages between British subjects intended to be solemnized or contracted in that part of His Majesty's Dominions, His Majesty may by Order in Council declare that this section shall apply to that part of his dominions, and in such case—

(a.) Where a marriage is intended to be solemnized or contracted in the United Kingdom between a British subject resident in England, Scotland, or Ireland and a British subject resident in that part of His Majesty's Dominions, a certificate of the publication of bans or a certificate of notice of marriage issued in accordance with such law shall in England have the same effect as a certificate for marriage issued by a Superintendent Registrar, and in Scotland and Ireland have the same effect as a certificate for marriage issued by a Registrar in Scotland and Ireland respectively; and

(b.) Where a marriage is intended to be solemnized or contracted in that part of His Majesty's Dominions between a British subject resident in that part and a British subject resident in England, Scotland, or Ireland, a certificate for marriage may be issued in England by a Superintendent Registrar, or in Scotland or Ireland by a Registrar, in the like manner as if the marriage was to be solemnized or contracted under circumstances requiring the issue of such a certificate, and as if both such British subjects were resident in England, Scotland, or Ireland, as the case may be.

(2.) For the purposes of this section the expression "certificate for marriage" in reference to certificates issued in Scotland shall mean a certificate of due publication of notice of intention to marry.

(3.) Nothing in this Act shall affect the existing law or practice relating to the proclamation of banns in Scotland or the issue of certificates of such proclamation.

2. His Majesty may by Order in Council extend this Act to any British protectorate, and on the making of any such Order this Act shall, subject to the provisions of the Order, have effect as if the protectorate were part of His Majesty's Dominions.

3. This Act may be cited as the Marriage of British Subjects (Facilities) Act, 1915.

No. 28.

New Zealand, No. 314.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 16th June, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Ministers, the paper noted below on the subject of the health insurance of seamen.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering the Government of New Zealand.

Date.	Description.
10th June, 1915	From the National Health Insurance Commission (England).

Enclosure.

National Health Insurance Commission (England).

Buckingham Gate, London S.W., 10th June, 1915.

SIR,—

With reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo (22583/1915), transmitting a copy of a despatch, No. 64, from the Governor of New Zealand, I am directed by the National Health Insurance Commission (England) to state that the letter addressed to you on the 26th January last under reference 34741/12 related only to the postponement of the proposed scheme for the collection of the employers' contributions due under the National Insurance Acts in respect of seamen who neither are domiciled nor have places of residence in the United Kingdom or who hold certificates of exemption.

The Commissioners do not desire that the sale of health-insurance stamps for the payment of contributions in respect of seamen who are required to be insured should be discontinued, and they will be obliged if the Governor of New Zealand may be informed accordingly.

I have, &c.,

J. G. BELL.

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, S.W.

No. 29.

New Zealand, No. 329.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 21st June, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying copy of a document notifying that the Right Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, G.C.M.G., Judge of the High Court of Australia, has been sworn of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.**Enclosure.**

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 10th day of June, 1915. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Thus day the Right Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, G.C.M.G., Judge of the High Court of Australia, having been appointed a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council on the 24th day of January, 1901, was, by His Majesty's command, sworn, and took his place at the Board accordingly.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

No. 30.

New Zealand, No. 330.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 21st June, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, a copy of an official handbook of sailing directions and general information concerning the Panama Canal.

2. I understand that the Executive Secretary of the Panama Canal is willing to supply further copies of this handbook to Government Departments and officials in the British Dominions, and to keep a record of their addresses for the supply to them of regulations, circulars, and other printed matter which may be issued in the future.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 31.

New Zealand, No. 340.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, 26th June, 1915.

A. 1, 1915,
No. 21.

I have the honour to request Your Excellency to be good enough to inform your Ministers that the United States Government has extended to British self-governing Dominions an invitation to send representatives to the International Congress of Education to be held at Oakland, California, from the 16th to 27th August next, in connection with the Panama Pacific International Exposition.

2. The representatives would act as honorary vice-presidents, and take part in the proceedings, of the Congress.

3. I enclose, for the information of your Ministers, the preliminary programme of the Congress, which is also being communicated to the High Commissioner, in case he should think fit to inform your Government by telegraph.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 32.

New Zealand, No. 351.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 30th June, 1915.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's telegram of the 23rd June, and to inform you that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales desires that his thanks may be conveyed to yourself and to the Government and people of New Zealand for the congratulations contained therein on the occasion of his birthday.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 33.

New Zealand, No. 362.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 5th July, 1915.

A.-1, 1915,
No. 31.

With reference to Your Excellency's despatch, No. 183, of the 21st October, 1914, regarding Article 10 of the Foreign Marriages Order in Council, 1913, I have the honour to state that I should be glad if your Ministers would consider whether arrangements could not be made for the notices of marriage to be given to, and certificates issued by, the Registrars of Marriages, in order to complete the arrangements which are being made for a system embracing the whole Empire.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 34.

New Zealand, No. 372.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 8th July, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 543, of the 1st December last, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to draw your Ministers' attention to Circular No. 73 of the International Bureau of the Telegraph Union, dated 25th April, 1915, distributing statistics of radio-telegraphy for the year 1913, and asking to be furnished with similar statistics for the year 1914.

2. The Postmaster-General has decided that statistics relating to the United Kingdom for the year 1914 shall not be furnished to the International Bureau, and it is suggested for the consideration of your Ministers that your Government should adopt a similar course.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 35.

New Zealand, No. 377.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 8th July, 1915.

With reference to Your Excellency's despatch, No. 51, of the 2nd April, 1914, regarding the proposed extension to British ports of the arrangements, made for foreign ports, to ensure that alterations in the lascar agreements of foreign ships shall be certified by British officers, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, to be laid before your Ministers, copy of the revised draft stipulation which will in future be added to the agreement.

I shall be glad if your Ministers will take steps for the issue of the necessary instructions in the matter.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

REVISED DRAFT STIPULATION.

"I hereby further agree that in case before arrival at, or after arrival at and before departure from, any port of call I shall make any new engagement or there shall occur any discharge, transfer, leaving-behind, desertion, or death of any lascar or other native seamen under this agreement, I will (if the same shall not have been previously reported) report such engagement, discharge, transfer, leaving-behind, desertion, or death to the officer next hereinafter mentioned—that is to say, in the case of a foreign port, the British Consular Officer at such port; and in the case of a port in the United Kingdom or in any British Dominion, colony, or possession, the Lascar Transfer Officer, or, if there is no such officer, the Superintendent, or, in the absence of a Superintendent, the Chief Customs Officer thereat; and in the case of a port in a British protectorate or a port in the Malay States, North Borneo, or Sarawak, the Chief Customs or Port Officer thereat; and in the case of a new engagement will attend before such officer and (by endorsement hereon, or addition hereto, or otherwise as may be convenient) in his presence enter into an agreement with the lascar or other native seaman engaged in the same form as this agreement; and in the case of a discharge, transfer, leaving-behind, desertion, or death will present this agreement to such officer for the purpose of his certifying by a memorandum thereon that such discharge, transfer, leaving-behind, desertion, or death has taken place; and in the case of a discharge, transfer, or leaving-behind that the same was authorized or unavoidable; and will pay to such officer in respect thereof the fee or fees prescribed in this behalf by the Consular Fees (Amendment) Order in Council, 1910, or by or in pursuance of any other order or law for the time being in force, or, if the certifying officer is not a Consular Officer, the same fee or fees (unless it is otherwise provided by any rule or enactment locally in force) as would have been payable under such order or law, as the case may be, if he had been such an officer."

No. 36.

New Zealand.—Miscellaneous.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 14th July, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch of the 19th April, 1913, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a certificate of the amount standing to the credit of your Government in the books of the Crown Agents for the Colonies on the 31st March, 1915, and a return showing the variation during the quarter ended on that date in the cash balances and securities held in trust on behalf of your Government.

These statements have been prepared by the Crown Agents and verified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General, whose certificate is appended.

It will not be necessary for you to reply specially to this despatch unless the particulars shown in the Agents' statements should differ from the accounts which they have sent direct to the colony. In case of any discrepancy, it is indispensable that an immediate advice showing the details of the differences should be sent to me.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering the Government of New Zealand.

No. 37.

New Zealand, No. 390.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 15th July, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the following Acts of the Imperial Parliament:—

5 and 6 George V, Chapter 54: Munitions of War Act, 1915.

5 and 6 George V, Chapter 55: War Loan Act, 1915.

5 and 6 George V, Chapter 56: War Loan (Trustees) Act, 1915.

5 and 6 George V, Chapter 58: Army (Amendment) No. 2 Act, 1915.

2. I have also to enclose copies of the Supplement to the *London Gazette* of the 13th July, which contains a Proclamation by the King under the Munitions of War Act, 1915.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 38.

New Zealand, No. 391.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 17th July, 1915.

I have the honour to request Your Excellency to draw your Ministers' attention to Circular No. 4180/213, dated 18th September, 1914, from the Director of the International Bureau of the Postal Union, asking to be furnished with various statistical returns for the year 1914.

2. In normal circumstances these statistics are furnished annually to the Bureau, but the Postmaster-General has decided not to proceed with the compilation of statistics for last year, and it is suggested for the consideration of your Ministers that your Government should adopt a similar course.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 39.

New Zealand, No. 400.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 23rd July, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 157, of the 13th April, 1914, I have the honour to state, for the information of Your Excellency's

Ministers, that the ratifications of the Additional Convention of the 30th March, 1914, to the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Reciprocal Establishment between the United Kingdom and Switzerland were duly exchanged on the 12th July.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 40.

New Zealand.—Miscellaneous.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 24th July, 1915.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have intimated that His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer the Royal Naval Reserve Officers' Decoration upon Senior Engineer Alfred D. Varian, R.N.R., who is at present serving in the New Zealand Training Ship "Amokura." A.-1, 1915,
No. 33.

2. As there is no likelihood of the officer being in this country at an early date, the Lords Commissioners have requested that you will be so good as to present the decoration, which is enclosed herewith, to Mr. Varian in a formal manner when an opportunity offers, and that you will obtain his receipt for transmission to them through this office in due course.

3. I shall be glad if you can conveniently arrange to give effect to their Lordships' wishes.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 41.

New Zealand, No. 414.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 31st July, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 43, of the 29th January last, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of a notice issued by the Board of Trade respecting a change in the sight-tests used in the examination of candidates for certificates of competency as master or mate in the mercantile marine.

2. Copies of the notice have been sent by the Board to the authorities responsible for the examination of masters and mates in New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

SIGHT TESTS IN MERCANTILE MARINE AND FISHING SERVICE.

THE Board of Trade have decided to discontinue the use of the wool test in the examination of candidates in the sight tests on and after the 1st January, 1916.

Marine Department, Board of Trade, June, 1915.

ERNEST G. MOGGRIDGE,
Assistant Secretary.

No. 42.

New Zealand, No. 425.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 5th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 467, of the 22nd October, 1914, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your

Ministers that the adhesion of Uruguay to the International Conventions of Brussels for the Unification of the Regulations for Collisions, Assistance, and Salvage at Sea was notified to the Belgian Government on the 24th July, and will come into effect one month after that date.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 43.

New Zealand, No. 432.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 9th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 57, of the 31st January, 1913, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that Vice-Admiral William L. Grant, C.B., has been selected to succeed Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas H. M. Jerram, K.C.B., as Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the China Station, the appointment dating from the 28th July, 1915.

2. Vice-Admiral Grant will very shortly leave England, and will take over the command of the China Station on his arrival at Singapore.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 44.

New Zealand, No. 436.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 10th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's telegram of the 5th March last, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Convention between the United Kingdom and the Netherlands renewing for a further period of five years the Arbitration Convention of the 15th February, 1905, which was signed at London on the 25th March last and ratified on the 12th July.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 45.

New Zealand, No. 437.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 10th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 280, of the 30th November, 1910, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, to be laid before your Ministers, copies of the new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Honduras, the ratifications of which were exchanged on the 21st June.

2. I shall be glad to learn whether it is desired that notice of adhesion to the treaty should be given in respect of New Zealand, as provided for under Article XXII.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 46.

New Zealand, No. 440.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 11th August, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 400, of the 23rd July, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Convention additional to the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Reciprocal Establishment between the United Kingdom and Switzerland of the 6th September, 1855, which was signed at London on the 30th March, 1914.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 47.

New Zealand, No. 442.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 12th August, 1915.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch, No. 120, of the 25th June, notifying the appointment to the Legislative Council of New Zealand of Sir Walter Clarke Buchanan and the Hon. John Andrew Millar.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 48.

New Zealand, No. 446.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 12th August, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 419, of the 5th August, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1914, of the Union of South Africa.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 49.

New Zealand, No. 452.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 17th August, 1915.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch, No. 121, of the 26th June, enclosing copies of your Speech at the opening of the first session of the Nineteenth Parliament of New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 50.

New Zealand, No. 457.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 19th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 133, of the 19th March last, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency copies of revised regulations respecting foreign orders and medals.

2. It will be observed that the regulations previously in force have been modified in order to allow of permission being granted in certain circumstances for the wearing of decorations and medals conferred in recognition of Red Cross services.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

A.—REGULATIONS RESPECTING FOREIGN ORDERS AND MEDALS APPLICABLE TO PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE CROWN.

Orders.

1. It is the King's wish that no subject of His Majesty in the service of the Crown shall accept and wear the insignia of any foreign order without having previously obtained His Majesty's permission to do so, signified either (a) by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual, or (b) by private permission conveyed through His Majesty's Private Secretary.

2. Permission given by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual will enable the insignia of the foreign order to be worn at all times and without any restriction. Private permission will only enable the insignia to be worn on the occasions specified in the terms of the letter from the King's Private Secretary conveying the Royal sanction.

3. Full and unrestricted permission by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual is contemplated in the following cases: For a decoration conferred—On an officer in His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces lent to a foreign Government; on an officer in His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces attached by his Government to a foreign navy or army during hostilities; or on any British official lent to a foreign Government and not in receipt of any emoluments from British public funds during the period of such loan.

In the case of decorations awarded in recognition of services under the Red Cross, permission will only be granted where such services have been rendered in a war in which the Empire has itself been engaged, and by persons serving under one of the officially recognized British voluntary aid societies or under similar societies of Allied States duly recognized by the Governments of those States.

4. Private or restricted permission is contemplated for decorations which have been conferred in recognition of personal attention to the head of a foreign State, and which are therefore of a more or less complimentary character, and will, as a rule, only be given on exceptional occasions when in the public interest and for political reasons it is deemed expedient that the acceptance of a foreign decoration should not be declined. Private permission will generally be given in the following cases: For a decoration conferred—

- (1.) On British Ambassadors or Ministers abroad when the King pays a State visit to the country to which they are accredited. (NOTE.—A State visit is defined as one on which the King is accompanied by a Minister or a high official in attendance.)
- (2.) On members of deputations of British regiments to foreign heads of States.
- (3.) On members of special missions when the King is represented at a foreign coronation, wedding, or funeral; or on any diplomatic representative when specially accredited to represent His Majesty on such occasions, and such members of his staff who actually attend the ceremonies in their official capacity.
- (4.) On Naval and Military attachés only after completion of five years' service at the post to which they are appointed in that capacity.

5. Private or restricted permission will *not* be given to—

- (1.) British Ambassadors or Ministers abroad when leaving.
- (2.) Members of British missions announcing the accession of a Sovereign.
- (3.) British officers attending foreign manœuvres.
- (4.) Naval officers of British squadrons visiting foreign waters.

6. The desire of the head of a foreign State to confer upon a British subject in the service of the Crown the insignia of an order must be notified to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs either through the British diplomatic representative accredited to the head of the foreign State, or through his diplomatic representative at the Court of St. James.

7. When His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall have taken the King's pleasure on any such application, and shall have obtained His Majesty's permission for the person in whose favour it has been made to wear the insignia of a foreign order, he shall signify the same to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, in order that he may cause a Warrant, if it be a case for the issue of a Warrant as defined in Rule 2, to be prepared for the Royal Sign-manual.

When such Warrant shall have been signed by the King, a notification thereof shall be inserted in the *Gazette* stating the service for which the foreign order has been conferred.

Persons in whose favour such Warrants are issued will be required to pay to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department a stamp duty of 10s.

8. The Warrant signifying His Majesty's permission may, at the request and at the expense of the person who has obtained it, be registered in the College of Arms. Every such Warrant as aforesaid shall contain a clause providing that His Majesty's license and permission does not authorize the assumption of any style, appellation, rank, precedence, or privilege appertaining to a Knight Bachelor of His Majesty's Realms.

9. When a British subject in the service of the Crown has received the Royal permission, full or private, to accept and wear the decoration of a foreign order, he will not be allowed to accept and wear the decoration of a higher class of the same order without His Majesty's approval, which will only be given if the higher honour is being conferred in circumstances contemplated by these regulations.

Medals.

10. Medals which constitute a particular class of a foreign order are subject in all respects to the regulations in the same manner as higher grades of the order, except that permission to wear will be given by letter and not by Royal Warrant.

11. The King's unrestricted permission to accept and wear a foreign medal will only be given in the case of a foreign medal conferred by the head or Government of a foreign State for saving or attempting to save life at sea or on land.

In the case of medals for Red Cross services, permission will only be granted subject to the fulfilment of the conditions laid down in Rule 3 above.

12. The King's unrestricted permission to accept and wear a foreign war medal will only be given to (1) officers of His Majesty's Military or Naval Forces if serving with a foreign army or navy with His Majesty's license, and (2) Military or Naval Attachés or other officers officially attached to foreign armies or navies during hostilities.

13. In exceptional cases, when for special reasons it is deemed expedient that the acceptance of the medal should not be declined, His Majesty will grant restricted permission. Such cases will be judged on their merits, and the circumstances in which the medal may be worn will be specified in the letter conveying His Majesty's permission.

14. The term "person in the service of the Crown" includes persons in receipt of a salary or pension from public funds, or holding a Royal Commission in any part of His Majesty's Dominions, protectorates, or possessions.

15. Ladies are subject to the regulations in all respects in the same manner as men.
Foreign Office, 12th July, 1915.

B.—REGULATIONS RESPECTING FOREIGN ORDERS AND MEDALS APPLICABLE TO PERSONS NOT IN THE SERVICE OF THE CROWN.

Orders.

1. It is the King's wish that no subject of His Majesty shall wear the insignia of any foreign order without having previously obtained His Majesty's permission to do so, signified either (a) by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual, or (b) by private permission conveyed through His Majesty's Private Secretary.

2. Permission given by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual will enable the insignia of the foreign order to be worn at all times and without any restriction. Private permission will only enable the insignia to be worn on the occasions specified in the terms of the letter from the King's Private Secretary conveying the Royal sanction.

3. The full and unrestricted permission by Warrant under the Royal Sign-manual is designed to meet cases where the decoration may be said to have been earned by some valuable services rendered to the head of the State conferring it or to the State itself. Application will be made to His Majesty for full permission by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on behalf of any person who, not being at the time in the service of the Crown, is either in the salaried employment of a foreign State or has rendered valuable services within the period of two years immediately preceding the notification of the decoration to His Majesty's Government as prescribed under Rule 5.

The expression "valuable services" must be construed as meaning some service rendered to a foreign head of State or Government specifically, and must be indisputably valuable in the strict sense of the word. Though such services need not necessarily be gratuitous, as in the case of a person actually in the employ of a foreign Government, they must be unconnected with any transaction of a commercial or financial character brought about in the ordinary course of business. The term "valuable services" does not therefore, as a general rule, apply to services connected with the fulfilment of Government or municipal contracts, the financing of Government or municipal loans. It also does not include the presentation of objects of value to public museums and institutions, pecuniary donations or endowments, personal performances, services in connection with exhibitions and industrial congresses, services in the domain of art, literature, science, education, and agriculture, services rendered by British subjects in the capacity of honorary foreign consular officers.

Red Cross services will only be regarded as "valuable" for the purposes of these regulations when they have been rendered in a war in which the Empire has itself been engaged, and by persons serving under one of the officially recognized British voluntary aid societies or under similar societies of Allied States duly recognized by the Governments of those States.

4. Private or restricted permission is contemplated for decorations which have been conferred in recognition of personal attention to the head of a foreign State or member of a reigning House, and which are therefore of a more or less complimentary character. Private permission is as a rule only given on exceptional occasions, when in the public interest and for political reasons it is deemed expedient that the acceptance of a foreign decoration should not be declined.

5. Both in the case of full and in that of private permission the matter will be submitted to the King by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The desire of the head of a foreign State to confer upon a British subject the insignia of an order, or the fact that he has done so, must be notified to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs either through the British diplomatic representative accredited to the head of the foreign State or through the diplomatic representative of the latter at the Court of St. James. His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall be under no obligation to consider claims that are not brought to his notice through one of these channels.

6. When His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall have taken the King's pleasure on any such application, and shall have obtained His Majesty's permission for the person in whose favour it has been made to wear the insignia of a foreign order, he shall signify the same to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, in order that he may cause a Warrant, if it be a case for the issue of a Warrant as defined in Rule 2, to be prepared for the Royal Sign-manual.

When such Warrant shall have been signed by the King a notification thereof shall be inserted in the *Gazette* stating the service for which the foreign order has been conferred.

Persons in whose favour such Warrants are issued will be required to pay to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department a stamp duty of 10s.

7. The Warrant signifying His Majesty's permission may, at the request and at the expense of the person who has obtained it, be registered in the College of Arms. Every such Warrant as aforesaid shall contain a clause providing that His Majesty's license and permission does not authorize the assumption of any style, appellation, rank, precedence, or privilege appertaining to a Knight Bachelor of His Majesty's Realms.

8. When a British subject has received the Royal permission, full or private, to accept and wear the decoration of a foreign order, he will not be allowed to accept the decoration of a higher class of the same order without His Majesty's approval. His Majesty will in such cases grant permission only if the promotion in the order is conferred for fresh services which come within these regulations.

9. These regulations apply only to orders of chivalry. Decorations conferred by private societies and decorations of a purely academic nature, and all decorations not being orders of chivalry, may be accepted without His Majesty's permission, but must not be worn.

Exception is made in the case of a few foreign orders which, though not in strictness orders of chivalry, yet are of such a high distinction that, for the purpose of these regulations, they are to be considered and treated as orders of chivalry.

10. Ladies are subject to the regulations in all respects in the same manner as men.

Medals.

11. Medals which constitute a particular class of a foreign order are subject in all respects to the regulations in the same manner as higher grades of the order, except that permission to wear will be given by letter and not by Royal Warrant.

12. Medals for saving or attempting to save life at sea or on land conferred on behalf of the head or Government of a foreign State may be accepted without His Majesty's special permission, and may be worn at Court.

In the case of medals for Red Cross services, permission will only be granted subject to the fulfilment of the conditions laid down in Rule 3, paragraph 3, above.

13. Medals conferred by private societies or institutions and commemorative medals may be accepted without permission, but none of these medals can be worn.

14. The King's permission must be obtained for any other medal to be worn. No permission is needed to accept a foreign medal if it is not intended to be worn.

15. His Majesty will not grant permission to wear any foreign war medal if the person on whom it is to be or has been conferred was during the war acting in contravention of the Foreign Enlistment Act.

Foreign Office, 12th July, 1915.

No. 51.

New Zealand, No. 463.

MY LORD, --

Downing Street, 20th August, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 90, of the 5th February, enclosing copies of regulations and instructions as to applications for naturalization under the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1914, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers, in connection with the instructions marked B, that pledges were given in the course of the debates on the Act in Parliament that the fees for certificates of naturalization granted in this country to a woman who was a British subject previously to her marriage to an alien, and whose husband has died or whose marriage has been dissolved, should not in such cases exceed 5s., and a proviso to this effect was added to section 19 (1) (j) of the Imperial Act. Your Ministers may perhaps be prepared, on the ground of uniformity, to adopt a similar fee in New Zealand.

2. With regard to the instructions marked C, I understand that the Secretary of State for Home Affairs has decided, in the exercise of the discretion conferred on him by section 6 of the Act, that any applicant naturalized under the Act of 1870 who desires to obtain a certificate of naturalization in this country under the new Act should normally be required to be resident in this country. It appears to be desirable that this principle should be followed in His Majesty's oversea Dominions, and that any person applying for a new certificate under section 6 of the new Act, as adopted in the self-governing Dominions, should be resident in and should apply to the local authorities of that part of His Majesty's Dominions in which he was previously naturalized. Should he be no longer resident in that part of His Majesty's Dominions, he should apply to the local authorities of that part of His Majesty's Dominions in which he is then resident; but in that case it would be necessary for him to proceed as if he were making a first application for naturalization—*i.e.*, under section 2, and not under section 6 of the Act—with the result that in this country he would have to take the steps laid down in the instructions marked A, and not those in the instructions marked C.

I shall be glad to learn whether your Ministers concur in the above.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool.
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 52.

New Zealand, No. 495.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 6th September, 1915.

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, to be laid before your Ministers, a copy of an Order of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, entitled the Foreign Animals Order of 1915, which permits the landing at foreign-animals wharves at Avonmouth and Cardiff of cattle and sheep from certain countries, including New Zealand, for slaughter within the wharves not later than four days after landing.

2. The countries specified in the Second Schedule to the Order include countries from which the landing of animals in Great Britain would normally be prohibited on account of the risk of the introduction of disease therefrom, and the Order has been made solely as a war measure, to terminate at three months after the close of the war.

3. Animals landed under the new Order, which will come into operation on the 21st instant, will be subject to the provisions of the Foreign Animals Order of 1910, a copy of which is enclosed as varied by the new Order. The new Order contains special provisions designed to prevent the introduction of disease by means of the animals imported thereunder. These provisions require (*a*) that the animals shall be accompanied by a certificate of a veterinary surgeon to the effect that he examined the animals immediately before shipment, and that neither they nor any other animal brought to the port for shipment in the same vessel showed symptoms of cattle-plague, foot-and-mouth disease, pleuro-pneumonia, or sheep-pox; (*b*) that the animals shall be examined before landing by a Veterinary Inspector of the Board of Agriculture; (*c*) that the animals shall be slaughtered in the wharf not later than four days after their landing; and (*d*) that the master of the vessel shall keep a record of the illness and death of any animal on board, to be produced to the Veterinary Inspector. Special powers are given to the Board's Inspector to require disinfection, &c., if disease is found in any animal on board.

5. Copies of the Orders of the Board defining the limits of the foreign-animals wharves at Avonmouth and Cardiff referred to are also enclosed.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool.
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 53.

New Zealand, No. 500.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 8th September, 1915.

With reference to Your Excellency's telegram of the 17th June, I have the honour to request you to inform your Ministers that under an exceptional arrangement made to meet the present abnormal conditions parcels for His Majesty's ships in Home waters and for troops serving with the Expeditionary Forces have been redirected without charge by the General Post Office, although in ordinary circumstances the redirection of a parcel gives rise to fresh postage.

2. The Postmaster-General has now arranged that the same privilege should be extended to parcels for His Majesty's ships not in Home waters, and for troops other than those serving with the Expeditionary Forces, and that when such parcels are redirected to the United Kingdom they are to be delivered without any charge for fresh postage. The Postmaster-General will waive any claim against oversea Post Offices for the sea postage on such parcels when they are transmitted, after redirection, by packets under contract with the Imperial Post Office.

3. The benefits resulting from the foregoing arrangements would be increased, probably at little cost to the Administration concerned, if the Governments of the self-governing Dominions were to accord similar privileges of free redirection in the case of parcels for the troops and for His Majesty's ships in the Imperial services generally. I should therefore be glad if your Ministers would consider the question of adopting similar arrangements.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 54.

New Zealand, No. 517.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 20th September, 1915

With reference to my telegram of the 7th September, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, to be laid before your Ministers, a copy of a letter from the War Office respecting the conditions on which individuals and complete aviation units from the Dominions could be accepted for service with the Royal Flying Corps.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

SIR,—

War Office, London S.W., 10th September, 1915.

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge receipt of the cablegram received from the Governor-General of New Zealand, dated 19th August, 1915, and the letter received from the Agent-General for Queensland, dated 23rd idem, forwarded with your letters Nos. 38387 and 39014, of the 19th and 26th ultimo respectively: in both these communications information is asked for as to whether candidates for the Royal Flying Corps can be accepted, and on what conditions of service, pay, &c.

I am to say that the Council have given this matter their careful consideration, and are of opinion that the conditions under which candidates domiciled in the Dominions, who desire to serve in the Royal Flying Corps, can be accepted should be as follows:—

(a.) Those individuals who desire to serve as officers must hold commissions in the Forces of the Dominion to which they belong, and must have accepted liability for general service overseas with the Dominion Forces. They should also be recommended by the military authorities of the Dominion concerned as suitable for service in the Royal Flying Corps. Should any individuals be specially commissioned for service with the Royal Flying Corps it is considered that they should be commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants of Infantry.

These officers will be granted free passage to the United Kingdom, which should be provided by transport when accommodation is available. On arrival in the United Kingdom they will be required to undergo a course of instruction in aviation. If they graduate as pilots they will be posted to the Royal Flying Corps; but in the event of their proving unsuitable for the

Royal Flying Corps from their inability to graduate as military pilots, or for other reasons, they will become available for service with the contingents of their respective Dominions.

All such candidates must be between the ages of eighteen and thirty, be possessed of normal eyesight without glasses, and must satisfy a Medical Board that they do not suffer from deafness or any form of middle-ear disease; that their respiratory, circulatory, and nervous systems are normal; and that they are in other respects physically fit for general service.

(b.) Those who desire to enlist into the Royal Flying Corps should belong to one of the trades given in Appendix A attached, and should be capable of performing the trade tests therein described.

These men will be enlisted for the duration of the war, and will be granted free passage from and to the port of embarkation in their Dominion. All men should be enlisted as second-class air mechanics, pending classification on arrival in the United Kingdom.

(c.) It is thought, however, that the Governments of the Dominions might wish to raise complete aviation units, either independently or in conjunction with one another. Should this be the case, I am to say that the Army Council would gladly accept the offer of such units, in which many of the individuals under (a) and (b) would no doubt be included. Such units would take their place in the general organization as units of the Royal Flying Corps, as it would be necessary that they should come under the orders of, and be at the disposal of, the General Officer commanding that corps. In order to mark the connection of these units with the Dominions with which they were associated, arrangements would be made to give them a distinguishing designation.

At the same time I am to say that it may be found necessary in the interests of the service to post officers and men from these units to other units of the corps, and similarly to transfer to the Dominion units officers and men who have no territorial association with them. The necessity for this is due—

- (i.) To the necessity for replacing wastage with the most suitable material available:
- (ii.) To the fact that in the early stages these units will probably not have officers, or senior non-commissioned officers, of sufficient experience available for the higher appointments:
- (iii.) To the fact that it is not desirable to restrict promotion to the particular unit, and that it will probably be to the advantage of the service to select officers from these units to fill higher appointments in other units.

It is thought that the most convenient unit would be a squadron the war establishment of which and the trades required are shown in Appendices B and C attached.

The Imperial Government would undertake the entire equipment and maintenance of the units as regards material; as regards pay and personal equipment the Dominions might be disposed to assume the same responsibility as they have for their contingents of other arms. The Council are of opinion that the rates of pay should, in any case, be those now authorized for the Royal Flying Corps (*vide* Appendix D). Appropriate allowances would be issuable in addition.

As regards the training of units, the Council consider that the advanced training of pilots and the instruction of the rank and file should be carried out in the United Kingdom, where training centres already exist, and where the equipment which will be used in the field is available.

Should you concur in these proposals I am to ask that the Governments of the Dominions may be approached on the subject.

I am, &c.,

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, S.W.

B. B. CUBITT.

APPENDIX A.—SCHEDULE OF TRADES IN ROYAL FLYING CORPS, WITH TESTS OF PROFICIENCY OF CANDIDATES.

Mechanical transport drivers	..	Driving test and oral examination.
Fitters and turners—		
Fitter	..	.. Making steel hexagon shaft, then fitting same in plate filed to match. Also filing dovetailed plates to fit.
Turner	..	.. Turning shafts to gauge, limit .001", also screw-cutting square threads.
Riggers	..	.. Wire-splicing, general handiness, and intelligence.
Motor-cyclists	..	.. Riding test and oral examination.
Batmen	..	.. Suitable character references.
Carpenters	..	.. Making simple articles, such as boxes.
Instrument-repairers	..	.. Taking to pieces and refitting watches or other instruments.
Sailmakers	..	.. Patching fabric and making engine-covers, &c.
Electricians	..	.. Making diagrams of motor or other circuits and joining cables.
Cooks	..	.. Practical test.
Coppersmiths	..	.. Hammer T piece out of plate, and braze seams.
Clerks	..	.. Shorthand and typewriting, handwriting and arithmetic.
Blacksmiths	..	.. To make a butt weld, and form a T piece; make a pair of blacksmith's tongs.
Motor-car fitters	..	.. Practical work, as bedding crank-shaft.
Acetylene welders	..	.. Simple practical welding; management of plant.
Vulcanizers	..	.. Vulcanizing tubes and covers; working Harvey-Frost plant.
Photographers	..	.. Good results at Press speeds.
Tinsmiths	..	.. Make square petrol-funnel.
Motor-cycle fitters	..	.. Simple practical test.
Painters	..	.. Either signwriting or coach-painting.
Draughtsmen (mechanical)	..	.. Sectional drawing of lathe or other machine.

APPENDIX B.—A SQUADRON, ROYAL FLYING CORPS (12 AEROPLANES).

Detail.	Officers.	Warrant Officers.	Flight-Sergeants and Sergeants.	Air Mechanics.	Total.	Remarks.
<i>War Establishment.</i>						
Headquarters (excluding attached) ..	2	2	2	28	34	(a) 7 officers attached as observers.
Headquarters (attached)	7(a)	..	..	7	14	
Two flights	12	..	10	58	80	
One wireless flight	7	..	6	68	51	
Total squadron (excluding attached) ..	21	2	18	154*	195	* Comprises 16 corporals, 55 first-class and 83 second-class air mechanics.
Total squadron (including attached) ..	28	2	18	161	209	
<i>Composition in Detail.—(i.) Personnel.</i>						
Headquarters—						(b) 1 sergeant-major, 1 technical sergeant-major.
Commander	1	..	..	..	1	
Assistant Equipment Officer	1	..	..	..	1	
Warrant officers (b) .. ..	..	2	..	..	2	
Flight-sergeants .. ..	..	..	2	..	2	
Corporals .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	
Air mechanics .. ..	..	..	..	25	25	
„ Batmen .. ..	..	..	..	2	2	
Total	2	2	2	28	34	
Attached—						
Observers	7	..	..	3(c)	10	
Drivers, A.S.C. (mechanical transport)	..	..	..	4	4	
Total Headquarters (including attached)	9	2	2	35	48	
Two flights each—						
Flight Commander	1	..	..	..	1	
Flying officers	5	..	..	..	5	
Flight-sergeants and sergeants .. ..	..	..	5	..	5	
Corporals .. ..	..	..	..	4	4	
Air mechanics .. ..	..	..	..	19	19	
„ Batmen .. ..	..	..	..	6	6	
Total flight	6	..	5	29	40	
Total two flights	12	..	10	58	80	
One wireless flight—						
Flight Commander	1	..	..	..	1	
Flying officers	5	..	..	..	5	
Assistant Equipment Officer	1	..	..	..	1	
Flight-sergeants and sergeants .. ..	..	..	6(d)	..	6	(d) Includes 1 wireless operator.
Corporals .. ..	..	..	..	7(e)	7	(e) Includes 1 wireless operator.
Air mechanics .. ..	..	..	..	55(f)	55	(f) Includes 23 wireless operators and 3 instrument-repairers.
„ Batmen .. ..	..	..	..	6	6	
Total	7	..	6	68	81	

Composition in Detail.—(ii.) Transport.

Details.	Headquarters Vehicles.	Two-flights Vehicles.	Wireless Flight Vehicles.	Total Vehicles.
Lorry, wireless repair shop .. ..	..	..	1	1
Motor-cars	1	..	..	1
Light tenders	1	4	4	9
Heavy tenders	3	8	4	15
Repair lorries	1	2	1	4
Motor-bicycles	2	4	7	13
Trailers .. ..	..	6	2	8
Side-cars .. ..	..	2	6	8
Total	8	26	25	59

NOTE.—No drivers of mechanical transport are shown, except for two heavy tenders for baggage and supplies, as all air mechanics will be trained to drive the vehicles

APPENDIX C.—PROVISIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CORPORALS AND AIR MECHANICS OF A SQUADRON, R.F.C.

	Acetylene Welders.	Batmen.	Blacksmiths.*	Carpenters.	Coppersmiths.*	Clerks.	Cooks.	Drivers, M.T.	Electricians.*	Fitters and Turners.	Instrument-repairers.*	Motor-cyclists.	Operators, Wireless.	Riggers.	Sailmakers.	Storemen.	Vulcanizers.	Total.			
																		Corporals.	1st Air Mechanics.	2nd Air Mechanics.	
Establishment ..	1	11	2	6	4	2	4	29	3	24	6†	13	25	18	4	2	1	16	55	83	154
Distribution in squadron—																					
Headquarters ..	1	2	2	3	1	2	1	4	1	3	2	2	..	..	1	2||	1	..	..	..	28
“ A ” Flight ..	..	3	..	1	1	..	1	7	1†	7§	..	2	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	29
“ B ” Flight ..	..	3	..	1	1	..	1	7	1†	7§	..	2	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	29
“ C ” Flight ..	..	3	..	1	1	..	1	11	2†	7§	4	7	25	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	68

* These totals may be varied at the discretion of Wing Commanders, and additional fitters, riggers, or sailmakers employed in lieu.

† Includes one corporal with special knowledge of wireless repair work.

‡ Acts also as flight storeman.

§ Four enginemen, one spare, two flight workshop party.

|| One for stores, one for petrol, oil, &c.

APPENDIX D.—RATES OF PAY, ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Officers.

Until they graduate, after a course of aviation on arrival in the United Kingdom, they will be paid at the British rates of their arm and rank in the Dominion Forces. After graduation they will receive Royal Flying Corps rates of pay, which are as follows :

	Daily Rates.		Remarks.
	Ordinary Pay.	Flying Pay.	
Squadron Commanders ..	s. d. 25 0	s. d. 8 0	* Increasing by 2s. a day for each year of service after 30th June, 1914, as Flight Commander, up to a maximum of 23s.
Flight Commanders ..	17 0*	8 0	
Flying Officers ..	12 0†	8 0	† Increasing by 1s. a day for each year of service after 30th June, 1914, as Flying Officer of Assistant Equipment Officer, up to a maximum of 16s.
Assistant Equipment Officers ..	12 0‡	8 0	‡ Flying pay in addition, at the rate of 5s. per day, for each day of ascent.

NOTE.—Officers, other than those of the Regular Forces, who have served for a combined continuous period of four years, either in the Royal Flying Corps on full pay or in the Reserve thereof, will receive a gratuity of £150 a year for each completed year of continuous full-pay flying service.

Warrant Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men.

	Ordinary Rates.
	s. d.
Warrant officers ..	9 0
Flight-sergeants ..	7 0
Sergeants ..	6 0
Corporals ..	5 0
First-class air mechanics ..	4 0
Second-class air mechanics ..	2 0

Warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who are first-class pilots receive, in addition, 4s. a day flying pay ; if second-class pilots, 2s. a day.

No. 55.

New Zealand.—Miscellaneous.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 30th September, 1915.

With reference to Your Excellency's despatch, No. 151, of the 14th August, I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve of the retention of the title of "Honourable" by Mr. Robert Heaton Rhodes, who has served for more than three years as a Member of the Executive Council of New Zealand.

2. A notification to this effect will be published in the *London Gazette*.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 56.

New Zealand, No. 565.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 19th October, 1915.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that I have duly laid your despatch, No. 173, of the 2nd September, before His Majesty the King, who commands me to request you to convey to the House of Representatives and to the Legislative Council an expression of his gratification at the terms of the resolutions passed on the anniversary of the declaration of war.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 57.

New Zealand, No. 581.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 26th October, 1915.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch, No. 476, of the 27th October, 1914, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of a notice issued by the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament with regard to nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize for 1916.

2. I should be glad if your Ministers would cause the conditions of the prize to be made known to those bodies and persons who are qualified to nominate candidates.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.

ALL proposals of candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize, which is to be distributed 10th December, 1916, must, in order to be taken into consideration, be laid before the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament by a duly qualified person before the 1st February of the same year.

Any one of the following persons is held to be duly qualified: (a) Members and late members of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, as well as the advisers appointed at the Norwegian Nobel Institute; (b) members of Parliament and members of Government of the different States, as well as members of the Interparliamentary Union; (c) members of the Inter-

national Arbitration Court at The Hague; (d) members of the Commission of the Permanent International Peace Bureau; (e) members and Associates of the Institute of International Law; (f) university professors of political science and of law, of history, and of philosophy; and (g) persons who have received the Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Peace Prize may also be accorded to institutions or associations.

According to the Code of Statutes, section 8, the grounds upon which any proposal is made must be stated and handed in along with such papers and other documents as may therein be referred to.

According to section 3, every written work, to qualify for a prize, must have appeared in print.

For particulars qualified persons are requested to apply to the office of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, Drammensvei 19, Kristiania.

No. 58.

New Zealand.—Honours.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 27th October, 1915.

I have the honour to request that Your Excellency will be good enough to inform me whether any deaths have occurred among the Companions of the Imperial Service Order whose names are given in the enclosed list, and, if so, the date of death in each case.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

COMPANIONS OF THE IMPERIAL SERVICE ORDER.

<i>New Zealand.</i>						Appointed.
Heywood, J. B.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1905.
Collins, C.M.G., Colonel R. J.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1909.
Kensington, W. C.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1911.
Blow, H. J. H.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1911.
Tregear, E.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1911.
Robertson, D.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1912.
Strauchon, J.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1913.
Andrews, J. F.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1914.
Ronayne, T.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1914.
Mackenzie, J.	..	..	..	..	..	June, 1915.

No. 59.

New Zealand, No. 592.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 28th October, 1915.

With reference to my telegram of the 26th October, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of the Second Supplement to the *London Gazette*, of the 22nd October, containing an Order of His Majesty in Council, dated 20th October, entitled the Declaration of London Order in Council, 1915.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF FRIDAY, THE 22ND OCTOBER, 1915.

Monday, 25th October, 1915.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 20th day of October, 1915. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by the Declaration of London Order in Council No. 2, 1914, His Majesty was pleased to declare that during the present hostilities the provisions of the said Declaration of London should, subject to certain exceptions and modifications therein specified, be adopted and put in

force by His Majesty's Government; and whereas by Article 57 of the said Declaration it is provided that the neutral or enemy character of a vessel is determined by the flag which she is entitled to fly; and whereas it is no longer expedient to adopt the said article:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after this date Article 57 of the Declaration of London shall cease to be adopted and put in force.

In lieu of the said article British Prize Courts shall apply the rules and principles formerly observed in such Courts.

This Order may be cited as the Declaration of London Order in Council, 1915.

And the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and each of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the President of the Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Division of the High Court of Justice, all other Judges of His Majesty's Prize Courts, and all Governors, officers, and authorities whom it may concern are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

J. C. LEDLIE.

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