

Controller, and the Local Government Board (or as respects Scotland the Secretary for Scotland, and as respects Ireland the Local Government Board for Ireland) may, by arrangement with the Food Controller, confer and impose on any local authorities and their officers any powers and duties in connection with the enforcement of the said regulations numbered 2F and 2G.

“(2) Nothing in the regulations numbered 2G and 2H shall prevent the exercise by the Food Controller of any of his powers in relation to any article under these regulations or otherwise, without having obtained or endeavoured to obtain returns under Regulation 2G or having held an inquiry under Regulation 2H.

“(3) Any order of the Food Controller under the said regulations numbered 2F and 2G may be revoked or varied as occasion requires.

“(4) It is hereby declared that in the regulations numbered 2F, 2G, 2H, and 2J, the expression “article” includes animals, live or dead; but this provision shall not be construed so as to limit the general interpretation of that expression.

“2J.—(1) The Board of Trade shall have the like powers as are given to the Food Controller under Articles 2F to 2J inclusive as respects any article of commerce to which the powers of the Food Controller under those regulations do not extend, where it appears to the Board necessary or expedient to exercise any of those powers for the purpose of encouraging or maintaining the supply of any such article which is required by the public or by any section of the public, and those regulations shall apply accordingly.

“(2) Any order made by the Board of Trade under Regulations 2F or 2G before the first day of January nineteen hundred and seventeen shall continue in force and have effect as though it had been made by the Food Controller under these regulations, and as if the Food Controller was substituted therein for the Board of Trade.”

2. The following sub-section shall be added at the end of Regulation 2L—

“(8) This regulation shall apply to Ireland, subject to the following modifications:—

(i) The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland shall be substituted for the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries;

(ii) Subsections (4) and (7) and the references to common land shall not apply;

(iii) The following paragraph shall be inserted in Subsection (1) after paragraph (a):—

“(aa) without any consent, if the land is comprised in a holding to which Regulation 2F applies, and it appears to the Department that the occupier has not before the twenty-fifth day of March nineteen hundred and seventeen, taken the necessary steps to comply with the requirements of that regulation or is not after that date proceeding in compliance with those requirements; and”

(iv.) Where the poor rate is made in respect of a half rent under Section sixty-three

of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1838, instead of upon the occupier of the land, the land shall not on that account be deemed to be unoccupied.”

3. After Regulation 2L the following regulations shall be inserted:—

“2M.—(1) Where the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, after such consultation with the Food Controller as may be arranged, are of opinion that, with a view to maintaining the food supply of the country, it is expedient that they should exercise the powers given to them under this regulation, the Board may—

(a) enter on and take possession of any land which in their opinion is not being so cultivated as to increase, as far as practicable, the food supply of the country, and, after entry thereon, do all things necessary or desirable for the cultivation of the land or for adapting it for cultivation; and for such purposes enter on and take possession of any buildings on the land or convenient for such purposes; and

(b) take possession of any machinery or implements of husbandry or farm produce or stock on the land, or which, in the opinion of the Board, are required for its cultivation; and

(c) provide housing accommodation for persons employed for any such purposes by taking possession of any land or unoccupied premises; and

(d) utilise any water supply or motive power for any such purposes; and

(e) by notice served on the occupier of any land require him to cultivate the land in accordance with such requirements as the Board may think necessary or desirable for maintaining the food supply of the country and may prescribe in the notice.

“(2) An occupier of land may, with a view to maintaining the food supply of the country, submit to the Board a scheme for the cultivation of the land in a manner not consistent with the contract of tenancy of the land, and the Board, if satisfied that the adoption of the scheme is necessary or desirable for the maintenance of the food supply, may direct that the land shall be cultivated in accordance with the scheme, subject to any modification which the Board may think fit to make therein.

“(3) An occupier of land on whom a notice is served or to whom a direction is given by the Board under the preceding provisions who negligently or wilfully fails to cultivate the land therein referred to in accordance with the requirements of the notice or direction, shall be guilty of a summary offence against these regulations.

“(4) If the Board at any time withdraw from possession of any land of which possession has been taken under this regulation, they may recover from the person then entitled to resume occupation of the land such amount as represents the value to him of all acts of cultivation or adaptation for cultivation executed by the Board; such amount to be determined, in default of agreement, by a single arbitrator under and in accordance with the provisions of the Second Schedule to the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1908.

“(5) Any person authorised by the Board in that behalf may, for the purposes of this