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TUESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, 1917.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIZE COURT IN SIAM.

*Foreign Office,
14th September, 1917.*

His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received from His Majesty's Minister at Bangkok the following text of a Law, dated July 20th last, which has been brought into force by a Royal Siamese Proclamation, dated July 22nd last:—

Whereas it is expedient to provide for the establishment of a Prize Court.

Be it enacted as follows:—

Article 1.—This decree shall be known as the Prize Court Law 2460, prize being defined as ships or goods captured *jure belli* by the maritime force of a belligerent at sea or seized in port. It shall come into force from the date of proclamation thereof.

Article 2.—In addition to the High Court of Justice already established there shall also be established a Prize Court having full jurisdiction throughout the territories of His Majesty to take cognisance of and judicially proceed in all

matters of prize, including special captures, namely, conjoint captures with an ally, captures arising out of land expeditions, joint captures, or captures by the officers and crew of a ship other than a ship of war, and also including prize salvage and prize bounty.

Such Court shall decide the legality of the capture and pronounce a decree of condemnation, detention, restitution or restoration subject to payment of prize salvage, or otherwise, of ships or goods taken as prize, in accordance with the Law of Nations and the decrees, rules and regulations for the time being in force in that behalf.

Article 3.—All ships or goods captured as prize by any of His Majesty's ships of war, or captured in ports or harbours of the realm, or captured by a ship other than a ship of war, belong, at the moment of capture, to His Majesty as *droits* and *perquisites* in his office of admiralty.

Article 4.—A ship or goods taken by any of His Majesty's ships of war as prize is entirely dependent on His Majesty's pleasure, and any prize money which may be granted to the officers and crew of the Navy for the capture of any ship or goods shall be so granted by a