

on which the traffic is to be carried, the ports at which cargo is to be loaded or discharged or passengers embarked or disembarked (including directions requiring ships to proceed to specified ports for the purpose of loading or unloading cargo or embarking or disembarking passengers), the ports at which consignees of cargo are to take delivery thereof, and other matters affecting shipping where it appears to the department necessary or expedient to make any such order for the purpose of making shipping available for the needs of the country in such manner as to make the best use thereof having regard to the circumstances of the time or for providing and maintaining an efficient supply of shipping.

(2) The Board of Trade or any other Government Department approved as aforesaid may where it appears to the department necessary or expedient for such purposes as aforesaid, by order, requisition or require to be placed at the disposal of the department, in order that they may be used in the manner best suited for the needs of the country any ships or any cargo space or passenger accommodation in any ships, or any rights under any charter, freight engagement or similar contract affecting any ship, and require ships so requisitioned to be delivered to the department or to any person or persons named by the department at such times and at such places as the department may require.

(3) Any order made under this regulation affecting any ship may be served on the owner of the ship, and shall be deemed to be sufficiently served if sent by registered post addressed to the managing owner or other person to whom the management of the ship is entrusted by or on behalf of the owner at his registered address.

(4) Any order under this regulation may be made either so as to apply generally to all ships or to apply to ships belonging to any particular owner, or to ships of any class or description, or so as to apply to any specified ship, and if the fulfilment by any person of any contract is interfered with by the necessity on the part of himself or any other person of complying with any such order that necessity shall be a good defence to any action or proceedings taken against that person in respect of the non-fulfilment of the contract so far as it is due to that interference.

(5) If the owner, master, or other person in charge of a ship, or any other person affected by an order under this regulation acts in contravention of or fails to comply with any provisions of the order, or aids or abets any other person, whether or not such other person is in Great Britain, in doing anything which if done in Great Britain would be a contravention of any such provisions, he shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

(6) Where before the date of these regulations any ship or any cargo space or passenger accommodation in any ship or any rights under any charter, freight engagement, or similar contract affecting any ship has been requisitioned by the Shipping Controller or the Board of Trade, this regulation shall, after that date, apply as if the same had been requisitioned in pursuance of this regulation.

Priority in Transport.

10. Without prejudice to any other powers possessed by him, whether under these regulations or otherwise, the Minister of Transport

may by order regulate the priority in which passengers or goods are to be carried by railway, light railway, tramway, or canal; and if any person acts in contravention of or fails to comply with the provisions of any such order he shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

Clearances and Unloading of Ships.

11.—(1) The clearance of any ship whether to ports beyond the seas or coastwise may be refused except under such conditions as the Commissioners of Customs and Excise may allow and any clearance granted may be withdrawn.

(2) Subject to the general directions of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, the collector or other chief officer of Customs at any port or place in the United Kingdom may prohibit the unloading of any goods or any class of goods from ships, or from any particular ship, in that port or place; and if any goods are unloaded from any ship in contravention of such prohibition, any person unloading the same shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

Prohibition of Export.

12. The Board of Trade may by order prohibit, except under such conditions as their licence may allow, the shipment of any goods for exportation or carriage coastwise whether as merchandise or as ship's stores, and if any goods are shipped or brought to a quay or other place or waterborne for shipment in contravention of such prohibition, the shipper thereof or his agent shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

Coal Mines.

13.—(1) The Board of Trade may take possession, or if already in possession may retain possession, and may from time to time as may be deemed expedient, relinquish and resume possession of:—

(a) All or any coal mines, collieries and colliery buildings and property, including plant, machinery, equipment, stores and rolling stock, for the time being used, or intended to be or usually used, for the purposes of the production, treatment, or manufacture of coal;

(b) All or any buildings and property for the time being used, or intended to be or usually used or which may be deemed requisite for the purposes of the storage, distribution, supply and disposal of coal;

(c) All or any railway wagons (not being wagons belonging to any railway company) for the time being used, or intended to be or usually used, for the purposes of transport of coal;

(d) Any stocks of coal, wheresoever situate and by whomsoever held;

(e) Any plant, machinery, vehicles or articles which may be deemed requisite for the purposes of maintaining the supply and distribution of coal.

(2) The Board of Trade may give directions:—

(a) As to the management and user of any coal mine or any property of which possession may be taken as aforesaid;

(b) As to the production, manufacture, treatment, transport, storage, distribution, supply, disposal and use of any coal;