

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 498.

With reference to Government Notification No. 265 of the 28th June, 1897, the following Circular Despatch, with its enclosure, is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 6th September, 1899.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNSING STREET,
17th July, 1899.

SIR,

With reference to my Circular despatch of the 17th May, 1897, I have the honour to transmit to you, for publication in the Colony under your government, copies of a Memorandum issued by the Board of Agriculture, containing information as to the conditions prescribed by the Board in connection with the importation of dogs into Great Britain with a view to the prevention of the re-introduction of rabies into this country.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

IMPORTATION OF DOGS INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

Memorandum as to the conditions which have been prescribed in order to prevent the introduction of Rabies.

1. The disease of rabies in dogs and of hydrophobia in man, which remains prevalent in almost all other parts of the world, has become practically extinct in this country, but as it may remain latent in a dog for a very long period, it has become necessary, in the interests of owners of dogs in this country, to adopt precautions against the re-introduction of the disease by means of dogs which may, unknown to their owners, have become infected whilst in a foreign country.
2. The Importation of Dogs Orders, therefore, prohibit the introduction of dogs into Great Britain from any foreign country or British Possession, other than the Channel Islands, without the sanction of the Board of Agriculture; and the landing of a dog from abroad (whether originally exported from Great Britain or not) will, unless a licence has previously been obtained, render the owner liable to a penalty of £20 and the possible seizure of the dog.
3. Every person wishing to introduce a dog into Great Britain must, before the dog is embarked, obtain a licence permitting the landing of the dog on arrival; and the attention of owners, charterers, and masters of vessels carrying dogs is drawn to the fact that, by permitting the landing of such dogs from their vessels without the requisite licences, they render themselves liable to legal proceedings.
4. Every application for a licence for landing a dog should be made in writing, on a form which will be supplied to *bonâ fide* applicants. It must be signed by the owner of the dog, or by his agent specially authorised in writing for the purpose, and should be sent to *The Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.*, in sufficient time to enable the Board to make full inquiries into the circumstances of the application, and the suitability of the proposed premises for the isolation of the dog, and to communicate to the owner their decision before the embarkation of the dog is to take place.
5. In order that the Board may have it on record that the conditions on which alone a licence can be issued are fully known by the owner of the dog (or the person, if other than the owner, in whose charge it is to be detained), the signature of the owner or of the proposed custodian of the dog is to be subscribed to the undertaking printed on the back of the form of application. The signature of an agent cannot, in any case, be accepted as sufficient, unless he is prepared personally to undertake the charge of the dog during the whole period of detention.

6. In very exceptional cases, the Board are prepared to entertain applications made by telegram, on the following conditions:—

- (a.) The telegram must set forth the description of the dog, stating as far as possible for purposes of identification the particulars of its breed, sex, age and colour, and the place where it is proposed that the animal should be detained.
- (b.) The place of detention must be the residence of a householder, or other responsible resident of long standing, in Great Britain, who is prepared to detain the dog on the premises for not less than ninety days in accordance with the conditions of the licence; and the full name and address of the person must be given so as to enable the Board, before the licence is issued, to place themselves in communication with him to ascertain whether he is in a position to fulfil the requisite conditions.
- (c.) An address must also be named in the telegram to which the Board can send the licence if issued, or otherwise communicate their decision to the applicant. This should be some place in the country of embarkation, as shipowners cannot properly permit the embarkation of any dog on board their vessels for importation into this country unless the dog is accompanied by the requisite licence.
- (d.) The telegram should contain the undertaking of the owner to carry out the conditions imposed.

7. The conditions imposed in the licence require the detention of the dog for a period of six months on some suitable private premises to be specified by the owner, and approved by the Board, where the dog will be under the supervision of the officers of the Board and of the Local Authority, for whose inspection it should be produced, if required. But if the general conditions imposed are properly carried out, the Board are prepared, on the production of a certificate of a duly qualified veterinary surgeon that the dog is not affected with, or suspected of, rabies, to consider applications for the release of the dog after a period of detention of ninety days. Dogs which have been recently purchased from foreign dealers or of which the antecedents are unknown, will be subjected to special restrictions and a longer period of detention.

8. The owner's private place of residence is regarded in most instances as a suitable place of detention.

9. Hotels, barracks, or other similar premises where the dog cannot be conveniently isolated, are not regarded by the Board as suitable places of detention.

10. On arrival at a port in Great Britain and before the dog can be landed, the holder of the licence is required to produce it for the inspection of the officer of Her Majesty's Customs, who is empowered and directed to mark it with the name of the port, the date of landing, and his initials, as a verification of the legality of the landing.

11. The dog must be taken as soon as it is landed, by the nearest available route, and without unnecessary delay, to the premises specified in the licence.

12. In the case, however, of dogs landed late in the day, and where the place of detention is several hours' journey from the port, the Board do not object to the journey of the dog from one place to the other being broken by its detention at some suitable place for one night only, provided that it is kept absolutely apart from all other dogs, and that the journey is resumed the next day and completed with all reasonable dispatch.

13. In every case the licence should accompany the dog on its journey, and be retained by the person in charge until it is required to be returned to the Board.

14. It should be clearly understood that the dog cannot in any case be moved from the place of detention, either to other premises or to a vessel for exportation out of the United Kingdom, without a further licence from the Board; but should exceptional circumstances arise which render such removal necessary or expedient, the Board are prepared to consider an application for a licence, provided that they are satisfied by the production of a certificate of a duly qualified veterinary surgeon that the dog is not affected with, or suspected of, rabies. When the proposed removal is to some other place in the United Kingdom, a suitable place must be specified where the dog can be kept for the remainder of the period of detention.

15. During the period of detention the dog, when temporarily moved for exercise or other like purpose from the place of detention, must be in charge of a competent person, and be properly muzzled with a wire cage muzzle, and this latter condition is also applicable when the dog is likely at any time to be brought into contact with other dogs.

16. Should the dog die, or be lost, the fact should be at once reported to the Board, together with full information as to the symptoms preceding death, or the circumstances under which the loss took place; and, in the event of the dog sickening with any of the symptoms of rabies, it should be at once isolated, and the advice of a veterinary surgeon obtained.

17. Licences to which special conditions are attached are issued by the Board to land *bonâ fide* performing dogs, if it can be shown that the dogs have been trained to take part in performances for the entertainment of the public, and that they are to be imported for that purpose only. In such

cases satisfactory evidence must be offered that the animals are habitually kept absolutely apart from all other dogs, whether in this country or abroad, and a place must be specified where the dogs can be examined, if thought necessary, after being landed.

18. For the convenience of persons passing through Great Britain the Board are also prepared, in special cases, to authorise the landing of dogs which are proposed to be exported within a few days. In making an application for such a licence, the ports, the names of the vessels, and the dates of arrival and departure, must be specified, and the address of some suitable place where the dog can be detained during the period that it remains in Great Britain, which must not exceed ten days. The licence in this case should be endorsed by an officer of the vessel of departure, and returned to the Board by the owner, and the dog must not be again landed in Great Britain without a further licence.

T. H. ELLIOTT,
Secretary.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,
4, WHITEHALL PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.,
February, 1899.

Copies of this Memorandum may be obtained on application to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture at the above address.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 499.

The following Particulars and Conditions of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held at the Offices of the Public Works Department, on Monday, the 25th day of September, 1899, at 3 p.m., are published for general information.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th September, 1899.

Particulars and Conditions of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on Monday, the 25th day of September, 1899, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of Two Lots of Crown Land near Hok Un, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of Her Majesty the QUEEN for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	LOCALITY.	Boundary Measurements.				Contents in Square ft.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
	Kowloon		feet.	feet.	feet.	feet.		\$	\$
1	Marine Lot 52.	Kowloon Bay, (near Hok Un),	350	359	300	386	120,050	690	} 22,640
	" " 53.	" " (")	359	350	266	342	106,400	610	

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The highest bidder above the upset price shall be the Purchaser, and if any dispute arise between two or more bidders, the Lots shall be put up again at a former bidding.

2. No person shall at any bidding advance less than \$20.

3. Immediately after the fall of the hammer, the Purchaser shall sign the Memorandum of Agreement, hereinafter contained, for completing the purchase according to these Conditions, and shall, within Three Days of the day of sale, pay into the Colonial Treasury the full amount of Premium at which the Lots shall have been purchased.

4. The Purchaser of the Lots shall also pay to the Land Officer, on behalf of Her Majesty the QUEEN, the sum of \$30 within three days of the day of sale, for and in consideration of the Boundary Stones, properly cut, fixed, and marked with the Registry Number, which shall be placed by the Director of Public Works, for the Purchaser, at each angle of each Lot.

5. The Purchaser of the Lots shall pay to the Land Officer, on behalf of Her Majesty the QUEEN, a Fee of \$15 each upon the execution of the Crown Lease thereof.

6. The Purchaser of the Lots shall reclaim the whole area and shall build and finish, fit for occupation, before the expiration of three years from the day of sale, in a good, substantial and workmanlike manner, one or more good and permanent messuage or tenement upon some part of his Lots, with walls of stone or brick and lime-mortar and roof of tiles or such other materials as may be