

24. The War Risks Insurance Office is open for public business from 11 to 4 o'clock ; on Saturdays from 11 to 1 o'clock.

By order of the Committee.

DOUGLAS OWEN,  
*Chairman.*

CANNON STREET HOTEL,  
LONDON, E.C.,  
25th August, 1914.

ENCLOSURE 2.

BOARD OF TRADE,  
(MARINE DEPARTMENT),  
7, WHITEHALL GARDENS,  
LONDON, S.W.,  
1st September, 1914.

SIR,—With reference to previous correspondence respecting the Government War Risks Insurance Scheme, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state, for the information of Mr. Secretary Harcourt, that the insurance rates both for cargo and for ships have to-day been altered as follows:—The rate for cargo has been reduced from three guineas per cent. to two guineas per cent. In the case of ships the rate for a voyage has been reduced from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. to 1 per cent., the rate for a round voyage has been reduced from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. to 2 per cent., and the rate for a time policy for three months has been reduced from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. to 2 per cent. In addition it has been decided that a ballast voyage not exceeding 800 miles in length may be treated as forming part of the following voyage without additional premium.

I have, &c.,

C. HIPWOOD.

*The Under-Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.*

No. 518.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,  
10th November, 1914.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for your information, copies of two notices which have been issued by the Foreign Office: (a) in regard to the arrangements which have been made for the reciprocal exchange of British and Austro-Hungarian civilian subjects detained in Austria-Hungary and the United Kingdom respectively; (b) in regard to the transmission of money and letters to individuals abroad.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

*The Officer Administering the Government of  
HONGKONG.*

#### BRITISH SUBJECTS IN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

##### *Arrangements for Exchange.*

Arrangements have been made for the reciprocal exchange of British and Austro-Hungarian subjects (civilians) at present detained in Austria-Hungary and the United Kingdom respectively.

The Austro-Hungarian Government agree to facilitate the departure from Austria-Hungary of the following classes of British subjects :—

1. Women and children.
2. Males outside the limits of military age, *i.e.*, those under 18 or over 50.
3. Males of military age who are clearly unsuited for military service or unlikely to serve, such as physicians, surgeons, clergymen, priests, and the medically unfit.

*Foreign Office,*  
*October 8, 1914.*

#### MEMORANDUM AS TO TRANSMISSION OF MONEY AND LETTERS ABROAD.

The Foreign Office is unable to undertake any responsibility for the forwarding of money, letters, or messages to individual persons abroad.

Payments of money to British subjects who are detained in an enemy country and unable to return to His Majesty's Dominions do not constitute an infringement of the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation, but it may be found necessary to forward such remittances through a neutral country.

It is suggested that it may be found possible to forward the money through Messrs. Cook and Son or one of the principal banks.

Private letters to Germany and Austria-Hungary through neutral countries are now allowed to be forwarded subject to the usual conditions of censorship. Letters cannot, however, be forwarded direct to Germany or Austria-Hungary. British subjects and others wishing to communicate with friends in enemy countries must forward their letters through an agency in a neutral country, and correspondents may select their own private agency. Letters should not, however, be sent through British or Foreign Embassies, Legations, or Consulates in neutral countries. Messrs. Cook and Son have, it is understood, expressed their willingness to arrange for the transmission of such letters, and applications for information as to the necessary stamps, &c., should be made to them.

Letters intended for transmission to enemy countries should be as brief as possible, should contain nothing but personal matter, and should, if possible, be written in the German language.

The address of Messrs. Cook and Son's head office is Ludgate Circus, E.C.

It should be noted that the Foreign Office, in making the above suggestions, cannot guarantee the safe delivery of either money or letters.

*Foreign Office,*  
*November 1914.*

#### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

**No. 519.**—It is hereby notified that the following societies have been exempted by the Governor-in-Council from registration under the Societies Ordinance, 1911, (Ordinance No. 47 of 1911), and their names are hereby added to the List of Exempted Societies, published in Government Notification No. 159 of 1914, under the following headings :—

Sport (*Non-Chinese*).

"Roberts" Rifle Club of Hongkong.

Trade Guilds and Societies (*Chinese*).

The Society for the Study of Photography (照像美術研究所).

Social (*Chinese*).

Hing Kee (慶記).

*17th December, 1914.*