

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 374.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,

16th July, 1915.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that it has been brought to my notice that since the outbreak of war officers holding appointments in the Colonial Service have, in several instances, tendered their resignation of their appointments without previous enquiry as to whether they could be permitted to do so, and have even refused to return to their duties after it had been made clear to them that the exigencies of the public service made it impossible that their resignations should be accepted.

2. I have reasons to believe that some members of the Colonial Service hold the view that it is open to servants of the Crown to tender their resignations and relinquish their appointments whenever it may suit their convenience to do so. Such views are entirely erroneous. No servant of the Crown is at liberty to resign his appointment except by permission of the Crown, and this should be clearly understood by every member of the Colonial Service.

3. I recognise that such resignations as have been tendered since the outbreak of hostilities by officers without first obtaining permission to do so have usually been prompted by a patriotic wish to serve the Empire in some capacity directly connected with the war. It is not, however, for the individual officer to decide in what capacity he can best serve His Majesty the King. As, moreover, such conduct, far from assisting, may cause most serious detriment to, the public service, especially at such a time as the present, I am compelled to regard it as a grave dereliction of duty which cannot be excused.

4. In his circular despatch of 31st August, 1914, my predecessor informed you of the liberal conditions as to pay which were to be granted here to Civil Servants joining the colours, and I am well aware of the readiness which you have shown to allow every officer who could possibly be spared to join His Majesty's Forces. I am confident that you will maintain the same attitude; but the administration cannot be allowed to fall into confusion through lack of officers to carry on the work that is absolutely necessary in the public interest.

5. It must, therefore, be understood that, should any member of the Colonial Service hereafter resign his post without permission, he will be treated as absent from duty without leave, and will be gazetted as dismissed from the service, with the result that he will be debarred from further employment under the Crown in any capacity, civil or military.

6. I request that you will cause this despatch to be published in the Colony under your government.

I have, &c.,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

PROCLAMATIONS.

No. 26.

[L.S.] FRANCIS HENRY MAY,
Governor.

By His Excellency Sir FRANCIS HENRY MAY Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies and Vice-Admiral of the same:

Whereas by the second section of the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1862 as amended by the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1914 it is enacted that it shall be lawful for the Governor by and with the advice of the Executive Council by

proclamation to prohibit for such period as may be therein mentioned to be exported from the Colony of Hongkong arms ammunition and gunpowder military and naval stores and any articles which the Governor may judge capable of being converted into or made useful in increasing the quantity of military or naval stores provisions or any sort of victual which may be used as food by man or any or either of such arms ammunition gunpowder stores goods or articles respectively :

And whereas by the third section of the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1862 as enacted by the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1914 it is provided that it shall be lawful for the Governor by and with the advice of the Executive Council by proclamation to prohibit for such period as may be therein mentioned the exportation of all or any of the following articles namely arms ammunition military and naval stores and any articles which the Governor shall judge capable of being converted into or made useful in increasing the quantity of arms ammunition or military or naval stores to any country or place therein named whenever the Governor by and with the advice aforesaid shall judge such prohibition to be expedient in order to prevent such arms ammunition or military or naval stores being used against His Majesty's subjects or forces or against any forces engaged or which may be engaged in military or naval operations in co-operation with His Majesty's forces :

And whereas by the fourth section of the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1862 as renumbered by the Military Stores (Exportation) Ordinance 1914 it is enacted that the Governor may whilst any such proclamation is in force permit to be exported or to be water-borne to be so exported any particular articles or class of articles the export of which is prohibited by such proclamation to such persons and on such terms and subject to such conditions and regulations if any as to the Governor may seem fit and may at any time revoke or vary the terms of any such permission :

And whereas by sub-clause (9) of clause III of the order of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria-in-Council made on the 26th day of October 1896 as amended by the order of His Majesty-in-Council made on the 28th day of August 1914 it is enacted that the Governor may prohibit the export from the Colony of any article :

And whereas by a proclamation dated the 1st day of April 1915 the exportation of certain articles therein referred to from the Colony was prohibited to certain or all destinations :

And whereas by proclamations dated the 21st day of April the 14th day of May the 4th day of June the 11th day of June and the 23rd day of July 1915 the said proclamation of the 1st April 1915 was amended as therein respectively stated :

And whereas it is expedient that the said proclamation of the 1st April 1915 should be further amended :

And whereas the articles other than arms ammunition or military or naval stores hereinafter enumerated are articles which I with the advice aforesaid judge capable of being converted into or made useful in increasing the quantity of arms ammunition or military or naval stores :

And whereas in order to prevent such arms ammunition or military or naval stores being used against His Majesty's subjects or forces or against any forces engaged or which may be engaged in military or naval operations in co-operation with His Majesty's forces I with the advice aforesaid have deemed it expedient to prohibit the exportation of the articles hereinafter enumerated :

Now therefore I Sir FRANCIS HENRY MAY Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies and Vice-Admiral of the same by and with the advice of the Executive Council of this Colony and in virtue and exercise of the aforesaid powers do by this Proclamation declare and it is hereby declared that the above-mentioned proclamation of the 1st April 1915 so amended as aforesaid be and the same is hereby further amended as follows :—

- (1.) That the following headings be added to the list of goods the exportation of which is prohibited to all destinations other than the United Kingdom and British Possessions and Protectorates :—

Bone ash.

Capsicum and oleo-resin of capsicum.

Chemicals, drugs, etc., *viz.*:—

Caffeine and its salts.

Paraldehyde.

Theobromine-Sodium Salicylate.

Coal (including anthracite and steam, gas, household and all other kinds of coal) and coke.

Guanos.

Phosphates of metals, manufactured.

Phosphate rock, *viz.*:—

Apatites.

Phosphates of lime and alumina.

Phosphides.

Phosphoric acids and oxides.

Steel containing tungsten or molybdenum or both, and any tools or other articles made from such steel.

- (2.) That paragraph (4) in the said proclamation of the 23rd July 1915 be revoked.
- (3.) That the heading "Rubber (including raw, waste, and reclaimed rubber, solutions containing rubber, jellies containing rubber, or any other preparations containing rubber) and goods made wholly of rubber; including tyres for motor vehicles and for cycles, together with articles or materials especially adapted for use in the manufacture or repair of tyres" in the list of goods the exportation of which is prohibited to all destinations other than the United Kingdom and British Possessions and Protectorates should be deemed to include balata and gutta-percha and the following varieties of rubber, *viz.*:—"Borneo, Guayule, Jelutong, Palembang, Pontianac, and all other substances containing caoutchouc"; and that the words "goods made wholly or partly of rubber" be substituted for the words "goods made wholly of rubber" in the aforesaid heading.
- (4.) That the heading "rosin" in the list of goods the exportation of which is prohibited to all foreign ports in Europe and on the Mediterranean and Black Seas, other than those of France, Russia (except Baltic ports), Spain and Portugal, be deleted.
- (5.) That the exportation of the following goods be prohibited to all foreign ports in Europe and on the Mediterranean and Black Seas, other than those of France, Russia (except Baltic ports), Spain and Portugal:—
 - Cotton yarn and thread.
 - Gums, resins, balsams, and resinous substances of all kinds, except such as contain caoutchouc (the export of substances containing caoutchouc being prohibited to all destinations other than the United Kingdom and British Possessions and Protectorates).
 - Hair, animal, of all kinds; and tops, noils and yarns of animal hair.
- (6.) That the exportation of the following goods be prohibited to ports in Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden:—
 - Terneplates.
- (7.) That the exportation of "tin-plates, including tin boxes and tin canisters for food packing" which is prohibited to ports in Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden, be prohibited also to ports in Norway.
- (8.) That the exportation of the following goods be prohibited to Spain:—
 - All vegetable oils.
 - All oleaginous nuts, seeds, kernels and products.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony at Victoria Hongkong this 20th day of August 1915.

By Command,

A. M. THOMSON,
Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING.