

person of any potassium compounds to which the Order of the Minister of Munitions dated the 17th October 1917 relates, provided that the compounds so purchased are used wholly by the purchaser for direct and immediate application as a fertiliser to the flax crop in Ireland and to no other crop, and provided that they are purchased from or through an Agent prescribed for that purpose by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

2. As from the date hereof until further notice he hereby licenses the purchase by any person of any potassium compounds to which the said Order relates, in quantities not exceeding in weight an aggregate of three tons during any one calendar month, provided that the compounds so purchased are used wholly by the purchaser for direct and immediate application to the ground as a fertiliser.

A. S. ESSLEMONT.

Ministry of Munitions,

February 8, 1918.

NOTICE OF GENERAL LICENCE FOR PURCHASE OF BLAST-FURNACE DUST FOR USE AS A FERTILISER UNDER THE ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF MUNITIONS, DATED THE 7TH AUGUST 1917.

The Controller of Potash Production gives notice as follows :—

1. As from the date hereof until 31st May 1918, he hereby licenses the purchase by any person of any blast-furnace dusts to which the Order of the Minister of Munitions, dated the 7th August 1917, relates, containing potash to an amount exceeding 13 per cent., expressed as potassium oxide (K_2O), provided that the blast-furnace dusts so purchased are used wholly by the purchaser for direct and immediate application as a fertiliser to the flax crop in Ireland and to no other crop, and provided that they are purchased from or through an Agent prescribed for that purpose by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland and licensed so to sell by the Controller of Potash Production.

2. As from the date hereof until further notice he hereby licenses the purchase by any person of any blast-furnace dusts to which the said Order relates containing potash to an amount of 13 per cent. or less, expressed as potassium oxide (K_2O), provided that the blast-furnace dusts so purchased are used wholly by the purchaser for direct and immediate application to the ground as a fertiliser, and provided they are purchased from a person licensed so to sell by the Controller of Potash Production.

A. S. ESSLEMONT.

Ministry of Munitions,

8th February 1918.

THE FLAX (IRISH ORDER) CROP, 1918.

The Minister of Munitions, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Defence of the Realm Regulations and all other powers

thereunto enabling him, hereby gives Notice and Orders as follows :—

(1) He hereby takes possession as from the 1st July 1918, of :—

All flax of 1918 crop grown in Ireland as and when harvested.

(2) The flax of which possession is hereby taken under paragraph 1 will be divided under the directions of the Director-General of Aircraft Production into six grades according to its quality, handling and cleaning, and the Minister will pay the following prices therefor :—

First Grade, 40s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Second Grade, 38s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Third Grade, 36s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Fourth Grade, 34s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Fifth Grade, 32s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Sixth Grade, 30s. per stone, delivered at the appointed centre.

Flax which is inferior in quality to that of the sixth grade hereinbefore mentioned will be taken over and paid for according to its relative value.

(3) All flax of the 1917 crop, or previous years, grown in the United Kingdom will continue to be graded and paid for in the terms of the Order dated 25th August 1917.

(4) All flax grown in the United Kingdom in 1917, or previous years, must be scutched and marketed by 1st July 1918.

(5) The Minister intends to take possession on or after 1st July 1918, of all flax of the 1917 crop, or previous years, not marketed on that date, whether scutched or not, and to pay for it in accordance with the Order dated 25th August 1917, less any expenses incurred by the Government in so doing.

(6) Growers of flax in the United Kingdom who cannot have their flax of 1917, or earlier crops, scutched and marketed by 1st July 1918, shall communicate not later than 1st May 1918, with the Administrator of the Flax Supplies Committee, 44 Chichester Street, Belfast, who will then make the necessary arrangements to provide for the scutching and marketing of such flax.

(7) Non-compliance with any part of this Order will constitute an offence against the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

(8) This Order may be cited as the Flax (Irish Crop) Order, 1918.

Admiralty, 6th February 1918.

APPOINTMENT OF BRITISH SEA FISHERY OFFICERS.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1883, appointed

Mr. Alfred Ernest Hefford,

Dr. H. W. P. Lyster Jameson,

Mr. Edward Stuart Russell,

Mr. Stephen Reynolds,

Lieut.-Commander Eric Collard, R.N.,

to act as British Sea Fishery Officers.