

it will be sufficient if a toe-batten 4 in. by 4 in. is firmly secured as an alternative to the 7-in. board, unless a cant is used for securing the stanchions, in which case the cant will suffice for the purpose of a toe-batten.

Alternatively, iron stanchions may be used subject to the provision of (a) halter rings, (b) suitable means for keeping breastrails and division boards in position, (c) suitable iron cleats cast on in front to hold breastrail and at back to form a groove for holding division boards, (d) methods of securing the head and heel to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

*Rear Stanchions* may be dispensed with except in case of (1) single row of stalls erected on middle line and in special circumstances at sides of ship, also between decks, in which case the method of securing at head and heel shall be similar to that prescribed for the front stanchions; (2) stalls erected on an exposed deck; in this case the height shall be 6 ft. 8 in. They shall be secured to the bulwark rail by means of iron clamps, and prevented from rising by means of a stop placed at the back. The heel shall be securely fastened to the deck by means similar to those used for securing the front stanchions. The spacing and dimensions, except where otherwise shown, shall correspond with the front stanchions.

*Cants* shall be made of hard wood, 6 in. by 4 in., rounded at upper edge, running the whole length of the row of stalls, and securely fastened to the deck. Holes 5 in. by 2 in. shall be cut out where necessary to allow of drainage into scuppers.

*Division Boards* shall either be four in number, measuring 9 in. by 2 in., with 2 in. crooks fitted at the ends of the lower edge of the top, second and third boards, to give that amount of clearance, or three in number, measuring 11 in. by 2 in., with chocks of sufficient size to provide a space of 6 in. between the top and the middle boards, and a space of 3 in. between the middle and bottom boards. The bottom board shall rest on the 3-in. batten. The top board shall be of hard wood. The whole shall be well planed and smoothed, and the edges of the top board well rounded off. Each set of division boards shall show the number of the stall and be lettered with the letters of the alphabet, beginning with A at the bottom.

*The Breast Rail* shall be 10 in. by 2½ in., the length to be according to width of stall, but to extend from centre to centre of stanchions. The whole shall be well planed and smoothed and upper third to be sheathed with zinc. Each end of the lower part shall be scored 1½ in. The number of the stall shall be placed on each breastrail.

*Foot Platforms.*—Every stall shall be provided with foot platforms which shall be movable and whenever possible reversible, end for end, both ends being cut around front stanchions for this purpose. All platforms shall be so fitted as to rest flat on the floor level. The platforms shall be made of three 1½-in. boards set 1 in. apart, and secured by battens the width of the stall. The foot battens, four in number, shall be of hard wood, and measure 3 in. by 3 in., with upper edges rounded off. One shall be placed 9 in. from back, one 9 in. from front, and one 12 in. on either side of centre of platform, or in such other position as will afford the most

effective foothold. The four battens shall be secured by galvanised iron screws 3½ in. by ½ in., well recessed below top of batten. Two battens 4 in. by 1 in. shall also be screwed on to underneath surface of platform 9 in. from either end, and cut through at the spaces between the boards to allow of drainage. As the size of the stalls may vary, the number of the stall shall be marked on each platform. If the horses are to stand on a wooden deck, foot platforms may be dispensed with, but battens shall be fixed to the deck in accordance with paragraph (4) of Article 5 of this Order.

*Rear Lining.*—Stalls on an exposed deck shall be close lined from the deck to the roof with 1½-in. boards nailed to the front of the rear stanchions. Stalls situated between decks, in holds, and under erections at side of ship shall be lined to a height of 5 ft. from platform with 9-in. by 1½-in. boards, nailed to suitable battens bolted to the iron frames, with a clearance of 3 in. between each board, and between the bottom board and the platform. In the case of a single row of stalls on the middle line and in special circumstances at sides of ship also between decks the lining shall consist of 2-in. boards, arranged similarly to the division boards, nailed to front of, or fitted into channel bars or cleats, between the rear stanchions. In the case of two rows of stalls back to back in the middle line between decks, stanchions 4 in. by 3 in. spaced 5 ft. apart shall be driven tightly at head and heel, and lined on both sides with 1½-in. boards spaced in same manner as for stalls at side of ship. All boards shall be planed and smoothed and upper edge of top board shall be rounded off. Wooden fillets 2 in. by 2 in. or suitable iron cleats shall be screwed on to rear lining at suitable spaces according to width of stall, to form grooves for taking the division boards, with a fixed stop screwed to lining over upper edge of top division board to keep it from rising.

*Rafters and Roofing.*—The following shall be used in the case of all stalls on open decks, except that stalls in suitable well decks may, with the approval in writing of the Ministry, be roofed with deck planks 2½ in. thick running fore and aft, close fitting and covered with weather proof material.

Rafters to carry the roof shall be 4½ in. by 3 in.; be bolted to front and back stanchions; and carried 2 ft. past front stanchions and 6 in. past rear stanchions. A 4 in. by 3 in. fore and after shall be run and bolted to upper ends of rear and front stanchions.

Roof shall be 1½ in. tongued and grooved, and same length as rafters, to which it shall be nailed. The whole shall be covered with weather proof material.

The ends of a row of stalls erected on an open deck shall be closely boarded up with 1½-in. boarding. Stalls on open decks shall be provided with suitable screens made of weather proof material and fastened from the outer edge at top of roofing to the deck cants.

Stalls on open decks shall be secured by means of such iron bars, stays, clamps, etc., as may be approved by the Ministry.

Copies of the above Order can be obtained on application to the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4 Whitehall Place, S.W. 1.