

(d) The Director-General of the Mercantile Marine.

(e) The inspector of the port captaincies.

(f) A magistrate of the legal profession having rank not inferior to that of a Counsellor of Court of Appeal.

In categories (a), (b), (c), and (f) a supplementary member will be selected.

Article 3.—A Government commissioner will initiate the proceedings in the name of the Government, and will record his opinions. A magistrate of the public ministry of a rank not inferior to a King's procurator will act as Government commissioner. In case of absence or other impediment another magistrate of the public ministry will take his place.

The Government commissioner and the supplementary commissioner when the latter is taking the former's place have no voice in the discussions, and no vote.

Article 4.—The Prize Court will be attended by a secretary, having no vote, selected from among the officials at the Admiralty, of a rank not inferior to that of commander.

The secretary will be assisted by a vice-secretary, who replaces him in case of temporary absence.

The vice-secretary will be selected from among the officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Marine, and Grace, Justice, and Worship of a rank not inferior to that of first secretary.

Article 5.—The president, the ordinary and supplementary members of the Prize Court, the Government commissioners and the supplementary commissioners, and the secretary will be appointed by decree on the recommendation of the Ministers of Marine, Foreign Affairs, and Justice.

The vice-secretary is appointed by decree of these Ministers.

Article 6.—The Prize Court will draw up, at its first sitting, rules of procedure for its future guidance. These rules will be published in the Official Gazette.

Article 7.—Five members constitute a quorum, including the president or his substitute.

The president or his substitute will have the casting vote.

Article 8.—Interested parties may present written memorials direct to the president of the Court.

Article 9.—The representatives of foreign Powers accredited to the Italian Government may address to the Government commissioner any observations which they may think advisable in the interests of their nationals.

Article 10.—The decisions of the Court will include an exposition of the grounds on which they are based (*sono motivate*). They are not subject to appeal, opposition, or revocation, except when taken to the Supreme Court of Cassation in the terms and conditions laid down in Article 3 of the law of 31st March, 1877, No. 3761 (series 2).

Article 11.—The decisions of the Prize Court will be communicated to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Marine within eight days of their pronouncement.

Article 12.*—The expenses of the secretariat and other incidental expenses for the working and service of the Prize Court will be charged to the extraordinary funds placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Marine in consequence of the international situation.

We order that the present decree sealed with the seal of State shall be inserted among the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, commanding all concerned to obey it and cause it to be obeyed.

Given at Rome, May 30, 1915.

THOMAS OF SAVOY.

(2)

(Decree of August 1, No. 1234.)

(Translation.)

Article 1.—The Prize Court established by our decree No. 807 of 30th May, 1915, is empowered to deal with all claims for compensation for losses presented against the State for matters pertaining to the exercise of the prize law during the present state of war.

The proceedings leading up to a decision by the Court in such cases shall begin by the presentation of the claim to the Ministry of Marine, and shall follow the course laid down in the rules to be drawn up for this purpose in the administrative regulations of the Prize Court.

Article 2.—The following text shall be substituted for Article 12 of our decree No. 807 of the 30th May, 1915:—

“ Article 12. The amounts of the indemnities and salaries to be paid to those constituting the Prize Court and to the secretary and vice-secretary shall be fixed by decrees of the Ministry of Marine to be registered at the Audit Office under the heading of ‘ War Expenditure,’ in the budget of the Ministry of Marine.”

Article 3.—The present decree comes into force from the 30th May, 1915, the date on which the Prize Court was established in accordance with our decree of the 30th May, 1915, No. 807.

* See amended version in (2).

(3)

Regulations laid down by the Italian Prize Court, September 13, 1915.

(Translation.)

Article 1.—The application to exercise the right of action for obtaining compensation for losses, provided for by Article 1 of the Decree of His Majesty's Lieutenant of August 1, 1915, No. 1234, must contain:

(a) The Christian and surname, or trading name, nationality and residence or domicile of the claimant.

(b) A summary of the circumstances on which the claim for compensation is based.

(c) A statement of the amount of payment claimed.

(d) The domicile elected in Rome indicating the person with whom or office where domicile has been elected.

(e) A list of the documents produced in support of the application, and a declaration of the evidence which the claimant considers necessary.