Sheep Scab

1954. No. 88.

The Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland by virtue and in exercise of the powers vested in it under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, as amended and adapted by any subsequent enactments and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, orders and it is hereby ordered as follows:—

Notification of Disease

1.—(1) Every person having or having had in his possession or under his charge a sheep, or the carcase of a sheep, affected with, or suspected of, sheep-scab shall with all practicable speed give notice of the fact of the sheep or carcase being so affected, or suspected, to a constable of the police force for the police district wherein the sheep or carcase so affected, or suspected, is or was.

(2) The constable shall forthwith give information of the receipt by him of the notice to

(i) The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, Belfast;

(ii) The Divisional Veterinary Officer for the District.

Notification of Disease by Veterinary Surgeons

2. A veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner who in his private practice examines any sheep, or the carcase of any sheep, and is of opinion that the sheep is affected with sheep scab, or was so affected when it died or was slaughtered or suspects the existence of sheep scab therein, shall with all practicable speed give notice of the existence or suspected existence of sheep scab to the Divisional Veterinary Officer for the district.

Duty of an Inspector to act immediately and serve Detention Notice if necessary

3.—(1) An Inspector, on receiving in any manner whatsoever information of the existence or supposed existence of sheep scab, or having reasonable ground to suspect the existence of sheep scab, shall proceed with all practicable speed to the place where such disease, according to the information received by him, exists, or is suspected to exist, or has within twenty-eight days existed, and shall, forthwith, serve a Detention Notice (in the Form A, set forth in the First Schedule to this Order, or to the like effect) on the owner or person in charge of any sheep which appear to the Inspector to be affected with sheep scab, or to have been so affected within twenty-eight days, or to be in the same flock, or on the same farm, field or other place with sheep affected with sheep scab, or which were so affected within twenty-eight days; and, after the service of such Notice, it shall not be lawful for any person, while such Notice is in force:—

(*a*) to remove from or out of the place of detention specified in the Notice any of the sheep therein described; or

(*b*) to move from or out of such place any other sheep that may be thereon or therein; or

(*c*) to permit any sheep to stray from or out of such place; or

(*d*) to move any other sheep into such place; or

(*e*) to permit any other sheep to come in contact with any sheep detained under the Notice; or

(*f*) to remove from or out of such place any carcase of a sheep, or any skin, fleece, or wool, separate from the carcase of a sheep, or any dung, fodder, litter, or other thing that has been in contact with sheep detained under the Notice, without the written permission of an Inspector which shall not be given until all necessary disinfection shall have been carried out to the satisfaction of such Inspector.

(2) A Detention Notice served under this Article shall remain in force until it is withdrawn by a further Notice in writing (in the form B set forth in the First Schedule to this Order or to the like effect) signed by an Inspector; but before such further Notice is served in any instance, the Ministry shall satisfy itself that all the sheep remaining in the place of detention specified in the Detention Notice are free from sheep scab, and have been thoroughly dipped as hereinafter provided; and that the place of detention has been disinfected in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

(3) An Inspector shall, with all practicable speed, send copies of any notice served by him under this Article to

(i) The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, Belfast;

(ii) The Divisional Veterinary Officer for the District;

(iii) The Police Officer in charge of the nearest police station of the District.

Treatment of Sheep detained under Detention Notice

4. Where a Detention Notice is in force the owner or person in charge of the sheep detained under the Notice or the occupier of the place on which such sheep are detained shall cause all such sheep to be thoroughly dipped in an approved "Single Dipping" type sheep dip and otherwise treated for sheep scab in the presence and to the satisfaction of an Inspector or other authorised officer.

The Inspector or other authorised officer may require the sheep to be dipped more than once.

Power to Serve Isolation Notice

5.—(1) An Inspector or other authorised officer shall serve an Isolation Notice (in the form C set forth in the First Schedule to this Order, or to the like effect) on the owner or person in

charge of any sheep believed or suspected to be affected with or to have been exposed to the infection of sheep scab and after the service of such notice it shall not be lawful for any person, until the sheep to which the Notice relates shall have been (i) thoroughly dipped as required in an approved 'Single-Dipping' type sheep dip in the presence and to the satisfaction of an Inspector or other authorised officer or (ii) examined by an Inspector and found by him to be free from sheep scab and not to have been in contact with sheep affected by sheep scab,

(*a*) to move any sheep to which the Notice relates from the place of isolation specified in the Notice unless the movement is made with the written permission of an Inspector and under the supervision of such Inspector or other authorised officers; or

(*b*) to permit such sheep to stray from or out of such place of isolation; or

(*c*) to permit such sheep to come in contact with other sheep;

Provided that where the sheep in respect of which an Isolation Notice is served, are intended for immediate slaughter, any dipping required under this Article need not be carried out, but in such case the sheep shall remain subject to the Isolation Notice until they are slaughtered.

This Article does not apply to sheep in a place of detention to which the provisions of a Detention Notice (Form A) apply.

(2) An Inspector or other authorised officer serving an Isolation Notice or giving a written permission under this Article shall, with all practicable speed, send copies of any such Notice or permission to—

(i) The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, Belfast;

(ii) The Divisional Veterinary Officer for the District;

(iii) The Police Officer in charge of the nearest Police Station in the District.

(3) For the purposes of this Article an Inspector may enter any premises and examine any sheep thereon, and such powers of entry and examination shall be in addition to any other like powers vested in the Inspector by the Act of 1894 or otherwise.

Provision of Assistance

6. The owner or person in charge of any sheep shall, at the request of an Inspector or other authorised officer provide such assistance as may be required for the collection and penning of the sheep and afford adequate facilities for the examination of the animals by an Inspector for the purposes of Articles 3 and 5 of this Order.

Prescribed manner of Cleansing and Disinfection for Sheep Scab

7.—(1) Any place in which a sheep affected with sheep scab has been kept, and all utensils, pens, hurdles and things in such place used for or about such sheep, shall, as soon as practicable, be cleansed and disinfected in the manner herein specified by and at the expense of the owner or occupier of such place, and all vehicles so used shall be cleansed and disinfected in like manner by and at the expense of the person using them or causing them to be used:—

(*a*) The floor of the place or vehicle and all other parts thereof and all litter or other thing that has been in contact with, or used by, such sheep shall be thoroughly saturated with an approved sheep dip used at the requisite strength, or with an approved disinfectant;

(*b*) The place or vehicle shall thereafter be swept out and all litter, wool and sweepings that have been in contact with such sheep shall be buried or effectively destroyed;
Provided that in the case of a field, yard, or other place which is not capable of being so cleansed and disinfected, it shall be a sufficient compliance with the provisions of this Article if all fragments of wool are collected from such field, yard or other place and destroyed by burning, and all rubbing places disinfected, and if all other parts of such field, yard, or other place are disinfected to the reasonable satisfaction of an Inspector;

(*c*) Every utensil, pen, hurdle, or other thing used for or about such sheep, shall, as soon as practicable after being so used and before being used for other sheep, be cleansed and disinfected to the satisfaction of an Inspector, by being thoroughly swabbed with an approved sheep dip used at the requisite strength or with an approved disinfectant.

(2) If any person fails to cleanse and disinfect as required by this Article, it shall be lawful for the Ministry without prejudice to any proceedings for an offence in respect of such default, to cause such place, vehicle or thing to be cleansed and disinfected, and to recover from such person summarily as a civil debt the expense of such cleansing and disinfection.

(3) Where the power of causing any place, vehicle or thing to be cleansed and disinfected under this Article is exercised by the Ministry, such person shall give all reasonable facilities for that purpose.

Precautions to be taken by persons clipping or dipping sheep on infected premises

8. Any person who clips or dips sheep on any place where there are sheep affected with or suspected of Sheep Scab shall wear overalls, and shall before he clips or dips sheep on any other premises—

(*a*) Remove all wool, dung and soil from his boots or leggings (if worn) and then disinfect them by immersion in or thorough sponging with an approved 'Single-Dipping' type sheep dip or an approved disinfectant;

(*b*) Disinfect his overalls with an approved 'Single-Dipping' type sheep dip or an approved disinfectant, and

(*c*) Remove all wool from clippers or other instruments used in clipping and then disinfect them with an approved 'Single-Dipping' type sheep dip or an approved disinfectant.

Prohibition from Exposing or Moving Sheep Affected with, or Suspected of, Sheep Scab

9. Subject to any other provisions of this Order authorising or directing the movement of sheep it shall not be lawful for any person—

(*a*) to expose a sheep affected with, or suspected of, sheep scab in a market, fair-ground, saleyard, place of exhibition, or other public or private place where sheep are commonly exposed for sale or exhibition; or

(*b*) to place such sheep in a lair or other place adjacent to or connected with a market, fair, or saleyard, or place of shipment or other place of loading for transit or where sheep are commonly placed before or after exposure for sale or exhibition or before shipment; or

(*c*) to send or carry, or cause to be sent or carried, such sheep by railway, canal, river, or inland navigation, or in a coasting vessel; or

(*d*) to carry, lead, or drive, or cause to be carried, led, or driven, such sheep on a highway, road or lane; or

(*e*) to place or keep such sheep on common or unenclosed land, or in a field insufficiently fenced, or in a field adjoining a highway, road or lane unless that field is so fenced or situate that sheep therein cannot in any manner come in contact with sheep passing along that highway, road or lane or grazing on the sides thereof; or

(*f*) to graze such sheep on pasture being on the sides of a highway, road or lane; or

(*g*) to allow such sheep to stray on a highway, road, or lane, or on the sides thereof, or on common or unenclosed land, or in a field or place insufficiently fenced.

Proceedings in case of Contravention of last preceding Article

10. Where a sheep is exposed or otherwise dealt with in contravention of the last preceding Article, an Inspector or other authorised officer, shall seize and remove and detain it, and also, where the sheep is exposed in a market, fair, saleyard, place of