ORDER IN COUNCIL (No. 26) RELATING TO PICRIC ACID, PICRATES AND MIXTURES OF PICRIC ACID WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES.

## 1926 No. 823

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 28th day of June, 1926.

## PRESENT.

The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas by Section one hundred and four of the Explosives Act, 38 & 39 Vict. 1875, it is enacted that His Majesty may, by Order in Council, declare c. 17. that any substance which appears to His Majesty to be specially dangerous to life and property shall be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act:

And whereas, by Section fifty of the said Act, it is enacted that His Majesty may exempt from any provision of the said Act any explosive prescribed by Order in Council:

And whereas the provisions of Section one of the Rules Publication 56 & 57 Vict. Act, 1893, have been complied with:

Now, therefore, His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order and declare, and be it ordered and declared, as follows:--

1. Picric acid when in process of manufacture shall (for whatever purpose used or manufactured) be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act, subject to the following exception:—

When the picric acid is mixed with not less than half its own weight of moisture in every process of manufacture, it shall not be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act.

- 2. Picric acid when kept, conveyed, imported or sold, shall (for whatever purpose used or manufactured) be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act, subject to the following exceptions:—
  - (a) Picric acid mixed with not less than half its own weight of water shall not be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act.
  - (b) Picric acid when the quantity does not exceed 1 lb. shall not be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act: provided
    - (i) such picric acid is so kept and conveyed as not to be liable, whether under the action of fire or otherwise, to come in contact with any substance specified in the First Schedule hereto, or with any fire or light capable of igniting such picric acid;
    - (ii) such picric acid when dry is contained in a package from which the contents cannot escape; and in the construction of which no metal other than aluminium or an alloy containing not less than 90 per cent. of aluminium is used;
      - (iii) each package is legibly marked "Picric acid";
    - (iv) if the picric acid is contained in glass bottles the stoppers shall not be of glass.

Picric acid when not subject to the above exemptions must be packed and marked as required by the Order of Secretary of State relating to the packing of explosives.

- 3. The mixtures of picric acid with other substances specified in the Second Schedule to this Order, shall not be deemed to be explosives within the meaning of the said Act when being kept or conveyed, subject to conditions set forth in the said Second Schedule.
- 4. Picrates and mixtures of picric acid with any other substances (for whatever purpose used or manufactured), shall be deemed to be explosives within the meaning of the said Act, subject to the following exception:—

A picrate mixed with not less than half its own weight of water, shall not be deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the said Act.

This Order shall be deemed to be in lieu of the Order in Council relating to Picric Acid, Picrates and Mixtures of Picric Acid with other substances, dated the 27th March, 1905,(a) as amended by Orders in Council, dated the 16th February, 1906,(b) and the 28th June, 1917(c); and the said Orders dated the 27th March, 1905, the 16th February, 1906, and the 28th June, 1917, are hereby repealed.

M. P. A. Hankey.

<sup>(</sup>a) S. R. & O. 1905 (No. 353) p. 84.

<sup>(</sup>b) S. R. & O. 1906 (No. 149) p. 171.

<sup>(</sup>c) S. R. & O. 1917 (No. 704) p. 358.

## FIRST SCHEDULE

Any of the following metals or metallic oxides, namely, lead, oxide of lead, oxide of iron, potash, baryta, lime, soda, oxide of zinc, oxide of copper; and any compound of such metal or oxide (other than a metallic sulphate); or any chlorate, nitrate, or other oxidising agent; or any other substance declared by an Order of the Secretary of State to be capable of forming with picric acid a dangerous compound.

Provided that this Schedule shall not be deemed to include any metal, or oxide unavoidably formed on any metal, used in the construction of any ship, boat or carriage, or contained in any paint, where the packages containing pieric acid are protected from direct contact with such metal or paint.

## SECOND SCHEDULE

- 1. Picric Acid thoroughly mixed with not less than three times its own weight of anhydrous sulphate of soda.
- 2. Picric Acid thoroughly mixed with not less than three times its own weight of crystallised sulphate of soda when packed in hermetically closed packages.
- 3. Picric Acid thoroughly mixed with not less than three times its own weight of potash alum.