

(5) The Minister may from time to time, if it appears to him to be necessary or expedient so to do for the effectual exercise of any of the powers or functions conferred upon him or upon any Controller by the principal regulations, authorize the purchase of any goods and the sale or other disposition of any goods so purchased.

(6) For the purposes of this regulation the term "goods" includes all chattels personal other than money or things in action, and also includes machinery, notwithstanding that it may be attached to any land or building.

#### REGULATION 5.—CONTRACTS.

(1) Where the failure, whether before or after the commencement of these regulations, to fulfil any contract has been directly or indirectly due to compliance on the part of any person with any of the provisions of the principal regulations or with any direction, restriction, requirement, or condition given or imposed thereunder, or has been directly or indirectly due to the exercise by the Minister or by any Controller of any of the powers or functions conferred by the principal regulations, proof of that fact shall be a good defence to any action or proceeding in respect of the failure.

(2) This regulation shall apply with respect to all contracts whether made before or after the commencement of these regulations.

#### REGULATION 6.—ADVISORY BODIES.

(1) The Minister may appoint an Advisory Council, to be known as the Supply Advisory Council, consisting of such persons as the Minister thinks fit.

(2) The function of the Supply Advisory Council shall be to advise the Minister as to any matters referred to it by him relating to the administration of the principal regulations or affecting production or supply.

(3) At any meeting of the Supply Advisory Council at which the Minister is present he shall act as chairman, and at all other meetings the chairman shall be a person nominated by the Minister.

(4) The Minister may also, if he thinks it expedient so to do, from time to time appoint an advisory committee in relation to any particular industry or part of an industry, whether within a particular area or not, or in relation to any particular undertaking or undertakings. The Minister may define the functions of any such advisory committee, and those functions may include the formulation of plans or proposals for the organization of the industry, part of the industry, undertaking, or undertakings, as the case may be, with a view to securing the more efficient working thereof.

(5) The Supply Advisory Council and all advisory committees appointed under this regulation shall hold office during the pleasure of the Minister and shall be subject in all things to the control of the Minister.

(6) There shall be paid out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purpose to the members of the Supply Advisory Council and of every advisory committee appointed under this regulation, not being officers of the Public Service, such remuneration by way of salary, fees, or allowances, and such travelling expenses and allowances as may from time to time be directed or approved by the Minister of Finance, either generally or in respect of any particular person or class of persons.

#### REGULATION 7.—OFFENCES.

Regulation 10 of the principal regulations is hereby amended by adding the following clauses:—

"(3) Every person who obstructs any person in the exercise or in the attempted exercise of any right or power conferred under these regulations commits an offence against these regulations.

"(4) Every person who commits an offence against these regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £200 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and such imprisonment in the case of an individual, or to a fine not exceeding £1,000 in the case of a company or other corporation."

C. A. JEFFERY,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.