STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1963 No. 1888 (S. 100)

ANIMALS

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY

The Slaughter of Animals (Stunning Pens) (Scotland) Regulations 1963

Made - - - -	20*th November* 1963
Laid before Parliament	28*th November* 1963
Coming into Operation	1*st December* 1965

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 2 of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954(a), and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I hereby make the following regulations:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the Slaughter of Animals (Stunning Pens) (Scotland) Regulations 1963 and shall come into operation on 1st December 1965.

2.—(1) In these regulations—

"the 1955 regulations" means the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations 1955(b);

"stunning pen" means a pen or compartment which is suitable for confining a bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer or steer while it is being stunned and which is so constructed as to confine, without discomfort, only one such animal at a time, to prevent any substantial movement of the animal forwards, backwards or sideways, and to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, any animal so confined from seeing into the slaughterhall;

and other words and expressions have the same meaning as in the 1955 regulations.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) applies for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. Subject to the provisions of these regulations—

(*a*) a slaughterhouse in which any bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer or steer is slaughtered, otherwise than by a method referred to in regulation 13 of the 1955 regulations, shall be equipped by the occupier of that slaughterhouse with a sufficient number of stunning pens in good condition and efficient working order; and

(*b*) no person shall stun any bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer or steer in a slaughterhouse unless at the time at which it is stunned it is confined in a stunning pen:

Provided that paragraph (*b*) of this regulation shall not require the stunning in a stunning pen of any animal which is required by regulation 14 of the 1955 regulations to be slaughtered without delay or which would suffer unnecessarily by being confined in the pen.

(a) 2 & 3 Eliz. 2. c. 59. (b) S.I. 1955/1993 (1955 I, p. 216). (c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

4. These regulations shall not apply to any slaughterhouse in the landward areas of the Counties of Argyll, Bute, Inverness, Orkney, Ross and Cromarty, and Zetland constructed or adapted for use before the date of the coming into operation of these regulations.

5.—(1) If any person contravenes any of the provisions of these regulations he shall be guilty of an offence :

Provided that such a person shall not be guilty of an offence in respect of any such contravention as aforesaid if he proves that by reason of an accident or other emergency the contravention was necessary for preventing physical injury or suffering to any person or animal.

(2) Any person guilty of an offence against these regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £100 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both.

6. Regulation 10(2) of the 1955 regulations, except in so far as it applies to the stunning of any bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer or steer in any slaughterhouse referred to in regulation 4 of these regulations and in any knacker's yard, and to animals slaughtered under the provisions of regulation 14 of the 1955 regulations, is hereby revoked.

Michael Noble,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

St. Andrew's House,
Edinburgh, 1.
20th November 1963.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These regulations, made under section 2 of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954, require for the slaughter of adult cattle the provision of stunning pens in slaughterhouses and make their use compulsory. Existing slaughterhouses in the landward areas of certain of the remoter counties are exempted from the requirement.

Regulation 10(2) of the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations 1955 is revoked, except in its application to knackers' yards and in circumstances where the use of stunning pens in slaughterhouses is not compulsory.

The regulations come into operation on 1st December 1965.