

[201]

THE COTTON ORDINANCE, 1925.

Western Samoa.

No. 7, 1925.



## An Ordinance

made by the Administrator of the Territory of Western Samoa, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of that Territory, and in pursuance of the Samoa Act, 1921.

- Title** 1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Cotton Ordinance, 1925."
- Definitions Cotton Plant** 2. In this Ordinance "Cotton Plant" includes every part of such plant and every product thereof.
- Disease** "Disease" means a disease declared by the Administrator by notice published in the Western Samoa Gazette to be a disease under and for the purposes of this Ordinance.
- Inspector** "Inspector" means an inspector appointed under this Ordinance and includes any officer for the time being exercising the functions of an inspector.
- Person** "Person" includes any partnership or firm and any body of persons corporate or incorporate.
- Ratoon Cotton** "Ratoon Cotton" means cotton obtained from the second or any subsequent growth made by cotton plants and includes tree cotton and perennial cotton.
- Ratoon Cotton Plants** "Ratoon Cotton Plants" means any cotton plant which remains in a live condition for a period exceeding the growing season in which it was sown.
- Seed Cotton** "Seed Cotton" means cotton in the seed.
- Ginning** "Ginning" means the process of separating the fibre from the seed of cotton.
- "Gin" and "ginned" have correlative meanings.
- Offences** 3. Any person commits an offence under this Ordinance who
- imports into the Territory of Western Samoa any cotton seed except as authorised by the Administrator or the Director of Agriculture.
  - sows cotton seed which is not seed distributed by the Director of Agriculture or by a person authorised by him in that behalf: provided however that the Director of Agriculture may authorise a person to sow seed from selected cotton plants grown by such person but no such seed shall be sold or disposed of to any other person.
  - grows or is concerned in growing ratoon cotton plants or gathers or is concerned in gathering for sale or ginning any ratoon cotton.

4. All mature cotton plants and debris of cotton plants whether on any land or at any ginnyery shall be destroyed within six weeks following the 31st day of December in each year and any person upon whose land any cotton plant or any such debris shall be found after that date shall be guilty of an offence.

Destruction of mature cotton plants and debris

5. The Administrator may from time to time on behalf of the Crown guarantee a price or different prices according to grade for the whole or any part of the cotton grown in the Territory during any period and shall give notice of any such guarantee and of the prices guaranteed and the period of the guarantee and other particulars necessary to be known in the Western Samoa Gazette.

Administrator may guarantee price for cotton

6. During any period for which the price of cotton shall have been guaranteed as aforesaid the Administrator may by giving notice in the Western Samoa Gazette acquire for the Crown the whole or in his discretion any part of the cotton grown in the Territory.

Administrator may acquire cotton during period of guarantee

7. The price which shall be paid by the Crown for any cotton acquired as aforesaid shall be the price obtained by the Crown on the subsequent sale of such cotton less the freight and charges incidental to marketing and sale but shall in no event be less than the guaranteed price.

Price to be paid by Administrator

8. The Administrator may make such advances as he thinks fit to grower of cotton on account of the purchase price of cotton acquired as aforesaid.

Advances may be made by Administrator

9. Any inspector appointed under this Ordinance may (a) without notice enter upon any land or place to inspect cotton plants, cotton, or cotton seed or any package suspected to contain any infected cotton plants, cotton, or seed or to carry out any order of the Director of Agriculture which the owner or occupier has refused or neglected to do, (b) examine and order to be treated any infected plants, cotton, cotton seed, or package, (c) order the destruction of infected cotton plants cotton or cotton seed (d) issue an order directing the owner occupier or other responsible person to take such measures for the eradication of any disease as are in his opinion necessary.

Powers of Inspector

If any owner or occupier or other person responsible fails to comply with any order issued by an Inspector, such failure shall be deemed to be an offence under this Ordinance.

Failure to obey order of Inspector

10. Every grower who observes any disease in growing cotton or any affection in growing cotton which is likely to be detrimental thereto shall before the expiration of one week from the time of his discovering the fact give notice thereof to the Director of Agriculture or to an Inspector. Any default in giving such notice shall be deemed to be an offence.

Disease in growing cotton to be notified

11. No cotton acquired by the Crown under this Ordinance shall be ginned at any place other than that appointed for the purpose by the Director of Agriculture.

Ginning cotton acquired by Crown

12. The Administrator may from time to time make all such regulations not inconsistent with this Ordinance as he deems necessary, and convenient for carrying out or giving effect to this Ordinance.

Regulations

13. Any person guilty of an offence under this Ordinance shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £20.

Penalty

Assented to this twenty-fourth day of  
November, 1925.

[L.S.] J. W. HUTCHEN,  
Acting Administrator.