

reported to the Admiralty or Registrar General of Seamen, as the case may be.\*

#### *Guns and Ammunition.*

9. For the purpose of affording the Officers and Men of the Royal Naval Reserve an opportunity of undergoing Drill whilst at sea, Her Majesty's Government have made arrangements to supply ships qualified to carry the Blue Ensign, and of whose crews not less than seven of the seamen are men belonging to the Reserve, with guns, ammunition, and stores, according to the list in Admiralty Circular, provided the owner wishes to have guns, &c. supplied, and provided the ship is fitted by the shipowners with magazines for the ammunition, and with the necessary appliances for working the guns, to the satisfaction of a Naval Officer appointed to inspect the same.

10. The owners will be held responsible for the safe custody of the guns, stores, and ammunition, and must undertake that the guns and stores be returned as far as possible in good order, or accounted for, in such manner and at such times and places as the Admiralty may direct. (*Clause (b.) Admiralty Circular.*)

11. Applications for guns, ammunition, &c., should be made at least 21 days previously to the time appointed for the ship leaving the port, in order that the authorities may have sufficient time to supply them. All applications for guns, &c., on Forms RV 42, are to be forwarded to the Registrar General of Seamen direct by the shipowner; and on the application being approved the guns, &c. may be supplied, but will have to be re-landed if, when the crew is engaged, the requisite number of Naval Reserve Men are not there. The guns will be supplied as soon as possible after the approval of the application.

12. It is to be distinctly understood that no ship will be allowed to retain the guns and stores unless she is qualified under the foregoing regulations to fly the Blue Ensign; and it is also to be understood that ships authorized to wear the Blue Ensign need not on that account carry guns unless the owners desire it. (*Clause (c.) Admiralty Circular.*)

---

\* *Note.*—Section 105 of the Merchant Shipping Act provides that "If any colours usually worn by Her Majesty's Ships, or any colours resembling those of Her Majesty, or any distinctive National colours, except the Red Ensign usually worn by Merchant Ships, or except the Union Jack with a white border, or if the Pendant usually carried by Her Majesty's Ships, or any Pendant in anywise resembling such Pendant, are or is hoisted on board any ship or boat belonging to any subject of Her Majesty, without Warrant for so doing from Her Majesty or from the Admiralty, the Master of such ship or boat, or the owner thereof, if on board the same, and every other person hoisting or joining or assisting in hoisting the same, shall for every such offence incur a penalty not exceeding five hundred pounds, and it shall be lawful for any Officer on full pay in the Military or Naval Service of Her Majesty, or any British Officer of the Customs, or any British Consular Officer to board any such ship or boat, and to take away any such Jack, Colours, or Pendant; and such Jack, Colours, or Pendant shall be forfeited to Her Majesty."