

No. 451.—The following addition to the Dental Register published in Government Notification No. 250 of the 30th May, 1919, pursuant to Ordinance No. 16 of 1914, is published for general information:—

Exempted Person:

Dr. LESLIE OSBORN SPILLANE.

A. G. M. FLETCHER,
Colonial Secretary.

26th September, 1919.

No. 452.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY, HONGKONG.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

1. The Marconi International Maritime Communication Company have issued the attached circular to their operators, and shipmasters are earnestly requested to cooperate in the forecasting and storm warning work of the Royal Observatory, Hongkong, by arranging for meteorological observations to be made in accordance with the programme given in the circular, and transmitted by the wireless operator without delay.

2. The accuracy and utility of the Observatory forecasts will increase in proportion to the number of ships cooperating, the accuracy of the observations, and the promptness with which they are despatched. In the interest of shipping, therefore, every master possessing a radio-telegraphic installation should send observations at the hours stated; *viz.*, 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. of the 120th Meridian Time, and endeavour to make the service as efficient as possible.

3. It is requested that mercurial barometers should be used whenever possible, and that owners should cooperate by supplying their ships with at least one good mercurial barometer, of the Board of Trade pattern. Very few aneroid barometers are satisfactory. Generally speaking, the index error varies considerably from time to time, and is seldom constant throughout the scale. Moreover their readings are usually affected by changes of temperature though they are supposed to be compensated in this respect.

In every case the readings should be followed by the word "Mercury" if a mercurial barometer is read, or "Aneroid" if an aneroid is read.

4. It is very important that a few readings (at least four) of the ship's barometer (the barometer used for the wireless messages) should be taken in Hongkong and forwarded to the Observatory, in order that the correction to the Observatory Standard may be obtained; otherwise the barometer readings are useless. It is also very important that the readings should be exactly as read off, without any correction whatever, except in the case of ships which have not sent comparison observations to the Observatory. Such ships should correct the readings for index error, and reduce them to 32° Fahrenheit, sea level, and gravity at 45° latitude; using the best index error available *and adding the word "corrected"*.

T. F. CLAXTON,
Director.

26th September, 1919.

THE MARCONI INTERNATIONAL MARINE COMMUNICATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

Circular No. 364.

Operators employed on board ships trading to the Far East will note that arrangements have been made to transmit from the Cape d'Aguiar (Hongkong) Radiotelegraph Station to ships at sea a summary of meteorological conditions and weather forecasts. In return, ships will forward meteorological observations through the Cape d'Aguiar station to the Royal Observatory, Hongkong.

Details of the arrangements are given hereunder :—

1. A summary of meteorological conditions and weather forecasts will be broadcasted by Cape d'Aguilar daily at 1 p.m. Hongkong standard time (5 a.m. G. M. T.) and repeated at 5 p.m. Hongkong standard time (9 a.m. G. M. T.).
2. Storm warnings are broadcasted at about noon and repeated every two hours until midnight. If a second warning is issued during the day the later warning will be substituted.
3. When within range of Cape d'Aguilar the Captain will arrange for observations to be made at 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. Hongkong time (10 p.m. and 6 a.m. G. M. T.), and a message, prepared by the observer, will be handed to the operator for transmission containing the following information :—
 - (a.) Ship's name, position, and the time of observation (G. M. T.).
 - (b.) Barometer reading (with no correction whatever).
 - (c.) Thermometer reading (if the barometer is of the mercurial type).
 - (d.) Wind direction and force.
 - (e.) State of weather (in plain language).

Under no circumstances will the operator write these messages,

4. Reports for transmission from the ship will be addressed to "Royal Observatory, Hongkong," and immediately on the acceptance of these messages the operator will enter (a) Prefix "S", (b) Date, (c) Time handed in (G. M. T.).
5. All messages handed in under the above conditions shall be dealt with as follows :—

They shall be communicated to the coast station at the first opportunity, and shall receive priority as Government messages.

The greatest care shall be observed to have them correctly transmitted ; wherever possible, each message shall be repeated.
6. All messages shall be treated free of coast tax, ship tax, and land charges.
7. Reports handed in for transmission written on any form other than on the message form numbered SI, shall be affixed to a message form SI in such a manner as not to cover the space reserved for service instructions and other data.
8. The Hongkong Observatory also sends wireless Time Signals *viâ* Cape d'Aguilar at the even seconds between 11.56 a.m. and noon, and between 8.56 p.m. and 9 p.m. Hongkong time (3.56 a.m. to 4 a.m. and 12.56 p.m. to 1 p.m. G. M. T.). The 2nd, 28th, 50th, 52nd, and 54th second of each of the above minutes are omitted for the purpose of identifying the signals.

The Time Signals are preceded by the following warning signals from Cape d'Aguilar between 11.54 a.m. and 11.55 a.m., and between 8.54 p.m. and 8.55 p.m., Hongkong time (3.54 a.m. and 3.55 a.m., and 12.54 p.m. and 12.55 p.m. G. M. T.) :—

CQ DE VPS HK TIME WAIT

Both warning and Time Signals are sent out on a wave length of 1,000 metres from a 5 kw spark set. The Time Signals are dots of about 0.2 second duration. Radio-telegraphic land and ship stations within range of Cape d'Aguilar are required to keep silent between 11.54 a.m. and noon, and 8.54 p.m. and 9 p.m. Hongkong time (3.54 a.m. and 4 a.m. and 12.54 p.m. and 1 p.m. G. M. T.) in accordance with Article 45, paragraph 3 of the Service Regulations appended to the International Radio-telegraph Convention of 1912. Operators are also required to keep themselves provided with the most accurate time available in order to know when to shut down.

9. The times given in brackets represent the G. M. T. equivalent of Hongkong standard time. The latter time is 8 hours in advance of G. M. T.

The Marconi International Marine
Communication Company, Limited,
Marconi House,
Strand, London, W.C. 2.