

GENERAL—*continued.*

- (b.) Refuse the transport of live-stock when the animals, in the opinion of the Stationmaster or Guard, are not in a fit condition to travel.
- (c.) Restrict if necessary the number of animals which may be loaded in any truck or any class of truck.
- (d.) Load other animals, vehicles, or goods from the same or different consignors to the same or different consignees in the same truck.
- (e.) Refuse to accept for transport any live-stock that are or may be timed to arrive at their destination between 6 p.m. on Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday, unless and until an undertaking in writing shall have been received from the consignee that the live-stock will be unloaded and delivery taken thereof within three hours after arrival at destination.

6. The Department does not under any circumstances accept any responsibility whatever for animals before they are placed into the truck; for the consequences resulting from animals falling in trucks; for animals injured by other animals in trucks, or after the animals arrive at the station to which they are transported; nor is the Department liable for loss caused by live-stock jumping out of trucks whilst in transit.

7. The Department will not be bound to receive any live-stock for carriage to or from any railway-station which is not equipped with platforms, yards, and other suitable facilities for loading and unloading live-stock. Provided that at the option of the Department live-stock may be received for carriage to or from such places if the owners accept all the risk.

FEEDING AND WATERING.

8. Live-stock must be adequately fed and watered immediately prior to being tendered to the Department for transport, and a certificate may be required from the consignor that this has been done. Live-stock may not be accepted for transport where this condition has not been complied with.

9. Owners of live-stock must in all cases make their own arrangements for feeding, watering, or tending stock. The Department does not accept any responsibility in regard thereto.

10. If desired by the owners, live-stock may be off-loaded for feeding and watering at a station convenient to the Department between that from which they are forwarded and their destination, but they must not be detained more than twenty-four hours, otherwise the journey will be regarded as a new journey from the point where the stock was detained, and charges will be payable thereon accordingly.

11. The Department may, whenever it considers it necessary, provide live-stock whilst in its charge with food or water, or both (when practicable), at the expense of the consignees or consignors (as the case may be), and for such purpose the live-stock may be off-loaded. In no case will any charge be made for the water supplied to such stock.

12. In either of the cases referred to in paragraphs 10 and 11 the Department may, whenever it performs the work of reloading, make an additional charge of 3s. 9d. per four-wheeled truck and 7s. 6d. per double-bogie truck.

LOADING AND UNLOADING.

13. The consignor shall be responsible and shall pay for damage done by animals to trucks, enclosures, or other railway property while such animals are on the premises of the railway, unless he can prove that the damage is to be ascribed to the bad condition of such truck, enclosure, or railway property.

14. Animals which have died during their transport or before delivery to consignees must be accepted by the consignor or consignee (as the case may be) if the carcase is tendered by the Department, and such carcase must be removed forthwith from railway property, failing which the Department will take steps to have it removed at the cost of the consignor or consignee (as the case may be). If any animal has died whilst in transit and has been removed from the truck the consignor or consignee (as the case may be) shall pay the cost of such removal and burial as hereinafter provided.

15. Live-stock received by rail at stations must be removed within three working-hours after their arrival, otherwise such stock will be unloaded and held at the sole risk and expense of the owner.

16. A charge of 3s. per four-wheeled truck and 6s. per double-bogie truck will be made for unloading such stock.

17. Except as may be otherwise provided, a charge of 6d. per head of cattle, horses, or mules and 1d. per head of sheep, goats, calves (under six months old), or pigs, or other small stock, will be made for every eight hours or portion thereof after the expiry of the first three hours after arrival at destination station that the stock so remains in the custody of the Department, in addition to any charge that may have been incurred for food, water, veterinary surgeon's charges, and the like. Should it be considered necessary, the live-stock may, if practicable, at the option of the Department, be sent for stabling or grazing at the sole risk and expense of the consignee, and any expense incurred by the Department in connection with the feeding, maintenance, or custody of such live-stock shall be deemed to be charges payable in respect of the carriage of such live-stock.

18. Any animal that, through sickness or through injury received from other animals in a truck or through animals in a truck being unduly crowded or other similar circumstances, is taken out of a truck and subsequently transported to destination in another truck will be charged as a separate consignment from the station at which it was removed from the original truck to such destination station, and in addition any other necessary expenses incurred in connection with such sickness, injury, or removal.

19. The cost of removing and burying animals dying in trucks or railway enclosures and in circumstances where it is found impossible or, in the opinion of the Department, not reasonably practicable to tender the carcase of such