

REGULATIONS

MADE UNDER

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE

(Chapter 145).

UNDER SECTIONS 12(c), 65(d) AND 157 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE, THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE CENTRAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT:—

1. These Regulations which amend the Burial Grounds Regulations may be cited as the Burial Grounds (Amendment) Regulations, 1970.

2. Regulations 19 and 20 of the Principal Regulations are hereby revoked and the following regulations substituted therefor —

19(1) Any person desiring to transport the remains of a deceased person shall, subject to such exceptions as are necessary, furnish the Chief Medical Officer or any Medical Officer assigned by him for the purpose with the following documents:—

“Transporting human remains.”

- (a) an official certificate of the cause of death issued by the Local registrar of deaths, or other competent authority of the country where the death occurred;
- (b) a statement by the person authorised to prepare the remains indicating the manner and method in which the body was prepared and indicating that the coffin contains only the body in question and the necessary clothing and packing;

- (c) a transit permit stating the surname, other name or names and age of the deceased person issued by the competent authority for the place of death or the place of burial in the case of exhumed remains, which if issued in Guyana shall be in Form No. 4 in the schedule;
- (d) a certificate of the health officer at the port of embarkation expressing —
- (i) his confirmation of the statements required by sub-paragraph (b) above;
 - (ii) his opinion that the transportation of the body preclude any danger to public health; and
 - (iii) permission for the transportation of the body from the said port and which, if given in Guyana, shall be in Form No. 5 in the schedule.

(2) Copies of the documents required under sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of paragraph (1) of this Regulation shall accompany the shipment of the remains.

(3) The outside of the coffin shall bear an immovable plaque or other appropriate marking, in a conspicuous place, indicating the name, age and place of the final destination of the body.

(4) (a) For the purpose of this Regulation and the following regulations —

“transportation of human remains” means the shipment of the body from the country where the death occurred to the country of its final destination after either death or disinterment.

“impervious coffin” means any container or box, or whatever material, which can be hermetically sealed and so maintained by plastic or rubber casket or by metal or similar material which has been soldered or welded.

(b) Where a body is encased in a plastic container which has been sealed by heat or by adhesive material before being placed in a non-impervious coffin, that coffin shall be considered an impervious coffin.

20. (1) It shall not be lawful to transport the remains of a deceased person unless such remains —

(a) are thoroughly washed with an effective disinfectant and all the orifices thereof are disinfected and

Preparation of remains for transportation.

packed with cotton saturated with an effective disinfectant; and

- (b) are wrapped in a sheet saturated with an effective disinfectant and placed in an impervious coffin; or
- (c) are properly embalmed (arterial and cavity) and placed in an impervious coffin; or
- (b) are properly embalmed (arterial and cavity) and encased in a plastic container which has been sealed by heat, or by adhesive material before **being placed in a non-impervious coffin.**

(2) In cases where the deceased at the time of his death was suffering from a quarantinable disease which would have rendered him liable to isolation in accordance with the provisions of the Quarantine Ordinance, or any regulations made thereunder, the human remains shall be properly embalmed (arterial and cavity) and placed in an impervious coffin.

20A. Human remains prepared for shipment shall be placed in a hermetically sealed impervious coffin and may be shipped without any other covering (except the case of shipment by sea) but for protective purposes such remains may be fitted in a box made of wood or other material, so as to prevent movement or may be wrapped in a specially designed fabric.

Manner of transporting remains.

20B. (1) Where human remains are transported—

- (a) by sea, then in order to prevent movement, the impervious coffin shall be packed in an ordinary wooden case, or in a case made of any other material, or shall be placed in a specially designed container made of fabric;
- (b) by road, the impervious coffin shall be conveyed on a closed hearse, closed van or other motor vehicle and shall be so placed as to prevent movement;
- (c) by air, the impervious coffin may be conveyed in the baggage compartment of a passenger aircraft and may be equipped with a vent or safety valve if precautions are taken to prevent the escape of liquids or noxious gases.

(2) Whatever may be the method of transportation of human remains, wreaths, flowers and other similar funeral articles may be sent with the coffin only if it is permitted by the law in force in the country to which such remains are being sent.

Cremation.

20C. Nothing in these Regulations shall be deemed to apply to the transportation of the ashes of a cremated corpse."

3. Paragraph (2) of Regulation 21 of the Principal Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution of the words "Transport the remains of a deceased person" for the words "imports or exports any corpse or human remains."

4. Paragraph (2) of Regulation 22 of the Principal Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution of "19, 20, 20A, 20B and 20C" for "19 and 20".

5. The schedule to the Principal Regulations is hereby amended —

- (a) by the deletion of the words "Chairman Central Board of Health" appearing in Form No. 4 and the substitution therefor of the words "Chief Medical Officer;"
- (b) by the substitution of the words "Chief Medical Officer" for the words "Central Board Health" wherever they appear in Form No. 5; and
- (c) by the deletion of the marginal note "reg. 20" and the words "SEAL OF THE BOARD" appearing in the said Form No. 5.

Made this 12th day of August, 1970.

M. BRUMELL,
Secretary, Central Board of Health.

Approved this 2nd day of October, 1970.

A. CHUNG,
President.