

LICENSING OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND RETAILERS

The Minister of Food has made new Orders controlling the licensing of establishments and retailers of food for human consumption and meat feeding-stuffs for animals. The Orders will come into force on March 7.

The new Orders, which may be seen at any Food Office, provide that all retailers and caterers must in future be licensed by the Minister. Hitherto licences have been issued by Food Control Committees, but the Minister has decided that the power of revocation must, in the interests of consistent administration, be reserved to him; as the power of revocation accompanies the power of granting licences, the new Order requires that licences in future shall be issued in the name of the Minister.

The change is largely formal and technical. The part played by Food Control Committees in relation to the granting of licences will remain substantially unaltered. Applications for licences should be made to the Food Executive Officer and will be considered by the Food Control Committee, whose recommendation will normally be given effect by the Food Executive Officer acting on the Minister's behalf.

A trader who already holds a licence from a Food Control Committee will not be required to obtain a new licence. He will only have to attach to his existing licence a printed slip, which he will receive from the local Food Office.

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MINISTRY OF FOOD