THE CALCIUM CARBIDE (SALE AND STORAGE) ACT

[30th March, 1901.]

1. This Act may be cited as the Calcium Carbide (Sale and Storage) Act.

2. In this Act, “calcium carbide” means any substance capable of evolving acetylene when treated with water.

3. No person shall deal in, sell, or store calcium carbide anywhere within this Island without a licence given in accordance with this Act or otherwise than according to the terms of such licence, under a penalty not exceeding forty dollars for each offence. Small quantities not exceeding five pounds when kept in separate, substantial hermetically closed metal vessels, each containing not more than one pound, may be kept without a licence.

4. The Minister may make rules for the storage of calcium carbide. Such rules shall be published in the Gazette and thereafter they shall have the force of law. Such rules shall not apply to any house or building which is not within a distance of one hundred yards from any other house.

5. A licence shall be granted by the Minister if he is satisfied that the rules have been complied with, without any charge, and shall not be subject to any stamp duty. A licence may be cancelled and revoked at any time by order of the Minister. Such cancellation and revocation shall be published in the Gazette and shall take effect from the date of such publication.

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6. No person shall sell, or expose for sale by retail any calcium carbide which is not free from impurities which may render the gas evolved liable to ignite spontaneously. All vessels containing the said calcium carbide shall bear in conspicuous characters the words "calcium carbide", "dangerous if not kept dry", with the following caution—
"The contents of this package are liable, if brought into contact with moisture, to give off a highly inflammable gas", and with the addition—

(a) in the case of a vessel kept, of the name and address of the consignee or owner;
(b) in the case of a vessel sent or conveyed, of the name and address of the sender;
(c) in the case of a vessel sold or exposed for sale, the name and address of the vendor.

It shall be lawful for any officer of the Customs or Police to take samples of any calcium carbide imported or offered for sale, and to submit the same to the Island Chemist for his report as to whether the given sample is fit and safe for use. Any carbide thus certified to be impure to a dangerous extent shall be subject to confiscation.

Penalties.

7. If any person shall commit an offence against any provision of this Act for which no penalty is prescribed, or shall offend against any rule made under its authority, he shall be liable on summary conviction before a Resident Magistrate to a penalty not exceeding ten dollars.