

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE
No. 163 of 1940.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under and by virtue of the powers vested in him by section *one* of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Emergency Powers (Defence) Proclamation, 1939, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to make the following amendment in the Bechuanaland Protectorate Defence Regulations, 1939 (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Regulations"), published under High Commissioner's Notice No. 150 of 1939.

By Command of His Excellency
the High Commissioner.

H. E. PRIESTMAN,
Administrative Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,
Pretoria, 10th September, 1940.

The following Regulation, numbered 21A, is hereby inserted immediately after Regulation 21 of the principal Regulations:—

PUBLICATION OF DISTURBING REPORTS.

" 21A. (1) Subject as hereinafter provided, any person who publishes any report or statement relating to matters connected with the war which is likely to cause alarm or despondency shall be liable, on conviction before a Subordinate Court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds, or to both such imprisonment and such fine:

Provided that a person shall not be convicted of an offence against this Regulation if he proves—

- (a) that he had reasonable cause to believe that the report or statement was true; and
- (b) that the publication thereof was not malicious and ought fairly to be excused.

(2) Nothing in this Regulation shall apply to any report or statement made by or to any servant of His Majesty or any member of the Police Force in the course of his duty as such.

(3) A prosecution in respect of an offence against this Regulation shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Attorney-General."