5. Any person who fails to comply with any of the requirements of these regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding in the case of a first offence £20, or in the case of any subsequent offence £50.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is hereunto affixed this fifteenth day of July, nineteen hundred and fifty.

(L.S.) *T. Williams,*
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These regulations, which supersede the Rats Orders, 1941 and 1942, specify the steps required to be taken to ensure the destruction of rats and mice escaping from ricks which are being threshed or dismantled.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Stacks) (Scotland) Regulations, 1950

1950 No. 980 (S. 71)

Made - - - -	*15th June,* 1950
Laid before Parliament	*16th June,* 1950
Coming into Operation	*26th June,* 1950

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 8 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949(**a**), and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I hereby make the following regulations:—

1.—(1) These regulations, which may be cited as the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Stacks) (Scotland) Regulations, 1950, shall extend to Scotland only, and shall come into operation on the twenty-sixth day of June, 1950.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(**b**), shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. These regulations shall apply in respect of any stack of grain, beans, peas, tares or mashlum.

3. Neither the owner of any stack nor any person who contracts or undertakes to thresh or dismantle that stack shall thresh or dismantle the stack or cause or permit the stack to be threshed or dismantled otherwise than in accordance with the following provisions:—

(*a*) Before any stack is dismantled, whether for threshing or for any other purpose, the stack shall be completely surrounded by a fence not less than thirty inches high, constructed of material sufficiently impenetrable by

(a) 12, 13 & 14 Geo. 6. c. 55. (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

rats escaping from the stack to enable them to be killed inside the fence; if the material is wire netting, the mesh of the wire shall not be greater than one half of an inch.

(*b*) The fence shall be so placed and shall be secured to the ground in such a manner as to prevent rats from escaping from the enclosure and shall be maintained in position continuously until the provisions of these regulations have been complied with.

(*c*) The space between the fence and the base of the stack shall at all times be kept clear of grain, thatch, straw or other obstruction which may afford cover or protection for rats or mice.

(*d*) Where the foundation of the stack consists of faggots, brushwood, gorse, straw or other material which is likely to afford cover or protection for rats or mice, such material shall be turned over and broken up so as to dislodge any rats or mice therein.

Provided that paragraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) shall not apply when the stack is threshed or dismantled before the fifteenth day of November in any year and consists of a crop harvested that year.

4. The owner of any stack shall take all practicable steps to destroy rats and mice escaping from the stack or from the foundation of the stack during the operation of dismantling or threshing.

5. Any person who fails to comply with any of the requirements of these regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding in the case of a first offence £20 or in the case of any subsequent offence £50.

Dated this 15th day of June, 1950.

Hector McNeil,
One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

St. Andrew's House,
Edinburgh, 1.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.*)

These Regulations, which supersede the Rats (Scotland) Order, 1944, made under Defence Regulations, specify the steps required to be taken to ensure the destruction of rats and mice escaping from stacks which are being dismantled.