

or other emergency, shall not be taken to constitute a breach of any condition of the licence authorizing such service, but the commission may, in any such case, require the licensee to furnish it with a full report on the occurrence, and the licensee shall submit the report in such manner and form and within such period as the commission may direct.

18. The commission may by order in writing require air carriers or any particular class of air carrier to render to it in such manner and form and at such times as may be prescribed by the commission, such returns in relation to any class or classes of air service provided by such carriers or class of carrier, as the commission may deem necessary for the effective carrying out of its duties and functions under this Act.

Returns.

19. (1) The commission may on the application of any air carrier, exempt him from the operation of sub-section (1) of section *two* or from the operation of any other provision of this Act or any condition of his licence, if in the opinion of the commission the air carrier concerned is providing or proposes to provide an air service on a non-profit basis for charitable purposes, or for purposes incidental to social welfare, or that the granting of such exemption will assist in saving life.

Exemptions.

(2) Any exemption granted under sub-section (1) may be limited so as to apply only in respect of one or more aircraft or one or more particular routes, journeys or transactions, or may be limited as to time, area or distance, or otherwise as the commission may think fit.

(3) Whenever the commission is of opinion that the delay involved in publishing in terms of section *five* particulars of an application for exemption, would defeat the object of the application, and that non-publication of such particulars would not be detrimental to the general public interest, the commission may dispense with such publication and grant the application forthwith.

(4) Any person who uses an aircraft for the provision of an air service in contravention of the terms of an exemption granted to him under this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds.

20. (1) If any air carrier (including the Railway Administration) is, at the date of commencement of this Act, providing within any area or over any route, a scheduled air transport service in respect of which a licence referred to in sub-section (4) has not been granted to him, and if such air carrier has been providing the said service regularly as from a date not later than the eleventh day of October, 1946, the commission shall not grant a licence to any other person for a similar class of air service over substantially the same route or within substantially the same area unless such air carrier has failed to apply for a licence in respect of the service so provided by him, within three months after the commencement of this Act.

Provision with regard to existing licences and services, and services previously operated by the Railway Administration.

(2) It shall not be competent for the commission to grant to any person other than the Railway Administration, a licence for a scheduled air transport service over any route which is substantially the same as a route over which the Railway Administration was regularly providing such a service immediately prior to the sixth day of September, 1939, but over