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[355-339; 864; 1405-7.]

The same disposition may be made of any warehoused merchandise when in the opinion of the collector it is likely from depreciation, damage, leakage, or other cause to become insufficient to pay the duties and other charges corresponding thereto, if it should be permitted to remain and be subjected to sale in usual course.

[355-183, 257.]

SECTION 1551. *Disposition of Things Injurious to Public Health.* — When merchandise, which in the opinion of the collector constitutes a menace to public health, shall be seized or otherwise come into the custody of the Bureau of Customs, the collector of the port shall, if the matter is not disposable under the provisions of law relating to food and drugs, appoint a board of three to examine the merchandise. In the absence of controlling reason, one member of this board shall be a representative of the Philippine Health Service or the local health officer, the other two being responsible officers of the Bureau of Customs and at least one an appraiser. Such board shall examine said merchandise, and if the same shall be found to be unfit for use or sale or a menace to the public health, the board shall so report in writing to the collector, who shall forthwith approve its destruction in such manner as the case may require.

If such merchandise is found to be fit for use or sale and to have commercial value, it shall be disposed of in the manner provided for perishable property.

The health authorities at ports of entry shall collaborate with collectors of customs upon such occasions with all reasonable dispatch.

[355-280, 281.]

SECTION 1552. *Disposition of Contraband.* — Articles of prohibited importation or exportation, known as contraband, shall, in the absence of special provision, be dealt with as follows:

- (a) If the article in question is highly dangerous to be kept or handled, it may be forthwith destroyed.
- (b) Contraband coin or bullion shall accrue to the gold-standard fund in specie, subject to the payment of the expenses incident to seizure, including the reward to the informer.

[1042-1; 1411-3; 1737.]