PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ACT.

Act No. 18, 1921.

George V, An Act to make further provision for preserving the public health, and the prevention of infectious diseases; to amend the Public Health Act, 1902, and certain other Acts; and for purposes connected therewith. [Assented to, 17th December, 1921.]

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1921," and shall be construed with the Public Health Act, 1902.

Repeal.

2. Sections thirty-three, forty, forty-four, forty-five, and forty-six of the Public Health Act, 1902, are repealed.

Rat-infested premises.

3. Any premises, including those owned by the Government or by public bodies, which, upon inspection by an officer of the Board of Health, are found to be infested with rats, shall be deemed to be a nuisance liable to be dealt with summarily under the Public Health Act, 1902.

Regulations.

- 4. (1) For the purpose of preventing, or checking the spread of any infectious disease, and generally for the protection of the public health, the Governor, on the advice of the Board of Health, may make regulations,—
 - (a) for enforcing the destruction of rats and mice, and the removal of conditions likely to give them harbourage; (b)

- (b) prescribing the steps to be taken, (including George V, the structural alterations of premises, such structural alterations to be subject to the approval of the Minister), so as to exclude rats and mice from any specified classes of premises generally, or in any specified area;
- (c) prescribing the qualifications to be held by health inspectors employed by, or under the control of the council of any municipality or shire;
 - (d) prescribing the duties of parents and guardians of children who are suffering from, or have recently suffered from, or been exposed to the infection of infectious disease, and the duties of persons in charge of schools in respect of such children;
 - (e) defining "contacts" and "carriers" of infection, and requiring the detention, segregation, or isolation of such persons, and prescribing the treatment to be submitted to by them;
 - (f) providing for the removal, detention, and isolation of persons recently exposed to the infection of, or who may be in the incubation stage of infectious disease, and for the keeping of such persons under medical observation and surveillance;
 - (g) providing for the cleansing, disinfection, and quarantining of premises, vehicles, or things, which have been exposed to the infection of infectious disease;
 - (h) for compelling the giving of information or the production of evidence for the purpose of tracing the origin, or preventing the spread of infectious disease;
 - (i) for regulating or prohibiting the removal, into, out of, or within any specified area, of any goods, articles, animals, or things for the purpose of preventing the outbreak or spread of infectious disease;
- (j) for preventing the communication to man of any disease from any animal, or the carcase or hide, or hair, or any product of any animal;
- (k) for preventing the spread of disease by flies or other insects, and providing for the destruction of such insects;

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- (1) for the regulation of trade in flock, rags, second-hand clothing, bedding, or any similar articles, and requiring the cleansing and disinfection of such articles before their removal, sale, exposure for sale, or use in any manufacturing process;
- (m) for regulating the disposal and burial of dead bodies;
- (n) for preventing and remedying the overcrowding of buildings or dwellings, or the keeping of buildings, dwellings, or their contents in a dirty, unhealthy, or verminous condition, and providing for the ventilation of buildings or dwellings;
- (o) for the prevention or abatement of nuisances;
- (p) and generally for the prevention, eradication, or mitigation of infectious disease.
- (2) Such regulations may impose a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or both penalty and imprisonment for any breach thereof. Such penalty or imprisonment may be recovered before or imposed by any stipendiary or police magistrate or any two justices in petty sessions.
 - (3) Such regulations shall—
 - (i) be published in the Gazette;
 - (ii) take effect from the date of publication or from a later date to be specified in such regulations; and
 - (iii) be laid before both Houses of Parliament within fourteen days after publication if Parliament is then in session, and if Parliament is not then in session, within fourteen days after the commencement of the next session. If either House of Parliament passes a resolution, of which notice has been given within fifteen sitting days after such regulations have been laid before such House, disallowing any regulation or part thereof, such regulation or part shall thereupon cease to have effect.