

No , 1911.

A BILL

To regulate the hours of labour and the hours below ground for persons employed in coal and shale mines ; to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1902 ; and for other purposes.

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 :—

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the "Coal Mines Eight Hours Act, 1911." Short title.

(2) This Act shall apply to mines of coal and mines of shale.

(3) In this Act—

"Mine" includes every shaft in the course of being sunk, and every level and inclined plane in the course of being driven, and all the shafts, levels, planes, works, tramways and sidings, both below ground and above ground, in and adjacent to, and belonging to the mine.

Coal Mines Eight Hours.

2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1902, on and after the expiration of Limitation of hours of employment. from the passing of this Act the period of employment of workmen and boys in all coal or shale mines shall not be more than eight hours, during each or any day of twenty-four hours, except in cases of emergency where life or property is in imminent danger.

3. Subject to the provisions of this Act, a workman employed Hours of workmen beneath the surface. in a mine shall not be below ground for the purposes of his work and of going to and from his work for more than eight hours during any consecutive twenty-four hours.

4. Any person, who violates or causes any other person to Penalty for violating provisions of Act. violate the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have been guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable, on summary conviction before a stipendiary or police magistrate or any two or more justices of the peace, to a penalty not exceeding *twenty* shillings for each offence: Proviso. Provided that a workman shall not be guilty of an offence under this Act in the case of any failure to return to the surface within the time limited by this Act if he proves that, without default on his part, he was prevented from returning to the surface owing to means not being available for the purpose.
