

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No. , 1922.

A BILL

To amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1912,
and certain other Acts.

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 "Friendly Societies (Amendment) Act, 1922," and shall be construed with the Friendly Societies Act, 1912, as amended by subsequent Acts. Short title.

(2) The Friendly Societies Act, 1912, as so amended, is hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act.

2. The Principal Act is amended as follows :—

- (1) By inserting in section four after the word Sec. 4. “body” where first occurring the word “and”;
- (2) by omitting from subsection one of section Sec. 11. eleven the numerals “1902” and inserting the numerals “1901” in lieu thereof;
- (3) by omitting from section twelve the numerals Sec. 12. “1902” and inserting the numerals “1901” in lieu thereof;
- (4) by omitting from section twenty-two the Sec. 22. proviso to subsection two;
- (5) by inserting after the words “the society” Sec. 25. where first appearing in subsection five of section twenty-five the words “or branch”;
- (6) by inserting in subsection one of section fifty- Sec. 52. two after the word “trustees” where it first occurs the words “or of the committee”;
- (7) by omitting subsection two of section sixty-two Sec. 62. and by numbering subsection three of that section as subsection two;
- (8) by inserting in section sixty-three after the Sec. 63. word “society” the words “or branch”;
- (9) by inserting in section one hundred and two Sec. 102. after the words “any subscription” the words “or fine”; and by inserting in the same section after the word “resignation” the words “and any fine then due.”

3. The Principal Act is further amended—Sec. 25.

- (1) by omitting from subsection two of section twenty-five all words after the word “months” and by inserting in lieu thereof the following words: “and may in like manner with the approval of the Governor—
 - (a) renew the suspension for a further period; or
 - (b) cancel the registry of the society or branch either upon the expiration of the original period of suspension or upon the expiration of any further period of suspension”;

(2)

- (2) by adding at the end of subsection three of the same section the following words: "This subsection shall not apply when the cancellation is at the request of the society or branch or when a society or branch has ceased to exist or when the cancellation is upon the expiration of a period of suspension."

4. The Principal Act is further amended by adding Sec. 31. at the end of section thirty-one the following new paragraphs:—

If a society or branch—

- (a) fails to submit to the Registrar satisfactory proposals within a period to be stated in writing by him of not less than three months; or
- (b) having submitted proposals satisfactory to the Registrar, fails to present for registration within a period of three months from the receipt of a notice in writing under the hand of the Registrar, amendments of the rules to carry into effect the proposals submitted,

the Registrar with the approval of the Minister may fix the rates of contribution to be paid by members of the society or branch for the benefits provided for in its rules, and publish in the Gazette a notification setting out the rates so fixed.

From and after the date of the notification in the Gazette contributions shall be paid by the members as if the rates so fixed had been specified in the registered rules of the society or branch.

5. The Principal Act is further amended— Sec. 61.

- (1) by omitting subsection two of section sixty-one and by renumbering subsection three as subsection two;
- (2) by omitting from subsection three of the same section the words "the registry of the society" and by inserting in lieu thereof the words "such society shall give notice to the Registrar within fourteen days, and upon registration of the notice its registry."

6.

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6. The Principal Act is further amended by omitting subsection two of section sixty-four and inserting the following new subsection :—

(2) Upon the termination or dissolution of a branch the funds and property held by the branch or by any person on its behalf, and the right to sue for and recover the same, shall vest in the trustees of the central body of the society.

The members of the branch shall be safeguarded with respect to all benefits to which they may at the time be entitled.

7. The Principal Act is further amended by omitting from section seventy the words “in connection with the annual returns or with the valuation of the assets and liabilities of any friendly society.”

8. The Principal Act is further amended by omitting section eighty and by inserting in lieu thereof the following new section :—

80. (1) There shall be paid annually by way of subvention to the trustees of each applicant society in respect of the contributions chargeable under the rules of the society for benefits of medical attendance and medicine of the persons mentioned in subsection two of this section amounts as set out in subsection three of this section.

(2) The persons in respect of whose contributions payment shall be made are each male member aged sixty-five years and over, and each female member aged sixty years and over, and—

- (a) who was a member of the society on the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two; or
- (b) who, at the date of the application for subvention, has been a member of the society for a continuous period of fifteen years; or
- (c) who is the widow or widowed mother of a member of the society.

(3) The payments shall be at the following rates :—

- (a) In respect of the contribution of a member of a branch which has its usual and recognised

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recognised meeting place within the Sydney metropolitan area, an amount not exceeding one pound ten shillings per annum or the amount of the contribution, whichever shall be the less.

- (b) In respect of each of the contributions of members of other branches, an amount not exceeding one pound fifteen shillings per annum or the amount of the contribution, whichever shall be the less.

(4) For the purposes of this section the Sydney metropolitan area shall be such area as the Governor may proclaim in the Gazette.

(5) This section shall not apply if the rates of contribution chargeable under the rules of the applicant society for benefits of medical attendance and medicine for the classes of persons mentioned in subsection two of this section are different from those chargeable to members under the ages mentioned in subsection three of this section.

(6) For the purposes of this section a person who has been a member of a society or branch which has been amalgamated with the society shall be deemed to have been a member of the society during the term of his membership of the society or branch so amalgamated.

9. The Principal Act is further amended by omitting Sec. 81. from section eighty-one all words after the words "in respect of" and inserting in lieu thereof the following words—"the persons mentioned in subsection two of section eighty: Provided that payment to any one or more societies in respect of any member shall not exceed the sum payable in respect of a funeral donation of fifty pounds."
