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[CONFIDENTIAL.]

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No , 1914.

A BILL

To provide for the organisation of the resources of the State in certain particulars in a time of war.

WHEREAS the state of war now existing may cause interruption to the trade and business of the State of New South Wales, with much consequent distress to the community at large, and for that reason it is considered desirable to make extraordinary provision for the organisation of the resources of the State in respect of work, food, and material: Be it therefore enacted.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the "State Resources Organisation Act, 1914."

2. The Governor may from time to time proclaim that any foodstuffs or any manufactured or raw material other than foodstuffs, to be specified by him, are commodities necessary for the sustenance or welfare of the community as a whole, and thereupon all wholesale or retail traders or other persons then or from time to time thereafter owning, controlling, or otherwise holding stocks of such foodstuffs or materials for the purpose of sale or profit shall, without delay, forward to the Premier of the State returns in writing showing the amount, quality, brands and other trade descriptions, the ownership, the actual possessor and the location of such foodstuffs or materials, together with particulars of the prices paid by them for such foodstuffs or materials and the prices at which foodstuffs or materials of the same character have been sold by them during the days between the date of the passing of this Act and the date of the return containing such information.

If any person hereby subjected to the duty of making any such return fails to make the same he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour at common law, and all stocks of the foodstuffs or materials proclaimed as aforesaid owned, controlled, or otherwise held by him and not covered by such returns shall forthwith be forfeited to the State.

3. The Governor may, from time to time, proclaim that any live-stock, to be particularised by him, are required for the services of the community as a whole, and thereupon all persons then, or from time to time thereafter owning, controlling, or otherwise holding any of such live-stock, shall forward without delay, to the Premier of the State, returns in writing showing the number, sex, age, condition, brands, and other means of identifying

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identifying the live-stock referred to in such return, the actual possessor, and the location of such live-stock, together with particulars of the prices paid by them for such live-stock, and the prices at which live-stock of the same character have been sold by them during the days between the passing of this Act and the date of the returns containing such information.

4. The Governor may from time to time by proclamation fix and declare the prices at which and the conditions, in respect of time, place, purchasers, quantities, and numbers, under which foodstuffs and materials and live-stock proclaimed as aforesaid may be sold by wholesale or at retail.

Any person selling proclaimed foodstuffs or materials or live-stock otherwise than in accordance with such fixed and declared prices and conditions by the Governor shall be guilty of a misdemeanour at common law, and all stocks of such foodstuffs or materials, or any live-stock owned, controlled, or otherwise held by him, shall forthwith be forfeited to the State.

5. The Governor may from time to time proclaim that gold in all forms held by the various banks of the State is a commodity which should be kept in reserve, and thereupon and thereafter each of such banks shall, without delay, make returns to the Premier of the State showing the gold held by it. The amount of gold which may be drawn or demanded in exchange from any of the said banks by any one person in any one week shall not exceed *five* pounds.

6. The Governor may from time to time proclaim that the peace, safety, and good order of the community within the State require the discontinuance of any businesses, operations, sales, processes, or work to be specified by him, and any person who shall thereafter use any license, plant or material in conducting or otherwise carrying on a business, operation, sale, process, or work so proscribed shall forfeit the same and shall be guilty of a misdemeanour at common law.

7. The Governor may from time to time proclaim that the degree of unemployment in an industry, or section of an industry, or group of industries, is such as
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to require, in the interests of the community, the re-establishment of enterprises wholly or partially discontinued because of the state of war aforesaid, and immediately after the publication of any such proclamation all persons engaged or interested in such enterprises shall forward to the Premier of the State returns in writing showing the causes for and the degree of discontinuance of the work of their respective enterprises, together with particulars of the normal employing capacity of such enterprises.

Upon receipt of such returns the Governor may, for the purpose of procuring the re-opening or the re-establishment of the full activities of such enterprise, guarantee that the persons controlling such enterprise shall not be at a greater charge by way of interest for moneys necessary to carry on such enterprise than a rate to be guaranteed by the Governor, and may further contract to purchase at a rate to be specified and proclaimed the full or any portion of the product of such enterprise for a period not exceeding six months, subject to such conditions and requirements as to delivery, quantities, quality, or otherwise as may be proper.

8. Where the Governor has reasonable grounds to suspect that any proclaimed foodstuffs, or materials or live-stock, have not been made the subject of returns, or have been removed from their specified location for the purpose of preventing their distribution for public use, he may thereupon seize and distribute or otherwise deal with such foodstuffs, or materials, or live-stock as he deems proper.

9. The Governor may make, revoke or annul any proclamation made under this Act.

