Agricultural Education Act. 13 Geo. V. No. 17.

DISTRICTS, ELECTORAL.

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EDUCATION.

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No. 17. THE AGRI-CULTURAL

EDUCATION

13 Geo. V. An Act to make better provision for Agricultural Education.

[Assented to 14th October, 1922.]

Act of 1922. DE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Short title and commence.

1. This Act may be cited as "The Agricultural Education Act of 1922," and shall come into operation ment of Act on a day to be proclaimed in that behalf, which day is herein referred to as the commencement of this Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the meanings set against them respectively, that is to say:

Agricultural education; agricultural pursuits.

"Agricultural education"—Education and in-struction, theoretical and practical, in the principles and methods of agricultural, rural. and farm science and crafts in all or any of their branches or departments: the term includes vocational education for industries directly pertaining to agriculture; in the case of females the term also includes education and instruction in the domestic arts and sciences and home management; and "agricultural pursuits" has the corresponding meaning.

Board.

"Board"—The Board of Agricultural Education appointed under this Act;

Corporation.

"Corporation"—The Corporation of the Secretary for Public Instruction in Queensland created by section seven of *"The State Education Act of 1875":

^{* 39} Vic. No. 11, supra, page 614.

- "Minister"—The Secretary for Public Instruction Minister, or other Minister of the Crown for the time being charged with the administration of this Act;
- "Prescribed"—Prescribed by this Act; Prescribed.
- "Regulations"—Regulations made under the Regulations. authority of this Act;
- "This Act"—This Act and all Orders in Council This Act, and rules and regulations made under the authority thereof.
- 3. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to apply Application to any rural school or rural section of a primary State of Act. school established, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, under *"The State Education Acts, 1875 to 1912" or any Act amending or in substitution for the same or any of them.
- 4. (1.) For the purposes of this Act a Board of Board of Agricultural Education shall be created.

 Agricultural Education.

The Board shall consist of seven members, of whom three members shall be appointed by the Governor in Council, two members shall be appointed by the Senate of the University of Queensland, and two members shall be appointed by the Council of Agriculture or such other similar body as the Governor in Council may determine.

- (2.) One of the members shall be appointed by the Governor in Council to be the Chairman.
- (3.) A Deputy Chairman shall be appointed by the Board from amongst its members.
- (4.) Subject to this Act the members of the Board shall hold office for three years.
- (5.) All retiring members shall be eligible for reappointment.
- (6.) Any vacancy which occurs in the Board shall be filled as it occurs by the appointment of another member as follows:—
 - (i.) In the case of a member appointed by the Governor in Council, by the appointment of another member by the Governor in Council;
 - (ii.) In the case of a member appointed by the Senate of the said University, by the appointment of another member by the said Senate;

^{* 39} Vic. No. 11 and Amending Acts, supra, pages 614 et seq. and 5123.

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(iii.) In the case of a member appointed by the Council of Agriculture or other similar body as aforesaid, by the appointment of another member by the said Council or body:

Provided that, if a vacancy under paragraph (ii.) or paragraph (iii.) hereof is not so filled within three months after it has occurred, it shall be filled by the Governor in Council by the appointment of a member.

Upon the occurrence of a vacancy to which this subsection applies, the person appointed to fill such vacancy shall be deemed to have been appointed at the same time as the member whom he succeeds in office.

(7.) The Governor in Council shall determine what fees and travelling or other expenses, if any, shall be paid to members of the Board.

Business.

(8.) Subject to this Act the Board shall meet at such times and conduct their business in such manner as they may decide or as may be prescribed.

Superseding the Board.

5. (1.) The Governor in Council shall have the power to fix a date on and after which the powers, duties, and functions of the Board under this Act shall cease.

Superintendent of Agricultural Education. (2.) The Governor in Council may appoint an officer to be called the Superintendent of Agricultural Education; such officer shall upon such appointment be and become an officer of the Department of Public Instruction, and shall, under the Minister, have the general administration of this Act, and shall be authorised to undertake and perform, and shall undertake and perform, the powers, duties, and functions of the Board under this Act; and this Act shall thereafter be read and construed as if section four were omitted therefrom, and as if in lieu of the word "Board" wherever that word elsewhere occurs, the word "Superintendent" or the words "Superintendent of Agricultural Education," as the context may require, were inserted in lieu thereof, and as if all consequential amendments of such context were also made therein.

Duties of the Board.

- 6. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:—
 - (a) To advise as to the disbursements of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purposes of agricultural education;

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- (b) To make, or cause to be made, studies, investigations, and reports having reference to the establishment and administration of agricultural schools and classes, and to matters that may aid in the advancement of agricultural education:
- (c) To issue bulletins from time to time dealing with agricultural education and cognate subjects:
- (d) Generally, to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties for the effectual execution of this Act as the Governor in Council may from time to time determine.
- 7. (1.) The Governor in Council, upon the recom-Appoint. mendation of the Public Service Commissioner, may from ment time to time appoint such officers as are required for the effectual execution of this Act.
- (2.) The Minister, with the concurrence of the Services of Minister of the department concerned, may from time to officers of other time and at any time require any officer of any State departments. department to make any inspection or valuation, or to prepare any plans, specifications, or estimates, or to perform any other duty which he deems necessary to assist the Board in the performance of their powers and duties under this Act; and every such officer shall conform with such requirement.
- 8. The Governor in Council, upon the recommenda- Establish. tion of the Board, may from time to time establish in ment of agricultural such places as are deemed expedient—

schools or classes.

- (a) Agricultural schools or agricultural classes;
- (b) Part-time agricultural schools or evening agricultural classes;
- (c) Boarding-houses for the reception of pupils; and may equip, manage, maintain, and control the same.
- 9. (1.) Application to the Governor in Council for Applications the establishment of an agricultural school or of agricul-establish. tural classes in any locality may be made by any society, ment of association, or body of persons.

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Every such application shall be accompanied by—

- (a) Full details of the proposals; including particulars of the proposed site of such school; and
- (b) Such other particulars as may be prescribed.

Such application shall also be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that towards the estimated capital cost of the purchase and erection or other acquirement of the necessary site and buildings and all necessary equipment thereof, the applicants have already raised, contributed, or otherwise secured a sum of money equal to at least one-third of such estimated cost.

Every such application shall be referred by the Minister to the Board, and the Board shall thereupon consider the application and furnish a report thereon to the Minister for submission to the Governor in Council.

The Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Board, may establish such agricultural school or agricultural classes in accordance with such application, with or without such modifications as the Board may recommend or as the Governor in Council may approve, and may thereupon contribute by way of grant a sum equal to two-thirds (or the balance as the case may be) of such estimated cost as aforesaid.

- (2.) The whole annual cost of the maintenance, management, and upkeep of any agricultural school or agricultural classes established under this section, and of the agricultural education therein, shall be defrayed out of moneys to be appropriated from time to time by Parliament for the purpose.
- (3.) Any additions, extensions, or improvements (including increased and more effective equipment) to any agricultural school or agricultural classes established under this section may be made by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Board as and when deemed expedient; or towards the estimated capital cost of any such additions, extensions, or improvements, if approved by the Governor in Council, the Governor in Council may contribute by way of grant a sum not exceeding two-thirds of such cost.
- (4.) Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent any society, association, or body of persons concerned contributing the whole cost of any site, buildings,

and equipment, or any of these, for any agricultural school or agricultural classes approved under an application as aforesaid, or of any additions, extensions, or improvements thereto approved as aforesaid.

- (5.) The necessary buildings and any additions, extensions, or improvements thereto shall be erected in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by a State officer and approved by the Board.
- 10. The site of every agricultural school established Site of under this Act shall be vested in the Corporation.

 Site of school to be vested in Corporation.
- 11. Upon the recommendation of the Board, the Contribution Governor in Council may contribute by way of grant a towards sum equal to two-thirds of the capital cost of providing an Grammar agricultural section or agricultural classes in connection Schools, &c. with a Grammar School established under *"The Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1900," or in connection with a Technical College established under †" The Technical Instruction Acts, 1908 to 1918."

Moneys so contributed shall be devoted exclusively to the express purposes for which such money has been so contributed.

12. Save as hereinafter provided, instruction shall Education, be free in agricultural schools and agricultural classes: when to be free.

Provided, however, that fees may be charged—

- (a) For part-time classes or special classes organised in connection with such schools;
- (b) In connection with agricultural sections or agricultural classes established in connection with any grammar school or any technical college not wholly controlled by the State, or any other institution approved by the Board.

But in every such case the amount of such fees, and the general conditions relating to the charging of fees, shall be subject to the approval of the Board.

13 Committees of management of agricultural Committees schools or agricultural classes may be constituted and of management. appointed as the Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Board, may approve.

^{* 24} Vic. No. 7 and Amending Acts, supra, pages 621 et seq.

^{† 8} Edw. VII. No. 7, supra, page 629, and 9 Geo. V. No. 13, supra, page 8486.

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State supervision and inspection.

14. All agricultural schools, agricultural sections, or agricultural classes established under this Act receiving State aid thereunder, shall be under State supervision and inspection to the extent of the purposes for which such aid has been granted.

Purpose of education under this Act.

- 15. (1.) The purpose of agricultural education proprovided for vided for under this Act shall be to fit the pupil to enter upon agricultural pursuits or to proceed to a diploma or degree in agriculture in the University of Queensland or other institution approved by the Board, or to corresponding degrees or diplomas, or, in the case of females, to fit the pupil for home life.
 - (2.) Generally, the instruction in the agricultural schools, agricultural sections, and agricultural classes established under this Act shall be designed for pupils who have at least completed the fifth-class work in primary State schools or who have been educated up to a standard equivalent thereto.

Governor in Council to regard recommendations of Board.

16. The Governor in Council, in the exercise of any powers or authorities conferred upon him by this Act, shall have due regard to the recommendations of the Board, but he shall not be bound to wait for any such recommendation or any approval of the Board before exercising any such power or authority, or to comply with any such recommendation.

Power to make regulations.

- 17. The Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Board, may from time to time make and promulgate rules and regulations for the effectual execution of this Act and the objects thereof, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing provision for all or any of the purposes following:—
 - (i.) The meetings, business, and procedure of the Board:
 - (ii.) The management of the affairs of agricultural schools and agricultural classes;
 - (iii.) Prescribing the subjects to be taught in agricultural schools and agricultural classes;
 - (iv.) Specifying the conditions and restrictions upon and subject to which pupils may obtain instruction in the different classes in connection with agricultural schools and agricultural classes:

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- (v.) Regulating the attendance of pupils at agricultural schools and agricultural classes; the exclusion or expulsion of any person from any such school or class;
- (vi.) The establishment of laboratories and libraries and museums, and specifying the conditions and restrictions upon and subject to which the same may be used by the pupils;
- (vii.) Holding examinations and granting certificates and diplomas in connection with agricultural schools and agricultural classes;
- (viii.) The licensing and supervision of boardinghouses intended for the reception of pupils, and the suspension or revocation of such licenses;
 - (ix.) The terms and conditions on which holders of State scholarships may obtain the benefit of the same by attendance at an agricultural school or agricultural section of a school or college.

All such rules and regulations, upon being published in the *Gazette*, shall have the same effect as if they were enacted in this Act, and shall be judicially noticed in all courts of justice, and shall not be questioned in any proceedings whatsoever.

All such rules and regulations shall be laid before Parliament within forty days after the making thereof if Parliament is then in session, or if not then within forty days after the commencement of the next session thereof.

- 18. All expenses of carrying this Act into execution Expenses to shall be paid out of moneys to be from time to time of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purpose.

 appropriated.
- 19. The Board shall submit to the Governor in Annual Council an annual report on the working and operation reports of this Act.

Such report shall be laid before Parliament.