



ANNO DECIMO TERTIO

GEORGII V REGIS.

A.D. 1922.

No. 1543.

An Act to make better provision for the proper and sufficient Accommodation of Shearers.

[*Assented to, December 21st, 1922.*]

BE it Enacted by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows :

1. This Act may be cited as the "Shearers Accommodation Act, 1922." Short title.

2. The Shearers Accommodation Act, 1905, and the Shearers Accommodation Act Amendment Act, 1916, are hereby repealed. Repeal of Acts Nos. 887 of 1905 and 1241 of 1916.

3. This Act shall not apply—
(a) in respect of any shearing-shed in or about which less than six shearers are for the time being employed, or
(b) to the shearing of sheep in any city, town, or township. Exception. Cf. 887, 1905, s. 2.

4. In this Act, unless inconsistent with the context—
"Employer" means master, manager, foreman, overseer, or other person having control of a shearing-shed or engaged in superintendence of any shearer : Interpretation. Cf. ibid., s. 3.

"Inspector" means Inspector appointed by or under this Act :

"Shearer" means and includes any person employed in or about a shearing-shed in the shearing of sheep, or in work connected therewith, but does not include a person who is employed on the holding on which the shearing-shed is situated when shearing is not in progress, nor does it include any member of the employer's family :

"Shearing

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“Shearing-shed” means any shed or building used in the shearing of sheep or any operation connected therewith.

Governor may
appoint Inspectors.
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 5.

5. (1) The Governor may appoint Inspectors under this Act. Each Inspector so appointed shall be furnished by the Minister with a certificate of his appointment, to be produced by him when acting in pursuance of this Act.

Certain members of
Police Force to be
Inspectors *ex officio*.

New.

No. 1257 of 1916.

(2) (a) Every member of the Police Force who is in charge of a Police District established under the provisions of the Police Act, 1916, or of any Police Station, shall, during such time as he is in charge of such Police District or Police Station, be an Inspector under this Act without any further appointment :

(b) A member of the Police Force so acting as an Inspector may authorise in writing under his hand any other member of the Police Force to carry out any of the duties of an Inspector under this Act, and such member so authorised shall, within the limits of his authority, have all the powers of an Inspector.

What is proper and
sufficient
accommodation.

Cf. 887, 1905, s. 7.

6. (1) Accommodation proper and sufficient for the comfort and health of such shearers as are employed shall be provided by the employer in a building or buildings separate from the shearing-shed.

(2) Accommodation in such building or buildings shall not be deemed proper and sufficient for the comfort and health of such shearers if any one of the following conditions is not fulfilled :—

- I. Not less than two hundred and forty cubic feet of air space shall be allowed to each person sleeping in any room or apartment :
- II. Where the shearers for whom sleeping accommodation is provided include persons of any Asiatic race, separate rooms shall be provided for the sleeping accommodation of such persons :
- III. No room used for sleeping shall be used for the cooking or serving of meals and, when meals are cooked and served in the same room, provision shall be made for cooking the meals at one end of the room and for serving them at the other :
- IV. Sufficient latrine accommodation shall be provided, situated not less than one hundred feet from the buildings used for sleeping and for serving meals, and so as to exclude any probability of the pollution of any water supply :
- V. Each kitchen and each sleeping and dining room shall be supplied with sufficient light and ventilation :
- VI. Each kitchen and each sleeping and dining room shall be provided with a floor of suitable material :
- VII. A meat house or meat safe properly constructed to keep out flies shall be provided :

VIII. A

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VIII. A sufficient supply of good drinking water shall be provided :

IX. Proper cooking, drinking, and washing utensils shall be provided. Such utensils shall include proper urns or pots with tight-fitting lids and spouts or taps for the distribution of tea and coffee.

(3) Such building or buildings shall be distant at least fifty yards from the shearing-shed: Provided that this provision shall not apply to any buildings erected prior to the fifth day of October, nineteen hundred and sixteen, if such buildings contain or are altered so as to contain the accommodation required by this Act.

7. (1) Every building provided by an employer for the accommodation of shearers shall be cleaned and fumigated or disinfected by the employer at least once in every twelve months, and shall be handed over to the shearers in good order and clean condition.

Buildings to be kept clean.
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 7 (1).

(2) Such building shall be kept clean by the shearers occupying the same during the period of their occupancy.

(3) Whenever the shearers occupying such building fail to keep such building clean, the employer may restore such building to and keep it in a clean state, and may deduct the cost of any work necessary for cleaning in equal parts from wages due or accruing due to such shearers by him.

8. For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act every Inspector shall, at all reasonable times, have the free right of ingress to and egress from every shearing-shed and building used for accommodating shearers.

Inspectors to have right of entry
New.

9. (1) All buildings, other than shearing sheds, used for accommodating shearers may be inspected by an Inspector from time to time, and shall be inspected by an Inspector at least once in every twelve months.

Inspection of buildings.
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 8.

(2) Every Inspector shall, not later than the thirty-first day of March in every year, make a full and detailed report to the Minister of all inspections made by him during the preceding calendar year.

(3) An Inspector, other than a member of the Police Force, making any inspection shall, at the request of an employer, produce the certificate of his appointment and show it to the said employer.

10. (1) Where an Inspector, after the making of an inspection, has reason to believe that any requirement of this Act has not been complied with, he shall forthwith make a full and detailed report thereof to the Minister, who may thereupon so notify the employer concerned, directing him within three months to comply with such requirements.

Notice to comply with Act.
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 9.

(2) Such notice shall specify in what respects the said requirements have not been complied with.

(3) Such

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(3) Such notice shall be in writing and may be served on the employer personally or by post or by being left at his usual or last known place of residence with some adult person apparently an inmate thereof.

Penalty on failure to carry out requirements of notice.

Cf. *ibid.*, s. 10.

11. Any employer who has been served with a notice pursuant to section 10 of this Act, and who fails to comply with the requirements of such notice, shall, unless he satisfies the Court that he has used all due diligence to comply with the requirements of such notice, be guilty of an offence against this Act, and be liable to a penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds, and for every day during his default to a further penalty of Two Pounds.

Minister may grant exemptions.

Cf. *ibid.*, s. 11.

12. The Minister may, if special and unavoidable circumstances exist to prevent compliance with any of the conditions for proper accommodation prescribed by this Act, grant an exemption from any or all of such conditions for such period, not exceeding twelve months at any one time, as the Minister thinks proper, and may, if sufficient reason is shown, grant a further exemption for any period not exceeding twelve months.

Obstruction of Inspector.

Cf. *ibid.*, s. 12.

13. Any person obstructing an Inspector in the exercise of his powers under this Act shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and be liable to a penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds.

Summary proceedings for offences.

14. All proceedings in respect of offences against this Act shall be disposed of summarily.

Inspector to prosecute.
New

15. Complaints for offences against this Act shall be made by an Inspector.

Certificate of appointment of Inspector to be evidence.
New.

16. Evidence of the appointment of any Inspector, pursuant to subsection (1) of section 5, may be given in all Courts by the production of a certificate of appointment of such Inspector purporting to be signed by the Minister.

Regulations.

17. (1) The Governor may make any regulations which may be necessary or convenient for carrying out any of the provisions of this Act, or for better effecting the objects or purpose of this Act.

(2) Such regulations may be general in their application or may be limited to particular localities or premises.

(3) Such regulations may provide a penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds for any breach thereof.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

TOM BRIDGES, Governor.