

Hon. Sir J. G. Ward

ANIMALS PROTECTION AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Animals Protection Act, 1880."

Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Animals Protection Amendment Act, 1903"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Animals Protection Act, 1880" (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act").

Short Title.

2. (1.) The season for taking or killing native and imported game (other than deer and godwits) shall begin on the first day of May and close on the thirty-first day of July in each year.

Game season.

(2.) Section two of "The Animals Protection Act, 1900," is hereby amended by repealing the first paragraph thereof.

3. (1.) No person shall take or kill, or use any dog, gun, net, or other engine or device for the purpose of taking or killing native game until such person has taken out a license to kill native game in the form prescribed by regulations, and paid the prescribed duty thereon native game unless such person has taken out a license in the form prescribed by regulations, and paid the prescribed duty thereon.

License to kill native game.

(2.) Native game under this section shall not include wild duck; and in taking or killing native game, dog, fowling-piece, or net only shall be used.

(3.) Every person who commits a breach of this section is liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds.

*New subclause.*

(4.) Nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to repeal the provisions of section seven of "The Animals Protection Act, 1895," or of section four of "The Animals Protection Act, 1900."

License fee for coursing.

4. (1.) In any district where hares are protected the annual license fee to be charged for the coursing of hares shall be a sum not exceeding five one pounds.

(2.) The conditions under which and the season or times at which such coursing shall take place shall be fixed by regulations under this Act.

*Struck out.*

Section 7 of principal Act amended.

5. Section seven of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the words "in writing" after the word "appointed."

Amendment of section 7 of the principal Act.

*New clause.*  
5. Section seven of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing the words "not being Crown lands," and substituting in lieu thereof "or any member of his family"; also by adding the words "in writing" after the words "appointed by him." 5

License fee to kill game.

6. (1.) A license to take or kill game (other than deer) shall be issued to any person on payment of a license fee of *one* pound : 10

Provided that no person who is the holder of a license to take or kill imported game shall be liable to pay any further fee on taking out a license to take or kill native game, ~~and vice-versa~~; but nothing herein shall extend to permit any person to kill game or native game without license, save as provided in section seven of the principal Act. 15

Provisions relating to game to apply to native game.

(2.) Section nine of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

7. Except where otherwise specially provided, all the provisions of the principal Act and its amendments relating to game shall apply to native game. 20

Regulations.

8. The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council gazetted, make regulations prescribing—

(a.) The form of licenses to take or kill native game, and the fees to be taken therefor in any district, and the mode of issuing such licenses or refusing the issue of a license ; 25

(b.) The duties of Rangers, the mode of their appointment and removal from office, and for the control of such officers ;

(c.) For the registration of acclimatisation societies, and for regulating the formation of any new society within an existing district, for the re-registration of any existing society, and for the dissolution of societies registered under this Act or any repealed Act ; 30

(d.) The mode of keeping books or registers by carrying companies, ~~whether~~ by land or sea, by refrigerating companies or proprietors of freezing-chambers, and forwarding agents, showing the receipt and delivery of all packages or parcels containing game or native game, and for the inspection by any Ranger of any such books or registers ; 35

(e.) For the inspection of freezing-chambers or refrigerating-works ; 40

(f.) The deer-shooting season in each district and the conditions affecting the same, the form of licenses and the fees payable therefor, and for regulating or prohibiting the sale of deer or venison or stags' heads ;

(g.) The season during which godwits may be killed or taken ; 45

*New paragraph.*

(ga.) For prohibiting the killing or taking of any game or native game within any domain or forest reserve ;

(h.) The mode of registering or recording appointments made under section seven of the principal Act ; 50

(i.) The fines (not exceeding *twenty* pounds in any case) payable in respect of the breach of any such regulations.