

Hon. Mr. Fowlds.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	<i>Miscellaneous Amendments of the Principal Act.</i>
1. Short Title.	4. Section 38 of principal Act amended.
<i>Medical Attendance in Childbirth.</i>	5. Board to have control of infectious diseases.
2. Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards to supply medical attendance in certain cases to women in childbirth.	6. First Schedule to principal Act amended.
3. Liability for medical fees in certain cases.	7. Second Schedule to principal Act amended.
	8. Third Schedule to principal Act amended. Schedule.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, Title 1909.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Amendment Act, 1910, and shall form part of and be read together with the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, 1909 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

*Medical Attendance in Childbirth.*

2. (1.) It shall be the duty of every Hospital and Charitable Aid Board to supply, in accordance with this section, medical attendance to married women in childbirth.

15 (2.) "Medical attendance" means the services of a registered medical practitioner, or of a registered midwife, at the birth of the child and at any subsequent times at which such services may be required during the period of fourteen days after the birth, but does not include nursing.

20 (3.) Such medical attendance shall be supplied at the residence of the woman, unless in the opinion of the Board such attendance can be more conveniently supplied in any institution belonging to the Board or elsewhere.

25 (4.) Application for such medical attendance shall be made to the Board in writing by the married woman, or by her husband, or by some other person in her behalf, within a reasonable time, not being less than one month, before the date of the birth.

(5.) Every such application shall be accompanied by a fee of *one* pound, which shall form part of the ordinary revenues of the Board, and no other payment shall be receivable by the Board in respect of any relief afforded in pursuance of the requirements of this section.

(6.) Every such application shall be accompanied by a statutory declaration by the applicant that the combined incomes of the husband of the married woman and of the married woman herself during the period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of the application did not exceed two hundred pounds. Every such declaration shall be exempt from stamp duty.

(7.) Section seventy-two of the principal Act shall apply to relief afforded under this section in the same manner as to any other relief granted by a Board.

(8.) Nothing in this section shall affect the powers of a Board under the principal Act to grant medical attendance or other relief in respect of childbirth, whether by way of charitable aid or otherwise, in such manner and on such terms as the Board thinks fit; and all such powers shall be concurrent with the duty imposed upon a Board by this section to supply medical attendance in pursuance of the terms thereof.

(9.) Nothing in this section shall be so construed as to confer upon any person any right of action against a Board for any breach or non-observance of the provisions thereof.

(10.) All expenditure incurred by a Board under this section shall be entitled to double the rate of subsidy prescribed by section thirty-eight of the principal Act for levies from contributory local authorities in respect of expenditure other than capital expenditure.

Liability for medical fees in certain cases.

3. Where a registered midwife is, in pursuance of the Midwives Act, 1908, and the regulations thereunder, required to obtain the assistance of a medical practitioner, she shall be under no liability for the fees of such medical practitioner, and those fees shall be payable in the same manner as if the medical practitioner had been called in by the patient herself:

Provided that if the case is one that comes within the provisions of the *last preceding* section the medical practitioner may recover the fees from the Board.

#### *Miscellaneous Amendments of the Principal Act.*

Section 38 of principal Act amended.

4. Section thirty-eight of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words "out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for that purpose," and substituting therefor the words "without further appropriation than this Act."

Board to have control of infectious diseases.

5. Notwithstanding anything in the principal Act or the Public Health Act, 1908, a Hospital and Charitable Aid Board shall, for the purposes of such of the provisions of the last-mentioned Act as relate to the prevention of infectious diseases, be deemed to be a local authority under that Act for the hospital district, and all references in those provisions to a local authority shall accordingly be deemed to be references to a Hospital and Charitable Aid Board and not to a local authority as defined by that Act.

First Schedule to principal Act amended.

6. The First Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended in manner following as from the passing of that Act:—

(a.) As to the North Canterbury Hospital District, by adding after the words "The North Canterbury Hospital Board," in the second column, the words "the Ashburton and North Canterbury United Charitable Aid Board":

(b.) As to the Ashburton Hospital District, by omitting from the second column the words "the Ashburton and North Canterbury United Charitable Aid Board."

7. (1.) The Second Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended as from the passing of the principal Act by adding thereto the words "The Hawke's Bay Children's Home." Second Schedule to principal Act amended.

(2.) The provisions contained in the Schedule hereto shall apply to the Hawke's Bay Children's Home, notwithstanding anything contained in the principal Act.

10 8. The Third Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended as from the passing of that Act by omitting from paragraph seven thereof the words "Trigger bequests," and substituting the words "Twigger bequests." Third Schedule to principal Act amended.

### SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

#### SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE HAWKE'S BAY CHILDREN'S HOME.

(1.) At the annual meeting of the contributors to the Hawke's Bay Children's Home, to be held in accordance with section 93 of the principal Act, on the first Tuesday in April, in the year nineteen hundred and *eleven*, or at an adjournment of that meeting, all the Trustees then in office shall retire, and Trustees of the institution shall be elected under the principal Act.

(2.) The several persons who are acting as the Trustees of the institution at the passing of this Act shall be deemed to have been validly elected as the Trustees of the institution, and shall continue to act accordingly, notwithstanding anything in the principal Act, until the Trustees have been elected as aforesaid by the contributors:

Provided that if any of those persons dies, or resigns, or forfeits his office under the provisions of the principal Act before Trustees have been so elected by the contributors, the Governor may, by warrant under his hand, appoint a contributor to the vacant office.

(3.) All acts done before the passing of this Act by any persons as Trustees of the said institution, are hereby validated so far as those acts would have been valid if they had been done by persons lawfully holding office as the Trustees of the institution under the provisions of the principal Act.