

Hon. Sir J. Vogel.

PARLIAMENTARY HONORARIUM AND PRIVILEGES.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for reimbursing Members of the General Assembly their Expenses in relation to their Attendance at Parliament, and further to define their Privileges. Title.

5 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 Parliamentary Honorarium and Privileges Act, 1884." Short Title.

2. In this Act,—

10 "Member" means a member of the Legislative Council or the House of Representatives, as the case may be: Interpretation.
 "Sitting day," where used in relation to the Legislative Council or the members thereof, or to the House of Representatives or the members thereof, means every day on which such Legislative Council or House of Representatives respectively shall, during any session, be, by their Standing Orders, appointed to sit for the transaction of business.

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 20 3. Subject to the provisions of this Act, there shall be paid out of the Consolidated Fund to every member residing at a distance exceeding ten miles in a direct line from the building wherein the General Assembly is summoned to meet an allowance of two hundred and ten pounds for every session at which he attends; and to every member residing within ten miles in a direct line of the place of meeting as aforesaid an allowance of one hundred and forty pounds for every session at which he attends. Allowance to members of the General Assembly for attendance each session.

25 4. If at any time between the first day of January in any year and the thirty-first day of December in the same year two sessions of Parliament shall be held, whether of the same Parliament or not, Provision in case of two sessions in one year.

and whether or not both sessions be concluded within the aforesaid days, then the amount of payment to be made to each member who was in attendance at the first of such sessions, in respect of his attendance at the second of such sessions, shall be calculated at one-half of the rates mentioned in the last preceding section.

Deduction in case of absence.

5. All payments to be made under the last two preceding sections shall be subject to the provisions following, that is to say,—

(1.) If during any session any member shall absent himself for any number of sitting days exceeding five, there shall be deducted from the allowance to be made to such member for every sitting day (exclusive of such five sitting days) during which he may be absent, such sum as will bear a like proportion to the full amount payable to any member under this Act as one sitting day will bear to the whole number of sitting days in such session.

Deduction not to be made in case of illness.

(2.) The preceding provision as to the deduction to be made in the case of absence of any member in attendance on Parliament shall not apply where such absence is caused by reason of illness, or from any other cause which shall, by the Speaker of the House giving the certificate hereinafter mentioned, be therein stated to be unavoidable.

Travelling allowance.

(3.) In addition to the allowance aforesaid, there shall be paid to every member the actual sums which such member shall have reasonably paid in proceeding to and returning from the place of meeting of the General Assembly: Provided that such payment shall be made only in respect of one journey to and from such place.

No payments to be made without Speaker's certificate.

(4.) No payment shall be made to any member except upon the certificate of the Speaker of the House of which the person claiming such payment shall be a member.

(5.) Payments on account of such allowance may be made from time to time not exceeding two pounds for each sitting day on which the member has been present.

Exemptions, as to Ministers, Speakers, &c.

6. No payment under this Act, other than travelling allowance as aforesaid to the Speakers and Chairmen of Committees hereinafter mentioned, shall be made to any member in respect of any session or in respect of any part of any session during which such member—

(1.) Holds and receives an official salary in respect of any one or more of the ministerial offices mentioned in the Third Schedule to "The Civil List Act 1863 Amendment Act, 1873," or any ministerial office which may by law be substituted for or added to the offices mentioned in such Schedule;

(2.) Is Speaker of the Legislative Council or of the House of Representatives respectively;

(3.) Or is Chairman of Committees of the said Council or of the House of Representatives respectively.

Members not disqualified from serving on Royal Commissions.

7. No member shall be disqualified from serving upon any Commission appointed by the Governor, nor shall the receipt by such member of any fee or allowance in respect of such service render such member disqualified from being or continuing to be a member, anything contained in any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.