

[AS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.]

House of Representatives, 25th October, 1910.

Right Hon. Sir J. G. Ward.

POST AND TELEGRAPH AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title. Commencement.</p> <p>2. Section 8 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>3. Section 197 of principal Act amended.</p>	<p>4. Secretary to take the place of Superintendent of Electric Lines.</p> <p>5. Miscellaneous amendments of principal Act.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Post and Telegraph Act, 1908.

Title.

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

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1. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Post and Telegraph Amendment Act, 1910, and shall form part of and be read together with the Post and Telegraph Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

Short Title.

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(2.) This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and *eleven*.

Commencement.

New.

1A. (1.) In this section—

Interpretation.

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“Telegraph-station” means any station or place in New Zealand at which telegraphic messages are received from or transmitted to any place outside New Zealand, and includes all cables or wires connected with that station, and all things necessary for the efficient working thereof:

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“Telegraphic message” includes telephonic messages, and also includes not only messages transmitted by electric wires or cables, but also those transmitted by wireless telegraphy or telephony.

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(2.) In time of war or at any time when in the opinion of the Governor war is reasonably to be apprehended, the Governor may assume, and for any length of time retain, possession of any telegraph-station, and may for the same time require the exclusive service of the operators and other persons employed at that station.

Governor may take and retain possession of telegraph-stations in times of war or danger of war.

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(3.) The company or persons owning or occupying that station shall give up possession thereof; and the operators and other persons so employed shall, during the time of such possession, diligently and faithfully obey such orders and transmit and receive such messages as they are required to transmit and receive by any duly authorized officer of the Crown.

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(4.) Every person who violates any of the provisions of this section is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding *one*

New.

hundred pounds, or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding three months.

(5.) Where the possession of any telegraph-station is assumed as aforesaid, the company or persons owning or occupying the same shall be entitled to compensation from the Crown for all loss or damage thereby sustained. 5

(6.) The Governor may from time to time by Order in Council make such regulations as he thinks necessary for the effective regulation, control, or prohibition of telegraphic messages in time of war, or when in the opinion of the Governor war is reasonably to be apprehended. 10

(7.) Every person who commits a breach of any such regulation shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding three months. 15

Section 8 of principal Act amended.

2. Section eight of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from paragraph (d) the words " this Division of."

New.

Section 11 of principal Act amended.

2A. Section eleven of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from paragraph (f) the word " fifty," and substituting the words " four hundred." 20

Section 140 of the principal Act amended.

2B. Section one hundred and forty of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (b), and substituting therefor the following paragraph:—

" (b.) To the case of any proceedings in respect of any offence, whether punishable on indictment or otherwise, if the Minister is satisfied that such evidence or production is necessary or expedient in the interests of justice, and in writing directs accordingly." 25

Section 197 of principal Act amended.

3. Section one hundred and ninety-seven of the principal Act is hereby amended in manner following:— 30

(a.) By inserting, after the word " children " in paragraph (g), the words " under the age of fourteen years ":

(b.) By inserting, after the word " children " in paragraph (r), the words " under the age of fourteen years." 35

Secretary to take the place of Superintendent of Electric Lines.

4. On and after the commencement of this Act the powers and duties conferred by the principal Act or any other Act upon the Superintendent of Electric Lines shall be conferred upon and be exercised and performed by the Secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department, and all references in any Act to the said Superintendent shall be deemed to be references to the said Secretary. 40

Miscellaneous amendments of principal Act.

5. The principal Act is hereby amended as follows:—

(a.) By omitting from section one hundred and nineteen the definition of " Superintendent," and by inserting the following definition:— 45

" ' Secretary ' means the Secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department " ;

(b.) By repealing subsection two of section one hundred and twenty-one, and substituting therefor the following:—

" (2.) The Governor may from time to time appoint all such officers, clerks, and other persons as are requisite for the purposes of this Division of this Act " ; 50

- (c.) By omitting from section one hundred and thirty-five the word "Superintendent," and substituting the word "Secretary";
- 5 (d.) By omitting from section one hundred and forty the word "Superintendent," and substituting the word "Secretary";
- (e.) By omitting from section one hundred and seventy-eight the word "Superintendent," and substituting the word "Secretary";
- 10 (f.) By omitting from section one hundred and seventy-nine the word "Superintendent," and substituting the word "Secretary";
- (g.) By omitting from section one hundred and eighty-nine all words after the words "Post and Telegraph Department"; and
- 15 (h.) By omitting from the First Division of the Fifth Schedule the references to the Superintendent of Electric Lines and to the Assistant Secretary and Inspector, and substituting therefor the following, but omitting the headings:—
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Office.	Mini- mum.	Maxi- mum.	Increment.
Assistant Secretary	750	900	One annual increment of £100, and one of £50.
Chief Telegraph Engineer	700	800	Two annual increments of £50 each.