PAWNBROKERS' CHARGES BILL.

MEMORANDUM.

. HE Pawnbrokers Act, 1908, fixes the scale of profits that may be taken by a pawnbroker on pledges. The scale allows a profit as high as 80 per cent. per annum to be made.

The Bill repeals this scale and adopts that provided by the English Act, under which the rate is limited to 20 per cent. per annum in the case of loans exceeding £2, and 25 per cent. per annum in the case of loans under that amount. In addition the Bill authorises the pawnbroker to charge the sum of one penny for the pawn-ticket.

JOHN W. SALMOND,

Counsel to the Law Drafting Office.

No. 24-2.

This Public Bill originated in the House of Representatives, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives. 3rd September, 1908.

Hon. Mr. McGowan.

PAWNBROKERS' CHARGES.

ANALYSIS.

Title. 4. Consequential amendments of principal 1. Short Title. Act. 2. Repeal. 5. Existing contracts. 3. Pawnbrokers' charges. 6. Commencement of Act. Schedule.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Law relating to Pawnbrokers. BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand

in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as 5 follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Pawnbrokers' Charges Act, Short Title. 1908, and shall form part of and be read together with the Pawnbrokers Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

2. Section fifteen of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

10 3. A pawnbroker shall not, in respect of a loan on a pledge, take 1868, No. 4, sec. 17 any profit or demand or take any charge or sum whatever other Pawnbrokers' charges. than those specified in the Schedule hereto.

4. (1.) Section nineteen of the principal Act is hereby amended Consequential by omitting the words "shall be delivered gratis and."

15 (2.) Section twenty-seven of the principal Act is hereby amended Ibid, sec. 21 by inserting after the words "shall be permitted" the words "on Ibid, sec. 29 payment of the prescribed charge."

5. This Act shall not affect any existing contract, but shall Existing contracts. apply on the renewal of any loan under an existing contract.

6. This Act shall commence on the first day of January, Commencement of 20 Act. nineteen hundred and nine.

SCHEDULE.

PROFITS AND CHARGES ALLOWED TO PAWNBROKERS.

Profit on Loan.

On a loan of two pounds or under,---For any time during which the pledge remains in pawn not exceeding one month, for every two shillings or fraction of

two shillings lent ... For every month after the first, including the current month in which the pledge is redeemed, although that month is not expired, for every two shillings or fraction of two shillings lent ... •••

No. 24-2.

One halfpenny.

... One halfpenny.

amendments of principal Act.

Schedule.

Repeal.

Title.

But if the pledge is redeemed before the end of the first fourteen days after the expiration of any month, the pawnbroker shall in respect of those fourteen days be entitled to take half of the amount which he would be entitled to take for the whole month.	
For every month or part of a month, for every two shillings and sixpence or fraction of two shillings and sixpence	One halfpenny.
Charge on Pawn-ticket.	
In the case of every loan	One penny.
Charge on Inspection of Sale-book.	
For the inspection of the entry of a sale	One penny.

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington .--- 1908.