

Hon. Sir J. Vogel.

POST OFFICE ACT 1881 AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Prohibition of fictitious stamps.</p>	<p>3. Onus of proof to lie on defendant.</p> <p>4. Saving of power to proceed under Post Office Acts or other law.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Post Office Act, 1881."

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 Post Office Act 1881 Amendment Act, 1887." Short Title.

2. A person shall not—

Prohibition of fictitious stamps.

10 (1.) Make, knowingly utter, deal in, or sell any fictitious stamp, or knowingly use for any postal purpose any fictitious stamp; or

(2.) Have in his possession, unless he shows a lawful excuse, any fictitious stamp; or

15 (3.) Make or, unless he shows a lawful excuse, have in his possession any die, plate, instrument, or materials for making any fictitious stamp.

Any person who acts in contravention of this section shall be liable, on summary conviction before any two or more Justices of the Peace under "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882," on a prosecution

20 by order of the Postmaster-General, to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds, or to imprisonment with hard labour for any period not exceeding six months.

Any stamp, die, plate, instrument, or materials found in the possession of any person in contravention of this section may be

25 seized, and shall be forfeited.

For the purposes of this section "fictitious stamp" means any facsimile or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for denoting any rate of postage of this colony, including any stamp for denoting a rate of postage of any other part of

30 Her Majesty's dominions or of any foreign country.

Onus of proof to lie on defendant.

3. Every stamp purporting to denote a rate of postage of any part of Her Majesty's dominions, or of any foreign country, shall be deemed to be a stamp used for postal purposes in such part of the said dominions or of such foreign country respectively, unless the contrary be proved, the onus of which proof shall lie on the defendant. 5

Saving of power to proceed under Post Office Acts or other law.

4. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to exempt any person from any proceeding for an offence against this Act which is punishable at common law, or by "The Post Office Act, 1881," or by any Act other than this Act, provided that such person be not punished twice in respect of the same offence. 10