

Hon. Mr. Pitt.

POLICE OFFENCES AMENDMENT.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Police Offences Act, 1884."

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 Police Offences Amendment Act, 1903"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Police Offences Act, 1884."

Short Title.

(1.) Every public billiard-room shall be closed from eleven o'clock at night until eight o'clock on the following morning, except on Saturdays, when it shall be closed from eleven o'clock at night until eight o'clock on the following Monday morning.

Hours of closing public billiard-rooms.

(2.) No game of billiards or any other game shall be played in any public billiard-room during the hours the billiard-room is required to be closed.

(3.) Every person who, being the proprietor or manager of a public billiard-room, fails to close the billiard-room as aforesaid, or permits any game to be played therein during the hours the billiard-room is required to be closed, is liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

(4.) For the purposes of this Act "public billiard-room" means a billiard-room where billiards or any similar games are played for payment, but does not include a billiard-room in premises licensed under "The Licensing Act, 1881," or in a club.

(1.) For the purpose of enforcing the last preceding section any constable may, with or without warrant, at any time of the day or night, enter any public billiard-room to which that section applies, and if he finds any person there in breach of this Act may demand his name and address, and, if he has reasonable ground to suppose that the name or address given is false, may require evidence of the correctness thereof.

Power to enter public billiard-rooms.

(2.) If such person fails on such demand to give his name or address, or such evidence, the constable may without warrant arrest him, and take him as soon as practicable before a Justice of the Peace.

(3.) Every person is liable to a fine not exceeding *five* pounds who when required by a constable under this section to give his name and address fails so to do, or gives a false name, or gives false evidence with respect to such name and address.

(4.) Every person found in any such public billiard-room during the hours the billiard-room is required to be closed is liable, unless he satisfies the Court that he was lawfully there, to a fine not exceeding *two* pounds.

Certain by-laws not affected.

4. Where under any by-law made under any other Act any public billiard-room is required to be closed from an earlier hour than eleven o'clock at night the provisions of sections *two* and *three* hereof shall extend and apply to such earlier hour, and not to eleven o'clock at night.

Use of words denoting Government patronage prohibited.

5. Every person is liable to a fine not exceeding *twenty* pounds who, without the authority of the Colonial Secretary (the proof whereof shall rest on the person claiming to act under the authority),—

(a.) Places or erects, or permits to be placed or erected, or permits to continue, contrary to this Act or after any such authority has been revoked, on or near to his house, shop, or premises, or on any conveyance, any sign, writing, or painting bearing the words "New Zealand Government," or "Government," or any other words or mark implying that such person or any business conducted by him is connected with or under the patronage of the Government, or any Department thereof, or of any Minister; or

(b.) Advertises or causes to be advertised in any newspaper or issues any circular or notice containing the like words or mark.

Riding, &c., on footpaths.

6. Subsection two of section three of the principal Act is hereby repealed, and the following subsection substituted in lieu thereof:—

"(2.) Rides or drives a horse or other animal, or rides a bicycle or other vehicle, or wheels any truck, barrow, or carriage of any kind upon or along any public footpath, or carries any load on his shoulders or otherwise on any such footpath, unless he satisfies the Court that he did not thereby endanger or obstruct any person using such footpath."

Removing material from foreshore.

7. Every person is liable to a fine not exceeding *five* pounds who removes any stone, sand, or other material from any foreshore without the authority in writing of—

(a.) The Minister of Marine, when the foreshore is vested in the Crown; or

(b.) The local authority, when the foreshore is vested in a local authority.