

Mr. Payne.

PUBLICATION OF THE PRESS UNDER LICENSE.

ANALYSIS.

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| <p>Title.
1. Short Title.
2. Licenses.</p> | <p>3. License fee.
4. Terms of licenses.</p> |
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT for the Purpose of ensuring that the Newspaper Press shall be the Means of imparting True Knowledge of Parliamentary and other Public Procedure to the People of the Dominion.

Title.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Publication of the Press under License Act, 1912.

Short Title.

2. From the date of the passing into law of this Act all daily newspapers shall be licensed by license obtained from the Minister of Internal Affairs, who is hereby empowered to issue such licenses under the conditions as set forth herein.

Licenses.

3. The license fee shall be at the rate of five pounds per annum per thousand copies in daily circulation.

License fee.

4. Licenses shall be granted under the following terms and conditions :—

Terms of licenses.

(a.) During election campaigns newspapers shall publish a full verbatim report of the address given by every candidate, or an approved condensation thereof, and the speaker shall sign such verbatim report or condensation prior to publication as proof positive that such speaker has approved the report.

(b.) The reports to be given by newspapers under paragraph (a) hereof shall only apply to reports of speakers giving addresses within a radius of ten miles of the office of such newspapers in the case of town and city districts. In country districts there shall be no distance-limit, but the reports must be made by the newspapers recognized as the local papers circulating in any particular district.

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- (c.) During election campaigns newspapers shall devote a certain portion of the newspaper to parliamentary advertisements, and such advertisements shall appear on one or two or more consecutive pages in each newspaper; and parliamentary advertisements shall not be separated from each other by other advertisements or other reading-matter. The maximum charge for parliamentary advertisements shall be *one* shilling per inch. Each parliamentary candidate may claim not more than ten inches of space under the provisions of this paragraph. 5 10
- (d.) During election campaigns newspapers shall not publish any comments or articles of any kind of a political nature other than the reports to be published under paragraph (a) hereof or advertisements under paragraph (c) hereof. 10
- (e.) At times other than the election-campaign periods newspapers shall publish a report of public meetings of any kind whatsoever, and such report must be signed by the chairman of such meeting as being a true and correct report, before publication thereof. The general conditions of paragraph (b) hereof shall apply to this paragraph as regards limitation of distance or area within which a newspaper must publish reports of public meetings. 15 20