

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT for the Prevention of Frauds in the sale of Articles made up in quantities representing a specified weight. 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 shall be "The Act for the Prevention of Frauds in Sales of certain Articles 1868." Short Title.

2. The Governor may from time to time by proclamation in the Government Gazette declare this Act to be in operation in any portion of the Colony to be defined in any such proclamation and from a day to be fixed in such proclamation this Act shall come into operation in the district defined therein. Governor empowered to proclaim Act in force.

3. For the purpose of preventing fraud in the sale of articles made up within the Colony in parcels or quantities for sale representing any specified weight it shall be lawful for any Inspector of Weights and Measures or any Commissioner Superintendent or Inspector of Police at any time with or without any warrant of a Justice of the Peace or for any police constable on the warrant of a Justice of the Peace to try the weights of any parcels or quantities of articles exposed or kept for sale in any shop store or other premises or in any market place within any district in which this Act shall be brought into operation and for that purpose to enter any such shop store or other premises or any market place within such district and if upon any such trial or examination any parcel or quantity so exposed or kept for sale shall be found light or deficient in weight it shall be lawful for such Inspector of Weights and Measures or Commissioner Superintendent or Inspector of Police or such police constable as the case may be to seize the same and to require the person exposing or keeping the same for sale to appear before any Justice of the Peace and in the event of refusal to convey such person before two or more Justices of the Peace for examination and it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace before whom such person shall appear or be taken on finding that any parcel or quantity of any article so seized is light or deficient and was so at the time of seizure to declare the same forfeited and to send the same to any charitable institution and to fine the person exposing or keeping the same for sale in a sum not exceeding forty shillings for every parcel or quantity intended to represent a specified weight found deficient Provided always that the weights with which such trial as in this clause is mentioned shall take place shall be of standard weight within the meaning of the laws for the time being in force in the Colony for regulating weights and measures and of the denomination usually applicable to the sale by weight of the parcels or quantities so exposed or kept for sale. Power to try weight of articles made up in parcels and to seize and confiscate if found deficient.

4. All offences against this Act and all proceedings under this Act for forfeiture of any such articles as aforesaid shall be heard and determined in a summary way in the manner provided by "The Justices of the Peace Act 1866" relating to summary convictions and all pecuniary fines and penalties awarded and imposed shall go and be distributed the one moiety to the consolidated fund and the other moiety to the informer or party prosecuting. Penalties and how recoverable.