

Hon. Mr. Bell.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION AMENDMENT.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Births and Deaths Registration Act, Title 1908.

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

- 1. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, 1912, and shall form part of and be read together with the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.
- (2.) Except as to section *nineteen* hereof, this Act shall commence on the first day of March, nineteen hundred and *thirteen*. Commencement.
- 2. (1.) The Governor may from time to time appoint a fit person to be the Deputy of the Registrar-General and such fit persons, as he thinks fit, to be Registrars of Births and Deaths under the principal Act. Appointment of officers.
- (2.) The Registrar-General may from time to time appoint in writing under his hand a fit person to be the Deputy of any Registrar.
- (3.) Every person holding office on the commencement of this Act as Deputy of the Registrar-General, or Registrar, or Deputy of any Registrar, shall be deemed to have been appointed under this Act.
- (4.) Subsection two of section three of the principal Act is hereby repealed. Repeal.
- 3. (1.) Subsection one of section fifteen of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the word "name," the words "and address." Section 15 of principal Act amended.
- (2.) Subsection two of the said section fifteen is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:—

How and when notice of birth to be given.

“(2.) Such notice shall be in writing signed by the occupier, and indorsed by some person (other than the occupier) in attendance at the confinement, and shall be delivered or posted by registered letter to the Registrar within forty-eight hours after the birth if in a borough, or fourteen days in any other case.” 5

Still-births to be notified and registered.

4. The provisions of the principal Act and of this Act relating to the notification and registration of births shall apply in the case of a still-born child, but it shall not be necessary to register the death of any such child.

Section 16 of principal Act amended.

5. Section sixteen of the principal Act is hereby amended by 10 adding to subsection two the following proviso:—

“Provided that such fine may be remitted if the birth of the child is registered pursuant to the next succeeding section.”

Section 17 of principal Act amended.

6. Section seventeen of the principal Act is hereby amended 15 as follows:—

(a.) By omitting from subsection three the words “and on payment of a fee of five shillings”;

(b.) By omitting from subsection four the words “or refuses or neglects to pay the fee above mentioned”;

(c.) By repealing the provisos to subsection four; and 20

(d.) By adding the following subsection:—

“(3A.) A fee of *five* shillings shall be payable on each such registration.”

Section 21 of principal Act amended.

7. Section twenty-one of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a.) By omitting from subsection one thereof the words “upon 25 application of the child’s parent or guardian, and”; and

(b.) By inserting the following new subsection:—

“(1A.) If any such birth is not registered within fourteen days after the date of such conviction as aforesaid, the convicting Magistrate may authorize some 30 person to register the birth, and to sign as informant the entry in the register in respect thereof, and that person may thereupon register the birth accordingly.”

Section 24 of principal Act amended.

8. Section twenty-four of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a.) By omitting all words after the word “duty” down to 35 and including the words “in default”; and by omitting the words “thirty-one days following (but inclusive of) the day of the death,” and substituting the words “three days after the day of the death if in a borough, or seven days in any other case”; 40

(b.) By repealing the first proviso to the said section; and

(c.) By omitting from the second proviso the words “Provided also that any of the persons,” and substituting the words “Provided that the person.”

Age of wife surviving husband to be registered.

9. In addition to the particulars required by the principal Act 45 for the registration of the death of any married male person there shall be registered the age of the wife of that person if she survives him.

Section 26 of principal Act amended.

10. Section twenty-six of the principal Act is hereby amended 50 by omitting the words “fourteen days after the holding of such inquest,” and substituting the words “three days after the holding of the inquest if in a borough, or seven days in any other case.”

11. Subsection three of section twenty-seven of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words "seven days," and substituting the words "twenty-four hours."

Section 27 of principal Act amended.

12. (1.) No person shall bury, or permit to be buried, or take part in the burial of the body of any deceased person unless and until there has been obtained in respect of that deceased person either—

No burial without certificate or or der.

(a.) A certificate of cause of death signed by a duly registered medical practitioner; or

(b.) A Coroner's order to bury the body; or

(c.) A Registrar's certificate of registration of the death.

(2.) Every person who commits a breach of this section is liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

13. Subsection one of section thirty-four of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words "seven days," and substituting the words "forty-eight hours."

Section 34 of principal Act amended.

14. Subsection one of section thirty-five of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting therefrom the words "Within three days after receiving," and substituting the words "Forthwith upon the receipt of"; and by omitting the words "thirty-one days from the date of such death," and substituting the words "three days after the receipt of the notice if in a borough, or seven days in any other case."

Section 35 of principal Act amended.

15. Section forty-three of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words "under this Act," the words "or commits a breach of any of the provisions of this Act."

Section 43 of principal Act amended.

16. (1.) Any fee required by the principal Act to be paid shall be recoverable in the same manner as fines are recovered:

Recovery of fees.

Provided that any Registrar required by that Act to do any act for which a fee is payable may refuse to do such act until the fee is paid.

Registrar may refuse to act until fee paid.

(2.) Section forty-nine of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

17. The form numbered (1) in the Second Schedule to the principal Act is hereby repealed and the form in the Schedule hereto substituted in lieu thereof.

Second Schedule to principal Act amended.

18. (1.) The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council, make such regulations as he thinks fit providing for the registration of births and deaths of Maoris.

Regulations as to registration of births, &c., of Maoris.

(2.) Such regulations may impose a fine not exceeding ten pounds for the breach of any regulation.

(3.) Such regulations may apply either to the whole of New Zealand or to such specified parts thereof as the Governor from time to time thinks fit, or may apply to any such specified part with such modifications as the Governor by Order in Council directs.

(4.) Except as provided in this section nothing in the principal Act shall apply to Maoris.

(5.) Section fifty of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

19. (1.) Notwithstanding anything in the principal Act, it shall be lawful for the Registrar-General to register the birth of any person born in New Zealand previous to the period of six months before the passing of this Act, but whose birth has not been previously registered:

Extension of time for registering births in certain cases.

Provided that satisfactory evidence on oath and such other proof as he may deem necessary of the fact, time, and place of birth, and of

the particulars of the parents shall be sent to the Registrar-General within twelve months after the passing of this Act, and that on application to have such birth registered a fee of *five* shillings shall be paid to the Registrar-General.

(2.) The particulars of the birth and of the nature of the evidence produced shall be entered by the Registrar-General in a separate book to be kept by him for that purpose.

(3.) This section shall come into operation on the date of the passing of this Act.

Schedule.

SCHEDULE.

BIRTHS IN THE DISTRICT OF

No.	Child.		Sex.	Parents.			Informant.	Registrar.	Child.
	When and where born.	Name of Child and whether present or not.		Father.	1. When and where married. 2. Previous issue of Existing Marriage:	Mother.			
64	19 9, 20th February, Wakefield Street, Auckland.	Edith Elizabeth (not present)	F.	1. Thomas Edwards. 2. Miner. 3. 37. 4. Redruth, Cornwall, England.	1. 1895, 20th June, Thames. 2. (a.) 2 males, 8 and 4 years: 1 female, 10 years. (b.) 1 male: 1 female.	1. Mary Edwards, formerly Lucas. 2. 33. 3. Plymouth, England.	1. Signature. 2. Description. 3. Residence. 4. If Entry a Correction of a former Entry, Signatures of Witnesses attesting the same.	1. 1909, 6th March. 2. James Kirk, Registrar.	Name, if added or altered after Registration of Birth.