Mr. Payne.

BUREAU OF JUSTICE.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

An Act for providing that Laws made by the State shall be Title. carried out by the State both for the Purpose of proving the Innocence as well as the Guilt of Parties liable or chargeable under the Laws of the State.

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 Bureau of Justice Act, 1912.

2. On the passing of this Act into law the Minister of Justice is hereby empowered to make such appointments and arrangements as may be necessary to ensure the carrying-out of the provisions of this Act, and to establish the Bureau of Justice provided for herein.

3. The expenses in connection with the carrying-out of the pro-15 visions of this Act shall be a charge upon the Consolidated Fund of the Dominion.

4. The Minister of Justice shall establish a Bureau of Justice Establishment of under the provisions of section two hereof.

5. The Bureau of Justice shall be established to ensure that the Purpose for which 20 laws of the State are properly administered, and that the innocent as well as the guilty have the full benefits or punishments of the State laws, as the case may be.

6. The Bureau of Justice shall defend parties charged with any Defence of parties to offence of any kind whatever against the laws of the State, whether be undertaken by Bureau. 25 the alleged offence is as against the State itself or against any individual living within the State.

7. The Bureau of Justice shall bring actions against any person Bureau to conduct or persons against whom a breach or breaches of the law is or are prosecutions. alleged, whether such alleged breach or breaches of the law is or are

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alleged to have been committed as against the State or against individuals living within the State or who have lived within the State.

Defences to be prepared.

8. The defences to be made and the actions to be brought by the Bureau of Justice shall include defences and actions of all and 5 every kind whatsoever, criminal, civil, pertaining to alleged libel, or other matters arising out of an alleged contravention of all or any of the State laws.

Deposit of £5 by complainant as a token of good faith. 9. A person or persons alleging that a breach of any other than a criminal law has been made by any person or persons shall deposit with the Minister of Justice a sum of five pounds as a token of good faith in the action to be brought, and if such action is sustained and a verdict awarded to such depositor the five pounds shall be returned in full; and, in the event of damages being awarded, costs on a scale to be arranged by the Minister of Justice shall be first deducted from the amount awarded as the result of the action, and the balance shall then be handed over to the party or parties who have been awarded such damages, when such balance is so available. The party depositing the five pounds under the provisions hereof shall forfeit such five pounds deposited if such action be not sustained by an award of the Court in favour of the party on whose account the action has been brought.

By Authority: John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington. 1912.