

Mr. Sidey.

EDUCATION AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for the Establishment of Continuation Schools at which Attendance shall be Free and Compulsory. Title.

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 Education Amendment Act, 1909, and it shall form part of and be read together with the Education Act, 1908 (hereinafter called the principal Act). Short Title.

2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation and classification of continuation schools.  
“Continuation scholar” means a male child whose age exceeds fourteen but does not exceed eighteen years, and a female child whose age exceeds fourteen but does not exceed sixteen years :

“Continuation school” means a class or classes established by a Board for the education without fees of continuation scholars; and such classes may be of the following kinds,—

(a.) General continuation schools, in which the education shall mainly consist of instruction in English language and literature, commercial correspondence, commercial arithmetic, book-keeping, domestic science, the duties and obligations of citizenship, hygiene, gymnastic exercises, and military drill ;

(b.) Trade and Industrial continuation schools, in which the education shall mainly consist of instruction in the knowledge of tools and machinery, drawing, practical

work in the various trades and industries, and instruction in the principles of the sciences underlying the various trades and industries ; and

(c.) Rural continuation schools, in which the education shall mainly consist of instruction in agriculture, fruit-culture, dairy-farming, mining, or other subjects suited to the locality in which the continuation school is situated : 5

“ Approved school ” means a technical, secondary, or other school or class, public or private, approved by the Minister. 10

3. Every continuation school shall be carried on at hours which do not terminate later than eight o'clock in the evening.

4. Every Board shall establish in its district a sufficient number of continuation schools of the various kinds mentioned in section two hereof to reasonably provide for the education of all continuation scholars in its district who do not attend an approved school ; and further, but not in limitation of the generality of the foregoing part of this section, if in any locality in which a district high school is situated there has been for three successive years an average of at least forty male workmen under eighteen years of age engaged in commercial or industrial pursuits and resident within two miles by the nearest road from the district high school, the Board shall establish in connection with such district high school a continuation school, and shall maintain the same so long as such average for three years as aforesaid does not fall below thirty. 15 20 25

5. For the purposes of the *last preceding* section the Board shall provide a sufficient number of schoolhouses and teachers, and such scientific and technical apparatus, material, tools, plant, and other things as may be necessary. 30

6. (1.) Except as provided in this section, every continuation scholar is hereby required to attend a continuation school not less than three hours per week for a period of forty weeks in every year.

(2.) A continuation scholar shall not be deemed to have committed a breach of this section in any of the following cases :— 35

(a.) Where his absence is due to illness, accident, danger of infection, or other sufficient cause ;

(b.) Where his residence is situated more than two miles, measured along the nearest road, from the continuation school ; 40

(c.) Where he is bound under an agreement made prior to the passing of this Act to work for an employer during the hours when the continuation school is carried on ; or

(d.) Where he is attending an approved school at least the minimum number of hours he is by this Act required to attend a continuation school. 45

7. (1.) In every case in which a continuation school at which any continuation scholar is obliged to attend is carried on during hours when such continuation scholar, but for this provision, would be employed, his employer shall permit such continuation scholar time in which to attend such continuation school. 50

Hours of continuation schools.

Compulsory establishment of continuation schools.

Board to provide teachers, buildings, &c.

Compulsory attendance.

Employer to permit attendance at continuation school, saving existing agreements.

(2.) Where in any week a continuation scholar fails to attend a continuation school as required by this Act, by reason of the refusal of his employer to permit such attendance, his employer shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *two* pounds.

5 (3.) This section shall not apply to any employer in respect of the employment of any continuation scholar during the term of an engagement made by such employer with or on behalf of such continuation scholar before the passing of this Act.

10 8. Where in any week a continuation scholar fails to attend a continuation school as required by this Act, his parent shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *ten* shillings, unless the non-attendance is due to the fault of the scholar's employer. Parent to permit attendance at continuation school.

15 9. It shall be the duty of the Board to prosecute the parent or the employer of any continuation scholar who, being required by this Act to attend a continuation school, fails to so attend. Board to prosecute defaulting parent or employer.

20 10. (1.) Every continuation school shall be under the control of managers, composed of representatives of the Board, of one or more School Committees of school districts in the vicinity of the continuation school, and of industrial associations of employers and employees. Schools to be under control of managers.

(2.) Such managers shall have power from time to time to fix the hours at which the continuation school shall be carried on, and such other powers as may be given to them by regulations.

25 11. The Governor in Council may from time to time make regulations for the appointment of such managers, for defining their powers and duties, and generally for the effective carrying out of this Act. Regulations as to managers.