

Right Hon. Mr. Fraser

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ANALYSIS

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to make Better Provision for the Administration of External Affairs. 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 External Affairs Act, 1943. Short Title.

- Interpretation. **2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—
- “Minister” means the Minister of External Affairs appointed under this Act:
- “Overseas representative” means a diplomatic representative for New Zealand or a representative of the Government of New Zealand in any other country, and includes a High Commissioner for New Zealand in any other country:
- “Secretary” means the Secretary of External Affairs appointed under this Act.
- Minister of External Affairs. **3.** The Governor-General may appoint a member of the Executive Council to hold office during his pleasure as the Minister of External Affairs.
- Functions of Minister. **4.** The Minister shall be charged with the administration of this Act and generally with the administration of the external and foreign affairs of New Zealand, including relations with other countries, communications between the Government of New Zealand and other Governments, the representation of New Zealand in other countries, and the representation of other countries in New Zealand.
- Secretary of External Affairs and other officers. **5.** (1) There shall from time to time be appointed as an officer of the Public Service a Secretary of External Affairs, who shall, under the control of the Minister, exercise and perform such secretarial and other functions relative to the Ministry of External Affairs as the Minister may determine.
- (2) There may also be appointed such other officers of the Public Service as may be deemed necessary to assist the Secretary in the execution of his office.
- Appointment of High Commissioners for New Zealand in other countries. **6.** (1) The Governor-General in Council may from time to time appoint any person to be the High Commissioner for New Zealand in any other country.
- (2) Any High Commissioner may be appointed for any term not exceeding three years, and may from time to time be reappointed, or may be at any time removed from office by the Governor-General in Council for disability, insolvency, neglect of duty, or misconduct, or may at any time resign his office by writing addressed to the Minister.

(3) The persons holding office on the commencement of this Act as the High Commissioner for New Zealand in the United Kingdom and as the High Commissioner for New Zealand in Australia shall be deemed to have
5 been appointed under this Act.

7. (1) A High Commissioner for New Zealand in
any other country— Duties of
High
Commissioners.

(a) Shall act as the representative of New Zealand
in that other country and as a channel of
10 communication between the Governments of
New Zealand and of that other country:

(b) Shall carry out such instructions as he receives
from the Government in relation to the
political, economic, and general interests of
15 New Zealand in that other country:

(c) Shall exercise such powers and perform such
other duties as are conferred upon or assigned
to him by the Minister.

(2) No High Commissioner shall be a member of
20 the directorate or advisory board of any public
company or trading corporation, whether registered
or not.

8. (1) The Minister may from time to time appoint
such officers as may be deemed necessary to assist any
25 overseas representative. Appointment
of officers
to assist
overseas
representatives.

(2) Any overseas representative may from time to
time employ such persons as he thinks fit as temporary
officers. The employment of any officer so appointed
may be terminated at any time by the Minister or by
30 the overseas representative.

(3) As soon as practicable after any temporary
officer is employed under the *last preceding* subsection,
the overseas representative shall advise the Minister of
the name of the officer, the period during which he is
35 employed or during which it is proposed to employ him,
and the remuneration paid or payable to him.

(4) All officers employed on the commencement of
this Act to assist any overseas representative shall be
deemed to have been appointed under this section.

9. The salaries and allowances of all overseas
40 representatives and of all officers appointed under
section *eight* of this Act shall be paid out of moneys
appropriated by Parliament for the purpose. Salaries and
allowances.

Public Service Act not to apply to overseas representatives or their officers.

See Reprint of Statutes, Vol. VII, p. 522

Application of Public Service Superannuation Act.

Ibid., p. 559

Consequential repeals and amendment.

Ibid., p. 40

10. The provisions of the Public Service Act, 1912, shall not apply or be deemed to have at any time applied with respect to any overseas representative or with respect to any officer appointed under section *eight* of this Act.

11. (1) The legation or office of every overseas representative shall be deemed to be and to have always been included in the Public Service within the meaning of Part I of the Public Service Superannuation Act, 1927.

(2) No overseas representative shall be deemed for the purposes of the Public Service Superannuation Act, 1927, to be or to have at any time been permanently employed in the Public Service unless he was permanently employed therein at the time of his appointment as an overseas representative.

(3) The Public Service Superannuation Act, 1927, is hereby amended as follows:—

(a) By omitting from the definition of the term “Public Service” in section two the words “the High Commissioner’s Office”:

(b) By repealing paragraph (c) of section fifty-four:

(c) By inserting in subsection three of section one hundred and fifteen, after the words “(in cases affecting officers of the Police Department)”, the words “or the Secretary of External Affairs (in cases affecting overseas representatives or officers appointed to assist them)”.

12. (1) The enactments specified in the Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed.

(2) All acts of authority that originated under any enactment hereby repealed and are subsisting or in force on the commencement of this Act shall enure for the purposes of this Act as fully and effectually as if they had originated under the corresponding provisions of this Act, and accordingly shall, where necessary, be deemed to have so originated.

(3) Section seventy-eight of the Public Revenues Act, 1926, is hereby amended by omitting the words “under the High Commissioner Act, 1908”.

SCHEDULE

Schedule.

ENACTMENTS REPEALED

- 1908, No. 76—
The High Commissioner Act, 1908 (Reprint of Statutes,
Vol. III, p. 686).
- 1919, No. 21—
The External Affairs Act, 1919 (Reprint of Statutes,
Vol. I, p. 1032).
- 1923, No. 27—
The Finance Act, 1923: Section 14.
- 1932, No. 11—
The Finance Act, 1932: So much of the First Schedule as
relates to the High Commissioner Act, 1908.
- 1935, No. 41—
The Finance Act (No. 2), 1935: Section 4.
- 1939, No. 39—
The Statutes Amendment Act, 1939: Section 30.