

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, for its concurrence.

*House of Representatives,
18th August, 1892.*

Mr. W. Hutchison.

EIGHT HOURS.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	3. Exemptions.
Preamble.	4. Duration of day's and week's work.
1. Short Title.	5. Special contract.
2. Interpretation.	6. Penalty.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to define the Hours of Labour within the Colony of New Zealand. Title.

WHEREAS it is desirable, for the general welfare of the community, Preamble.
5 that the hours of daily labour should be such that workmen may have a reasonable time at their own disposal for recreation, mental culture, and the performance of social and civil duties: And whereas it would be conducive to this end to fix by law the proper duration of a day's labour:

10 BE IT THEREFORE 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 is, "The Eight Hours Act, Short Title.
1892."

15 2. In the construction of this Act, and for the purposes thereof,— Interpretation.

20 "Workman" means any person employed in manual labour, meaning by "manual labour" the work done by labourers, gardeners, mechanics, handicraftsmen, artisans, millers, miners, engineers, firemen, railway servants, sailors and other persons employed on ships or vessels when in port, and all other persons whatever working at any kind of work, except as hereinafter expressly named:

25 "Employer" means any person or company hiring and paying wages to workmen with the object of his or their profit; and any agent or servant of an individual employer or company, or any officer of the General Government or any municipal or other public body, intrusted with the supervision of work, or of engaging or dismissing workmen.

Exemptions.

3. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to sailors or other persons employed on any ship or vessel when such ship or vessel is under way or on a voyage; or at any time to the work of persons employed on ships or vessels to do work similar to that of domestic servants; or to domestic servants: Provided always that domestic servants shall be entitled to a weekly half-holiday. 5

And the provisions of this Act shall not apply to the work of agricultural and pastoral labourers.

Duration of day's and week's work.

4. From and after the passing of this Act eight hours shall constitute a day's work, and not more than forty-eight hours a week's work. 10

Special contract.

5. Whenever in any contract of hiring provision is intended to be made for the work of any workman being continued for more than eight hours in any one day, it shall be necessary that a special stipulation be made with regard thereto, and that a special rate of payment for all such time worked beyond the first eight hours be fixed, either by the rules of the workman's trade or by mutual agreement. 15

Penalty.

6. Any employer or workman who offends against the provisions of this Act shall, on conviction, be liable for a first offence to a penalty not exceeding *two* pounds, and for every subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds. 20