

Mr. Kelly.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Interpretation.</p> <p>3. Local authority in borough may authorize electric lighting.</p> <p>4. Local authority in county may authorize electric lighting.</p> <p>5. Minister may authorize electric lighting in Government buildings.</p> <p>6. Harbour Board may make and use electric light.</p> <p>7. Owner or occupier of a house may make and use electric light.</p>	<p>8. Local authority may, in certain cases, make and supply electric light for sale.</p> <p>9. Conditions of license issued by local authority.</p> <p>10. Governor in Council may make regulations.</p> <p>11. Local authority may make by-laws.</p> <p>12. Inhabitants of borough may resolve that electric light be used.</p> <p>13. Penalty for cutting or injuring electric wire.</p> <p>14. Contractor for supplying electric light may recover money due.</p> <p>15. Local authority may recover money due for electric light.</p> <p>16. Owner or occupier of house may enforce contract for supply of electric light.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide General Regulations under which Electric Light may be used for Public and Private Purposes. Title.

BE IT 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 Electric Light Act, 1882." Short Title.
2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.

10 "Candle-power" means a light equal to that given out by a sperm candle which burns one hundred and twenty grains of sperm in one hour :

"Dynamo-machine" means any dynamo-electric machine used for generating any electric current to produce electric light or motive power :

15 "Electric light" means any electric current generated by any dynamo-electric machine, and conveyed from such machine to any electric lamp to produce light, or any electric current stored by means of any electric accumulator, and thence conveyed to any electric lamp to produce light, or any electric current conveyed from such machine and used directly as a motive power, or taken from an electric accumulator and used as a motive power :

"House" means any dwelling-house, office, shop, or other building :

25 "Local authority" means, within a borough constituted under "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," the Borough Council ; within a county constituted under "The County Act, 1876," the County Council :

- “Minister” means any member of the Executive Council administering the Public Works Department :
- “Person” means any person or persons, or any limited liability company :
- “Special order” means, if applied to a borough, a resolution of the Council in the terms of the eighty-second section of “The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876,” and, if applied to a county, a resolution in the terms of the eightieth section of “The Counties Act, 1876.”
- 3.** The local authority of any borough may, by special order, grant to any person the sole right of lighting the streets of the borough with electric light, and may also grant the sole right of supplying electric light for sale to the inhabitants of such borough, subject to the provisions of this Act. 5
- Local authority in borough may authorize electric lighting.
- 4.** The local authority of any county may, by special order, grant to any person the sole right of lighting the streets of any town within such county with electric light, and may also in like manner grant the sole right of supplying the inhabitants of any town within such county with electric light. 15
- Local authority in county may authorize electric lighting.
- 5.** The Minister may cause the Parliamentary Buildings, or other Government buildings, railway and other workshops, railway carriages, and Government wharves and lighthouses, to be lighted by electric light, without the authority of a license from the local authority. 20
- Minister may authorize electric lighting in Government buildings.
- 6.** Any Harbour Board constituted under “The Harbours Act, 1878,” may manufacture electric light for the purpose of lighting any wharf, or harbour works, or any harbour lighthouse, or may contract with any person to supply such light subject to such conditions as the Board may consider advisable, subject to the provisions of this Act. 25
- Harbour Board may make and use electric light.
- 7.** The owner or occupier of any house may manufacture electric light for the use of such house, but shall not under this section have the right of manufacturing such light for sale ; and may for this purpose convey the electric current for generating such light from any dynamo-machine by wire or otherwise over or through any portion of a borough or county, subject to the by-laws made by such borough or county with respect to the conveyance of the electric current by wire or otherwise. 30
- Owner or occupier of a house may make and use electric light.
- 8.** If no satisfactory offer has been made by any person to the local authority within a borough to light the streets of the borough with electric light, or to supply the electric light to the inhabitants of such borough, the local authority of such borough may, by special order, proceed to manufacture and supply such light for lighting the streets and supplying the inhabitants, and may contract with any person to supply motive power to drive dynamo-machines either within or without the borough, and to convey the electric current from such machines to the borough for distribution. 35
- Local authority may, in certain cases, make and supply electric light for sale.
- 9.** When the local authority grants to any person the sole right of selling electric light within its jurisdiction, such right shall be subject to the following conditions, namely,—
- (1.) The right granted shall be by license, to be issued for any period not less than five years and not more than ten years, but may, at the expiration of the license, be renewed 50
- Conditions of license issued by local authority.

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by the local authority on such terms and conditions as it may determine;

(2.) The license shall specify the maximum price to be paid for each twenty-candle-power light for one hour by the users of the light;

(3.) The license shall be issued subject to this Act and to any by-laws made by the local authority with respect to the conveyance of the electric current by wire or otherwise, for the purpose of producing electric light.

(4.) The license shall have no effect until it has been submitted to the Minister, who shall cause inquiry to be made whether sufficient provision has been made to protect the public from injury owing to insufficient insulation of the wires conveying the electric current or otherwise; also, whether sufficient provision has been made to prevent the Government telegraphic system being injuriously affected by the wires laid down for providing electric light; and, on the Minister being satisfied that reasonable precautions have been taken in this behalf, he shall forthwith approve of the license.

10. The Governor in Council may, subject to the provisions of this Act, from time to time make, alter, and repeal regulations,—

Governor in Council may make regulations.

(1.) For providing for the protection of the public from injury arising out of the conveyance of the electric current for producing electric light;

(2.) For providing against the Government telegraphic system being injuriously affected by the conveyance of the electric current for like purpose;

(3.) For imposing penalties for the infringement of such regulations not exceeding *fifty* pounds:

And such regulations, when published in the *Government Gazette*, shall have the force of law.

11. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the local authority may from time to time make, alter, and repeal by-laws with respect to the distribution of electric light, namely,—

Local authority may make by-laws.

(1.) To regulate the procedure by which the person who has contracted to supply electric light shall interfere with public streets or roads in the erecting of poles, or in the laying of pipes for conveying the electric current by wire or otherwise;

(2.) To make general conditions under which the person who contracts to supply electric light shall carry out his contract;

(3.) To define the limits within which any owner or occupier of a house may demand the supply of electric light from the person who has contracted with the local authority to supply it within its jurisdiction;

(4.) To fix the payments to be made for the issue of a license to any person who manufactures electric light for sale;

(5.) To impose penalties for breach of by-laws, not exceeding twenty pounds.

And such by-laws, when approved of by the Governor in Council and published in the *Government Gazette*, shall have the force of law.

Inhabitants of borough may resolve that electric light be used.

12. If the local authority within a borough shall refuse to issue a license to any person who has offered to supply electric light for the use of the inhabitants of such borough, and for the lighting of the streets thereof, it shall be lawful for the person whose application for a license has been refused to demand in writing of the Mayor of such borough a poll of the ratepayers as to whether they are or are not in favour of such license being issued, and the Mayor shall thereupon proceed to take a poll of the ratepayers in the manner prescribed by sections one hundred and forty-one to one hundred and forty-four inclusive of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," substituting for the question of a loan the question of the issue of a license for supplying electric light; and, if the Mayor declares the resolution to issue a license has been carried, the local authority shall forthwith issue such license on the payment of the fee, if any, prescribed by the by-laws for the issue thereof; and in default the local authority shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds :

Provided that if the local authority, within one week from the receipt of such demand, by resolution declares its intention to proceed under section *eight* of this Act to supply electric light this section shall not apply, and the poll shall not be taken.

Penalty for cutting or injuring electric wire.

13. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any wire used for conveying an electric current with the intent of cutting off the supply of electric light shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding *five* years, or be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding *two* years.

Contractor for supplying electric light may recover money due.

14. Any person who has contracted to supply electric light to any local authority or to the inhabitants of any borough or county, in the terms of this Act, may recover any sum due under such contract by action in any Court of law of competent jurisdiction, and may cut off the supply of electric light if payment is not made within one month when such payment becomes due.

Local authority may recover money due for electric light.

15. The local authority may in like manner recover any money due for electric light when such local authority has undertaken to supply it to the inhabitants within its jurisdiction, and may in like manner cut off the supply of light if payment is not made within one month after becoming due.

Owner or occupier of house may enforce contract for supply of electric light.

16. Any owner or occupier of a house, who has contracted with the person holding a license for selling electric light, may enforce the conditions of his contract by action in any Court of competent jurisdiction.